

EPISODE 1

INT. MIT - THINK TANK CENTER - NIGHT

ATMO: There's contained chatter over the white noise of expensive equipment. It's unclear what's being said.

SFX: Someone HUSHES the room.

SFX: Footsteps as DR. ANTHONY HARBOR (54), the deadly combination of hyper intelligence and the confidence to match, takes center stage.

DR. HARBOR

Ladies and Gentleman, thank you all for meeting me here at such an unconventional hour. Such demonstrations require very specific parameters.

(beat)

I'm pleased to say that I've finally made the breakthrough we've been waiting for.

SFX: A switch flips. A quiet melodic HUM begins. Slowly growing louder.

DR. HARBOR (CONT'D)

A breakthrough so significant it will change the world as we know it. Natural phenomena-- tamed. Controlled by science. Ready to unite nations, dissolve barriers, and solve our largest economic and humanitarian issues.

PATRON 1

So it's all true. You've done it.

DR. HARBOR

Yes, though not how you'd expect-- Why don't I just show you.

SFX: Another switch flips. The growing hum begins to GRIND, and CRUNCH.

PATRON 2

What's going on?

DR. HARBOR

Hold on--

SFX: The grinding becomes louder, we begin to hear sounds of rushing water, an electrical storm passing through a forest, the RAGE of nature against synthetics-- Unknown to us now, this is an LEYLINE forming.

SFX: Patrons begin to scream as CHAOS ensues.

DR. HARBOR (CONT'D)
(yelling)
Stay calm. I can fix this! I can--

SFX: An EXPLOSION.

Then nothing. After the chaos, silence pierces.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. MILO'S CAR - DAY

PODCAST HOST
Do you suffer from ED? We here at
Jax Jenkins and the Goof Boys do--

ATMO: The Podcaster's voice fades as its drowned out by heavy rain. The rain PATTERS the windscreen as MILO HARBOR (26), impulsive and kind, drives alone. Milo flips through a few songs. Finally, he makes a call.

SFX: The phone RINGS. There's a CLICK.

MILO
Hey, what's up?

ATMO: The receiver, ABIGAIL FULLER (26), smart and empathetic, rustles with a bag on the other side.

ABIGAIL (V.O.)
Milo? Just a minute.

She stops.

ABIGAIL (V.O.)
(hesitating)
How was your... trip?

MILO
You can just say rehab, Abs.
(beat)
They called it a *Cleansing Retreat*?
It was good. Uneventful, but...
good for me.

Awkward silence.

MILO (CONT'D)

Abs?

SFX: There's a SHUFFLE over the phone.

ABIGAIL (V.O.)

It's good to hear from you. Sorry,
Just leaving work. Have you spoken
to Ethan--

MILO

I'm working up to it. I just don't
think I'm ready yet. There's a lot
to... sift through. Dad stuff, you
know?

A beat. It's uncertain whether it's sympathetic or awkward.

ABIGAIL

I know.

MILO

How's Noah?

ABIGAIL (V.O.)

He's good-- I think. He said he'll
be back home next week, which is
going to be great!

EXT. HARBOR HOUSE - DRIVEWAY - DAY

ATMO: Outside of the car, it's still pouring.

SFX: The car door SLAMS shut.

ABIGAIL (V.O.)

Are you home now?

MILO

Yeah. Hey, you should come around.
Hang out. Build something cool
together, like we used to.

ABIGAIL (V.O.)

Yeah, that actually sounds pretty
great--

MILO

Crap. The security cam is busted.

INT. HARBOR HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - DAY

SFX: Milo rushes to open the door.

ABIGAIL (V.O.)
What? What happened?

MILO
(defeated)
The place is trashed.

ABIGAIL (V.O.)
Again!? I'm coming over now.

ETHAN (O.C.)
Hey, kid.

ATMO: In the middle of the living room, ETHAN HARBOR (28), thoughtful and pessimistic.

ABIGAIL
Is that Ethan--

SFX: Milo hangs up.

ETHAN
I didn't do this--

MILO
I know. It's not the first time--

ETHAN
This happened before?

MILO
The home of the guy who blew a crater into MIT's Physics Wing attempting science magic?

ETHAN
There wasn't any real crater--

MILO
(deadpan)
I know.

Yet another awkward silence.

ETHAN
Are you going to come inside at least?

SFX: Milo walks through the door.

HOME SECURITY SYSTEM VOICE
Welcome Home, Doctor Harbor!

ETHAN
You reprogrammed Dad's voice
assistant?

SFX: Milo closes the door, the pervasive rainfall dims. The home is quiet-- only the sound of a TICKING CLOCK in the background.

