

SOPHIA: Doesn't matter... well, it does... look, we're going to have some TV people coming this afternoon. They'll want to see the labs. Could you get everyone ready? And cover up anything that's secret. Something's gone wrong with the PR and the world now thinks we're about to launch.

LILITH: Jesus. Sophia, we're miles away!

SOPHIA: I'll tell them when they're here...I'll clear everything up.

VIDEO: Michaela calling
SOUND – ring tone

Shit, Michaela's calling. I'm in the office, I'll see you when you get here.

SOPHIA ends the call, LILITH exits, OGHMA enters taking the steering wheel.

OGHMA: What the hell is going on? Why are you on the news saying that we're launching?

SOPHIA: It was in the press release they had. I was completely thrown and didn't know what to say. I don't think any damage was done.

OGHMA: This does not look good, Sophia!

SOPHIA: Look, it'll bring people to the website. We can make it so that people can sign up. We'll get some early adopters... it'll be great. We've got some press people coming later and I'll clear everything up then.

OGHMA: You need to call Max Rust and explain what's going on.

SOPHIA: I think it was their press release that's messed things up... yes, I'll call her.

OGHMA: Call me back once you've spoken to her.

SOPHIA: Will do.

LIGHTS down as OGHMA ends the call.

SOPHIA takes a bit of a breather. Does some quick calming exercise then starts looking for Max Rust's number. She mumbles to herself as she does this.

ULLR barges into the room holding out a piece of paper which she slams onto the table in front of SOPHIA.

ULLR: What the hell is this?!

SOPHIA: Let me guess... Is that the investor press release?

ULLR: Did you agree to this? It says we're launching now and taking orders. We're months away... years! We've only seen a few results that are slightly better than random. This is a nightmare!

SOPHIA: It's not the release we agreed yesterday. (ULLR stares) Honestly, I don't know what's going on. I'll be explaining to the press this afternoon that we're still months away. For now at least the website's not set up to take orders.

VIDEO – call coming in from Chris Cherry
SOUND – ring tone

SOPHIA answers the call.

ERIS: Sophia darling, I just had to call back to say that you are a genius!

SOPHIA: I am?

ERIS: Making it so that people can see how much has already been spent on pre-orders and where they are in the queue – that's delightful. And showing the big names too. Amethyst at the top of the list! So amazing – I just had to join in! I went for the all-you-can-eat option! I'd be completely bored if I could only have donuts.

SOPHIA: What are you talking about?

ERIS: Your website. My my, you are slow today! You are currently at... just under two million dollars of pre-orders.

SOPHIA: What?! Two million dollars?

ERIS: Call coming in... Gotta go! Genius!

ERIS hangs up and exits

ULLR: What's happened?

SOPHIA: Our web site. We are taking orders.

ULLR takes out his phone and types their web address into the browser. He shows the page to SOPHIA.

SOPHIA: Shit! Is Violet here yet?

ULLR: No, not yet. We have to stop this.

SOPHIA: Go and talk to IT Tom and get him to pull the plug on the website. I'll let Violet know.

VIDEO - SOPHIA calls Violet
SOUND – dialling tone. When she answers she's sitting with a steering wheel.

LILITH: This can't be good. What's happened now?

SOPHIA: Our website's taking pre-orders. We have two million of pre-orders.

LILITH: What the hell? How?

SOPHIA: I don't know. We're getting IT Tom to turn off the website.

LILITH: Did you say two million?

SOPHIA: Did you know we had a site set up to do this?

LILITH: No, of course not... hang on, IT Tom's calling. I'll put you on hold.

Violet call paused.

SOPHIA swipes on her phone, scrolls through the website.

SOPHIA: Holy crap!

Violet call resumes

LILITH: Are you there?

SOPHIA: Yes, all sorted?