**Franklin**

*(Cherise heads to the door, but when she gets close to the door, there’s a loud knocking on her door. She jumps in fear)*

*(Cherise say’s nothing…she picks up an object off the floor)*

*(Knocking again)*

Who is it?

**Franklin**: Franklin!

**Cherise**: Who?

**Franklin:** It’s me, Franklin.

**Cherise:** *(looking through the peep hole)* Oh my God Franklin!

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*(She unlocks the door and opens)* (*Franklin’s right hand is bandaged)*

(*Hugging Franklin*) Hey Franklin, how are you? I didn’t know you were still here.

**Franklin**: Yeah I’m here. This old man is still around. How are you?

**Cherise**: Scared! Everything is crazy around here. Rock is gone, my house has been robbed. I don’t know….

**Franklin**: Well calm down! Everything will be okay!

**Cherise**: How can you be so calm?

**Franklin**: Well when you’ve lived as long as I have, you learn to be patient and wait for answers. I’m sure our world leaders and local officials are working hard to explain all this to us. But for now, you’ve got to pull it together young lady; you’re the one always helping me. You have to stay strong for the both of us.

**Cherise**: Thanks Franklin

**Franklin**: Hey, do you remember when I fell in the hallway last year? I was so scared on that cold floor. *(chuckling*) And for some reason I couldn’t get up. But you helped me to my feet, you put some ice on my arm and since then you’ve been my best friend.

**Cherise:** Yeah I remember. But Franklin, you’ve helped me in more ways than you can imagine.

**Franklin:** *(Slightly looking around)* Aww that’s sweet Cherise. Where’s Rock?

**Cherise**: He’s gone! He just disappeared!

**Franklin**: He’s gone too? That’s too bad. Yeah my granddaughter is gone too.

**Cherise**: I don’t know if I should go and hide somewhere or stay here? I’m so confused.

**Franklin**: It’ll be okay Cherise. We’ll be fine

**Cherise:** Why is your hand bandaged up?

**Franklin**: *(Looking at it*) Oh, this? Uhh I cut myself peeling an orange yesterday!

**Cherise**: Did you put some medicine on it?

**Franklin**: No, I didn’t have time for that.

**Cherise**: Let me see - I have a first aid kit right here in the closet if it wasn’t stolen.

**Franklin**: No, no it’s okay. I’m okay.

**Cherise:** Come on Franklin, let me help you. It could get be infected…

**Franklin**: I’m okay. I’ll look at it when I get home.

19.

**Cherise**: Stop it! I got it. Let me get my kit

*(Cherise looks in the closet for the first aid kit and as she’s looking for it, Franklin walks up behind her. When she turns back around Franklin wraps his hand around her neck and begins choking her)*

**Cherise:** Franklin what are you doing? I can’t breathe….get off me!

*(Franklin just laughs and continues choking her)*

Franklin you’re hurting me! Let me go!

*(Cherise grabs the bandage off of his hand and sees 666)*

**Franklin:** Just take it and this will be all over!

**Cherise**: What? Take What?

**Franklin:** Take the mark Cherise!

**Cherise**: I thought we were friends…..

**Franklin**: I only have one friend! Now come on…Denounce Jesus Christ, take the mark and let’s be friends again! Take my Lords Mark on your forehead or right hand…

**Cherise**: Get off me! Get off me!

**Franklin**: Come on, take it!

*(They fall to the ground and continue tussling)*

**Cherise:** (*Getting free)* Get off me!

*(Franklin Grabs her leg with both hands)*

*(Trying to shake him off)* Let me go Franklin! Now!

**Franklin**: I’m going to kill you if you don’t take it

*(Cherise grabs an object off the floor) (Franklin grabs the walkie talkie out of his coat while he’s still holding her with one arm)*

**Franklin**: Come on! Help! I got her! I got her!

**Cherise:** *(crying)* I’m sorry! I’m sorry *(Cherise begins hitting Franklin with the object until he lets go) (Running out)* I’m sorry Franklin….

*(Lights out)*