

CLOSE PROXIMITY

by

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FADE IN:

INT. HOSPITAL GYM - MORNING

Treadmills are lined against the wall. There are weights and other workout equipment around.

DR. MARK COX, late 40's, slender, full head of salt and pepper hair, is jogging on a treadmill.

A JOLLY HOSPITAL STAFF MEMBER, male, middle-aged, sort of husky, walks up and gets on the treadmill beside him.

JOLLY STAFF MEMBER

So Dr. Cox, I see we had the same idea.

DR. COX

(breathing heavy)

Yes, I figured I would go ahead and get this out of the way before I changed my mind.

Dr. Cox looks at his watch then stops the treadmill. He grabs a towel from the handle and wipes the sweat from his face.

DR. COX (CON'T)

Have a great day.

JOLLY STAFF MEMBER

You too doctor.

Dr. Cox walks to the locker room.

INT. HOSPITAL GYM LOCKER ROOM - MORNING

Dr. Cox takes off his scrubs, takes his cloths out of his locker, and puts them on. He gets a gym bag from his locker and leaves.

INT. HOSPITAL CORRIDOR - MORNING

Dr. Cox is walking. A middle-aged, female hospital STAFF MEMBER passes him in the hall.

STAFF MEMBER

Good morning Dr. Cox.

DR. COX

Good morning.

Dr. Cox stops at the elevator and gets on.

INT. ELEVATOR - MORNING

Dr. Cox enters, presses the fifth floor button, and looks at his watch again. The elevator stops. He gets off.

EXT. HOSPITAL PARKING DECK - MORNING

The parking deck is half full of cars with no one around.

Dr. Cox exits the elevator. He walks over towards his car, a black, late model Lexus then reaches into his pocket to retrieve the keys.

Someone slowly approaches Dr. Cox from behind. They see him drop his keys, bend over, and rise back up.

Surgical gloved hands grab the top of the Dr. Cox's head. A needle from a syringe is plunged into his neck injecting a substance.

Dr. Cox collapses immediately and convulses. The attacker lifts the doctor's hand, writes in his palm with a marker, and leaves the scene.

EXT. HOSPITAL PARKING DECK - MORNING

The crime scene is roped off with yellow crime scene tape. Crime scene investigators are taking photographs while checking for fingerprints and other evidence.

DETECTIVE JONES, mid 30's, cocky, wearing a shirt and tie, is standing near the body talking to police officers.

DETECTIVE STONE, late 30's, athletic, confident, in a button up shirt and slacks, is approaching the crime scene. His partner, DETECTIVE SHARON MEEKS, early 30's, drop-dead gorgeous, wearing a dark blue pant suit, is walking beside him.

Stone and Meeks cross under the crime scene tape. They make their way over to where Jones is standing.

JONES

Well, how is New York's finest?

STONE

What do we have?

JONES

Another doctor with the same MO.

JONES (CON'T)

There appears to be a small puncture wound on the neck. A toxicology report will determine whether or not the victim was injected with hydrogen cyanide which was the same substance used on the others. Also there's a number written in the palm of his hand. Hopefully a handwriting analysis will determine if it was indeed made by the same person.

MEEKS

What's the name?

JONES

We've identified the victim as Dr. Mark Cox. He's a cardiologist that got off shift around six this morning.

Stone and Meeks look at the body lying beside a black, late model LEXUS.

They notice a SECURITY GUARD, 30ish, slightly overweight, bald, being interviewed.

JONES

He was found by the security guard...
(pointing)
...about an hour ago. He was actually making his rounds before the shift ended. The doctor worked on the fifth floor so he must have came off the elevator, and headed towards the car as someone hid behind one of these columns to attack him.

STONE

So someone knew exactly when Dr. Cox's shift ended.

MEEKS

Meaning he was likely targeted.

JONES

Yeah, pretty much.

The detectives walk closer to the body. Meeks puts on a pair of gloves, bends down, and examines the neck.

MEEKS

This is definitely a needle mark.

Meeks notices the letter 22 written in the victim's palm.

MEEKS (CON'T)

What's with the number twenty two?
Presumably this is not the twenty
second victim.

STONE

It's probably some kind of code. A
taunting method.

JONES

Look, CAPT. FRANKLIN has requested
that I meet with him and the
COMMISSIONER this evening. I'll
keep you guys informed.

STONE

Sure. We're going to have a talk
with the security guard and staff
to see what we can come up with.

JONES

Ok. See you back at the precinct.

Stone and Meeks walk over to the security guard, who is
nervously puffing on a cigarette, just as a police officer
is walking away from him.

STONE

Good morning sir. I'm Detective
Stone...

(shows his badge)

...and this is Detective Meeks.

(Meeks shows her badge)

Stone takes out his pad and pencil and begins to take notes.

STONE (CON'T)

Could you state your name please?

SECURITY GUARD

(nervously)

Oscar Malone.

STONE

Mr. Malone, I understand you
found Dr. Cox while you were
making your rounds.

SECURITY GUARD

Yes. I often see Dr. Cox leaving right before the end of my shift. I can't believe someone would do such a thing.

STONE

What time does your shift end?

SECURITY GUARD

I only work the night shift. I get off at seven o'clock in the morning.

STONE

What time did you find the doctor's body?

SECURITY GUARD

Around seven o'clock. I was a little behind schedule.

MEEKS

Did you see anyone or notice anything suspicious prior to finding the body?

SECURITY GUARD

No not at all sir.

STONE

Thanks for your cooperation.

SECURITY GUARD

You're welcome. I hope you find the person who did this.

STONE

We're going to do everything we possibly can.

Stone and Meeks walk towards the elevator entrance.

EXT. HOSPITAL PARKING DECK - ELEVATOR - DAY

Meeks looks at Stone with her finger on the elevator button.

MEEKS

Isn't it fifth floor?

STONE

Yep.

The elevator arrives at the fifth floor. The door opens.
Stone and Meeks get off.

INT. HOSPITAL - FIFTH FLOOR - DAY

Stone and Meeks walk over to the nurses' station where two nurses are sitting. The nurses look up at them.

STONE

Good morning. I'm Detective Stone...
(shows his badge)
...and this is Detective Meeks.
(Meeks shows her badge)

NURSE NUMBER ONE

Is this about Dr. Cox's murder?

STONE

Yes it is. Were any of you working
on the same shift as Dr. Cox last
night?

Nurse number one and nurse number two both nod their heads.

NURSE NUMBER ONE

I did.

NURSE NUMBER TWO

So did I.

Stone and Meeks both take out their pad and pencil and
prepare to take notes.

STONE

Could I get your names?

NURSE NUMBER ONE

Yes; my name is Christina Potts.

NURSE NUMBER TWO

I'm Kristi Miller.

STONE

Did Dr. Cox mention anyone that
might have wanted to cause him
harm?

Both shake their heads.

CHRISTINA

No way.

KRISTI

No detective.

MEEKS

Has he ever received any type of threatening phone calls or anything?

CHRISTINA

No.

KRISTI

No sir.

STONE

Exactly what time did Dr. Cox leave the floor?

KRISTI

He left after I brought him an x-ray chart that he had requested around six o'clock. He sometimes does a half hour workout before he leaves in the morning.

MEEKS

Would you say Dr. Cox was well liked.

CHRISTINA

Absolutely. I can't imagine anyone wanting to lay a finger on Dr. Cox.

STONE

Thanks for your time.

Stone takes out a couple of cards, hands them to the nurses.

STONE (CON'T)

Here's my card. If you all think of anything else, please give us a call.

CHRISTINA

Will do.

Stone and Meeks walk away. A Police officer approaches them.

POLICE OFFICER

Detectives, I located a staff member who worked out with Dr. Cox this morning.

Stone and Meeks look down the hall. They see the visibly shaken staff member who had previously worked out with Dr. Cox. They walk over to where he is standing.

STONE

So you worked out with Dr. Cox prior to him leaving this morning?

STAFF MEMBER

Yes.

STONE

Can I get you to state your name and job title?

STAFF MEMBER

Larry Pierce. I'm an x-ray tech.

STONE

Did the doctor act unusual or appear to be threatened?

STAFF MEMBER

No. He seemed normal.

STONE

What time did he leave?

STAFF MEMBER

He left shortly after I made it in the gym. I believe it was about a quarter till seven.

STONE

Thanks for your cooperation. If we need anything else we'll be in touch.

The detectives walk away. They get on the elevator.

EXT. HOSPITAL - PARKING DECK - DAY

The elevator door opens. Stone and Meeks get off and walk towards the car.

MEEKS

What kind of animal would go around knocking off doctors?

STONE

I don't know, but whoever it is must have gotten hit with one hell of a doctor's bill.

Detective Meeks smile as they get in the car.

EXT. CAR ON PARKING DECK - MORNING

STONE

Well, we've got one more important stop to make on the way to the station.

MEEKS

A lead?

STONE

No. For donuts and coffee.

MEEKS

No thanks. I'm watching my figure. I'll take a bagel.

STONE

(smiling)

A bagel? I have got to get a new partner.

They drive away.

INT. COMMISSIONER CALLAHAN'S OFFICE - DAY

COMMISSIONER CALLAHAN, mid 50's, commanding, hard-nosed, boss is sitting behind his desk in an executive style chair.

On the front of his desk is a plaque that reads, "The buck stops here".

CAPT. SCOTT FRANKLIN, late 40's, tough as nails, career cop is sitting next to Jones when Detectives Stone and Meeks enter.

COMMISSIONER

Good evening detectives. I'll get right to the point. As you know we've got a son of a bitch out there that's targeting doctors. All eyes are on us and we've got to hurry up nail this psycho. Now, I've asked Capt. Franklin to lead a special task force. He will address you at this time.

CAPT. FRANKLIN

Good afternoon lady and gentlemen.

CAPT. FRANKLIN (CON'T)

You're here because you've all been chosen as members of this special task force that the Commissioner just mentioned. Jones will be the lead detective. I want everyone to use all available resources and nail this bastard. Leave no stone unturned. Any questions?

JONES

Sir, I was informed by the Newark Police Department there was a similar case a few years ago where three doctors were murdered and these fit the same MO. Injected with cyanide with a number written in the palm. Now, their police department enlisted a psychic medium to help with the case and I'd like to locate him and assign him to work with us as well.

STONE

(shaking his head)

I object. I believe we should focus on a traditional investigation. You know, one that makes sense.

JONES

Look, they informed me that this guy was very beneficial in providing clues!

STONE

If these so called psychics are so successful in solving crimes then why doesn't every law enforcement agency in the country have a psychic brigade? I mean, it sure would make our lives a whole lot easier! Give me a break!

The Commissioner gives Stone and Jones a frustrated look.

COMMISSIONER

(loudly)

Knock it off you two! Let's show some professionalism. If you can't work together then I'll get someone who can!

COMMISSIONER (CON'T)

I'm familiar with the Newark murders.
My intuition tells me that this
is either the work of the same
guy or a copycat.

The commissioner looks over at Jones.

COMMISSIONER

Listen here Jones, I'm certainly
not a fan of psychics, but I am
willing to do what it takes to
get this guy. Now you said this
psychic was able to provide credible
information, correct?

JONES

(nodding his head)

Yes sir.

COMMISSIONER

Then let's bring him on board.
Let's get copies of the Newark
files. But I'm warning you, if
this guy provides just one piece
of faulty information, he's out
of here. Understood?

JONES

Understood sir.

CAPT. FRANKLIN

Commissioner, I'll keep you updated.

COMMISSIONER

Ok.

Capt. Franklin, Stone, Jones and Meeks leave the
Commissioner's office and walk down the hall. Capt. Franklin
turns around and looks at Stone and Jones as they walk.

CAPT. FRANKLIN

(disgusted look)

Look you two, I don't know what
the hell that episode was about
but I'm running this task force.
I won't be embarrassed in front
of the Commissioner like that
again. Is that understood?

Stone and Jones both nod their heads in agreement.

