

(Name of Project)
by
(Name of First Writer)

(Based on, If Any)

Revisions by
(Names of Subsequent Writers,
in Order of Work Performed)

Current Revisions by
(Current Writer, date)

Name
Address
Phone

FADE IN:

EXT. DESERTED STREET- LEDGER COUNTY, MARYLAND - NIGHT

AN UNMARKED VAN WITH UNDERCOVER ROGUE COPS JACK RHINLER, DAVE MENKE AND EX-CON MARTY KRAGEN DRIVE UP TO THE ENTRANCE OF A DILAPIDATED APARTMENT.

A KNOCK on the door:

Rick Douglas, 26, a small time car thief recently released from prison is awakened from a deep sleep in his one room apartment.

Rick ambles lazily toward the door.

RICK
Its about time you guys got here!

He opens the door and surprisingly KNOCKED to the floor by Officer Rhinler.

OFFICER RHINLER
(sarcastically)
We're sorry for interrupting your sleep Rick , but we need to talk!

RICK
What are you guys doing here?

OFFICER MENKE
Just making a house call.

OFFICER RHINLER
I, myself would prefer being at home with the old lady, but you're Priority One tonight.

Rick gets up.

RICK
What's the matter with you guys?

OFFICER RHINLER
You hear that Dave! He don't have a clue!

Officer Rhinler PUNCH Rick again, sending him TUMBLING across the kitchen table.

OFFICER RHINLER (cont'd)
You were making good money.. you
had to get greedy!

RICK
(wiping BLOOD from his
lip)

Rick tries to FIGHT back by KNOCKING Officer Menke to the floor.

OFFICER MENKE
You cheap bastard!

Rick's arm is pinned behind his back as grabbed Menke BEATS him.

RICK
(through BLOODY lips)
Look fellows..I've got some money
stashed. You can split it..just let
me go.

OFFICER RHINLER
You couldn't give us enough money
for all the trouble you've caused.

Rick breaks free and ATTEMPTS TO RUN for the door, but is caught and THROWN VICIOUSLY into a steel radiator. He SLUMPS the floor unconscious.

INT: APARTMENT ENTRANCE - SAME

JAMES "Sonny" SIMPSON, 27, auto mechanic with the wish to own his own business and RICHARD "Richie" MASON, 25, asthmatic and stutterer approach Rick's apartment house LOUDLY conversing about a prior poker game.

SONNY
I plan on winning tonight and there
is nothing you or Rick can do to
stop me.

RICHIE
You..you..you..say that..that all..
all the time.

SONNY

Everybody knows when you and Rick
want to cheat..your stuttering
gives you away.

Marty overhears the conversation and calls Rhinler to expect
visitors.

Sonny and Richie comes up the only stairway as Rhinler and
Menke run hastily into the hallway cutting out the lights and
smashing the light switch in the apartment.

Sonny and Richie reach the top of the stairs.

RICHIE

I..I..I..don't like this. Why..why
is it so dark up..up..here?

SONNY

Shut up, Richie he's probably
playing a joke or something. Hey
Rick!

No response.

RICHIE

Let..let's go..I really have ah..ah
bad..bad.. feeling, Sonny.

Sonny notice Rick's door is open.

SONNY

(peering into the dark
apartment)

Hey Rick where are you? This isn't
funny.

No response.

RICHIE

Some.. some..thing's wrong. I know
Rick wouldn't just take off and..
and leave his.. his door open.

SONNY

Maybe he's hurt or something. I'm
going inside..you can stay out here
if you want.

RICHIE

Not..not me!

Sonny cautiously walk inside feeling for the light switch with Richie STUMBLING closely behind.

SONNY
Where is he?

Richie stumbles. He lights a match and see Rick's BLOODIED, BATTERED body.

RICHIE
(frantic)
Son.. Son.. Son-ny!

SONNY
What?

Richie and Sonny bend down to help as Rhinler and Menke slip back into the apartment and ease up behind them.

SONNY (cont'd)
I'm calling 911. Whoever did..

Sonny drops the cell phone as he see Rhinler and Menke approach, armed and shields out.

SONNY (cont'd)
Easy fellows..we found him like this.

OFFICER MENKE
Well, if you need 911, here we are.

RICHIE
See, Son.. Son.. Sonny.. I..I told you..you dumb ass.

SONNY
Richie, shut up!

OFFICER RHINLER
Why are you boys slinking around in the dark..playing hide and go seek?

SONNY
We wasn't slinking around.

OFFICER MENKE
What were you doing then..robbing the place?

RICHIE

Hell, no! We..we don't steal!

OFFICER RHINLER

Yeah, right! We got a call about a disturbance on this floor and we find you two leaning over a stiff.

SONNY

Its a good thing you guys showed up! My friend Rick..

OFFICER MENKE

Rick? You know this guy?

SONNY

We came to play poker.

OFFICER RHINLER

Well, he won't be playing poker tonight and you two are coming down town with us.

RICHIE

We didn't do nothing!

SONNY

If you would let us explain how we found him..

OFFICER RHINLER

Tell your story downtown!

RICHIE

We found him like that!

SONNY

When you walked in, what were we doing?

OFFICER MENKE

You were standing over your friend's body..case solved!

SONNY

Rick was badly beaten..did you hear any noise when you came in?

OFFICER MENKE

It doesn't matter! Both of you are under arrest. You have the right to remain silent!

RICHIE
 Officer, you are..are
 making..a..big..big mistake!

EXT: STREET-DOWNSTAIRS -SAME

Two more friends arrive for the game. PABLO(Thousand Hands)
 ORTEGA, 25, works as a Martial-Arts Instructor and ROCCO
 PALPANETTI, 26, auto repair mechanic, are getting out of
 parked car.

Richie, Sonny, Rocco and Pablo and Rick are all longtime
 friends since high school.

PABLO
 (LOUDLY)
 Hey Rick, have no fear, party man
 is here.

PALPANETTI
 Keep your voice down Pab, you have
 other people living here.

PABLO
 It sure doesn't look like it..Rick
 should be living here for free.

Rhinler's cell phone RINGS again as Marty calls.

INTERCUT- OFFICER RHINLER/MARTY

OFFICER RHINLER
 What ?

MARTY(V.O.)
 Two more guys just drove up and
 they're coming up to Rick's place.

OFFICER RHINLER
 Not a problem.. we have the
 situation under control up here.

MARTY
 Just thought I would let you know.

OFFICER RHINLER
 We got this! Take care of things
 down there.

END INTERCUT-

Rhinler FORCES Sonny and Richie into a corner. Pablo KNOCKS LOUDLY on the door. Menke standing by the door, invites them in.

OFFICER MENKE
(service revolver drawn)
Welcome to the party boys.

Pablo's fighting instincts ERUPTS as he takes Officer Menke's gun and throws him across the room. Rhinler rush in and put the gun barrel to his head.

OFFICER RHINLER
Move another inch karate boy and
you'll be talking to God!

Pablo raises his hands and steps back.

PALPANETTI
Sonny, who are these people and
where is Rick ?

PABLO
Yeah Sonny, what's going on here?

OFFICER RHINLER
Shut up..I'll ask the questions.

Rhinler and Menke display their shields.

PABLO
Cops? That damn Rick ..what kind of
trouble is he in now?

SONNY
Rick is dead Pablo. Somebody beat
him to death.

PABLO
Dead? Why aren't you guys out there
searching for his killer?

OFFICER MENKE
Hey Jack, look like everyone here
is acquainted.

PALPANETTI
So, what's the problem?

OFFICER RHINLER
I don't care what you or partners
think..we're taking this show
downtown..lets move!

OFFICER MENKE

I called the Coroner for the stiff
and backup for these guys.

PALPANETTI

Don't you think you're jumping the
gun here? We're Rick's friends..we
couldn't hurt him!

OFFICER MENKE

We don't know that. This could all
be a conspiracy.

OFFICER RHINLER

You also have the right to remain
silent, anything...

PABLO

(interrupting)

Whoa Amigo..what are you charging
us with?

OFFICER MENKE

I'm not charging you two with
anything right now.

PALPANETTI

Let's just go downtown and see if
we can help straighten this mess
out.

OFFICER RHINLER

A rational man!

PABLO

Like my friend said..we just came
here to play poker.

OFFICER RHINLER

Move it!

Sonny, Richie Palpanetti and Pablo follow Officer Menke
downstairs where they are met by two squad cars.

PABLO

Hey, what about my car?

OFFICER RHINLER

Give me your keys.

Pablo and Palpanetti look surprisingly at each other as
Officer Rhinler walks over to the car, opens the trunk and

finds a loaded shotgun and marijuana.

Pablo views the set up and starts SHOUTING EXPLETIVES in his native Mexican language, but is restrained by the Officers from the squad cars.

INT: POLICE HEADQUARTERS-LATER

Interrogation Area-

OFFICER RHINLER
 (to Palpanetti)
 From the top..why were you meeting
 in the deceased apartment?

PALPANETTI
 To play poker.

OFFICER RHINLER
 You went to the victim's home to
 rob him and something went wrong,
 right..talk to me?

Palpanetti burst into LAUGHTER.

OFFICER RHINLER
 What's so damn funny?

PALPANETTI
 Robbery? Please..if somebody broke
 into Rick's apartment, they would
 feel insulted..he had nothing to
 steal!

GENE MILLER, 51, CAPTAIN, LIAISON/ASSISTANT TO THE CHIEF OF
 POLICE ENTERS.

PALPANETTI (cont'd)
 Man, look at all the salad on that
 uniform. You must be the big cheese
 around here.

CAPTAIN MILLER
 I'm Captain Miller..are you aware..

PALPANETTI
 Yeah, I'm aware that I'm being set
 up and..(pause)I want a lawyer.

Captain Miller and Rhinler exits.

INT: INTERROGATION ROOM #2 - SAME

Sonny is seated with his arms crossed as Captain Miller and Rhinler enter.

CAPTAIN MILLER
What's your story?

SONNY
If we sound so much alike..its
because.. (he SHOUTS) We're telling
you the truth!

CAPTAIN MILLER
You know what happened in that
apartment. Why don't you just..

SONNY
(interrupting)
Let's back up shall we? When Super
Cop over there read me my rights,
he said a lawyer would be available
if I couldn't afford one, right?

CAPTAIN MILLER
You quoted him correctly. A lawyer
would be forthcoming.

SONNY
Well, since I have nothing more to
say, let he or she forth come!

Menke and a FEMALE OFFICER, 25 walk in. They inform Captain Miller that Pablo isn't talking and Richie is stuttering so bad he can't form a complete sentence.

CAPTAIN MILLER
I see everybody has dummied up.
(to Officer standing by)
Get them out of here!

INT: COURTROOM - - DAY

SUPER: TRIAL- TWO MONTHS LATER

Criminal Trial Proceedings. Sonny, Pablo, Palpanetti and Richie are seated at the Defense table.

Margaret HAMMONDS, 45, a "hand-picked" lawyer is seated next to them. They have been informed that the presiding Judge who

was originally suppose to hear their case has mysteriously recused himself.

SONNY

(to Pablo)

What kind of foolishness is this?
We were denied bail and held all
this time. It ain't right..

LAWYER HAMMONDS

I'm surprised your cases are even
being heard..it usually takes
longer.

PABLO

Both of our cases are different.
How can they hear them together?

LAWYER HAMMONDS

It was bad enough that neither one
of you could make bail.

PALPANETTI

No one told us we were eligible for
bail!

RICHIE

We're.. we're going to prison
aren't we? I've nev..ver been
in..in jail before.

LAWYER HAMMONDS

(bows her head in shame)

I'm so sorry Richie..I really am.

SONNY

There's no need for you to be sorry
Miss Hammond..we believe in you.

Lawyer Hammonds begin to silently cry as her GUILT begins to sets in.

SONNY (cont'd)

Miss Hammonds, are you all right?

LAWYER HAMMONDS

I'm fine.. my allergies.

Lawyer Hammonds is summoned to the Judge's Chamber and finds..

JUDGE ROY "No Appeal" MCNEIL, 69, a corrupt Criminal Judge

with twenty-five years on the bench and LAWRENCE MACKLIN, 45, corrupt PROSECUTOR with TWENTY YEARS of government service.

Judge Mcneil is holding a plump brown envelope.

JUDGE MCNEIL
Come on in here Maggie and get some of this money.

LAWYER HAMMONDS
I'll take it when both of you stop sending innocent people to jail.

JUDGE MCNEIL
This is not the time to get a conscious sweetheart.

PROSECUTOR MACKLIN
Maggie, what happened last week was not my fault..how did I know he had two young kids?

LAWYER HAMMONDS
He got fifteen years Larry because you withheld evidence that could have saved him!

PROSECUTOR MACKLIN
Oh well..you win some, you lose some.

The envelope is thrown at her feet.

JUDGE MCNEIL
Pick it up and get out!

As Lawyer Hammonds emerge from the Judge's chamber with the envelope, Sonny notices a sour expression on her face.

SONNY
You were inside a long time. Did you meet our new Judge?

LAWYER HAMMONDS
We talked.

PALPANETTI
What kind of feel did you get?

Judge McNeill enters.

BAILIFF

All rise, the Honorable Judge Roy McNeil presiding.

SONNY

Ah hell..I can tell you what she didn't get..we're up shit's creek without a paddle!

PALPANETTI

What are you babbling about?

BAILIFF

You may be seated.

SONNY

Forget about bail and just look for some long jail time.

PALPANETTI

I gather from your outburst that you've seen this Judge before?

SONNY

(staring straight ahead)

Yep..I know him as well as I know my own mother. He's put a lot of my friends in jail on B.S.

RICHIE

He.. he.. can't be that bad Sonny. He's a Judge.

LAWYER HAMMONDS

Richie, Sonny is right.. he's very, very bad.

SONNY

He's on the list of the most disliked judges in this city.

Lawyer Hammonds and Prosector Macklin gets into an argument.

PROSECUTOR MACKLIN

Your Honor, may I approach the bench?

Lawyer Hammonds follows.

JUDGE MCNEIL
Maggie, what in the hell are you
doing? Have you forgotten what we
discussed in my chambers?

