Title: The Lost Connection

STEVE'S BEDROOM - DAY

Steve, a twelve-year-old boy, is surrounded by the glow of multiple screens. His phone is in one hand, and he's playing a computer game with the other. The room is dimly lit, filled with posters of games and tech gear.

We hear the clicking of his keyboard and the sounds of a game in full swing. The scene emphasizes Steve's immersion in his digital world.

LIVING ROOM - DAY

Steve's MUM is sitting on the couch, flipping through a magazine. Steve walks in, still glued to his phone.

STEVE (absent-mindedly, looking at his phone)

"Do you ever get tired of this?"

MUM (laughs softly)

"You mean computer games?"

STEVE

"Yeah. I don't get why people waste time on anything else. Games are everything."

Mum smiles knowingly and then suddenly seems to have a thought.

MUM

"Have you been in touch with Granny?"

STEVE

"Yeah, I emailed her. She's learning to use her computer, isn't she?"

(Mum nods, but there's a hint of concern on her face.)

STEVE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Steve is typing furiously on his computer. His email inbox is open. He clicks "send" on another email to Granny. The email is filled with exaggerated tales of football games, swimming lessons, and adventures with friends. None of which are true. He smiles smugly at his work.

But Granny does not respond to any of Steve's emails.

LIVING ROOM – EVENING

Steve's Mum enters the living room, holding her phone. She looks at Steve, who is on the couch, staring blankly at his screen.

The radio is on. The current music is interrupted by a news bulletin stating that there is a nationwide internet outage.

MUM

"The internet's down everywhere!"

STEVE (confused and frustrated)

"What? You mean... no games? No messaging?"

MUM

"Nope. Nothing."

Steve's frustration builds.

STEVE

"This can't be happening!"

MUM (gently)

"There's not much we can do about it right now."

STEVE

"I can't be dealing with this! It had better come back up soon."

MUM

"Well, let's see."

"I forgot to ask, did you get a reply from Granny to your emails?"

STEVE

"Nothing!"

MUM

"Well, since you can't send any further emails to her at the moment, how about you write Granny a letter? She'd love to hear from you. It's personal, Steve. A real letter."

(Steve looks at her, puzzled.)

STEVE (baffled)

"A letter? Like... with paper? And a pen?"

MUM

"Exactly. You might even like it."

STEVE'S BEDROOM - LATE NIGHT

Steve sits at his desk with a blank piece of paper in front of him. He holds a pen, staring at the page like it's a foreign object. His fingers hover over the paper, unsure how to begin. Finally, he starts writing awkwardly.

STEVE (V.O.) (narrating as we see him struggle to write)

Dear Granny... um... how have you been? I sent you all these emails, but I'm guessing you didn't see them?

I've been busy... uh, playing football, running... wait... no, that's not true.

(He sighs and starts over).

STEVE (V.O.) (narrating as he writes)

Actually, I haven't been doing any of that. I've been spending a lot of time on the computer, playing games. And now that I can't, I have a lot of time to fill... so I've started reading. Books, like the ones you used to tell me about.

He looks down at the letter, unsure if it's good enough. After some time, he finally signs it.

(He puts it in an envelope, addresses it and goes to post the letter)

LIVING ROOM - DAY

Two weeks later, Steve sits on the sofa. Moments later, a letter arrives on the doormat. Steve runs to collect it and eagerly rips it open.

STEVE (reading aloud)

"Dear Steve, thank you so much for your letter! It made me smile to hear from you. I haven't received a letter in a long time. I remember when Grandpa used to send me letters from abroad. Back in those days, we didn't have computers, and letters were the best way to connect..."

(Steve's face lights up with a smile.)

STEVE (V.O.) (Reads on)

"It's so wonderful to hear from you, and I can't wait to see you soon. I hope you're doing well. Love, Granny."

GRANNY'S HOUSE – DAY

Steve arrives at Granny's house, carrying a bag. He's nervous but excited. Granny opens the door, and they share a big hug.

GRANNY (warmly)

"Well, look at you! Come in, come in!"

They sit at the kitchen table, and there's a slight tension in the air as Steve fidgets with his hands.

STEVE

"I've been thinking... maybe I've been spending too much time on my games. Now I can't do it anymore, I've started writing stories, like the ones I read in the books. And maybe... maybe I'll try going outdoors more too!."

Granny smiles, her eyes twinkling with pride.

GRANNY

"That sounds wonderful, Steve. I'm so proud of you for wanting to try new things."

PARK - DAY

Steve goes jogging around his local park. His face lights up with joy as he runs, realizing he's discovering something new.

STEVE'S ROOM - DAY

Steve sits at his desk, writing a new story. He smiles to himself as he writes. The sound of a keyboard is heard, but this time, it's not a game. It's the beginning of a new adventure, one he's creating himself.

GRANNY'S HOUSE – DAY

Granny is seated by the window, writing a letter to Steve. She pauses, smiles softly, and continues.

PARK - DAY

Steve and Granny walk together in the park. Steve talks animatedly about his new hobbies. They laugh together, their bond stronger than ever.

THE END.