CAPT. FRANKLIN (CON'T)

Now let's get those Newark files and get in contact with this psychic guy. Have we heard anything back on the toxicology report and handwriting analysis?

JONES

The number samples have been sent over to forensics for analysis but until we have a suspect we don't have anything to match it against.

CAPT. FRANKLIN

I know Jones but at least we can determine whether or not they were made by the same person. We haven't ruled out the possibility of a copycat killer you know.

STONE

As for as the toxicology report goes, we haven't heard anything back from the lab.

CAPT. FRANKLIN

Well go over there and put a rush on it ASAP.

STONE

Alright Captain.

CAPT. FRANKLIN

Come on guys, we've got to get on the ball.

INT. TOXICOLOGY LAB -DAY

Cabinets are filled with specimens. There are stations with lab equipment throughout the room.

TIM, a lab technician, early 30's, geeky, in a white lab coat, is examining a specimen under a microscope.

A BUZZER SOUNDS. Tim goes over to the wall and hit's a button. Stone and Meeks walk in with protective clothing. Stone is eating an apple.

TIM

Hello guys.

He looks at Stone and wags his finger.

TIM (CON'T)

No food in the lab.

Stone puts the apple in the trash disposal.

STONE

Sorry. How's it coming Tim?

TIM

It's definitely hydrogen cyanide, or HCN. Blood serum analysis reveal that these victims died within minutes, if not seconds.

MEEKS

What exactly is hydrogen cyanide?

TIM

It's a linear molecule, with a triple bond between carbon and nitro--

MEEKS

Please, in layman's terms.

TIM

I'm sorry. It's a colorless, extremely poisonous liquid that boils slightly above room temperature.

STONE

What is it used for and where do you get it?

TIM

Well, it's the precursor to sodium cyanide and potassium cyanide, which are used mainly in mining. It has other industrial applications as well. HCN is obtainable from fruits that have a pit, such as cherries, apricots, and apples, almonds and apples.

STONE

You mean?

Tim looks at Stone and smirks.

TIM

Only if you eat the seeds.

Meeks looks at Stone and smiles.

TIM (CON'T)

It has been used as a killing agent in whaling harpoons. HCN is also one of the lethal agents used in gas chamber executions.

STONE

That's some real dangerous stuff.

TIM

Especially if it's in the wrong hands.

MEEKS

Any idea why someone would use this particular substance to murder.

TIM

Yes, three main reasons; to kill the victims quickly, quietly, and minimize or eliminate blood at the crime scene. I say one thing; this guy has really done his homework.

Stone and Meeks look at each other for a moment before preparing to leave.

STONE

Thanks for your expertise Tim.

TIM

Not a problem. Keep him in line Detective Meeks.

MEEKS

I'll do my best.

The detectives exit the lab.

EXT. STONE'S DRIVEWAY - EVENING

Stone pulls up, gets out the car, and walks through the front door of the house.

INT. STONES'S LIVING ROOM - EVENING

Stone enters and closes the door.

His wife, DR. RACHAEL STONE, beautiful, late 30's, is in the kitchen preparing dinner. She walks in the living room and greets her husband.

RACHAEL

Hey sweetie.

STONE

Hi honey.

They embrace and share a passionate kiss.

STONE

(looking around)

Where's Mya?

Rachael points towards the sofa where Mya is sleeping.

STONE (CON'T)

(smiling)

Already?

RACHAEL

I think she had an exhausting day at school. How was your day honey?

STONE

(stops smiling)

Well, there was a homicide at Cabrini Medical Center.

RACHAEL

Another doctor?

Stone nods his head.

RACHAEL (CON'T)

Looks like I picked the wrong profession.

STONE

Rachael, I'm already worried.

RACHAEL

I'm kidding babe. Look, it's probably just another coincidence.

STONE

It's the same MO. We definitely have someone targeting doctors.

RACHAEL

What was the name?

STONE

Dr. Mark Cox.

RACHAEL

That name doesn't sound familiar.

STONE

Well, the Commissioner had Capt. Franklin set up a special task force. Meeks and I were assigned and my favorite detective is lead.

RACHAEL

Oh God. Are you two at it again? How's that going to work out?

STONE

Look, I respect the guy. He's just got this big ego that I can't stand.

They walk towards the kitchen.

INT. KITCHEN - EVENING

Rachael and Stone enter. Stone grabs a beer out of the refrigerator and takes a sip.

STONE

His first suggestion was that we hire a psychic.

RACHAEL

Well?

STONE

Are you serious?

RACHAEL

I mean I've read articles where psychic mediums have assisted law enforcement agencies. There's even a TV show about it.

STONE

Yeah, you said it; a TV show. Anything's possible. Anyway, what's for dinner, I'm starved.

RACHAEL

How about roasted lemon rosemary
Chicken and lemon meringue pie.

STONE

Yummy!

MYA, 4, cute, adorable, runs into the kitchen and leaps into
Stone's arms.

MYA

Daddy!

STONE

Hello cupcakes! Daddy missed you.
How was school?

MYA

It was fun...until Tyler put that
cricket on me and made me scream.

STONE

Aw sweetie...Tyler's just being a
typical boy.

MYA

Boys are terrible!

Rachael and Stone look at each other and smile.

MYA (CON'T)

Can I have alphabet soup for
dinner?

STONE

Sweetie, you just had alphabet
soup yesterday.

MYA

I know, but it helps me with my
spelling.

Stone and Rachael laugh out loud.

STONE

You're too much!
(putting Mya down)
Let's go play the wii until mommy
finishes dinner!

MYA

Ok!

Mya and Stone run out of the kitchen while Rachael watches.

INT. PRECINCT - DAY

Meeks is doing paperwork. Her desk is immaculate. Everything appears to be carefully placed.

Stone's desk, which is on the other side of Meeks, proudly displays pictures of his wife and daughter. He is also doing paperwork.

Meeks' phone RINGS. She picks up.

MEEKS

This is Detective Meeks.

(listens)

Sure Captain, we'll be right there.

Meeks hangs up.

MEEKS (CON'T)

(to Stone)

Capt. Franklin wants to see us in his office.

They dash off.

INT. CAPTAIN FRANKLIN'S OFFICE - DAY

The door is open. Stone and Meeks enter. Capt. Franklin is at his desk talking with Jones.

TED MCCLOSKY, late 30's, soft-spoken, is sitting beside Jones. Capt. Franklin greets Stone and Meeks.

CAPT. FRANKLIN

Good morning detectives. I'd like for you to meet Ted McClosky. Ted, this is Detective Sharon Meeks and Detective Michael Stone.

McClosky stands up to shake the detective's hands.

MCCLOSKY

It's a pleasure to meet you

CAPT. FRANKLIN

(to detectives)

Have a seat.

Stone and Meeks take a seat.

CAPT. FRANKLIN (CON'T)

As you both know, the decision was made to bring Mr. McClosky on board to help us solve this very high profile case. He's going to sharing with us his unique and God given ability to obtain valuable information via psychic phenomena. While this approach to crime solving is new to this precinct, it has been utilized before by various police agencies throughout the nation with various degrees of success.

(to McClosky)

With that being said, Ted you want to give a brief statement about yourself.

MCCLOSKY

Sure. I've worked for some degree as a psychic detective for over ten years. I've worked with a few other police agencies, most notably in Newark, New Jersey where I was assigned to the doctor murders. On a more personal note, of course I'm a Jet and Yankees fan and I love Italian?

Everyone chuckles but Stone.

STONE

So, tell us a little something about your family life. Are you married, any children?

McClosky stops smiling.

MCClosky

Actually I'm widowed with no children and have been for some time.

There is silence for a moment as everyone grasps what McClosky has just said. Detective Meeks quickly attempts to ease the tense situation.

MEEKS

Italian huh? Well you won't have a shortage of lunch partners because we all love Italian.

McClosky gives a half-hearted smile.

CAPT. FRANKLIN

Well, if no one else has any other questions, on behalf of the department, welcome aboard!

MCCLOSKY

Thank you Capt. Franklin. I look forward to being a part of this team.

INT. PRECINCT - MINUTES LATER

Stone is organizing paperwork at his desk. Jones strolls up.

JONES

Well thanks for making McClosky feel right at home.

STONE

How was I supposed to know details about the guy's personal life? I'm not the one claiming to be psychic!

JONES

Look Stone, if you don't want to cooperate with this invest--

Meeks approaches interrupting the two combative detectives.

MEEKS

I see I'm just in time for round one.

Jones dashes away.

MEEKS

What was that all about?

STONE

Nothing. It's just Jones with his typical egotistical bullshit!

MEEKS

I know how you feel, but you've got to try and get along with him. At least while we're all assigned to this task force.

STONE

You're right. I guess I have to
bury the hatchet for now.

Stone looks at his watch.

STONE (CON'T)

I'm starved, I think I'll grab
an early lunch...want to come?

MEEKS

Where at?

STONE

I was thinking Italian.

MEEKS

No. Actually I made plans.
(teasingly)
Why don't you check with McClosky.

Stone begins to walk away then pauses for a moment.

STONE

Very funny detective.

EXT. DOCTOR MITCHELL'S HOUSE - DAWN

A two story, brick home in an exclusive neighborhood. DR.
EDWARD MITCHELL, mid 60's, small, thin, with gray hair and
glasses, opens the front door.

DOCTOR MITCHELL

ZIGGY and I will be back in a
second LIZ.

LIZ (O.S.)

Okay dear.

Dr. Mitchell and Ziggy exit. Ziggy is on a leash. They walk
down the steps and onto the street.

DR. MITCHELL

Alright pal, make it quick.

Ziggy turns around and growls. Just as Dr. Mitchell turns
around, an attacker with a black ski mask is standing right
behind him. Ziggy BARKS.

DR. MITCHELL (CON'T)

Oh GOD!

The attacker plunges a syringe in Dr. Mitchell neck. The doctor immediately collapses.

Grabbing Dr. Mitchell's hand, the attacker writes a number inside the palm, looks around, and leaves the scene.

INT. RACHAEL AND STONE'S BEDROOM - DAWN

Rachael and Stone are cuddled up in bed. The clock shows 4:45 A.M.

The phone RINGS. Rachael groggily wakes up, picks up the phone.

RACHAEL

Hello?

(listens)

Just a moment.

Rachael nudges Stone.

RACHAEL (CON'T)

For you babe.

Stone groggily wakes up and takes the phone.

STONE

(clears throat)

Stone speaking?

(listens)

I'll be right there.

Stone gets out of bed and hurriedly puts on his pants.

RACHAEL

What's wrong?

STONE

There's been another murder.

EXT. DR. MITCHELL'S HOUSE - MORNING

Police cars with flashing lights are everywhere. Crime scene investigators are taking photos of the body, which is roped off with yellow crime scene tape.

Stone drives up in front of Dr. Mitchell's house and gets out of the car. He notices Detective Jones talking to McClosky.

Detective Jones walks over to Stone and McClosky.

JONES

Detective Stone you remember Ted McClosky. Ted call me earlier and provided valuable information regarding Dr. Mitchell's murder. He'll be assisting us throughout the investigation.

Stone and McClosky shake hands.

MCCLOSKY

Hello Detective

STONE

Good morning McClosky.

JONES

Dr. Mitchell was attacked as he walked his dog. There were no witnesses. Detective Meeks is inside interviewing his wife.

STONE

I'm going inside and meet Mrs. Mitchell.

Stone walks away and proceeds towards the front door.

INT. DR. MITCHELL'S HOUSE - MORNING

Stone enters. MRS. MITCHELL, mid 60's, gray hair with rollers and a pink robe on, is holding Ziggy and crying.

Detective Meeks has her pen and pad out questioning her. Meeks walks up.

MEEKS

Good morning Detective. Mrs. Mitchell, this is Detective Mike Stone.

STONE

Good morning Mrs. Mitchell.

