

The Key

Written By

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EXT. HAWKING ACADEMY SCHOOL BUILDING ENTRANCE - STUDENTS
WALKING AROUND

ESTABLISHING SHOT

A student walks into the scene from the right he has a bag slung over his shoulder. And is dressed in monotone colors, he has headphones in and seems fixated with his phone.

ASHLEY
(She shouts of screen)
Hey! Connor, wait up!

A girl run's into scene stooping just before she runs into Connor.

CUT TO: LONG SHOT

Connor turns around and to face her. Ashley is dressed in bright colors that don't look harmonious but seem to work for her.

CONNOR
Hey Ashley, oh! Did you get the
message I sent you.

They start walking towards the school

ASHLEY
Nope my phones is dead. Do you have
a charger by the way.

CONNOR
(shakes head)
I only have a laptop charger

ASHLEY
Great! My laptops dead too.

Connor (sighs) and Ashley laughs as they walk out of the frame

CUT TO: MEDIUM LONG SHOT

NEXT FEW SHOTS WILL BE A MONTAGE WITH NO DIALOGUE EXCEPT
BACKGROUND CHATTER.

INT. SCHOOL BUILDING - ENGLISH CLASSROOM

CAMERA PANS ACROSS ONE HALF OF THE CLASSROOM

Ashley and Connor are sitting next to each other in a classroom. Connor is typing things in his computer headphones still in while Ashley is writing things down in a book trying to keep up. Connor raises his hand.

CUT TO: MEDIUM LONG SHOT

INT. SCHOOL BUILDING - SCIENCE CLASSROOM

Students exit the door chatting as a bell is heard, Ashley and Connor step out of the room then wave to each other and walk in different directions.

CUT TO: MEDIUM LONG SHOT

INT. SCHOOL BUILDING - MUSIC CLASSROOM CORRIDOR

Ashley opens the door and enters two people run up to her and start talking she smiles and they walk towards the camera out of the shot.

CUT TO: CLOSEUP SHOT OF AN EQUATION ON THE BOARD

INT. SCHOOL BUILDING -MATH CLASSROOM

PAN ACROSS THE CLASSROOM RIGHT TO LEFT

Multiple students are in the classroom some raise their hand then bring it down others shake their head or are writing something frantically in their books. The desk next to Connor is empty he looks up from his computer and raises his hand all the students turn to look at him.

CUT TO: MEDIUM LONG SHOT

INT. SCHOOL BUILDING - CANTEEN

Connor and Ashley are talking while eating their open lunchboxes as multiple students walk past the table they are sitting by. Connor shows Ashley something on his phone which she laughs at.

CUT TO: LONG SHOT

INT. SCHOOL BUILDING - OUTSIDE CORRIDOR TO STUDY ROOM
CLASSROOM

Time has passed and it looks like the afternoon. Connor and Ashley walk towards the camera down the corridor talking. When they reach the door of the building they enter one by one the door then slams behind them. (distorting effects stops and the door slam is very loud) The music and atmosphere of the film has changed, something is definitely happening.

CUT TO: MEDIUM LONG SHOT

INT. SCHOOL BUILDING - STUDY CLASSROOMS FIRST FLOOR CORRIDOOR

Ashley and Connor walk down the corridor towards an open door somebody sticks their head out and waves to them to come. Connor and Ashley pick up the pace and enter the room.

CUT TO: MEDIUM LONG SHOT

INT: SCHOOL BUILDING - INSIDE STUDY ROOM

Time-lapse of Ashley, Connor and their friends studying as time goes by more friends leave.

FRIEND 1

Bye Connor, bye Ashley

The last of Connor and Ashley's study friends are leaving the time-lapse has stopped.

ASHLEY AND CONNOR

Bye! See you both next week.

CUT TO: LONG SHOT

INT. SCHOOL BUILDING - FIRST FLOOR CORRIDOOR

The two study friends are chatting as they walk out the main building door and leave. But when the door closes the lights in the corridor start to flicker and the main door handle and keyhole has a strange glow to them.

CUT TO: MEDIUM LONG SHOT

INT. SCHOOL BUILDING - INSIDE STUDY ROOM

The room looks darker and Ashley and Connor are sitting in different positions more books sprawled out on the table in front of them.

