

ZAK SUTTER FYI

LIFE EP. 208 "BLACK FRIDAY" - STUDIO DRAFT 8/18/2008 14.

13 INT. SOUTHLAND MALL -- SHUTTERED SUNGLASS KIOSK -- DAY

13

On the side of the structure a laminated card: *Have Questions? Call Zak Sutter: 555-555-5555.* Crews dials the number as Reese looks on.

Erika and Clay are both watching this. Crews grins, waves. They duck back into their kiosks.

CREWS

(into phone)

Hi, is this Zak? This is Detective Crews, LAPD, you weren't at work, we saw the sign and called... we'd like to ask you a few questions.

(to Reese)

He says he's sick, he'll be here tomorrow...hello? Hang on, you're cutting out...

He holds the phone up next to Reese's ear so that she can hear: MALL MUSIC, THE SAME MUSIC WE'RE HEARING B/G IN THE SCENE. Reese acknowledges.

CREWS (CONT'D)

Okay...I see. Okay.

He hangs up.

REESE

That was mall music.

CREWS

He's in the mall.

He notices Erika and Clay again. They're looking not at him but up to the second floor of the mall. Crews follows their gaze: Jeremy, watching him and Reese. To Clay, Crews says...

CREWS (CONT'D)

You know the guy who works here?

CLAY

No, man, sorry.

They look to Erika.

ERIKA

Don't know him. You lose him too?

As Crews and Reese walk away, dodging the thick crowd.

REESE

He's here some place.

FYI

FYI

FYI

FYI

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13 CONTINUED:

13

CREWS

Yeah, but it's the seventh largest mall in the world.

(looks at his phone...)

Reese... how do you do that thing where you block your caller ID.

Reese takes his phone and dials it. Crews dials again. No answer. He and Reese on the move...we SEE

14 DIFFERENT MALL LOCATIONS:

Crews dials, watches the crowd. Nothing.

Crews dials, watches the crowd. Nothing.

Again. Then again...

15 INT. SOUTHLAND MALL -- DRUG STORE -- DAY

Crews dials. They watch the crowd and SEE...

Just out of the store, the 17 year-old we'll know as ZAK SUTTER reaches into his pocket, pulls out a cell, squeezes it silent in annoyance.

CREWS

(to Reese)

Zak Sutter.

REESE

I'd say so.

They follow Zak, who walks quickly through the crowd, sure of his destination.

16 END OF MALL CORRIDOR

Crews behind Zak, who pushes through a heavy fire door that says Do Not Enter.

CREWS

I guess he didn't see the sign.

17 MALL STAIRCASE

Crews and Reese follow Zak down, staying out of sight. They reach bottom and Zak goes through another DO NOT ENTER door.

REESE

I guess he didn't see that one either.

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ACT TWO

20 INT. POLICE STATION - INTERROGATION ROOM - DAY

20

Crews with Zak, who slouches at the table. Crews drops a file in front of him.

START
→

CREWS

Max Sutter. Jeanette Sutter.

Zak looks away.

CREWS (CONT'D)

Your father died of cancer in October, 2007. Your mother in a car accident a month later. You and Carin were supposed to enter foster care.

ZAK

They don't know us.

CREWS

You can't become Carin's legal guardian until you're twenty-one. You plan to live in the mall for four years?

ZAK

I've got a job there. I can take care of her.

CREWS

Zak, did you know Mitchell Marks?

ZAK

No. I heard you lost the body. I'll bet your boss is mad about that.

CREWS

After the mall closed last night, did you hear anything strange? See anything?

ZAK

We were in our room. We stay in our room.

CREWS

Really? You guys have the whole mall to yourselves. I'd go out.

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20 CONTINUED:

20

ZAK

That's you.

(beat)

When can I talk to my sister?

INT. POLICE STATION - BULLPEN - DAY

Reese with Carin. The Mitchell Marks photo is on the table; they've already been through asking if she knew him.

REESE

How long have you and your brother been living in the mall?

(off Carin)

Since your mom died last year?

(off Carin)

Carin, you know you can't live in a mall, don't you?

CARIN

I have Zak.

REESE

He's a good brother.

