

SOS – Episode 18 – Model Man

INT. COFFEE SHACK – TABLES – MORNING

ALEX is sitting listening to NOAH's ipod, reading the paper with a coffee.

ALEX is unknowingly bobbing to the music.

### **SPEED FOOTAGE**

Thousands of people walk past, infatuated with ALEX.

ALEX drinks his coffee, still focused on the newspaper.

A young girl (JESSY) prowls around the outskirts, eyeing off ALEX

Thousands more people pass and stare at ALEX

JESSY remains staring in one spot.

ALEX finishes the paper, then drains his coffee.

ALEX stands, head bobbing to music.

JESSY encourages herself into springing.

JESSY  
Hey!

ALEX walks to music.

JESSY approaches ALEX from behind.

JESSY  
MATE!

JESSY reaches out to tap ALEX.

A PERSON on a chair stands knocking JESSY forward, into ALEX's back.

ALEX stands firm, JESSY collapses to the ground at his feet.

FADE TO:

OPENING CREDITS

FADE IN:

ALEX turns, looks down and pulls the earphones out.

ALEX  
Are you alright?

JESSY shakes it off.

JESSY  
Yeah, yeah.

ALEX looks behind her at the PERSON with the chair.

ALEX  
Are you going to apologise?

PERSON  
Sorry love, are you alright?

JESSY  
Fine, fine.

ALEX extends a hand to her.

ALEX  
You sure, I think you're speaking double.

PERSON leaves.

JESSY  
Sorry about running into you.

ALEX  
Not a problem.

JESSY  
I was trying to catch up to you.

ALEX  
Really?

JESSY  
Yeah, I called a couple of times.  
You were tuning, it's ok.

ALEX

Oh, yeah, I'm told I listen to loud.

JESSY

I'm Jessy Cartwright, I was wondering if you would mind a job?

ALEX

What sort of job?

JESSY

Modelling my clothes.

ALEX

Oh, um...

JESSY

It isn't what you think.

I am a design major.

The fashion festival in town has offered to let me parade one male and one female outfit.

I am desperate.

ALEX

For me?

JESSY

People stare at you.

You're perfect.

ALEX

Thanks.

JESSY

It will only take an hour, and I can pay you.

F, Five hundred dollars.

ALEX

You don't need to go over the top.

Fifty bucks is fine.

JESSY

No, the festival would pay you that.

ALEX

Oh, OK.

What do I have to do?

JESSY

Walk along listening to music.  
You can even have your ipod.

ALEX

Oh, it isn't mine.

JESSY

That's ok.

It is cat walk, thirty seconds.

ALEX

Ok

JESSY

Makeup and hair will take about an hour.  
Would you mind if we trim your hair?

ALEX

No.

JESSY

Great. Great.  
This is great.

ALEX

When?

JESSY

Tonight?

ALEX

When?

JESSY

Six O'clock.  
In the CDB

ALEX

Where do I have to be?

JESSY

The building is called Q one, it is the big tall one.  
The catwalk is out the front.  
Makeup is inside the function room.  
Here.

JESSY hands ALEX an access pass.

ALEX  
Thanks.

JESSY  
You can bring someone with you on that.

ALEX  
Oh, ok.

JESSY  
If you can get there at five thirty?

ALEX  
Sure.

JESSY  
Great.

ALEX  
See you then.

JESSY  
Oh yeah, great, thanks.  
Bye.

ALEX turns and exits.

JESSY waits a moment, then jumps and screams in excitement.

CUT TO:

INT. ARC GYM – CARDIO ROOM – AFTERNOON.

NOAH and JEN are running on treadmills.

ALEX enters from behind

NOAH  
It isn't like they need to keep us all back that long.

ALEX get's onto the machine next to NOAH

JEN  
I think they like doing it.

NOAH  
I'm sure they do.

ALEX starts running, JEN checks him out and realises who he is.

JEN  
Check out the talent next to you.

NOAH turns.

NOAH  
Alex!

NOAH smiles.

ALEX  
Guess what.

NOAH  
No.

ALEX  
Fine.  
I just got offered five hundred bucks to walk around a stage for thirty seconds.

NOAH smiles

NOAH  
You're modelling?  
What for?

ALEX  
The fashion show tonight.

JEN  
No way!  
No one can get tickets to that!

ALEX holds up the pass.

ALEX (to NOAH)  
Be my date?

NOAH  
Love to.  
Can't.  
Junior coaching.

ALEX  
Bugger.

NOAH  
Take Jen.  
She'll be the perfect accessory.

ALEX  
But I want you to see it.

NOAH  
I get to see you walking quite a lot.

ALEX  
But I'll be all dressed up.

NOAH  
I can try to get there after.

ALEX  
Good.