LAWYER HAMMONDS
How can I? You want let me forget!

JUDGE MCNEIL
Back to your areas!

Prosecutor Macklin and Lawyer Hammonds return to their seats.

SONNY
Remember last year when Old Man
Heyward was arrested for
shoplifting?

PABLO
Yeah..the store owner felt guilty
and later came back to drop the
charges, but Old Man Grisben was
gone.

PALPANETTI
So, what happened to him?

SONNY
Ask that man up there in that black
robe. They call him Judge Roy "No
Appeal" McNeil!"

RICHIE
My mot.. mot-her told me bad days
like this were coming. I..I be
damned.. if.. if this isn't one of
'em.

JUDGE MCNEIL
As Officers of the Court, please
maintain some decorum..continue Mr.
Macklin.

Lawyer Hammonds cross examine Officer Rhinler relentlessly,
but to no avail.

LAWYER HAMMONDS
No more questions at this time,
Your Honor.

PALPANETTI

What in the hell was Rick in to?

PABLO

I bet they're all in on it.

JUDGE MCNEIL

The Jury will go into the
Deliberation Room.

Pablo stands and THROWS a chair in ANGER.

PABLO

You can take this Kangaroo Court
and no witnesses and shove it!

JUDGE MCNEIL

You're out of line Mr. Ortega!

SONNY

Pablo calm down. Nobody is
listening.

JUDGE MCNEIL

Mr. Ortega and Mr. Palpanetti, you
have been found guilty and will be
remanded to State Prison.

PALPANETTI

This is a total miscarriage of
justice, Your Honor.

JUDGE MCNEIL

Mr. Simpson and Mr. Mason, the
court has also found you guilty of
manslaughter ..you too will be
remanded to State Prison.

Pablo GRABS another chair and SLAMS it furiously on top of
the Defense Table as COURT OFFICERS rush to restrain him.

The first Officer to reach him is KICKED in the chest and
FALLS BACKWARDS into the arms of two other charging Officers.

Another Officer comes from behind and tries to use a
restraining technique with his baton. Pablo immediately DROPS
TO ONE KNEE to break the hold, throwing the Officer towards
Judge Roy's bench.

As he parries, Pablo STRIKES a backward blow into another

Officer's groin, causing him to fall, WITHERING in pain.

A cadre of Court Officers move in and successfully restrain him.

PABLO
Kill me... Kill me.. I'm dead
already!

INT: STATE PRISON - DAY

Palpanetti, Sonny, Pablo, Richie and several other prisoners are marching towards their cell. The older prisoners CALL OUT..

JAIL HOUSE CHORUS
"Look fellows..fresh meat"..come To
papa baby..this crop looks good, ba-
by!"

Sonny walks into the cell where an eager Inmate awaits.

INMATE
(purse his lips)
Come to daddy, sweet meat!

Sonny turns towards the Correction Officer who SLAMS the cell door closed.

SUPER: ONE WEEK LATER

LAUNDRY ROOM-

Richie enters and see..

Sonny with a black eye, a large bruise on his cheek and staring at the picture of a police officer he recognize from his old neighborhood.

RICHIE
Damn Sonny..what happen to you?

SONNY
I fell..any more questions?

RICHIE
Don't get so..so bent out of shape!
Who's that officer?

SONNY
I know him from my old
neighborhood.

RICHIE

He.. he.. might be able to help us,
right?

Pablo enters.

SONNY

Well, well..the Ghost appears!
Where in the hell have you been the
past coupla' days?

PABLO

Solitary Confinement. Who re-
arranged into your face?

SONNY

I knew it would only be a matter of
time before you got into trouble.

PABLO

Several Inmates approached me and
said all NEW-BIES has to be
personally inspected.

SONNY

Well, you had to defend yourself.

PABLO

They ran the cellblock and wanted
me to be their "new boy."

RICHIE

You... you... straighten them out,
right Pablo?

SONNY

You might as well tell us.. what
did you break?

PABLO

I broke his arm, okay... Hey, there
was no reasoning with the guy.

RICHIE

You..you..Bruce Lee'd his ass.

SONNY

This Officer who's giving the
Orientation..I know him.

PABLO

So what? He's just a regular cop
like everyone else around
here..just retired.

SONNY

Unless he's changed, he could be
our ticket out of here. Where's
Rocco?

PABLO

I left him in the Chow Hall
preparing dinner.

SONNY

Why aren't you in there with him?

PABLO

I suppose to be, but I need a
break, man.

RICHIE

Sonny, how.. how.. did you meet
this Officer on the..the poster?

PABLO

Or should we say, how did he meet
you?

SONNY

He was a beat cop in my old
neighborhood when I was a kid.

INT: PRISON CHOW HALL - LATER

Palpanetti, Sonny, Pablo and Richie are sitting together. The
revengeful Inmate fitted with a cast on his arm is TAUNTING
Pablo.

INMATE

(LOUDLY)

Wet back, you're mine!

He symbolizes a THROAT SLASHING with his finger.

PABLO

(stands up)

Bring it on, you One-Armed
Bastard..do me..I'm shivering in my
boots!

A Correction Officer walks BRISKLY towards them.

PALPANETTI

Calm down Pab.. You don't want to end up back in Solitary do you?

SONNY

To get this Officer to help us, we need to approach him correctly.

PALPANETTI

Who ever framed us had to be bigger than the cops.

PABLO

A politician maybe?

SONNY

Maybe those cops killed Rick and used us to cover it up.

PALPANETTI

That wouldn't surprise me. Rick was always into something illegal.

Exiting the chow hall, Pablo is HIT in the back with a biscuit.

INT: PRISON CHOW HALL - DAY

SUPER: ORIENTATION-

RAYMOND DANIELS, 55, decorated police sergeant and retiree after thirty years, works as a Security Consultant for the department and comes to the prison once a month, is finishing up a motivational speech.

JAMES CASTILLO, 52, WARDEN AT STATE PRISON, FOR TWENTY YEARS, stern, but fair is standing behind him.

SERGEANT DANIELS

My time is up Gentlemen. If either of you have any more questions, better ask me now.

INMATE, 24

Sarge, I haven't received any mail in three weeks..can you check on it for me?

SERGEANT DANIELS
Give your name and contact info to
my Assistant and I'll check it out
for you.

As SERGEANT DANIELS and Warden Castillo step down from the podium, they are approached by Sonny, Pablo, Palpanetti and Richie.

SONNY
(to Warden Castillo)
Warden, may we have a word with
SERGEANT DANIELS?

WARDEN CASTILLO
Absolutely not..go to your work
site.

SONNY
We just want his opinion on
something.

SERGEANT DANIELS
I'll be all right, Jim.

Warden Castillo stares at everyone and summons a Guard to stand by.

SONNY
Remember me, Sarge?

SERGEANT DANIELS
Can't say that I do. Should I?

SONNY
Remember your old beat on Benson
and Lenox. You used to patrol there
maybe fifteen years ago.

SERGEANT DANIELS
I remember the beat..what about it?

SONNY
My name is James Simpson. You once
signed me up for the Police
Athletic League Basketball Team.

SERGEANT DANIELS
(rubbing his chin)
I've sponsored a lot of kids at the
PAL.. but you do look familiar.

SONNY

I was a member of the 1984 Junior PAL basketball that won the Championship that year.

SERGEANT DANIELS

Right..right..I remember now! I would say it's nice to see you, but..

SONNY

Yeah, I know. But Sarge, we could really use your help.

SERGEANT DANIELS

Sure, if I can.

SONNY

You're not going to believe this, but we was set up for something we didn't do.

SERGEANT DANIELS

Set up?

SONNY

These are my friends Pablo, Rocco and Richie Mason.

SERGEANT DANIELS

Son, over half of the Inmates in this prison have said the same thing.

SONNY

They arrested me and Richie for murder, Rocco and Pablo were for weapons possession and narcotics.

SERGEANT DANIELS

Those are some pretty tough charges. What happened?

PALPANETTI

We were invited to play poker at a friend's apartment but when we got there he was dead.

PABLO

Out of the blue, two undercover cops came and started making accusations. They even planted drugs and a shotgun in my car..

SERGEANT DANIELS

(interrupting)

Whoa..slow down..wait a minute!..like a wise Indian would tell you..boys, you're in a heap of trouble!

PALPANETTI

We know its going to be tough proving our innocence.

SONNY

Me and Richie were the first to reach the apartment and we found the door open with the lights out.

SERGEANT DANIELS

Don't tell me you two went in...

SONNY

Yeah.

SERGEANT DANIELS

Wrong move fellows..

SONNY

Wrong move? Rick could have been sick or something.

SERGEANT DANIELS

Did it ever occur to you that someone else could have been inside?

RICHIE

We..we just wanted to make sure he..he was all right.

SERGEANT DANIELS

A dark apartment and an open door..come on.

SONNY

Minutes later the cops showed up.

SERGEANT DANIELS

Maybe they were conducting an investigation..can you prove they wasn't?

PABLO

All I know is that we were arrested for something we didn't do.

SERGEANT DANIELS

I need more than what you're telling me in order to get involved.

PABLO

I see where this is going. You don't want to go up against your fellow officers.

SERGEANT DANIELS

If you want me to stick my neck out for you, I need to be told everything.

PALPANETTI

A cop took Pablo's car keys, went to his trunk and found a shotgun and drugs..obviously, planted.

PABLO

How did they know it was my car? I didn't tell them..I don't use guns or knives..I use my hands!

SERGEANT DANIELS

What else can you tell me?

SONNY

Hell, after looking down the barrel of a service revolver that look as wide as a tunnel...

PALPANETTI

We didn't sign any confessions or anything..they just found us "guilty" and sent us here.

RICHIE

We were even de..denied bail. Tell me something isn't wrong with..with that picture.

SERGEANT DANIELS

I'll check out your arrest sheets
and see what's in them.

PALPANETTI

They probably gave us a hand-picked
lawyer.

SONNY

We were tried by a Judge even you
should know.

SERGEANT DANIELS

I know most of the Judges in this
town. Whom are you referring to?

SONNY

Judge Roy McNeil!

SERGEANT DANIELS

Dear God yes! My daughter even
knows about Judge McNeil.

PALPANETTI

Even a tough man can be cut down an
inch or two, no matter how strong
he is.

SERGEANT DANIELS

You would have to cut down more
than an inch to faze old Judge Roy.
He would put his own mother in
jail.

SONNY

So, will you help us?

SERGEANT DANIELS

The allegations you're making would
be tough to prove from in
here..yeah, I'll take a look.

PALPANETTI

There's one more thing you can do
for us.

SERGEANT DANIELS

If I can..what is it?

PALPANETTI

Call our family members. We want
them to know what's going on.

SERGEANT DANIELS
That I can do.

SONNY
Thanks.

SERGEANT DANIELS
The man you're accused of
murdering..do you know if he had
any enemies?

SONNY
We all knew Rick was a little
shady, but didn't know of anyone
who would want to kill him.

PABLO
If anybody could keep a secret, it
was Rick. He could have been a mass
murderer for all we know.
The summons them for work Detail.

INT: ABANDONED WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

Recruited ex-cons are dismantling two stolen vehicles.
Rhinler, Marty and Menke are being paid for bringing them in.

OFFICER RHINLER
That damn Rick . All he had to do
was keep his mouth shut..he could
be getting some of this money.

OFFICER MENKE
That's why he's... "D-E-A-D."

MARTY
I thought you guys were just going
to rough him up a little bit.

OFFICER RHINLER
(sarcastically)
He must have hit his head on
something.

MARTY
He was one of your best chop men.

OFFICER RHINLER
Both of you cut the crap, lets see
if you can speed these guys up.

INT: SERGEANT DANIEL'S RESIDENCE - NIGHT

BEDROOM-

GEORGIA DANIELS, 48, wife of Sergeant Daniels and Registered Nurse is lying in bed reading a book.

SERGEANT DANIELS enters.

SERGEANT DANIELS
Still awake, huh?

GEORGIA
Yes, but your daughter on the other hand tried to stay awake to say good night, but sleep finally prevailed.

SERGEANT DANIELS
(bends over and kisses her)
I'll make it up to her in the morning.

GEORGIA
I hope those Inmates appreciate what you're doing, Ray.

SERGEANT DANIELS
They do..it's just so hard for the newcomers..they seem to be getting younger and younger.

GEORGIA
I know what you mean. It makes me think about my wayward nephew.

SERGEANT DANIELS
We use to go fishing all the time.

GEORGIA
I hope he and his mother are doing well..neither one has called or came by.

SERGEANT DANIELS
Georgia, why do you beat yourself up about them?

GEORGIA
Ray, don't start. She just needs a little push every now and then.

SERGEANT DANIELS

A little push? I know she's your sister and we both love her. But we can't hold her hand and keep an eye on her son.

GEORGIA

Its just so hard to know they're out there in the streets somewhere.

SERGEANT DANIELS

If you come up with a solution to help them, I'm all for it.

INT: SERGEANT DANIEL'S RESIDENCE - DAY

Kitchen-

SERGEANT DANIELS and Georgia are drinking coffee.

PORTIA DANIELS, 15, daughter, smart intelligent is preparing for school, enters.

PORTIA

I tried to stay awake until you got home, but..

SERGEANT DANIELS

I'll try to get home before your bedtime, okay? How is my little lady today?

PORTIA

I'm okay..home work is just so grueling.

SERGEANT DANIELS

Did you get it done?

PORTIA

Yes I did.

SERGEANT DANIELS

That's my girl..I'll take one big kiss for last night and one for this morning.

GEORGIA

Give him three honey, just in case.

SERGEANT DANIELS
 Your mother is only joking
 honey..have a good day at school.

Portia exits.

GEORGIA
 Oh Ray, the Chief called last night
 looking for you but said it could
 wait until morning..so I didn't
 wake you.

SERGEANT DANIELS
 Did he say anything specific? I
 know those car jackings are running
 him department ragged.

GEORGIA
 He just said for you to call him
 first thing this morning.

SERGEANT DANIELS
 First thing? I wonder what could be
 so important?

Telephone RINGS:

SERGEANT DANIELS (cont'd)
 I think you just talked him up.

