

INT. CAMPBELL CENTER - LABORATORY - DAY

In the darkened procedure room, Miriam finds Catherine standing between the two suspension devices, alone.

MIRIAM

You okay?

Catherine turns, nods, and tries to smile. Has she been crying? Miriam steps further into the room.

CATHERINE

He hates me.

MIRIAM

Lucien Baines?

Catherine nods.

MIRIAM (CONT'D)

I wouldn't say "hates." Dislikes, distrusts, maybe.

Catherine laughs. Exactly what Miriam wanted.

MIRIAM (CONT'D)

She adores you.

CATHERINE

She thinks I can bring Edward back.

MIRIAM

Someday you can. We all believe that...

Catherine halfheartedly nods, but her mind is elsewhere, focused on the two apparatuses.

CATHERINE

I want to try it. Please.

Miriam knows what this is about.

MIRIAM

We've been over this a dozen times. No.

CATHERINE

Why not? Just once. A trial run. What harm could it do?

MIRIAM

I don't want to find out.

Ever the doctor, Miriam finds herself surreptitiously examining Catherine's eyes, flesh tone, a slight trembling in her fingertips.

CATHERINE

Why is it taking so long for us to reach him? Because we've been reactive, that's why. And we need to be active.

Miriam reaches for Catherine's wrist and takes her pulse.

CATHERINE (CONT'D)

(annoyed)
Miriam...

MIRIAM
Shush.

As Miriam examines her, Catherine continues:

CATHERINE
He creates the obstacles, he decides
which games to play.

MIRIAM
I've heard this argument before. It's
not happening.

CATHERINE
(frustrated)
It could take years for me to get past
the barriers he's created.

MIRIAM
If we reverse the feed and bring Edward
into your mind, it could be devastating
for him. Imagine the shock of suddenly
existing in a whole other world.

CATHERINE
I do it all the time!

MIRIAM
Yes, but, you're a willing participant.
Picture Edward in a strange place, lost,
frightened...

CATHERINE
I'd be there for him.

MIRIAM
And he might blame you for terrifying
him. That one moment could erase all
you've accomplished. And if that
happened, the trust he has in you is
gone.

CATHERINE
(defeated)
Okay, okay...

Miriam takes a penlight and examines Catherine's eyes.

MIRIAM
Besides, I don't know what it might do
to you. You're already exhausted.
(concerned)
Have you been sleeping?

Catherine nods.

MIRIAM (CONT'D)
I can prescribe something...

Catherine shakes her head no. Miriam shuts off the penlight
and looks at Catherine with professional and personal

concern.

MIRIAM (CONT'D)

You're sure? Any more nightmares?

CATHERINE

(defensively)

No.

MIRIAM

Good. We need you healthy and relaxed. You're going to eat well, meditate, exercise, and watch mindless television.

CATHERINE

Yes mother.

MIRIAM

I don't want you up all night reading Edward's case file of the nine millionth time. Balance, dear girl, is the key. Leave the work here.

She taps Catherine's head.

MIRIAM (CONT'D)

Don't bring it home in this.

CATHERINE

Okay.

Miriam gathers her belongings.

MIRIAM

Henry wants me to try this Vietnamese place he's wild about. Want to come?

CATHERINE

(declining)

I've got to feed my cat. Besides, I want to get to bed early.

MIRIAM

That's my girl.

Miriam exits, but Catherine remains, still curious what could happen if things were reversed.