

INT. STEVENSON RESEARCH FACILITY - GENETICS WING - NIGHT

DR. HELEN JEKYLL stands in front of her superior, DR. LANYON, as she continues making her case for her special project.

HELEN

Medication isn't an effective solution for ALS. Riluzole only extends life expectancy by two or three months. And though we've had some success in using cell culture systems and stem cell conversion, it does not address the main issue; the SOD1 gene. But if we were to use epigenesis to package the structural proteins and force it into mitosis, a new chromosome is produced which would generate new motor neurons.

DR. LANYON

Is this data of yours theoretical or empirical, Dr. Jekyll?

HELEN

Theoretical. But even so, Dr. Lanyon, I believe our data is strong enough to begin human trials.

DR. LANYON

At this stage, I'm afraid what you're proposing is far too dangerous.

HELEN

Why exactly?

DR. LANYON

Because you're talking about changing a person's genetic makeup, Helen. I know this is a personal subject for you, but you're letting that cloud your judgement.

HELEN

Our research with genetically modified animal models has been --

DR. LANYON

Enough! Unless you can provide something more substantial --

HELEN

Which I can't do unless you approve  
human trials!

DR. LANYON

Then the answer is no. I'm sorry.

HELEN

Dr. Lanyon --

DR. LANYON

This conversation is over.