

SOS - Episode 23 – Sorry sad excuses. (season two)

SONG – BERNARD FANNING – THRILL IS GONE

EXT. SANDY FARM – COW Paddock – DAY

NOAH sitting on a horse on a property.

NOAH tosses a lasso catching a cow, pulling it in.

NOAH ties the rope to the horses saddle, jumps off and walks over.

The cow's leg is bloody and cut.

NOAH inspects the wound.

NOAH Pulls of his shirt and rips it down the middle.

NOAH dresses the wound.

NOAH walks over to the horse and gets on.

NOAH trots the horse away, with the cow in tow.

NOAH looks into the distance, seeing something.

NOAH rides in the direction.

NOAH shakes his head.

A calf has caught itself in the barbed wire.

NOAH reaches the calf.

NOAH dismounts.

NOAH checks the calf, it has a broken leg.

NOAH pulls a GPS beacon out of his pocket.

NOAH stabs the beacon into the ground.

NOAH checks the wire around the calf's neck and body.

NOAH looks the calf in the eyes.

NOAH
Shhh, It's alright.

NOAH twists and breaks the calf's neck.

NOAH stands, hits a button on the beacon, and gets back onto the horse, riding away.

CUT TO:

INT. SANDY FARM – MAIN HOUSE – DAY

ALEX is sitting in a chair across from LIENAL.

LIENAL is working on some woodwork.

ALEX
So how has he been going?

LIENAL
He'll work out fine.

ALEX
I think he likes the work.

LIENAL
Yeah.
It's weird tho.
Never seen someone who can look an animal in the eye as he kills it.

ALEX
What do you mean?

LIENAL
Not even a vet man.
It's a strange thing to do.

ALEX
Why's that?

LIENAL
There's no need.
Does nobody good to watch the life go out of the eyes.

ALEX
Oh.

LIENAL

Wouldn't have expected to see it from a nancy most.

ALEX laughs.

LIENAL

If you don't mind me saying.

ALEX

Nup.

LIENAL

I wouldn't have expected to hire a gay boy out here.
But he works well, does more then the other boys.
I'd hire another one if you want a job.

ALEX

No thanks, I had enough of farm life as a kid.

LIENAL

Fair enough.

NOAH enters.

NOAH chucks his saddle over a holder.

NOAH

Barney has a nasty deep gash on his leg.
Tied it in my shirt.
But you will need to have it looked at.

LIENAL

What's it from?

NOAH

Sarah's calf was stuck in the fence with a broken leg. I'd say there.
Calf's dead.
You'll need wire cutters, beacon 34.

LIENAL

I'll take the truck now.

NOAH

Good luck with the rest of the year.

NOAH shakes LIENAL'S hand.

LIENAL
Best too ya.
Let us know if you could use more work.

NOAH
Yep.

ALEX
Ready?

NOAH
Yeah, lets go.

ALEX stands, smiling.

ALEX puts an arm around NOAH'S shoulder.

ALEX and NOAH walk toward the front door.

ALEX
How did you go?

NOAH
I'm ready for you to ask me now.

CUT TO:

OPENING CREDITS.

FADE IN:

INT. ALEX'S JEEP – OPEN ROAD – AFTERNOON

ALEX is driving.

NOAH is sitting shirtless in the passenger seat.

ALEX
Lienal say something interesting.

NOAH
What's that?

ALEX
That you look at animals when they die.

NOAH
That isn't very interesting.

ALEX thinks

ALEX
No, maybe not.
But he said that you look them in the eye.

NOAH
Yeah I do.

ALEX
Why?

NOAH
Well.
I want them to look at something beautiful before they die.

ALEX smiles.

ALEX
Sure you do.

NOAH
You asked.

ALEX
Well?

NOAH
After everything that has happened, I don't think anything should die alone.
Happy?

ALEX
Yep.

NOAH
Good.
So explain these records.

ALEX
How do you know about them?

