

SOS – Episode 5 – Farewell Thumper.

INT- WOODEN CHURCH – MAIN AISLE/ ALTER – TIMELESS

NOAH walks from BLAIR's Side to a dias as a minister stands aside.
NOAH positions to speak.

(Beat)

NOAH

Kimberly has asked me to do this as a part of her memorial ceremony. And although I despise what she has done, I will honour the wishes of she who has passed.

NOAH removes a letter from a post stamped envelope, he removes a note and begins to read.

NOAH

Dear Noah, I hate it is you this has fallen to, but meeting you, seeing you with Thumper and knowing what you meant to me so quickly; it can only be you. This is for you, Thumper and Jason, no-one else, it is to say goodbye. I want you to sing this at the funeral for me. I wont try to explain what I have done, but please remember me better than I was.

Sing it twice, make everyone join in the second time. If nothing else I trusted you the minute I met you, and you never disappointed me.

(beat)

The rest is not important.

(beat)

A pianist sits at the piano, a guitarist, and three people stand, three with items (a can, a drum and a pipe).

NOAH swallows.

The group sings – Bernard Fanning – Yesterday's Gone, exactly to original recording.

CONTINUOUS PAN

-FIRST VERSE-

BLAIR is revealed on a pan thru the audience, HE is situated in the front row Dressed in a black suit, wearing a dark pair of Traditional Oakley sunglasses. His and is clutching something. His knuckles are White,

PAN reveals the tip of a plush Thumper doll, barely noticeable.

-SECOND VERSE-

Tears Flow down BLAIR'S Cheek, HIS face is Blanc.

KIMBERLY'S FATHER stands in the second row behind his wife, expressionless.

KIMBERLY'S MOTHER stands next to BLAIR, SHE is ashen.

JEN, ALEX, CODA and BENJAMIN are dispersed within an expressionless crowd.

-END SONG-

NOAH

There are words inside the booklet.

NOAH nods to the guitarist.

BLACKOUT.

CREDITS TYPE TWO

BERNARD FANNING – WISH YOU WELL

CUT TO: (0:07)

INT –CODA'S HOUSE – BLAIR'S ROOM - MORNING

BLAIR wakes. HIS eyes are open looking at the ceiling, he stares.

BLAIR rolls from the sheets, mechanically walks to the bathroom.

BLAIR showers, his face is blanc.

BLAIR exits the shower, towels off and gets dressed.

INT – CODA'S HOUSE – KITCHEN – MORNING

BLAIR walks out of is room thru the kitchen, grabs his bag off the table and exits the house.

CUT TO:

EXT- CODA'S HOUSE – DRIVEWAY – MORNING

ALEX, NOAH and CODA are waiting with NOAH'S CAR packed with camping supplies.

BLAIR walks past them and gets into his car, which is parked in by NOAH'S CAR.

BLAIR just sits in the car.

After a moment, NOAH walks up to BLAIR, HIS door is open.

BLAIR
Could you please move.

NOAH
Where you going?

BLAIR
I have class.

NOAH
No you don't.

BLAIR
My Ethics lecture is in 20 minutes.

NOAH
No it isn't, you have taken the rest of the semester off.

BLAIR
What?

NOAH
YEP, impromptu gap year.

BLAIR
Noah, what did you do?

NOAH
Whatever it was, probably can't be fixed until Monday. So we'll have to go camping.

BLAIR
I don't want to go camping.

NOAH
Come on, you and me, we'll re-enact Brokeback mountain. Coda and Alex can watch.

BLAIR
Come on Noah, not now.

NOAH
Your coming.
If I have to knock you out to get you there...!

BLAIR
Whatever.

BLAIR exits his car and walks to NOAH'S CAR and gets into the back seat.

NOAH, ALEX and CODA follow him with their heads.

NOAH
That was easy.

ALEX and CODA turn to NOAH.

NOAH(cont'd)
I'll run in and get some stuff for him.

FADE TO:

EXT – BLAIR'S HOUSE – FRONT DOOR – MORNING

NOAH exits with TWO LARGE BAGS.

ALEX
How long are we going?

NOAH winks

NOAH
A month maybe?

ALEX
I can't miss that much school.

NOAH
You never go?

ALEX nods

CODA
I have to work some time.