NOAH  
Take Jen though.  
Trip can get me in.

ALEX  
Great!  
Gotta go.

ALEX stops the machine, dropping off the back.

ALEX  
Jen, be at my dorm at five.

JEN  
Yep.

ALEX  
Bye.

NOAH & JEN  
Bye

ALEX exits.

JEN  
He may be gay, but I still love watching him leave a room.

NOAH  
I prefer him talking showers.

JEN  
You suck!

FADE TO:

EXT. ALEX'S DORM – CARPARK – NIGHT

ALEX stands by his car waiting.

JEN runs toward him.

JEN is dressed up perfectly.

ALEX is in a track suit.

ALEX  
Hurry up!  
It's quarter past.

JEN  
Sorry, I can't run in heels.

ALEX gets into the car.

JEN trots around and gets in.

JEN  
You got the pass?

ALEX  
Fuck!

ALEX gets out.

JEN  
And ipod!

FADE TO:

INT. FASHION SHOW – MAKE UP ROOM – NIGHT.

ALEX walks through in a track suit, everybody stares.

JESSY is standing behind a girl getting a hair cut.

ALEX walks over to her.

JEN follows him.

ALEX  
Hey.

JESSY turns.

JESSY  
HI.  
You made it.

ALEX  
Yeah.  
This is Jen.

JESSY  
Oh.  
Hi Jen.

JEN  
Hi.

ALEX  
She is a fashion freak.

JESSY  
Ahhh, well, you can take his pass now.  
Look around?

JEN  
Really?  
Great!

JESSY  
Alex goes up at eight.

ALEX  
Eight???

JESSY  
Yep.  
Make up will take an hour and a half, then dressing...

JEN  
Maybe Noah can see you after all.

ALEX (slumped)  
Yeah.

JESSY  
Noah?

ALEX  
Jones.

JESSY  
Oh. The gay rower?

ALEX (annoyed)  
Yep.

JEN (whispering to JESSY)  
He is the footballer boyfriend...  
Very protective.

JESSY shrinks.

JESSY  
Let's get started.

CUT TO:

ALEX is sitting in a barber's chair in a smock.

CUT TO:

ALEX surrounded by three women, dabbing on makeup.

CUT TO:

ALEX stands in the centre having clothing sewn onto him by JESSY.

ALEX's outfit is covered.

JESSY

Sorry about that gay comment before.

ALEX

That's fine.

JESSY

I didn't know you knew Noah.  
I'm just used to the nickname.

ALEX

That's fine.  
Noah likes it, I don't.

JESSY

It's gone then.  
(beat)  
DONE.

CUT TO:

EXT. Q1 – CATWALK – NIGHT

Lights are every where, People are crowded around the catwalk watching models appear walk and disappear.

Cameras flash everywhere.

EXT. Q1 – CATWALK BACKSTAGE – NIGHT

TRIP walks around, dressed models, checking out the fashion.

TRIP notices ALEX.

ALEX is in a dressing gown.

TRIP

Alexander.

ALEX

G'day

TRIP  
Who are you working for?

ALEX  
A girl from school.

TRIP  
Miss Cartwright.  
You look excellent.

ALEX  
Thanks.  
I'm packing it.

TRIP  
Noah is out front.

ALEX  
Really?!

TRIP  
He is very bored.

ALEX laughs.

JESSY  
Alex!  
Two minutes, got the ipod?

ALEX holds up the ipod.

ALEX  
Bye Trip.

TRIP  
Best of luck.

TRIP exits.

ALEX exhales deeply.

JESSY  
Ok, I don't want you worrying about anything.  
I want you to find a song you like.  
All you have to do is walk like you did in the coffee shop.

(beat)

Remember, more people were looking at you there then they are here.

ALEX looks at her quizzically then relaxes.

ALEX  
Right.

ALEX searches for a song.

ALEX finds one and tunes out.

JESSY looks at him, she is very excited.

JESSY ushers ALEX to the base of the stairs.

ALEX closes his eyes and beats his head to the tune.

CUT TO:

SONG – BLACK EYED PEAS – WHERE IS THE LOVE.

EXT. Q1 – CAT WALK – NIGHT

ALEX emerges.

ALEX is wearing a tuxido jacket, with cammo pants, and combat boots.

ALEX walks out with his ipod in hand, his is only acknowledging the music.

ALEX walks toward the end of the catwalk, cameras are going berserk.

ALEX stands at the end of the main catwalk, sweeps the crowd, still listening.

ALEX scratches his shoulder, turns and leaves.

ALEX turns at the exit.

ALEX stops, sweeps the crowd again.

ALEX exits.

EXT. Q1 – CATWALK BACKSTAGE – NIGHT

ALEX walks down the exit steps.

JESSY Waits at the bottom.