NOAH
Coda.

ALEX
That bitch.

NOAH
You've had them for three months, you said you needed them for a week.

ALEX
Yeah, well she still shouldn't have said anything.

NOAH
She didn't, I heard her whinging to Blair.

ALEX
You are a real creep.
Do you know that?

NOAH
Sneak. It is pronounced SNEAK.

ALEX
Got your results back from last year today.

NOAH
Really?
What did I get?

ALEX
I didn't open them.

NOAH
You didn't open them?

ALEX
No!
It's your mail.

NOAH
It is.
But, you hereby have permission to go through anything of mine.
Ok!

ALEX
Ok.

NOAH
Right then.
Anything else?

ALEX
Yep, you got a distinction and three high distinctions.

NOAH
You're the creep!
You did open it.

ALEX
Blair did.
But now, *I* have unlimited liberties!

NOAH
Creep.

ALEX
So, tell me, how much will we be worth together when we're married?

NOAH
Hu?

ALEX
I'm going through our finances.

NOAH
Enough!

ALEX
We have *enough* with my salary.
(beat)

NOAH
More than enough then.

NOAH sticks out his tongue.

ALEX
Come on, tell me.

NOAH
No.
It will all have to do with what last name you choose!!!

ALEX
What?

NOAH
ALEXANDER JONES.

ALEX
No way!

NOAH
YEP.

ALEX
NOAH WILLIAMS.

NOAH
My grandparent would have a heart attack!

ALEX
Well I am not having a fucked up hyphen.

NOAH
Agreed.
J comes before W... I win!

ALEX
Bull shit you do.

NOAH
It's over now!
Does Blair know about Coda yet?

ALEX
Nah, she hasn't told him for some reason.

NOAH
Well, this is going to be a pretty scene.

ALEX
Only if she lasts longer than you.

NOAH
Look I said I needed to leave...
I left.

ALEX
For a week.

NOAH
Yeah... So?

ALEX
So, you're cute!

NOAH
You cried the whole week!

ALEX
Bullshit.

NOAH
Blair and Coda both confirmed it.

ALEX
Damn it!
(beat)
Well you shouldn't have left like that.

NOAH
What? Tell you I'm going and then do it?

ALEX
Yes.

NOAH
So I shouldn't tell you then?

ALEX
No.
Hillary told me you had done that before.

NOAH
When I was six!

ALEX
You're the only kid I know that ran to a penthouse in Fiji.

NOAH
Well, I am a Jones, I do things better than you.

ALEX
Why me?

NOAH
You made it to the shed.

ALEX
My piggy bank had seven dollars in it.
Yours had four gold credit cards.
I didn't even have a passport.

NOAH
You didn't even get out of your front gate.

ALEX
Well, the neighbour had a scary dog.

NOAH
Excuses excuses.

ALEX
Just don't bugger off again.

NOAH
Fine!
Marry me then!
Be Alexander Jones and I won't.

ALEX
No.
Ask me nicer!

NOAH
No.
Never.
I already gave you a ring, and you let some wanker mugger steal it.

ALEX
I didn't let anything.

NOAH
I'll bet you just fainted.

ALEX
Want to see the scar on my neck?

NOAH
Yeah, from when you hit the ground.

ALEX pouts.

ALEX
Fine.

ALEX turns the car into JONES MANOR.

CUT TO:

EXT. JONES MANOR – POOL - AFTERNOON

BLAIR is doing push-ups outside the gym.

HILLARY is reading a book in a deck chair.

ALEX enters followed by NOAH.

HILLARY (still reading)
Evening boys.

ALEX
Hey.

NOAH walks over to kiss HILLARY.

NOAH
Hey mum.

BLAIR finishes his push ups.

BLAIR
Tell him yet?

ALEX
Not yet.

NOAH
Tell him what?

HILLARY
Where is your shirt?

ALEX
Around a cut on Barney's leg.