NOAH
GET IN, SIT DOWN, SHUT UP, HOLD ON.

NOAH shuts them into the car and proceeds to the drivers seat.

FADE TO:

EXT. OPEN BEACH – CLEAR DAY – MID MORNING

NOAH walks around from the drivers seat and opens the two side doors.

NOAH
Get Out!

CODA
Where the bloody hell are we?!

NOAH
You still don't shut up! The whole trip, nag nag nag nag. Just be quiet.

BLAIR silently steps out of the car.

NOAH turns to him.

NOAH (cont'd)
I told you I actually needed a four wheel drive.

ALEX
I'd believe that by the way you attack speed bumps.

BLAIR chuckles.

CODA
Where they hell have you taken us? All I can see is beach for miles!

NOAH
Tell me, why did I actually let a girl come camping.

CODA
Because we needed your car.

BLAIR chuckles.

NOAH
The only signs of life out of Blair for the last two days have been snide sniggers to your
petulant posturing.
And if you say one word about that alliteration I'll bury you tits deep in this sandy shit.

BLAIR chuckles

ALEX
Did you bring any fresh water?

NOAH Turns.

BLAIR notices NOAH's frustration, BLAIR's chuckling progresses to a wide smile thru to hysterical laughter.

NOAH runs at ALEX and charges him front on.

ALEX is knocked to the ground.

NOAH pins ALEX

NOAH
I fucking hate being called an idiot, without actually being called an idiot.

BLAIR is watching, still laughing.

NOAH gets off ALEX and walks away.

CODA
You actually did bring water didn't you?

BLAIR's Laughter is renewed.

NOAH glares at CODA.

MOOD - BERNARD FANNING – WISH YOU WELL / GIMME SOME LOVIN'

NOAH is suddenly jolted forward to the ground, ALEX tackled him from behind.

ALEX has NOAH in a quasi head lock, NOAH struggles fervently.

BLAIR is still laughing at them.

CODA
Are you going to do anything?

BLAIR walks over.

NOAH, grabbing for anything grabs BLAIR'S leg.

BLAIR falls backwards.

ALEX has NOAH's middle in a bear hug. BLAIR recovers dives at them, HE pins NOAH arms. NOAH locks onto BLAIR'S waist with his legs. ALEX struggles his arms upward and works them into having NOAH's arms and head locked with HIS.

CODA walks to the back of the car and pulls out a drink.

Still stuck between NOAH's legs BLAIR starts to dig into NOAH's torso.

NOAH convulses violently, causing BLAIR and ALEX to knock heads, allowing NOAH it escape.

NOAH laughs at THEM. BLAIR and ALEX spring in unison. NOAH bolts along the beach, BLAIR and ALEX close on his heels.

CODA pulls an eski out of the car and two chairs. CODA sets up the chairs, opposite each other, puts her feet up and eats from the eski.

- BACKGROUND

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ALEX Catches NOAH, NOAH drops to the ground ALEX falls over him. NOAH stands to run, but is tackled by BLAIR. THEY struggle, ALEX recovers and grabs BLAIR by the legs.

FADE OUT.

CUT TO.

EXT. OPEN BEACH – CLEAR DAY – AFTERNOON

Wearing only board shorts THE THREE BOY'S are holding beers resting against the car. NOAH has a few minor grazes, BLAIR has a black eye. ALEX is fine.

CODA approaches them in a giant sun hat, carrying a piece of drift wood as a poking/walking stick. CODA is wearing neon pink.

CODA

Where is the wine rich boy?

NOAH

Black eski.

ALEX

You brought wine? To a camping trip?

NOAH nods

ALEX(cont'd)
Your such a fag.

BLAIR Chuckles

NOAH
I bought cheese too.

ALEX
Aw, what sort of cheese?

NOAH
Four or five of them, AND KABANA!

ALEX
And where would they be found?

NOAH
The wine and cheese eski.

BLAIR and ALEX laugh.

ALEX
SO GAY!

NOAH
Well you go eat all the fish you caught; Coda and I will enjoy our fag food.

BLAIR
Hey I said nothing.

NOAH
Tough luck, laughing boy.

BLAIR punches ALEX

CODA arrives with a glass of wine in one hand and a chair in the other. SHE puts the chair down and sits with her wine.

