SOS - Episode 2 – Room for a new view

#### **Blair's Life Montage**

Counting Crow's – Accidentally in Love

#### OLD FOOTAGE STYLE

Two adorable children (resembling Kimberly and Blair at age 3) on tricycles ride along paved footpaths at a tennis club. The Tricycles ride past, number plates on the back display the names Kimberly and Blair (opposite kid's to bikes).

#### FAST FORWARD

Kimberly and Blair have aged 2 years, together they are jumping on a trampoline at a resort in the countryside. Other kids are impatiently waiting for the trampoline, YOUNG BLAIR and YOUNG KIMBERLY simply smile at each other and continue jumping. FAST FORWARD

Kimberly and BLAIR have aged 3 years, Blair is hiding under a sheet in Kimberly's mothers car. BLAIR's MOTHER walks around, open's the wagon and Removes YOUNG BLAIR. YOUNG KIMBERLY and YOUNG BLAIR Wave as Kimberly's Mothers car departs Blair's house.

#### FAST FORWARD

Kimberly and Blair are 11 years old. YOUNG BLAIR and YOUNG KIMBERLY are dressed up at a large street party (Y.B. as PAT CASH, Y.K wrapped in tissue paper with a wig looking like a psychotic fairy), together they dance happily.

#### FAST FORWARD

Kimberly and Blair are 14 years old. YOUNG BLAIR is sitting alone in the playground, YOUNG KIMBERLY walks past with a group of friends. YOUNG KIMBERLY leaves her friends and walks over to YOUNG BLAIR. YOUNG BLAIR stands, overjoyed. YOUNG KIMBERLY takes his hand and walks him away. Under a Shady tree with everyone watching YOUNG KIMBERLY kisses YOUNG BLAIR.

#### INSTANT TRANSITION

**REGULAR FOOTAGE (PRESENT)** 

KIMBERLY and BLAIR continue to kiss out the front of ARC.

MUSIC FADES OUT

THEY break their kiss smiling, and walk into ARC.

FADE UP OPENING MUSIC END OF MONTAGE OPENING CREDITS

EXT. ARC university - MAIN QUAD - LATE MORNING

NOAH is sitting on the grass with ALEX, KIMBERLY and CODA.

NOAH is lounging around the main quad at ARC, he is sitting with BLAIR, ALEX, KIMBERLY and CODA.

NOAH has noticed over the past week that Blair has been showing to be a bit of a bigot. Instead of his usual "attack a problem" approach he decides that BLAIR will be his latest humanity project.

He sees GEOFF, a black guy from his class walking across the quad.

NOAH I think I need more diversity. Hey, MATE! (TO GEOFF)

BLAIR What, Why? What for?

NOAH Because he is black.

KIMBERLY Smiles, she draws BLAIR's attention back to her.

BLAIR questions and NOAH answers "because he is black."

GEOFF approaches.

NOAH Wanna chill with us for a while?

> GEOFF Hu?

NOAH This group is a little ethnically challenged.

> GEOFF Excuse me?

NOAH I like your skin, I want you to be my friend, my name is NOAH

> GEOFF Do you want to repeat that?

#### ALEX Noah!

NOAH You are black, I think you look cool, and I could always use another mate.

GEOFF You really need to watch your mouth.

NOAH

It is quite simple, friends are subconsciously chosen for attractive qualities. I am consciously choosing you for the attractiveness to me of your black skin.

BLAIR stands.

#### BLAIR

I'm leaving. (to GEOFF) He doesn't speak for anyone else here mate. He's just a dickhead.

**GEOFF** Ignores Blair

## GEOFF Your Noah Jones right?

NOAH Nods.

# GEOFF

The gay rower.

NOAH Nods

#### GEOFF You are in my theatre production class.

### NOAH Yep. But now you have me well labelled. Who are you?

GEOFF

Geoff Reeves. I was warned about you.

#### NOAH Warned?

Warned?

GEOFF A couple of people I know have "heard of you".

GEOFF sits

NOAH Geoff, Now that we're friends, I think you should know the gossip policy

GEOFF You certainly don't waist time. I haven't decided I like you yet.

BLAIR walks off

NOAH That doesn't matter, I like you. What was your warning?

