

CONTINUED:

He sees the STUDENTS open files and send in their papers.

KEE (CONT'D)
Exam questions?

DANI raises her hand. Kee points at her. She stands.

DANI
Do we have to take the exam?

KEE
Intellect isn't the question, work ethic is. Yes, Dani, you have to.

DANI
(sitting)
Okay. Thank you, Mr. Kee.

FORD
(mockingly)
Okay, thank you, Mr. Kee.

Ford laughs, along with half the class. Dani immediately stands and stacks her hands on her hips.

DANI
Pretty good, Ford...
(beat)
...for a three-pump-chump.

Dani sits to whistles and catcalls. FORD slumps, red-faced.

Kee looks out, displeased. The class quiets, immediately. Kee grabs the tests and begins passing them out.

A STUDENT turns to JERRY.

STUDENT
Jerry? Three-pump-chump?

Jerry makes sure the class is looking at him, makes a fist, thrusts it out once, twice, and a third time. On the third pump, he mimics orgasm; laughter circles the room.

FORD stands, ready to tear off Jerry's head. KEE hastens toward them. JERRY stands and moves toward Ford. Kee steps between them.

The CLASS is dialed into the boys' tension. FORD points at JERRY then points down. Jerry nods: a fight contract has been signed.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

KEE

Ford, Jerry; outside, now.

Kee nods at the hall. They head out the door. Kee stops.

KEE (CONT'D)

Honor code; I hear one word, you
all fail.

Dead silence; except for the sound of lead scratching paper.
Kee, smiles and pauses, pleased with the concentration.

INT. HALLWAY - OUTSIDE KEE'S CLASSROOM - DAY

FORD

You're mine. Boiler room?
(points down again)
We're office aides 6th period.

JERRY

Under the basement; my pleasure.

Kee enters. Ford and Jerry quickly shut it down.

KEE

What's happening?

Jerry shakes his head and looks down.

KEE (CONT'D)

Okay, what?

Jerry looks away. Ford looks away, then down.

KEE (CONT'D)

Ford?
(beat)
Right now, Ford.

FORD

I was just joking with Dani. She
didn't have to jump on me.

KEE

No: she attacked, after you mocked
her, because you and Dani refuse to
confront your unrequited affair.

Ford looks away.

KEE (CONT'D)

You dance, you pay the band.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Ford looks back and nods. Jerry titters.

KEE (CONT'D)
 (to Jerry)
 And you, you kick Ford while he's
 down; bad form.

Now, Jerry looks away, then quickly back. Begrudgingly, Jerry acknowledges Kee's assertion.

KEE (CONT'D)
 Okay. Details. Now.

JERRY
 Not your business, Kee.

KEE
 Subjective personal pronoun?

Kee continues staring at him. Jerry hand-drops quotes.

JERRY
 "It's" not your business, Kee.

KEE
 You think your group made up drugs,
 sex, and rock and roll?

Jerry and Ford look at one another, smile slightly, and then size up Kee.

FORD
 Very nicely played, Kee.

Kee folds his arms, challenging them to say something, anything.

FORD (CONT'D)
 But, I got nothin'.

Kee stares. Ford and Jerry look at each other, then back.

JERRY
 Kee, we can stand out here until
 Jesus comes, but we got nothin'.

KEE
 AIQ's entrance exams are Harvard-
 tough. You two scored significantly
 higher than anyone ever has. Yet,
 you act like morons sometimes.
 (MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

KEE (CONT'D)

And, I get your dissatisfaction
with the world. Believe me, I do.
But, selling drugs? Jesus, go test.

Kee points at the door. Ford enters. Jerry enters.

Kee starts back in. He grabs his head. He falls against a
locker in overwhelming pain.

Jerry pops back out in the hall and looks at Kee. Kee points
to the room. Jerry reluctantly re-enters.

INT. CLASSROOM - DAY

Kee enters and checks the clock.

KEE

You now have 37 minutes to finish;
8:25 ends it.

INSERT CLOCK

It reads: 8:22.

INT. PHYSICS CLASSROOM - DAY

Dani turns in her test. Everyone else has laptops put away,
ready to exit.

MR. CEA (V.O.)

All swimmers will be excused after
second period classes for the swim
meet at Flint Central.

The bell rings. The STUDENTS remain seated. KEE's expression
asks them why. Still, they sit.

JERRY

You said no doomsday talk with any
of our papers; said you'd fail us.

FORD

Not like you to shut down a topic.
So, what would happen, Kee?

Kee balls his fist and leans on it.

FORD (CONT'D)

A Gamma Ray blast'd kill us all?

JERRY

Not if we were in at least 300 mm
of concrete when it hit.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JERRY (CONT'D)

It would disable electricity,
phones, all cars; well, not that
prehistoric piece of crap Kee
drives.

Laughter circles the room.

FORD

Seriously, Kee; it wouldn't kill us
all, right?

The students are still seated, intently staring at Kee. For
some reason, this makes him feel nervous.

KEE

That's above my pay-grade: Go.

The STUDENTS stand and exit. Kee sighs heavily, hiding
searing head-pain. He picks up the phone and dials the
office.

KEE (CONT'D)

Is Mr. Hesse here, Mrs. Jacobs?

MRS. JACOBS (V.O.)

Mr. Timlin is; just go.

Kee hangs up, grabs his briefcase and coat, and steps out.

EXT. PARKING LOT - DAY

Kee opens the gas tank flap, removes the key, shuts the flap,
and hops inside.

INT. CAR - DAY

He pumps the accelerator once, then twice and tries to start
it. It does not fire.

EXT. CAR - DAY

He gets out and opens the trunk with the ignition key. He
pulls out a can of ETHER, and grabs a 10mm wrench.

ANGLE ON ETHER

A WARNING LABEL: Extremely Flammable Do Not Operate Near an
Open Flame.

EXT. CAR - DAY

Hood up; Kee, bent over the engine, spraying ether into the
carburetor.