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English 106

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### Situation Control: Knowledge and Relationships

Upon entering Andrea's home, Naz and Andrea begin to drink, do drugs, and play with a knife. The conversation that happens as they are playing with the knife calls attention to Andrea's ability to control the situation and Naz's willingness to fit in.

After being confronted by and confronting Trevor and Duane, Naz and Andrea enter Andrea's house and begin to drink and do more drugs. Throughout their conversation, Andrea demonstrates that she knows more about Naz than he does about her and is able to control the encounter. For example, after going inside Naz asks, "Can I ask you something? What's your name?" Here, Naz demonstrates a basic lack of knowledge about the individual with whom he has spent a rather large portion of the evening. While this would be normal for a regular taxi fare, this encounter is anything but normal. Indeed, Naz has already taken a mysterious pill and has chosen to go into her house. This illustrates that Naz is willing and able to make decisions without adequate knowledge of his situation. When combined with the rest of the conversation, we see that Andrea is in total control. Indeed, she only answers Naz's questions with other questions—"I didn't tell you?" and "Does that happen to you a lot?"—and fails to provide any information. In fact, the final question in the exchange alters the dynamic of the conversation—Naz is forced to answer questions and address prejudices that he faces on a regular basis instead of learning about the person and the situation in which he finds himself. Here, Andrea is the one in control and determines what will be discussed. Andrea continues to control the situation when she asks, "Don't you do what everyone tells you to do? [...] Isn't that what you said?" At this moment, Andrea demonstrates that she knows more about Naz than he does about her. As a result, she is able to convince him—note all of the

times that he states that he does not want to do this—to do something that he is not comfortable doing. Indeed, this exchange emphasizes the importance of knowledge in any relationship or personal exchange. Because Andrea has more knowledge than Naz, she knows that he will do anything that he is told, he ends up not only playing her knife game but also doing cocaine and drinking.