

**THINK FAST**

Episode 1.01

"Quickening"

Written by

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1. Raine, Nell, and Finley sit in a noisy cafeteria, chatting.

RAINE

OK, but think about this: if I dropped out of high school and really practiced my art, I could do some sweet back-alley tattoos for, like, a year and some change. Then, when I turn eighteen, I'll be old enough to meet a handsome sugar daddy on Tik Tok that could fund my lifestyle until he kicks it and I can live off his life insurance. It's brilliant.

NELL

It's a horrible idea.

FINLEY

Like, I know you're joking, but I still kind of need you to confirm you're joking.

RAINE

(sighs)

You never let me have any fun.

NELL

It just seems like a lot to get out of a math test, Raine.

FINLEY

I thought the storm last night was going to get all of us out of the math test, honestly. Did you guys hear the wind? It was wild.

Raine hits Fin on the arm.

FINLEY (CONT'D.)

Ow, Raine! What was that for?

RAINE

Gender-exclusive term, no punchbacks! Come on, Finley. You know the rules.

FINLEY

Sorry. Stupid habit. Did you...  
friends...hear the storm last night?

NELL

We'll work on it. But yes. The wind hit  
60 miles-per-hour. That's why you heard  
it. It was zooming past all the houses,  
cars, and fences so quickly that it  
caused them to vibrate really fast.  
Resulting in weird, high-pitched  
noises.

RAINE

Huh. I never knew that.

(beat)

Don't you dare make the my-name-is-  
Raine-and-Nell-knows-more-about-weather  
comment, Finley Cosgrave. I'm getting  
real tired of the dad jokes.

NELL

She's getting predictable.

FINLEY

Hey! Am not.

NELL

I like predictable. That's one of the  
things I love about weird weather. It's  
predictable until it's not. But even  
when it's not predictable, it's  
explainable. Most of the time.

RAINE

Well, I think I have an explanation on  
why Miss Predictable's face is getting  
red right now. Tyler sighting?

FINLEY

Shut up, he's coming over here. 3  
o'clock.

RAINE

You know how to read a clock?

Tyler approaches.

TYLER

Hey ladies. How's it going?

FINLEY

Wood. Uh, I mean. Good. Or well.  
Whichever is grammatically correct.

RAINE / NELL

(giggle)

TYLER

(smiling)

Awesome. Hey, what are you doing  
Saturday?

RAINE

She's free!

(whispers)

Ow. You're wearing pointy-toed shoes.

TYLER

Well, I was hoping all of you might be!  
I'm getting a group together to clean  
up Ash Grove over on Plover Street.

NELL

The one we went to for that bio field  
trip?

TYLER

Yeah, I guess it got pretty beat up  
with the storm last night, so I thought  
if we got a big enough group together,  
we could get the school to bring out a  
bus for us, and people could use the  
trip for their service hours.

FINLEY

That's, um, really sweet.

RAINE

Totally. We'll be there.

TYLER

Great. Can't wait.

Tyler walks away.

RAINE

Oh. My. God.

FINLEY

Ugh, Raine. Could you have been any more embarrassing?

RAINE

I hate to break it to you, but I think you did that to yourself, sis.

(mocking)

"I'm wood. Haha."

NELL

Who cares? Finley. You're hanging out with Tyler on Saturday!

FINLEY

Yeah, with like, 30 other girls.

NELL

There will be boys there too, I'm sure.

RAINE

Hopefully cute ones. Since this'll be one of the very few times they'll see me wearing something besides this stupid powder blue polo. Uniforms are so limiting.

NELL

What are you going to wear?

RAINE

I don't know. What kind of outfit says, "I care about the Earth, but I'm hot?"

NELL

Uh...short sleeves?

RAINE

Fin, what do you think?

(beat)

Fin?

(beat)

Fiiin?

Raine's voice fades as Finley enters a daydream, phrases from her conversation with Tyler echo in her head.

MUSICAL TRANSITION

2. Finley sits at the kitchen table with her dad as they eat dinner together.

DAD  
(fading in)  
Finley? Hellooo?

FINLEY  
Sorry.

