

Summary

Aden and Belle's relationship has hit rock bottom. They no longer can communicate without a normal conversation turning into a full blown row, and one person most rows seem to revolve around lately is Joey, Aden's new workmate on the trawler. After Aden discovered what Robbo had done to Joey, and confessing that Aden experienced the same thing with his grandfather, Joey and Aden instantly have a deep connection, and since have become inseparable. Belle feels shut out of Aden's life and turns to more drugs to cope. But after Belle is fired from her job, Belle needs Aden's support now more than ever, and in this crucial part of their relationship, Aden is with Joey. But, determined not to let their love die away, Aden, surprisingly and hastily proposed to Belle and much to Irene's concerns, Belle accepted.

However, unaware of Aden's dishonesty and betrayal with new girl Joey, will the lies they keep from each other result in an even worse fate for them both?

The scene starts on a private quiet beach, it is approximately midday, the beach is completely empty other than a few birds washing in the sea, and Aden walking down the beach. His head is lowered, his hands in his short pockets and he is dragging his feet.

As the camera takes a close up shot of Aden, a figure can be seen from a distance approaching Aden from behind.

JOEY: (shouting) What makes you think you can get away with this?

Aden turns round, startled, to see Joey charging up to him. Her hair is tied back messily and she has made little effort with her appearance.

Aden turns away from her, knowing exactly what she is referring too. He looks down to the ground, and ignores Joey.

Joey reaches Aden, and pushes him from behind. She is out of breath and is furious.

Too be or not to be

JOEY: *(still shouting)* **Don't you dare turn your back on me!** *(Aden makes no indication of hearing her, even though Joey knows he did)* **You pig! You gutless pig!** *(She pushes him again)*

Aden turns to Joey.

ADEN: *(weakly and timid)* **What do you want me to say?**

JOEY: **I want you to tell me why you lied! I want you to tell me why you proposed to Belle!**

She goes to push him again, but Aden realizes what she is about to do and moves away.

ADEN: *(hesitating)* **I don't know...I... I wasn't... I...**

JOEY: **Did the other night mean nothing to you? You told me you loved me! You told me that you didn't want to be with her!**

ADEN: *(Quickly, with little thought in what he is saying)* **I do love you. And I know I shouldn't have proposed. It was stupid. But I didn't know what else to do!**

JOEY: **You said you were going to leave her. I thought we were going to be together. But instead I have to find out from Colleen that the two of you are getting hitched.**

ADEN: **I was going to tell you.**

JOEY: *(Sarcastically)* **That's why you're hiding down here. You had plenty of time to tell me, you could have answered your phone this morning for starters.**

Aden turns away from Joey again and sits down on the sand. He takes a deep breath and puts his head in his hands.

Joey remains standing, and looks down at Aden who after taking a few moments to think looks back at Joey with tears in his eyes.

ADEN: *(choking on tears)* **What am I going to do Jo? I have messed everything up.**

Aden wipes tears from his eyes, as he waits for Joey's answer. He stares down at the sand. Joey turns away from Aden and sighs.

After a few more seconds of silence, Joey speaks and breaks the awkward silence.

JOEY: *(sternly)* **I don't know what you're going to do to fix the mess you're in. But if you don't tell Belle about us, then I will.**

Aden looks up at Joey, who is still facing away from him. Aden's face seems motionless as Joey continues to speak.

JOEY: **I want you to break off the engagement. I want us to be together.**

Aden returns to his feet and moves closer to Joey. Who has still remained facing away from him.

ADEN: *(quiet and calm)* **I can't do that Jo. You know that. Please.. don't make me.**

Too be or not to be

Joey turns to look at Aden, tears now beginning to show in her eyes as well as his.

JOEY: *(softly)* **Not even for me?**

Silence, and Aden looks down to the sand again.

JOEY: *(tearful, and growing more tearful as she speaks)* **You don't know what a big step it was for me, the other night with us. (hesitant) After what Robbo did. The one thing that got me through was the fact it was with you, I trusted you. (bursts into tears) It didn't feel wrong when you touched me. It wasn't a mistake. How can you think that? I love you.**

Aden looks back, tears swelling up in his eyes again.

ADEN: **I know what it feel like to be afraid to be touched again. I went through that for years. It took me and...** *(hesitates at Belle's name)*

JOEY: **Belle** *(sniffs)*

ADEN: *(hesitates)* **It took us ages to get there, but we did. That's why I can't throw our relationship away. There's such a history there. I'm so sorry Joey.**

JOEY: *(she sniffs)* **What about our future. You have no idea what that looks like. (she moves closer to Aden and touches his arm) You and Belle may have a past. (gazes up to Aden) But I know I can make you happier than she does**

Aden and Joey both lock eye contact.

Joey touches Aden's face. And gently kisses his mouth. They both embrace in a romantic kiss, neither one wanting to stop.

Joey pulls away.

JOEY: **You know what you have to do.**

She turns and walks away, back up the beach. As she moves further away, her walk turns into a run. Aden watches as she exits.

He touches his mouth, where Joey's lips just were. He smiles a little. His moment of happiness soon turns to anguish as he remembers the ultimatum given to him by Joey. He then turns to the sea, puts his hands on his head, and falls to the sand in despair.

Camera shot of Aden on the sand from behind, you can hear the waves gently lapping up against the beach, and the painful sound of Aden crying.

END OF SCENE