

November 28

Alex,

I just got a letter from my half-sister, and no, I haven't been holding out on you, I had no idea I had a half-sister until about five minutes ago. Her name is Lissa, she's thirteen, she's Thom's daughter, her mother is dying, and she wants to talk to me.

I don't have any right to bother you with this, I know that. But when I finished reading this thing and had no freaking idea how to begin to respond, you're the person who popped into my head. I know you'll be honest in whatever advice you might have to offer, so please. Alex, for the love of God, what do I do?

Zoe