

Noah's ARC – episode 11 – Hair of the dog.

Song – Michael Buble' - Feeling Good

INT. Jones manor – Noah's Room – Morning

A hand reaches out and selects 'Feeling good' on Noah's ipod, next to his bed.

MONTAGE

- Birds Flying
- Sunshine rising
- Wind in the trees

Shot of ALEX and NOAH on Noahs bed, in previous nights clothes. Bed is still made.

They are looking at each other, move to close up of ALEX.

Cut to:

Ext. Blairs House – Road – Morning

People stumble around hungover, getting ready to leave.

Person vomits.

Roam over sleeping party goers.

- Dragon flies

- Butterflies

END MONTAGE

Cut to:

Ext. Arc University – Gym – Morning

BLAIR is waiting outside on the curb.

JEN and CODA loiter nearby pretending to warm up.

BLAIR

They won't be here for another 20 minutes.

Cut to:

Int. Jones Manor – Noah's Room – Morning

NOAH mouths the words to ' feeling good'

NOAH(mouths)
FOOOOR me.

ALEX wacks him.

NOAH(mouths) (cont'd)
Stars when you shine, you know how I feel.

ALEX tackles him.

NOAH(mouths) (cont'd)
Scent of the pine, you know how I feel.

ALEX holds him down.

NOAH(mouths under restraint)(cont'd)
Oh, Freedom isn't mine, and I know how I feel.

ALEX laughs at him.

NOAH (sings)
It's a new dawn, it's a new day, it's a new life,

NOAH gets up and runs to the ipod and rewinds.

NOAH
You hear there how he makes that grunting noise.

REPLAYS song segment

ALEX
What about it?

NOAH
It's hot. Sounds like he's thumping a speaker.

ALEX
Right.

NOAH
You do it!

ALEX
We gotta get to the gym.

ALEX walks over to get clothes.

ALEX
Noah. What am I gonna wear?

NOAH
Just wear my stuff.

ALEX
No, I can't do that.

NOAH
Since when? You wear my stuff all of the time.

ALEX
Yeah.
But it's weird now.

NOAH
It's just some gym clothes. People won't even know they're mine.

ALEX
It's not that.

NOAH
Yeah it is.
Your worried that people will know your wearing my clothes.

ALEX
Yeah, and I'm not ready to be the clothes swapper.

NOAH
You have worn my clothes a million times before, never a problem. You really think people are that dull they'll even care enough to scrutinise your apparel.

ALEX
They're all gonna know.

NOAH
And you're afraid?

ALEX
Yes Noah! I don't know who it is I've turned into. I've never been gay before, I never even considered it. I don't know what it means. I can't defend what I don't know?

NOAH
Who say's you're gay?

(beat)

ALEX
I do.

NOAH
You could just cover it up. Make out it was all a joke. No-one else needs to know your business anyway.

ALEX
You're just being stupid now.

NOAH
What!? You think because I've known I'm gay for a while I have all of the answers?
I have no idea what to expect.
God, Alex, stop looking to me to solve your problems!

ALEX
Screw you!

NOAH
Don't get all uppedy at me! I get it your scared.
Take it this way; you at least have five friends around you and you already know they won't piss off.
And, yeah you might loose some other people that you will miss. But that is up to them, not you.

(beat)

So I'm gunna go to the gym.

NOAH walks into the wardrobe to get changed.

OPENING CREDITS

INT. Jones Manor – Wardrobe – morning

ALEX joins NOAH who is half changed.

ALEX starts to change.

ALEX
What's your problem?

NOAH
You.

ALEX
Why?

NOAH
All of this: it's who I am. I live what you're winging about, every day.

ALEX
You don't care about that.

NOAH
I'm just disappointed.

ALEX
At me?

NOAH
Yep

ALEX
Why?

NOAH
Because you never consider the assumptions underlying the things you say.

ALEX
Like what?

NOAH
This will sound selfish and it probably is; this crap with the clothes means I must've changed since last week.

ALEX
It's not about you.

NOAH
This time it is.

ALEX
I didn't mean it at you.

NOAH
Thanks, I appreciate that. But I couldn't give a shit about what people out there are thinking. I honestly believe that most of the time they aren't.

ALEX

I'll remember that.

NOAH

I'm not the person to talk to about this, I've never had to deal with who I am. So I have no idea what you're going through.

ALEX

Do you even care?

NOAH

If it's hurting you I do.

But right now it's just in your head. At least wait for something to actually happen.

ALEX

That's your advice.

