

SOS – Episode 22 – The power of pain – part 2

EXT. DAVID JONES – CARPARK – NIGHT

ALEX is lying unconscious in the car park.

A TROLLEY BOY finds ALEX and shakes him to wake him up, finding blood.

TROLLEY BOY pulls out his mobile phone and calls the police.

FADE TO:

AMBULANCE and POLICE arrive.

ALEX is put onto a gurney and taken in an ambulance.

FADE TO:

EXT. ARC HOSPITAL – EMERGENCY ENTRANCE – NIGHT

ALEX arrives at the hospital still unconscious.

FADE TO:

OPENING CREDITS.

FADE IN:

INT. ARC HOSPITAL – ROOM – NIGHT

ALEX wakes with a start.

ALEX grasps his head.

The NURSE comes to his side.

NURSE
Hello again handsome.
How is the head?

ALEX peaks his eyes open and recognises the nurse as the one from when NOAH was here.

ALEX
Pounding.

NURSE
I'm not surprised.
You took quite a hit.

ALEX sits up quickly, then weakens and drops back.

NURSE
You will have to give yourself a little while.
You have a nasty concussion.

ALEX
What time is it?
I have to call Noah.

NURSE
That wouldn't be your 'brother' would it?

ALEX recalled.

ALEX
No, yuck. That would be incest!

NURSE
You have certainly progressed this year.

ALEX
Some.

NURSE
You have a very developed tan line around your ring finger.

ALEX smiled

ALEX
I have to call him.

NURSE
Allow me.

NURSE picks up phone beside the bed.

NURSE
What is the number?

ALEX
No idea.
All of the numbers are in my phone.

NURSE
Which was stolen...
I'll grab a phone book.

ALEX
No point. Private Number.

NURSE stops

ALEX sits up.

ALEX
I have to leave.

NURSE pushes him down.

NURSE
You can't yet.
Wait a little.
I will check our records.
His phone number should still be in the computer.
What was his name?

ALEX
Noah Jones.

NURSE exits.

FADE TO:

ALEX is sitting holding his head with one hand, the phone with the other.

NURSE enters.

ALEX Throws the phone down.

NURSE
Still no luck?

ALEX
No.
Still engaged.

ALEX Moves to get up.

NURSE moves to him.

NURSE
I can't let you leave.

ALEX Stands dizzy

ALEX
I don't care.

NURSE
Look.
Just... in another hour, it will be five AM.
I leave then.
If you ask to be released then, I will drive you home.

ALEX sits back.

ALEX
Thank-you.

NURSE
Just wait here.

ALEX lies down again.

ALEX
He'll be terrified.

NURSE
You have tried.
You should sleep.

ALEX
No.
I don't want to.

FADE TO:

INT. JONES MANOR – NOAH’S ROOM – MIDDAY.

ALEX is lying on the bed in the same position as the hospital, asleep.

NOAH is collapsed over the chair in the corner, asleep.

BLAIR is standing in the doorway.

CODA is sitting against the wall opposite the bed.

BLAIR walks over to CODA and sits beside her.

BLAIR

I never want that to happen again.

CODA

All of us will eventually die.

BLAIR

Me first please.

CODA

Don’t be stupid.

BLAIR

I felt awful tonight.

But, from watching Noah...

CODA

You have been through the same.

BLAIR

Maybe.

Do you know, I think I was relieved when Kimberly died.

CODA

Blair, you were not.

BLAIR

I was.

(beat)

She had wanted to escape for so long.

(beat)

I hated that she was gone.

But, a part of me was, relieved.

CODA

I was there too Blair.
I had known you for three years.
You were destroyed.

The only reason you fear what Noah was going through, is that you went through it
yourself.

BLAIR

I'm worried about him.

CODA

Why?

BLAIR

Stuff like that doesn't disappear.

CODA looks longingly at BLAIR.

BLAIR is looking away.

CODA

He has Alex.

(beat)

Alex won't let him down.

BLAIR

I kinda hate them for that.

CODA looks at ALEX

CODA

So do I.

BLAIR looks back too her.

BLAIR

Then we are both envious sinners then.

CODA

I'm a fan of greed and gluttony as well.

BLAIR

Agreed.

BLAIR smiles.

CODA

How do you think Noah will go?