MEEKS

Mrs. Mitchell, I'm not going to ask you any more questions at this time. I'm going to go over what we already discussed with Detective Stone. Don't worry, we're going to do everything we can to get the person responsible for this.

Mrs. Mitchell is in a daze with tears flowing. She nods her head.

Stone and Meeks walk to the other side of the room.

MEEKS

Mrs. Mitchell said her husband left to walk the dog early this morning and she heard a commotion. When she looked out, the dog was standing over her husband's body.

STONE

So no witnesses.
(pulls out his notepad)

MEEKS

Just Ziggy.

STONE

Who's Ziggy?

MEEKS

Their three year old Chihuahua.

Stone gives Meeks a confused look.

MEEKS (CON'T)

Get this. Jones got a call from McClosky, last night. He said the next victim would be attacked while walking his dog.

STONE

As a matter of fact I just ran into our newfound psychic friend just now.

Stone peeps out the window at Jones and McClosky.

STONE (CON'T)

(turns and looks at Meeks)
So he's one for one already. How about that?

INT. POLICE STATION - STONE AND MEEKS DESK - DAY

Meeks is on the computer with Stone looking over her shoulder clutching a cup of coffee. Jones approaches.

JONES

Could you guys come with me for a moment?

Jones bolts away. Stone and Meeks look at each. Stone shrugs his shoulders. They both follow Jones.

INT. JONES OFFICE - DAY

Stone and Meeks enter the office behind Jones.

McClosky is sitting down. His eyes are closed. His fingers are on his temples.

JONES
(preparing to take notes)
Ted, describe the car again.

MCCLOSKY
(concentrating)
It's a black no navy blue sedan.
The person driving is wearing
glasses.

Stone and Meeks look at each other briefly.

JONES
Can you give us any other information
about the car? Make, model, foreign
or domestic?

MCCLOSKY
I'm trying! I see an emblem. A
circle with three points.

JONES
A Mercedes?

MCCLOSKY
Yes. Maybe. There's a briefcase,
x-ray chart...of a brain scan!

MEEKS
A neurologist? What hospital?

MCCLOSKY
I don't know. I see a number.
Fourteen!

McClosky suddenly opens his eyes. He looks as though all his energy is spent.

JONES
(to Stone and Meeks)
Look, call all the local hospitals
to and find out which neurologists
drive navy blue Mercedes. I'll...

Jones is interrupted by the RINGING of his cell phone.

JONES (CON'T)
(answering his phone)
Yeah this is Jones.

Jones listens then looks over at Stone and Meeks.

JONES (CON'T)
What's the name?
(listens)
Could you tell me what type of
vehicle he was driving?
(listens)
We'll be right over.

Jones slowly closes his cell phone. Stone and Meeks wait anxiously for the news.

JONES (CON'T)
That was homicide. A DR. GEORGE
RAMI was just found murdered in
his garage at 1811 Canterbury Dr.
He drives a navy blue Mercedes.

Everyone rushes out of the office.

EXT. DR. RAMI'S HOUSE - DAY

Stone and Meeks pull up behind Jones and McClosky. They all get out of the car and walk up to the crime scene in the garage.

Crime scene investigators are taking photos and dusting for fingerprints.

INT. Dr. RAMI'S GARAGE - DAY

A navy blue Mercedes has it's driver's side door open with a body slumped over the steering wheel.

A police officer walks up to brief everyone.

POLICE OFFICER
We've got a fifty-one year old
male identified as Dr. George
Rami. His neighbor said he saw
him pull up about forty-five
minutes before his maid arrived.
She found him and called nine-
one-one.

POLICE OFFICER
Looks like someone was inside
waiting on him to come home and
got out as easily as they came in.

JONES
Thanks officer.

The police officer walks away. Meeks puts on gloves and
check the palm.

MEEKS
Well, the body counts are adding
up but the numbers aren't.

JONES
What do you mean?

MEEKS
We've got five murders--

STONE
Eight with the New Jersey cases.

MEEKS
Ok. Eight murders and eight sets
of numbers.
(looking at her note pad)
Fifteen, twenty one, eighteen,
eighteen, five, twenty two, five,
and fourteen. What could that
possibly mean?

JONES
(puzzled look)
Maybe it's some sort of astrological
equation.

STONE
Well, McClosky, any ideas? You
need to pull out your crystal
ball?

JONES
Knock it off Stone! Do you think
it was a coincidence that he got
the car and number right?

STONE
That's what I'd like to find out!
I mean, as close as the timeframe
was, he could have heard it over
the scanner.

MCCLOSKY

Look, I know you don't believe
in my abilities but I didn't ask
for this! You guys recruited me!

JONES

No...

(points at Jones)

...he recruited you!

MEEKS

Guys!

JONES

I see this is not going to work.
I think you and I will have a
talk with Capt. Franklin.

Jones and McClosky storm off.

MEEKS

Well, you know what that means.

STONE

Yeah, I afraid I do. It means I'll
be policing meters.

INT. BELLEVUE HOSPITAL - RECEPTIONIST DESK - EVENING

Stone walks up to the youthful and jovial RECEPTIONIST
just as she gets off the phone.

RECEPTIONIST

Good evening Mr. Stone. Are you
looking for Dr. Stone?

STONE

Yes Melanie.

RECEPTIONIST

I'll page her.

Dr. Stone walks up just as the receptionist picks up the
phone.

RACHAEL

Hi honey.

STONE

Hi. Are you ready? I'm starved.

RACHAEL

Sure.

RACHAEL
(to receptionist)
Melanie, I'm going to lunch.

RECEPTIONIST
Ok Dr. Stone.

Stone and Rachael exit the hospital.

INT. RESTAURANT - DAY

Stone pulls out a chair for his wife, they both sit down.
As they browse over the menu, an impatient, gum chewing
waitress, walks up.

WAITRESS
What would you guys like to drink?

RACHAEL
I'll take diet coke

STONE
Tea with lemon.

Waitress walks off.

STONE (CON'T)
We've got to hurry up and catch
this guy. Baby I'm worried sick
about your safety. If only I could
be with you twenty-four seven.

RACHAEL
I'm sure it won't be long before
he's caught. Have there been any
other leads?

STONE
No, not anything concrete.

RACHAEL
What about the psychic guy, McClosky?

STONE
Well, you know how I feel about
that.

The waiter brings the drinks back.

WAITRESS
(preparing to write down orders)
Are you ready to order?

RACHAEL

I'll have the shrimp scampi.

STONE

Let me have the chicken alfredo.

WAITRESS

Your orders will be right back.

RACHAEL

Thanks.

The waitress walks off.

STONE

Yesterday we had a confrontation.
I basically told McClosky he was
a phony.

RACHAEL

Sweetheart! What did Phillip say?

STONE

I think he's going to try and get
me thrown off the case. I just
think using a so called psychic
is a waste of valuable time and
resources.

RACHAEL

I thought you said he gave details
that no one else could have known.

STONE

I don't know, maybe he heard it
broadcast over the scanner.
I mean, all this happened just
prior to us getting the call.
How can I work with someone who
I believe is some sort of false
prophet?

RACHAEL

I see. Baby, just have a talk
with Capt. Franklin and let him
know exactly how you feel.

STONE

It's too late for that. Jones has
already persuaded him and the
Commissioner to go along with it.
It's really frustrating.

The waitress arrives with the meals.

WAITRESS

I have shrimp scampi...and chicken alfredo.

(places food on table)

Anything else?

RACHAEL

That will be all, thanks.

WAITRESS

OK. Enjoy the meals.

STONE

Regardless of the outcome...I'm going to do what it takes to catch this killer.

RACHAEL

I know you will sweetheart.

INT. POLICE STATION - MEEKS DESK - DAY

Meeks is at her desk sorting through some papers.

Capt. Franklin walks up.

CAPT. FRANKLIN

Where is Stone?

MEEKS

He stepped out for lunch. He'll be back in a moment.

CAPT. FRANKLIN

Well send him to my office the minute he gets in.

MEEKS

Will do sir.

Capt. Franklin leaves. Meeks picks the phone up to place a phone call then Stone walks up.

MEEKS (CON'T)

Well, you knew this was coming. The Captain wants to see you in his office.

Stone walks off.

INT. CAPT. FRANKLIN'S OFFICE - DAY

Stone enters. Capt. Franklin is sitting in his chair.

STONE

You wanted to see me Captain?

CAPT. FRANKLIN

Yes. Have a seat Stone.

Stone sits down.

CAPT. FRANKLIN (CON'T)

Have you read the papers or
watched the news lately?

STONE

(puzzled look)

Yes sir.

CAPT. FRANKLIN

Then you should be aware that
national and local media are
covering these serial murders
twenty four seven. Look, the reason
you were assigned to this special
task force is because I believed
you were a top notched detective
who could help crack this case.
I still believe this is true.
Unfortunately, the constant
bickering between you and Jones
is causing this investigation
to lose its effectiveness.

STONE

Look Captain, I don't have a
problem with Jones. It's just
that I don't believe in the
psychic phenomena.

CAPT. FRANKLIN

According to the Newark Police
McClosky gave valuable information.

STONE

Then why is it they never caught
the guy? I believe we're paying
too much attention to McClosky's
visions and not to enough to good
old fashion police work.

CAPT. FRANKLIN

(angrily)

Well detective, that's not your call! I'm removing you from the task force effective immediately.

STONE

Look Captain, this case is more important to me than anyone because my wife could end up being a target!

CAPT. FRANKLIN

I understand, and rest assured we will catch this guy. But I'm sorry, my mind is already made up.

STONE

Well believe me when I say this, I hope McClosky wins a medal!

Stone storms out the office.

INT. STONE AND MEEKS'S DESK AREA - DAY

Stone walks over to his desk and shuffles through his papers. Meeks looks up at him.

MEEKS

Is everything ok?

STONE

No. Jones got his wish. I'm off the case.

MEEKS

That's terrible but it's something that we both expected.

STONE

Look, I'm going to do everything I can to make sure this guy is caught.

MEEKS

I'll work with you anyway I can as long as we don't let Capt. Franklin find out. Cause we would both be policing parking meters.

Stone and Meeks both smile at the humor. Stone picks up a file from his desk and pauses.

STONE

Tell me...what is it that all these doctors have in common?

MEEKS

Wish I had the answer. That's the twenty-five thousand dollar question. We've gone over this over and over and we haven't found a connection.

STONE

What was the name of the lead detective on the Newark cases?

Meeks pulls up the information on the computer.

MEEKS

Looks like Detective Allen Simmons.

STONE

Is he still at the precinct there?

Meeks enters more data.

MEEKS

(looking at the monitor)

Yep.

STONE

You want to take a trip over to Newark?

Meeks turns and looks at stone.

EXT. NEWARK POLICE STATION - DAY

Stone and Meeks pull up, get out. They enter the station.

INT. NEWARK POLICE PRECINCT - DAY

Stone and Meeks enter. They approach a busy looking police officer at the front desk.

STONE

Good evening officer.

(shows his badge)

I'm Detective Stone and this is Detective Meeks. We're looking for DETECTIVE SIMMONS.

BUSY POLICE OFFICER

Just a moment.

The police officer calls Detective Simmons on speakerphone.

BUSY POLICE OFFICER
(into phone)
There's a Detective Stone and
Detective Meeks here to see you.

DETECTIVE SIMMONS (O.S.)
Send them back.

BUSY POLICE OFFICER
Around the hall, first door on
the right.

Stone and Meeks head to Detective Simmons's office.

INT. DETECTIVE SIMMONS'S OFFICE - DAY

Detective Simmons, 40ish, distinguished, is on the computer.
There is a knock at the door.

DETECTIVE SIMMONS
Come in.

The Detectives enter. Detective Simmons goes over and shakes
their hand.

DETECTIVE STONE
Hello Detective Simmons. I'm
Detective Stone and this is my
partner Detective Meeks.

DETECTIVE SIMMONS
Please have a seat.

The detectives sit down.

DETECTIVE SIMMONS (CON'T)
Now over the phone you said this
had to do with the doctor murders
we had a few years ago, correct?

