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ISSUES 5

Xiaoli: Is he ok? Amjit, Amjit.

Kathy: We need an ambulance. He's taken all my pills. Ambulance please. Yeah, I think he's attempted suicide. He's taken pills, and yeah. He's conscious. Laxatives.

Amjit: I don't know I just gotta go.

Kathy: Thank you, um ambulance is on its way.

Xiaoli: Oh thank god for that.

Kathy: Hi, thank you so much for coming.

Xiaoli: Amjit, Amjit are you okay?

Paramedic: It's a paramedic. Do you know what he's taken?

Kathy: These.

Paramedic: Laxatives?

Kathy: Yeah I think he confused them for those.

Paramedic: Sleeping pills. Has he expressed any concerning behaviour recently? Any talk of suicide?

Kathy: No not suicide, there's been a few events where he's been under pressure but no nothing like that um yeah.

Paramedic: We're going to take him to the hospital so we can monitor his condition.

Kathy: Yeah of course. I'll get the door, thank you, okay.

Xiaoli: I will go with them, okay.

Paramedic: Watch your step, watch your step.

Kathy: Call me if you need.

Louise: Hi Amjit. How you feeling?

Amjit: Better thank you.

Louise: Are you okay if i sit down? My name is Louise Deckard, I'm a nurse here at the hospital and I just wanted to ask you a few questions, would you be happy for me to do that?

Amjit: Deckard as in Blade Runner?

Louise: Yeah I get that a lot.

Amjit: I hope you're not going to do the Voight-Kampff test for me.

Louise: So what sort of things do you spend your time doing?

Amjit: Is this the test now?

Louise: Yes, yeah so what do you spend your time doing?

Amjit: Chilling. Coursework, Netflix and that.

Louise: Okay, do you play sport?

Amjit: E-sport?

Louise: No no I mean exercise.

Amjit: Who does that anymore?

Louise: Okay and how about your diet?

Amjit: Like, whatever. Snacks and that. I never cook.

Louise: You like munchies.

Amjit: Ms Deckard?

Louise: Yeah?

Amjit: Did you make these questions up, or do they write them down for you?

Louise: They're just standard questions we ask everybody Amjit. I mean they do write them down for me. Are you okay to keep going? Okay. So what about drugs, alcohol it's okay, I'm just, everything here is confidential.

Amjit: A bit of weed maybe.

Louise: So you're having trouble coping?

Amjit: No I'm okay.

Louise: See it's my job to try and help you deal with whatever is worrying you.

Amjit: I've gotten into a bit of a bother, these guys. I've bought weed off them, they followed me to the cash machine.

Louise: Are they extorting you?

Amjit: They're threatening me. They broke into my house, they robbed us, my housemates hate me, I mean my dad knows some things going on and he gets very angry sometimes.

Louise: Have you have you tried going to the police?

Amjit: I don't want the police to get involved, I think I'll have to. My dad is going to kill me if he finds out about all this.

Xiaoli: Lying on the earth always makes my problems seem a little bit smaller somehow.

Kathy: Yeah, I know what you mean. It could have been far worse.

Xiaoli: We all need to take care of each other.

Kathy: Yeah, you're right. I'm just so lucky that I've got friends and a counsellor that I can speak to, you know. People who actually listen.

Xiaoli: Yeah, what do you talk about?

Kathy: How I'm feeling I guess, lots of stuff, being active, eating better, I don't know, she's cool and she makes me feel like I can talk to her and not feel like a failure, you know?

Xiaoli: I think that's all it takes sometimes.

Kathy: Yeah, I'm going to recommend it to Amjit.

Xiaoli: Yeah or just encourage him to get his bum to the gym.

Kathy: Can you imagine?

Amjit: It's just for the gym Apu. My friend Kathy tells me that everyone's wearing hats like these to exercise nowadays don't you think I look cool here, running? Fine... are you happy now? Don't call me hamster, don't like it.