ASHLEY

(Sighs)

I'm going to the canteen to get something to eat do you want to something?

CONNOR

Oh no I'll come with you just one second.

Ashley nods and walks over to the door but when she glances down at her watch she realizes.

ASHLEY

Hey Connor we better hurry up the canteens closing

CONNOR

(looks up at her)

When?

ASHLEY

Now!

Ashley leaves the room leaving Connor behind

CONNOR

(Gets up to leave)

Hey, wait I'm coming

He hurriedly rushes out of the room grabbing his wallet but forgets his phone.

CUT TO: OVER THE SHOULDER LONG SHOT - ASHLEY

INT:SCHOOL BUILDING - STUDY CLASSROOMS FIRST FLOOR CORRIDOR

Connor rushes out of the door and closes the door behind him

ASHLEY

Hey Connor....

CONNOR

(Turns to face her)

Yeah....

Connor walks up to Ashley the hairs on the back of his neck standing up.

CUT TO: LONG SHOT

Connor and Ashley stare at the open door of the math classroom corridor. Instead of seeing the exit of the building they see an indoor basketball court on the other side of the door that looks exactly like their school gym.

They both step through the door into the gym then quickly come back to the corridor. Connor closes the door after them.

CUT TO: MEDIUM LONG OVERHEAD SHOT

CONNOR (CONT'D)

What is happening, How is that happening.

ASHLEY

The study room

Ashley turn's around and run's back down the corridor to the study room door, Connor right behind her.

CUT TO: MEDIUM LONG SHOT

Ashley swings open the door to reveal that the door now leads to the canteen not the study room.

ASHLEY (CONT'D)

We were just in there that's the study...

Ashley slowly closes the study club room door the light coming from the canteen on the other side illuminates their faces which seem both amazed and alarmed. They both take a step back.

CONNOR

What are we going to do, all our belongings are in that room, and, that room isn't, even... there.

Connor's start's getting more agitated while Ashley looks around assessing the situation. Connor turns to Ashley. They both lock eyes.

ASHLEY

Do you think... all the doors do that?

CUT TO: LONG SHOT

At the same time Ashley and Connor run down different sides of the corridor. Ashley goes up the stairs to the second floor and Connor runs to the other side of the first floor Corridor.

CUT TO: LONG SHOT

INT. SCHOOL BUILDING - STUDY CLASSROOMS SECOND FLOOR CORRIDOR

The second floor is as bleak and dark as the first floor. But each door Ashley opens casts light into the corridor from the room on the other side. Ashley enters some rooms disappearing out of frame and then coming back. She becomes more excited each door she opens and closes.

CUT TO: LONG SHOT

INT. SCHOOL BUILDING - STUDY CLASSROOMS FIRST FLOOR CORRIDOR

Connor quickly opens and closes each door, not daring to step into the room on the other side. He becomes more anxious each door he opens and closes.

Connor gets to the stairs on the other side of the first floor corridor that lead up to the second floor there he finds Ashley.

CUT TO: SIDE MEDIUM LONG SHOT

INT. SCHOOL BUILDING - SECOND FLOOR CORRIDOOR

CONNOR

(At a loss for words)

All the doors their all...

ASHLEY

Same here, but look what I found
out

Ashley leads Connor to a door that takes them to the music room, leaving the door wide open.

CUT TO: MEDIUM LONG SHOT

INT. SCHOOL BUILDING - MUSIC CLASSROOM

ASHLEY

Not only the doors from this building um I guess teleport but all of the doors in the school do.

She points to a door showing through the glass window what should be on the other side. But when she opens it, it shows a random English classroom.

ASHLEY (CONT'D)
Isn't that cool!

CONNOR
So how are we going to know what door leads out of here.

Ashley does not know what to say so she shuts the door behind her. But then a locking sound is heard and they turn around to see that the door Ashley had just opened is glowing, then suddenly stops.

ASHLEY
What was that

She steps up to the door and tries to open it.

ASHLEY (CONT'D)
(Shocked)
It's locked

CONNOR
What?

He runs forward and tries to open the door, it does not budge so he rams his shoulder into it

ASHLEY
Hey wait!

Connor slams into the door again, and goes to do it again but then Ashley pulls him back.

ASHLEY (CONT'D)
Hey! That won't help it's really locked, let's just go back to the study room building.

