

LUTHER

Season 1, Episode 3

Luther & Alice

INT. UNIVERSITY - ALICE'S LAB - DAY

ALICE stands in her science lab. LUTHER enters.

ALICE

So what do you want?

LUTHER

I need you to help me catch someone.

ALICE

I was under the impression you wanted me to stop helping.

LUTHER

Don't push it.

ALICE

How do I know you're not playing a double game -- one stone, multiple birds? Trying to make me speak carelessly in order to entrap me?

LUTHER

That would be illegal. Plus I really need to catch this man.

ALICE

More than you want to catch me?

LUTHER

At the moment, yeah. I'm running out of time.

ALICE

Because if I thought you were about to lose interest in me, I'd be inconsolable.

LUTHER

I just need a way in, to know what it's like to be him. To not feel anything.

ALICE

I feel things.

LUTHER

Not mercy.

ALICE

Not sentiment. I can't empathize with this man's state of being any more than you can because, disregarding a single alleged act carried out for different alleged reasons, he and I might just as well be from different species.

LUTHER

See, I disagree. Murder's murder.

ALICE

But it isn't, is it? Not even to you. This man, Burgess, he's just a naughty child showing off. You already know his flaw -- his compulsion to dominate, to be in control, and you already know how to exploit that.

LUTHER

How?

ALICE

Oh, come on. Change the state of play.

LUTHER

Yeah, well... I tried that with you, and it failed.

ALICE

Only just.