

# Cole Sc 1

60.

85 EXT. VALLEY SPIRE COLLEGE CAMPUS - NEXT MORNING 85 \*

Cole skateboards down the quad. Dressed in custodial uniform. Having just returned from his morning shift at the zoo.

86 INT. CAMPUS HALLWAY - SAME 86 \*

Cole turns a corner, board in hand. Small band-aid on his facial scratch. Approaches the door to Dr. Weller's CLASSROOM. Closed and locked. Taped sign: CLASS CANCELED.

87 INT. HALLWAY - EDUCATION BUILDING - NEXT MOMENT 87 \*

Cole approaches the closed door to Kay's office. Sees light emanating under the door crack. The barely-audible concerto of Brahm. Cole knocks gently.

COLE  
Dr. Weller?

Tries the knob. Unlocked.

88 INT. KAY WELLER'S OFFICE 88 \*

Soft classical fills the room. Cole takes a peek inside.

Kay's sitting at her desk, back turned to him. Watching the rain through the window.

Cole contemplates. Gently shuts the door. Politely approaches.

COLE  
Hey. Are you all right?

Beat. Kay peels off black sunglasses. Turns to face him. Her left eye, swollen and bruised.

Cole's concern turns to silent fury.

COLE (CONT'D)  
Jesus, were you attacked again?

Kay shakes her head no.

COLE (CONT'D)  
Then who?

Kay, scared silent. Cole spots that photo of John Weller. Instantly knows. He starts off.

KAY  
Cole, no!

Start →

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Darts up and grabs him before he can exit.

KAY (CONT'D)  
I was late coming home, he was  
drunk-

COLE  
I'll kill him.

KAY  
Sshhh.

Kay puts a gentle, trembling finger over Cole's lips. Moves close.

KAY (CONT'D)  
It's getting too dangerous, he  
suspects something. We have to end  
it.

COLE  
You know we can't. After  
everything that's happened. What  
I'm feeling for you. It's making  
me crazy. I can't just shut it  
off.

(believes it)  
Neither can you.

Kay looks at him. Single tear runs. He gently reaches in to wipe it. Kay pulls away. Crosses her arms. Cole weighs every supple move and gesture.

COLE (CONT'D)  
I see how he is with you. It  
hasn't been the first time, has it?  
(off her silence)  
Has he already conned you into an  
excuse?

Kay lingers on this. Quiet and sad:

KAY  
Tennis lesson.

Beat. Cole almost grins.

COLE  
How long can you go on like this,  
Kay? How many times are we gonna  
go around the track?

Kay faces him. All defenses and walls broken down.

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KAY  
 You don't think I haven't thought  
 about leaving him?! He's the dean  
 of a school. We're established  
 here, it's not that easy-

COLE  
 Yeah, it is. You pack a bag and  
 walk out the front door. People do  
 it every day.

KAY  
 I have a life here.

Cole pauses on this. Regards her bruise.

COLE  
 For how long?

Kay holds on this. Cole goes to embrace her. She's scared,  
 resistant. Paces around. Cole has to try it:

COLE (CONT'D)  
 Do you love me.

KAY  
 What -- ?

COLE  
Do you. Love me?

Loud enough that others might hear. Kay turns up the music,  
 moves close into him.

KAY  
 Cole, you have to-

COLE  
 ENOUGH.

Cole grabs hold of her. Pulls her close. So close.

COLE (CONT'D)  
 Every emotion, every impulse I feel  
 in you tells me you do. Why don't  
 you just say it?

KAY  
 Cole, we have to-

COLE  
 SAY IT.

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KAY  
I love you, I do.  
 (breathless, kisses him)  
 I love you so much it feels like  
 I'm ripping apart.

Cole, quietly elated. Puts his hands on her face.

COLE  
 Then come with me.  
 (holds her gently,  
 closely)  
 We can be together. Without all...  
this. Just you and I.

KAY  
 But my tenure-

COLE  
 The hell with your tenure, you can  
 teach anywhere.

She shakes her head.

KAY  
 It's like I told you. There's too  
 much at stake. My husband has  
 control. Over finances, everything-

COLE  
What did you tell me about control?  
 What did you tell me, Kay? You  
 told me ninety percent will never  
 have it. Am I still in that club?

Kay looks deeply into his eyes. A whisper:

KAY  
 No. But it's complicated.

COLE  
 I hate that word.

KAY  
So do I, but it's true.

Pushes away from him. Turns to face the window. Cole  
 watches her. She contemplates. Something she's afraid to  
 speak.

Cole, sees it in her face. Moves closer.

← end  
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