CARIN

What about my things?

REESE

They're still at the mall. We'll have them brought to you.

CARIN

(scared)

Brought to me? Where am I going?

Looks at this girl. Not what she needed today.

22 INT. POLICE STATION - INTERROGATION ROOM - DAY

Crews with Zak.

CREWS

What's it like, living in the mall?

ZAK

Second largest mall in the world so, you know... dream come true.

CREWS

(the same, again)

Zak, what's it like, living in the mall?

Zak takes Crews seriously now.

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22 CONTINUED:

22

ZAK

There's a lot of stuff you can't
see there, that's all.

CREWS

Bad stuff?

Zak doesn't answer. He gave too much.

CREWS (CONT'D)

Is that why you were leaving?

ZAK

Why are you asking me this? You
wanted to know about the dead guy.
He's dead. People die. It's like
they don't know that.

CREWS

Who doesn't know it?

ZAK

At the mall. Why don't you talk to
those kids who work there? Why
don't you ask why they're so happy
in the most depressing dump on the
planet?

END

23 INT. POLICE STATION - TIDWELL'S OFFICE - DAY

Tidwell, Crews and Reese look out at Zak and Carin who sit
patiently side by side in the bullpen.

TIDWELL

I'll call juvie to take custody.

Reese is about to say something. Stops herself.

TIDWELL (CONT'D)

He was living illegally in a mall.
They're minors.

CREWS

They wanted to split them up.

TIDWELL

Who wanted to split what up?

REESE

Those kids. Social services would
have separated them. After the
parents died, they ran. All
they've got is each other.

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ZAK SUTTER II

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56B ANGLE ON CREWS AND ZAK...

56B

Crews looks at Zak...

CREWS

When we came in before, down
there...your sister with that
stick... she protected you.

Zak just looks at Crews. Crews speaks softly...

CREWS (CONT'D)

You protect her too, don't you,
Zak?

Zak looks away... then Zak looks back to Crews.

ZAK

We protect each other...

CREWS

Yeah, but you're the big brother,
you're the man, Zak. Right?

Zak says nothing.

CREWS (CONT'D)

We know what Mitchell did to Erika.

Zak looks at Crews.

CREWS (CONT'D)

We know how old Erika was when
Mitchell started in with her.

They both look at Carin now.

CREWS (CONT'D)

You protected your sister...

ZAK

I did what I had to do.

(a beat... then...)

I had to stop him. He had her... I
chased him up the stairs... he was
right next to the railing...

CREWS

And he tripped.

ZAK

No, I...

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56B CONTINUED:

56B

CREWS
(over Zak)
He tripped. He tripped and fell.
Right over the railing. There was
nothing you could do.

Zak looks at Crews.

CREWS (CONT'D)
...Sometimes people just fall...

A MOMENT and then...

CREWS (CONT'D)
I think that's your Aunt over
there. Come on, let me help you up.

END

Crews gets his arm around Zak's waist, helps him to his feet
and as CAMERA PULLS BACK... Crews walks Zak over to where
Reese and Carin stand with their aunt.

~~CAMERA PULLS BACK FURTHER... THE STREET, THE SHOPPERS, THE
HOLIDAY SEASON IN FULL SWING, THE CHEERY MUSIC AND NOW THE
MUSIC SHIFTS... BECOMES HARDER AS WE...~~

~~DISSOLVE TO:~~

~~57 EXT. LOS ANGELES ROAD - DAY~~

~~Crews' bullet riddled Maserati tears up the road. Wide open,
the pock marked car roars toward its destination.~~

~~Pulling into...~~

~~58 INT. CREWS' BULLET RIDDLED MASERATI - DAY~~

~~Crews drives into an almost empty lot. He sees one car there,
a non-descript sedan, Agent Sottos standing next to it.~~

~~59 EXT. EMPTY PARKING LOT - DAY~~

~~Crews pulls to a stop and gets out. Sottos looks at the
Maserati.~~

~~AGENT SOTTOS
Someone shot your car.~~

~~CREWS
I did.~~

~~AGENT SOTTOS
You did?~~

~~CREWS
My partner helped.~~

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