GEOFF To keep distance, you tend to screw people over.

> NOAH Yeah, you can go now.

GEOFF Hu? One second, you're kicking me out for telling the truth?

> NOAH No, friends can argue. Now I'm in a shitty mood.

> > GEOFF For one rumour?

NOAH (to ALEX) One week! I've been here one week and there are already rumours.

GEOFF Getting two teachers fired and breaking another's ribs does tent to follow you around.

> NOAH That isn't what happened.

> > CODA What happened?

NOAH Does it matter?

KIMBERLY Tell them.

# NOAH

# Why?

#### KIMBERLY

Tell them, or they'll just get the wrong story from someone else.

NOAH I don't care what you hear. If you listen to gossip, you're stupid anyway.

> KIMBERLY It wasn't your fault, just tell them.

> > ALEX What wasn't?

NOAH I hit a teacher.

# ALEX What?

KIMBERLY For trying to sexually assault a younger student.

#### CODA What?

#### KIMBERLY Tell them.

ALEX How do you know?

KIMBERLY It was my little brother.

# CODA What?

NOAH sighs

NOAH

I walked in on our rowing master in the showers with Kimberly's younger brother.

KIMBERLY He was fully clothed but Jason was in the corner naked.

#### NOAH

Jason was in the year two below mine. I stopped for a second and I heard the Teacher tell him not to worry. I yelled out "HEY" The teacher turned and then came at me.

KIMBERLY As Jason tells it, Noah kicked his arse. Broke three ribs and his arm.

#### NOAH

The school took me up on disciplinary action. Two of my teachers stood up for me and got fired for it. Eventually my mum sued the school and made them here Jason's side. The rowing master got fired and they offered the other teachers their jobs back, but they wouldn't take them. The said the school should have supported them in the first place.

CODA

What the fuck?? That's nothing for there to be bad rumours over.

NOAH Gets up.

NOAH I've gotta go. I have class.

NOAH leaves.

#### ALEX (to KIMBERLY) What is he leaving out?

#### KIMBERLY

Noah was in year eleven. He never said a word about what happened. So students just went off what they knew. Three teachers were forced to leave and one was badly injured and Noah was in the middle of it.

#### ALEX

What's wrong with that?

#### KIMBERLY

One of the students somehow saw something about sexual assault in an office file. Noah kept it to himself that it was against Jason. Everyone pitted him, and he just took it.

#### ALEX

Crikey.

No wonder he hates gossip so much.

#### KIMBERLY

A year later, my father took Jason out of the school. He still kept it quiet. A girl I knew there said it just got worse for Noah as time went on.

GEOFF

I better go apologise.

CODA

Don't, Noah'll get over it. I'm Coda Bathurst, by the way.

Geoff shakes her hand.

ALEX Alex.

JEN Jen McAlister.

#### KIMBERLY Kimberly Allen.

GEOFF Well this was an interesting morning.

> ALEX You can say that again.

GEOFF stands.

GEOFF I better go, I have a class in a minute too.

> ALEX Bye.

**GEOFF** leaves

CODA and JEN are comparing notes.

KIMBERLY waves.

ALEX So that is why you and Noah get along so well?

#### KIMBERLY No, not really. I only figured out it was him when I heard the rumours a couple of days ago.

ALEX Well at least someone knows now.

#### KIMBERLY I doubt it will matter.

ALEX What do you mean?

KIMBERLY Noah wont tell anyone.

> ALEX At least we know.

KIMBERLY I spose. But I don't think that is going to help Noah out much.

ALEX

Maybe we should talk to Blair. I'll bet he's got the wrong story too. Maybe he'll quit giving Noah such a hard time.

KIMBERLY Noah asked me not to.

> ALEX He didn't ask me.

KIMBERLY You know what he thinks of gossip.

## ALEX

I spose.

KIMBERLY Just let Noah handle it. I'd say he's pretty good at it now.

EXT - ARC university - Front Gates - Afternoon

NOAH runs to catch BLAIR.

NOAH What's your problem?

# BLAIR

#### Drop off!

NOAH I don't get what I've done.

BLAIR What do you think, you're the new gay Jesus. Not everyone will do what you want.