CODA
And now the three of you will parade around shirtless assembling my tent.

NOAH
Bad news little Coda, I didn't bring tents!

CODA
What?

NOAH
Just sleeping bags and aerogaurd.

CODA
Oh god! No that won't work at all. Call that man servant of yours and have him bring one out.

NOAH
Nuh ah, it's a camping trip. OUTDOORS.

CODA
Fine, ill sleep in the car.

NOAH
There is plenty of wood in here for a fire, masses of food and enough alcohol for a football club.

CODA rolls her eyes.

NOAH and ALEX start to unpack the car.

CODA
What, instead of rotting in nature, we'll pickle ourselves in sleeping bags?

ALEX
It's called a wake.

ALEX goes back to the car.

CODA
Wakes are conducted in the presence of ...

BLAIR looks away.

NOAH
The remains.

BLAIR looks at NOAH wide eyed.

ALEX(off)
Noah why is your mums Ching vase in the back?

BLAIR'S mouth drops.

NOAH goes to the car and picks it up.

NOAH

Because it was the first thing Kimberly noticed about my house.

BLAIR winces.

NOAH walks to BLAIR

NOAH

This is why we are here.

NOAH offers the vase to BLAIR

BLAIR shy's away.

CODA

Noah, what is in that?

BLAIR looks at NOAH angrily.

BLAIR

Well?

ALEX

Noah, what did you do?

NOAH

I stole her.

BLAIR burst out a laugh, which turns into tears.

BLAIR sits on the sand, crying, looking at the vase.

CUT TO:

EXT. OPEN BEACH – CLEAR DAY – SUNSET

BLAIR is sitting alone on the sand about fifty metres from the fire.

NOAH walks over too BLAIR.

NOAH sits next to BLAIR

NOAH
I'm sorry about the vase.

(beat)

And stealing the ashes.

(beat)

I heard you arguing with her parents on Tuesday, and I didn't think they know if I switched them.

BLAIR sits

NOAH

I think you should decide what happens to them.

(beat)

She can't be trapped with her parents forever, but I spose that isn't up to me.

NOAH sits

CUT TO:

EXT. EXT. OPEN BEACH – CLEAR DAY – TWILIGHT

NOAH sits quietly next to BLAIR

NOAH

I cut my hand pretty badly when I stole her. It still stings.

BLAIR

On what?

NOAH

She was in this, what I thought was a three-sided glass cabinet. Turns out it was four-sided, but now it is only three.

NOAH shows BLAIR his hand.

(beat)

BLAIR

Her dad said I stole her.

Stole her from her family, where she was safe.

NOAH

I have a feeling you saved her from her family.

(beat)

Do you remember her allergy pills?

BLAIR chuckles.

BLAIR

I remember her screaming at me when I dropped them all down the sink by accident once.

NOAH

They weren't allergy pills.

(beat)

They were stabilizers.

Apparently, she refused to take them until she was 15.

The way I understand it, the only reason she started taking them, was because you asked her out.

NOAH sits quietly

BLAIR

Why is it you know this?

NOAH

Kimberly told Jason.

(beat)

He also remembers that she attempted suicide six times before you started going out.

BLAIR looks at NOAH

BLAIR

I didn't know that.

NOAH

I think there is a lot more you should know.

NOAH produces a book.

NOAH

I found this in my bedroom the day she died.

(beat)

You saved her life Blair.

1000 times.

You're not superman though.

BLAIR Leans over and puts an arm around NOAH, then wraps his other arm around him and hugs him side ways.

BLAIR lets go.

BLAIR

It's funny you know.
She was so adamant I had to like you.

NOAH

Why?

BLAIR

She said we both needed a brother.

NOAH

I got the feeling I was being herded.

BLAIR

Did you get speeches about how much we had in common?

NOAH

Now that you mention it, I did.

BLAIR

She wouldn't stop going on about it.

NOAH

Kimberly said nothing, Alex wouldn't let up.

BLAIR

Alex?

NOAH

Yep. Ran over to my house twice.

BLAIR laughed.

BLAIR

I doubt you'd complain about that.

NOAH

I'm not a perv.

BLAIR

Just a thief.

NOAH

Yes.

BLAIR

You didn't really cancel my enrolment.

NOAH

Yeah. Well differed actually.