STONE
Yes that's correct.

DETECTIVE SIMMONS
Well you all were sent copies of
the files on case.

STONE
Right. But we want to make sure
we're not missing anything.

STONE (CON'T)

We also would like to hear about your experience working with Ted McClosky.

DETECTIVE SIMMONS

I see. Are you a bit skeptical of McClosky? Listen, the clues that he provided us were crucial. I believe if the killer had struck one more time, we would have nabbed him.

MEEKS

What do you mean?

DETECTIVE SIMMONS

I mean not in a sense of them getting sloppy or anything like that. It's just that McClosky was able to tell us intricate details about the crimes. I mean before they actually happened.

STONE

Really?

DETECTIVE SIMMONS

Look guys, initially, I didn't believe in psychics, but given the circumstances surrounding McClosky, I figured I'd give him the benefit of the doubt.

MEEKS

What circumstance is that? Could you elaborate?

DETECTIVE SIMMONS

The poor guy suffered a nervous breakdown after his pregnant wife died in an automobile accident. He claims to have acquired psychic powers as a result. Now you couldn't just slam the door in a guy's face like that, could you?

STONE

I suppose not.

MEEKS

What made you come to the conclusion that this wasn't someone just targeting doctors at random?

DETECTIVE SIMMONS

Well, not only did the doctors all work at the same hospital, but they also were attacked either right before or right after their shift. Now we had a suspect by the name of VINCENT SPANO that had a clear motive.

STONE

What motive was that?

DETECTIVE SIMMONS

Mr. Spano's young son died after being brought to the emergency room for a minor ailment. Spano filed a wrongful death suit against the hospital which he eventually lost. I believe he had a couple of different firms working on the case. Anyway, during the investigation, we tailed the guy constantly. Never let him out of our sight.

MEEKS

What happened?

DETECTIVE SIMMONS

The murders never stopped.

Stone and Meeks turn to look at each other and get up.

STONE

We really appreciate you for taking time to meet with us Detective.

DETECTIVE SIMMONS

Hey not a problem. Whatever I can do to help you get this guy off the streets. Good luck with rest of your the investigation.

Stone and Meeks walk towards the door.

STONE

By the way, what was the name of the hospital?

DETECTIVE SIMMONS

ST. MARY'S.

Stone and Meeks exit the office.

EXT. NEWARK POLICE PRECINCT - DAY

Stone and Meeks exit the building. They get in the car.

INT. CAR IN FRONT OF POLICE PRECINCT - DAY

STONE

Let's get some information on Vincent Spano. See if he's got any alibis.

MEEKS

I'm on it.

Stone drives off. Meeks calls the station.

MEEKS (CON'T)

Hi David. Could you do me a favor?
Look up the main suspect in the
Newark Doctor Murders, Vincent
Spano. Get me his social, home,
and work address.
(listens)

Meeks takes out her pad and pencil.

MEEKS (CON'T)

(to Stone)
This guy definitely has a motive.

STONE

Now we just need to find out if
he had the op--

MEEKS

(writing down information)
Ok...alright...got you. Thanks David.
(to Stone)
He lives at thirteen-eleven Sunset
St. and works at The International
Paper Co. located at nineteen forty
four Adams. Let's check him out.

STONE

Let's do it.

INT. INTERNATIONAL PAPER CO. - DAY

Machines are running, noisy. VINCENT SPANO, late 30s, clean shaven with tattoos on his forearm, wearing safety goggles and coveralls, is turning a bolt on the machine.

Spano looks at his watch. His easy going, laid back SUPERVISER walks up.

SUPERVISER

How's it coming Vince? Did you get it lined out?

SPANO

I finally got it adjusted. Look, I've got to leave and meet my probation officer.

SUPERVISER

Not a problem Vince. I'll get someone else over here to finish up here. I'll just see you tomorrow.

SPANO

Thanks.

Spano walks away.

INT. LOCKER ROOM - DAY

Spano takes off his coveralls and places them in the locker. Looking around, he grabs a bag out of the locker, takes out a small piece of paper, looks at it, places it in his front pocket. He walks out of the locker room.

INT. INTERNATIONAL PAPER CO. - DAY

Stone and Meeks enter. Spano's supervisor is walking down the hall. He approaches them.

SUPERVISOR

May I help you?

STONE

Yes. I'm Detective Stone...
(shows his badge)
...and this is Detective Meeks.
(Meeks shows her badge)
We're trying to contact Vincent Spano.

SUPERVISOR

I'm Mark Green, his supervisor.
Is he in some sort of trouble?

STONE

Right now we just want to ask him
some routine questions.

SUPERVISOR

Well he left about a hour and a
half ago to meet his probation
officer.

MEEKS

His probation officer?

SUPERVISOR

Yeah. He goes once a month.

STONE

What's his probation officer's
name?

SUPERVISOR

I believe it's GREG WILLIAMS.

MEEKS

How's long has he been working
here? Does he get along with
his coworkers?

SUPERVISOR

About three years. He gets along
with others pretty well but he
mostly just keeps to himself.

STONE

How's his attendance?

SUPERVIOR

Well he takes off occasionally
but nothing we get concerned
about. Look, if he's in some
kind of serious trouble--

STONE

Look, thanks for your time. If
we need anything else, we'll be
contacting you.

Stone and Meeks walk off.

MEEKS

He was really persistent, wasn't he?

STONE

Let's get the name of his probation Officer and pay him a visit.

INT. ST. MICHAEL'S HOSPITAL NURSES STATION- DAY

Two nurses are gathered around conversing and sharing laughs. DR. PAUL PIERCE, early forties, dark hair, walks up.

DR. PIERCE

How are you ladies doing this evening?

NURSE ONE

I'm great!

NURSE TWO

Couldn't be better!

NURSE ONE

Dr. Pierce, I just took Mrs. Langford's blood pressure and it was on the high side; one forty over one hundred.

DR. PIERCE

She's got quite a little water retention. I want to put her on twenty five milligrams of Microzide and have her follow up with her physician as soon as she can. I believe if she changes her eating habits and starts exercising on a regular basis, she'll be just fine.

NURSE ONE

Sure doctor.

Dr. Pierce looks at his watch.

DR. PIERCE

Oh wow, it's five o'clock! I promised my wife I would take her out to dinner and a movie this evening.

NURSE ONE

Oh...isn't that sweet!

DR. PIERCE

Well, she's still biting her nails
after a week with my mom.

NURSE TWO

Anywhere special?

DR. PIERCE

Hey she's the boss! Wherever she
decides.

The nurses erupt with laughter.

DR. PIERCE

Look, you guy's enjoy the weekend.

NURSE ONE

You too.

Dr. Pierce exits the nurses' station.

INT. MEN'S ROOM

Dr. Pierce enters. He uses the urinal then goes over to the
sink to wash up.

A stranger with doctors scrubs, surgical gloves, and a
surgical mask enters. Dr. Pierce looks up at the mirror and
sees the stranger walk in.

DR. PIERCE

(looking up at stranger)

Good evening.

The stranger doesn't answer. Dr. Pierce looks down and
continues to wash his hands.

Creeping up slowly from behind, the stranger sees Dr. Pierce
grab a paper towel and dry his hands.

The stranger places one hand on the side of Dr. Pierce's
face and injects a substance into his neck with a syringe.

Dr. Pierce grabs his neck and falls to the floor. The
stranger grabs Dr. Pierce's hand, writes the number seven,
and exits the men's room.

INT. PROBATION OFFICE FRONT DESK- DAY

A, young, ditsy SECRETARY is thumbing through a magazine. Stone and Meeks walk up.

STONE

Good evening. I'm Detective Stone..

(shows his badge)

...and this is Detective Meeks.

(Meeks shows her badge)

We're trying to get in touch with
A probation officer by the name of
GREG WILLIAMS.

The PROBATION OFFICER, 30ish, cropped hair, drill sergeant persona, walks around the corner with his briefcase case in his hand.

SECRETARY

Here he is now.

Hearing the secretary, the probation officer looks over at the detectives.

PROBATION OFFICER

May I help you?

STONE

Good evening. I'm Detective Stone..

(shows his badge)

...and this is Detective Meeks.

(Meeks shows her badge)

We'd like to ask you some questions
about Vincent Spano.

Williams looks at his watch.

PROBATION OFFICER

Can you make it brief? I have a
prior engagement.

STONE

We'll be as brief as possible.

PROBATION OFFICER

Let's go to my office.

Stone and Meeks follow the probation officer to his office.

INT. OFFICE - DAY

Stone, Meeks, and Williams enter.

PROBATION OFFICER

Have a seat.

Stone and Meeks take a seat. The probation officer walks around his desk and sits down.

PROBATION OFFICER

What can I help you with?

STONE

How long have you been Vincent Spano's probation officer?

PROBATION OFFICER

About six months.

STONE

What is he on probation for?

PROBATION OFFICER

He was charged for third degree battery. He got into a fight at bar over a female and broke a chair over a guy's head. Why are you investigating him?

MEEKS

He's a suspect in a number of slayings.

PROBATION OFFICER

Well as far as I can tell, he's been keeping his nose clean. I mean he reports on time and he's still holding his job.

STONE

We just left his job and was told that he had a meeting with you this evening. Is that correct?

PROBATION OFFICER

Yes. In fact, you just missed him. He left about a half hour ago.

Stone and Meeks observe the clock on the wall. The time shows 5:20.

MEEKS

Well we won't take up any more of your time. Here's my card.

Meeks hands Williams a card.

MEEKS (CON'T)

Call me if you run across information.

PROBATION OFFICER

Will do.

Stone and Meeks exit the office.

EXT. PROBATION OFFICE - DAY

Stone and Williams exit the probation office and get in the car.

INT. CAR AT PROBATION OFFICE - DAY

Stone drives away. Meeks looks over at Stone.

MEEKS

So what do we do now?

STONE

Well, we need to interview Spano and verify any alibis if he has any. See if they all check out. In the mean time, I want to stick to him like glue on a stick.

MEEKS

We can't let Captain Franklin find out you're still involved with the investigation.

STONE

I've been thinking, maybe he'll reconsider if I convince him that I'll go along with Jones and McClosky.

MEEKS

It's worth a shot.

STONE

Yeah, I just thought--

Meeks' cell phone rings.

MEEKS

Hello?

(listens)

I'll be right over.

Meeks hangs up and looks at Stone.

MEEKS (CON'T)

(stoic look)

That was Jones. He said there's been another murder at Lincoln Medical Center.

STONE

Look, I'll drop you off at your car. While you're at the crime scene, I'll go have a talk with Capt. Franklin.

MEEKS

Ok.

INT. CAPT. FRANKLIN'S OFFICE - EVENING

Capt. Franklin is sitting at his desk with the phone to his ear.

There is a knock at the door.

CAPT. FRANKLIN

Come in.

Stone enters. Capt. Franklin gestures for him to sit down. Stone takes a seat.

CAPT. FRANKLIN (CON'T)

(loudly)

Yes I know he probably got out of there by now but damn it we're not taking any chances! Look, no one leaves out of that hospital until they're cleared! That means from patients to janitors and anyone in between!

(listens)

I don't give a shit if they're the POPE! If they were there, they get cleared! Keep me updated.

Capt. Franklin hangs up.

CAPT. FRANKLIN (CON'T)

What is it Stone? We've got a major crisis on our hands.

STONE

Sir, that's what I want to speak to you about.

CAPT. FRANKLIN

Look, I've got to meet with the Commissioner to prepare for a media conference in like now. Couldn't this wait?

STONE

Well sir, I'm requesting to be placed back on the task force. Before you say anything, I just want to let you know that I will work with Jones and McClosky in any way possible to get this guy.

CAPT. FRANKLIN

Why the sudden change of heart? You had every opportunity before to be a part of this investigation.

STONE

Sir, the fact that my wife could become a victim makes this personal. I'm willing to do whatever it takes to catch the person responsible for these murders. Now if it means stepping outside the box, then so be it.

