



## **NOAH MATTHEWS SELF TAPE SCENES**

### **Synopsis:**

Noah wakes to find himself in an underground dungeon and 7 other innocent captives. They have no idea why they are all captive until 3 rules appear on a projector screen:

Rule 1: Play a move every 5 minutes

Rule 2: Miss a move, an innocent dies.

Rule 3: Each piece taken dies.

It all makes horrible sense when a chess board appears on the screen, each piece has one of their names on it, Noah is a Pawn. Surrounding the board are videos of various people that mean something to the captives, including Noah's grandmother. They have to play the game or their innocents die... but playing the game will kill them too.

Noah is unsure of where to turn, Evie seems to know what she is doing when it comes to chess and how to win the game with minimal losses, but Lucas seems to have a valid opinion that the King dying will mean less deaths. He swings between sides, supporting whichever is louder and more convincing, but in the end chooses Lucas, and is part of disabling Evie and her only ally Kira. But he is not comfortable with what he has done, and Evie persuades him to free her. But this leads him into a confrontation with Lucas, and it won't end well...

### **Character:**

Noah is genuinely a nice person who cares deeply about his grandmother and will protect her as best he can. But he is not strong and a people pleaser, so he tends to agree with whoever is in front of him, and pushing the hardest. When he finally makes a decision, it all goes wrong for him, so naturally he wants to find another decision to make.

### **Deadline for Self Tapes:**

Mid February

### **Callback Dates:**

Early March

### **Shoot Dates:**

Mid / Late July in Sydney



## SELF TAPE SCENE 1

*Having just woken and been freed, Noah is looking around trying to find someone who might be able to help them escape. Evie and Kira seem like they are more put together, and he decides his 'usual introduction' will put them at ease.*

### **INT. UNDERGROUND, HALL - NIGHT**

Noah hears them coming, and turns to greet them.

NOAH

Hi. I'm Noah. As in the ark. Parents didn't want a child, so I'm was a natural disaster for them.

EVIE

Evie. Planned child, still a disaster. You seem to have turned out okay.

She looks up at the white fabric.

EVIE (CONT'D)

Any ideas what that's about.

He looks back up at the screen, then turns and points to a projector high in the ceiling.

NOAH

There's a projector up there, so I'd say it's an impromptu screen. I suspect we'll get our answers soon enough.

KIRA

Oh yay! I can't wait.



## SELF TAPE SCENE 2

*Lucas and Sarah have just murdered Kira and deposed Evie as the people in charge of the game, and they are moving pieces out of the way so Evie as the King can get taken. While Noah sided with them, he was not at all comfortable with Kira's murder, her blood stains his hands and reminds him that he did nothing to help. And his piece is in line to get taken.*

### **INT. UNDERGROUND, HALL - NIGHT**

Noah studiously tries to ignore Evie.

EVIE

Damn it Noah, you have to listen to me.

NOAH

Why?

EVIE

You just watched them slowly strangle Kira, who did nothing to hurt them. They did it just to punish me. Do you really think you're safe?

The clock clicks down past 2 minutes.

EVIE (CONT'D)

Look at the board Noah, look at the board, there's only one thing between me and checkmate. And that's you.

His video clears up, it's an old lady gardening.

NOAH

What the hell... how did you do that?

EVIE

I didn't. But the killer knows chess as well as I do... it's the obvious next move if you want to lose a game.

Noah looks at her.

NOAH

You're lying.

EVIE



We're running out of time. A pawn can only move one way, and the quickest way to end the game is through you. You're in grey scrubs. Just like Jack, Vicky, Wendy. Did they stop them dying? They will kill you just to save themselves.

NOAH

They wouldn't.

EVIE

When the king dies, his team dies with him. The only way for you to live is for me to win.

NOAH

You'd say anything to escape.

EVIE

Who is in the video Noah? Who's the old lady?

1 minute 30 seconds to go.

EVIE (CONT'D)

They have to play the move in less than a minute, you want to risk her?

NOAH

That's Nanna. I lived with her since I was 2. I've been working two jobs so I can stop the bank taking her house.

EVIE

The blood on your hands, your shirt, that's Kira's... and you saw what they did to her. What you did to her. She didn't deserve to die, if you make it right, neither do you.

Noah starts to realize the truth, panic setting in. He crouches down in front of her.

NOAH

Swear to me you'll save my life.