BLAIR

Shit, Noah!

NOAH

I also got Coda to cancel your lease.

BLAIR

I can't say I'm overly upset about that.

NOAH

I think you should break for a while.

BLAIR

What for?

NOAH

Give you time to take that urn back.

BLAIR

No way, you took it.

NOAH

And spend sometime doing what you want.

BLAIR

There isn't anything for me back home.

NOAH

I mean at ARC.

BLAIR

I couldn't afford it, I'd have to work if I leave school. So I may as well go to school.

NOAH

Why would you need to work?

BLAIR

Food, rent, clothes.

NOAH

No, your living with me.
Well us.

BLAIR

Noah, I can't mooch off your mum.

NOAH

You already eat there most of the week, besides, all of your stuff is there.

BLAIR

You moved me?

NOAH

Had too.

BLAIR

Why?

NOAH

Kimberly's father wants to sue you for it.

BLAIR

Oh, well there's another something to look forward too.

NOAH

Mum wants you there, I want you there, it is all done.
Just accept it.

BLAIR

Sounds like I have too.

NOAH

And, by the time we get back, Kimberly's dad will be so bogged down in paper work
from my mum, he wont be able to afford the court costs to go to trial.

BLAIR

Why does it feel like I have no choice in all of this?

NOAH

You're in shock, you have no idea what you're doing.

BLAIR

Oh.

NOAH

Come over to the fire and join the wake.

BLAIR

Got anything good to eat?

NOAH

Everything you could imagine.

BLAIR stands.

NOAH stands and dusts off.

NOAH

If there is anything left by now is anyone's guess.
I promised Alex I wouldn't leave him with Coda too long.

BLAIR

That makes it almost worth keeping you here.

NOAH

I couldn't do it too him.
I have been watching him glance over here every twenty seconds since I left.

BLAIR

Do I have to talk?

NOAH

No.
Just get drunk and the sing songs.

BLAIR

Sing?

NOAH

Yeah. Helps sooth the spirit folk.

BLAIR

Says who?

NOAH

Scottish, Irish, Welsh.

BLAIR

Then what?

NOAH
Sleep.
Then do the same thing again for three days.

BLAIR
Did you bring enough?

NOAH
Yep.
And there is even a tent in the car for Coda...
But don't tell her until tomorrow.

BLAIR snorts.

FADE TO.

EXT. OPEN BEACH – CLEAR NIGHT – NIGHT

A Fire is burning. Four chairs are up CODA'S tent is built.

ALEX is slumped in his chair playing his guitar.

BLAIR is watching the fire, holding a large bottle of Rum, upbeat.

CODA is cocooned in her sleeping bag sitting up. Occasionally, she opens the bag and her hand appears with a wine glass.

NOAH is sitting on the chair opposite ALEX on the other side of the fire.

NOAH is mindlessly singing to the guitar.

ALEX (drunk)
What about this one?

NOAH (drunk)
Shoot.

BLAIR looks up.

NOAH (drunk)
How much do you owe me now?

ALEX (drunk)
Eight hundred.

BLAIR (drunk)
What are the rules?

ALEX

You have to come in at the right time, with the right lyrics, to the whole first verse.

BLAIR

I'm out.

ALEX begins to play Ruby Tuesday – Rolling Stones

NOAH listens intently.

NOAH grins.

NOAH waits for a second.

NOAH (singing)

She would never say where she came from

ALEX

Fuck!

NOAH (cont'd)

Yesterday don't matter if it's gone

While the sun is bright

Or in the darkest night

No one knows

She comes and goes

Goodbye, Ruby Tuesday

Who could hang a name on you eh?

CODA & NOAH (sings)

When you change with every new day

Still I'm gonna miss you...

CODA

Keep going.

NOAH

This is no sing-a-long.

This is serious gambling.

ALEX Chuckles.

ALEX

There is no way I'm paying you!

BLAIR chuckles

ALEX
I've never seen 800 dollars.

NOAH
900.

BLAIR
Keep going.

NOAH
No.

BLAIR
Alex play!

ALEX continues the playing.

BLAIR
I want to hear the rest of it.

CODA
I don't know the verses.

BLAIR
Come on Noah.

NOAH
Go back to the end of the chorus.

ALEX starts again.