Capt. Franklin stares at Stone for a moment.

CAPT. FRANKLIN

Ok Stone, you're on. Only because we need all the manpower we can get. But I'm warning you, if you cause just one damn ripple in this investigation, I will have your ass. Understood?

STONE

Understood sir.

CAPT. FRANKLIN

Now, get over to Lincoln Medical Center ASAP. I've got a news conference to give.

STONE

I'm on it.

Stone rushes out the door.

INT. LINCOLN MEDICAL CENTER - EVENING

Police officers are gathered around a nurses' station talking to hospital staff. Detective Stone approaches.

POLICE OFFICER
Good evening Detective Stone.

STONE
Hello officer. Where's Detective Jones?

POLICE OFFICER
I believe he's interviewing witnesses down the hall in the conference room.

Stone walks down the corridor.

INT. HOSPITAL CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

Jones and Meeks are interviewing a doctor and nurse. Stone enters.

JONES
Detective Jones. Could I see you outside for a moment?

Stone walks outside.

JONES (CON'T)
Excuse me for a moment.

Jones gets up and exits the room.

INT. HOSPITAL CORRIDOR - DAY

Jones walks up to Stone.

JONES
Look Stone, what are you doing here? You're not a part--

STONE
Capt. Franklin put me back on the investigation. Look Jones, I'm ready to work with you to get this case solved.

JONES
That would include McClosky as well.

STONE
(agreeing)
I understand that.

JONES
Alright. Let's go back in and
I'll bring you up to date.

Jones and Stone walk back inside.

INT. HOSPITAL CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

Meeks is interviewing the doctor and nurse. Jones and Stone enter.

MEEKS
(to Jones)
I was just finishing up. Is there
anything you want to ask them?

JONES
(to doctor and nurse)
No. Thanks again for your cooperation.
If we need anything else, we'll
be in touch.

The doctor and nurse get up and exit the room.

Stone and Jones both take a seat.

STONE
(looking around)
Where's McClosky?

JONES
For security reasons, I called
him and told him not to show up
here.

STONE
Is the hospital still on lockdown?

JONES
No. We turned this building inside
out, interviewed subjects with
access to the men's room where
the murder took place and so
for, nothing. Of course, with
the number of people in this
hospital, we've got our work
cut out.

STONE

So the killer came in, murdered the doctor, and left without a trace? This guy is definitely getting bolder by the minute. What time did the murder take place?

MEEKS

According to the nurses, the doctor left at five o'clock. He was found by an x-ray tech around five fifteen. The killer was probably disguised as hospital staff so no one would suspect anything.

JONES

Detective Meeks informed me of a guy by the name of Vincent Spano who was a suspect in the Newark murders. He filed a wrongful death suit against a hospital after his son died.

Meeks glances over at Stone.

MEEKS

(clearing her throat)

I attempted to contact him today. I visited his probation officer but he informed me that Spano had already left his office at around ten minutes till five.

STONE

So that would have only given him about fifteen or twenty minutes to get here and commit a murder.

JONES

How far did you say it was from the probation office?

MEEKS

It's at least a thirty minute drive.

STONE

Then there's no way he could have gotten here.

JONES

Maybe he was mistaken on the time.

MEEKS

He was sure of it.

JONES

Still, let's get him in for questioning. I want us to track this guy's every move.

EXT. POLICE STATION - EVENING

A podium with an array of microphones are setup. The Mayor, Police Commissioner and Capt. Franklin are preparing to speak.

A noisy crowd consisting of spectators and reporters waiting anxiously.

MAYOR

(stepping to the microphone)

May I have your attention please. The purpose of this press conference is to address this city on the issues involving the murders of our courageous and dedicated doctors. I want everyone to know that we've set up a special task force to catch the perpetrator of these despicable crimes. We will then prosecute them to the fullest extent of the law. At this time I'd like to introduce Police Commissioner Capt. William Callahan.

The Commissioner steps to the microphone.

COMMISSIONER

Hello everyone. We are working around the clock to arrest the person or persons responsible for these crimes. As the Mayor stated, we have set up a task force and we're asking anyone with information to please step forward so that we can make an arrest. I'd like to introduce head of the special task force, Capt. Scott Franklin. He will take your questions at this time.

Hands quickly go up. Capt. Franklin steps to the microphone to take questions.

CAPT. FRANKLIN
(pointing at reporter)
Yes you.

INT. BAR - DAY

The bar is dimly lit with a few people sitting around. Everyone is watching the news conference including the robust, baby boomer BARTENDER who is cleaning glasses.

Spano is sitting at the end of the bar drinking a beer. An intoxicated patron is seated next to him.

PATRON
(slurring)
What kind of person would go
around killing the very people
who are suppose to heal us?

BARTENDER
A sick bastard that's who.

PATRON
I've heard of serial killers who
go around targeting certain types
of individuals but doctors, geez.

Spano puts money on the counter for his drink. As he exits, the bartender looks over at him.

BARTENDER
Thanks buddy.

INT. STONE'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

The lamp is on. Rachael is in bed asleep.

Detective Stone enters and begins to undress. Rachael wakes up.

RACHAEL
(groggily)
Hi baby, you're home. I saw the
news conference this evening.

Stone finishes undressing and gets in the bed.

STONE
(yawning)
I am completely exhausted. We
interviewed everyone in that
hospital today.

RACHAEL

I know honey. Did you guys have any luck?

STONE

None. It's like this guy just vanished into thin air.

Rachael begins to drift back to sleep.

Stones stares into space for a moment, then looks over at Rachael.

STONE (CON'T)

Rachael?

RACHAEL

Yes dear?

STONE

Why don't you and Mya go visit your Mom in L.A. until this thing blows over.

RACHAEL

But Mike, I'm sure you all will catch this guy but there's no guarantee just how long that will take. Besides, I'm needed there at the hospital and I can't just up and leave.

STONE

I'm just worried about your safety is all.

RACHAEL

(gently kisses Stone)

I know sweetheart. But I will be just fine.

Rachael closes her eyes and drifts to sleep while Stone stares into space.

INT. POLICE STATION - DAY

Stone and Meeks are sitting at their desks drinking a cup of coffee when Detective Jones walks up.

JONES

I need you two in interrogations. We've got Spano.

Stone and Meeks follow Jones to the interrogation room.

INT.INTERROGATION ROOM - DAY

Stone and Meeks enter and take a seat at the table in front of Spano who is seated at the table calmly smoking a cigarette. Jones remains standing.

STONE

Vincent Spano, how are you? I'm Detective Stone and this is Detective Meeks. You've already met Detective Jones. You do know why you're here?

Spano begins to flashe an overt, mocking smile.

SPANNO

Yes Detective, I know why I'm here. Now you want to get started?

Stone and Meeks look at each other. Jones stares at Spano.

STONE

Alright. Where were you between five o'clock and five thirty yesterday?

SPANNO

I think you already know the answer to that question. I mean, didn't you and this lovely lady visit my probation officer?

Jones gives Stone and Meeks a surprise look.

STONE

(forcefully)

I'm going to ask that you address her as Detective Meeks.

Spano looks at Stone and flashes a sinister smile.

STONE (CON'T)

Do you find something funny?

MEEKS

Did you visit Lincoln Medical Center after you left your probation officer yesterday?

SPANNO

You mean did I kill that doctor?

JONES
Answer the question!

SPANO
No. I don't think I would have had
time.

STONE
We'll be the ones who decided that.

SPANO
(smiling)
If I'm under arrest...
(holds his wrists out)
...then arrest me. No? Well if you
all have nothing more to discuss
I'd like to leave.

STONE
Tell me, do you have any children?

Spano stops smiling, leans forward and gives Stone a stern
look.

SPANO
You already checked my background.
I don't find that question one
bit amusing. Tell me detective,
do you have any children?

STONE
That's none of your business!

SPANO
You do don't you? You make sure
watch over them real good. You
would want that psychopathic killer
to get a hold of--

Interrupting Spano, Stone leans over the table and grabs him
by the shirt in a flying rage.

STONE
(angrily)
Look you son of a bitch if you lay
a finger--

Jones quickly subdues Stone.

JONES
This creep is just trying to push
your buttons!

Stone regains his composure, gets up, and moves away as if to cool his temper.

MEEKS

Tell us about the lawsuit you had with St. Mary's Hospital?

SPANNO

Now why would I want to do your job?

JONES

The way I see it, you of all people would definitely have a grudge against doctors.

SPANNO

Yeah, well maybe I do but I don't think you have anything on me; now do you?

Jones, Stone, and Meeks all stare at Spanno.

SPANNO (CON'T)

So am I free to leave?

JONES

(gesturing towards the door)
Go ahead.

Spanno gets up, walks towards the door. He suddenly and turns around to face the detectives.

SPANNO

(smiling)
I'll see you around. I'm sure you'll find my life very interesting.

MEEKS

What a jerk.

STONE

That bastard knows he's going under surveillance.

JONES

(nodding his head)
Yeah, he knows it. You know, as bad as I want to believe this creep is responsible, there is no way he could have made it to the hospital and committed this crime if he left when the probation officer said he left.

STONE
(shaking his head)
Something's not adding up.

McClosky enters the room just as the phone rings. Jones answers it in on speaker.

JONES
Yes?

CAPT. FRANKLIN (O.S.)
How did it go? Any luck?

JONES
No. We didn't get anywhere with Spano. Besides, he didn't have enough time to get over there and commit the murder.

MCCLOSKY
There is a remote possibility that he's not the killer.

CAPT. FRANKLIN (O.S.)
There's always that chance. Still, I want a search warrant issued and put him under twenty-four hour surveillance. I know we've gotten a lot of erroneous tips, but I want everything checked out. I don't want to miss anything of value. Is that understood?

JONES
Yes sir.

CAPT. FRANKLIN
If we have to, we'll get additional manpower.

JONES
Alright Captain.

Jones ends the call.

JONES (CON'T)
Let's get a unit on Spano and get over to his place with a search warrant.

McClosky glances at everyone as they rush out the door.

EXT. SPANO'S APARTMENT - DAY

Stone, Meeks, and a couple of police cars pull up outside Spano's apartment. Stone and Meeks approach the apartment door.

MEEKS

Is Jones suppose to be here?

STONE

No. He was going to meet with McClosky.

The Detectives approach the door. Stone knocks loudly.

STONE

Open up police! We have a search warrant!

Spano opens the door and flashes an arrogant smile.

SPANO

Good evening friends. I've been expecting you.

STONE

I bet you have.

Stone angrily shoves the door open.

INT. SPANO'S APARTMENT - DAY

The apartment looks as though it's been recently cleaned. Everything is neatly in place. Stone, Meeks, and the police enter.

MEEKS

(to Spano)

We need you to stand over there.

STONE

Alright listen up, I want everything searched from top to bottom and make we collect handwriting samples.

The police begin to disperse and go to every room in the apartment. They start checking the cushions in the sofa, looking under lamps and in the kitchen cabinets.

INT. CAPT. FRANKLIN'S OFFICE - DAY

Capt. Franklin is completing paperwork. He hears a knock at the door.

CAPT. FRANKLIN

Come in.

Jones enters.

JONES

Good afternoon Captain. You wanted to see me sir?

CAPT. FRANKLIN

Yes, come in and have a seat Jones.

Jones takes a seat.

CAPT. FRANKLIN

Have you heard any news on how the the search of Spano's place is going?

JONES

No sir, I haven't.

CAPT. FRANKLIN

Well I want Spano arrested on the spot if there is any incriminating evidence found there.

JONES

Stone and Meeks are prepared to make an arrest.

CAPT. FRANKLIN

I've been meaning to ask you how Stone is working out now.

JONES

It's been working out pretty well. I think he understands that in order to be a part of this investigation he has to abide by the rules.

CAPT. FRANKLIN

Has McClosky given you any more information to work with?