NOAH Why? Because petrified little Blair can't accept that he wants to be friends with a gay guy.

#### BLAIR Fuck off.

#### NOAH

You wana hit me? Go ahead, I wont defend myself

BLAIR

Yeah, like you defended yourself and ran to mummy to get three teachers fired.

NOAH stops.

#### NOAH So that's where we are.

#### BLAIR

We are nowhere! Take your carriage home young prince. Before you get yourself into something your mummy can't stop.

> NOAH I've never stood behind my mother Blair. Maybe you should try...

NOAH changes direction and walks towards his car.

BLAIR Try what?

#### NOAH

You've only known me for two weeks. A bit early to have an enemy, wouldn't you say.

NOAH walks to his car.

BLAIR stands.

FADE TO:

EXT. JONES MANOR – FRONT STEPS - AFTERNOON

ALEX appearing as he has run a long way, arrives at the steps.

NOAH sits reading a book.

ALEX What are you reading?

#### NOAH Harry Potter.

# ALEX

Which one?

#### NOAH Order of the Phoenix.

ALEX I read that. It took me 37 hours, and I didn't sleep.

> NOAH Get lost in it did you?

ALEX You might say that.

ALEX sits next to NOAH

(beat)

ALEX I really love Luna Lovegood.

NOAH She just went with them on the flying lizards.

#### ALEX Thestrils.

## NOAH Yeah.

(beat)

#### ALEX Are you going to look at me?

NOAH puts down the book and looks up.

# NOAH

You stink.

ALEX Running in this heat will do that.

> NOAH Do you want some water?

ALEX Just tell Blair the truth.

#### NOAH What truth?

#### ALEX About school.

# NOAH

Why? So everything is fine and we can be friends.

ALEX That would be a pretty good reason.

> NOAH I shouldn't have to.

ALEX You're not an easy person to like without rumours.

# NOAH Oh really.

ALEX Firstly, you're gay.

# NOAH

Ouch.

#### ALEX

You're rich. At ARC on a full scholarship. Have a national rowing title. Kimberly adores you and can't explain why.

NOAH Do you really see those things as my problems?

ALEX No. That's why you have to be the bigger man.

> NOAH Is that so.

ALEX I'd be jealous of you too, if I weren't so pretty.

NOAH snorts

NOAH So, because he is jealous of me, I should keep trying to become his friend. I should trust him, when he turned on me for gossip.

> ALEX Yes.

ALEX stands

ALEX May I have that drink now?

NOAH So that's it, you think you've won the day?

ALEX

Well my point will not change from what you just said, so there really isn't anything else to say.

NOAH stands

CUT TO:

INT. JONES MANOR – KITCHEN – AFTERNOON

NOAH walks in followed by ALEX.

NOAH walks to the fridge.

# ALEX

### Not cold.

NOAH diverts to the pantry.

NOAH grabs a bottle of water.

ALEX Just tap will be fine.

NOAH throws the bottle to him.

# ALEX

# Thanks.

NOAH walks back past ALEX.

ALEX drinks, then grabs NOAH's shoulder.

#### ALEX

He gave up all of his friends to come here to be with Kimberly, and all she wants to do is hang around with you.

#### NOAH We're in the same class.

Ve're in the same class

#### ALEX

What about lunchtime, and dinner. You had dinner every night except the ones you had to row.

## NOAH

# I'm gay! I'm not trying to steal her.

#### ALEX Why should Blair trust you?

NOAH turns and walks away.

## EXT. JONES MANOR - FRONT STEPS - AFTERNOON

NOAH walks through the door, sits down and picks up his book.

ALEX strolls out, eyeing the pictures and lavish house.

ALEX Are you always this cordial as a host?

> NOAH I'm in a bad mood.

ALEX Because of Blair.

NOAH Because of you.

ALEX What did I do?

NOAH You're right.

# ALEX

# Oh.

NOAH But what am I supposed to do about it?

ALEX I don't know. I'm just a weary traveller, stopped in for aid.

#### NOAH Nice.

## ALEX You're the genius. You'll figure it out.

NOAH You're smarter then you let on.

ALEX I always find it useful to be underestimated.