INTERCUT - SERGEANT DANIEL'S KITCHEN/OFFICE OF RYAN O'CONNOR,
 CHIEF OF POLICE

CHIEF RYAN O'CONNOR, 62, cop over thirty years ago and
 personal friend of SERGEANT DANIELS.

SERGEANT DANIELS
 Hello..

CHIEF O'CONNOR
 Morning to you and your
 family..could you to come to my
 office..I need to run some ideas by
 you.

SERGEANT DANIELS
 Not a problem.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Since you're our Security
Consultant, I really could use your
input.

SERGEANT DANIELS
I'll be there within the hour.

END INTERCUT-

GEORGIA
Don't give me that look..how many
people has an open door policy to
the Chief of Police, the
Commissioner and the Mayor?

SERGEANT DANIELS
Captain Miller, my favorite nemesis
down there hate that the department
rehired me as an Consultant.

GEORGIA
My, my Ray, you and Gene have been
going at it for so long, its now
bordering on the ridiculous.

SERGEANT DANIELS
We were great friends once. He
still think, to this very day, that
I turned him in to Internal
Affairs.

GEORGIA
Even after it was proven that your
name was forged on those documents?

SERGEANT DANIELS
There's nothing more I can say or
do to calm the situation. We just
have to tolerate each other.

GEORGIA
That bad, huh?

SERGEANT DANIELS
The Chief has talked to him, but he
seems to be stuck on stupid.

GEORGIA
Grin and bear it Ray, it could be
worse.

SERGEANT DANIELS
Yeah, you're right. I better get
going..talk to you later.

Chief O'Connor's Office-

Standing in front of a map of the city and surrounding
counties are Chief O'Connor, Captain Miller, Daniels and
VINCENT SANTONE, 45, SWAT Lieutenant in charge of the SWAT
Team and Auto Theft Unit.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Our Carjackers are targeting
automobiles in the city and
bringing others in from out of
town.

CAPTAIN MILLER
Chief, we have every available man
on this case.

LIEUTENANT SANTONE
How have they eluded all our
stakeouts Chief.. I don't like it!

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Me either..the Mayor is constantly
chewing out the Commissioner's ass,
so you can imagine what mine looks
like.

SERGEANT DANIELS
Chief, you might have a leak in the
department.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
It's possible..I have a female
Officer working the stakeouts and
she also said it was too quiet.

SERGEANT DANIELS
Officer Heyward, right? She's a
good officer..trained her myself.

LIEUTENANT SANTONE
Ray could be right Sir. Something
smells.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
The carjackers seem to know our
every move. As of now I'm open to
any suggestions.

SERGEANT DANIELS
Sir, this is a long shot, but..

CHIEF O'CONNOR
What is it man, speak up! This is one of the main reasons I asked you to come down here.

SERGEANT DANIELS
Some people can easily spot an undercover cop so what you need are new faces that can blend in.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Okay..new faces sound good. Whom do you have in mind?

SERGEANT DANIELS
With a little ingenuity, I know some guys that might be able to help us.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Whom might these people be? We'll need sharp personnel.

SERGEANT DANIELS
They're Inmates at State Prison Sir.

First silence, then sounds of LAUGHTER RESONATE around the room. Taken aback, Chief O'Connor and Lieutenant Santone has the look of disbelief on their face.

CAPTAIN MILLER
Convicted felons? Are you out of your blasted mind?

SERGEANT DANIELS
These guys are not just your ordinary prisoners.

CAPTAIN MILLER
Who are they? Supermen or something? Man, get a grip!

SERGEANT DANIELS
I've been in contact with them and with a little help from us I think they can penetrate any gang.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
I don't know Daniels. The Brass
downtown would probably laugh in my
face too.

CAPTAIN MILLER
There's your answer..common
criminals working for the police..
how asinine.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
(abruptly)
I'll try it!

CAPTAIN MILLER
Chief, what are you saying? These
Inmates could be ruthless killers
or something worse.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Give me their names and I'll ask
Warden Castillo his opinion to see
if this will fly with the
Commissioner.

INT: STATE PRISON - LATER

Warden Castillo's Office-

One week later:

Sonny, Palpanetti, Richie and Pablo are sitting together as
SERGEANT DANIELS enters.

SERGEANT DANIELS
I guess everybody wants to know
what's going on?

PABLO
You got my vote and don't forget
the pulled shades..what's up?

The Guard exits.

SERGEANT DANIELS
I'm working on a Plan that might
help you get out of here. Has your
family been in contact?

PALPANETTI

You know you're the only person in this room who can actually say something nice about their family.

SERGEANT DANIELS

Why is that? I contacted every name on that list.

SONNY

You know more than we do. Since I've been locked up, none of my folks have showed up.

PABLO

My kid brother came by to see me and I told him to never end up here..he hasn't been back.

RICHIE

My father doesn't recognize me as his son. He said that..that I should have died at childbirth.

PALPANETTI

Well, the only relative I have is an old alcoholic Uncle and he doesn't even know I'm here.

SERGEANT DANIELS

I'm sorry to hear that, but I do have some good news. I found a Lawyer for your appeal.

PALPANETTI

Thanks Sarge..I know you're trying.

PABLO

We also know you didn't come here just to tell us about the Lawyer..spill.

SERGEANT DANIELS

I approach the Chief of Police with a plan where you might have to do some volunteering.

PALPANETTI

Volunteering? Hell no..not me!

SERGEANT DANIELS
Who ever did your arrest sheets
did their homework and getting out
of here is going to be pretty
rough.

SONNY
Fine..since this volunteering
involves us, where do we fit in?

SERGEANT DANIELS
Not just yet..I don't want to jump
the gun.

INT: SERGEANT DANIEL'S RESIDENCE - DAY

DEN - TWO DAYS LATER

SERGEANT DANIELS discusses with Georgia, the idea of using
the Inmates as bait for the carjackers.

SERGEANT DANIELS
Not one call..if their answer is
no, they should just say so!

GEORGIA
No news is good news, right?

SERGEANT DANIELS
How? Not if those guys are sitting
in jail for a crime they didn't
commit.

GEORGIA
Ray, are these guys really worth
risking your reputation for?

SERGEANT DANIELS
The Lawyer I got working on their
case thinks so. He's found a lot of
conflicting material.

GEORGIA
Oh well, if this is a cover-up, I'm
quite sure he'll find out who's
behind it.

SERGEANT DANIELS
Four guys meet to play a friendly
game of poker..the murder..the car
search..the weapon..the drugs!

GEORGIA

Ray, they were found standing over a dead body..isn't that enough cause to search the car?

SERGEANT DANIELS

Pablo said one of the Officers opened the trunk of his car without being told which one was his.

GEORGIA

As I said..probable cause. Maybe the apartment was a stakeout.

SERGEANT DANIELS

I checked, it wasn't.

GEORGIA

I see your point now. If you're their only hope of getting released, then you have to help them.

SERGEANT DANIELS

It shouldn't have gone down like that. Somebody is definitely covering up something.

GEORGIA

I really hope you get an answer soon because I hate to see you prancing around like this.

INT: SERGEANT DANIEL'S RESIDENCE - NIGHT

Bedroom

SERGEANT DANIELS and Georgia are asleep. Telephone RINGS and awakes them.

INTERCUT - SERGEANT DANIEL/CHIEF O'CONNOR'S BEDROOM

SERGEANT DANIELS

Hello..

CHIEF O'CONNOR (V.O.)

Sorry to wake you Daniels..they said no.

SERGEANT DANIELS
(sits up in bed)
Oh well..its their decision..thanks
for calling.

END INTERCUT-

SERGEANT DANIELS hangs up.

GEORGIA
Who was that calling at this hour?

SERGEANT DANIELS
Chief O'Connor.. the Commissioner
said no to my plan.

GEORGIA
I'm sorry Ray..I know you were
looking for a different response.

SERGEANT DANIELS
It was their call to make.

EXT. STREETS- NIGHT-SAME

An exhausted off-duty POLICE OFFICER KAREN HEYWARD, 28, is getting out of her car when an armed carjacker approach her.

ARMED CARJACKER #1
Give me the damn keys or die!

Officer Heyward throws the keys on the ground to distract him.

As the Carjacker bends down for the keys, Officer Heyward reach for her service revolver.

A shot is FIRED.

Officer Heyward SLUMPS to the ground.

A second carjacker emerges out of the dark from the rear.

MARTY
(standing over Karen's lifeless
body)
Look, though you may not see!

INT: POLICE HEADQUARTERS - DAY

Chief O'Connor's Office-

Sergeant Daniels, Captain Miller and Lieutenant Santone watch as Chief O'Connor pace the floor RANTING and BOILING with RAGE.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Damn it! She was so young and had a good career ahead of her!

SERGEANT DANIELS
Karen was at the top of her game..she'll Be missed.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
At the top of her game? Tell that to her three year old son!

SERGEANT DANIELS
We have to catch these people before anyone else is killed.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
My mind is numb.

FEMALE OFFICER, 27, enters and hands Chief O'Connor a note.

CHIEF O'CONNOR (cont'd)
Oh hell..

SERGEANT DANIELS
What is it Chief?

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Another murder and carjacking last night..this one was on Pulaski Street last night.

SERGEANT DANIELS
These homicides are really piling up.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Sure they are, but this time we have a witness!

CAPTAIN MILLER
I'll put some of our people on it.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Miller, put an around-the-clock
Security Detail on that witness.

SERGEANT DANIELS
Chief, may I have your permission
to talk to the Commissioner?

CAPTAIN MILLER
Give it up Daniels. The decision
has been made..no Inmates.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Sure Daniels, why not. You should
have my job.

EXT: PUBLIC LIBRARY - LATER

The witness, JASON MOBLEY, 37, is saying goodbye to a female
friend as Officers Menke and Rhinler is watching.

Jason gets into his car and a LOUD EXPLOSION erupt killing
him instantly. Officers Menke and Rhinler watch unmoved.

EXT: SHOPPING MALL - LATER

The COMMISSIONER'S WIFE, 53 and DAUGHTER, 25, are placing
bags into the trunk of the family car.
Two CARJACKERS approach.

As the Commissioner's wife FRANTICALLY FUMBLES in her purse
for the keys, one of the nervous carjackers FIRES a shot,
killing her instantly.

INT: SERGEANT DANIEL'S RESIDENCE - LATER

Dining Area-

SERGEANT DANIELS and his family are eating dinner.

Telephone RINGS-

INTERCUT - DANIEL'S DINING AREA/CHIEF O'CONNOR'S OFFICE

GEORGIA
Hello...Good evening Ryan.. yes,
he's here..it's the Chief.

SERGEANT DANIELS
Yeah Chief..what's up?

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Ray, the Commissioner just called
an emergency meeting and he
specifically asked for you.

SERGEANT DANIELS
Oh, really?

CHIEF O'CONNOR
I can't discuss it on the
telephone..just get down here as
fast as you can.

SERGEANT DANIELS puzzled, hangs up.

END INTERCUT-

GEORGIA
What was that all about?

SERGEANT DANIELS
The Commissioner has called for an
emergency meeting and he want me
there.

PORTIA
Dad, aren't you supposed to be
retired? Why don't you just buy a
pair of roller skates for this job.

INT: CHIEF O'CONNOR'S OFFICE- SAME

Chief O'Connor, SERGEANT DANIELS, Captain Miller and
Lieutenant Santone are discussing the murder of the
Commissioner's wife.

A visibly angry BRADFORD MONTGOMERY, 61, POLICE COMMISSIONER
and decorated officer, enters.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Commissioner, all the parties you
requested are here.

COMMISSIONER MONTGOMERY
A promising officer, a witness and
now the love of my life has been
murdered..when is this all going to
end?

CHIEF O'CONNOR
We're all very sorry for your loss
Sir.

COMMISSIONER MONTGOMERY
I want somebody's ass to swing for
these murders Ryan!

CHIEF O'CONNOR
These people will pay.

COMMISSIONER MONTGOMERY
Ryan, did you and Daniels do a
thorough check on those Inmates?

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Yes Sir we did. Sgt. Daniels think
they may have been set up.

COMMISSIONER MONTGOMERY
I would like to know how in the
hell did they know we had an
eyewitness?

CHIEF O'CONNOR
We have long suspected there was a
leak in the Department.

Captain Miller goes over to make a telephone call.

COMMISSIONER MONTGOMERY
DANIELS, I said no to using Inmates
on the taxpayer's dollar..now,
bring them aboard and I'll take
full responsibility!

Overhearing the Commissioner's decision, Captain Miller
abruptly ends his call.

CAPTAIN MILLER
Commissioner, you can't!

COMMISSIONER MONTGOMERY
(interrupting)
Shut up Miller! These carjackers
are murdering innocent people!

CAPTAIN MILLER
We all understand your grief Sir,
but using Inmates?

COMMISSIONER MONTGOMERY
(GLARING angrily at Capt.
Miller)

Are you on drugs or something
Miller, or are you just feigning
stupidity? Its my call!

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Okay Daniels you heard the Man..
its time to get busy!

COMMISSIONER MONTGOMERY
I'm meeting with the Mayor in an
hour so keep a low profile..only
need to know people..understand?

The Commissioner angrily POUNDS his fist on the table and
exits.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Santone get your people
cracking..you'll be running the
show with Daniels.

CAPTAIN MILLER
(shaking his head)
Inmates..

SERGEANT DANIELS
Chief, inform Warden Castillo to
isolate the Inmates. We don't want
any slip ups.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Daniels, if your plan works, this
city will be indebted to you. I'll
be indebted to you.

SERGEANT DANIELS
My focus will be on catching this
carjacking ring and securing a
release for those Inmates.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
If those Inmates fail, my
retirement will hit me right smack
in the face.

SERGEANT DANIELS
I won't let that happen..remember,
my ass is on the line too.

INT: STATE PRISON - DAY

CHOW HALL-

Palpanetti and another Inmate are standing over a table peeling potatoes.

PALPANETTI

Man, I've never seen so many potatoes.

SERGEANT DANIELS enters.

PALPANETTI (cont'd)

Come on in Sarge and pull up a seat and help peel a few.

SERGEANT DANIELS

(humorously)

I wish I could, but my wife wants me home by seven.