BLAIR
Who is Barney?

NOAH
Stud bull.

HILLARY
And you're sun burnt.

NOAH
Am I?
Wait, tell me what?

HILLARY
You're moving out.

NOAH
What?

HILLARY
Talk to your husband.

NOAH turns to ALEX

NOAH
Explain husband.

ALEX
We own a unit.

NOAH
Since when?

ALEX
Last year.

NOAH
We how?

ALEX
I brought it.

NOAH
I.E. you own a unit.

ALEX

Ok then.

But, that means all of your stuff is now in my unit.

NOAH

You emptied my room?

ALEX

I have permission to go through anything of yours.

NOAH

You didn't this morning.

ALEX

I anticipated the change.

NOAH

So why are we here and not there?

ALEX

Your mum wanted you to come for dinner.
She has rules for moving out.

NOAH

Rules for moving out?

HILLARY

It wouldn't be hard for me to purchase your new building and have you kicked out.

NOAH

True.

HILLARY

Rules.

I get a key to this unit.

NOAH

Like you'd need one.

HILLARY

You must stay here on occasion.
Dinner twice a week.

NOAH

Can I keep Jon?

HILLARY
Get your own.

ALEX
NO!
We are going to live as normal people.

NOAH
We aren't normal people.

ALEX
We don't need a butler.

NOAH
I'm not cleaning anything!
AND!
I don't know how nor do I want to know how to work a laundry.

ALEX
We'll get a cleaner then.

NOAH
What about groceries?

ALEX
We can go to the supermarket.

NOAH
I don't even know what that is.

ALEX
You will learn.

NOAH
I don't want to.

ALEX
Wait until you see it before you decide.

NOAH
What will I do for clothes then?

BLAIR
Ha!
We didn't move your entire wardrobe.

ALEX
Fuck that.

BLAIR
We barely got through the east wing.

NOAH
You did it yourselves?

ALEX
Of course!

NOAH turns to HILLARY

NOAH
You let them touch my stuff?

HILLARY
Do you think I am stupid!
I am not entering into any of this.

ALEX
What's your problem?

HILLARY
Noah got his own movers to move from Melbourne.

ALEX
So?

HILLARY
One of them had a nervous break down that week.

NOAH
That wasn't my fault.
He was an idiot.

BLAIR
I told you it would be better to include Noah.

ALEX
Shut up!
All of you, this is my thing!
I have done it.
Be quiet.
No more talk until you see it.

NOAH, HILLARY and BLAIR mutter under their breath's.

CUT TO:

EXT. APARTMENT BLOCK – FRONT ENTRANCE – NIGHT.

A Brand new fifteen story column building. Perfect manicured garden surrounding.

ALEX parks his new jeep and gets out.

NOAH parks his new car and gets out.

HILLARY, CODA and BLAIR arrive in a Jaguar.

NOAH
Why are we even moving?

ALEX
So we can ask them to leave.

NOAH
Does anyone else live here?

ALEX
Not yet, they're all sold but we're the first to move in.

HILLARY, CODA and BLAIR join them.

BLAIR
Are we going up?

NOAH
Am I the only one who hasn't seen this yet?

ALEX
Yep.
Tarnia and Jen are up stairs.

NOAH smiles broadly.

NOAH
Excellent.

ALEX
They decorated it.

NOAH

Really? EXCELLENT!

ALEX
You sound happy.

NOAH
I love Tarnia.
This apartment is going to rock!

ALEX
Be nice.

NOAH
I am!
But, admit it.
If paint can have a story it will.

ALEX
I know, adds something to the sterile brickwork of modernia.

NOAH grins broadly.

NOAH
Oh god. This is going to awesome!
What floor?

ALEX
Top.
What else?

NOAH
Excellent.

NOAH trots away to the door, looking back to rush everyone.

BLAIR
Have you seen it yet?

ALEX
I heard the planing.

BLAIR
You're brave.