#### NOAH Why give me this secret?

ALEX walks down the stairs.

# ALEX

#### Trade. You gave me one this morning.

NOAH opens his book. ALEX starts jogging backwards.

#### ALEX

See you tomorrow.

ALEX throws the empty water bottle at NOAH.

# NOAH *Drop by anytime.*

#### ALEX (ignoring sarcasm) I will. Bye.

ALEX turns and runs home.

NOAH finds his page and keeps reading.

FADE TO:

INT. ARC UNIVERSITY - MULLIGAN'S BAR - NIGHT

NOAH, JEN, KIMBERLY and Three other arts students are sitting around lounges in the bar. The bar is otherwise filled with all men.

JEN's head is on NOAH's Lap. KIMBERLY is chatting with another student.

JEN At least they didn't keep us back for too long.

NOAH Ten more minutes of yelling and I would have hit the director.

#### KIMBERLY Me too.

JEN What's this? Miss passive hit someone...

#### KIMBERLY Well he wouldn't shut up.

NOAH Do you think anyone took any of it in?

JEN All I remember is how the vein in his noise looked like it would pop.

> KIMBERLY I agree. And the B.O.

NOAH Can't say I got that close to him.

BLAIR enters the bar.

BLAIR Sees KIMBERLY.

BLAIR Notices NOAH, He turns towards the bar, eyeballing JEN's head first.

BLAIR is at the bar, a few men around him are looking at him. A drunk male student walks up to stand next to him and runs a hand down his back.

BLAIR looks at him and overtly gestures to him "No"

The MAN gets aggressive. BLAIR Pushes him off.

The MAN falls too the ground. BLAIR eyes him off and the MAN stands to leave.

BLAIR turns back to the bar tender.

The MAN returns a few moments later and with two other guys, drag BLAIR outside.

NOAH looks up from JEN to the bar. BLAIR is not there. NOAH checks around, BLAIR is gone.

NOAH stands and lets JEN's head off his lap.

NOAH I'm just going up to the bar. Need anything? JEN No, we're still half full.

NOAH walks up to the BARTENDER.

#### NOAH There was a young guy just here before?

#### BARTENDER Cute one, white shirt?

# NOAH

# Yeah?

#### BARTENDER Too late bud. Just left with three guys then.

NOAH turns and sprints out the door.

JEN and KIMBERLY are completely unaware.

CUT TO: EXT. ARC UNIVERSTIY – MULLIGAN'S BAR – NIGHT

BLAIR is against the wall surrounded by the three men.

#### MAN What's your problem mate? Think your too good for me then?

#### BLAIR

#### I'm not a fag.

The SECOND MAN punches BLAIR in the face, BLAIR ducks and the SECOND MAN hits the wall.

The MAN knees BLAIR in the chest. BLAIR falls to the ground off the wall. The THIRD MAN checks the SECOND MAN. The SECOND MAN kicks BLAIR out of anger.

MAN rolls BLAIR over

MAN Not better then anyone now, are you?

The MAN Raises his fist to hit BLAIR.

A foot in a thong connects with the MAN'S face, his head it thrown back.

The MAN's nose begins to gush blood.

NOAH bends down to BLAIR and helps him stand up.

The SECOND MAN Checks the MAN briefly, then with the THIRD MAN runs at NOAH and BLAIR.

BLAIR is still dishevelled.

NOAH Throws the THIRD MAN past him and is hit in the SIDE by the SECOND MAN.

The second man tackles NOAH into a wall, NOAH grunts.

NOAH pinned against the wall, punches down into the middle of the SECOND MAN'S BACK.

The SECOND MAN stands and roars in pain.

NOAH spins into a roundhouse kick and the SECOND MAN topples to the ground.

NOAH runs to BLAIR.

BLAIR is slowly regaining his sences.

A crowd is forming from inside the bar.

The MAN stands and looks down at his mate.

The MAN runs at NOAH, NOAH punches him in the nose. The man cowers and yells in pain.

NOAH grabs the MAN by the collar and raises his fist.

The THIRD MAN yells.

#### THIRD MAN Stop! STOP! He's just really drunk! We give. We GIVE.

NOAH stops and lets go.