JONES

Well he'll be meeting with me shortly to discuss some details. You know, I've got a feeling he's going to be instrumental in helping us crack this case.

INT. SPANO'S HOUSE - DAY

The apartment has been ransacked by the police. Spano is sitting in a chair smiling at Stone and Meeks who are standing across the room. A police officer approaches the detectives.

POLICE OFFICER

We're going to wrap it up. We collected handwriting samples but other than that, the place is clean as a whistle.

STONE

Ok. Thanks officer.

POLICE OFFICER

(shouting)

Alright, let's wrap it up guys.

The police officer walks away. Stone and Meeks go over to where Spano is sitting.

STONE

You know, I'm not convinced. I believe you have something to do with these murders and when I can tie you in, I'll be back for you.

SPANNO

(smiling)

I've heard it all before Detective. I don't think the city can afford to keep me in their back pocket. You all have a nice day.

Stone gives Spano a look of disgust.

INT. FORENSICS LAB - DAY

A room with bright lights, cabinets, tables, microscopes, centrifuges, and other lab equipment.

Researchers in white lab coats are milling around.

A forensic HANDWRITING EXPERT, female, mid 30's, is comparing stills of the numbers written on each victim to Spano's handwriting samples on a projector.

Stone and Meeks are standing next to her.

HANDWRITING EXPERT

(pointing at the projector screen)

As you can see, none of the markings possess a combination of independent discriminating characteristics that are similar or correspond in their relationships to one another.

MEEKS

Could you give it to us in--

STONE

(to Meeks)

May I?

(to handwriting)

Let's have it in layman's terms.

HANDWRITING EXPERT

Sure. They don't match.

Stone and Meeks look at each other and exchange a smile.

STONE

Are you saying the numbers on each victim are made by different people?

HANDWRITING EXPERT

No. What I'm saying is none of the characteristics match. That could mean that someone is deliberately changing their writing style to avoid identification. It's impossible to determine if these markings are made by the suspect.

MEEKS

What about the type of marker used?

HANDWRITING EXPERT

They all contained a mixture of xylene, toluene, or alcohol. These are present in most permanent markers but there's no way to identify the specific brand.

STONE

Thanks for the information.

HANDWRITING EXPERT

You're quite welcome.

Stone and Meeks leave.

INT. CAPT. FRANKLIN'S OFFICE - DAY

Capt. Franklin is on the phone.

CAPT. FRANKLIN
Yes sir we been given a number
of tips and we're checking them
out.

(listens)
We'll make sure the reward is
publicized immediately.

There is a knock at the door.

CAPT. FRANKLIN (CON'T)
Hold on a moment.
(to person knocking at door)
Come in.

Stone and Meeks enter.

CAPT. FRANKLIN (CON'T)
(to detectives)
Have a seat.

Stone and Meeks sit down.

CAPT. FRANKLIN (CON'T)
(back to phone conversation)
These are my detectives now. I'll
give you an update later sir.
(hanging up)
That was the Commissioner. He got
a call from the mayor and there
is now a twenty-five thousand
dollar reward in place. So how
did it go out there?

STONE
We turned the place inside out
but didn't find a thing although
we did get handwriting samples.
It's almost like he knew that we
were coming.

CAPT. FRANKLIN
Well what do you expect? He was
brought in for questioning prior
to being searched. Did you send
the writing samples over to the
lab.

MEEKS

Yes and analyzed. The results were inconclusive. According to the handwriting expert, none of them matched but there's the possibility that the killer is deliberately changing his writing style.

CAPT. FRANKLIN

Just what we need, a smart SOB. Let's just continue tailing Spano for the time being.

STONE

Yes sir.

There is another knock at the door.

CAPT. FRANKLIN

Come in.

Jones enters.

CAPT. FRANKLIN

Detective Stone and Detective Meeks were updating me on our prime suspect. How did it go with McClosky?

JONES

(looking at his notes)
Well, he was able to remote view--

CAPT. FRANKLIN

What's remote view?

JONES

Remote viewing is the ability to gather information about a distant or unseen target using extra sensory perception.

CAPT. FRANKLIN

(glances at everyone)
Ok.

JONES

Anyway he was able to determine that the next murder would take place tomorrow night around midnight. He wasn't able to provide any details other than the victim would be a foreigner.

CAPT. FRANKLIN

Stone and Meeks I'm giving you
two the job of covering Spano
tonight. Let's hope that we can
stop it before it happens.

INT. CAR ON STREET - NIGHT

Stone and Meeks are parked within view of Spano's apartment.
His car, a blue, late model foreign sedan, is parked
outside. Stone is nodding off while Meeks' eyes are glued on
the car.

MEEKS

What time is it?

Stone looks at the clock in the car.

STONE

It's eleven-forty five.

MEEKS

He's leaving!

Stone becomes alert and notices the brake lights on Spano's
car light up.

STONE

This could be our lucky break!

Spano leaves the apartment. Stone gives him a small head
start then follows.

Spano's car stops frequently at traffic lights. The
detectives, careful not to give up their position, have him
in their sights.

INT. CAR DRIVING DOWN STREET - NIGHT

Stone and Meeks anxiously follow Spano at his every turn.

STONE

Come on, lead us there.

The Detectives suddenly notice a hospital within distance.

MEEKS

Here we go!

STONE

I think we got him. Come on, make
your move!

The Detectives notice Spano's car pull up in front of the hospital. They park a distance away from him.

Suddenly, he gets out of the car, looks around, and towards the entrance. Meeks begins to open her door.

MEEKS

Are you ready to --

STONE

(eyes on Spano)

Hold it for a second.

Spano walks up to a newspaper machine outside the entrance and purchases a paper. He then gets back in the car and drives off. The detectives follow him again.

MEEKS

You think he knows we're on to him?

STONE

I don't know. Maybe.

Again they follow him as he makes various turns and goes through traffic lights.

The Detectives stop when they see Spano pull up at a STAR BUCKS COFFEE shop.

STONE

What is this? Coffee?

MEEKS

He knew we were tailing him the whole time. He's playing cat and mouse with us.

Meeks phone rings. She answers.

MEEKS (CON'T)

This is Detective Meeks.

(listens)

Alright! What's the address?

(listens)

1510 Madison Drive. Got you!

Meeks turns and looks at Stone.

STONE

Don't tell me.

MEEKS

That was Jones. Dr. Singh Sahota
was found murdered.

Stone drives away.

EXT. COFFEE SHOP - NIGHT

Spano gets out of the car and smiles as he watches the
detectives drive away.

INT. DR. SAHOTA'S LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Very elegant, with expensive Victorian furniture. Crime
Scene Investigators are taking photographs. Police are
milling all around.

Stone and Meeks enter. Jones is crotched over the body which
is lying face down. Jones is checking Dr. Sahota's palm. He
looks up.

JONES

I got a hold of McClosky and let
him know he got another one right.

Stone looks over at Meeks.

STONE

(sarcastically)

Great.

Stone and Meeks walk over towards Jones and the body. Stone
crotches down while Meeks remains standing.

JONES

Someone, presumably the killer,
called from inside the victim's
house to report the murder.

STONE

How did they get in? Any forced
entry?

JONES

No. Apparently the doctor answered
the door and let them in because
his alarm was disarmed.

MEEKS

Why would he let a stranger in at
this time of night?

STONE

Because he either knew them or they were disguised as someone whom he felt could he trust.

MEEKS

Like a police officer?

STONE

Maybe.

MEEKS

Ok, but why would you murder someone then call and report it?

JONES

He's taunting us. Maybe this is some kind of new thrill for him.

STONE

Or maybe they wanted us to find the victim at a specific time.

MEEKS

Yeah but why?

STONE

That's a good question? What time was the nine one-one call placed?

JONES

It was placed at one minute past twelve.

STONE

And the coroner estimates the time of death at--

JONES

Between eleven and twelve.

MEEKS

So that eliminates Spano. We had our sights on him that time.

STONE

(puzzled look)

Yeah, apparently so.

INT. STONE AND MEEKS OFFICE AREA - DAY

Stone and Meeks are both filling out paperwork when Jones walks up.

JONES

Capt. Franklin wants to call off
the surveillance on Spano.

Stones and Meeks both look at Stone in disbelief.

STONE

Why's that?

JONES

Look, he just said we were eliminating
Spano as a suspect.

Jones walks away. Stone gets up and walks to Capt.
Franklin's office.

INT. OUTSIDE CAPT. FRANKLIN'S DOOR

Stone knocks.

CAPT. FRANKLIN (O.S.)

Come in.

INT. CAPT. FRANKLIN'S OFFICE

Stone enters. Capt. Franklin is filling out paperwork.

CAPT. FRANKLIN

Yes Stone? Have a seat.

Stone takes a seat.

STONE

Jones just said we were pulling
off Spano.

CAPT. FRANKLIN

Yes, it's a matter of fact we are.
What's the problem?

STONE

Look Captain, I think we should
at least stick with Spano just a
little longer.

CAPT. FRANKLIN

That's out of the question for
two reasons. One, whoever committed
that murder wasn't Spano. Two, we're
not going to spend valuable manpower
on a dead end.

STONE

But what if Spano has an accomplish?
If so we--

CAPT. FRANKLIN

According to McClosky, this is the
work of a lone killer and he has a
strong feeling Spano is not the one.

STONE

But--

CAPT. FRANKLIN

This conversation's over!

STONE

(standing up)

Alright Captain.

Stone walks out.

INT. STONE AND MEEKS OFFICE AREA - DAY

Stone walks to his desk and sits down. Meeks looks over at
him.

MEEKS

I take it the Captain didn't
change his mind.

STONE

No he didn't. Apparently McClosky
has convinced him that Spano is not
the killer.

MEEKS

Well we know he didn't pull it off
last night, but there are all sorts
of possibilities. Like an accomplish
or maybe even a copycat killer.

STONE

Well it looks like McClosky is
running this show at least for now.

INT. STONE'S HOUSE - EVENING

Stone enters and looks around.

STONE

(loudly)

Rachael, I'm home.

Rachael walks down stairs and greets Stone.

RACHAEL
(smiling)
Good evening honey.

They embrace and share a kiss.

STONE
(looking around)
Where's Mya?

RACHAEL
She's over at my sister's house.

They walk over and take a seat on the couch.

RACHAEL (CON'T)
How was your day?

STONE
(looking disappointed)
Well, we dropped Spano as a suspect.

RACHAEL
But I thought you were so sure of
him?

STONE
I still am. It was Capt. Franklin's
decision. You know, it's tough for
me to do my job when there's a palm
reader around. I'm sick of it.

RACHAEL
What do you mean?

STONE
I mean McClosky. He's the reason
why we're eliminating Spano. He
told the Captain that he was almost
certain it isn't Spano, it's
the work of a lone killer.

RACHAEL
But Mike, how could he possibly
have known about the murder last
night if he didn't visualize it?
I mean he even narrowed down the
timeframe.

STONE

I don't know. Maybe I'm in a state
of denial or maybe just plain stubborn,
but I can't find it in myself to
believe it.

Rachael begins to unbutton Stone's shirt while gently
kissing him on his neck.

RACHAEL

(gently kisses his lips)
Well would you find it in yourself
to believe that we have the house
to our selves sweetheart?

Rachael straddles Stone. Stone kisses her back and begins to
unbutton her blouse.

The doorbell suddenly rings. Stone ignores it and continues
with his advances.

RACHAEL (CON'T)

(looking around)
Ah, Casanova, it's the doorbell.

STONE

(kissing her neck)
Who cares?

Rachael gets up and begins to button her blouse.

RACHAEL

Honey?

Stone gets up and goes over to answer the door.

STONE

(angrily)
I'm killing whoever it is!

He opens the door. It's McClosky.

STONE (CON'T)

(surprised look)
McClosky, what, what's going on?

MCCLOSKY

May I come in?

RACHAEL (O.S.)

Who is it honey?

STONE

Come on in.

They walk over to where Rachael is sitting on the sofa.

