

INT. DAY - HOSPITAL XRAY ROOM

DR. DEREK SHEPHERD stands looking at scans on the wall of the x-ray room. ISAAC enters.

ISAAC
Dr. Shepherd.

DEREK
Isaac, if you don't stop calling me Dr. Shepherd I'm seriously gonna have to cut you off.

ISAAC
Right. Forgot. Derek.

DEREK
Thanks.

ISAAC
I have your scans, Derek.

DEREK
I didn't order any scans.

ISAAC
I think they're for a consult, but I can come back if you're busy.

DEREK
No, it's okay.

ISAAC takes the scans DEREK is currently looking at off the wall and puts up the scans of a massive tumor.

DEREK
Oh. It's a tumor on the spinal cord, possibly a hemangioblastoma.

ISAAC
You've seen one before?

DEREK
Not this big. You see how the tumor has worked its way up the spine? It's taken over the blood supply.

ISAAC
Hmm.

DEREK
It's a perfect tumor. You know if the patient still has leg function?

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ISAAC

Yes.

DEREK

Incredible. He shouldn't be walking. He should be paralyzed. Dead.

ISAAC

You'd have to operate quickly, then, to take the tumor out?

DEREK

Oh, I'd love to operate on this. But, no. No, you'd have to cut the cord, paralyze the patient to kill the tumor. Who's the doctor on this one?

ISAAC

You.

DEREK

I'm sorry?

ISAAC

These are my scans. The tumor is mine. I'd like you to take it out. I'd like you to try. One doctor said it was bad circulation, another one a pinched nerve. But when the pain started to interfere with work, I decided to run an M.R.I. on myself.

DEREK

Issac, had I known this was your scan I wouldn't have--

ISAAC

--I have been to ever doctor, Derek. Every time, it's the same thing. They look at the tumor and they're defeated, but not you. You were inspired. That's why I know I was right to come and work here. I needed to meet you.

DEREK

You got a job here to meet me?

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ISAAC

I have researched every neurosurgeon in this country. I know their statistics, I know who wins the most prizes, but I also know who takes the most risks. That's you.

DEREK

Isaac, I know you believe I can take this tumor out, and I wish I could. But this surgery will kill you.

ISAAC

Take the scans. Look them over. But stop your mind before the part where it gets to "no." Think "yes." Yes?