BLAIR

You're the psychologist.

CODA

You're the best friend.

BLAIR

I don't know.

(beat)

Alex asked for permission to marry him when the grandparents were here.

CODA

What?

BLAIR

I figure he was planning to ask last night.

CODA

Well that explains the records.

BLAIR

What?

CODA

Alex borrowed a mass of old records from me the other day.

BLAIR

That's weird.

CODA

No, think about it.

BLAIR

What?

CODA

Do you remember the camping trip?

ALEX stirs

BLAIR

Which one?

CODA
With me, Noah and Alex.

BLAIR
Yeah.

CODA
Remember what they spent all night doing?

BLAIR
Guessing songs.
Oh...
Why records?

CODA
I don't know.
He was planning something.

BLAIR
Shame, sounded good.

CODA and BLAIR sit silently.

ALEX
Are you done now?

CODA
When did you wake up?

BLAIR
You're supposed to be sleeping.

ALEX
I was mum.
It's just two three year old girls wont shut up.

BLAIR
Sorry.

CODA
We'll go.

BLAIR stands and helps CODA up.

ALEX turns on the bed to get comfortable.

BLAIR and CODA exit.

ALEX goes back to sleep

FADE TO:

INT. JONES MANOR – NOAH’S ROOM – NIGHT.

NOAH wakes.

NOAH instantly searches for ALEX, locating him asleep on the bed.

NOAH stands and walks over to ALEX

NOAH stands over ALEX about to wake him.

NOAH attempts to touch ALEX but a force deep inside him cannot do it.

NOAH fears ALEX will not actually wake up.

NOAH’s face hardens against his pain.

NOAH exits quickly.

FADE TO:

INT. – SILVER PORSCHE – ARC ROAD – NIGHT

NOAH is driving around alone, morose.

NOAH finds Mulligun’s and parks in front of the bar.

INT. – ARC UNIVERSITY – MULLIGUN’S BAR – NIGHT

NOAH enters and walks to an empty spot at the bar.

Many of the men in the bar, watch NOAH.

NOAH
Do you have 151?

BARTENDER
Yep.

NOAH
Can I have three shots.

BARTENDER
For who?

NOAH put \$100 note on the bar.

NOAH
Me!

DEKLYN a guy ARC approaches NOAH.

BARTENDER puts three shot glasses in front on NOAH, and fills them with Bicardi 151.

NOAH gulps.

NOAH puts his hand around one shot.

NOAH decides to drink it.

NOAH shots the first shot, forcing the foul liquid down.

NOAH shakes off the foul taste.

NOAH shots the second and third quickly.

NOAH shakes off the taste.

NOAH's head already becomes heavy.

DEKLYN pushes into the bar next to NOAH.

DEKLYN
Hey.
You're the rowing star?

NOAH glances at him.

NOAH gestures over the BARTENDER.

NOAH puts down another \$100 note.

BARTENDER fills the three shot glasses.

NOAH shots all three very quickly.

NOAH fights the taste, then turns to DEKLYN

NOAH
I can't say I'm in a talking mood.

NOAH gestures to the BARTENDER

BARTENDER fills the three glasses.

NOAH puts a shot in front of DEKLYN.

NOAH shots the other two.

DEKLYN
Something wrong?

NOAH
Yep. This place is foul.

NOAH begins to walk out.

DEKLYN drinks the shot, shaking off the taste as he follows NOAH.

NOAH exits.

DEKLYN exits.

EXT. ARC UNIVERSITY – MULLIGUN'S BAR – NIGHT

NOAH is walking towards the Porsche.

DEKLYN exits.

DEKLYN
What are you doing?

NOAH stumbles at the sound.

NOAH
Oh, it's you.
(beat)
I'm going home now.

DEKLYN
You can't drive.

NOAH
Why not?

DEKLYN
You just had 8 shots of 70%.

NOAH
Right.
(beat)
Well I'm a big boy. Alcohol wont effect me that badly.

NOAH stumbles over backwards for no reason.

NOAH is sitting on the street.

DEKLYN
Sure it wont.

NOAH sits stupidly on the road.

DEKLYN walks over to him putting an arm under NOAH's

DEKLYN helps NOAH over to the sidewalk.

DEKLYN sits NOAH on the ground.