MCCLOSKY

I hope I'm not disturbing you guys.

STONE

Well, have a seat.

McClosky takes a seat next to Rachael on the sofa. Stone sits on the loveseat.

STONE (CON'T)

Ted, this is my wife Dr. Rachael Stone.

McClosky looks surprised.

MCCLOSKY

(grabbing Rachael's hand)

It's a pleasure to meet you Dr. Stone.

McClosky grabs hold of Rachael's hand while staring at her.

MCCLOSKY (CON'T)

(smiling at Rachael)

You know, we've got to hurry up and catch this guy. We wouldn't want anything to happen to this lovely wife of yours.

STONE

My wife will be just fine McClosky.

Rachael looks uncomfortable. She takes her hand away and stands up.

RACHAEL

(nervously)

Would you like something to drink?

MCCLOSKY

I'll take a cup of coffee.

RACHAEL

How do you like it?

MCCLOSKY

One cream, one sugar.

RACHAEL
Anything for you sweetheart?

STONE
No honey.

Rachael walks to the kitchen.

STONE (CON'T)
So tell me, what brings you here
so unexpectedly?

MCCLOSKEY
I realize you still have doubts
about my abilities but I want you
to know that I'm just as anxious as
you are to stop these murders.

STONE
Look, I'm back on the investigation
because I agreed to work with you,
I'll just leave it at that.

MCCLOSKEY
You know Detective Stone, you're
not the first to doubt my abilities.
A tragic event in my life caused
this condition.

STONE
Look, you don't have to go into--

MCCLOSKEY
No I think it's important for you
to know who I am and how I came to
be.

STONE
I'm listening.

MCCLOSKEY
My beautiful wife left the office
after working on a case late one
night. She was very dedicated. I
guess that's why her clients trusted
her so. Anyway, she lost control
of her car and flipped over several
times. She was taken to the emergency
room where she died. She was seven
months pregnant. Suffering from
severe depression, I started having
nightmares and became suicidal.

MCCLOSKY (CON'T)

I noticed my dreams were coming true. Soon, I started seeing things even when I wasn't dreaming. I've been living with this every since.

Rachael walks back in with the cup of coffee.

RACHAEL

Hear you go Mr. McClosky.

She hands McClosky the coffee and sits down. McClosky stirs the coffee and takes a sip.

MCCLOSKY

This is great coffee! Dr. Stone you look familiar. Do you work at a hospital or a clinic?

RACHAEL

I'm an Emergency Room Physician at Bellevue Hospital. I've been there for 10 years. Before that I was at St. Mary's in Newark.

Stone look surprised.

STONE

I didn't know you were ever at St. Mary's!

RACHAEL

I left right before you and I met.

MCCLOSKY

Were you working the emergency room there?

RACHAEL

Yes.

MCCLOSKY

That's interesting. Well I must be leaving.

McClosky stands up.

MCCLOSKY

Thanks for the coffee Dr. Stone. I hope to see you around. Don't bother seeing me to the door. I'll see my way out.

McClosky leaves.

RACHAEL

What a strange guy. He gives me the creeps.

STONE

Rachael, why didn't you tell me you once worked at St. Mary's?

RACHAEL

Well, the subject never came up. Why? What's the big deal?

STONE

The three doctors that were slain in Newark were all previously associated with St. Mary's.

RACHAEL

What about all the others?

STONE

(in a deep thought)

That's what I'm going to have to find out.

INT. CAR ON FREEWAY - DAY

Stone is driving. He and Meeks are headed to St. Mary's Hospital.

STONE

You know, why didn't we think of this before. If we can tie the doctors from these latest murders to St. Mary's, then maybe we can convince Capt. Franklin to keep Spano as our prime suspect.

MEEKS

Even if we do, I'm not so sure that's going to happen. Remember, Spano couldn't have committed the last murder.

STONE

But who else would have a clear cut motive? I mean, the guy sues the hospital for his son's death and loses. What more motive would you have to have than that?

MEEKS

Well maybe someone else has a
motive as well.

Stone looks over at Meeks.

INT. ST. MARY'S ADMINISTRATOR'S OFFICE - DAY

Hospital Administrator DR. FRANK NETTLES, mid 60's, full
head of graying hair, is at his desk.

He is looking at a list that he has just been given by Stone
and Meeks who are seated.

STONE

Well do any of the names on the
list look familiar Dr. Nettles?

DR. NETTLES

I've been at this Hospital six
years. I know for a fact Dr. Cox
and Dr. Sahota were once here.
I'm not so sure about the others.
Let me have my secretary run the
names. It will only take a moment.

Dr. Nettles picks up the phone.

DR. NETTLES (CON'T)

(into phone)

Julie, could you come here for
a moment?

JULIE, the shapely, youthful looking secretary, enters.

DR. NETTLES

(handing the list over)

Julie, could you do me a favor
and run these names through to
see if these doctors were once
on our staff. Also, I need you
to pull up records of all the
lawsuits we've had filed against
us within the past 15 years.

SECRETARY

Yes sir.

STONE

Tell me Doctor, how often do you
all encounter lawsuits?

DR. NETTLES

Detective, hospitals are just as vulnerable as any other business when it comes to lawsuits. Now we pride ourselves in employing a competent staff, but incidents do occur. But most of the time they're just frivolous suits.

STONE

I see. Have you ever known any doctors to be physically threatened?

DR. NETTLES

No. Not with bodily harm. Just in the pocket book.

Stone gives Dr. Nettles a half-hearted smile. There is a knock at the door.

DR. NETTLES (CON'T)

Come in.

The secretary enters with the information. She hands the files over to Dr. Nettles.

SECRETARY

Here you go Dr. Nettles.

DR. NETTLES

Thanks a lot Julie. That'll be all.

The secretary leaves. Dr. Nettles takes a moment to look over the files.

DR. NETTLES (CON'T)

(looking at the files)

It looks like all of the doctors on your list were on our staff. That's interesting...they worked in the emergency room at some point.

Stone and Meeks look over at one another.

STONE

What can you tell us about the wrongful death suit filed by Vincent Spano?

Meeks pulls out her pad and pencil and takes notes.

DR. NETTLES

(reading from the files)

It was filed 13 years ago. There were a couple of law firms that handled the case. Mr. Spano and his wife brought their son to the emergency room and he was diagnosed as having allergies and was sent home. He later died from a seizure disorder. The suit was eventually thrown out due to insufficient evidence.

MEEKS

How old was his son?

DR. NETTLES

He was 5 years old.

STONE

What is his wife's name?

DR. NETTLES

RHONDA SPANO.

STONE

I have one other question. Why did two law firms handle the case?

DR. NETTLES

(looking at the files)

Because the attorney from the first law firm that was handling the case, Fitzgerald and Crump, was killed in an automobile accident. Humm...what an eerie coincidence.

STONE

What's that?

DR. NETTLES

She was brought to this hospital following the accident where she later died.

STONE

What was her name?

DR. NETTLES

(looking at the file)

Her name was SUSAN MCCLOSKEY.

Stone and Meeks look at each other in total shock.

STONE

Did you say McClosky?

DR. NETTLES

Yes that's correct.

STONE

Look Dr. Nettles, is there any way Mrs. McClosky's treatment following the accident would have been sort of--

DR. NETTLES

Absolutely not Detective! That would be immoral and unethical. Saving lives is more important than any amount of money. You can rest assured that this hospital and those doctors did everything they could to save that woman's life.

STONE

I don't doubt that Doctor.

Stone and Meeks both stand up.

STONE (CON'T)

Well, thanks for your time.

The detectives leave.

INT. HOSPITAL COORIDOR - DAY

Stone and Meeks are walking. Several hospital staff walk past them.

MEEKS

All this is beginning to make sense now. If McClosky's wife was the attorney filing Spano's lawsuit, then that would explain how they met.

STONE

Right. They would both feel as though the hospital was responsible for the deaths of their loved ones.

They look at each other and begin to walk faster.

INT. CAR ON FREEWAY - DAY

Stone is driving extremely fast. Meeks is on the phone and has her pen and pad out taking notes.

MEEK

Right. That's Rhonda Spano.

(listens)

Oh it's Davis now? Give me that address.

(listens)

Meeks writes down the information.

MEEKS (CON'T)

That's ten fifty six Emery Lane.

I got it.

Meeks hangs up.

MEEKS (CON'T)

Spano's wife has been remarried.

Her name is now RHONDA DAVIS.

STONE

Hopefully Spano's ex-wife can give us some clues that will tie Spano and McClosky together.

MEEKS

(shaking her head)

I mean, what are the chances that McClosky's wife was the attorney working on the case for Spano?

STONE

Well if it was McClosky's wife, that would give both him and Spano a motive. McClosky seeking revenge for his wife's death and Spano for his son's.

EXT. RHONDA DAVIS'S HOUSE - EVENING

A white suburban home in a middleclass neighborhood with a well manicured lawn.

Stone and Meeks park in front, get out of the car and walk to the door.

Stone RINGS the doorbell. A slender, attractive woman in her late 30's answers the door.

STONE

Good evening ma'am. I'm Detective Stone...

(shows his badge)

...and this is Detective Meeks.

(Meeks shows her badge)

We're trying to get in touch with Mrs. Rhonda Davis.

MRS. DAVIS

(puzzled look)

I'm Rhonda Davis. How may I help you?

STONE

May we come in?

MRS. DAVIS

I'm sorry. Of course.

Mrs. Davis opens the door to let the detectives in.

INT. MRS. DAVIS'S HOUSE - DAY

Stone and Meeks enter.

The interior is immaculate. Everything is in place, suggesting no children live in the household.

MRS. DAVIS

Come have a seat.

The detectives and Mrs. Davis walk over to the living room and take a seat.

MRS. DAVIS

What can I do for you Detectives?

STONE

Well Mrs. Davis, we would like to ask you some questions about your ex-husband, Vincent Spano.

Mrs. Davis appears uncomfortable.

MRS. DAVIS

Vince and I have been divorced for over ten years. I've gone on with my life. What could you possibly have to question me about?

STONE

I understand that Mrs. Davis and believe me, we're not here to open up old wounds but there have been a number of doctors murdered and your ex-husband is a prime suspect. If you could just take a moment to answer a few questions, it may make a difference.

MRS. DAVIS

(sighs)

Alright.

STONE

Now have you seen your ex-husband or had any contact with him recently?

MRS. DAVIS

No. I just told you I've gone on with my life.

STONE

I understand. Mrs. Davis, I know that this is difficult, but I must ask these question. Did Vince ever reveal any type of violent behavior after the death of your son?

Mrs. Davis appears to start grieving.

MRS. DAVIS

It's a matter of fact he did Detective. Vince never fully came to terms with our son's death. He started drinking heavily and using drugs. After the lawsuit, Vince really became enraged. He hated the judicial as well as the medical system. He once threatened to blow up the hospital that treated our son.

MEEKS

Mrs. Davis, did he make that threat to anyone in particular?

MRS. DAVIS

No, he only mentioned to me when he was intoxicated. He became very abusive towards me which is one of the reasons I decided enough is enough.

STONE

Now Mrs. Davis, tell us about the law firms that handled your case.

MRS. DAVIS

Well, I remember the attorney from the first law firm was killed from injuries sustained in automobile accident. I remember because she was brought to the same hospital as our son. Vince said they deliberately let her die to sabotage the suit.

MEEKS

Did you believe that?

MRS. DAVIS

Of course not! It was an unfortunate accident. She would have probably died wherever she was taken. But I couldn't convince my ex-husband. That may very well be when he threatened to blow up that hospital.

STONE

Do you remember the attorney's name?

MRS. DAVIS

Yes. Susan McClosky. She was a very sweet lady. I remember she was pregnant at the time, which made it even more tragic.

MEEKS

Did you ever meet Mrs. McClosky's husband?

MRS. DAVIS

No. I never met him. Although she talked about him all the time. She was always talking about how excited her husband was about her pregnancy and how overly cautious he was of her.

