

EXT. HOUSE - DAY

With a LONG lens, we see 8-year-old Aden and 30ish JESSE leaving a gated home. Jude, 3 years old - the strong, silent type. Aden wears a schoolboy uniform and an oversized spiderman backpack.

JUDE
Shoulders!

JESSE
Oh god, okay. Just for a little bit.
(to Aden)
Come on.

ADEN
Wait!

JESSE
Aden, you're driving me nuts! Let's go!!

Jesse grabs Aden's hand.

ADEN
Ow!

JESSE
Ow? What?

ADEN
Your hand! You cut me!

JESSE
I didn't cut you.

Jesse takes off an engagement ring and puts it in his back pocket.

ADEN
I saw that. Lemme see.

JESSE
Come on, we're late. Your parents will fire me if you teacher calls again.

Aden grabs it from Jesse's pocket.

ADEN
Ooooh, fancy. So you said yes?

Jesse takes the ring back.

ADEN (CONT'D)

Hey!

Jesse slips it back into his pocket.

JESSE

(cheesy, challenging)

Ten blocks in three minutes. Can we make it?!

ADEN

That was a asshole move, dude.

JESSE

Whoa! An asshole move. An before a vowel sound.

ADEN

When did Collin ask you to marry him?

JESSE

When did you become so nosy?

ADEN

So you said yes?

Jesse doesn't answer.

ADEN (CONT'D)

Was it at a stadium?

JESSE

A-what?!

JUDE

Will you kiss my dinosaur?!!

Jesse leans down and kisses the dinosaur toy. In turn, Jude smiles and pets the toy.

JESSE

Don't forget, you have soccer today. I'll pick you up-

ADEN

Don't change the subject. Did you say yes?

JESSE

We're not talking about this.

ADEN

Well, you took the ring.

JESSE

Okay, bud.

ADEN

I think you said yes.

JESSE

Well, you think wrong.

ADEN

Come on, dude!

JESSE

I said maybe.

ADEN

Maybe?! Maybe?! You can't say maybe to a question like that!

JESSE

Apparently you can. I did.

ADEN

Marriage is a sacred institution!

JESSE

Where did you learn that? Clearly not from your parents.

(beat)

Ok that was cruel.

ADEN

So are you still thinking about it?

JESSE

It's complicated.

ADEN

Love isn't complicated.

JESSE

This isn't a debate, Aden.

ADEN

Love is the simplest thing on the planet. Do you love him?!

Jesse can't answer.

ADEN (CONT'D)

Wow dude. It's a yes or no question.

JESSE
Collin and I are in disparate
places in our lives.

ADEN
But do you love him?!

JESSE
He's a lawyer, I'm a nanny.

ADEN
DO.

JESSE
We come from-

ADEN
YOU.

JESSE
Completely different-

ADEN
LOVE.

JESSE
Backgrounds!

ADEN
HIM?!!!

JESSE
His family owns yachts and takes
vacations in Aruba. I share a
basement apartment and haven't
spoken to my Dad in two years! You
wouldn't understand.

Jesse and Aden reach the front of the school. Jesse bends
down to fix his collar. Aden looks him in the eye.

ADEN
I understand a lot more than you
think.

Riiiiiiiiing.

JESSE
There's the bell. Let's go.

Jesse stands. Aden refuses to budge.

JESSE (CONT'D)
Not today.

Jesse breaks away, urging him to go inside. Aden stands, defiant.

JESSE (CONT'D)

Now.

ADEN

You don't love me, then.

JESSE

What?! Aden - what?!

Aden turns around, crosses arms. Jesse sighs, approaches, turns him around. Looks at him, eye level.

JESSE (CONT'D)

Buddy.

ADEN

WE come from different backgrounds!
WE'RE in different places in our
lives! MY family has yachts and
vacations in Aruba! I'm eight.
You're twenty-nine! I'm in
elementary school, for god's sake!
What could be more complicated than
that!

JESSE

Aden.

ADEN

I'm late.

JESSE

This is important: I do love you.
You know I do. Our differences
could never get in the way of that.

Aden refuses to look at Jesse.

JESSE (CONT'D)

I love him too. I do love Collin.
With all my heart.

ADEN

Promise?

JESSE

Yes. I promise - and you know I
never make promises.

ADEN

Then make sure you tell him that.

JESSE

I will. I'll tell him today. Come here.

They hug. Jesse pecks Aden on the forehead.

Jude runs up and hugs them both.

JESSE (CONT'D)

Alright. Class.

Aden happily runs toward the school's front door.

ADEN

You better invite me to the wedding!

JESSE

Yeah okay. Don't forget-

ADEN

Soccer two-thirty!

Jesse is left with Jude. He is touched. He glances around, digs his hand into his pocket, and pulls out the ring. Puts it on.