ETHAN (CONT'D)
No judgement, I mean, we all cope
differently--

MILO
You haven't spoken to me since
Dad's funeral. What are you doing
here?

ETHAN
Dad had something in a safety
deposit box at Massachusetts Bank.
The payments lapsed so it was sent
to me. Just an envelope.

SFX: An envelope hits the coffee table.

MILO
Of course it was. Didn't matter to
Dad that you weren't here and I
was. You're the doctor, after all.

ETHAN
(under his breath)
We'll see.

Milo is too distracted to catch Ethan's comment.

SFX: Milo picks up the envelope.

MILO
What's inside it anyway?

ETHAN
A key. That's it.

MILO
Classic Dad.

ETHAN
Looking back he was always a nut--

MILO
He wasn't a nut.

Ethan sidesteps the conflict.

ETHAN
I figured there was maybe a hidden door or something here that--

MILO
A safe. It's a key to the safe. I knew he stashed it somewhere!

SFX: Milo runs into another room. He lifts something heavy.

SFX: Milo returns and drops something heavy on the ground with a BANG.

ETHAN
The CRT TV from the attic?

MILO
It's a safe. Hidden in plain sight.

ETHAN
How do you know?

MILO
The screen is a polycarbonate, which means it can't be broken. I've tried.
(beat)
Plus it has a keyhole inside the VCR chamber.

Dad. ETHAN MILO (CONT'D)
 Yep.

ETHAN (CONT'D)
What do you think is inside?

MILO
Let's find out.

SFX: There's rustling as Milo unlocks the safe with the key. The CRT screen opens like the door of a safe. The brothers pull out the contents, a broken DEVICE and a scatter of PAPERS.

ETHAN
A... metal backpack?

MILO
Is this what Dad was working on?
What else is there?

ETHAN
Just an old notebook and an article
about the closure of some concert
hall in Boston.
(beat)
Damn it!

SFX: Ethan gets up to leave.

MILO
What did you even expect?

ETHAN
I don't know, closure? Money? A
letter saying sorry for being such
a terrible dad!

SFX: There's a KNOCK at the door. Ethan opens it.

ABIGAIL
Ethan. Fancy seeing you here--

ETHAN
Sorry, Abigail. I'm just leaving.
(beat)
Good seeing you.

HOME SECURITY SYSTEM VOICE
Welcome Home, Doctor Harbor!

SFX: Ethan walks out into the rain.

ABIGAIL
So... the reunion--

MILO
Not great, Abs. Not great.

Once again, there's silence as we only hear the rain fall
outside.

INT. ETHAN'S STUDIO APARTMENT - NIGHT

ATMO: A quiet home void of distractions. Ethan paces, on the
phone to his PHD ADMIN.

SFX: Over a phone-line there's the CLICKING of a keyboard.

PHD ADMIN (V.O.)
 Unfortunately, I'm unable to
 provide the results of your thesis
 defense as of yet--

ETHAN
 I understand, I just wanted to make
 sure the board knew of my
 circumstances. See, my advisor and
 I had a-- disagreement, and they
 left two months before my
 presentation. I was left alone to--

PHD ADMIN (V.O.)
 No need, sir. It's all here on my
 screen.

ETHAN
 It's all there? What's all there?

PHD ADMIN
 All of it. I assure you, the
 archaeology board understands your
 situation.
 (rehearsed)
 Boston University prides itself on
 our student voices being heard.

ETHAN
 (defeated)
 Understood.

SFX: Ethan HANGS UP before a DEEP EXHALE.

ETHAN (CONT'D)
 Damn it.

SFX: BANG BANG BANG on the door.

ETHAN (CONT'D)
 Coming... Hold on.

SFX: Ethan OPENS THE DOOR. Ethan answers to Milo who bursts
 in, trailed by Abigail.

MILO
 It's a Push Pack.

ABIGAIL
 Hi, Ethan.

ETHAN
 Wait, you can't just waltz in like
 this.

SFX: Milo drops the Push Pack on Ethan's table.

MILO
It's called a Push Pack. And we're
fixing it.

ABIGAIL
Trying to--

MILO
--Right. Trying to.

ETHAN
Get out of my house.

MILO
Your home? Oh... It's...

MILO (CONT'D) ABIGAIL
Empty. Nice?

ETHAN
I don't need much.

MILO
Cool. Whatever. Look, we read
through Dad's notebook.

ABIGAIL
Trying to--

MILO
--Right, a lot of ambiguities and
dead ends, but we now know what Dad
was researching. What he
discovered.

ETHAN
And that is...

MUSIC: Epic build up...

MILO
Leylines.

Beat.