JESSY grabs ALEX, hugging him.

JESSY  
YES!!!!  
I knew you'd do it!!!

ALEX  
Do what?

JESSY  
Three people have asked me about you already!

ALEX laughs.

ALEX  
Where can I get changed?  
Noah is outside.

JESSY  
Keep it.  
Where it outside.

ALEX  
Ok. I'll just get my bag.

JESSY  
I'll get it for you.  
Go out.

ALEX turns for the exit.

JESSY watches him.

EXT. Q1 – CROWD – NIGHT

ALEX enters directly into a mass of press.

Many refocus their attention onto ALEX.

ALEX pushed through, searching.

ALEX finds NOAH across the way.

ALEX begins to force his way over.

ALEX eventually reaches NOAH.

NOAH sees ALEX, Hugs and Kisses him.

NOAH  
Schweet!

ALEX  
Yeah?

NOAH  
You walk good.

ALEX  
I never want to do that again.

NOAH  
Fair enough.

ALEX  
How was training?

NOAH  
A fish jumped into a kids boat.  
He freaked out.  
It was good.

ALEX  
Do you want to get going?

NOAH  
I don't mind, I'm here now.

ALEX  
Jessy was just going to get me my bag.

NOAH  
Wow, Alex Williams letting someone wait on him.

ALEX  
No, nothing like that.

NOAH  
One day as a model!

ALEX  
No way!

NOAH  
So long Kansas.

ALEX  
Whatever.

NOAH  
I am not kidding you.  
Trust me, your life began today.  
You will be on the front page tomorrow and signed by Friday.

ALEX  
You think?

NOAH  
Jessy made a very big mistake.

ALEX  
Don't say that.

NOAH  
She chose a model that out shone her clothes.

ALEX  
Stop it.

NOAH  
Modesty is boring.  
I'm not kidding you.  
I saw five runs, only three cameras went off in all of them.

ALEX  
Holy shit.

JESSY arrives.

JEN is behind her.

JESSY  
Thank you very much Alex.  
You have successfully created a buzz.

NOAH  
See.

JESSY hands ALEX a bag and an envelope.

JESSY  
Your payment.

ALEX  
Thanks.

JESSY  
I have to go.  
Goodbye.

ALEX  
Bye

JESSY leaves.

JEN  
Boy she doesn't like anyone she thinks is with Alex.

NOAH  
Really?

ALEX  
Jen!

JEN  
Serious, she shunned me earlier, and now she didn't even look at you.

NOAH  
I noticed that.

ALEX  
That's just because I was here.

JEN  
Pull your head in.

ALEX  
I'm not allowed to me modest.

JEN  
Says who.

ALEX  
Noah.

JEN  
Well he needs to pull his head in too.

NOAH  
Never.

ALEX  
I'm really hungry.

NOAH  
Me too.

JEN  
We are in the city.

NOAH  
Lets find some food.

ALEX with his arm around NOAH, and JEN walk towards the road.

Outside the crowd DAVID approaches them.

DAVID is standing with approaching with his wife.

DAVID  
Mr Williams.

NOAH  
Here we go.

ALEX spins.

ALEX  
Yep?

DAVID  
Mr Alex Williams?

ALEX  
Yep.

DAVID  
I am David Campbell.  
Mr Jones.

NOAH nods.

ALEX

Yes?

DAVID

I attended Saturday's match.

ALEX

Sure?

DAVID

I am CEO of the York Clash.

ALEX

Oh.

How can I help you?

DAVID

I am supposed to meet you at tomorrow's training.

ALEX

Yes, I heard someone was coming.

DAVID

As I said, I managed to catch the game on Saturday.  
You may have heard, the Clash are to enter the AFL this year.

ALEX

Yes, I'm looking forward to it.

DAVID

Grant Hughes is, at present the team captain.  
As per his request, I have been seeking a co-captain.

ALEX

Ok.

DAVID

We have both been watching you very closely, and would like you to consider the role.

ALEX

No way.

I havn't got the experience.  
University footy has nothing on national.

DAVID

In six years you have captained five teams, with six championships.  
You qualify.

ALEX

You may want to watch until this season ends.  
There have been, changes, this year.

DAVID

We are well aware of your relationship with Mr Jones.  
Mr Hughs tells me your game has improved.

NOAH

Has he told you that inflicted injuries to Alex have also tripled?

DAVID

No, I was not aware of that.

ALEX (to NOAH)

It isn't a problem.

NOAH

Most of it is coming from your own team.

DAVID

Nevertheless.

I would like you to consider the position before tomorrow.

ALEX

Will do.

DAVID

If there is a problem with increasing injuries, a contract would protect you from that.

DAVID turns back to his wife

ALEX turns back towards the road.

