

The Atlanta Braves are fighting for a chance to continue their run in the MLB postseason.

One more win is all it takes.

On Tuesday, September 29, the Braves defeated the Philadelphia Phillies 5-3 in Game 1 of the National League Wild Card Series.

On Wednesday, September 30, the Braves lost to the Phillies 4-3 in 10 innings, forcing a tie-breaking Game 3.

Now, the Braves have one last game to determine if their postseason continues or if it comes to a heartbreaking end.

After winning Game 1, the Braves had hoped to finish it in Game 2. They held a 3-1 lead in Game 2 before the Phillies came back and tied the game with back-to-back home runs in the eighth inning. Then Alec Bohm hit the game-winning home run for the Phillies in the 10th and final inning.

For Braves fans, it was a crushing loss. It was a loss that makes you want to go home and cuddle your cat. Or dog. Or fish. I don't judge.

But all hope is not lost. There is still one last game.

"Nothing comes easy. I'm hopeful we can get it in three. Much more satisfying than two," said Braves fan Brian Hill.

Hope. This is what I am holding on to. While I would love to be celebrating a series win right now with other Braves fans in Atlanta, I can't. Not yet.

The loss on Wednesday does not change the fact that the Braves have already won once. Even though they lost Game 2, they can still come back and win Game 3. They've already won against Philadelphia once; they can do it again.

All they have to do is learn from their mistakes in Game 2. They had multiple opportunities to score, and they could not capitalize on them. From bad pitches to leaving runners on base, the Braves made crucial mistakes that ultimately cost them the game.

All it takes is one inning to change the trajectory of a game, and that was proven Wednesday when the Phillies came back from a deficit. Now they have the chance to change the trajectory again.

"The game will either be extremely positive, or it will seem like the world is ending," said Braves fan Jack Dawson.

Right now, all the Braves and their fans can do is take it one game at a time. There is no need to look beyond Thursday's game yet. Either they win this game, or their season is over. At least they have that chance.

What has happened in the past can't be changed. The missed runs can't be recreated. The Phillies' 10th inning home run can't be erased. The only thing the Braves can control is what they will do next. They must learn from their past mistakes so that history does not repeat itself with another loss.

"I've lived through a lot of miserable postseasons. While I hope things are different this year, we're just going to have to see," said Braves fan Aaron Morgan.

While it would be easier to focus on the loss and doom, Atlanta must focus on making a comeback for the final game. The scoreboard is starting over from zero, so they have one last chance to prove that they deserve to continue in the playoffs.

While there is no guarantee that the Braves will make it through with a win on Thursday, that's part of the reason postseason baseball is so thrilling. You never know what may happen until that final out.

For now, let's have hope that this season is Atlanta's season.

I know I do.

One more game. Let's go Braves!