

The future of ladders.

EXT. LIBRARY - MORNING

**Jamie Mathews** fiddles with her skirt as she walks towards the library door.

cut to **Noah Hughes** getting off the bus, his suit is disheveled and face unshaven.

**Jamie** reaches the door first and holds it open for **Noah** who is still climbing the stairs

**NOAH**  
(abruptly) **Thanks..**

**JAMIE**  
(quietly) no problem.

Jamie smiles awkwardly. Noah makes his way towards the elevator impatiently pushing the Button. Jamie walks up behind him Cautiously.

**JAMIE**  
Sorry about the elevator it can be a bit slow sometimes. (nervous chuckle)

Noah doesn't respond just looks at his watch. Jamie seems disheartened. The elevator dings, the doors spread open Noah steps in and holds the door for Jamie.

Jamie notices that Noah seems nervous, his fists are tightly scrunched.

**JAMIE**  
Are you heading to the library sir?

**NOAH (NERVOUSLY)**  
ya... picking up a book for my boy.

**JAMIE**  
That's very nice of you sir, i work at the library whats the name of the book? maybe i can help you find it.

**NOAH (NERVOUSLY)**  
Thanks.. but i can find it myself.

The elevator screeches to a stop Noah presses the door open button the elevator doesn't respond.

**NOAH (ANGRILY)**  
What is wrong with this damn thing.

he jabs at the buttons angrily

**NOAH**(CONT, PANICKED.)

You work here right?? do you know  
whats going on?

Jamie motions to comfort Noah as he slips down the wall  
defeated. Jamie stand up and presses the emergency button.

**JAMIE**

Um alright, okay this should be okay,  
i believe that button contacts the  
authoritys im so sorry sir.

**NOAH (QUIETLY)**

Noah...

**JAMIE**

What?

**NOAH**

My name is Noah. its nice to meet you

**JAMIE**

Jamie...

**NOAH**

Jamie.

**JAMIE**

Noah, um are you okay?

Noah sits scrunched up in the corner Jamie sits at his side  
giving him a bit of space. he seems deflated all of his self  
confidence gone, he looks like a completely different man.

**NOAH**

Ya.. i'm fine just got a lot on my  
mind.

Noah places his hands on his face. Jamie scoots a little  
closer to Noah beckoning inviting him to keep talking.

**NOAH (CONT)**

ya see its my boy, hes been struggling  
in school. he has a hard time makin'  
friends, and My husband and i just  
don't know how to help. i came ere  
today to get a new book for him, Damn  
does that boy love to read...

JAMIE

Whats your sons name?

Noah seems to Brighten he seems to enjoy talking about his family, he speaks with a new passion

NOAH (SMILING SLIGHTLY)

His names Oliver. Named For Toms grandpa. oh um toms my Husband.

He indicates the metal band on his hand.

JAMIE (SMILING)

That's so sweet! how long have you been married?

NOAH

Only for a year, but we've been together since junior year of high school. almost ten years now. Toms my best Friend, we got Married last year. tom was so happy for us. What about you? got a handsome Husband? a burbling babe?

JAMIE (SMILING)

Nope just me and my cat, his name is noodle. my mom used to live with us but she just moved in with my sister. she's a lawyer, shes always been moms favorite.

NOAH (LAUGHING)

Boy are you preaching to the choir, my older brother,he is The image of White straight and male, hes a VP. and then theirs me, Happily married to a man, with a son who is despised by his grandparents. and im an accountant.

He laughs loudly,putting his hands up in the air . Jamie laughs along slightly nervously than joins in finding comfort in his smile.

NOAH (CONT)

we are quiet the pair

JAMIE (SMILING)

ya we are. Noah, i think i might have a Solution for Oliver.

Noah looks intently

JAMIE(CONT)

What if he comes here every day?

Noah looks skeptical

JAMIE (CONT)

i'm here Monday through Saturday from 12 to 7 and from 1-3 i read to kids. all of the kids here love to read, just like your son likes, i'm sure he could find some friends?

Noah seems to consider, he smiles

JAMIE (CONT)

Theirs a lovely couple whose daughter struggles socially, i think you'd get along.

NOAH

Thanks for the offer Jamie. ill talk with tom and Oliver. can i get your number i would love for you too meet tom and Oliver sometime. and who knows maybe i can even hook you up with my brother.

Jamie and tom both laugh loudly. The elevator shakes abruptly and a loud crashing noise comes from the roof, Jamie Screams and cowers under the button panel. Tom Takes the fetal position with his hands over the back of his neck.

the elevator shakes again as the sound of a drill plays. and a hatch in the ceiling opens up revealing a shabby man with a big Black Beard.

ELEVATOR OP.

Hey, Ya'll ya doing okay?

Noah raises a shaky thumbs up and a anxious slightly terrified smile.

ELEVATOR OP.

It'll just be a sec, well get you out of their soon. just sit tight.

cut to Jamie and Noah sitting in plastic chairs. covered by

blankets and holding water bottles. they lock eyes and Burst into laughter.

A Handsome man wearing a pink shirt enters the building holding **Oliver** in his arms.

TOM

Noah!

Tom runs up to Noah, they embrace and share a quick kiss. Tom picks up Oliver hugging him tight and then squatting down to his level, and kissing his forehead.

NOAH

Hi buddy how are you doing?

Oliver smiles, and hugs his dad again. Tom walks over to Jamie he shakes her hand.

TOM

Hi im tom, Noah's Husband.

JAMIE (SMILING)

Nice to meet you tom. I've heard all about you and Oliver.

Toms laughs, Noah with Oliver on his shoulder makes his way to Toms side.

NOAH

Jamie i want you to meet my son Oliver.

Jamie Kneels down with a big grin on her face.

JAMIE

Hi buddy My name is Jamie. whats your name?

Oliver walks up to Jamie silently and embraces her The adults are all surprised

OLIVER

Thank you for keeping my daddy safe.