DAD  
Earth to daughter.  
(radio static noise)  
Please return from Planet Weird.  
(radio static noise)  
For dinner.

FINLEY  
Yeah, I'm the one living on Planet  
Weird...

DAD  
Ah, there she is! So, Saturday?

FINLEY  
...is a day of the week?

DAD  
I saaaaid, I was thinking we should take  
advantage of the weather on Saturday  
and get the kayaks out.

FINLEY  
So, about the weather and Saturday. I'm  
actually signed up for a service trip  
to clean up the grove with some kids at  
school. I guess it got pretty beat up  
with the storm.

DAD  
Ooohh, I see. Would any of those kids  
at school happen to be named Tyler?

FINLEY

Dad!

DAD

I'm just asking! I have to get all "dad" about something, don't I?

FINLEY

You covered that with the scholarship you're always bugging me to apply for. Which, by the way, these service hours will count toward.

DAD

I'm happy to hear it. Just be safe, OK? It may be good kayaking weather, but there's a lot of debris from the winds.

FINLEY

Like, big sticks? So scary. Good thing I don't have a tripping problem.

DAD

(trying to sound hip)

You're tripping if you think it's not a problem! Giiirl!

(sigh)

OK, just be careful so I never have to do that again.

FINLEY

(laughs)

Yep. Planet Weird is definitely your home, Dad. Sorry I won't be around Saturday.

DAD

We'll try kayaking next weekend. Assuming you can set aside some time for your old man.

FINLEY

Oh, stop. You know I love hanging out with you. And...it's only going to get worse, you know. I won't even bring up the "c" word. Don't want you getting all misty-eyed.

DAD

Nonsense. I look forward to the opportunities you'll have to continue your education. The only "c" word I want to talk about right now is cookies. Want me to whip some up?

FINLEY

I'll do it. I can make extra to take on the bus for Raine and Nell tomorrow.

DAD

Isn't it just a 15-minute drive?

FINLEY

Are you trying to say I need a good excuse to shower my friends in dessert?

DAD

You're a funny kid, Fin. I love you.

FINLEY

Love you too, Daddio.

MUSICAL TRANSITION

3. Finley, Nell, and Raine are sitting on the bus outside of school. The bus idles.

NELL

I see you went with the short sleeves.

RAINE

I did. Sound advice from a dear friend.

FINLEY

Though if you hadn't agonized over the one with angel wings or the one with the band none of us have heard of, we could've been here earlier and gotten a seat in the back.

RAINE

You'll have plenty of time to talk to Tyler today, don't worry, Fin.



FINLEY

I just didn't really want to sit amongst the stinky sea of freshmen. I know they give kids the puberty talk in sixth grade, so why does it seem like they forgot about the existence of deodorant?

NELL

Nervous sweat is always stinkier than sweat sweat.

RAINE

Gross.

CLASSMATE

(yelling from the back of the bus)  
We got a real contender for "world's biggest booger back here!"

RAINE

Double gross.

NELL

Nothing will ever make sense to me about how the supposed "hottest guys in school" act the same as my four-year-old brother.

FINLEY

It's the soccer team, baby. You spend hours sprinting after a black-and-white ball, you get any girl you want in school. Despite the nasty stuff that goes on in the locker room after those games.

NELL

Do I want to know?

RAINE

Trust me, you don't.

NELL

I think this will be the last person we're waiting on. At least, I hope, because she'll have to take the last seat.

Olivia gets on the bus.

OLIVIA

Oh. Uh, can I sit here? The bus is pretty full.

FINLEY

(gasps)

Oh my gosh! Your shirt! "Friends" is so vintage.

OLIVIA

Oh. Thanks! My mom is having me watch it with her. I'm Olivia. Nice to meet you!

FINLEY

A handshake and everything? Nice to officially meet you. I'm Finley, this is Nell, and this is Raine. Sit with us!

Raine and Nell interject hellos. Olivia sits down.

FINLEY

Are you in our grade? I swear I've seen you around before.

OLIVIA

Oh, no. Freshman. Guilty.

NELL

We've all been there. Or else we couldn't be juniors.