DEKLYN
That was a pretty stupid way to drink.

NOAH follows a piece of dust in the air.

DEKLYN
Maybe you should call someone to come for you.

NOAH
Can't!
They're all dead.

DEKLYN
What?

NOAH
Well, maybe they're not.
But no-one is telling me that.

DEKLYN stares at him.

DEKLYN
Where is your phone?

NOAH
In the car you wouldn't let me get too.

DEKLYN pulls out his own phone.

DEKLYN
What's the phone number?

NOAH
Which one?

DEKLYN
Someone to come and get you.

NOAH
Someone not dead...

DEKLYN
Come on.

NOAH
07... 55733755

DEKLYN dials and speaks.

DEKLYN
Hello? Who is this?
Jon, My name is Deklyn, I have...
(to NOAH)
Who are you?

NOAH
Noah please.

DEKLYN
Noah...
He is quite drunk.
I am out the front of Mulliguns Bar at the University.
I'll stay with him until you get here.
Bye.

NOAH looks up at DEKLYN dopey.

CUT TO:

INT. – JONES MANOR – KITCHEN – NIGHT

BUTLER JON hangs up the phone.

BLAIR and CODA are sitting together at the kitchen table chatting.

BUTLER JON
Do either of you know of a Mulligan's bar?

BLAIR
I do. Why?

BUTLER JON
Master Jones is there making a scene.

BLAIR
Noah?
When did he leave?

CODA
Is Alex there?

BLAIR
We'll go Jon.

CODA
I'll go up stairs to check on Alex.

CODA exits.

BLAIR walks over to the key cabinet.

CUT TO:

INT. JONES MANOR –NOAH'S ROOM – NIGHT

CODA stands outside the door, ALEX is still asleep.

CUT TO:

EXT. JONES MANOR – DRIVEWAY – NIGHT

CODA exits the house towards BLAIR and the car.

CODA
Alex is still asleep.

BLAIR
This answers how Noah will go.

CODA
Nuts.

BLAIR chuckles.

BLAIR and CODA get into the car.

EXT. ARC UNIVERSITY – MULLIGUN’S BAR – NIGHT

DEKLYN is sitting on the ground next to NOAH.

NOAH is spacing completely.

DEKLYN looks slightly annoyed.

NOAH
Do you think we should think about moving out of mum’s soon?

DEKLYN
Yeah, sure whatever.

NOAH turns to DEKLYN.

NOAH puts a hand around DEKLYN’s neck.

NOAH kisses DEKLYN.

DEKLYN accepts the kiss.

NOAH surfaces.

NOAH
Alex.
When did you get a tongue ring?

DEKLYN
Deklyn.

NOAH kisses DEKLYN again.

JEN appears out of a group of actors.

JEN
NOAH JONES!

NOAH turns confused.

NOAH
What?

JEN
Noah, what the hell are you doing?

NOAH
Sitting on the cold ground.

JEN walks over to NOAH and pulls him up.

JEN
Noah. What the fuck?!!

NOAH falls completely onto JEN.

JEN collapses under him on the ground.

DEKLYN
Can you take him now?
I've been stuck with him for half an hour.

NOAH
Shut up Alex.

DEKLYN
Deklyn.

JEN(huffed)
I have him.

NOAH
Jen. When did you get here?

JEN
What did he drink??

DEKLYN
8 151's in about a minute.

JEN
Great!

DEKLYN
What's wrong with him?

JEN
He lost his mind.

JEN finally achieves at getting NOAH off her.

DEKLYN
He keeps saying everyone is dead.

JEN
Don't worry.
He's probably just drunk.

DEKLYN rolls his eyes and leave back into the bar.

JEN
You fucking idiot!
What has gotten into you?

NOAH begins to cry uncontrollably.

NOAH
ALEX DIED.

JEN
NOAH WHAT?

NOAH
Alex died and came back.

JEN
What are you talking about?

NOAH sobs on her chest.

JEN
Noah, what has happened?

NOAH doesn't say anything.

JEN strokes NOAH's hair.

JEN
Where is your car?

NOAH
Burnt up.

JEN
What?

NOAH
Porsche is mine for now.

NOAH says pointing at his mum's Porsche.

BLAIR'S truck arrives.

BLAIR and CODA get out of the car and come over to NOAH and JEN.