PALPANETTI

SERGEANT D why don't you just rent a room up here.

SERGEANT DANIELS

I prefer to be face to face whenever I discuss business. You never know who might be listening.

PALPANETTI

I hope you have some good news because each time we see you..

SERGEANT DANIELS

I know..I know. But this time I really have something important to discuss with you and the others.

SERGEANT DANIELS takes Palpanetti to the side, out of ear shot of the other Inmate.

SERGEANT DANIELS (cont'd)

I've scheduled another meeting in the Warden's Conference Room.

PALPANETTI

I've stopped trying to analyze these visits..especially with all your top secret meetings.

SERGEANT DANIELS
I guess I'm just a complicated man.

PALPANETTI
Does it have anything to do with
the Warden moving us out of General
Population?

SERGEANT DANIELS
Yes it does.

PALPANETTI
You're not saying much, but you're
really making me nervous.

SERGEANT DANIELS pauses and stare at him.

PALPANETTI (cont'd)
What? Uh oh..something's up!

SERGEANT DANIELS
How would you like to work for us?

PALPANETTI
Us? Who's us?

SERGEANT DANIELS
You know who I'm talking about..how
would you like to work for the
Police Department?

PALPANETTI
Sarge..I respect you as a man, but
working for the cops is a no-no.

SERGEANT DANIELS
We need your help Rocco..

PALPANETTI
We? The cops framed and locked me
in this pigpen and you of all
people want me to work for them?

SERGEANT DANIELS
I'm retired but I still consult as
a civilian.

PALPANETTI
Sure you do! You're a civilian who
carries a gun and can go home every
night and sleep in a clean bed.

SERGEANT DANIELS
I know how you must feel, but
assisting the Department can get
you some leverage.

PALPANETTI
(shaking his head)
You have a comeback line for
everything don't you?

SERGEANT DANIELS
Hey, I love challenges.

PALPANETTI
Are you sure there isn't anything
else you can do to get us out of
this hell hole?

SERGEANT DANIELS
I told you, who ever put you in
here covered their tracks very
well.

PALPANETTI
I'll go along with whatever
decision the other guys make. I
suggest you tread lightly with
Sonny..he's angry and a wreck.

SERGEANT DANIELS
Just leave Sonny to me.

PALPANETTI
Its your show and I got a front row
seat.

SERGEANT DANIELS
I'm putting my reputation on the
line to get you and your friends
out of here and you should do no
less.

PALPANETTI
What about your Undercover
Officers? I know you have some..
I'm acquainted with at least two of
them, remember?

SERGEANT DANIELS
We're going in a new direction.

WARDEN'S CONFERENCE ROOM-SAME

Pablo, Richie and Sonny are seated as SERGEANT DANIELS and Palpanetti enter the Warden's office.

SERGEANT DANIELS (cont'd)
Gentlemen, how in the hell are you?

SONNY
Same old garbage..different day.

PABLO
What brings you back to the house
of depression?

SONNY
If your so- called plan blew up you
don't even have to sit. Just give
it to us straight and get out!

SERGEANT DANIELS
My, my, aren't we testy today.

SONNY
If it doesn't have anything to do
with us getting out of this hell
hole, the answer is no.."N-O!"

SERGEANT DANIELS
Are you speaking for everyone
Sonny, or are you mouthing off just
to hear yourself talk?

SONNY
(angered)
You come in here with your high and
mighty authority like you're doing
something and ain't nothin' gettin'
happening!

SERGEANT DANIELS
(LOUDLY confronts Sonny)
Are you finished with your whining?
Let me tell you something..Son-ny
Simp-son..what I have, I've earned!

I'm putting my ass on the line to
try and get you and your buddies
out of here..and you have the nerve
to stand there and lay your damn
moral lines on me!

PABLO

Whoa people..let's come up for air here..everybody, take a deep breath.

Sonny turns his back to everyone.

SERGEANT DANIELS

(to Sonny)

Do you want to hear what I have to say or are you going to keep that log on your shoulders?

SONNY

I can hear you..just talk!

SERGEANT DANIELS

You want me to talk to you or your back?

Sonny turns, faces SERGEANT DANIELS and folds his arms.

PABLO

Now that we have all the staring down out of the way, what did your people say?

SERGEANT DANIELS

They gave us green light! You guys are going to help us catch some carjackers.

PABLO

We've been following these carjackers on the news. From the way it looks, we're safer in here.

SERGEANT DANIELS

How is everyone being treated?

SONNY

Prison food, prison environment..being locked down, hey, this is my wish come true!

RICHIE

How can ..can catching these guys help..help us?

SERGEANT DANIELS

What's up with you Richie?

RICHIE

My..my..damn blood pressure,
that's..that's what's up!

SERGEANT DANIELS

The Commissioner has promised me he
would personally re-examine your
case.

PALPANETTI

Promised you? That's no guarantee!
There was talk that the Mob might
be involved.

SERGEANT DANIELS

That's what we hear. If anybody got
a bad feeling, say it now.

SONNY

Sarge, don't write a check, your
ass can't cash!

SERGEANT DANIELS

You know what Sonny, the more you
talk, the memory of you as a kid
becomes clearer and clearer to me.

PABLO

I know these carjackers play for
keeps, but I'm willing to take a
chance just to get out of here.

SERGEANT DANIELS

They do play for keeps..but so will
we.

SONNY

You're asking us to subject
ourselves to street dangers? From
what I hear, these guys have
already killed some people.

SERGEANT DANIELS

Yes I am and yes they have.

SONNY

Damn, you answered that with a
straight face.

SERGEANT DANIELS

Because I'm as serious as a heart
attack. Are you in or out?

SONNY

Where are you going to be while
we're out there in the streets
risking our lives?

SERGEANT DANIELS

I'm going to be right there in the
trenches with you..everyday And
every night.

RICHIE

Count..count me in I..I just want
to get out of this place.

PALPANETTI

Oh, what the hell, count me in too.

SERGEANT DANIELS

What about you Sonny?

Everybody looks to Sonny for his answer.

SONNY

We came in together, we might as
well go out together.

INT: POLICE HEADQUARTERS - LATER

CHIEF O'CONNOR'S OFFICE-

Chief O'Connor is going over the Inmates' records again as
Captain Miller prepares the Duty Roster.

CHIEF O'CONNOR

Miller, if Daniels and his crew can
capture this crime ring, only one
way for him to go is up.

Captain Miller SIGHS his objection.

CAPTAIN MILLER

Chief, why didn't the Department
use someone with some real rank to
handle this case.

CHIEF O'CONNOR

The Commissioner wants to keep a
low profile. With Daniels working
as a civilian, all the better.

CAPTAIN MILLER
Wasn't SERGEANT DANIELS in some
disfavor with the Brass a few years
back..why him?

CHIEF O'CONNOR
You brought that matter up for a
reason Miller..why?

CAPTAIN MILLER
No reason at all Sir, no reason at
all.

He begins to SHUFFLE papers.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
The problem that occurred between
you and Daniels is over, but I see
you still carry some animosity
towards him.

CAPTAIN MILLER
Sir, Daniels has long been a thorn
in my side and I think he enjoys
every minute of it.

SERGEANT DANIELS enters.

CAPTAIN MILLER (cont'd)
Well, well speak of the Devil.

SERGEANT DANIELS
Evening, Chief..Captain.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Did you explain to the everybody
about the dangers?

SERGEANT DANIELS
I explained everything Chief.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
This is a very unprecedented move
we're making.. I just hope it
doesn't turn around and bite us in
the ass.

SERGEANT DANIELS
Chief, you and the Commissioner
have given some hope where there
was none. So, some risks has to be
taken on their part.

Telephone RINGS-

INTERCUT - CHIEF O'CONNOR'S OFFICE/DEPUTY MAYOR'S OFFICE-

CAPTAIN MILLER
Chief O'Connor's office..no problem
sir, I'll get right on it!

Captain Miller hangs up.

END INTERCUT-

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Who was that?

CAPTAIN MILLER
Deputy Mayor Anderson's
office..they have some protestors
forming in front of his office.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Protesters? That's all we need
right now.

CAPTAIN MILLER
He expects trouble.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Send a couple of squad cars over
there.

CAPTAIN MILLER
I'm on it.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
See what's happening Daniels?

SERGEANT DANIELS
Yes Sir, I do. I just hope we can
nip this thing in the bud.

CAPTAIN MILLER
Those Inmates better be good. Our
society can't tolerate too much of
this.

SERGEANT DANIELS
(with emphasis)
Captain Miller, Sir..may I ask what
do you mean by our society?

CAPTAIN MILLER

(angered)

If the Commissioner wasn't using
this stupid plan of yours I would
have you doing what you're getting
paid to do..consulting work!

Chief O'Connor steps in between them.

CHIEF O'CONNOR

My God..you've been on the
battlefield together and once upon
a time would take a bullet for the
other..this has got to
stop..understand?

SERGEANT DANIELS

Yes Sir!

CHIEF O'CONNOR

Miller?

CAPTAIN MILLER

(staring angrily)

I understand Chief.

CHIEF O'CONNOR

Good..the format that Daniels and
Santone drew up has been addressed
and green-lighted by the
Commissioner. Let's get it done!

SERGEANT DANIELS

I believe in this plan Chief.

CAPTAIN MILLER

Believing is not be
enough..action..action and results!

Captain Miller exits.

CHIEF O'CONNOR

You have to excuse CAPTAIN MILLER..
I wish I knew what was eating at
him.

SERGEANT DANIELS

Don't make excuses for him, Sir.
There's an old saying that the
Devil can eat at you from the
inside out.

CHIEF O'CONNOR

Whatever his problem is, he's not handling it very well. I asked him if he needed some time off and he refused.

INT: ABANDONED WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

The two carjackers responsible for the murder of the Commissioner's wife are handcuffed and being BEATEN and THROWN around by Officers Menke and Rhinler. Marty stands by with a loaded shotgun.

Officers Rhinler viciously STRIKES one of the carjackers, sending him CRASHING into a stack of metal barrels.

OFFICER RHINLER

(angry))

You dumb asses really messed up this time. The woman you killed was the Police Commissioner's wife and every Officer from here to China is tearing this city apart looking for you two!

OFFICER MENKE

We specifically told you not to make any moves until we gave an order. Every move we make is planned.

CARJACKER #1

We were just having some fun and the gun went off by accident!

Officer Menke STRIKES the carjacker again with a metal folding chair.

OFFICER RHINLER

(breathing heavily)

Where did you geniuses hide the car?

CARJACKER #2

(through BLOODY LIPS)

We drove it around for a while. Then we ditched it in Baker's Landfill outside of town.

MARTY
(eagerly)
Let me blast 'em..let me blast 'em!

OFFICER MENKE
You brought all this heat down on
our operation for a damn joyride?

MARTY
Come on fellows, let me blast 'em.

OFFICER MENKE
Shut up Marty, let me think!

OFFICER RHINLER
If they find the car, Forensics
will lift their fingerprints and
these knuckleheads has rap sheets!

OFFICER MENKE
I haven't heard anything about the
car on the radio. I know just how
to solve this.

LEDGER COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT/FRONT DESK

SUPER- HOURS LATER

Telephone RINGS:

INTERCUT: FRONT DESK/ANONYMOUS CALLER

SERGEANT ROBERT MAYS, 48, Front Desk Sergeant for ten years
and responsible for giving out officer assignments, answers.

SERGEANT MAYS
SERGEANT Mays, Ledger Police
Department, may I help you?

ANONYMOUS CALLER(V.O.)
(disguised voice)
"If you want the people who
murdered the Commissioner's wife,
go to Baker's Land field"..CLICK.

SERGEANT MAYS
Who is this? Hello..

END INTERCUT-

SERGEANT Mays rush into Chief O'Connor's office.

SERGEANT MAYS (cont'd)
Chief, an anonymous caller said the
Commissioner's wife car can be
found in Baker's Land field.

EXT: BAKER'S LANDFILL-LATER

Chief O'Connor, SERGEANT DANIELS, Commissioner Montgomery,
Lt. Santone and his SWAT TEAM and a Forensic Crew are
standing by as they watch the Fire Department extinguish a
vehicle that has been identified as the Commissioner's family
car.

LIEUTENANT SANTONE
Chief, there's two bodies in the
car..probably our shooters.

The Chief peers inside the car and see the CHARRED bodies.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
(bows his head)
Oh well..

Commissioner Montgomery, still distraught over his wife's
death, turns and exits without speaking.

CHIEF O'CONNOR (cont'd)
He's really hurting. They were
married for thirty-two years and I
was Best Man at his wedding.

EXT: DESERTED ALLEY - LATER

Officers Rhinler and Menke are paying off Marty and a friend
for stealing two luxury cars.

OFFICER MENKE
Okay fellows, you did well..don't
spend it all in one place.

Officer Rhinler pulls Marty aside.

OFFICER RHINLER
Marty, can this friend of yours be
trusted?

MARTY

I wouldn't have brought him here if I didn't trust him, why?

OFFICER RHINLER

It will probably be another day or so before that inmate crew is operational. We need another car?

MARTY

No problem..to show you how much I trust my friend, I'll have him and Benny get one for you before the night's over.

INT: STATE PRISON - SAME

Laundry Room-

The meeting place with the Inmates has been changed to the Laundry Room. SERGEANT DANIELS and Warden Castillo enters.

SONNY

What's the problem now? We've been waiting here for almost an hour. I could have did my laundry.

SERGEANT DANIELS

I just had a conversation with Warden Castillo and what he told me has given me cause for concern.

SONNY

About what?

SERGEANT DANIELS

Some people in this prison has been snooping around.

WARDEN CASTILLO

Now you see why we took you out of General Population.

SERGEANT DANIELS

All your photos, fingerprints, files or anything else dealing with your arrest and court proceedings has been removed and sealed.

SONNY

Okay, now what?

SERGEANT DANIELS
 Approximately one hour from now,
 myself along with two Plainclothes
 Officers will secretly escort you
 to the city.

PABLO
 (interrupts)
 We're moving tonight? I thought you
 said..

SERGEANT DANIELS
 (interrupting)
 I know what I said..the timetable
 has been pushed up. Its Show Time
 boys!