OLIVIA

Finley, I've seen you out at the field during conditioning, right? I made varsity this year, so we practice at the same time as the boys' team. You're dating that guy? What's his name?

FINLEY

Um, I'm not sure! I'm not dating anyone.

RAINE

(whispers)

Yet.

FINLEY

(scolding, then realizing)

Raine! ...was on the girl's soccer team for a while too. Right, Raine?

RAINE

Yeah. Striker.

OLIVIA

No way! Me, too! Why aren't you playing anymore?

RAINE

I, uh, lost interest. But hey, I love your bag! Where did you get it?

OLIVIA

Oh, thank you. Actually, I'm not sure--it was a little boutique I found when I went to Spain over the summer.

NELL

You can spot the cool girls because they'll always have a bag that doesn't actually fit any books.

FINLEY

What she means is: you're super cool. I was not nearly this cool when I was a freshman.

RAINE

Yeah, you seem so much older.

OLIVIA

I actually get that a lot.

MRS. MONTGOMERY

OK, you disgusting teenagers. It's time to put the boogers away and get ready to head to Ash Grove. All your trash better be cleaned up by the time we arrive. We have bags and gloves at the front of the bus, and I have bug spray and sunscreen, so I better not get one call from any angry parent that I didn't protect their little baby's precious petal skin. Now...

RAINE

(over her)

Isn't it sooo great Tyler made sure this was a school-sponsored trip?

MRS. MONTGOMERY

What was that, Raine?

RAINE

I said that I'm so glad you're here today, Mrs. Montgomery.

MRS. MONTGOMERY

That isn't at all what you said.

(beat)

And what exactly are you wearing today?

RAINE

Uh...a t-shirt?

MRS. MONTGOMERY

Yes, I know that. Nobody likes a smartass.

RAINE

I mean, you're the one who keeps asking questions when you already know the answers.

MRS. MONTGOMERY

Your shirt, Raine? "Kill Them All"? You really think that's appropriate for a school function?

FINLEY

This isn't a school function, though.

MRS. MONTGOMERY

Are we not on a school bus? Are you not getting service hours for this little excursion? "Kill Them All" is not appropriate for a representative of our school.

RAINE

So it actually says "Kill 'em All." No T H.

MRS. MONTGOMERY

You are not wearing that shirt today.

RAINE

I feel like it's a little too late for that to be true.

MRS. MONTGOMERY

So go change in the bathroom before we leave.

NELL

Mrs. Montgomery, these are the only clothes any of us brought.

MRS. MONTGOMERY

So go turn it inside-out.

RAINE

Y'know what--

FINLEY

Come on, Raine. It'll only take a second. We'll do it, too.

Finley, Raine, and Nell get up.

MRS. MONTGOMERY

Where are you two going?

FINLEY

Solidarity.

OLIVIA  
Oh, hey! Me, too!

4. In the grove. Finley, Nell, and Raine are cleaning debris.

FINLEY  
I get the concept of service hours.  
Yes, serving the community is good. In theory. But why does it have to take so much of our time?

NELL  
That would be the hours part of service hours.

RAINE  
Yeah, Fin. They're not service minutes.

FINLEY  
I know, I know. I'm not saying we shouldn't be helping out. But, like--

RAINE  
(playful mockery)  
"But, like, I've got that history test to study for. And that was already cutting into a wholesome dinner with my dad."

FINLEY  
I have a life, too. Just because I study for tests doesn't mean I don't have a life.

NELL  
We know. We are all each other's lives.

RAINE  
Ain't that the truth.

NELL  
At least these service hours can be completed without having to socialize with anyone else.

RAINE

Shall I point out that the others are socializing plenty and that we three losers are hiding from them because Tyler makes Fin nervous? I shall.

FINLEY

Someone has to clean this side of the grove, too.

RAINE

But this is the foresty part! It always has branches and shit on the ground.

NELL

I'm sure the storm made most of this mess.

RAINE

Forests are messy! Look at these leaves!

She throws a handful of wet leaves into the air.

FINLEY

Ah. We have reached the part of the service hours where Raine is done being productive and starts throwing leaves.

NELL

She made it at least ten service minutes longer than last time.