NOAH

Or you could try panicking.

(beat)

ALEX

Lets go then.

BLACK OUT:

EXT. ARC University – Gym – Morning

BLAIR is sitting with his eyes closed, CODA is talking AT him.

JEN is listening to her ipod.

CODA

AND! You knew all along and didn't trust me enough to tell me.

(Beat)

CODA (cont'd)

Well?

BLAIR

It wasn't my information. Blame them, they *could* have told you.

JEN

It's done now, drop it.

ALEX and NOAH are dropped off by HILLARY.

HILLARY(through car window)
Moving day Baggy.

BLAIR(South USA drawl)
Why yes Mam, I's damn exited.

HILLARY
Your gorgeous. I HOPE YOU DIDN'T DRIVE!
After last night you'd still be intoxicated.

BLAIR (Saluting)
No mam! Didn't even drink.

HILLARY
Well they did.
(to NOAH)
NOAH, you ever try to drunk drive again; no more car.

NOAH
Yes mum.

HILLARY(to ALEX)
That goes for you too.

ALEX cautiously moves too NOAHs' other side discretely.

HILLARY
Blair will drive you home!
Now have fun.

HILLARY drives away.

BLAIR
You got in trouble didn't you?

ALEX
Hillary went off.

NOAH
No more then usual.

BLAIR stands

BLAIR(to ALEX)

(gesturing towards HILLARY)
Preview of coming attractions.

NOAH heads for the entrance.

NOAH
Get a life.

JEN and CODA who were standing patiently pounce on NOAH. The three exit into the gym.

BLAIR(to ALEX)
(Quietly)
I don't envy Noah's day today.

ALEX
Why?

BLAIR
He's scored the campus stud. "GIRL'S" like to talk.

ALEX
WHAT?

BLAIR
Oh, Noah is so the woman.

ALEX
I doubt that.

BLAIR
Then why are they after him?

ALEX
Because they're stupid. He'll give them nothing.

BLAIR
Well, then they'll be after you for details.

ALEX
Why would anybody care?

BLAIR
What are you, simple?

This will be the hot topic for the next ten years. If they don't get information they'll have to make it up for themselves. They're women.

ALEX

I think you're a woman.

BLAIR

That's because you are gay.

FADE TO:

INT. ARC University – GYM cardio room – Morning

NOAH is on a treadmill, CODA and JEN are on machines either side of him.

JEN

What's he kiss like?

NOAH does not respond.

CODA

How does his body feel?

NOAH does not respond.

JEN

Is his arse as nice as it looks?

NOAH does not respond.

CODA

What tongue style does he use? Is he a looper, a zigzag or random changeover?

NOAH

I don't even know what that means.

NOAH finishes on the treadmill.

BLAIR and ALEX Approach.

NOAH Steps down to them.

ALEX

Sup?

NOAH

Coda and Jen just talked me through a wet dream.

BLAIR

Ew.

CODA Steps down.

CODA

Alex, since Noah will answer you; ask him how you kiss?

ALEX

Alright.

(beat)

CODA

Well go on then.

ALEX

Ok.

BLAIR(to CODA)

Give up!

ALEX gives CODA big grin.

NOAH, BLAIR and ALEX head for the weights room.

CODA(to JEN)

Which one of them is the woman?

JEN(puffed)

I wanna go home.

CUT TO:

INT. ARC university – GYM weights room – Morning

NOAH is spotting ALEX, BLAIR is waiting.

BLAIR

I don't get it, I think this is a good thing. Especially for me.

ALEX

How's that?

BLAIR

Every woman on campus that crushes either of you is mine...
And, you don't hit me nearly as much.

NOAH

Idiot.

BLAIR

What's this really mean for us though?
Are you two going to get all things and start only talk about relationship stuff?

ALEX stands.

NOAH

God I hope not.

NOAH moves to lying on the bench. ALEX puts an arm around BLAIR.

ALEX

Well we definitely won't be ogling chicks anymore bud.

BLAIR

That just made me uncomfortable anyway.

BLAIR moves to spot NOAH.

NOAH

Could you put another ten on.

ALEX nod's and adds weight to the bar.

ALEX

Why would what we discuss change?

BLAIR

I suppose, all you ever did was talk about each other anyway.

NOAH does his set, then stands.

NOAH

When are the moving guys getting to mine?

BLAIR

That depends on you.

NOAH
Why?

BLAIR
Your them.

NOAH
BUGGER THAT!

BLAIR
You owe me, more than one!

NOAH
Shit!

