

“UNSEEN”- Nicholas Sides (1/2)

Start →

RALPH

I'm sorry, but those were your father's wishes.

Ralph folds his glasses and pockets them. He leaves the room. A thick silence blankets the room.

CAROLINE

Let's talk this through.

NICHOLAS

That idiot. Probably laughing at us from the grave.

MILES

I agree with Caroline.

Nicholas glares at Miles. He approaches him.

NICHOLAS

And what the hell is your deal?

MILES

I didn't do anything.

NICHOLAS

Exactly! You've done *nothing*. Not even through college, yet here you are, taking something you wouldn't even know what to do with!

CAROLINE

Wait. Ralph didn't have the papers with him.

Caroline looks accusingly at Miles.

MILES

What are you looking at me for?

CAROLINE

You're the only one of us who's been here in the last two years.

MILES

I mean, he hardly left the study unless he needed to eat.

NICHOLAS

It's in the safe. Nowhere else it could be.

Again, both siblings look accusingly at Miles.

NICHOLAS (CONT'D)
You know the code?

MILES
No, I don't know the code.

Nicholas takes a deep breath, his anger resurfacing.

NICHOLAS
He didn't die in possession of
potentially life-changing
advancements in emotional
regulation just to leave it locked
behind an inch of steel!

CAROLINE
Nick, calm down.

NICHOLAS
No! I'm not going to calm down so
that dad's golden child can play us
for a fool and ruin his progress.

MILES
Shut up. He left as much of it with
me as he did with you. Don't you
think that says something?

NICHOLAS
What are you implying?

MILES
That maybe you need to wake up and
realize you're not everything you
think you are.

Nicholas charges around the table towards Miles. Caroline
gets up and pushes herself in his way.

End

→ CAROLINE
Enough!

She pushes Nicholas towards the door.

CAROLINE (CONT'D)
We can't change what's happened.
Cool off and we'll figure something
out.

Nicholas leaves. Miles waits a moment and then storms off.
Caroline sits on the couch, her head in her hands.

Ralph walks in and places a cup of tea beside her.

“UNSEEN”- Nicholas sides (2/2)

He gets out of his chair and opens the cupboard beneath one of the bookshelves. He takes a deep breath and punches the digits in to the safe. He sharply exhales in shock as the light flashes green. He twists the handle and opens the door. A manila envelope titled “N.E.M.I.” sits on the shelf of the safe.

EXT. DRIVEWAY - DUSK

Ralph walks out the front door. Nicholas gestures to him to give him a moment. He puts down the phone.

RALPH
You should talk to Miles. You've left it burning long enough.

NICHOLAS
I don't have anything to say to him.

RALPH
I think you both have a lot to say to each other. He's up in the study.

INT. STUDY - DUSK

Miles is knelt down by the open safe. He turns over the envelope to open it. Nicholas walks in, shocked as he sees Miles beside the open door. They stare at each other in silence, Miles like a deer in headlights.

Start



NICHOLAS
If that's what I think it is...

MILES
No, look, let me explain.

NICHOLAS
You son of a bitch. Tried to play us both for idiots.

MILES
I swear, I didn't know! It was Ralph, he told me -

NICHOLAS
Bullshit. Ralph wouldn't have done that to us.

Nicholas closes in on Miles.

NICHOLAS (CONT'D)

But you, you privileged, naive little shit. The son he never should have had. A half-brother we never wanted.

MILES

You think I asked for this? Enjoy it? Never having a chance with either of you because of your misdirected resentment?

NICHOLAS

Do you know how hard it's been?! My *entire* life! Never being trusted, always looked down upon.

Caroline rushes in.

CAROLINE

What's going on?

NICHOLAS

The same thing that's always been, Caroline. You and I and some false excuse for compassion. Have a third each, because I love you all equally, but let me just leave Miles with the goddamn access.

Caroline sees the file in Miles' hand. She's visibly betrayed.

CAROLINE

You knew this whole time?

MILES

Caroline, please, I swear I didn't.

NICHOLAS

Of course you did. You wanted everything for yourself, same way dad did. We were never going to be able co-exist in finishing his work.

CAROLINE

Stop it. If dad did this purposefully, you're playing right into his hand.

NICHOLAS

Always playing mediator, keeping the peace. Do you even care?

CAROLINE

How dare you. You've been a mess
your whole life, and who's always
been there to save your skin?

MILES

We have it now! We don't have to
fight anymore.

NICHOLAS

You think I'm going to let you
settle now you've been found out?

MILES

It's not about me. It's *his* work!
This could change everything.

CAROLINE

It already has! Look at us! Where's
the joy? Aren't we supposed to love
each other? Have each other's
backs? He took all of that from us.

End

→ Caroline snatches the file from Miles.

CAROLINE (CONT'D)

It consumed him, destroyed any life
he had outside this room. And now
it's destroying us.

She walks over to the fireplace.

MILES

Wait - wait, Caroline!

CAROLINE

No more.

Nicholas runs towards Caroline. She drops the file into the
fire. The letters N.E.M.I. burn away. Nicholas and Miles
stare into the flames with shock and horror. Nicholas stares
down at Caroline, his eyes burning. He walks through her and
leaves.

CAROLINE (CONT'D)

Nick, wait! Just think about it.

He ignores her and leaves. She goes after him. Miles, still
in shock, follows them out.

EXT. DRIVEWAY - DUSK

Nicholas paces towards his car.