NOAH is still crying onto JEN'S shoulder.

BLAIR
Hey Jen.

JEN
Hey.
You really need to fill me in.

BLAIR
It has been a big few days.

JEN
Is Alex ok?

BLAIR
Yeah.
We'll explain later.
What happened?

JEN
I don't know.
He was pashing some random guy when I got up here.

CODA
What?

JEN

He kept calling him Alex, saying he was burned up

BLAIR

Maybe you should come back with us.
Alex got car jacked yesterday.

CODA

Noah thought he was dead. We all did.

JEN

Yeah.

One of us should take Hillary's car back.

CODA

Me!

JEN

Noah, hun.
Where are the keys?

NOAH fishes around dopily, handing the keys to JEN.

NOAH doesn't speak.

BLAIR helps NOAH up and slumps him over to BLAIR'S car.

BLAIR puts NOAH into the car.

BLAIR walks back to CODA.

BLAIR

Jen, can you go with Coda.
I think I should talk to Noah alone.

CODA

Yeah.

He isn't going to be happy with himself.

BLAIR

I havn't told anyone else anything either.

CODA

Well, we can do that tomorrow.

CODA walks away with JEN to the Porsche.

BLAIR stares at his car.

NOAH is inside the car crying.

BLAIR gathers himself and walks to the drivers door.

BLAIR gets into the car, starts it and they pull away.

CUT TO:

INT. OPEN ROAD – BLAIR’S CAR - NIGHT

NOAH is leaning against the cold glass, tripping out.

BLAIR throws him a bottle of water.

NOAH looks at it.

BLAIR pulls the car into a lookout beside a cliff face.

NOAH
What’s all this?

BLAIR
Get out of the car.

NOAH
Where are we?

BLAIR
Get out.

BLAIR Gets out of the car.

NOAH waits a moment, drinking some water.

EXT. BLAIR’S CAR - LOOKOUT – NIGHT

BLAIR is standing looking over a massive drop.

NOAH approaches him, still drunk.

NOAH
This is pretty.

BLAIR
Kimberly jumped off just there.

BLAIR said pointing, not acknowledging the spot.

NOAH gulped.

BLAIR
I havn't been anywhere near here since it happened.

NOAH begins to cry again.

BLAIR
I couldn't have gotten through this year, this well, without you.

NOAH
Don't say that.

BLAIR
You still have him Noah.
He is alive.
Don't do something stupid.

NOAH cries.

NOAH
I can't go through that again.

BLAIR
How often do you think this sorta stuff happens?

NOAH
Well, at least once more, or else I'll do it to him.
(beat)
One of us will die first.

BLAIR
Get over it.
(beat)
We're going home and you are going to tell him what you have just done.

NOAH cringes as he recalls the night.

BLAIR

Alex was going to ask you to marry him last night.
(beat)

NOAH registers.

BLAIR

He deserves you.
You deserve him.
(beat)

You're just going to have to get over this crap.

NOAH

What if I can't?

BLAIR

I'm going to make you.

NOAH opens his palm revealing the burnt ring.

NOAH

I can't stop seeing him on fire.

BLAIR

I know.

NOAH

No you don't!
You don't know at all.
Alex is going to hell because of me.

BLAIR

What?

NOAH

Church Blair!
What's one thing they all seem to agree on?

BLAIR

You don't buy that!

NOAH

Sometimes it's harder to forget than others.

BLAIR

Well I'll tell you a little common belief.

BLAIR (cont'd)

If I get into heaven, my paradise will include you and Alex.
Same goes for your mum, Coda and Jen.
And, I'd guess a lot of other people too.

NOAH cannot look at BLAIR.

NOAH cries into one hand, leaning over against the barrier.

NOAH
What did I do Blair?

BLAIR
Nothing.
Nothing that Alex could care less about.

(beat)
You on the other hand, I have a feeling you aren't going to take it very well.

NOAH looks pleading at BLAIR.

BLAIR
You've had a shitty few days.
(beat)
Let's get you home.
You need to sleep.

BLAIR puts an arm around him and leads him to the car.

FADE TO BLACK:

INT. JONES MANOR – NOAH'S ROOM – MORNING.

ALEX wakes up, the clock reads "8:45AM".

There is a note on the pillow next to ALEX.

