

SIMONE (CONT'D)

And she's stuck with me because of my eyes! So Justin has to go back!

DANIEL

That's --

SIMONE

She chose you. She always has. It's all for you. Mama wants everything for you -- not for me or Justin.

(beat)

Look at you.

Simone shakes her head and sighs.

SIMONE (CONT'D)

You think you're an American don't you? Well you're not. And they will never let you be. You may have lost your accent and wear the right clothes Daniel, but you will never be from here.

Daniel scoffs, defensively.

DANIEL

So where am I from then? Guinea? A place I can't hardly remember?

SIMONE

No. You're just like me.

(beat)

From nowhere.

This hits Daniel. Beat. The front door is unlocked and Simone heads back to the beanbag as Agatha comes back in with the laundry.

Daniel just stands there, trying to make sense of it all.

CUT TO:

INT. ZOE'S OFFICE - THE NEXT DAY

Zoe is looking out the window at her somewhat bleak view. A knock on the door brings her back to the reality she's about to face.

**START**



ZOE

Come in.

Jackie opens the door and comes in.

NO ONE ASKED ME

1/5

ZOE

80.

JACKIE

You wanted to see me?

ZOE

Yeah, thanks, grab a seat.

JACKIE

Everything okay?

ZOE

Grab a seat Jackie.

Jackie does a little mimed 'ooooh'.

JACKIE

Feels like the scene where the person gets fired.

She laughs as she sits but then notices Zoe isn't smiling.

JACKIE (CONT'D)

Now it really does feel like the scene where the person gets fired.

ZOE

Jackie, I feel very awkward talking to you about this -- and not just because you've probably been my biggest supporter in trying to make this school a better place since I took the job -- it's just an awkward subject full stop. But it's my responsibility to bring it up.

JACKIE

What's going on Zoe?

ZOE

A couple of people -- staff mostly but a student too -- have come to me with -- I don't want to say *accusations* -- that's such an ugly word -- but *concerns*.

JACKIE

Zoe, I'm already very uncomfortable here so you can stop trying to be polite and just tell me what --

ZOE

The time you've been spending with Daniel. Alone.

Zoe watches Jackie who is unreadable.

NO ONE ASKED ME

215

Zoe

81.

ZOE (CONT'D)

People have noticed it -- I've noticed it. And I'm not suggesting that anything inappropriate has actually happened but --

JACKIE

Wait. Zoe.

ZOE

But you need to cease that sort of contact with him because --

JACKIE

(almost laughing)

Zoe --

ZOE

(assertively)

Because if another student or staff member comes to me about it then I'm going to have to treat it as an actual complaint and start an investigation.

JACKIE

Please let me talk.

ZOE

Jackie I'm honestly not suggesting anything -- I think you just believe in the kid and want to encourage him and have maybe taken a shine to him. But I'm telling you as a friend that you have to stop any private contact with him.

JACKIE

He's undocumented.

Beat. Zoe closes her eyes and breathes out.

ZOE

Oh of course -- thank God. I mean, of course.

Zoe and Jackie look at each other and both smile.

NO ONE ASKED ME

3/5

Zoe

82.

ZOE (CONT'D)

I panicked. I've never had to have that type of -- and with you of all -- you know how much I admire you -- but three people have come to me -- then yesterday I saw you both in a classroom -- I'm sorry.

JACKIE

I'm sorry I didn't tell you.

ZOE

Right.

Beat.

ZOE (CONT'D)

Who else?

Beat.

ZOE (CONT'D)

Don't tell me actually.

(beat)

Alyssa?

(catches herself)

Don't tell me.

JACKIE

I'll tell you if you want me to.

ZOE

No.

Beat.

ZOE (CONT'D)

How many?

JACKIE

Three seniors that I know of -- I'm sure there are more.

ZOE

You've been helping kids like this secretly for a while now haven't you?

Beat. Jackie nods. Zoe holds her gaze then smiles.

No one asked me

4/5

ZOE

ZOE (CONT'D)

I was the one who cancelled all the senior field trips indefinitely a couple of years ago -- I blamed it on lack of funds -- but it was really me.

Jackie doesn't get it.

ZOE (CONT'D)

I read about a kid who got caught and deported because he had to show his fake ID for the bus trip to Washington. I didn't want that to happen to a kid here.

JACKIE

You took a lot of heat from the parents about that.

ZOE

(shrugs)

They got over it.

Jackie smiles. But Zoe doesn't.

ZOE (CONT'D)

No more private chats Jackie.

JACKIE

Got it.

ZOE

Good.

Jackie stands.

JACKIE

Thanks Zoe.

End //

Zoe nods.

CUT TO:

INT. BRONX HIGH SCHOOL - HALL - DAY

Jackie is walking along the hall towards her class when suddenly Daniel appears in front of her, really upset.

DANIEL

Did you know? Did my mother tell you?

NO ONE ASKED ME

S/S