ETHAN
The perennially-debunked theory
that historic structures are
connected by mysterious ancient
energies?

MILO
Yes! No-- Well, we have no idea.

MUSIC: Epic music deflated.

MILO (CONT'D)
But-- we could. with your help.

ETHAN
Me? Nope. Count me out.

MILO
(egging on)
Mr. PhD of Archaeology. I thought
your whole deal was studying
artifacts and culture and other
stuff that doesn't usually matter--

ETHAN
That doesn't mean I'm going to
magically know what dumb symbols
Dad has--

SFX: Milo QUICKLY pulls out the Research notebook.

ETHAN (CONT'D)
--That's Ancient Sumerian.

MILO
Ha! I knew it. So-- what does it
mean?

SFX: Ethan SNATCHES the notebook from Milo.

ETHAN
It says... Ten Metal Sheep?

MILO
Huh. Wasn't expecting that.

Beat.

ABIGAIL
There are ten transistors on the
circuit board!

SFX: Abigail rips open the Push Pack.

MILO
Hey, you're right. If we connect
these wires--

SFX: SPARKS. A FIZZLE. Then a quiet HUM.

ABIGAIL
Holy crap. That did it!

MILO
Yes, it's happening!

ETHAN
What's happening?

MILO
We're going to continue dad's work.
We owe it to him--

ETHAN
Owe it to him? Staying in the house
and reprogramming the voice
assistant is one, sad thing, but
this? Milo, he was a fraud chasing
a fantasy. He was--

MILO
Crazy? A Kook? Mad scientist? Super
villain-- I've heard it all, but
you don't think he was really
crazy. Do you?

ETHAN
Milo, he ruined our lives. Long
before last year.

MILO
Then prove it. Follow this thread
and when it meets its inevitable
dead end then we'll bury this,
along with anything else dad-
related.

ETHAN
Abigail? You're not onboard with
this, are you?

ABIGAIL
It was your Dad that got me
inventing. The only science my old
man cared about were the physics of
Josh Beckett's curveball.
(beat)
Plus, he always said he was trying
to change the world. I'd like a
chance at doing the same.

Beat-- Ethan thinks.

ETHAN

I go and we're done, ok? Both of us. We bury this for good.

MILO

For good.

The room hangs on to this moment for another beat.

ETHAN

So what now?

MILO

We go to a Leyline.

ETHAN

(sarcastic)

Great, I'll pull up Google Maps.

MILO

No need. Remember the article from the safe about the concert hall closing down?

ABIGAIL

Steinert Hall. There's got to be a reason that it was in that safe. Milo says he has a way in.

ETHAN

Let me guess--

MILO

We're going to break in.

ETHAN

Yep, there it is.

ABIGAIL

Damn it, Milo.

INT. STEINERT HALL - NIGHT

ATMO: The abandoned hall acts like a void, echoing any sound that may dare to exist inside it.

SFX: A lock is PICKED. Chains FALL to the ground. A door swings OPEN.

MILO

And here I thought learning how to pick locks was wasted when I couldn't get into Dad's TV safe. Boo-yah!

ETHAN
(whispering)
Keep your voice down, someone might
hear us. We're technically
trespassing on a heritage site.

MILO
It's an abandoned, empty hall. No
one will hear us.

SFX: They walk further into the space. Milo sets the Push
Pack down.

MILO (CONT'D)
This thing is heavy--oof. Ok, let's
get started. Abs, what's the
frequency for the Pack here?

ABIGAIL
Laptop says 12.1 to 18.7 Megahertz.

ETHAN
Megahertz? What's going on?

MILO
Stop asking like we know--

ABIGAIL
The notes say Leylines respond to
rapid changes in frequency, like...
really rapid.

MILO
Quantum Frequency Conversion.

SFX: Milo flips a switch on the Push Pack, a WHIRL begins to
oscillate. Different from what we heard in Dr. Harbor's
experiment.

ETHAN
So this won't cause another
explosion right?

ABIGAIL
There's no known scientific way
this could.

ETHAN
Right, but we're here to prove the
unknown. Could the unknown be...
explosive?

MILO
(not confident)
Nah... we're fine... I think.

SFX: The Whirl slowly grows LOUDER.

ABIGAIL
I've got a link to your battery
status up-- You should be good but
you're using a lot of power.

MILO
I charged it when we got here.

ABIGAIL
How'd you do that--

MILO
Car battery. By the way you have a
dead battery.

SFX: The Whirl becomes MELODIC as we begin to hear the sounds
of a LEYLINE opening.

It's different to our opener Leyline, it's electric and
synthetic sounds replaced with a more NATURAL soundscape.