ALEX
It's just a bit of crap, it'll be easy.

NOAH
I'll just hire someone.
(beat)
I'll call them when I get home.

BLAIR and ALEX shake their heads.

BLAIR
Just pay the footy team.
They're all already there.

NOAH
Sweet!
Now do your set.

BLAIR lies down, ALEX spots him.

EXT. ARC university – GYM – Late Morning

CODA and JEN are sitting on the grass out the front.

NOAH and ALEX exit the gym nattering quietly.

BLAIR (from inside)
Wait up!

BLAIR runs to catch them.

BLAIR
So is that how it's gunna be now?

ALEX
What? You take as long as a woman.

BLAIR
You could just wait.
Anyway, your mum said I have to drive you.

NOAH
I can't believe you just said that.

BLAIR
It's true.

NOAH
Is that how it's gunna be then? I'll tell your mum... But your mum said... whah whah whah.

ALEX
You do that too well.

NOAH, ALEX and BLAIR Walk past JEN and CODA

BLAIR
Let's go bitches!

CODA
You're gunna get *bitch* slapped boy.

JEN
I can't walk.

ALEX swoops down and picks JEN up bridal style.

JEN
DOWN! DOWN! DOWN!

CODA
Ow, strength.
Can't be a bad thing Noah?

BLAIR
EW!

ALL get into BLAIRS 4WD.

INT. BLAIRS 4WD – open road – LATE MORNING

CODA, JEN and NOAH, are in the back seat.

BLAIR

How much cash have you got on you Noah?

NOAH

Couple of hundred.

BLAIR

Whadda you think the footy guys will wan't to move my stuff?

NOAH

Alex's head.

JEN

More like head from Alex.

JEN kills herself laughing. When BLAIR sees ALEX's face, BLAIR cracks up. NOAH tries to hold it in but losses it. CODA giggles quietly. ALEX is mortified.

(beat)

NOAH hugs JEN.

NOAH

What would life be without you?

JEN

Less hilarious.

BLAIR

So are you and Alex a couple now?

(beat)

NOAH

No.

ALEX

No.

BLAIR
So, what then?

ALEX
We'll let you know in the weekly newsletter.

JEN
You're obviously crazy about each other, what's the problem?

NOAH
No problem.

CODA
Commitment problems?

NOAH
We kissed for the first time, (checks watch) nine hours ago. There is nothing to tell.

ALEX
Let's just change topic, when something happens we'll tell you.

CODA
Fine.
At least I can say I got laid last night.

FADE TO BLACK.

INT. BLAIR'S house – living room – LATE morning
NOAH walks into the house, followed seconds later by CODA, ALEX, BLAIR and JEN.
NOAH sees the footballers and walks over to them.
NOAH is stands over four of the footballs.

NOAH
I'll pay 200 bucks if you'll move Blair's crap to the garage at my house?

The FOOTBALLERS wake

JOEL
What?

NOAH
I need some stuff of Blair's taken to my house, and I'll pay you 200 bucks to do it.

RICK
You can't just buy anything you want.

NOAH
Fine I'll just call a mover then.

JOEL
Nah, fuck off mate, speak for yourself. I'll do it Noah.

NOAH
Great.

NOAH gives 200 dollars to JOEL.

JOEL
You're trusting?

NOAH
Why?

STEVE
You pay up front.

NOAH grins.

NOAH
We reserve the right to kill bill you if you bugger off.

ALEX drapes himself over NOAH's Shoulders.

ALEX
We got some movers?

NOAH grins.

NOAH
We were just discussing AWOL's.

ALEX
What's that mean?

NOAH
They asked what happens if they bugger off with the money.

ALEX
What's that?

NOAH
Serious fongings.

ALEX(to the FOOTBALLERS)
Damn straight!

RICK
Not anymore.

TRENT Laughs

ALEX (Thumb up over NOAH'S shoulder still)
Good Call!!!!

ALEX rolls eyes.

JOEL Hits TRENT

NOAH
You know where I live Steve?

STEVE
Yeah man.

JOEL
Why aren't you guys doing it?

ALEX
No ute.

NOAH
Not in the mood.

ALEX and NOAH leave.

JOEL
Sweet bro, two hundred bucks for an hours work.

TRENT
Which one of them do ya think is the woman?

JOEL
Alex.

STEVE(to RICK)
I'd say Noah. What do you think?

RICK
Next time we play with Alex you'll see what I think.

(beat)

STEVE

Nah, we won't mate!