After a few steps NOAH ducks under ALEX's arm,

NOAH

One sec, wait here.

ALEX stands

NOAH trots off towards DAVID

NOAH  
DAVID!  
Whatever Alex decides.  
If he gets hurt.  
You, will be keeping up with the Jones' legal staff.

DAVID chuckles.

DAVID  
I will not let that happen.

NOAH  
I know Alex is good enough.  
But, if this is a publicity stunt...  
I'm sure I can find, or create, something that will be costly.

NOAH smiles.

NOAH (to WIFE)  
Lovely to see you again Georgia.  
Goodnight.

NOAH turns and runs back to ALEX.

NOAH gets back under ALEX'S arm.

ALEX  
What was that about?

NOAH  
I just had to threaten him.  
Make sure he knows you have a bodyguard.

ALEX Laughs.

ALEX  
Within my best interests?

NOAH  
Always.

ALEX  
Sounds good.

NOAH  
Food?

JEN  
I'm even hungry now.  
I really feel like hot chips.

ALEX  
Right then.  
Food, somewhere with hot chips.

THEY wait at the road until it is safe to cross.

FADE TO:

INT. JONES MANOR – DINING ROOM – MORNING

ALEX is reading a newspaper with his picture on the front.

ALEX is drinking milk from a large metal pitcher.

ALEX's mobile rings.

ALEX  
Hello?

JENNI MORRIS  
Mr Williams?

ALEX  
Yes?

JENNI MORRIS  
Mr Williams, this is Jennifer Morris from  
Capri Management.  
I am calling in relation to your appearance  
last night.

ALEX  
Sure.

JENNI MORRIS  
Are you as yet represented?

ALEX  
No, I did the job last night for a friend.

JENNI MORRIS  
It may interest you to know, I have  
received sixteen requests for your services  
this morning.

ALEX  
Really?

JENNI MORRIS  
I am sure before long you will get several  
calls.

I would like you to come to me with the  
highest offer you receive, and I will beat it.

My offer at present, is 5 percent of all  
bookings, including a fifty thousand dollar  
retainer.

ALEX  
How did you get this number?

JENNI MORRIS  
I approached Jessy Cartwright, after your  
appearance last night.

ALEX  
Oh.

JENNI MORRIS  
I apologise for the intrusion Mr Williams,  
however, as an agent I must seek each  
advantage.

ALEX  
That is fine.  
I am going to have to think about it.

JENNI MORRIS  
Please do contact me?

ALEX  
Certainly.  
Is the phone number you're on correct?

JENNI MORRIS  
Yes.  
Have a good day Mr Williams.

ALEX  
Bye.

ALEX disconnects the phone and puts it down.

NOAH enters.

NOAH (tired)  
Who was that?

NOAH heads to the coffee machine.

ALEX  
Agent.

NOAH  
Told you.

ALEX  
Five percent, fifty thousand retainer.

NOAH  
Hold out for more.

ALEX  
She told me to do that.

NOAH  
Sounds good.

ALEX  
I am going to accept the co-captain position.

NOAH  
Sounds great.

ALEX  
What do you think?

NOAH  
It is exactly what you want, what you have worked for.  
How do you feel?

ALEX  
Worried.  
I can't shake the feeling it is a publicity thing.

NOAH  
Neither can I.  
But I warned him what would happen if it was.

ALEX smiles, stands and walks over to NOAH.

ALEX picks NOAH up around the waist.

ALEX  
What did you say?

NOAH

Mud sticks, and I know how to make it if there is a drought.

ALEX

My hero.

NOAH

I don't want you getting hurt.

ALEX

I don't either.

NOAH

Take mum to check over all of the contracts.

ALEX

Good idea.

NOAH

You know this means you will be the youngest captain in the league.

ALEX

Yep.

And the only out gay.

NOAH

Yep.

ALEX

It's gunna be hard isn't it?

NOAH

Yep.

ALEX

Maybe I should just stick to the ARC team, and do the modelling.

NOAH

No.

You want to play.

Do both.

Hard things make better stories anyway.

ALEX

I suppose.

NOAH

With any luck, Campbell will be smart enough to keep info within the team for now.

ALEX

Maybe just to himself.

NOAH

Nah, it's better they know.  
No-one likes surprises like that.

ALEX

So I should tell them if he doesn't?

NOAH

I would.

ALEX

Ok.

NOAH

You're an awesome athlete!  
Most of them will just be happy with winning.  
I think you'll cop more grief because of modelling.

ALEX

Really?

NOAH

Just don't let it fuck up your game.

ALEX

True.

ALEX'S mobile rings on the table.

NOAH

What did I tell you?

ALEX

I'm buying a new phone with this money.

ALEX answers the phone.

NOAH drinks his coffee.

FADE TO BLACK

THE END