ALEX
NOAH!

ALEX tosses a key to NOAH. NOAH catches it.

CUT TO:

INT. APARTMENT – ENTRANCE – NIGHT

The apartment spans the entire floor. The whole thing empties onto a massive balcony that spans the length of the building. The front entrance is two large wooden doors, hiding the elevator doors.

INT. APARTMENT – ELEVATOR – NIGHT

NOAH, ALEX, BLAIR, CODA and HILLARY are in the elevator.

The elevator jerks to a stop, HILLARY moves over and kisses NOAH, then ALEX.

The elevator doors open to reveal the doors, ALEX takes his keys out of the elevator and puts them into the doors.

SONG – GEORGE – BREATH IN NOW

The room is wall papered with record covers, the lighting is mysterious and tranquil.

NOAH stands in the elevator for a moment.

ALEX places his hand on NOAH nudging him into life.

NOAH begins to walk slowly.

ALEX looks back at BLAIR, HILLARY and CODA, he smiles happily.

JEN and TARNIA come walking towards them.

JEN (to ALEX)
Just finished sexy

TARNIA
Look's excellent, even with that name brand poison...
Oh stay well clear of that Princeton bush in the lounge. I've heard bad stories.

NOAH grins to ALEX brilliantly.

ALEX Nods calmly to TARNIA, mouthing 'yep'.

NOAH Continues in.

TARNIA hugs ALEX and walks past them with JEN into the elevator.

The elevator doors close, taking BLAIR, HILLARY, CODA, JEN and TARNIA.

ALEX closes the two doors.

NOAH turns to find himself alone with ALEX.

NOAH is shocked.

NOAH
These albums are all the ones we sang on the beach?

ALEX
Yep.

NOAH stares around shocked.

NOAH
How did you do this?

ALEX
I did it a while ago.

NOAH realises when ALEX had created the wallpaper.

NOAH
Alex, I'm so sorry, if...
(beat)
No.
I'm just sorry.

ALEX
It isn't a time to be sorry.
Keep going.

NOAH Walks through into the main room.

The room is filled with bare tree branches, covered with little lights, the ambiance is shimmering. The furniture is all perfectly placed, the room is massive. There is a kitchen on one side, a dinning table in the centre and a lounge at the end. The massive glass walls are all slid back, opening onto the massive balcony.

NOAH Looks around the main room.

ALEX stands behind him.

NOAH continues onto the balcony.

The balcony equals the size of the main room. It over looks the whole city, with the university campus over to the west. The balcony is equally covered with the tree branch lights, but there is nothing else.

NOAH looks at the view.

NOAH turns to speak to ALEX

ALEX is not there.

NOAH checks around, and sees ALEX coming out of the kitchen.

ALEX is carrying a massive basket of stuff.

ALEX gets to NOAH and puts the basket between them.

NOAH looks at him amazed.

ALEX coolly, unwraps the basket, which becomes an instant picnic.

NOAH stares at ALEX

NOAH
This is way too planned.

ALEX
Yep.
It's important.

NOAH
Yeah, but does it deserve this much cheese?

ALEX
Pulls a remote out of his pocket.

MUSIC plays (RANDOM TRACKS FROM RECORDS- all sung on beach)

NOAH laughs at the cheesiness.

ALEX nods smugly.

NOAH
You'll never live this down.

ALEX
Just you live it up.

NOAH
Ok.

ALEX
I have to ask you something Noah.

NOAH
Shoot.

ALEX
Shut up until I do.

ALEX
I can't believe I am about to actually do this.
If the kids could see me now.
Alex Williams proposing to a guy...
(beat)
Noah, I absolutely hate you sometimes.
I've never had a person I could despise, so easily, and, always want to see at the same
time.
Marriage has become like a greeting card.
It gets thrown around to appease people.
I want to marry you, because if I don't, this second, I'll regret every day from now on.
(beat)
I told Blair once that, I wish I could love someone as much as you love yourself.
It was the most wrong I have ever been.
I don't know how you don't burst with the feelings you like to hide.
I used to watch you with awe, then fascination, then desire.
(beat) {ALEX BLUSHES}
I don't watch anymore.
I'm a part of you now.
I want you to be a part of me.

