

Kai looks at the piece in his hand confused, then dives back in, trying to move faster than before. Amara targets the red orbs. But suddenly, from Amara's perspective, the red orbs begin to falter and blink.

INT. AMARA'S BOOTH - CONTINUOUS

The cheat ring blinks erratically.

INT. BLACK BOX MYSTERY DOOR ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Suddenly, all the glows disappear.

INT. AMARA'S BOOTH - CONTINUOUS

The cheat ring goes dark. Amara pinches it frantically.

INT. BLACK BOX MYSTERY DOOR ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Amara panics. She tries to look at the spots where the glows were - but finds nothing. What now? She looks over at Kai. He's still frantically popping orbs.

She joins him. And it isn't long before they've finished popping them all.

START

They stand over a pile of pieces. Amara stares at them nervously. Kai turns to her.

KAI

So?

AMARA

So what?

KAI

How do we make the next one?

AMARA

I don't know.

KAI

But you got the first one?

AMARA

I don't know, the pieces just seemed to be the right ones, but now I can't tell.

They look out over all the pieces.

KAI

There has to be some way to sort them.

Kai picks up a piece and inspects it.

Amara picks up two pieces that are the same shape. But there's nothing to tell them apart - they're identical.

Kai begins to do different 'experiments' on the pieces. Shaking them. Examining them.

Amara walks over to one of the unfinished columns and holds it over the light. When she does, the light turns off. She walks over to the next column and holds it over it - but this time the block and the column glow red. Her eyes widen.

AMARA

Look!

Kai instantly understands. He rushes over. They hurriedly sort the pieces into 3 piles - a red one, a green one, and pieces that don't light up under either circumstance.

Amara moves quickly, swiftly, with a confidence we haven't yet seen. Finally, they finish sorting all of them.

AMARA (CONT'D)

I'll take this one.

Amara begins analyzing the red column and pieces. She starts dropping them strategically into the hole. She tries another, but then counts the remaining pieces, shakes her head, pulls them out and starts again.

They both work away. But where Kai looks deeply frustrated, Amara looks enthused. She works away at the puzzle, until she slides the last block into place and throws her arms up.

AMARA (CONT'D)

Done!

KAI

Oh come on!

The light shoots out of the red column towards the door. Kai looks distraught. His is not even close to solved. She waits patiently while Kai tries to assemble his but he's clearly struggling.

AMARA

Let me do it. I'm faster.

KAI
I'm fine. I just need to focus.

His hands are shaking.

AMARA
Come on, give it to me.

KAI
I've only seen this kind of puzzle
once before, I wish I'd gone back-

AMARA
(imitating Kai)
Just let me take us through, it's
totally cool. I won't be insulted.

Hearing these words Kai closes his eyes. Her guilt trip
worked too well.

KAI
You're right.

He drops the pieces and gets up. Amara dives in. To Kai's
dismay she pulls everything back out to analyze the pieces.
Then she drops them in differently and a shape forms.

KAI (CONT'D)
Oh! I see it! I see it now, can I
finish?

AMARA
I've got it.

KAI
Come on!

AMARA
No.

Kai tries to grab the pieces from her.

AMARA (CONT'D)
Stop it!

Amara turns away from him, boxing him out. Kai puts his hands
on his head, his anxiety overwhelming him.

KAI
I'm sorry- I can't believe this.

AMARA
You did everything the first round.
Your score will still be good.

KAI

Good might as well be failing.

He paces back and forth. But Amara is too excited by her success to notice. She stays focused on the shape. She's almost done. But then hears something. Kai is wheezing.

Amara turns to look at him. Kai just shakes his head, hands on his knees.

KAI (CONT'D)

Its fine. Keep going. I should have known-

He tries to catch his breath, but he can't. He sits down, hyperventilating.

KAI (CONT'D)

I'm a disgrace.

Amara slows.

AMARA

If you're trying to trick me...

She stares at him for a moment. A tear runs down his cheek. In his eyes she can see he's honestly hurting. She stops.

AMARA (CONT'D)

Here.

Kai looks up at her. Amara holds out the last block. He takes a breath.

KAI

Thank you. But I don't deserve it.

END

AMARA

Come on.

She tries to hand it to him again but he refuses to take it.

AMARA (CONT'D)

Jesus.

She shakes her head and sits down next to him. After a beat she looks at him sincerely. His breathing has normalized but he's still not moving.

AMARA (CONT'D)

Look at us. Freaking out because they are judging our value based on whether we can make blocks into keys...Is this really worth it?