TRENT

You'd just get yourself kicked out of school.

RICK

Things happen in a game.

STEVE

Not like that they don't.

RICK

What you a fag too?

STEVE

You hurt Al, I'll be pounding your arse, if that's what you mean.
Then I'll let the dean know as well. Then you'll really be fucked.

RICK

Drop off ya prick. Go off with your fag friends.

STEVE

Find your own way home Rick.

RICK

Eat a dick.

STEVE leaves.

JOEL

You really should learn to shut your mouth Rick.

JOEL Leaves.

TRENT

The wind is blowing away from you my man, I'm outta here.

TRENT Follows.

RICK Waves them off.

RICK

Fuck ya all then.

INT. BLAIR'S HOUSE – GARAGE – LATE MORNING

The garage door is open, STEVE's ute is backing up to the door.

NOAH and BLAIR are standing next to BLAIR's Things.

NOAH

There is going to be some serious backlash from all of this I can tell.

BLAIR

Get over yourself. No one could care less.

NOAH

I wish.

BLAIR

What do you think is going to happen?

NOAH

I don't know, but when it happens, we'll know it.

BLAIR

You sound paranoid.

NOAH

Alex was worried this morning, I didn't say anything, but I am expecting something pretty big.

BLAIR

Yeah, Alex is pretty well endowed.

NOAH

Laugh Laugh Laugh.

NOAH starts to leave.

BLAIR

Where you going?

NOAH

Beach for some lunch.

BLAIR

Take Alex.

NOAH
Der.

NOAH leaves.

NOAH returns.

NOAH
Can we steal your car to get home?

BLAIR
Yeah, just leave the keys in my room.

NOAH
Thanks.

INT. BLAIR'S HOUSE – KITCHEN – LATE MORNING

ALEX is standing chatting with JEN

JEN
You'll have to make sure you have a say.
Noah is a definite controller.

ALEX
I don't think it'll be a problem.

NOAH enters heading through to the front room.

NOAH
Alex, I got Blair's car, we'll stop off at yours and mine to get changed, then I was thinking about getting some food at the beach, or even the CBD?

ALEX
Cool.

NOAH exits

JEN
Controller!

ALEX
Can't pass up a free lunch.

ALEX follows.

JEN
Doormat.

ALEX
And he has BIG feet.

FADE TO:

EXT. BEACH – BOARDWALK - AFTER MIDDAY

NOAH and ALEX are walking along a promenade of restaurants next to the beach.

NOAH
What do you feel like?

ALEX
When you said feed this wasn't what I had in mind.

NOAH
So, what's your point?

ALEX
Why are we going to a restaurant?

(beat)

NOAH
Because I don't want to eat crap.

ALEX
And have me to yourself.

NOAH
That's it exactly. Not privately though, I need somewhere open, public, neutral.

ALEX
What for?

NOAH
Look, it just, the further we go the more we...
I am starting to think that dating actually has a purpose.

ALEX
How?

NOAH

Believe it or not, this is, you are my first boy, friend. I am, my brain is all chaotic on what I have to do.

ALEX

Your not supposed to do anything.

NOAH

Can we just sit down to eat?

ALEX

Sure.

NOAH

So, *where* you want to go?

ALEX

Here is fine.

THEY walk inside.

INT. BEACH - ELEGANT RESTAURANT – AFTER MIDDAY

NOAH and ALEX walk up to an unattended front desk.

NOAH walks past the desk and up to a WAITRESS.

ALEX waits at the desk.

NOAH

Excuse me, do you have any tables available for lunch?

WAITRESS

I'm not sure, if you will just wait at the front desk the *maître d'* will be with you shortly.

ALEX grasps NOAH's arm

ALEX

Noah.

Let me do it or they'll spit in the food.

ALEX leads NOAH to the front desk.

NOAH is quiet.

MAÎTRE D' arrives at the desk

MAÎTRE D'

How may I help you?

ALEX holds NOAH back

ALEX

Is there any chance for a table for lunch?

MAÎTRE D'

I'm sorry sir, we are completely booked today.

NOAH touches ALEX on the inner arm.

NOAH (to ALEX)

My turn.

NOAH walks behind the desk and presents his right hand.

NOAH(cont'd)

Noah Jones.

MAÎTRE D' Accepts the hand and shakes. Staring quietly.

MAÎTRE D'

Mr Jones, I am Adam the maître d'.

NOAH

A pleasure, do you think you would be able to find us a table for two?

MAÎTRE D' rushes to assist

MAÎTRE D'

I am certain that can be arranged, Mr Jones.

