

BEN (CONT'D)  
I've decided to help you get home.

That stops her.

BEN (CONT'D)  
To be clear: I don't like you. I will never like you. We will not grow fond of each other. The more you get to know me, the less you will like me. So my recommendation is don't bother.

(beat)

But... I think kids should be with their parents. So I'll help you.

NELLIE  
Thank y--

BEN  
BUT. There will be rules. Rule number one: no dying.

She blinks.

NELLIE  
Okay.

BEN  
Also: no complaining. No worrying. No soul searching. No heart to hearts. No getting to know each other. No bonding. And no questions. I'm not your fucking tour guide. Just do exactly what I say, at all times. Most importantly, you have to learn.

NELLIE  
Learn what?

BEN  
How to follow rule number one.

EXT. DESERTED ISLAND - LATER      **BEN - Scene 1 - START** ←

SURVIVAL LESSON MONTAGE: He starts indoctrinating her, gives her a survival lesson, very rote, he's clearly done this before. The rule of 3's (3 minutes without oxygen, 3 hours without shelter, 3 days without water, 3 weeks without food, etc). How to make fire (he uses the cash in her pocket as tinder). How to go to make shelter. How to find clean water. It's a dizzying barrage of info and she struggles to keep up.

BEN

Survival is about needs and wants. You just have to know the difference. Oxygen, water, food, shelter -- needs. People always think they need things they don't. Love, attention, someone to make them happy, someone to comfort them, someone to feed them, to entertain them, to hold them, to tell them everything is gonna be okay. That's what cities are. Big, dirty cesspools of neediness. They're the only place you can spend your life pursuing stupid shit. Out here, you get needs and wants even slightly confused and it can kill you.

He tells her the facts of his condition. He can travel with the equivalent of his body weight, no more. That's why his pack didn't come when she touched him. It's accurate to the ounce, and they have to be physically touching. He travels every 12 hours, but the increments are getting shorter.

NELLIE

So how do you know where you're going next?

BEN

You don't.

NELLIE

But isn't there, you know, a pattern? Can't you control it? Even a little bit?

BEN

It's a condition. Not a superpower.

NELLIE

Okay so what do you do in an ocean? Or, like, Everest?

BEN

Well okay, genius, obviously the elevation isn't random, or you'd just die. You'd crush like a soda can. Hypoxia, you'd have less than 3 minutes. That'd be idiotic.

NELLIE

But I mean have you ever tried to track it? You know, like find a pattern?

BEN

No.

NELLIE

Why not?

BEN

Because believe it or not, there are more important things than math, like actually surviving.

She starts to ask more, but he stops her. No questions.

NELLIE

I just... have to go to the bathroom.

BEN

So?

NELLIE

So don't we have to be touching?

He rolls his eyes.

**Ben - Scene 1 - End** ←

EXT. DESERTED ISLAND - LATER

Nellie squats, peeing on the sand, hand reached out behind her gripping his leg. He stands with his back to her, extremely annoyed.

BEN

Hey, watch it.

NELLIE

(queasy)  
I don't think those coconuts liked me... I feel sick.

BEN

Don't you dare.

On the horizon, she sees a boat on the horizon. She lights up, jumps up and pulls up her pants, running to the water.

NELLIE

HEY!!!!!!