

SCENE 15: MRS. TIME & THE FINISH LINE

(Early morning outside an antiques shop: "Mrs. Time." MONICA, KARL, and ELLIE enter. KARL and MONICA are worn out, but ELLIE is energized.)

ELLIE, MONICA, KARL

GO...

COME ON, AND

GO...

ELLIE

(grabs KARL's shoulders and stares in his eyes)

Karl, I'm all out of trail mix, okay? This is what being a trouper looks like.

(ELLIE stands firm. KARL nods and takes a deep breath to regain strength, but then MONICA collapses.)

MONICA

(kinda crying)

I'm soooooo tired!

KARL

(checking his phone and perking up)

Hey! We're tied with Savannah for the lead!

ELLIE

We need the hourglass.

MONICA

But Ellie. We have checked every antique shop in the city. What time is it?

(ELLIE sees the "Mrs. Time" sign and looks inside.)

ELLIE

You guys! The hourglass isn't in any antique shop... it's in an antique watch shop. I see it! It's right there!! Look look look — Hey! Mrs. Time! Mrs. Time! Open up! You got customers!

(MRS. TIME appears, hair in curlers.)

MRS. TIME

This is a joke, right?

ELLIE

Mrs. Time, I need to borrow that hourglass in the window. I swear I'll bring it back.

MRS. TIME

No.

ELLIE

Please!

MRS. TIME

No.

ELLIE

I know we look like irresponsible kids! But I know how hard it is to run a business. I know what it feels like to get hit with a tax bill that wipes out your profits for the quarter. From one small business owner to another, this favor matters.

MRS. TIME

(after a beat, amused)

I almost believed you there for a minute, sweetheart!

(relenting)

Here you go. It's only a loan.

(SAVANNAH appears with KITTY.)

#32 - Tug of War (Part 1)

Band

SAVANNAH

Excuse me. Mrs. Time, my mother is an alderman. If I don't get that hourglass right now, she will call the I.R.S. to audit your books. For the next five years.

MRS. TIME

(to ELLIE, KARL, and MONICA)

Sorry, kids. Business.

(MRS. TIME hands the hourglass to SAVANNAH and exits.)

ELLIE

You can't just steal that!

(SAVANNAH and KITTY laugh.)

SAVANNAH

Awwwww.

(makes "sad face" at Ellie)

Your face would be funny if it weren't so sad.

KITTY

Sad...

(Lurching forward, ELLIE grabs the hourglass! Now it's a SAVANNAH-ELLIE tug-of-war. Tug...tug...tug...tug... ELLIE realizes something.)

ELLIE

Wait! I can't control everything.

(SAVANNAH, KITTY, KARL, and MONICA glance at each other; this is odd.)

SAVANNAH

Are you having a psychotic break?

ELLIE

I thought if I controlled everything, that would protect my family. I thought that would keep us safe. But I can't control everything! And... we can't control anything about the Hunt! That's the whole point! It's okay to be out of control!

(to Savannah)

I'm truly sorry.

SAVANNAH

For what?

ELLIE

This.

(ELLIE beams. And then... she stomps on SAVANNAH's foot, wrenches the hourglass from her grip, and runs off. SAVANNAH tries to follow but is blocked by KARL and MONICA!)

#33 - Tug of War (Part 2)

Students

During the following, slo-mo transition to the final stretch, ADAM and other STUDENTS appear at the finish line. ELLIE is in the lead, with SAVANNAH, KITTY, KARL, and MONICA are close behind.)

STUDENTS

GO-GO-GO-GO-GO-GO-GO!

COME ON AND

GO-GO-GO-GO-GO-GO-GO!

HEY, HERE WE GO!

GO-GO-GO-GO-GO-GO-GO!

COME ON AND

GO-GO-GO-GO-GO!

(ELLIE crosses the finish line holding the hourglass. Everyone celebrates except for SAVANNAH, with her disappointment of course echoed by KITTY.)

#34 - Transition to Wedding

Band