STONE

Do you remember his first name?

MRS. DAVIS

No. I do remember my ex-husband saying the guy had a nervous breakdown.

MRS. DAVIS

Vince was obsessed with case.
He said he could sympathize with
her husband. You know, with him
losing his pregnant wife and us
losing our child.

MEEKS

Do you know whether or not Vince
ever met Mr. McClosky?

MRS. DAVIS

I'm not sure if he did. Although
you would have thought they were
best friends the way he carried
on about it.

Stone and Meeks look at each other in astonishment.

STONE

Thanks for your time Mrs. Davis.

MRS. DAVIS

You're quite welcome detectives.
Whether it's Vince or whoever, I
hope you find the killer.

STONE

Thanks Mrs. Davis. If we need
anything else, we'll give you a
call.

The Detectives leave.

INT. CAR - EVENING

Stone and Meeks get in the car after leaving from inside
Rhonda Davis' house.

MEEKS

You thinking what I'm thinking?

STONE

McClosky and Spano are definitely
working together.

Stone thinks for a moment.

STONE (CON'T)

(thinking out loudly)
Alphabet soup. Mya loves to spell
when she's eating her alphabetsoup!

MEEKS

What's that got to do with anything?

STONE

What were the numbers on each the victims' palms?

MEEKS

You mean including the ones in Newark?

Meeks takes out her pad and studies it for a moment.

MEEKS

Fifteen, twenty one, eighteen, eighteen, five, twenty two, five, fourteen, and seven.

STONE

There are twenty six letters in the alphabet, right? So, designate a letter for each number found on the victims.

Meeks is writing the information.

MEEKS

Let's see, o-u-r-r-e-v-e-n-g.
Our revenge?

STONE

There's one letter missing. An (E) which would be the number five.

MEEKS

(looking at Stone)
Meaning one more victim.

STONE

That proves their motive and collaboration.

MEEKS

Yeah, but that's just circumstantial evidence. To make anything stick we need to physically tie the two together somehow.

STONE

Well it won't do any good to search Spano's place cause he knows we could show up at any given time.

MEEKS

No, but what about phone records?

STONE

I thought about that but psychic or not, I'm sure McClosky is smart enough not to leave that kind of trail.

Meek's phone RINGS. She looks over at Stone before answering.

MEEKS

This is Detective Meeks.

(listens)

Yes McClosky? Which hospital?

(listens)

Thanks we're on it?

Meeks looks over and gives Stone a bewildered look.

MEEKS (CON'T)

Mt. Sinai Hospital. McClosky said a DR. DANIEL HOWELL would be murdered in about twenty minutes. Why would he--

STONE

Let's get there!

Stone whips the car around and heads in the opposite direction.

INT. MT. SINAI HOSPITAL X-RAY LAB - EVENING

Several charts are laying on a table. There are a number of screens around. DR. HOWELL, a middle-aged man with thinning hair, is going over an x-ray with a fresh out medical school technician. Suddenly Dr. Howell is sent a text on his cell phone.

DR. HOWELL

I've got to run, my car alarm is going off. I think we can work with what we've got. I'll be back in a moment.

Dr. Howell rushes out the lab.

EXT. MT. SINAI PARKING DECK - EVENING

The parking garage is full of cars. A car alarm can be heard blaring loudly.

Dr. Howell exit's the hospital onto the parking deck. He walks over to his car, a shiny black corvette convertible and shuts off the alarm with the remote switch.

He checks the car door. It's locked.

Spano, with a syringe in his hand, up from behind.

Before Spano gets a chance to attack, Stone and Meeks pull up, tires screeching. They jump out of the car drawing their weapons on Spano.

STONE
(weapon drawn)
Hold it, don't move!

Spano pulls out a weapon that's tucked away in his pants with the other hand. Stone and Meeks open fire.

Spano is mortally wounded. Meeks runs up to the doctor who is horrified.

MEEKS
Are you ok?

DR. HOWELL
(nervously)
Yes, I'm fine.

Meeks and Stone then walk up to the Spano's body.

Meeks kicks the gun away as Stone leans down and checks for a pulse.

MEEKS
Why would McClosky allow us time
to stop it this time?

Stone is in deep thought for a moment.

INT. STONE'S HOUSE - DAY (FLASHBACK)

Stone thinks back to when McClosky was at his home and Rachael was telling him about her connection to St. Mary's Hospital.

RACHAEL
I'm an emergency room physician
at Bellevue Hospital. I've been
there for 10 years. Before that
I was at St. Mary's in Newark.

EXT. MT. SINAI PARKING DECK - EVENING (REALITY)

STONE

It was a set up! He wanted us
to kill Spano! Stay here for
a report! I'm going to try and
get McClosky!

Stone jumps back in the car and drives away fast.

EXT. MCCLOSKY'S APARTMENT - EVENING

Stone pulls out his weapon and knocks on the door.

STONE

McClosky, it's the police! Open
up!

The door is unlocked and no one answers so he goes inside.

INT. MCCLOSKY'S APT - EVENING

Inside the apartment are all sorts of psychic paraphernalia, crystals, tarot cards, etc. Stone enters. As he makes his way into the spare bedroom, he notices newspaper clippings everywhere.

INSERT - BEDROOM WALL

There are newspaper clippings of headlines with the names of the murdered doctors.

BACK TO SCENE

Stone walks over to the closet, opens it, sees a police and doctors uniform hanging up. He also notices a black ski mask and syringes on the top shelf.

He walks over to a desk, opens the drawer, picks up a list with names.

INSERT - LIST

St. Mary's doctors and physician staff 1998. DR. KELLY
COPELAND, DR. DALE HENDRICKS, DR. RICHARD HAYES, DR. STEVE
CHILDS, DR. MICHAEL WILSON, DR. STEVE ROGERS, DR. MARK COX,
Dr. EDWARD MITCHELL, DR. GEORGE RAMI, DR. RACHAEL STONE.

Beside each name is a number. Dr. Stone's name has a number five beside it. All of the names have a line through them but hers.

BACK TO SCENE

Stone rushes out the door.

INT. CAR - EVENING

Stone calls Belleview Hospital.

STONE

(into phone)

Yes this is Detective Mike Stone.
I'm trying to reach my wife, Dr.
Rachael Stone.

(listens)

Yes I'll hold.

(listens)

How long ago did she leave?

(listens)

Thanks.

Stone calls the police to have units dispatched out to his house.

STONE (CON'T)

Yes, this is Detective Stone. I
need police at my house on 1164
Morning Glory Circle. Hurry!
My wife is in danger!

Stone frantically calls his wife to warn her about McClosky.

INTERCUT - MCCLOSKY'S APARTMENT/STONE'S HOUSE - EVENING

The phone RINGS. Rachael rushes in the room to answer it.

RACHAEL

Hello?

STONE

Honey, I just called the police
to have them escort you to safety!
Look, McClosky is--

RACHAEL

Hello? Hello?

Rachael suddenly hears a BUSY SIGNAL.

INT. MCCLOSKY'S APARTMENT - EVENING

Stone makes a mad dash for the door.

INT. STONE'S HOUSE - EVENING

With the phone still to her ear and the reality of what her husband was trying to convey, Rachael suddenly hears the doorbell RING. She dashes downtown stairs to answer it.

Rachael opens the door and McClosky is standing right there with a sinister look.

Rachael attempts to close the door but McClosky forces it open.

She runs up the stairwell. McClosky grabs her before she gets half way.

He pulls out a syringe. She kicks him in the face and runs into the bedroom.

McClosky creeps slowly up to the top of the stairs.

MCCLOSKY

Dr. Stone, do you know what it's like to lose two people who mean more to you than anything in the world? No of course you don't.

EXT. CAR ON STREETS - EVENING

Stone is driving extremely fast over to his house. He dials Rachael. Again hears a BUSY SIGNAL.

INT. BEDROOM - EVENING

Rachael is standing against the bedroom door crying. She looks around for somewhere to hide, runs into the closet and slowly closes the door.

INT. STONE'S HOUSE - EVENING

McClosky has completely lost it. He is standing in front of the bedroom door.

MCCLOSKY

Dr. Stone, this won't be painful to you at all. Which is more than I can say for my wife.

McClosky kicks the door in, looks around. He goes over to look under the bed.

MCCLOSKY (CON'T)

Come out, come out, wherever you are.

MCCLOSKY (CON'T)

You know, I never got a chance to play those games with my daughter Dr. Stone. Oh, did I tell you my wife and I were expecting a girl?

McClosky goes over to search the closet door.

EXT. STONE'S HOUSE - EVENING

Stone speeds up to the drive way. He jumps out the car with his weapon drawn, runs into the house.

INT. STONE'S HOUSE - EVENING

Stone enters. He desperately looks around for Rachael.

STONE

(loudly)

Rachael?

Suddenly he hears NOISES, He rushes upstairs.

INT. BEDROOM - EVENING

McClosky throws Rachael to the bed as she screams. He runs over and grabs her by the hair, holds her head down and kisses her face as he puts the syringe against her neck.

MCCLOSKY

(softly)

This won't hurt at all sweetheart.

Stone enters the bedroom, aiming his weapon at McClosky.

STONE

No McClosky!

McClosky looks up.

MCCLOSKY

I've been expecting you Detective.
Say goodbye to your lovely wife.

STONE

No!

Rachael looks out of the corner of her eyes at an alarm clock sitting on the nightstand. She grabs it, smashes against McClosky's head. He falls back and Rachael jumps away.

Regaining his composure, he raises the syringe above his head.

Stone fires his weapon twice hitting McClosky knocking him to the floor.

Rachael runs over, embraces Stone.

STONE (CON'T)

It's alright baby. Everything is going to be ok now.

RACHAEL

(crying)
I should have listened to you sweetheart.

Stone looks over at McClosky. They walk out of the room embraced.

INT. FOYER - EVENING

Jones rushes in with his weapon drawn as Stone and Rachael make their way down the stairs.

JONES

(loudly)
Are you two ok?

McClosky is creeping up behind the couple as they come down the stairs.

JONES

Look out!

Stone and Rachael make a mad dash down the stairs and duck for cover.

Jones opens fire.

McClosky falls down the stairs and when he lands at the bottom of the stairs.

The syringe is sticking out of his neck. Police run inside with their weapons drawn.

INT. COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE - DAY

The Commissioner and Capt. Franklin are sitting down having a discussion. There is a knock at the door.

COMMISSIONER

Come in.

Stone and Meeks enter.

COMMISSIONER (CON'T)
Have a seat detectives.

Stone and Meeks sit down.

COMMISSIONER (CON'T)
On behalf of the Mayor and the City of New York, I would like to thank you for a job well done. In addition, you both will be presented with the MEDAL OF VALOR for acts of bravery beyond the call of duty. And yes that means promotions as well. Why don't you guys take a couple of weeks off. Again, thanks for a job well done. Well that will be all Detectives.

MEEKS
Thank you sir.

STONE
Yes thanks.

Stone and Meeks leave the office.

INT. PRECINCT CORRIDOR - DAY

Stone and Meeks stop and chat.

STONE
So what are you going to do with all this free time?

MEEKS
An old flame has been wanting to take me on a vacation. I think I'll take him up on it.

STONE
(smiling)
Uh huh. I don't think I have to tell you to have fun.

MEEKS
What about you?

STONE
Well, Rachael and I promised Mya we would take her to Disneyworld.

MEEKS

Disneyworld?

STONE

Yeah, it'll be her first trip.
She's really looking forward to
it.

Detective Jones approaches Stone and Meeks.

JONES

Good morning detectives. Look I
heard about the promotions and I
want to congratulate the both of
you and to also make a special
apology to you Detective Stone for
me being wrong about McClosky.

STONE

Hey there's no need Jones. Look,
you had my back in the end. Just
do me one favor.

JONES

Anything, you name it.

STONE

Never ever mention the word psychic
around me.

All three detectives laugh out loud and walk away.

FADE OUT.

THE END