NOAH

Splendid.

MAÎTRE D' rushed into the restaurant.

NOAH rejoins ALEX.

ALEX watches NOAH.

ALEX

How much did that cost?

NOAH

fifty.

ALEX

What the?

NOAH
And charm, just needs a bit of charm.

ALEX
Spoilt brat!

MAÎTRE D' Returns.

MAÎTRE D'
If you would like to follow me Mr Jones.

ALEX and NOAH follow the MAÎTRE D' into the restaurant, towards a table overlooking the ocean.

ALEX
You must teach me this power.

NOAH
Stick with me kid.

MAÎTRE D' prepares to seat them.

MAÎTRE D'
May I ask who this is dining with you today?

NOAH
This is Alex Williams.

MAÎTRE D'
A pleasure Mr Williams, my apologies for the misunderstanding earlier. We haven't seen your mother in a while, Mr Jones.

ALEX shakes his head.

MAÎTRE D'
Drinks gentlemen?

NOAH
Water please.

ALEX
Dirty scotch.

MAÎTRE D'
Excellent.

MAÎTRE D' leaves.

NOAH
Plain scotch, Yuk!

ALEX
For DNM Alex need alcohol.

NOAH
Right, so you can't talk to someone else without alcohol?

ALEX
No, just you.

NOAH
What's wrong with me?

ALEX
Everything.

NOAH
No. Out with it?

ALEX
Nothing.

NOAH
You really need to clarify what you just said!
All you've given me to go with is that, with anyone else you can simply talk, but, just in my
circumstance, in the universe, only me, you have to be plastered.
Really, really! I need you to clarify.

ALEX
No, you have it right.

NOAH
What?!

ALEX
I feel stupid around you.

NOAH
What?!

MAÎTRE D' Arrives with drinks

NOAH (Cont'd)
Not now.

NOAH waves the MAÎTRE D' Away.

ALEX
When I'm around you I feel dumb, then I get all, choked up, and I, sound, st, idiotic. If I have a couple of drinks I calm down and it goes away.

NOAH
Where did this come from?

ALEX looks at the MAÎTRE D'
The MAÎTRE D' approaches
NOAH Glare's the MAÎTRE D' away.

ALEX
What?
If you let me have a drink I'll tell you.

NOAH
No way. Finish sober.

ALEX
It's just temporary.
I'm sure it will go away.

NOAH
Nu ah, no way. You just are scared to tell me the truth.

ALEX
Fuck off. No I am not, I just don't want you to dump me, before we start.

NOAH
The only reason I'd dump you is if you keep turning up drunk.

ALEX
No, it isn't.
You know I don't hold a candle to you in the IQ department. There is no way you'd have even considered me, if I were a complete bumbling idiot.
And don't go telling me there is no difference, because there is and you know it.

NOAH
Yeah, damn straight there is. But who cares, I don't, I relish it.

ALEX looks hurt.

NOAH (cont'd)

Alex, you are smarter than me. I learn more from you than anyone I've ever known. And what's worse is that you seem to do everything by instinct. Whatever is making you feel stupid is a delusion.

ALEX

If I am so smart, why do I need you to do my assignments?

NOAH

Because you don't go to class.

ALEX stops.

NOAH(cont'd)

So, what's the real reason you keep seizing up?

ALEX

I don't know!

NOAH

Out with it.

ALEX

It's because I like you, alright! I like you more than I've liked anybody before, and it scares the shit out of me!

NOAH smiles

ALEX(cont'd)

What? You think it is so impossible for someone to like you?
I think you're the one with the problem.

NOAH

Don't put this back on me.

ALEX

You're as bad as a woman.

NOAH

Get a grip.

All I did was ask for an answer, and you're going right off the deep end.

ALEX

A straight answer from me; as if you think I am smarter than you.

NOAH

Alex, you have a problem taking complements. Smartness is shit, someone has convinced you that your brain is worthless. I am telling you that you are a brilliant man. I asked you to come to lunch today because I'm worried I like you a little too much. I need you to know that so you know what you're getting yourself into.

(beat)

ALEX
Are you done?

NOAH nods

ALEX(cont'd)
Can we have a drink now?

NOAH nods

ALEX(cont'd)
You just embarrassed yourself, didn't you?

NOAH nods

ALEX(cont'd)
Maybe you should have a drink to calm down too.

NOAH
Smart arse!

NOAH nods for the MAÎTRE D' to bring the drinks.
BLACKOUT.