

EXT. ST. CHRISTOPHER'S PAROCHIAL SCHOOL - AFTERNOON

Aja pushes through the crowd of mothers violently to be seen by Shae and the teachers first. The mothers and nuns stare at her as she sticks out in her red lipstick, electric blue dress, white blazer and white go-go boots.

Aja doesn't care, she looks proud of herself that Shae is the first kid let out in result. When he steps forward, Shae has a patch on his eye. Aja speaks loudly in the crowd--

AJA
WHAT HAPPENED!?

Shae 'shushes' Aja and just keeps walking as fast as he can.

SHAE
Let's just go, please.

INT. PRIUS - AFTERNOON

Shae is silent as he drags his finger across the fogged out window to make a hangman figure.

AJA
You gotta tell me what happened.

SHAE
No, its embarrassing.

Shae remains quiet, he draws the hangman with a jeering audience.

AJA
Come on, Shae.

SHAE
I'd really rather not discuss it.

AJA
You can tell me anything, though.
ANYTHING... You know, I wouldn't
care if you killed someone?

Shae takes a big sigh and rubs out his drawing.

SHAE
A curse is not someone's
intentional doing Aja...

AJA
Oh. I wasn't--

SHAE

Look, if I tell you, will you not make a deal out it?

AJA

Yeah, sure. Probably.

SHAE

This Neanderthal pushed me off the kickball court today. He made a big scene of it in front of my whole school. It was humiliating.

AJA

He did what!? Who the hell does he think he is?

SHAE

Brett Brava... I just stood there too; my brain locked. He physically picked me up and took me off the court cus I wouldn't stand down from him... That's when he hit me; And then he told me to stick to my place in life where he could hit me from afar.

Aja does an immediate illegal u-turn. Shae holds onto his seat belt as she does.

SHAE (CONT'D)

AJA! What the heck!?

AJA

Think I'm gonna let him get away with that?

SHAE

Yeah, you said you wouldn't make a deal out of it!

AJA

No, I said probably. If you don't fix a problem Shae, it'll just get worse.

SHAE

Worse?

Shea's eyes go big as he thinks about what could be worse. Aja speeds down the road, back into St. Christopher's parking lot. Shae has a look of terror on his face.

EXT. PARKING LOT - AFTERNOON

Aja and Shae sit silently looking at the playground.

AJA
Which one is he?

Shae timidly points at Brett Brava who sits on top of a playground tower all high and mighty. Aja takes off her white blazer and rolls up her sleeves.

SHAE
I'm really running this through my head Aja, I don't think this is good idea. Think about it, I'm going to get the crap kicked out of me for the rest of my little life...

AJA
No, you won't.

SHAE
Well, at least till I hit high school and go to a much better school than him.

Aja gets out of the car.

AJA
Shae, trust me.

She slams the door and Shae is fidgeting about nervously. Aja turns around and looks at Shae in the car scared stiff.

AJA (CONT'D)
You coming!?

Shae cringes as he unbuckles his seat belt.

EXT. SCHOOLYARD - AFTERNOON

Brett Brava holds onto a boys ear lobe as he tries to get away. He enjoys to see the poor younger boy scramble and beg for him to be let go.

Aja gets closer and stares at Brett with a personal vendetta in her eyes. She strides on and then climbs up onto the tower. Shae is catching up behind her.

AJA
HEY! Let him go.

Brett stops laughing and looks at Aja with confusion.

BRETT BRAVA
Why should I?

AJA
Cus if you weren't a wimp, you'd
pick on someone your own size.

Brett smiles, he looks at the kid whose ear he holds onto.

BRETT BRAVA
You know this chick?

The kid shakes his head 'no' furiously. Shae has caught up now and clears his throat.

SHAE
No, I do.

Brett Brava lets go of the kid's ear lobe and the kid screams thank you to Brett as he runs away, screaming for his mother. Aja smiles and winks at Shae, Brett glares down at him.

BRETT BRAVA
What's this shit, Minardi?

AJA
Your mom teach you to talk like
that?

BRETT BRAVA
Yeah, she did her fuckin best too.

Aja strides over to Brett Brava and smacks him in the face with her glove. His face becomes red.

BRETT BRAVA (CONT'D)
You just hit a kid! You're in such
deep shit!

AJA
Am I?

Aja looks around to see her audience. No parents around, no spectators, and she smiles.

AJA (CONT'D)
I don't think so.

Brett doesn't know what to do next. He leans over the edge and points down at Shae.

BRETT BRAVA

I swear to God, she just cost you.
I'm gonna kick your nerd ass
everyday for the rest of your life.

AJA

Oh no, you're not... I think you're
missing the point here.

She walks closer, picks him up by his coat collar and raises
him up close enough to the drop from the tower.

BRETT BRAVA

What the hell is your problem?

AJA

I was going to ask you the same
thing... See if you mess with Shae,
you mess with me. Get it?

Brett nods, he looks freaked out as he dangles over the
ledge.

AJA (CONT'D)

Good. So, listen you little
premature punk-- if you think about
messing with him or **anyone** on this
schoolyard again and I hear about
it? You're done for. I'll throw
your rascal ass into the deepest
ditch and no one will care. No one
will care because you act like a
little asshole... You have time to
change that though.

She continues to dangle him even farther. We see her grip is
loosening and its getting harder to hold him. Shae looks up
at Aja like she's an angel.

AJA (CONT'D)

Got it?

BRETT BRAVA

Yeah, yeah. Never again, lady.

AJA

You're positive about that?

Brett Brava glares at Shae below. He turns back to Aja and
bites her arm as hard as he can. Aja lets go completely with
a yelp and drops him; he falls a significant height.

AJA (CONT'D)

Ew, I'm bleeding!

Brett Brava knocks the dirt off his pants. Shae forms fists in his hands by his side, he has a rage in his eyes we've never seen before.

Brett Brava is about to get up when Shae runs right for him with a scream. He tackles him down sloppily. He throws his small fists as fast and hard as he can at his nemesis. Brett tries to cover his face.

BRETT BRAVA

I'm gonna kill you, dweeb.

Aja climbs down from the tower quickly, she looks concerned, this is not how she wanted it to turn out. Brett pushes Shae off and throws him to the ground. He's about to sit on him, when Shae closes his eyes and throws his foot up directly between Brett's legs.

Time stops and Shae opens his eyes. Brett has tears forming and his lips are beginning to tremble. He falls on his side into a fetal position, whimpering.

Aja stands next to Shae and covers her hand over her mouth. She takes it off and pats Shae on the back. He looks up at her astounded with his own actions.

SHAE

So that's what adrenaline is?

AJA

Yep... And I think we got our point across, we should get out of here.

Shae nods, still in shock. He looks at his cut hands curiously. Aja looks around to see if anyone's seen what's happened. The playground is silent with the exception of Brett's small cry. Aja begins to walk away.

Shae walks over to the fetal position and clears his throat, his voice confident now.

SHAE

Remember, that was nothing.

Aja starts to walk back and stops in her tracks as she sees a nun watching from inside with her arms crossed. Aja immediately looks incredibly guilty.

The nun winks and smiles at Aja, giving her an approving wave. Aja smiles and shrugs, she looks back and sees Shae catching up, holding his head high.