

going to happen. But there was stuff at the church I could steal sometimes without anybody knowing. Charity stuff, mostly. Stuff I could sell. And I needed the cash, so what was I gonna do?

(AARON and LUCAS move into a scene. LUCAS as DRUG DEALER sits in a car. AARON approaches, looking nervously all around.)

Hey.

LUCAS AS DEALER

Hey. You got cash?

AARON

(reaching awkwardly into a pocket with hands that are clearly still painful) What can I get for this? (He holds out money to Lucas, who snatches it away).

LUCAS AS DEALER

That'll get you eight pills.

AARON

Eight? That won't last a day.

LUCAS AS DEALER

Then you better find some more money.

AARON

This is all I got.

LUCAS AS DEALER

Too bad for you. (he makes as if to drive away)

AARON

Wait! Wait, I can get more. I just...I need it. I can't make money if I can't work after school, and I can't work without the pills.

LUCAS AS DEALER

It's a real shame, kid, but I ain't a charity.

AARON

Look, if you just spot me enough for this week, I can get you the money next week. I promise. You know I'm good for it.

LUCAS AS DEALER

Do I know that? Is that a thing that I know?

AARON

Yes. I'll find something else I can sell.

LUCAS AS DEALER

Look, kid, you got the in at your school. There's plenty of market for what I got. Adderall, get 'em through exams. Vicodin, get 'em through the night. You wanna sell for me, maybe I take a chance on you. Cut you in.

AARON

(looking around, desperate) I'm not a drug dealer.

LUCAS AS DEALER

Me neither, kid. I'm the ice cream man. And right now the ice cream's melting fast, so you best decide. You need the Percocet. I got more'n I know what to do with. All you gotta do is help me find some new friends who like...ice cream.

(LUCAS leaves the scene and AARON returns to his chair.)

AARON

He was right. It was easy. I had a product that sold itself. I got cash and all the narcotics I needed.

LUCAS

You were addicted that young?

AARON

Guess you don't know what pain is. Most people just take them short term for a surgery, an injury. That's what I was supposed to do. Then when the pain

is gone, you stop.

LUCAS

When was the pain gone?

AARON

The pain is never gone.