

Larry
Sister (Woman 2)

SCENE 3
Coffee with Larry

This scene takes place at a local coffee shop. Larry is confiding in his sister about how he's been making stupid mistakes at work, lacking energy, and getting critical information confused. Larry decided to stop taking his latest prescription 6 months ago for fear of dependency. His sister introduces DAYVIGO, a new treatment that uses a different method to target insomnia. This scene is about the fear of diminished mental ability and addiction.

SISTER

(sitting down and getting comfortable)

Well, you could call more often, that's all I'm saying. She misses talking with you. 'Nuff said. *(changing the subject)* All right, big brother, let's get into it. How are you sleeping? Are you seeing any improvements? I've been doing some more research. *(pulling out a big binder)*

LARRY

Nothing has really changed. I might be getting worse. What about you??? How's your sleeping?

SISTER

All right, I guess. I haven't NOT been sleeping.
It's worse? How could things get any worse?

LARRY

If I'm lucky, I can string together a couple hours, I'm up and down all night. But that next day at work, I'm just out of it. I can't get anything done. My body aches all over and can't focus. My hours are too long as it is; now it's almost unbearable. I'm afraid I might get hurt or accidentally do something stupid.

SISTER

Wow, Larry, I'm sorry. That sounds terrible. When I can't sleep, it's never that bad. Sleeping should be effortless. Don't you have a prescription, doesn't that help?

LARRY

Prescription, I've tried them all at one time or another. They work for a little while, but then... I just don't want to be dependent on a pill to sleep. I've been down that road...

SISTER

I know, I understand. (*putting her hand on his arm to console him*) So, What are we going to do then?

LARRY

I broke down. I have an appointment next week to see my doctor. I know my doctor is no sleep expert, but I don't know what else to do. I have to try something else. I'm just stuck.

SISTER

Good for you. When was the last time you went to the doctor anyway? Get your high blood pressure checked, could that be contributing to your insomnia?

LARRY

It's been a while... yeah... I guess. I'll talk to him.

SISTER

(*returning to the binder*) Okay, good... like I said, I've been doing some research. There's a bunch of great work being done right now...

LARRY

(*interrupting*) Really??

SISTER

Oh yeah. Here, this is for you. (*Handing him the binder*) I know the last thing you need is homework, but maybe something in here will help.

LARRY

Thanks, sis.

SISTER

I know Larry, you've been struggling with this for a long time. And you're other health issues don't help. I get it, but something has to change. You can't keep this up, I'm really worried. Like you said, it's starting to get dangerous. Will you at least talk to your doctor about it?

LARRY

Yes, I will.

SISTER

Promise??

LARRY

Yes, okay, fine. I promise. I'll talk to my doctor about it.

(*they stand up and hug; lights fade*)