

EXT. GAS STATION - DAY

BRAD

This is the place. Last ping from Nelson's phone was here.

BRAD

(checking her iPad)

Yeah, but it looks like he's long gone. There's no one here.

They walk around the gas station, peering into empty windows and checking behind the building, but find nothing. Brad sighs heavily, frustration and worry etched on his face.

BRAD

We have three days to find Nelson, or he's out of the picture.

POPPY

Battle Cry will be nothing without Nelson. He's the heart of this film. Spike is just bluffing.

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BRAD

I know. If he does this picture, he could win an Oscar. The script is that good. This could be his big break. All of our big break.

POPPY

Nelson will be fine either way, but this film... it needs him. So let's focus on finding him alive and getting him back to where he belongs.

Brad leans against the car, rubbing his temples. The weight of the situation is clearly bearing down on him. He looks over at Poppy, grateful for her presence.

BRAD

I couldn't do this without you.

POPPY

I'm here for the team. We'll find him, Brad. Don't worry.

BRAD

I really appreciate that.

(CONTINUED)

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Before getting back into the car. Brad spots something that looks like a phone.

BRAD
(Looking off)
Wait a minute. What's that

POPPY
What?

Brad walks over and picks it up.

BRAD
This is Nelson's cell phone.

POPPY
Oh, shit.

They get back into the car, both feeling the weight of their failure but determined to keep trying. The car engine starts, and they drive off, the gas station fading into the background as they head back to the hotel, the clock ticking on their search for Nelson.

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