INT: LEDGER COUNTY POLICE HEADQUARTERS - NIGHT

Conference Room-

Awaiting the Inmates arrival, Chief O'Connor, Lieutenant
 Santone and THREE FEMALE UNDERCOVER OFFICERS. Captain Miller
 is absent.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
 I really have a good feeling about
 this plan.

LIEUTENANT SANTONE
 Where is Captain Miller..shouldn't
 he be in on this?

CHIEF O'CONNOR
 I re-assigned him to the Sixty-
 Ninth Precinct to cover for another
 Captain. I'll brief him when he
 returns.

Sergeant Daniels and the Inmates arrive.

CHIEF O'CONNOR (cont'd)
 Gentlemen, we're putting together a
 team to catch a group involved in
 carjacking and murder..Sergeant
 Daniels will fill you in.

SERGEANT DANIELS
 Thank you Chief. What we're looking
 for is a group of young men
 traveling in pairs and carjacking
 expensive vehicles to strip for
 parts.

SERGEANT DANIELS walks over to a Citywide Map.

SERGEANT DANIELS
 A sting operation where you, along
 with these three beautiful Female
 Officers will come into play.

EXT: CITY STREETS -NIGHT

CAR STING/CHECKPOINT ONE-

Sonny and a Female Officer are sitting in an expensive sports
 utility van pretending to be lovers. A MALE UNDERCOVER
 OFFICER, 27 is lying down on the floor in the back.

SONNY
 Here I am, putting my life on the
 line to straighten out a lie I
 didn't create.

FEMALE UNDERCOVER OFFICER
 Can the small talk..this is no time
 to be second guessing anybody.

INT: POLICE HEADQUARTERS - SAME

Richie, SERGEANT DANIELS and a COMMUNICATION OFFICER, 37, is
 manning a Command Post set up with several desks consisting
 of street maps, a secured radio channels, names of Undercover
 Personnel and time intervals.

RICHIE
 Roc..Roc..Rocco should be
 com..com..coming up to..to..his
 section in a few minutes.

SERGEANT DANIELS
 You're right. I have him
 approaching on screen number two.

CAR STING/CHECKPOINT TWO- -SAME

Palpanetti and another Female Officer is driving around town
 with the RADIO PLAYING..nothing to report.

EXT: DESERTED AREA NEAR THE WATERFRONT - SAME

CAR STING/CHECK POINT THREE-

Pablo and another Female Officer are sitting in a luxury as a MALE UNDERCOVER OFFICER is lying on a bench nearby disguised as a homeless vagrant.

Benny and the friend approach, guns WAVING.

BENNY

(points the gun at Pablo)
Get out of the damn car, now!

Pablo and the Female Officer exit and THROWN to the ground.

Benny attempts to start the car, but the ignition switch cut off is ACTIVATED.
Pablo runs for cover as the Undercover Officers draw their service weapons and surround the vehicle.

FEMALE UNDERCOVER OFFICER

(Shouting)
This is the Police..throw your weapons out the window and show your hands!

No response.

FEMALE UNDERCOVER OFFICER (cont'd)

Give it up..you have no chance!

As the Driver's side door slowly opens, Benny comes out FIRING and is killed instantly. The friend, trying to escape is wounded and surrenders.

INT: POLICE HEADQUARTERS - LATER

Men's Bathroom-

Officer Rhinler has been informed that Benny was killed and his accomplice arrested. He awaits Officer Menke's arrival.

Officer Menke arrives minutes later.

OFFICER MENKE

What in the hell is going on Jack?
You were screaming on the telephone like your house was on fire.

OFFICER RHINLER
 Benny is dead and the guy he had
 with him is in City General with a
 shoulder wound.

OFFICER MENKE
 Marty really trusted this guy..do
 you think he'll talk?

OFFICER RHINLER
 It doesn't matter..we have orders
 to eliminate him.

OFFICER MENKE
 How Jack? They probably have him
 under tight security!

OFFICER RHINLER
 Let's go to the hospital and see
 what we're dealing with.

OFFICER MENKE
 We underestimated Daniels and that
 damn Inmate crew. They hit the
 streets earlier than we expected.

OFFICER RHINLER
 It doesn't matter now. We know
 they're operational.

INT: CITY GENERAL HOSPITAL - LATER

Wounded Carjacker's Bedside-

With POLICE OFFICERS standing guard outside, the wounded
 carjacker is being interrogated by Chief O'Connor and
 Lieutenant Santone.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
 Is there anything you want to say
 to us son?

No response.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
 Talk to me and I'll see if I can
 talk to the D.A.

No response.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
 Do you want to spend the rest of
 your life in jail? Let us help you.

No response.

LIEUTENANT SANTONE

If you're afraid to talk, we can
protect you.

No response.

Chief O'Connor and Lieutenant Santone exit the room. SERGEANT DANIELS, who has been summoned to the hospital walks briskly down the hallway towards them.

SERGEANT DANIELS

We finally got one of those
bastards.. what can I do?

CHIEF O'CONNOR

You were called because we think
you would be more convincing than
the two of us.

SERGEANT DANIELS

Me? Did he say anything?

CHIEF O'CONNOR

Not a word. But I think he just
might be willing to talk to you.

SERGEANT DANIELS

Let me at him..I'll have no mercy!

CHIEF O'CONNOR

We didn't figure you would.

SERGEANT DANIELS enters the room and SHOCK covers his face as he see his nephew, ROGER PARKS bandaged with a shoulder wound.

SERGEANT DANIELS

What in the hell?

ROGER

Come on in Uncle Ray. It's your
turn to squeeze the turnip.

SERGEANT DANIELS

How? I mean, its you?

ROGER

Stop tripping over your
words..you're not blind! I was
caught committing a crime..its that
simple!

SERGEANT DANIELS

You're my only nephew and you end up like this..talk to me!

ROGER

I don't know anything and I'm not saying anything.

SERGEANT DANIELS

I guess stealing cars and murdering people is just something you do to pass the time?

ROGER

We both have a hobby. You like to fish and I steal cars, but I haven't kill anyone.

SERGEANT DANIELS

You think this is funny? This is really going to hurt your Aunt Georgia.

ROGER

I know it will..do you see me laughing? I did what I had to do to survive in the streets.

SERGEANT DANIELS

Where is your mother? She and your Aunt Georgia used to shop like crazy.

ROGER

Just check out any cheap motel or walk into any liquor store, you just might stumble into her.

SERGEANT DANIELS

From the looks of things, seems like her way was better.

ROGER

Whatever you say.

SERGEANT DANIELS

Roger, you're looking at some long jail time. By the time you get out, your grand-kids will have grand-kids!

Chief O'Connor re-enters.

SERGEANT DANIELS (cont'd)
Well Chief, he didn't admit to anything. But I think we have a murderer here.

ROGER
You're lying! I'm not a killer! I didn't kill anybody!

SERGEANT DANIELS
(Shouting)
Talk to me Roger! Stop trying to be Mr. Tough Guy and let me help you!

ROGER
I said I don't know nothing.

SERGEANT DANIELS
(anger)
Do you know what this State does to murderers? They tie your ass down, give you a needle and within minutes... Adios Amigos.

ROGER
(turning away)
Don't you think I know that..leave me alone!

SERGEANT DANIELS
Who were you working for? I can arrange protection for you.

ROGER
Protection? That's a joke..how can one cop protect me from another cop?

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Cops? Tell me who they are and I'll personally guarantee your safety.

ROGER
I'm done talking..get out..both of you..get out!

Chief O'Connor and Sergeant Daniels leaves the room.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
You were right Daniels..we do have leak in my department and he's really afraid of these carjackers.

SERGEANT DANIELS
I need to work on Roger one on one.
We need to isolate him.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
I'll put an officer on him I know I
can trust.

SERGEANT DANIELS
Thanks Chief.

An angry SERGEANT DANIELS stares momentarily at Roger and walks past an observing Menke and Rhinler. Later, a Police Officer enters and throws a folded note on Roger's bed.

ROGER
What's this?

Roger opens the note and finds the words "YOU'RE DEAD" in block lettering.

As Roger lie in bed, he begins to rethink his options about talking.

He finds an ink pen on the floor and takes a sheet of scrap paper from the garbage and writes a letter and place it safely inside his bandage to conceal it.

INT: PRISON INFIRMARY - DAY

SUPER: ROGER HAS BEEN MOVED TO STATE PRISON -

Examination Room A

A PRISON DOCTOR, 56, is examining Roger. SERGEANT DANIELS and Georgia are standing by as Roger's estranged mother CHRISTINE enters.

CHRISTINE PARKS, 45, never married, single mother addicted to alcohol.

Seeing Roger in handcuffs, she immediately BURST into tears and RUNS toward him.

She attempts to embrace him, but he defensively PUSHES her away.

CHRISTINE
Roger, what are you doing in this
place? Is it true what your Uncle
Ray told me?

ROGER

Uncle Ray, you really made my day.
Where did you find her?

CHRISTINE

Why didn't you come to me before
all this happened? At least you
could have called.

ROGER

Called? Please..calling the
President of the United States
would have been easier.

She bows her head ashamedly.

ROGER (cont'd)

All you do is bed hop from hotel to
hotel and drink every drop of
liquor you can find!

She SLAPS him..he SMILES.

ROGER (cont'd)

Now, that's what I'm used to!

SERGEANT DANIELS

Roger, this is your mother. Show
her some respect.

ROGER

Respect? I'll tell you what... you
give her some..I'm fresh out.

GEORGIA

Roger, you don't mean that.

ROGER

Look at her..you can see she's
coming off one of her drunken
binges. Who was it last night? Huh?
How many men did you do?

GEORGIA

Roger, stop it, this instant.

She turns to Christine.

GEORGIA (cont'd)
Christine, this is your only child.
Try and talk some sense into him.

Christine stares sympathetically at Roger.

CHRISTINE
I don't have a son anymore Georgia.
A shell of a son maybe. He, just
like his father, left me a long
time ago.

She turns and walks slowly out the door.

SERGEANT DANIELS
Your mother is fighting hard for
you Roger. She even put together
money for your bail.

ROGER
Big deal..for that kind of cash,
she must have flipped a lot of
johns.

SERGEANT DANIELS shakes his head in disgust.

GEORGIA
A Judge has released you into your
Uncle Ray's custody until the
Hearing and you'll be living with
us.

ROGER
(smiling)
Fantastic..

SERGEANT DANIELS
Wipe that smile off your face or
I'll do it for you.

INT: SERGEANT DANIEL'S RESIDENCE - LATER

Kitchen-

SERGEANT DANIELS has been called downtown. Georgia is
preparing a sandwich for Roger as a POLICE OFFICER sits in a
Patrol car outside.

GEORGIA
Roger, I know it's none of my
business, but what were you doing..

ROGER

(interrupts)

You're talking to a dead man Aunt Georgia. Sooner or later I'll have to pay for getting caught.

GEORGIA

Not if your Uncle Ray has something to say about it. Just do what he asks and everything will be okay.

ROGER

I didn't know they were going to kill people. I swear I didn't!

GEORGIA

I believe you.

ROGER

I didn't say anything to Uncle Ray, but I received a death threat when I was in the hospital.

GEORGIA

He anticipated some threats would come against you..that's why the Officer is sitting outside.

ROGER

I appreciate everything that you and Uncle Ray are doing for me, but I'm in a little too deep to be helped.

Roger takes out the letter he wrote.

ROGER (cont'd)

Aunt Georgia, if anything happens to me, make sure Uncle Ray gets this letter.

Roger puts on his jacket.

ROGER (cont'd)

I have to leave here. The last thing I want is for you, Portia or Uncle Ray to get hurt because of me.

GEORGIA

Roger, you can't leave here. It's not safe.

ROGER

I have some money stashed. If I can get to it, I'll be all right.

GEORGIA

(tears begin to flow)

Don't go! I'll alert the Officer outside If I have to!

Roger gives an emotional Georgia a quick kiss on the cheek and goes out the back door.

GEORGIA (cont'd)

Roger..Roger..come back!

After trying unsuccessfully to stop him, she runs out to the Patrol car to alert the Officer.

GEORGIA (cont'd)

(TAPS the window)

Officer, my nephew just ran out the back door. I tried to stop him, but..

The Officer exits the Patrol car and runs to the rear of the house, but Roger has disappeared.

EXT: BANK OF THE STATLER RIVER - NIGHT

Following an anonymous tip, SCUBA DIVERS from the Police Department are searching the Statler River for Roger's body. Chief O'Connor and SERGEANT DANIELS, along with Lieutenant Santone are standing by.

SCUBA DIVER

Chief, I think we have something.

Scuba Diver EMERGE out of the water with a large canvas bag.

CHIEF O'CONNOR

Daniels..

SERGEANT DANIELS looks inside and abruptly turn his head away.

SERGEANT DANIELS

One shot to the head..he was so young..so confused. I wish he would have come to me sooner.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
 Sorry, Daniels. I know he meant a
 lot to you and Georgia.

The Chief pats him sympathetically on the back and walks
 away.

EXT: SERGEANT DANIEL'S RESIDENCE - LATER

After parking his car and sitting motionless with tears in
 his eyes, SERGEANT DANIELS violently BANGS his steering wheel
 with guilt.

He finds Georgia, teary-eyed, holding a picture of Roger and
 Christine in happier days.

GEORGIA
 Did you find Roger?

SERGEANT DANIELS
 (solemnly)
 Yeah, we found him.

GEORGIA
 Where is he? Why isn't he with you?

No response.

GEORGIA (cont'd)
 No Ray..no! He can't be..

SERGEANT DANIELS
 I'm sorry Georgia..he's gone.

Georgia rubs her fingers gently over the picture.

SERGEANT DANIELS (cont'd)
 An anonymous caller lead us to the
 Statler River..it was there we
 found Roger's body.

GEORGIA
 What's wrong with these kids? Roger
 wasn't reared to join gangs.

SERGEANT DANIELS
 I've traveled to so many prisons to
 motivate young Inmates and I
 couldn't even do it for him.

GEORGIA

All you can do is put the message out there Ray, the rest is up to them.