NOAH walks over to BLAIR

### NOAH You alright?

#### BLAIR Fine!

BLAIR walks through the crowd and away.

The THIRD MAN is Helping the SECOND MAN stand. The MAN, still clutching his nose, stumbles over too them and helps them through the crowd.

NOAH stands.

Police sirens and light. KIMBERLY and JEN break out of the bar. They see NOAH, Blood down his shirt and arm.

KIMBERLY and JEN run to NOAH.

JEN NOAH! What happened?

NOAH Three guys were roughing Blair.

#### KIMBERLY What?!!? Where is he?

NOAH He isn't badly hurt, he left when it was over.

# KIMBERLY

Are you ok?

#### NOAH

Fine, it isn't my blood. They were just drunk, probably trying to mug him. Go. Find Blair. They kicked him in the chest a few times, he might need to see a doctor.

POLICE walk through the crowd.

The POLICE see NOAH, they walk towards him.

A man from the crowd run's forward and walks with the police.

#### CROWD MEMBER

I saw the whole thing. These three guys were laying into this young guy and this guy ran out of the pub and ripped em to shreds.

JEN stares at NOAH.

The POLICE reach NOAH.

#### OFFICER ONE Is that what happened son?

## NOAH About right, yeah.

OFFICER ONE You'll need to come to the station to make a statement.

NOAH My mother is a Lawyer, she will have to be there first.

> OFFICER TWO We can arrange that in the car.

OFFICER ONE Do you know who these men were?

# NOAH

The one the were attacking was a friend. Blair McDougal. The other three I think I saw them in the bar earlier.

> OFFICER TWO Have you been drinking son?

#### NOAH Not a drop.

JEN

I can vouch for that. He won't drink when he's training.

OFFICER ONE You call your mum. I'll go check with the bar owner. Take him to the car.

#### OFFICER TWO Cuffs?

JEN What he just saved his mates life?

OFFICER ONE We can't make him come. It would only be voluntarily.

NOAH Then can I take my own car, you can keep my licence.

### OFFICER ONE As you wish. Jerry, get his details please.

OFFICER TWO takes out a pen and paper. NOAH gets out his wallet.

CUT TO:

INT. POLICE STATION – CHECK IN – NIGHT

HILLARY is waiting on a chair.

NOAH walks in, his arms are clean his shirt is still covered in blood.

HILLARY sees NOAH and stands in shock.

HILLARY rushes To NOAH.

#### NOAH Don't worry. It isn't mine.

HILLARY grabs NOAH, checking him all over.

JEN walks through the door.

## HILLARY

#### What happened?

NOAH Three guys jumped Blair, outside of Mulligun's.

# HILLARY

The gay bar?

JEN We were all there. Three guys dragged Blair out of the pub.

> HILLARY How were you involved?

NOAH

I noticed Blair was missing from the Bar. So I asked the Bartender. He told me three guys left with him. I ran outside and they were laying into him in the alley.

> HILLARY So, you went inside to call the police?

NOAH I ran and kicked the lead guy in the head.

HILLARY After you told someone else to call the police?

> NOAH No so much, no.

HILLARY slaps NOAH across the face.

HILLARY then looks at NOAH, she hugs him.

HILLARY Stupid, stupid boy. (beat) Are you hurt?

NOAH Just my face. But, they didn't touch me.

HILLARY I suppose, your obsession with learning martial arts has finally paid off.

NOAH They could have killed him in the time it took me to call the police.

> HILLARY They could have killed you as well.

NOAH Mum, I can handle myself.

#### HILLARY

It was stupid, Noah, they could have had knives, guns, anything!

NOAH Mum, this is Australia, not America. Not everyone is carrying arms.

> HILLARY Plenty of thugs carry knives.

NOAH There is no point in debating the choice now. It's done.

> HILLARY Well next time, Think First!

#### NOAH

I did. I thought I couldn't live with myself if Blair died while I was calling the cops.

The two Police officers arrive.

#### OFFICER TWO

Mr Jones we need you to make a statement.

#### HILLARY

Officer... Percy. I am Mr. Jones' Mother and attorney. I will be accompanying him.