CONNOR
(Sighs)
You're right

CONNOR (CONT'D)
I guess we should split up then find out what doors lead where.

They walk to the door that brought them to the music room.

ASHLEY

Good idea, I'll map out the doors
in this room you take the doors in
the building.

CONNOR

Sounds good see you soon they both
turn around.

CUT TO: SIDE SHOT SPLIT SCREEN OF BOTH OF THEM IN THE TWO
DIFFERENT SIDES OF THE DOOR

INT. SCHOOL BUILDING - SECOND FLOOR CORRIDOR AND MUSIC ROOM

ASHLEY

Oh and keep the doors ope...

Ashley turns around too late. Connor has accidentally closed
the door, a locking sound is heard. They both run to the door
trying to break it open. It does not budge.

CONNOR

Ashley!

ASHLEY

Connor!

Neither of them could hear each other and as they take a step
back it dawns on them.

ASHLEY (CONT'D)

The doors only....

CONNOR

Open and close....

ASHLEY AND CONNOR (CONT'D)

Twice....

They both look up at the locked door in front of them calm
themselves down and run out of frame.

Montage switching between both characters as they try and map
out the doors and where they lead.

INT. SCHOOL BUILDING - FIRST FLOOR CORRIDOR

MEDIUM LONG SHOT

Connor is at a white board drawing a diagram of all the doors
and where they lead.

Time-lapse of him entering different rooms and then coming back to the white board doors that do not lead where he wants he closes them, locking them.

CUT TO: MEDIUM LONG SHOT

INT. SCHOOL BUILDING - MUSIC CLASSROOM CORRIDOR

Ashley stands in the middle of the music classroom corridor from there she pushes desks and chairs in front of the open doors to make sure they never close. Then there is a time-lapse of her going exploring propping each door she enters open. She occasionally comes back to the music room entering a different door.

CUT TO: WIDE SHOT

The time-lapse ends when she enters a computer room

INT. SCHOOL BUILDING - COMPUTER ROOM

In the room there is a fence like wall that splits the room in half which has a door in the middle of it. Ashley opens the door but finds she is still in the computer room.

CUT TO: MEDIUM SHOT

ASHLEY
(Surprised)
This door doesn't?

Ashley steps through the door to make sure finding that this door doesn't.

ASHLEY (CONT'D)
Teleport.

CUT TO: WIDE SHOT

Ashley opens and closes the door to make sure but then accidentally closes it for a second time.

ASHLEY (CONT'D)
(Sighs)
Shit.

The door is locked.

She leaves the room from the door she came from. The time-lapse begins again this time the characters are slumped over chairs tired and exhausted, terrified and lonely.

CUT TO: SIDE SHOT SPLIT SCREEN OF BOTH OF THEM ON TWO DIFFERENT SIDES OF A DOOR.

INT. SCHOOL BUILDING - FIRST FLOOR CORRIDOR AND MUSIC ROOM

CONNOR
(to himself)
Only one door left, I hope I'm right.

ASHLEY
(to herself)
I guess this must be the one.

They both step through the door.

CUT TO: MEDIUM LONG SHOT

INT. SCHOOL BUILDING - COMPUTER ROOM

ASHLEY
This is the other side of the computer room.

She looks around fear sinking in until.

CUT TO: WIDE SHOT

Connor enters the computer room from the door on the other side, He looks around and sighs and is going to leave.

ASHLEY (CONT'D)
Connor.

Connor freezes and turns around

CONNOR
(relieved)
Ashley!

CUT TO: SIDE VIEW MEDIUM SHOT

They both run forward to the fence that separates them reaching through it and holding each others hands. They laugh at a loss for words.

ASHLEY
Well that was something!

They both laugh forcing down the ever present fear of still not knowing how to escape their school. Not noticing that the doors that they had entered through slowly close behind them.

CONNOR

Hey! Let's get this gate door open.

CUT TO: SIDE SHOT SPLIT SCREEN OF BOTH OF THEM ON TWO DIFFERENT SIDES OF THE GATE DOOR.

They both walk to the door and reach for the door handle. It's locked. They try again.

CUT TO: WIDE SHOT

They both spin around realizing what they have done. So Connor balls his fists and slams into the door. Ashley does the same. Each strike shakes the door and fence but it doesn't budge. If only they had a key.