SERGEANT DANIELS

The streets and their so-called friends are more persuasive.

GEORGIA

You'll always have fond memories of those fishing trips you took together..that will never change.

SERGEANT DANIELS

With Roger gone, I guess any chance of us catching these carjackers just got a lot dimmer.

GEORGIA

Ray, Roger left a letter here for you. He told me to give it to you if something happened to him.

SERGEANT DANIELS

What letter?

Georgia goes over to the desk, takes out the letter and gives it to him.

GEORGIA

I didn't read it. I was too upset after he ran out of here.

SERGEANT DANIELS opens the letter, reads it and immediately goes over to the telephone.

GEORGIA (cont'd)

Ray, what does it say? You like you've seen a ghost.

SERGEANT DANIELS

It's the break we've been looking for. Roger, I love you..I have to call the Chief!

GEORGIA

But it's two-thirty in the morning!

SERGEANT DANIELS

This information is too hot to wait until later.

He DIALS.

INTERCUT - SERGEANT DANIELS/CHIEF O'CONNOR'S BEDROOM

CLARA O'CONNOR, 57, retired school teacher, married for thirty years to Chief O'Connor, answers.

SERGEANT DANIELS

Clara, I'm sorry to wake you, but I need to talk to the Chief. It's an emergency!

CLARA

Sure Ray, hold on. Ryan, Ray is on the phone.

CHIEF O'CONNOR

Yeah, Daniels, what is it?

SERGEANT DANIELS

Roger left a letter concerning the carjackers. It has names, warehouse locations and time schedules.

CHIEF O'CONNOR

Hallelujah!..this may be the information we need! Meet me in my office within the hour? I've got to wake up some folks!

SERGEANT DANIELS

I'll be there!

He hangs up the telephone.

END INTERCUT-

SERGEANT DANIELS

Georgia, I have to meet the Chief. I want you and Portia to go next door to the LOGANS and stay there until I get back.

GEORGIA

Sure, Ray.

SERGEANT DANIELS

I'll call you from the Station House.

SERGEANT DANIELS exits.

As SERGEANT DANIELS drives away, a SILHOUETTED FIGURE stands outside his home.

Marty, stealthily approaches the rear door of the kitchen and STUMBLES over Portia's bicycle.

Startled, Georgia comes to investigate. As she opens the door he ATTACKS her.

Georgia SCUFFLES and frees one hand to SCRATCH HIS FACE throwing him off balance.

As she tries lock the door, Marty FIRES his weapon, equipped with a silencer, hitting her twice in the chest.

Marty calmly walks over and lays a note on her body and exit.

INT: CHIEF O'CONNORS OFFICE - SAME

SERGEANT DANIELS, Chief O'Connor, Lieutenant Santone and Commissioner Montgomery are discussing Roger's letter.

SERGEANT DANIELS
Look at the names on this list.

COMMISSIONER MONTGOMERY
You know how damaging this letter is?

SERGEANT DANIELS
Roger wouldn't talk to us in the beginning, but that death threat woke him up.

COMMISSIONER MONTGOMERY
I'm really appalled at the names on this letter.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Leave them to me, Sir..they're mine!

SERGEANT DANIELS
The Mayor is going to flip over this one.

COMMISSIONER MONTGOMERY
If these names pan out, its over.

SERGEANT DANIELS

I see they have a chop session scheduled at Watkins Warehouse in three hours.

CHIEF O'CONNOR

Let's see where this letter is taking us.. Lieutenant Santone assemble your people..we have a chop session to attend.

LIEUTENANT SANTONE

I'm ready!

SERGEANT DANIELS

You guys aren't leaving me behind..I just need to call Georgia first.

INTERCUT- CHIEF O'CONNOR'S OFFICE/RACHEL LOGAN, 45, NEIGHBOR AND FRIEND FOR FIFTEEN YEARS ANSWERS.

Telephone RINGS:

SERGEANT DANIELS

Hello RACHEL, this is Ray. I'm really sorry to be calling you at this hour..is Georgia there?

RACHEL

No Ray, she isn't.

SERGEANT DANIELS

Nothing to be alarmed about..she probably changed her mind. I'll call the house.

RACHEL

Why would she be coming over here at this hour?..is every thing okay?

SERGEANT DANIELS

We have a crisis at the Station House and I didn't want her and Portia to be home alone while we try and solve it.

RACHEL

Ray, what are you not telling me?

SERGEANT DANIELS
 I can't discuss anything right now.
 But again, I'm sorry for disturbing
 your sleep..good night.

END INTERCUT-

He immediately calls home.

TELEPHONE RINGS REPEATEDLY with no response.

SERGEANT DANIELS (cont'd)
 Chief, I need to go home. I should
 be back before you leave. If not,
 I'll meet you at the warehouse.

SERGEANT DANIELS makes a hasty exit.

EXT: CITY STREET - SAME

A suspicious SERGEANT DANIELS race home, running red lights.

He stops abruptly as he notice the kitchen light usually left
 on for Portia is out.

He takes out his service revolver and walks cautiously
 inside. He finds Portia asleep in her room then walks into
 the kitchen and STUMBLES TO THE FLOOR.

He picks himself up, turns on the light to SHOCKINGLY find
 himself covered with BLOOD. He see Georgia lying face down in
 a pool of BLOOD. He turns her over and finds a faint pulse.

SERGEANT DANIELS
 Georgia! Georgia!

GEORGIA
 (faint whisper)
 Ray..Ray..

SERGEANT DANIELS
 Don't talk..hold on, I'm calling
 for help!

Cradling Georgia in his arms, he takes out his cell phone to
 call 911. His hands BLOODIED, he drops it.

GEORGIA
 Ray..I love you...(silence) He
 checks her pulse again. She's gone.

SERGEANT DANIELS
Georgia! No! No! No!

Sgt Daniels begin crying uncontrollably.

Portia, awoken by SERGEANT DANIELS wailing, comes downstairs and find him sitting on the floor rocking back and forth holding Georgia's lifeless body.

She SCREAMS as he softly lay her body down. He gets up and take Portia out of the kitchen.

PORTIA
What happened to her? Where did all
that blood come from?

SERGEANT DANIELS
Calm down honey..calm down.

SERGEANT DANIELS calls Rachel back to come and take Portia to her house.

He explains to Rachel about the shooting. She takes Portia to her home, leaving SERGEANT DANIELS alone with the house empty and quiet.

Telephone RINGS INTERCUT- DANIELS'S RESIDENCE/POLICE
HEADQUARTERS

SERGEANT DANIELS (cont'd)
Yes..

CHIEF O'CONNOR
What's keeping you? Lieutenant
Santone and his teams has left for
the warehouse.

SERGEANT DANIELS
It's Georgia, Chief..she been shot!

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Shot? I'll send..

SERGEANT DANIELS
She's dead, Chief! She's dead!

CHIEF O'CONNOR
My God, man..I'll have a team over
there immediately. Try and keep
your wits about you!

SERGEANT DANIELS
I'm not going anywhere.

Within minutes, BLASTING SIRENS awaken the sleepy suburban neighborhood.

SERGEANT DANIELS takes out a small caliber revolver and put it in his pocket as he place his service weapon on a table nearby.

Chief O'Connor, the CORONER and several FORENSIC EXPERTS and DETECTIVES arrive.

They find SERGEANT DANIELS still dressed in BLOODY clothes, slowly ROCKING BACK AND FORTH staring at his wedding pictures.

Chief O'Connor moves in slowly and takes Daniel's service revolver and gives it to one of his Officers.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Ray, talk to me..what happened here?

No response.

He continues to rock back and forth, staring at the photo of Georgia.

CHIEF O'CONNOR (cont'd)
(to Detective)
This may have been a robbery. See if anything is missing.

SERGEANT DANIELS
This wasn't a robbery Chief. The carjackers wanted to send me a message.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Where is she?

SERGEANT DANIELS
In the kitchen.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
(to Coroner and Forensics Crew)
Any clues you find, notify me immediately.

SERGEANT DANIELS
(ice cold temperament)
Who ever murdered Georgia might as
well will their soul to the Devil
because their ass belongs to me!

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Let us handle it! You have to keep
a level head for Portia. Where is
she?

SERGEANT DANIELS
Next door at a neighbor's house.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Did she hear or see anything?

SERGEANT DANIELS
No.. I found her asleep.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Ray, let's get out of here so these
guys can do their jobs!

SERGEANT DANIELS
Somebody put two bullets in my wife
and you want me to cool off..ain't
happening..I'm going with you to
that warehouse!

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Ray, you're not going to that
warehouse..not In your condition.

SERGEANT DANIELS
Chief, I..

CHIEF O'CONNOR
No, Ray..if I have to put you under
house arrest..

SERGEANT DANIELS
I need to get out these clothes.

Several minutes pass by.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Come on Ray, let's go!

No response.

Chief O'Connor and another Officer goes into Daniels bedroom and finds an open window.

CHIEF O'CONNOR (cont'd)
He'll show up at the warehouse,
just make sure he stays out of the
way.

INT: WATKINS WAREHOUSE - SAME

Several EX-CONS are DISMANTLING three expensive cars. Menke and Rhinler are standing by observing.

Marty enters.

OFFICER MENKE
Where have you
been..you're not still
pissed at us about your
friend are you?

MARTY
I had to make a stop..what did I
miss?

OFFICER RHINLER
Marty, I'm sorry about your friend,
but he had to go!

MARTY
I know..it was business.

EXT: WAREHOUSE-SAME

Lieutenant Santone and his SWAT TEAMS arrive and quietly neutralized the outside sentries. Chief O'Connor is informed that the warehouse is surrounded with police Snipers in place.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
You haven't seen Daniels around
here, have you?

LIEUTENANT SANTONE
No Sir, I thought he was coming
with you.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Georgia was murdered tonight.

LIEUTENANT SANTONE
Oh shit..I feel sorry for the
person responsible! That's one guy
the tax payers won't have to pay
for.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
You sound so certain of what
Daniels may do.

LIEUTENANT SANTONE
Chief, I've known Ray for over
twenty years..he'll toss his badge
if he has to.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
What's happening here?

LIEUTENANT SANTONE
The warehouse is surrounded and
everyone is in place waiting for
your orders.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
(loudly with bullhorn)
This is the Police..we have the
warehouse surrounded..come out with
your hands up!

GUNFIRE ERUPTS from inside the warehouse.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Well, I guess they want to fight it
out! Carry on Lieutenant!

LIEUTENANT SANTONE
(to SWAT Teams)
Fire tear gas cannisters at will
through the windows!

Tear gas engulfs the entire warehouse. Several of the Gunmen
attempt to escape out the rear and CUT down by SNIPER FIRE.

After several minutes, those remaining inside surrender.

As the SWAT TEAMS move in, Rhinler and Menke are brought out
in handcuffs and met by Chief O'Connor.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Well, well, look who we have here.
Dual employment, huh fellows?

LIEUTENANT SANTONE
You guys have really caused us a
lot of trouble!

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Lieutenant Santone, give me a full
report when you clean up here.
Transport these two Officers in a
separate van.

LIEUTENANT SANTONE
Sure Chief. We have everything
under control here.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
No sign of Daniels yet, huh?

LIEUTENANT SANTONE
No Sir.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Let me know if he show.. I'm really
worried about him.

LIEUTENANT SANTONE
So am I.

Chief O'Connor departs the area.

As Lieutenant Santone is about to close the door to the van,
SERGEANT DANIELS appears.

SERGEANT DANIELS
Vinny, I need your help!

LIEUTENANT SANTONE
Ray, where in the hell have you
been? The Chief is worried about
you man..give him a call.

SERGEANT DANIELS
I will..I saw the warehouse take
down from a distance. Your guys did
a tremendous job.

LIEUTENANT SANTONE
Ray, call the Chief and let him
know you're okay, and I'm sorry
about Georgia..we all are.

SERGEANT DANIELS
Thanks Vinny..I'll call the Chief
right after you do me this little
favor.

LIEUTENANT SANTONE
Can it wait until I get these two
pea brains to the Precinct?

SERGEANT DANIELS
I need to talk to those pea brains
alone...ten, maybe fifteen
minutes.. tops.

LIEUTENANT SANTONE
I don't know, Ray. The Chief wants
them processed right away. Why not
wait until we get back to
Headquarters?

SERGEANT DANIELS
Vinny, Georgia was murdered tonight
and these two have to know
something. Please, I would do it
for you.

LIEUTENANT SANTONE
Alright..go ahead.

SERGEANT DANIELS
I can't question them around other
Officers. I need a nice secluded
spot.

LIEUTENANT SANTONE
Ray, these prisoners are my
responsibility..what do you really
have in mind?

SERGEANT DANIELS
I just want to talk..that's it.

Marty and the other gang members are taken to the Precinct.

The van with SERGEANT DANIELS, Lieutenant Santone, Menke and
Rhinler is driven away in the opposite direction.

After driving for several minutes, Lieutenant Santone orders
the van to stop.

Daniels gets out and open the rear doors. Rhinler and Menke
quickly notice they aren't at Police Headquarters.

SERGEANT DANIELS (cont'd)
Everybody out!

OFFICER MENKE
What is he doing here? I'm not
getting out of this van until we
get to the station.

To Lieutenant Santone's surprise, SERGEANT DANIELS takes out
the small caliber revolver.

SERGEANT DANIELS
Not a problem. Your ignorance will
make it easier for me to..

LIEUTENANT SANTONE
Ray, what are you going to do with
that? I thought you just wanted to
talk!

SERGEANT DANIELS
I do..but these guys need a little
persuasion.

OFFICER RHINLER
You wouldn't shoot another
cop..you're not that stupid.

SERGEANT DANIELS points the gun at them and both men JUMP
OUT.
He then FIRES a shot that lands between the feet of Officer
Rhinler.

SERGEANT DANIELS
Now that we know it works..let's
have a little talk.

OFFICER MENKE
You fool..you could have been shot
me..you're crazy!

SERGEANT DANIELS
I need some answers and I want them
now!
I promised my wife that I would
join her for breakfast, but wait,
what am I saying..I can't..she's
dead!

OFFICER MENKE
We don't know anything about your
wife being shot.