ETHAN
Is that... a Leyline?

MILO
It's actually real.

ABIGAIL
Is that a... storage room on the
other side?

MILO
It's distorted, but I see it too.

SFX: Milo picks up the Push Pack and BUCKLES it on.

ETHAN
What are you doing?

MILO
It's a backpack. I'm wearing it.

ETHAN
But you don't even know what it
does.

MILO

Well, it's not gonna do anything if it's not on my back.

(beat)

Besides, I'm testing this out.

ETHAN

Whoa, whoa. Wait a second, shouldn't we think about it?

MILO

I did think about it. Before we came to your place. Dad's notes were pretty detailed. Wear the pack, go through the Leyline.

ETHAN

You lied to me!?! Shut this down. We're standing right next to this thing, what if it gives you cancer?

MILO

Come on! Just five more minutes. For me. Your brother.

Beat.

ETHAN

I won't.

Another beat.

MILO

Fine. If you're not going at least give me a hug goodbye.

SFX: Milo, saddled with the push pack, hugs Ethan.

ETHAN

Milo, get off me--

MILO

Do you trust me?

ETHAN

No.

Beat.

MILO

Figures.

SFX: Milo presses a button on the push pack. The sounds of LEYLINES begin to swell and get louder as Ethan and Milo begin to scream.

INT. QUIET ROOM - NIGHT

SFX: A deep breath in. And out.

ATMO: Army Ranger NOAH HINES (27), passionate and stubborn, waits anxiously in an empty office space, sitting at the only desk.

SFX: The door opens. General GRANT ENGEL (60s) enters. We hear Noah stand.

ENGEL

Sit, Sergeant. You should know how much shit you're in for me to show up.

NOAH

Yes, sir.

SFX: Engel SIGHS. Clearly empathetic. He grabs the only other chair in the room and sits.

ENGEL

How's your Father? And are you still dating girl from High School? Amanda.

NOAH

Abigail, sir. Yes, they're both good.

ENGEL

Good. So, Somalia.

SFX: Engel picks up a file on the solitary desk in the room, and flips through it.

NOAH

I understand how it looks--

ENGEL

Do you? A failure to act and disobeying of direct commands resulting in the death of three of your squad mates.

NOAH

We weren't prepared-- it wasn't like anything I'd ever seen. They were torn limb from limb by--

ENGEL

An invisible enemy--

NOAH (CONT'D)

An invisible enemy.

ENGEL (CONT'D)

Yes, I read your testimony. I'd say there's no shame in cracking under the pressure of live combat, seeing things in the heat of the moment--

NOAH

I know what I saw. People disappearing out of thin air--

ENGEL

(stern)

But your job was to protect your team. And you not only failed your country. You failed them.

SFX: Noah shakes out an exhale. That hits hard.

ENGEL (CONT'D)

You're lucky you're a Hines. I served with your father, and I owe him this much.

NOAH

My family knows?

ENGEL

No. And I expect they never will. I've bartered an agreement with the disciplinary panel. Your report has been analyzed and you've been considered psychologically incapable. On my recommendation you will be honorably discharged from the army. In return you won't tell anyone, and I mean no one, about what happened in Somalia, what you saw, and why you were discharged. Got it?

NOAH

Sir, the army is my life. My family's life--

ENGEL

These are your final orders. You're dismissed.

SFX: Noah stands up and walks for the door.

ENGEL (CONT'D)

I'm dead serious, Sergeant. Tell no one. The repercussions of doing so would make a trip to Guantanamo look like Club Med.

EXT. DOWNTOWN BOSTON - NIGHT

ATMO: Noah steps out into the busy street in the middle of Downtown Boston. We hear a club from two blocks away violating volume restrictions for this time of night.

DRUNK GUY

Hey, buddy. You got the time?

NOAH

(checking his watch)
It's just past midnight.
(to himself)
That felt like an eternity.

SFX: A chime of Noah's phone turning on. The phone rings as Noah makes a call. An answer--

NOAH (CONT'D)

Hey, I'm glad you're up. It looks like I'm coming back a little earlier than I anticipated.

SFX: There's the melodic hum of a Leyline in the background.

ABIGAIL

(in disbelief)
They're gone. Milo and Ethan...

NOAH

Milo? I thought he was in rehab.

ABIGAIL

They just disappeared. We were testing-- and they just-- vanished out of thin air.
(snapping out of it)
I can fix this. I'll fix this.

Noah's voice drops an octave.

NOAH
 Abigail. What are you doing? Where
 the hell are they?