ALEX produces a platinum band.

ALEX
I have things I need to tell you.
But, Marry me first?

NOAH stares at ALEX for a minute.

ALEX becomes nervous.

ALEX
What are you doing?

NOAH
I'm thinking about what I am going to say.

ALEX
It's not that hard.

NOAH
Shhh.
(beat)
I want you to know why I left.

ALEX
Noah, i...

NOAH
Shhh.
I know where you think I was.
NOAH tears (beat)
I tried to wake you up, but I couldn't touch you.
I was scared to wake up.
(beat)
I spent the morning destroyed, I could dreaming.
(beat)
Alex, I need you so much.

NOAH cries.

ALEX tries to comfort NOAH

NOAH Pushes him away.

NOAH
I knew you loved me.
I couldn't lose that, I still can't.
(beat)
I checked into a hospital.

(beat)

NOAH
I made stupid choices when dad died.
(beat)
If there was really a chance that you were alive, I couldn't let you down.
I can't forgive myself for hurting you before.
(beat)
I'm not the person you think I am.
I'm not strong.
I'm weak.
I'm terrified of losing you.
(beat)
You are a part of me.
A better part.
I don't want to lose it again.
(beat)
My answer is yes, always has been.
The question is will you marry me?

ALEX looked almost horrified.

ALEX
I know pain.
I know what it is to cause pain.
I'd marry you in the absolute worst of it.

NOAH shakes his head

NOAH
This place Alex.
I don't know how you get into my head like this.

ALEX
It is what I want to give you.

NOAH
I must have, or am going to do something good.

ALEX
Maybe I did.

NOAH
I don't care.
I've not touched you for too long now.

NOAH lunges at ALEX

NOAH grabs ALEX, kissing him deeply.

ALEX relaxes exhilarated.

THEY break the kiss.

ALEX plunges his hands into the air, screaming in victory.

ALEX
YEAHHHHHS!
HE'S MINE.
YOU ALL HEAR THAT!
MINE!!!
YEO.....

NOAH kisses ALEX again.

THEY break.

NOAH
Don't scream.

CUT TO:

INT. JAGUAR – OPEN ROAD – NIGHT

HILLARY is driving, TARNIA is in the passenger seat, CODA, BLAIR and JEN are in the back.

TARNIA
Pity I didn't leave a camera on there.

CODA
Yes!

BLAIR
I'm sure they'd *love* that.

HILLARY
I agree.

JEN
Why, I'd like a copy of it?

TARNIA
A copy of what?

JEN
The proposal.

TARNIA.
Oh, no!
Not to film that.

CODA
Why leave a camera then?

TARNIA
That Princeton bush is supposed to attract new hatchlings.
The footage would be quite practical proof.

CODA
OH JESUS.

JEN
Well I would sure like to see the moment.

CODA
I'm sure we'll hear about it.

JEN
It isn't the same.

BLAIR
I think we've seen quite enough of their moments now.

TARNIA
Noah and Alex both are too conspicuous to ever become mundane.
You will see more.

HILLARY
I agree with that too.

BLAIR
Let's just enjoy a night off then.
And not talk about them.

CODA
Fine.
How's your love life?

JEN
You can't talk, why are your hormones wasting?

BLAIR
Can you try quite?

JEN & CODA
NO.

TARNIA (to HILLARY)
Can I walk?

HILLARY
Not if I can't.

CODA
What about you, you have a different body each week

JEN
So?

BLAIR
Just drop it.

CODA
So, you could send one or two of them my way.

JEN
As if.
I know who your eyes are for...

FADE TO BLACK.