SERGEANT DANIELS
Shot? Whoa..back up here..who said
my wife was shot?

SERGEANT DANIELS turns to Lieutenant Santone.

SERGEANT DANIELS (cont'd)
Vinny, did you hear me say anything
about my wife being shot?

LIEUTENANT SANTONE
Not me..this man must be a mind
reader.

SERGEANT DANIELS
So tell me..what possess you to say
something like that?

OFFICER RHINLER
You're blowing smoke Daniels..take
us in!

SERGEANT DANIELS
You were caught with over a hundred
thousand dollars worth of
automobiles and three people I
cared about are dead..and you don't
know nothin'?

OFFICER RHINLER
We didn't kill nobody..just fenced
the cars.

SERGEANT DANIELS
Neither one of you are smart enough
to handle an operation like this.
So, who's your boss?

No response.

SERGEANT DANIELS FIRES again, with a bullet landing near
Officer Menke's feet.

OFFICER MENKE
I told you, we don't know anything.

SERGEANT DANIELS
 Wrong answer..I've had enough of
 this B.S. Oh my, I have four
 bullets left!

SERGEANT DANIELS takes out his badge and throws it on the
 ground in front of them.

SERGEANT DANIELS (cont'd)
 My wife is dead and I really don't
 care anymore. Vinny, go and sit
 inside the van with the Driver..you
 don't need to witness this.

LIEUTENANT SANTONE
 Fellows, if I were you, I would
 tell this man what he wants to know
 because as you can see there are no
 witnesses out here...get my drift?

SERGEANT DANIELS
 (menacingly)
 You know...I'm tired of shooting at
 feet ...let's try a head shot.

SERGEANT DANIELS points the gun barrel at Officer Rhinler's
 head. As SERGEANT DANIELS prepares to PULL the trigger,
 Lieutenant Santone moves in quickly, STRIKING his arm,
 FORCING the barrel upward, causing the bullet to be FIRED
 into the air.

LIEUTENANT SANTONE
 You were really going to kill him,
 weren't you?

SERGEANT DANIELS
 Why not! He's not telling me what I
 want to know..I need answers
 Vinny..I need answers!

OFFICER RHINLER
 You're one crazy Bastard!

SERGEANT DANIELS
 See Vinny, he's observant..I taught
 him well. I am a crazy man!

SERGEANT DANIELS again aims the gun at Officer Rhinler's
 head.

LIEUTENANT SANTONE

Ray, I know this is eating you up inside, but I won't be a part of this.

SERGEANT DANIELS

If you had gone to the van as I first suggested..

LIEUTENANT SANTONE

Ray, come on man..don't do this.

SERGEANT DANIELS

But Vinny, they're not cooperating.

LIEUTENANT SANTONE

All right..I'll write in my report that they tried to escape..go ahead..shoot him!

Officers Menke and Rhinler quickly notice that Lieutenant Santone walks toward the front of the van.

OFFICER RHINLER

Hey..where are you going? You can't leave us here with this lunatic! Cops don't kill cops! Wait!..wait a minute!

LIEUTENANT SANTONE

You're on your own fellows.. he's to stubborn for me.

OFFICER MENKE

All right..all right. I'll talk... Just tell that nut to put that gun away.

OFFICER RHINLER

Shut up, you fool!

SERGEANT DANIELS FIRES.. hitting Officer Rhinler in the foot.

SERGEANT DANIELS

See Vinny, all it took was a little persuasion.

INT: POLICE HEADQUARTERS - LATER

Conference Room-

Chief O'Connor, Richie, Palpanetti, Sonny, Pablo and DAVID LIBENTHAL, 57, District Attorney for seventeen years, Lieutenant Santone and Police Commissioner Montgomery are all discussing the department's Involvement. SERGEANT DANIELS enters.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Ray, where in the hell have you been?

SERGEANT DANIELS
I'm fine..just had to clear my head.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
(to female officer)
Captain Miller is doing paperwork upstairs..tell him to join us in the Conference Room.

COMMISSIONER MONTGOMERY
I'm happy to see you Daniels..you had us worried.

SERGEANT DANIELS
I've been driving around thinking..just wanted to be alone.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Officer Rhinler told us another story, but I'm glad you're okay.

COMMISSIONER MONTGOMERY
All the suspects are in custody and the Feds are handling the investigation with the Mob. Man, what a relief.

SERGEANT DANIELS
It was hard fought, but..

COMMISSIONER MONTGOMERY
Daniels, we both have suffered a great loss..

SERGEANT DANIELS
Yes Sir, we have. I'm just glad the responsible parties were caught.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
All we have to do is tie up another
loose end.

Captain Miller enters.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
And here it comes now.

CAPTAIN MILLER
Chief, you wanted to see me?

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Take a seat Miller. D. A. LIBENTHAL
is here to interpret some language
about the carjackers. You got the
floor Mr. D.A.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY LIBENTHAL
I conferred with Circuit Court
Judge Cunningham about the evidence
given to me by Chief O'Connor and
she said and I quote "you have a
solid case."

CAPTAIN MILLER
Well Daniels, all that inmate crew
of yours came up with, is a thug
who happens to be your nephew.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY LIBENTHAL
I see no one has bothered to update
you.

SONNY
What about our case of false
imprisonment?

CAPTAIN MILLER
False imprisonment? All four of you
are heading back upstate where you
belong!

DISTRICT ATTORNEY LIBENTHAL
We'll address that area Sonny..
just be patient.

SERGEANT DANIELS
You look a little edgy Captain.

CAPTAIN MILLER
(standing up)
Anyone care for coffee?

CHIEF O'CONNOR
The only coffee you will..

SERGEANT DANIELS, who can no longer restrain himself starts PUMMELING Captain Miller.

SERGEANT DANIELS
(rage in his eyes)
You and your cronies killed my
wife, you Son of A Bitch!

After punching Captain Miller several times, Daniels is held by Lieutenant Santone and two other Officers.

CAPTAIN MILLER
(shocked)
I want this man arrested for
assaulting a superior officer!

COMMISSIONER MONTGOMERY
What for? I didn't see anything.

Angry stares follow Captain Miller as he ambles over to a chair, wiping BLOOD from his BRUISED face.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY LIBENTHAL
Captain Miller, I have a warrant
for your arrest. You have the right
to remain silent..anything you say
can and will be used against you in
a court of law.

CAPTAIN MILLER
This is ridiculous..I'm not guilty
of any crime.

COMMISSIONER MONTGOMERY
Try murder, Grand Larceny, reckless
endangerment, conspiracy and
destruction of city property.

CAPTAIN MILLER
Trying to set me up again Daniels?
Hoping maybe this time it'll stick?

SERGEANT DANIELS

This one is gonna' stick like fly paper!

CHIEF O'CONNOR

You were a big part of this carjacking ring Miller. Because of you, they knew all our stakeout areas.

SERGEANT DANIELS

You had your people snooping around the prison, you just didn't know my guys.

CAPTAIN MILLER

Chief, where are you getting these wild accusations? I had nothing to do with those car-jackings.

CHIEF O'CONNOR

We have evidence connecting you to the death of three carjackers and the wives of Commissioner Montgomery and Daniels.

CAPTAIN MILLER

You're wrong about me Chief!

CHIEF O'CONNOR

Am I? Now I know why you've been on edge for the last couple of weeks.

LIEUTENANT SANTONE

Why don't you just 'fess up Miller, your ass is grass! Officers Rhinler and Menke have already signed statements implicating you.

CAPTAIN MILLER

You seem to be on a roll around here Daniels.

SERGEANT DANIELS

This is not about you and me..I had nothing to do with this.

CHIEF O'CONNOR

The Department, Daniels included, is as shocked about you as we are.

COMMISSIONER MONTGOMERY
(to Captain Miller)
If I wasn't an Officer of this fair
city, I would..(raising his fist).

DISTRICT ATTORNEY LIBENTHAL
Another statement implicating you
was written by SERGEANT Daniel's
nephew, Roger Parks.

CAPTAIN MILLER
What I see going on here is a witch
hunt..two rogue cops and a thug
nephew!

CHIEF O'CONNOR
All the evidence will speak for
itself Miller.

CAPTAIN MILLER
You don't have anything on me!

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Read him the letter Daniels.

SERGEANT DANIELS
Gladly.

SERGEANT DANIELS opens the letter.
(reading out loud)

"Dear Uncle Ray

The car jacking bosses you're looking for are Officers
Rhinler, Menke and Captain Miller from your old Unit.

We're suppose to meet at G&G Warehouse on Watkins at four AM
on Wednesday to chop cars.

I also overheard Captain Miller and Rhinler talking about a
judge..so a heavy hitter must be involved. I'm sorry for
being an embarrassment to you and Aunt Georgia and tell my
mother I love her and to forgive me for my outbursts.

ROGER

BACK TO SCENE-

Everyone in the room looks at Captain Miller to capture his
expression, including a teary-eyed SERGEANT DANIELS.

COMMISSIONER MONTGOMERY
Well, Miller? What do you have to
say for yourself?

CAPTAIN MILLER
(angry)
That's an outrageous lie! A cheap
hood writes a letter and you
believe him. I'm an Officer of the
law!

CHIEF O'CONNOR
I'm getting really tired of
this..Officer, please usher in our
other guests.

Some of the suspects apprehended at the warehouse march in
chained together.

HANDCUFFED SUSPECT,28
Hey Cap, you said everything was
under control.. what happened?

Captain Miller GROANS and bows his head as the suspects are
taken away for processing.

CAPTAIN MILLER
I want a lawyer!

DISTRICT ATTORNEY LIBENTHAL
(raises his hand)
Choose me.. Oops, damn! I
can't..I'll be prosecuting your
sorry ass!

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Okay Miller, again, let's start
from the top.

CAPTAIN MILLER
Chief, can we make a deal? I can
give you more information about
this case.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
No deals Miller! The suspects are
singing like they're auditioning
for a contract.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY LIBENTHAL
Wait a minute Chief..I want to know
more about this judge Roger talked
about in his letter.

CAPTAIN MILLER
There's more to this case than you
realize.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY LIBENTHAL
Give me something tangible and I'll
see what I can do. The name of that
judge would be a good start.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Hold it! I want every word of his
statement recorded.

Chief O'Connor calls in BRENDA RUSSELL, 34, PRECINCT CHIEF
STENOGRAPHER FOR TEN YEARS.

CHIEF O'CONNOR (cont'd)
Brenda, I want you to record every
word and every breath sound this
man makes.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY LIBENTHAL
Do you still want a lawyer?

CAPTAIN MILLER
No, I waive my rights to a lawyer..
I just want this over with.

SERGEANT DANIELS
You'd probably have a hard time
finding a lawyer in this town
anyway..if you haven't noticed, no
Union Rep has come to your rescue.

PALPANETTI
Yeah Cap, just like I was asked
when I got arrested.."what were you
doing travelling with a bunch like
that?"

DISTRICT ATTORNEY LIBENTHAL
Start talking Miller.

CAPTAIN MILLER

I was in debt from my wife's surgery..so after falling behind on a payment, I started looking for another source for money.

CHIEF O'CONNOR

Who gave you the loans and what kind of information did you give out other than the stakeouts?

CAPTAIN MILLER

Rhinler and Menke knew I needed money so they approached me and said they could make my troubles go away.

CHIEF O'CONNOR

Why didn't you come to me? I could have talked to some people on your behalf and got you a loan.

CAPTAIN MILLER

I just thought I could handle it on my own.

CHIEF O'CONNOR

So, that's why you've been coming to work so tense these last few weeks..money problems?

SERGEANT DANIELS

All of these people are dead because of you. What happen to that tough-as-nails person I knew?

CAPTAIN MILLER

You personally destroyed him years ago.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY LIBENTHAL

Captain Miller, what kind of information did you give them?

CAPTAIN MILLER

(sighs)

I gave them the schematics for The warehouse for the Weiker-Long Auto Parts Company and The Tri-State Mechanics Shop.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Dear God Miller... two Security
Guards died in those fires.

CAPTAIN MILLER
I didn't know they were going to
burn the place down..I didn't know!

SONNY
(to D.A. LIBENTHAL)
Promises, my ass..what about us? We
were railroaded into prison!

CAPTAIN MILLER
When Rhinler and Menke went to
Rick's apartment, they didn't
expect to find anyone there but
him.

Pablo, fists clenched, BOUNDS from his chair.

PABLO
Expect this!

Pablo is restrained by Palpanetti and Sonny.

PALPANETTI
He'll get what's coming to him..let
this play out.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Miller, you used your rank and
position to bring grief to this
town..for what..a coupla' dollars.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY LIBENTHAL
I want the name of that Judge.
No response.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY LIBENTHAL (cont'd)
Chief, we're done here.

District Attorney Libenthal picks up the telephone to make a
call.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY LIBENTHAL (cont'd)
I need to contact someone who has
been watching this case for months.

INTERCUT-POLICE HEADQUARTERS/COURT HOUSE-JUDGE'S CHAMBERS

DISTRICT ATTORNEY LIBENTHAL
Hello, this is District Attorney
Libenthal..has Judge McNeil arrived
yet?

Captain Miller SPRINGS from his seat, GRABS the receiver from
District Attorney LIBENTHAL's grip and SLAMS it down.

END INTERCUT-

CAPTAIN MILLER
Not him..anybody but him!

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Miller, have you gone mad?

DISTRICT ATTORNEY LIBENTHAL
How can you expect my Office to
help you if you keep withholding
information?

SERGEANT DANIELS
Mr. D.A., I think Judge McNeil
might be your anonymous Judge.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY LIBENTHAL
Judge McNeil? Nah..couldn't
be..I've known Judge Roy since law
school. He wouldn't be mixed up in
something like this.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Is the D.A. Correct, Miller?

CAPTAIN MILLER
Neither of you obviously know Judge
Roy as well as I do.

COMMISSIONER MONTGOMERY
Now, you're trying to tarnish the
name of one of our beloved Judges.

LIEUTENANT SANTONE
Chief, we have NEWS REPORTERS
gathering outside.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
(to Officer standing at
the door)
Go out there and tell them we'll be
making a statement shortly.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY LIBENTHAL
Are you trying to tell me Judge
McNeil is involved with this car
jacking ring?