NOAH (sings)
Don't question why she needs to be so free
She'll tell you it's the only way to be
She just can't be chained
To a life where nothing's gained
And nothing's lost
At such a cost

NOAH & CODA (sings)
Goodbye, Ruby Tuesday
Who could hang a name on you?
When you change with every new day
Still I'm gonna miss you...

NOAH (sings)
There's no time to lose, I heard her say
Catch your dreams before they slip away
Dying all the time
Lose your dreams
And you will lose your mind.
Ain't life unkind?

NOAH & CODA (sings)
Goodbye, Ruby Tuesday
NOAH & CODA & BLAIR (sings)
Who could hang a name on you?
When you change with every new day
Still I'm gonna miss you...

Goodbye, Ruby Tuesday
Who could hang a name on you?
When you change with every new day
Still I'm gonna miss you.

BLAIR stands and stumbles to his sleeping bag.

BLAIR drops to sleep instantly.

CODA
That's a great idea.

CODA walks into the tent and zips it up.

NOAH walks over and sits in the chair next to ALEX.

ALEX
Ok. Choose your genre.

NOAH
Um...
80's.

ALEX
That's an era.

NOAH
Genre is too vague.

ALEX
I'm not making it easier then.

NOAH
I suck at 80's, 200 a pop.
Gives you a chance to win your cash back

ALEX
2 shots first.

NOAH picks up the bottle from under ALEX's chair.

NOAH takes a long swig.

ALEX
Ok, the game will start in five minutes when that is in effect.

NOAH rolls his eyes.

ALEX
What did you talk about?

(beat)

NOAH
I just really gave him the diary.
And told him some stuff that I got off Jason.

ALEX
What about your gossip policy?

NOAH
Voided at death.

ALEX
I'll have to remember that.

NOAH
Only in the case of selfish, abhorable, revolting circumstance.

ALEX
Tell me what ya really think.

NOAH
I wasn't going to go to the funeral.

ALEX
Wow.
Why?

NOAH
Policy.

ALEX
Why did you go?

NOAH
I realised the funeral wasn't for her.

ALEX
Oh.

ALEX takes the bottle back of NOAH, drinks (a lot), then returns it.

NOAH drinks more.

NOAH
What a shitty birthday.

ALEX
Better than my eighteenth.

NOAH blinks for a moment and looks over.

NOAH
Keep going.

ALEX
I woke up really early because I was excited, but I didn't want to wake anyone else up.
So, I, went, for a run.

I got home, the house was empty, all of the power was out and the phones were down.
(beat)

We had planned this massive piss up at the house, and everyone was going to walk over
at about one o'clock.
I didn't think too much of the power and phones. Being out back it happens a lot. And, I
thought everyone was out doing something to surprise me, so I just waited.

At two o'clock I got fed up and jogged into town.

There was this huge gathering of people at the bridge near the electrical interchange.

I ran along to the bridge and I saw my grandparents car smashed to pieces inside one of the transformers.

NOAH
Oh fuck...

ALEX
Turns out, my granddad had a heart attack, lost control and ran into the exchange.
Killed both of them on impact, grandma too.

(beat)
The police had the area where the rest of the town was, blocked with screens.
As I walked up I could see the car from where I was.
It took me a second to realise it, but I could also see the two of them through the smashed glass.

ALEX'S face was void of expression.

ALEX then smiled.

ALEX
Except for the crowds and my grandkids seeing it: that's how I wan't to go to I think.

NOAH looked at him.

ALEX
I'm not scared of death.
But life sometimes scares the shit out of me.

(beat)

ALEX turns to NOAH.

NOAH is just admiring him.

ALEX
Hows the alcohol going?
Ready to play?

NOAH
Why do I get these stories?

ALEX
It came up.

NOAH
Who else knows about that?

ALEX
No-one.

NOAH
Did you just walk home and wait for them too come back?

ALEX
Yeah, seemed like the best idea. Can't have them all worrying that I'd been traumatised.
So, I just walked home and waited.

NOAH looks away to the fire.

ALEX
Ready, this one won't be so easy.

ALEX starts to play the guitar.

FADE TO:

EXT. OPEN BEACH – CLEAR MORNING – SUNRISE

NOAH and ALEX are sitting as they were. Each of the has another bottle now, and both are a quarter full.

