

"THE PLANET"  
Scene

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EXT. LUTHOR TOWER - DAY

A 1929 Rolls Royce Phantom II pulls up in front of this exquisite glass skyscraper.

INT. LUTHOR PENTHOUSE - DAY

Lena exits the elevator into a luxurious penthouse where THE BUTLER greets her. She doesn't acknowledge him at all, immediately removing her mink coat and passing it to him.

THE BUTLER

May I get you anything, Ms. Luthor?

She doesn't answer and THE DOCTOR appears--

DOCTOR

Ms. Luthor, how do you do?

She sends a message on her cellphone.

LENA

Busy. Shall we?

DOCTOR

Yes, of course. Come.

The doctor leads her through the extravagant penthouse.

LENA

Has my brother or sister been here?  
Have you contacted them?

DOCTOR

We could not get into contact with  
your sister and your brother said he  
could not make it at this time.

LENA

Did he say why?

DOCTOR

No, ma'am.

They stop before a large, golden frame of a Vincent Camuccini painting -- *Death of Ceasar* (1798).

LENA

My father's in his room?

She proceeds, but the doctor stops her--

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DOCTOR

Uh, I must warn you, Ms. Luthor, your father does not look like himself. He's lost all of his hair and he cannot speak very well. Please try to remain calm--

LENA

I'm not here to shed tears, Doctor. Excuse me.

Lena passes him and knocks on the door.

INT. LEX LUTHOR'S BEDROOM - DAY

The room is bright and vibrant, big windows and lots of natural light shooting in.

LENA

Daddy, it's Lena. Can I come in?

She enters to see her father -- LEX LUTHER(78) lying in a hospital bed, attached to various tubes and wires. A NURSE at her father's bedside is checking his vitals. Lex is at the end of his life, now. His legacy still dominates the world, now in the hands of his prodigy.

LENA (cont'd)

What are you doing?

NURSE

Oh, I was just checking his vitals.

LENA

No, I mean the blinds--

Lena rushes over to the windows and drops the blinds, shrouding them into a dark cave of a room.

LENA (cont'd)

My father hates the sun.

She turns to him--

Lex stares over at her.

LENA (cont'd)

He always has.

NURSE

I'll remember that, Ms.--

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LENA  
Luthor. Thank you. I'll call for you  
if you're needed.

The nurse nods and quickly leaves.

Lena moves across the room to her father's bedside, sitting on the bed and switching on the lamp on the side table.

Lex already looks dead -- BALD, frail, colorless and bony. He wears an oxygen mask at all times.

LENA (cont'd)  
I'm here, Daddy. Just me. Alex and  
Natalia couldn't be bothered, of  
course. But I came right away.

Lex doesn't respond. He just stares, menacingly.

Lena looks a bit uncomfortable, though determined to hide it -- she cannot lose control of this situation.

LENA (cont'd)  
I know it's been quite a while, but  
I'm sure they've been taking good  
care of you.

Lex groans, slightly.

LENA (cont'd)  
Are you in pain, Daddy?

She shoots up and speeds to the door, where she stands, speaking out into the hallway--

LENA (cont'd)  
Excuse me, is my father's pain being  
properly managed?

DOCTOR  
Why, yes. Of course.

The doctor rushes in behind Lena as they approach Lex's bedside.

LENA  
He's moaning and groaning -- he's in  
pain!

The doctor listens--

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

DOCTOR  
I don't hear anything. Mr. Luthor,  
are you in pain?

The doctor pulls off the oxygen mask.

DOCTOR (cont'd)  
Let's take this off for a while. Mr.  
Luthor, are you feeling any pain?

LEX  
No.

Lex's voice is weak, low and incredibly raspy.

DOCTOR  
He said no.

DOCTOR (cont'd)  
Is there anything I can get you, Mr.  
Luthor?

Everyone must wait patiently for Lex to form words.

LEX  
(mutters)  
A time machine.

LENA  
What did he say?

DOCTOR  
He said, "a time machine."

Lena's eyes interlock with her father's.

DOCTOR (cont'd)  
Here, sit close, Ms. Luthor.

Lena sits beside her father.

LENA  
Is that your way of apologizing?

The doctor and nurse exit as Lex clears his throat.

LENA (cont'd)  
Here.

Lena holds the straw in a cup of water up to Lex's mouth,  
allowing him to take a sip.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LEX  
Don't disrespect me.

Lena rolls her eyes.

LEX (cont'd)  
A Luthor never apologizes.

Lena snickers, but restrains herself, quickly.

LENA  
"Only to their daughters," is how I remember the rest of that saying going. But come to think of it, most of your rules for being a Luthor could be followed up with something like that. "A Luthor never jokes... only with their daughters." I think you've said that one before. Or how about, "a Luthor never lies?"

She gives him the "eh?" look.

LENA (cont'd)  
Or wait, what am I thinking? The most obvious: "a Luthor never steals."  
Only *from* his daughter. Right, Daddy?

Lex stares on with as much of a smug expression as he can muster so close to his time.

LENA (cont'd)  
But the past is for moving on. Which I have.

LEX  
You got your revenge.

LENA  
You're right. You always were.

Lena glances down and smiles evilly.

LENA (cont'd)  
Except about Superman.

Lex groans again, loudly.

Lena laughs, sadistically.

LENA (cont'd)  
I bet you could use some more of that morphine now, huh, Daddy?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Lex's agonizing expression transforms into a satisfied smirk.

LENA (cont'd)  
 Look at you. Not a single regret.  
 Dying proud. Aren't you?

LEX  
 Very.

LENA  
 Well, I guess you have every right to be. I always took your every word over gold. Now look at me. I run a multi-trillion dollar company. I'm the richest person alive, providing the world with life-saving, groundbreaking technologies. They write books about me. A real Luthor.

She shrugs with a "it is what it is," expression.

LENA (cont'd)  
 And I only apologize to my daughter. Remember my Lori, Daddy? Lori -- you met her two or three times, at least.

Lex mumbles something, inaudible.

LENA (cont'd)  
 What was that, Daddy?

LEX  
 Pictures?

Lena pauses, nervously and then pulls out her cellphone.

LENA  
 Ya know, I had one in here--

Lex puts his hand on Lena's. She stops.

She let's his hand rest there for a BEAT before it gets too intense and she pulls away.

LENA (cont'd)  
 Ya know, I guess I should--

Lena stands.

LENA (cont'd)  
 I don't want to intrude on you--

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LEX

Wait--

She pauses and stares down at what's left of the most powerful man, er... human on Earth. Empathy infects her.

She sits, reluctantly. She leans in--

LENA

Yes?

His wrinkled, spotty and bony hand touches hers, once again. She doesn't pull away, but her heart instantly races.

LEX

A Luthor never dies.

A tear begins to escape from Lena's eye--

LENA

I guess you're not a Luthor then,  
Daddy.

She wipes it and abruptly stands, walking over to the door.

LENA (cont'd)

Do Luthors go to hell, Daddy?

Lex just stares.

LENA (cont'd)

I'll be seeing you, then.

She nods and leaves.