RAINE

I can't help it that service has an expiration date. At which point it becomes booring.

FINLEY

Just grab those branches.

RAINE

What? These branches?

NELL

Raine, those branches are still attached to the tree.

FINLEY

Wait, don't shake the--

Raine shakes the tree. Water pours down on them.

FINLEY (CONT'D)

--tree.

NELL

Now we're soaked.

RAINE

Oh, would we say that I made it--

FINLEY

Nope.

NELL

You could have at least considered that we now have to ride back to school wearing wet clothes.

RAINE

In my defense, I thought it would be very funny.

FINLEY

Funny for the two of you whose shirts aren't white.

RAINE

I'm sure it will dry before you have to see Tyler. Don't worry about...

FINLEY

He's coming over here, isn't he?

NELL

No, but Mrs. Montgomery is.

RAINE

Hurry. Duck behind these bushes.

FINLEY

That could be poison ivy!



NELL

Poison ivy isn't a bush, Fin.

They duck behind the bushes.

FINLEY

Do you think she can see us?

NELL

I can barely see her.

RAINE

Shhh. She's getting closer. Back up.

They creep backward. The forest ambiance changes. Finley trips.

FINLEY

Ow.

NELL

What happened?

FINLEY

Incredibly, backing up through the woods makes it easy to trip and fall.

NELL

Are you hurt? Let me see.

Finley moves.

RAINE

I don't see anything. It's really dark all of the sudden.

NELL

That's weird. It wasn't this dark a second ago.

RAINE

Hence the sudden.

FINLEY

Another storm coming in?

NELL

There was nothing in the forecast today. Can you stand?

FINLEY

Yeah. I'm fine.

Finley stands and brushes herself off.

FINLEY

How did it get so dark?

NELL

Come on. Let's go back.

They walk through the woods.

RAINE

Uh, we only backed up like fifteen or twenty feet, right? So where is the park?

FINLEY

I just see trees.

NELL

That's impossible. It was this way.

RAINE

Uh, yeah. And now this way isn't a way.

FINLEY

Here. A path. It probably leads out.

NELL

There were no paths. This isn't right.

RAINE

Well, how would you explain it, then?

NELL

I don't know.

(beat)

Hey, do these trees look weird to you?

RAINE

They look like trees.

FINLEY

They seem a lot taller than they did before. Maybe that's why it's so dark? I can barely see the sky.

RAINE

Look, weirdos, I am not walking home because you were too busy looking at trees to catch the bus. Move it.

They walk further.

FINLEY

There. That's the park up there.

They walk further.

NELL

I don't think so.

Low rumble.

FINLEY

Did you hear that? Was that thunder?

RAINE

Pretty sure I felt it. In the ground.

NELL

The nearest fault line is over one hundred miles away from here.

Louder rumble.

FINLEY

I definitely felt that.

NELL

The nearest fault line--

FINLEY

Nell, while it might not be logical, the ground is shaking.

RAINE

Come on!

They run through the woods. Even louder rumble.

RAINE (CONT'D)  
How deep is this grove?!

Thunder booms.

FINLEY  
Okay, that was definitely thunder!

Lightning strikes nearby.

RAINE  
Holy shit!

FINLEY  
Was that lightning?!

NELL  
This doesn't make sense.

Lightning strikes even closer.

RAINE  
Jesus! I didn't know that lightning  
smelled.

FINLEY  
We have to get to cover before--

Lightning strikes among them. Each is hurled away.

FINLEY (CONT'D)  
(hits the ground hard)

Finley's POV. Her ears are ringing.

FINLEY (thinking)  
(pained)  
Can't see anything. That lightning was  
so bright. Still feels like I'm in one  
piece.

FINLEY  
Nell! Raine!

NELL  
(weak)  
Fin?

FINLEY  
Where are you?

NELL  
(weak)  
Over here. I can't see.

FINLEY  
It was too bright. My eyes are  
adjusting.

NELL  
Raine?

FINLEY  
(calling out)  
Raine!

FINLEY (thinking)  
There she is. But she's not moving. Is  
she--

Cracking from the tree above them.

