

# Vignettes Transcript:

## S01E05, Faces



Air date: 16/07/2026 | Listen here: [Vignettes Podlink](#)

Tag line: Grief looms in any world. Does it hurt the same?

Protagonist: *Warder*, played by Lea Lawson

### Intro – 0:00

LEA VO: Vignettes; an improvised audio drama. Episodes are best experienced with headphones. Please see show notes for content warnings. And here we go!

## Theme song – 0:08

[[Vignettes theme](#) plays]

## Faces – 1:08

[pressed play beep, [song #1](#) plays, an aquarium burbles in the background]

WARDER: I got your question about grief. About how it affects us, over here in this world. But I didn't quite understand when you asked how it affects your emotions. How we carry the load, as if it were an... abstract concept.

[beep] I know we have this cultural exchange thing between our planets to learn *more* about each other. How we tackle things. Well, tackling grief is not a concept; 'Grief' is an old acquaintance. You know of them. You just... don't always recognise them at first, for 'Grief' wears *many* faces.

[beep] Be easier to just show you video – but I hear that you don't have that on your planet. Perhaps that's why you don't think 'Grief' is real... Over here? It's *ever present*. And I will find it. I *always* do. You see it lurks around every corner. And it could be anywhere, anytime.

[beep] It often strikes when you least expect it. One must be on guard; it's taken out *far too many* of our ranks. And the more it does, the more effective it seems to become.

[beep] It could be hiding behind this door. *Hell*, it might *be* the door. It shapeshifts.

And when you think you have it covered, when you think you have it figured out, you don't. It could inhabit an animal. Could be your car. It

could be... any human. Your mother. Your father. It could be your weird cousin – and if you don't have one, *you're the weird cousin*, just sayin'. It could be the *lamppost* that's supposed to guide you at night when it's darkest. It could be your *chair* that you wanted to support you when your legs are tired. It could be your *teddy* that you wanted to hug – a familiar place of comfort, *no longer*. Could be your *boxing bag* – the thing that you were likely to take your anger out on, *safely*, instead of taking it out elsewhere on somebody that never deserved it. It could jump out of a *letter* from someone you once cared about, who hurt you... or deceived you... [[song #2](#) plays] only for it to *not* jump out because what you read feels different, because *you've* changed since the last time you visited the words.

So 'Grief' isn't there; it's hiding.

You'd think it'd be in the dark. But not always. Could be in the light of day! It could be the mirror that you're lookin' at, and the reflection is *supposed* to be you, but it's *not*. I've had that happen...

[beep, [song #3](#) plays] I hold this gun and I'll take it out the next time I see 'Grief'. I. Can't. Let it. Get me! It's been chasing me for *years*! And thing is, when I've seen other people catch theirs, it's different to mine. It always is. 'Grief' wears many faces.

[beep] I know it's close. I can *feel it* under my *skin*. Crushing. My. *Heart*. *Making me* second guess every thought. Every move! *I know it's close*. But everything in this room looks the same as I walked in this morning... So I don't know *where*, or *how*, or *when*! I half expected it to take advantage of that prime *moment*! *How dare you* make me look bad in front of my intergalactic guest. Perhaps 'Grief' has a sense of humour – how's that for a concept!

[beep, glass crashes, Warder laughs nervously, water gushes out of aquarium] Oh, I've found you, you motherfucker! My Octopus?! *That's* what you choose? My little guy? Oh I don't want to put him down [squishy sounds of approach] Hey, back off! I don't want to do this [gun cocks] but I... I will, *I'll do it!*

I've had him for five *years*. 'Grief,' you've been chasing me longer than that! Leave. Him. Alone! I don't want to part with him; I want to part with *you!* I want to be *done. With. You!* I've been runnin' for so long... I don't want to second guess anymore [squishy sounds of approach] *Back. Up!* [beep] Huh? Did you just wave?? Why aren't you attacking me? ... You're just gonna sit there among the glass? Oh you're bleedin', buddy. Do I *fix* you? Do I *allow* you to *stay*? Do I *end* you? End *this*? Maybe I could help you? Maybe keeping you wouldn't be so bad... Are you really not trying to hurt me? Oh you're in pain, *too*... I didn't know... I don't want to let you go. Not really... I thought you were trying to *hurt me. This whole time*... But you're sitting there... waiting... I don't know what for. Maybe you're looking for answers too? You've worn so *many faces* over the years, and I was *scared!* Perhaps I didn't need to be. Perhaps I needed to sit with you, just for a few moments. A cultural exchange... [squishy sounds of approach] WAIT! [jumping sound, muffled face noises, two gun shots, muffled] Let. Me. Go! [sounds of shoes struggling atop glass]

[long pause, sci-fi sound, Octopus' body falls to the floor] Hello, listener. Where's your planet?

## Outro - 7:53

[[Vignettes outro theme](#) plays, VO joins 6 seconds in]

LEA VO: You've been listening to Vignettes. This show was created, performed, and edited by Lea Lawson. All music and SFX are used under a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 license, royalty free licenses, or are

original. For extended credits, please see the show notes. If you'd like to shout me a coffee visit [ko-fi.com/leals](https://ko-fi.com/leals) Thanks for listening. May we meet in another realm :)

## Links/Music credits

[Official site](#), [Bluesky](#), [Podchaser](#)

Vignettes Theme: "[Grief Wears Many AKA Spicy Noodle Supreme Leader](#)" by Maria Damianou & Lea Lawson

Song #1: "Disassembly" by [Tim Kulig](#)

Song #2: "Counting the Losses" by [Tim Kulig](#)

Song #3: "Desolate" by [Tim Kulig](#)

Outro Theme: "Third Noodle Stuck in Reverse" by Maria Damianou & Lea Lawson



*Vignettes created by Lea Lawson, 2026.*