

Stage right: the airport ticket counter

...where Quinn is talking to the ticket agent behind the counter.

Quinn

I'd like to exchange these Toledo tickets.

Agent

Everyone does. Nobody goes to Toledo.

Quinn

I'm going to Toledo.

Agent

I'm sorry about that. How can I help?

Quinn

These tickets are for six a.m. I'd like to change them to the nonstop at eleven thirty.

Agent

There *is* no nonstop at eleven thirty.

Quinn

Yes there is. It's right there on the board.

Agent

That one? Yeah, we put it on the board every day. Gets in at a quarter to one. But it never leaves.

Quinn

Say what?

Agent

Nobody goes to Toledo, so why fly there? We cancel it just before boarding. But there's a flight at eleven thirty eight going to Wilmington. Would you like that one?

Quinn

I'm not going to Wilmington.

Agent

Not with that attitude.

Quinn

I'm – that is, we're going to Toledo whether we like it or not. I will need to change her ticket too.

Agent

You're already booked for Toledo.

Quinn

Yes, at six a.m. in the early fucking morning.

Agent

Don't be rude with me or I'll call TSA.

Quinn

Sorry. I just want the eleven thirty flight.

Agent

The one that doesn't exist?

Quinn

The one that's on the board, right there.

Agent

Well, if you insist, I can change the printing on the ticket. But at eleven twenty, when I cancel it, you'll really wish you had the six a.m. flight. You'd be halfway there. Twelve hundred forty dollars.

Quinn

What?

Agent

That's the difference in fare.

Quinn

The fare difference is twenty dollars. There are two tickets. I can do math.

Agent

There's a six hundred dollar change fee.

Quinn

Six hundred?

Agent

Each. And you'll miss the flight, because it will never take off. Are you sure you want me to do this?

Quinn

It's Toledo, so not really.

Agent

Smart choice. See you tomorrow morning!

Lights out stage right, they exit. Lights up stage left, on...

The street where Total Panopticon once stood.

It's an empty lot now. People are walking along the sidewalk, on their own business. Angie and Quinn enter from the darkness stage right.

Angie

Six hours – two plane changes. Crazy.

Quinn

It's Toledo. It's why the plane was empty.

Angie

Yeah. So much room it was creepy. It's coach seating on an airplane. It should have... more intimacy.

Quinn

You're scaring me Angie.

(They stop in front of an empty lot.)

Angie

Well, here we are. You sure this is the place?

Quinn

Positive.

Angie

(Angie checks her notes.)

It's the right street, the right address.

Quinn

The right everything – except there's nothing here.

Angie

It's Toledo. What did you expect?

Quinn

A ten story modern building that says "Total Panopticon. I was here just a few weeks ago. Buildings don't just... disappear.

Angie

Absinthe?

Quinn

Don't start on me now, Angie.

Angie

(Angie stops one of the passers-by)

Excuse me... do you know what happened to Total Panopticon? It used to be right here.

Passer-by

Yeah, it came down about three weeks ago. Workers said they got a letter, and that was that. Strange. My friend used to work there.

Quinn

How're they taking it?

Passer-by

No big deal. She's still employed there, just there's no there, there.

Angie

Work from home?

Passer-by

Dunno how it works, but she's happy.

(Dweezel enters from the other side)

Quinn

Dweezel – what are you doing here?

Dweezel

I see you found the place.

Quinn

Kinda the opposite. But what are you doing here, and how did you get here?

Dweezel

There's an eleven thirty flight out of Westchester. Gets here at a quarter to one.

Passer-by

It's a good flight. I've taken it many times.

Quinn

But...

Angie

(to Quinn)

Why didn't you tell me about that one?

Quinn

Because when I tried to change the.... Never mind.

Passer-by

You looking for Panopticon too?

Dweezel

Actually, no. I know where it is. I'm looking for these clowns.

Passer-by

Well, you've had success. Nice talking to you all.
(*Passerby continues on and exits.*)

Quinn

Looking for us? What for?

Dweezel

Panopticon doesn't need an address.

Quinn

Then where did I go six weeks ago? Big building. Right here.
Ryan and Cleo were there.
(*beat*)

I'm not making this up.

Angie

That guy we just spoke to –

Quinn

What about him?

Angie

He said his friend worked for Panopticon.

Quinn

(*Quinn has a realization.*)
Capellini?
(*Quinn looks to where the passer-by had gone*)
Wait! I have another question!
(*Quinn takes after him, but is stopped by Dweezel.*)

Dweezel

Not so fast.

Angie

Who's Capellini?

Quinn

The one I met with. Except I was the Boss, 'cause the Boss didn't want to go. And now I'm me, so I can't meet with her again.

Dweezel

But nobody knows that yet.

Angie

There's this customer at the mall who's asking questions. He's getting freaked out about all the openings and closings at the mall. I said I'd look into it, and now the mayor wants to know what's going on.

Dweezel

So you went as the Boss. Was this Capellini character the only person you met there?

Quinn

Met? Yes. But I suppose the doorman, the receptionist, and whoever else happened to be in the hallway when I walked in could have seen me.

Dweezel

And it's Panopticon. You think there weren't any cameras recording the whole thing?

Quinn

It never occurred to me.

Dweezel

It's a good thing I'm here.

Quinn

The jury's still out on that. And anyway, just why **are** you here?

Dweezel

I'm here because you won't find what you're looking for if you are looking for it here. It's not here.

Quinn

And just where is it?

Dweezel

Panopticon?

Quinn

Yeah.

Dweezel

Everywhere. And nowhere. It's not a place.

Quinn

It *is* a place. It's a place right here. Except there's nothing here.

Dweezel

You're in Toledo, Ohio. Of course there's nothing here.

Angie

It's where the letters are coming from.

Dweezel

It's where the letters are postmarked from.

Angie

So Panopticon is the post office?

Quinn

Panopticon is *right here*.

(Angie looks around at the empty lot.)

Angie

You do know how silly that sounds.

Quinn

No sillier than anything else I've heard.

Dweezel

If the letters are coming from the post office, that's the first place to check.

Angie

Well, at least the post office is a place we can go to, and it will actually exist.

Quinn

I'm not so sure any more.

(Angie and Quinn exit down the block. Dweezel remains. He waits a bit, and the Boss shows up.)

Dweezel

How's the steakhouse?

Boss

Must be good. I'm still cashing my checks.

Dweezel

... and you didn't like computers!

Boss

I still don't. But I do like checks.

(blackout)