INT. ABANDONED STORAGE ROOM - DAY

ATMO: Dusty, abandoned, and mild creaks cause by wind
 outside. It's quiet. Peaceful, until--

SFX: BANG. The sound of two grown men crashing on top of a
 table is heard.

MILO
 Ow... my head. My body.

ETHAN
 I think I'm going to throw up, but
 from the outside in. Implosive
 vomit.

MILO
 Oh god, I can't picture that but I
 feel the exact same way.

ETHAN
 Damn it, Milo! You threw me through
 that... That thing--

MILO
 Leyline.

ETHAN
 I don't care! We could have died!
 You could've killed me.

MILO
 (under his breath)
 Yeah, well, just another reason for
 you to hate me.

Ethan backs off.

SFX: The brothers begins to walk around, disengaging from the
 argument.

ETHAN
 Where are we anyway?

MILO
 I don't know.

ETHAN
 You don't know, or--

MILO

I don't know. It looks like a storage room--

ETHAN

So what? This thing just took us to a basement under the Hall or something?

MILO

I guess.

ETHAN

Great. So Dad emotionally abandoned us for years, ruined our family name, and got himself killed all for an elevator that makes you want to puke. Implosive puke.

MILO

But he was right!

ETHAN

Seriously, Milo? You're obsessed. Why can't you just accept our father for what he was?

MILO

I know exactly what he was--

ETHAN

He was a con-artist. He wanted greatness, and when he realized his work was a dead end he kept going. It's why he never let anyone see his work, it's why he never let you in.

MILO

Shut up!

SFX: Milo bumps a table as a tape player springs to life.

DR. HARBOR (V.O.)

November 6, 2012--

ETHAN

What did you do?

DR. HARBOR (V.O.)

Leylines appear to be naturally occurring, dating back to before even the oldest of humanity's civilizations.

MILO
Nothing I--

ETHAN
Shh.

DR. HARBOR (V.O.)
They seem to form end points-- or
Nodes, as I've considered them,
around concentrations of life. They
seem to disregard all geological
and magnetic influence during
formation, and appear across the
globe. If one was to travel through
them--

SFX: The tape stops.

ETHAN
So... they're like... a series of
tubes? Like the Internet?

MILO
Not the Internet but sure, like a
series trans-dimensional tubes.

SFX: Ethan and Milo begin to explore the room further.

ETHAN
How do you know anything about
these Leylines anyway? Dad never
told me what we was working on, did
he finally tell you?

MILO
Pfft No. After Dad died, I started
to do my own research. I went down
rabbit holes, except it only made
me feel more--

ETHAN
Crazy?

MILO
Dad was different. But... yeah.
Sometimes it felt like I was going
a little crazy too.

Beat.

ETHAN
Milo...

SFX: A sharp beep echos throughout the storage room.

ETHAN (CONT'D)
What was that?

MILO
It's this device thing... it looks
like an answering machine.

ETHAN
Don't touch it--

SFX: Milo touches it. Audio plays throughout the speaker.

MACHINE (V.O.)
Message Received: 3 weeks and 4
days ago.

DR. HARBOR (V.O.)
(static)
BRRZP. SOS. The Leyline worked.

MILO
It's Dad! From... From 3 weeks
ago!?

DR. HARBOR (V.O.)
BRRZP-- Find her-- BRRZP-- My
Boys. BRRZP.

The message cuts out.

ETHAN
Dad's... alive?

MILO
Dad's alive! He survived!

ETHAN
But how could he have survived that
explosion?

MILO
I have no idea, but that's
definitely his voice-- and it
sounds like he needs our help.

ETHAN
(spiraling)
We thought he was dead... I thought
he was dead. We mourned him for a
year.

MILO
You'll just have to ask him when we
find him. We have to tell Abs.

(MORE)

MILO (CONT'D)
 (beat)
 Hey Abs!

SFX: Milo runs to the only door in the room and PUSHES it open.

MILO (O.C.) (CONT'D)
 Uhh... Ethan.

ETHAN
 (to himself)
 How could he do this to us...?

MILO
 Ethan!

ETHAN
 What?

MILO
 Why are we in the desert? And why are there ruins outside?

ETHAN
 Wait... I know these ruins...

MILO
 We're not in Boston anymore are we?

ETHAN
 No, we're not.

EXT. ABANDONED STORAGE ROOM - DAWN

SFX: The brothers STEP OUT ONTO SAND. The RATTLING of desert trees in the wind can be heard in the distance.

ATMO: The wind picks up as we follow the brothers outside to the desert soundscape of...

ETHAN
 These are the ancient ruins of Göbeklitepe.

MILO
 Sorry, what?

ETHAN
 Milo, we're in Turkey.

END OF EPISODE.