ALEX reads it.

NOAH(reading)
"6:00, Going rowing.
Come meet me at the jetty.
Noah."

ALEX slowly gets up.

ALEX'S head is still aching

CUT TO:

EXT. ARC UNIVERSITY – ROWING JETTY – MORNING

ALEX walks toward NOAH leaning on the jetty.

NOAH is showered and dressed.

ALEX
Hey noddy.

NOAH smiles.

ALEX kisses NOAH.

NOAH pushes ALEX off.

NOAH
Come for a walk?

ALEX
Sure.

THEY walk towards the university.

NOAH
I'm going away for a little while.

ALEX
What?

NOAH
I'm leaving.

ALEX
What? Where? Why?

NOAH
I need too.
(beat)
I can't look at you.

ALEX
What?

NOAH

Alex, I left late last night.
I went to Mulligan's, got drunk, and made out with some random guy.

ALEX is hurt.

NOAH puts the ring into ALEX'S hand.

NOAH

I can't stop seeing you burning.

ALEX

What?

NOAH

I have to go away.

ALEX

This is ridiculous Noah.

I don't care.

You were upset, I get it.

NOAH

I don't!

(beat)

I'm sorry Alex.

I don't know what I am doing anymore.

ALEX

Then just stay here and figure it out.

NOAH

No.

(beat)

I'm going.

I'm going now.

ALEX looks at the bag on NOAH'S arm.

ALEX

Where?

NOAH

I don't know.

I think, maybe, back to the States.

ALEX
No, I don't want you too.
What about school?

NOAH
I'm finished Alex.
I don't have anything left for them.

ALEX
Let me come with you.

NOAH
No.

ALEX
Noah, this is ridiculous.
Last night I was planning to propose and now you're leaving.

NOAH
I know you were.
(beat)
I would have said yes.

ALEX is hurt.

ALEX
Would have?

NOAH
Don't ask me.

ALEX
Noah.

NOAH
Alex. I can't look at you.
I have to go.

ALEX
Get over it.

NOAH
No, and I'm not going to be calling.

ALEX
What about your mum and Blair?

NOAH
I don't care.

ALEX
I'm not letting you do this.

NOAH
You can't stop me.

ALEX
This isn't just about you!

NOAH
It is my life.

ALEX
How can you do this?

ALEX and NOAH arrive at the school map where they first met.

NOAH
Please leave now.

ALEX
No.
I can do what I want to too.

NOAH
Goodbye.

NOAH walks off towards the car park.

ALEX Stands still at the sign.

A TAXI is waiting at the front gate.

NOAH gets into the taxi and it drives away.

ALEX'S eyes well.

ALEX turns violently, smashing into the sign with his fist.

The sign shatters, ALEX looks at it and walks away.

FADE TO BLACK:

INT. JONES MANOR – KITCHEN – AFTERNOON
SONG – SWITCHFOOT – this is your life

ALEX walks into the kitchen, leans against a corner wall and collapses to sit on the floor.

BLAIR is sitting at the table watching him.

CODA, JEN and HILLARY are working in the kitchen watching him.

HILLARY
Alex?
What's wrong?

BLAIR sits quietly.

ALEX
Noah is gone.

BLAIR's eye widen.

BLAIR
Where?

ALEX
He wouldn't tell me.

CODA
What?

ALEX
He said he couldn't look at me.
He had to leave.

BLAIR
Shit!

HILLARY
Did he say where?

ALEX shakes his head.

HILLARY
Fucking little shit!

CODA, JEN and BLAIR look at HILLARY surprised.

ALEX
I'm not sure what to do.

BLAIR
I can't believe he just left.

HILLARY walks over and squats next to ALEX.

HILLARY
You are going to stay here and get better.

ALEX looks to her pleading.

JEN finally snaps into action and walks over.

JEN
Don't worry about it.

HILLARY and ALEX look at JEN as if she has snapped.

JEN
Noah isn't who he once was.
He isn't independent anymore.
He has forgotten what it means.
Don't worry, he'll be back.

HILLARY looks at JEN incredulously.

HILLARY looks back at ALEX.

HILLARY
I never thought I'd believe it.
But, she is right.
He'll be back.

HILLARY looks into ALEX'S eyes and hugs him.

FADE TO BLACK.

THE END