ALEX (drunk)
Ok, well this is a cover, but we'll see how you do.

NOAH listens.

BLAIR stirs.

NOAH (drunk)
Somewhere deep inside, something's got a hold on you.

BLAIR opens his eyes.

BLAIR
Who's winning?

NOAH
Me, but only by thirty bucks.

ALEX
Ok, ok. Um...

ALEX strums the start of Hotel California.

BLAIR Gets out of his sleeping bag, walks five feet away, unzips and pisses for a very long time.

NOAH

On a long desert highway, cool wind in my hair.
Warm smell of colitis, rising up through the air.
Up ahead in the distance, I saw a shimmering light.

ALEX

Ok, um...

BLAIR finishes, walks over to his sleeping bag then drops straight back to sleep.

FADE TO:

EXT. OPEN BEACH – CLEAR DAY – MID MORNING

NOAH and ALEX are in the same positions. Three empty bottles are on the ground in front of them.

BLAIR stirs.

ALEX (sober)

You'll never get this in a million years

NOAH (sober)

You've said that at least a hundred times.

ALEX starts to play Melanie – Brand new key.

NOAH listens.

BLAIR Gets out of his sleeping bag, walks ten feet, unzips and pisses for a longer time than before.

NOAH rolls his eyes in ease.

NOAH

I rode my bicycle past your window last night.
I roller skated to the door at day light.
It almost seems like your avoiding me.
I'm ok alone, but you've got something I need.

ALEX

No way! I can't believe you got that.

NOAH

Why not, my parents are both from the sixties.
My dad had a major crush on her too.

BLAIR finishes and walks back.

BLAIR

What's for breakfast?

NOAH

Green esky.

BLAIR heads to the car.

NOAH stands and stretches heavily.

ALEX looks disappointed.

NOAH walks over to help BLAIR

ALEX stands and puts the guitar down to stretch.

CUT TO.

ALEX tends a Bar-be-que, set up with eggs, bacon, beans, hash browns, and mushrooms on it.

CODA surfaces from her tent, looking remorseful.

BLAIR is eating a bowl of cereal.

NOAH tosses her a bottle of water and a packet of aspirin.

CODA sits on her chair from the night before.

NOAH walks over to the car and pulls out an espresso machine, turns the key in the ignition, pours a bottle of water into the top of the machine and plugs it into the cigarette lighter port.

The Machine beeps and NOAH puts a coffee cup into it. The Machine splutters to life and makes a Latté.

CODA

This isn't camping, it's a dinner party.

NOAH

This is as close to camping as I get.

NOAH takes the finished latté and sips it

NOAH

It's actually pretty good, the milk is long life so it tastes a bit strange, but the coffee is great.

ALEX

Venti skim caramel machiató.

NOAH

Fraid not.

Espresso or latté.

ALEX

Latté!

Sugar!

NOAH hits the button again and puts another cup in.

CODA (to BLAIR)

Do you believe he brought a coffee machine?

BLAIR

Yes.

CODA

I mean, yeah I'll have one, but isn't it anti-camping.

NOAH hands the Latté to ALEX. ALEX sips.

ALEX

Yuk!

SUGAR!

NOAH

You have the sugar, you took it for your cereal.

ALEX

Oh.

CODA
Long black.

NOAH puts another cup into the machine and hits a different button.

BLAIR
What's on the cards for today?

NOAH
I say we look around for the place to scatter the ashes.

CODA and ALEX glare at NOAH.

BLAIR
Alright.
But we better keep some to take back.

ALEX relaxes.

CODA shakes her head at NOAH.

NOAH
Where did she want to be?

BLAIR
All she said was in water.

ALEX spaces out.

NOAH
Where do *you* want?

BLAIR
Somewhere I can come back too.

NOAH
Sounds good.
(to ALEX)
That's gunna burn man.
(beat)
Alex?

ALEX Startles.

ALEX
Sorry, I spaced.
(beat)
This is ready.

NOAH
Sweet.

NOAH unplugs the coffee machine and plugs in a toaster.

CODA stands up and walks back to the car.

BLAIR stands up, walks slowly over to the esky and grabs the bread.

The ashes are revealed sitting further forward down the beach.

ZOOM OUT.

FADE TO BLACK.

END CREDITS.