

Scene Analysis for "Stop Kiss"

Scene Selection: Scene 11 (intermissionless play)

Beat Before Scene Selection: Scene 9, Pgs. 35-37

Characters in scene: Callie, Sara

START: SARA: "The kids talked about you.."

END: CALLIE: "Barely."

Character: Sara

Literal: Sara is describing to Sara the way in which the children she teaches reacted to Callie's career presentation in class.

Analysis:

1. Action: To humble Callie by showing the impact her presentation had on the schoolchildren.
 - a. As if: I really admire my best friend, Emily. It would be as if I put together an iMovie to surprise Emily and show her all the accomplishments she has achieved that I am proud of her.
 - b. Tools: to cheer, to convince, to dramatize, to entice, to gladden
 - c. Cap: Verbal- "Awwww, you're right! They liked me!" Physical- A huge, wide grin and a bear hug.
2. Action: To convince Callie of her own worth and successfulness in occupation.
 - a. As if: My friend Robyn is about to take an important standardized test, and she desperately needs my guidance and encouragement to convince herself that she will do well.
 - b. Tools: To charm, to compliment, to enlighten, to inspire
 - c. Cap: Verbal- "I love what I do. Thank you." Physical- To see that true light, that true gleam in her eyes, to finally see a passion in her for what she does for a living.
3. Action: To tell Callie to take charge of her own life.
 - a. As if: I am motivating my best friend Emily before a huge audition that she has all the talent and skills that it takes to be the very best that she can be.
 - b. Tools: To arrange, to implicate, to evaluate, to study, to support, to spur
 - c. Cap: Verbal- "You're right, I got this." Physical- Standing proud, straight, and with confidence in her heart.

Externals:

- a) Bodily Adjustments- I picture myself carrying myself very matter-of-factly to be convincing and credible in my encouragement.

- b) Ornaments- I have long, loose hair at first. Then, I straighten my hair with my fingers and tuck it behind my ears so that she is looking me straight in the eye when I am convincing her.
- c) Physical States- I am hot with excitement and the thrilling of encouraging someone.

Beat Scene Selection: Scene 11, Pgs. 38-40

Characters in scene: Callie, Sara

START: SARA's entrance

END: (The clomping from upstairs starts again).

Character: Sara

Literal: Sara is trying to gain forgiveness for arriving late, and Sara is trying to understand why Callie is so upset.

Analysis:

1. Action: To get a loved one to forgive me.
 - a. As if: My Dad has come to pick me up after a 10pm rehearsal to go back to Austin, and I have left him waiting for more than half an hour. Dad has reminded me many times of the time he wanted me to be ready, and yet I still failed to be a good daughter and to comply.
 - b. Tools: to defend, to justify, to remind, to make aware/enlighten, to evade, to physically touch and placate, to soothe, to apologize, to excuse/make excuses, to empathize
 - c. Cap: Verbal- "I forgive you." Physical- Look me in the eyes and kiss me.
2. Action: To convince someone I care about that their forgiveness matters to me.
 - a. As if: I'm turning in a late assignment to CB, and I have to justify to her why I need her forgiveness.
 - b. Tools: To illuminate (the truth/the facts), to generate sympathy from her, to elicit sympathy from her, to charm, to agree ("you're right, I'm wrong")
 - c. Cap: Verbal- "It's okay. I believe you." Physical- Callie will embrace me.
3. Action: To make up with Callie and "save" the evening. To go back to the ways things were before the argument.
 - a. As if: I lost a very precious piece of my mother's jewelry, and I had to convince her that I would replace it even though it is irreplaceable both literally and in sentimental value.
 - b. Tools: to placate, to entreat, to amend, to facilitate
 - c. Cap: Verbal- "It's okay. I still love you." Physical- A long hug and a soft touch of my head and hair.

Externals:

- d) Bodily Adjustments- I could soften my posture and lean closer to Callie to let her know that I care about what she is feeling (a soft, comforting almost Mama Bear-like presence).
- e) Ornaments- I am underdressed. I could play with straightening my clothes out with my hands to make them look nicer.
- f) Physical States- I am wet, and I am out of breath. I have been rushing through the rain to avoid getting wet and because I know that I am late for Callie.

“Beat After” Scene Selection: Scene 11, Remainder of Page 40

Characters in scene: Callie, Sara

START: CALLIE: There’s my cue...

END: (SARA grabs her coat and exits. CALLIE slams the door behind her.)

Character: Sara

Literal: Sara is leaving the argument by physically removing herself from the space.

Analysis:

- 1) Action: To get a loved one to stop arguing.
 - d. As if: I made the mistake of making a snide comment about how my best friend Skylar is turning into her mother. She cannot be convinced of that fact (and is deeply offended by it) so I just want to talk about her upcoming Birthday
 - e. Tools: to remove myself from the argument, to change subjects, to distract, to evade, to dodge
 - f. Cap: Verbal- “Sure, let’s talk about that instead.” Physical- The release of tension from the body and the transition from a frown to a smile.
- 2) Action: To show a loved one that they are being rude and hurtful.
 - a. As if: Skylar had just nitpicked at my appearance again, and I pulled her aside into another room to explain to her how this made me feel.
 - b. Tools: to upset, to antagonize, to berate, to educate, to anger, to challenge
 - c. Cap: Verbal- “I’m so sorry, that was rude.” Physical- For her to reach out for my hands and look me in the eyes for a sincere apology.
- 3) Action: To damage a loved one because they damaged me.
 - a. As if: Shane completely turned his back on me because he thought I was jealous of the new girl he was dating, and I was insulted that he thought I would let his dating life somehow ruin the friendship.
 - b. Tools: to embarrass, to anger, to hurt, to judge, to insult, to reprimand, to shame
 - c. Cap: Verbal- “I’m really upset, I can’t believe you.” Physical- To see the hurt in their eyes and watch their bottom lip pucker.

Externals:

- g) Bodily Adjustments- I would want to make myself appear larger and more intimidating, so as to demand greater respect from my partner.
- h) Ornaments- I could briskly straighten my clothes at the beginning of each point to indicate how serious, direct, and angry I am at the situation.
- i) Physical States- I am flush with angry, to the point where I start to become clammy and sweaty.