#### OFFICER TWO As you wish.

NOAH is escorted behind the desk. HILLARY follows. JEN waits. NOAH reappears.

#### NOAH Jen take my car home. I'll get it later.

NOAH throughs JEN the keys

CUT TO:

EXT. JONES MANOR – FRONT STEPS – NIGHT

ALEX is sitting where NOAH was earlier.

ALEX'S jeep pulls up in the car port.

NOAH emerges, his shirt still bloody.

ALEX'S eyes widen.

ALEX stands.

## ALEX Shit mate, are you all right?

NOAH Just a touch annoyed, but overall well.

# ALEX What?

### NOAH I cannot complain.

ALEX Jen said you were in a fight, and your covered in blood.

#### NOAH Yeah I know.

#### rean r know.

#### ALEX So?

NOAH How did you get here?

# ALEX

#### Noah!

NOAH Jen would have told you everything. There's nothing more to say.

#### ALEX low's Blair

# How's Blair?

NOAH He stormed off after the fight. Barely said a word.

# ALEX

# Was he hurt?

NOAH Didn't look it. But they did kick him a few times.

# ALEX

Where is he?

NOAH I'm not sure, Kimberly followed him. Have you tried to call him.

ALEX Nah, I left my phone in class today.

NOAH Why weren't you waiting inside?

ALEX Jen said you and your mum were at the policeman's office. I figured you weren't home.

> NOAH Butler Jon is here, you should have just rung the bell.

#### ALEX Oh.

NOAH You didn't run here, did you?

# ALEX

No. I parked outside.

#### NOAH Why?

#### ALEX My cars a shitbox.

NOAH What, you think the house would be embarrassed to have it here?

#### ALEX Shut up.

NOAH walks past and through the door.

ALEX turns slowly.

# NOAH (off) Coming?

ALEX bounds up the stairs.

CUT TO:

INT. JONES MANOR – KITCHEN – NIGHT

NOAH walks in and pulls off his shirt.

NOAH walks over to a cupboard near the sink.

ALEX walks in and stands at the bench.

NOAH opens a chute and throws his shirt in the bin.

ALEX So who were these guys?

NOAH pulls off his pants.

NOAH bounces up and down to get his pants over his shoes.

NOAH (panting) Not too sure. I saw them in the bar once or twice tonight, I think.

NOAH sits on the ground and starts battling with his pants over his left shoe.

ALEX The police must know.

NOAH Yeah they mentioned a couple of names. I had no idea tho.

NOAH finally gets off the pants and tosses them in the trash.

NOAH pulls of one shoe and is about too toss it out.

ALEX Hey, what are you chucking them for?

NOAH They are probably covered in blood.

> ALEX They're shoes.

NOAH So? I won't be wearing them again.

> ALEX Give em here.

NOAH You want em?

#### ALEX Sure!

#### NOAH Oki doki.

NOAH stands and kicks off the other shoe.

NOAH slides both shoes on the ground toward ALEX.

NOAH pulls off both socks and throws them out.

NOAH pulls off his underwear and throws them out.

NOAH I have to have a shower. Make yourself at home.

NOAH exits.

ALEX sits on a chair and waits.

HILLARY enters.

#### HILLARY Hello Alex, where did Noah go?

ALEX Went to have a shower.

#### HILLARY You hungry?

HILLARY pulls a lamb roast out of the oven.

HILLARY walks to the other bench and plonks the tray down.

HILLARY notices the shoes

### HILLARY

#### What are those?

ALEX Noah's old shoes, he was going to throw them out, but he gave them to me.

#### HILLARY The ones from tonight?

# ALEX

# Yep.

#### HILLARY Oh no, they have to go.

HILLARY grabs the tongs from the roast and picks up the shoes with them.

HILLARY opens the bin and tosses them, along with the tongs.

HILLARY Go upstairs and tell Noah to give you a normal pair. He has dozens that he never uses.

#### ALEX Oh n...

HILLARY (interrupting) While your up there tell Noah to put clothes on for dinner. I'll make you both a plate.

# ALEX

Yes mam.

## HILLARY

Tell him not to be too long, I need to hear exactly what happened tonight.

ALEX exits. FADE to BLACK END CREDITS.