FINLEY (thinking) (CONT'D)  
Oh, no. That tree is breaking. Raine's  
right in its way.

NELL  
Fin, can you see...

Nell and the cracking tree both slow to a halt. The  
ambiance of the forest slows and halts, too. THINK FAST.

## FINLEY

The tree isn't cracking anymore.  
It's...it's just hanging there. In the  
air. Is that possible? Raine's still  
not moving...and neither is anything  
else. The trees. The storm clouds. What  
the hell? Nell looks frozen. Nell.  
Nell!

(beat)

I can't talk.

(beat)

I can't move.

(beat)

Why can't I move? I can't even close my  
eyes! What the fuck?!

(screams)

Did I scream, or did I just think about  
screaming?

(screams)

Why is everything frozen?

(beat)

And why can I think? Why are my  
thoughts not frozen?

(beat)

Okay, Finley. Think. If everything  
unfreezes, that tree is going to fall  
on Raine. I need to get her out of the  
way. Assuming I get to move at some  
point. We have to unfreeze, right?  
Otherwise, I guess we just...sit here  
forever?

(beat)

Maybe the lightning killed me, and my  
brain is just stuck in those seconds  
before death, stretching everything out  
forever. My life isn't flashing before  
my eyes, though. It's actually kind  
of...like, boring.

(beat)

No. I'm not dead because everything is  
going to start moving again, and I'm  
going to get Raine out of the way.

(beat)

Any second now.

(beat)

Come on. Come on!

All sound slowly resumes normal speed from exactly where it left off. END THINK FAST.

NELL  
...anything?

FINLEY  
Raine!

Finley jumps to Raine and pushes her aside as the tree crashes down beside them.

NELL  
Oh my god.

RAINE  
(weak)  
What was that?

FINLEY  
Raine! Are you okay?

RAINE  
My head hurts. I think I fell.

Nell moves to them.

NELL  
Did that tree hit you? Are you all right?

RAINE  
Tree? Holy shit!

FINLEY  
No. Just missed us.

NELL  
You reacted so quickly!

FINLEY  
Yeah. Something...it was weird.  
(beat)  
Raine, can you stand?

RAINE  
Yeah. I think.

They stand.

RAINE (CONT'D)

I think I'm okay. Just a little fuzzy.  
And apparently covered in mud.

FINLEY

I'm a little more concerned about a  
potential concussion than mud.

RAINE

Well, you're not wearing a vintage  
shirt.

NELL

At least it was inside-out.

5.

OLIVIA

(distant)

Finley? Raine? Nell?

NELL

I think that's Olivia. Hurry. Follow  
her voice.

FINLEY

Yeah, we need out of this creepy ass  
forest. Nearly dying twice is my limit.

They hurry through the woods. The forest ambiance changes  
back.

OLIVIA

There you are! We've all been  
looking...what happened?!

RAINE

Fell in the mud.

NELL

We almost got struck by lightning! And  
Finley and Raine almost got hit by a  
falling tree!

OLIVIA

What?!



FINLEY

Can you show us the way out?

OLIVIA

Way out? What do you mean?

FINLEY

The way out of...wait...

NELL

The trees.

RAINE

Would you two shut up about the damn trees and worry about something serious like whether my shirt got torn in the back?

Mrs. Montgomery approaches.

MRS. MONTGOMERY

What are you four doing in the bushes?

OLIVIA

I found them, Mrs. Montgomery.

MRS. MONTGOMERY

I see. So apparently you don't respond when I walk around screaming your names, but you will for her.

FINLEY

We didn't hear you. Just Olivia.

MRS. MONTGOMERY

I suppose you didn't hear any of your other classmates, either?

NELL

Other classmates?

OLIVIA

Tyler organized a bunch of us to look for you when we realized you weren't there.

FINLEY

He did?

TYLER

(distant)

Finley?

OLIVIA

(calling out)

I found them!

MRS. MONTGOMERY

Yes, so we don't need to shout anymore.

Tyler runs to them.

TYLER

Oh, wow. What happened? You all look like...

Everything slows and freezes. THINK FAST.

FINLEY

What?

(beat)

Well, that's just great.

THE END