CAPTAIN MILLER
Waist deep!

DISTRICT ATTORNEY LIBENTHAL
Nah, I think you're using his name
to save your ass from stiff
prosecution!

CAPTAIN MILLER
Sorry Mr. D.A. Judge McNeil is just
as rotten as I feel..even more so.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY LIBENTHAL
I need to check this out.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
(interrupts)
What about Rick Douglas..why was he
killed?

CAPTAIN MILLER
All the orders came from Judge
Roy.. I just recruited the ex-cons.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY LIBENTHAL
Spare me the drama Miller..you're
not a victim here..you knew!

CAPTAIN MILLER
With orders from Judge Roy, Rhinler
and Menke threatened my
family..can't you see..I had to do
what they told me!

DISTRICT ATTORNEY LIBENTHAL
So what you're trying to tell me is
that Judge McNeil was running the
whole show?

CAPTAIN MILLER

(agitated)

Some mob guy was involved, but I never saw or met him.. hat was I suppose to do?

DISTRICT ATTORNEY LIBENTHAL

I don't believe you Miller.

CAPTAIN MILLER

Well believe it..I handled the law enforcement end, he handled the judicial end and supplied the money and muscle.

SERGEANT DANIELS

Meaning..Rhinler, Menke and Marty.

CAPTAIN MILLER

Marty was another enforcer..crazy as hell.

PALPANETTI

So that's why we were sent to State Prison so fast.. Sonny, you were right.

INTERCUT-CONFERENCE ROOM/PATROLMAN'S FRONT DESK

CHIEF O'CONNOR

Send a squad car to Judge McNeil's residence immediately and bring him directly to my office, no excuses and no detours.

END INTERCUT-

DISTRICT ATTORNEY LIBENTHAL

This is going to be one hell of a case.

CAPTAIN MILLER

What about me? I gave you what you wanted.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY LIBENTHAL

If everything you said is true, you'll have to testify against Judge McNeil and the others.

CAPTAIN MILLER
As long as my family is protected,
I don't care what happens to me.

Sergeant Daniels continues to stare at Captain Miller.

CAPTAIN MILLER (cont'd)
What? Are you satisfied now
Daniels?

SERGEANT DANIELS
This is not how I wanted this to
end. My focus was strictly on
helping these four guys out and
catching the carjackers.

CAPTAIN MILLER
Do I have any remorse..of course I
do. I didn't know they were going
to murder people.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Miller, I thought some where down
the line, you would replace me as
Chief.

SERGEANT DANIELS
Why was my wife killed Captain, she
had nothing to do with this case.

CAPTAIN MILLER
That crazy ex-con Marty killed her.
He's a vicious maniac! Nobody
sanctioned your wife to die..he did
that on his own.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY LIBENTHAL
What about the Commissioner's wife?

CAPTAIN MILLER
They told me the last two ex-cons I
hired was being bar-b-cued in
Baker's Landfill. They murdered
Mrs. Montgomery.

COMMISSIONER MONTGOMERY
You and this crew are going to burn
in hell Miller and I'm personally
going to see to it.

SERGEANT DANIELS

And to think how hard I worked to recruit Rhinler and Menke for the Academy.

PALPANETTI

The time we spent in jail..all for nothing.

SERGEANT DANIELS

Just got to be a little more patient..we're almost home.

CHIEF O'CONNOR

Daniels, while we're waiting for the Judge, could you or Santone explain to me how Officer Rhinler received a gunshot wound to his foot?

Lieutenant Santone and Sergeant Daniels look at each other.

LIEUTENANT SANTONE

Well Chief, he tried to take my service weapon and was wounded in the scuffle. Everything was done by the book.

CHIEF O'CONNOR

Is that true Daniels? He said you shot him.

LIEUTENANT SANTONE

That can't be true Sir.. I shot Officer Rhinler.

SERGEANT DANIELS

I have no idea where Officer Rhinler got that from.

CHIEF O'CONNOR

Okay..write up your report and leave it on my desk.

LIEUTENANT SANTONE

Consider it a done deal, Sir.

Lieutenant Santone confers with SERGEANT DANIELS.

LIEUTENANT SANTONE

(whispering)
Give me the gun..Internal Affairs
will want to see it. I'll say
Rhinler had it in a ankle holster.

SERGEANT DANIELS

Vinny, I was mad as hell out there.

LIEUTENANT SANTONE

I knew you couldn't go through with
it.

SERGEANT DANIELS

You're right..but I wanted to.

LIEUTENANT SANTONE

We put on a good show for Rhinler
and Menke..maybe we should take our
show on the road.

CAPTAIN MILLER

(A hand-cuffed Miller
YELLS at SERGEANT
DANIELS)

I see both of you over there
whispering. I'm the victim here!

COMMISSIONER MONTGOMERY

But Captain Miller..we're your
victims!

CAPTAIN MILLER

If a deal can be made, I'm all for
it.

SONNY

Cap', you must have smoked
something before you came in
here..there's no way out of this
for you.

CAPTAIN MILLER

Whatever, they will have to keep me
in Protective Custody where ever I
go.

SERGEANT DANIELS

It doesn't matter Captain. A lot of
the Inmates and Correctional
Officers know me in those
facilities, so watch out.

CAPTAIN MILLER

Am I suppose to be threaten by that statement? You're nothing but an old beat cop..that's it!

SONNY

Excuse me Cap', but I beg to differ. SERGEANT DANIELS is highly respected in those jails..been there..done that!

EXT/INT: JUDGE MCNEIL'S RESIDENCE-SAME

OFFICERS MIKE TOWNSEND, 38 and ROBERT DAVIS, 35, each with ten years with the police department RINGS the doorbell of Judge McNeil home.

They are ushered into the Den by a Servant and told to wait.

Minutes later Judge McNeil appears sipping a cup of coffee.

JUDGE MCNEIL

(jovial)

Good Morning Officers..I'm in a bit of a rush.. what can I do for you?

OFFICER TOWNSEND

Good Morning, Your Honor. We've been instructed by Chief O'Connor to escort you to his office.

JUDGE MCNEIL

Why? Is there something wrong?

OFFICER DAVIS

Not that we know of Sir. We were just ordered to bring you straight to his office ASAP.

JUDGE MCNEIL

Just tell the Chief I'll have my Driver bring me down.

OFFICER DAVIS

Sorry Sir, but that's not an option.. we have our orders and you have to come with us.

JUDGE MCNEIL

Oh well, let me get my coat. I'll only be a minute.

Judge McNeil goes into his bedroom, sits down on the bed and opens the drawer to his night stand revealing a small caliber pistol.

He picks it up, aims it at his right temple and FIRES.

Officers Townsend and Davis rush into the bedroom and find the judge lying on his back with BLOOD OOZING down the side of his face and the pistol lying nearby.

The Maid runs towards the bedroom but is prevented from entering as Officer Davis steps outside and PULL the door closed.

Telephone RINGS...

INTERCUT- JUDGE MCNEIL'S RESIDENCE/CHIEF O'CONNOR'S OFFICE

CHIEF O'CONNOR
O'Connor here..

OFFICER DAVIS
Chief, we're at Judge Roy's residence and he just shot himself.. I'm sorry Sir.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Do what you can there and give me a full report as soon as you're finished..I'll send some Units over.

END INTERCUT-

Chief O'Connor SLAMS the receiver down in ANGER.

CHIEF O'CONNOR (cont'd)
Damn!

DISTRICT ATTORNEY LIBENTHAL
What is it Chief?

CHIEF O'CONNOR
That was one of my Officers calling from Judge McNeil's place. He just shot himself.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY LIBENTHAL
What? How did that happen?

CHIEF O'CONNOR

He knew why my Officers were there..he just took the cowardly way out.

PALPANETTI

Farewell, your corruptness..well
Sonny, no appeal McNeil is history.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY LIBENTHAL

Time for me to get to work. This is going to be an all-nighter.

CHIEF O'CONNOR

Judge McNeil must have been in really deep with the Mob to do this.

CAPTAIN MILLER

He was..

COMMISSIONER MONTGOMERY

Oh shut up Miller!

DISTRICT ATTORNEY LIBENTHAL

My Staff will have to go over a lot of cases that Judge Roy presided over.

The Patrolman standing guard at the door re-enters.

PATROLMAN

Chief, Attorney Margaret Hammonds is outside. She wants to come in and make a statement involving this case.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY LIBENTHAL

Maggie?.. send her in.

Attorney Hammonds, carrying the envelope filled with the same money Judge McNeill threw at her feet, enters.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY LIBENTHAL (cont'd)

Maggie, what's going on? Why are you here?

LAWYER HAMMONDS

David, I had to come down to make a statement about my involvement with Judge McNeill and his corrupt cronies.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY LIBENTHAL

Maggie, no..not you too?

LAWYER HAMMONDS

(tears begin to flow)

I'm afraid so David.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY LIBENTHAL

Maggie, why? I've known you for over ten years and you would never..

LAWYER HAMMONDS

Judge Roy was blackmailing me. He knew my husband and I were having personal problems so he had me video-taped dining with a client.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY LIBENTHAL

So he would think you were cheating on him.

LAWYER HAMMONDS

Exactly.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY LIBENTHAL

What's that you're carrying?

LAWYER HAMMONDS

Bribe money from the Judge. I just couldn't keep it..its not right!

MAYOR THOMPSON

This is a bold move you're making Maggie and I applaud you for it.

LAWYER HAMMONDS

I know, but it doesn't stop with me. Another Lawyers is also involved.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY LIBENTHAL

Who are they? I'll hang them by their thumbs..who is it?

LAWYER HAMMONDS
Larry Macklin..

District Attorney Libenthal FLOPS down in a nearby chair.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
(to the Officer at the
door)
Send a squad car over to the court
house and pick up Attorney Macklin.

SERGEANT DANIELS
(SHOUTS)
Don't forget to frisk him for
weapons.

COMMISSIONER MONTGOMERY
Wasn't he your first choice to
succeed you as District Attorney?

DISTRICT ATTORNEY LIBENTHAL
First choice? He was my only
choice!

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Miller, because of you, Judge
McNeill and the other Officers,
some good people are dead.

CAPTAIN MILLER
(to Lawyer Hammond)
I love a bitch with a conscious! I
applaud you.

SERGEANT DANIELS
Hey Miller, don't forget what I
told you. A suit of armor in prison
might help you, but I doubt it.

Captain Miller is led away.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
I just can't believe that the men
who wore this uniform and swore to
serve and protect this city caused
all this trouble.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY LIBENTHAL
Maggie, you're going to have to
testify against Macklin and the
others.

LAWYER HAMMONDS

I know what I have to do David.
Just tell me when and where.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY LIBENTHAL

For now, just go home and I'll see
you in my office in the morning.

Lawyer Hammonds exit.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY LIBENTHAL (cont'd)

She's a good woman Chief..I hate to
lose her.

Marty, in handcuffs is seen passing by the Conference Room by
SERGEANT DANIELS, accompanied by an ARRESTING OFFICER.

CHIEF O'CONNOR

(to arresting Officer)

What is this man doing here? Why
wasn't he processed with the
others?

MARTY

(smiling)

SERGEANT D. what's up? Tell wifey I
said hello.

SERGEANT DANIELS runs over to Marty, takes the weapon of the
Arresting Officer, cocks it and AIMS it point blank at his
head.

Marty (cont'd)

What are you going to do
Sarge..kill me in front of all your
fellow officers?

LIEUTENANT SANTONE

Ray, don't let this piece of shit
talk you into nothing!..we got him!

MARTY

I can see it in your eyes
Sarge..you don't have the guts!

CHIEF O'CONNOR

Daniels, this is not what Georgia
would want..think about Portia..

SERGEANT DANIELS
 (wide-eyed and out of
 control)
 I could save the taxpayers a whole
 lot of money by taking out this
 garbage.

MARTY
 Go ahead Sarge..take me out. I'm
 better off dead anyway..do it!

COMMISSIONER MONTGOMERY
 Daniels, he'll pay. Don't give him
 the easy way out!

MARTY
 Come on SERGEANT D. you spineless
 bastard.. shoot me!(he INHALES
 DEEPLY to intimidate) I can still
 smell her perfume.

Lieutenant Santone eases up next to SERGEANT DANIELS and
 calmly place his hand on the barrel to loosen his tight grip.

LIEUTENANT SANTONE
 Ray, let him go..he's not worth it.

SERGEANT DANIELS
 Knowing that he's going to rot in
 jail isn't enough.

As Lieutenant Santone tugs at SERGEANT DANIELS grip on the
 gun, Marty FORCIBLY try and WREST it away as it mistakenly
 FIRES, wounding him mortally in the chest.

SILENCE.

MARTY
 Your wife put up a better fight!

Marty gives a wide smile and COLLAPSES into a limp form on
 the floor.

After a brief silence, News Reporters who heard the shot try
 to PUSH their way in but are held back by several Officers.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
 All this, for what?

Later, Personnel from the Coroner's Office enter and take Marty's body away through a side door.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY LIBENTHAL
Well Sonny, you, Richie, Palpanetti
and Pablo are free to go.

As District Attorney Libenthal and Commissioner Montgomery exit the Conference Room, they are met by a deluge of News Reporters SHOUTING questions.

SONNY
This has been one hell of a
nightmare.

LIEUTENANT SANTONE
If you guys ever decide on a job in
law enforcement, look me up.

PABLO
Thanks, but no thanks. No more cops
and robbers for me.

SONNY
Sarge, you saved us from going to
prison and even tolerated my being
an ass and we thank you.

SERGEANT DANIELS
You have some good qualities
Sonny..always remember that.

PALPANETTI
You have our deepest sympathy in
regards to Mrs. Daniels.

SERGEANT DANIELS
She didn't die in vain fellows..
Something good did come out of
this..you're free.

RICHIE
But..but at that price..SERGEANT D,
it was to high.

PABLO
If I had known all this death and
violence would happen, I would have
rather did the time.

SONNY

That the problem..no one can
foresee the future.

CHIEF O'CONNOR

I agree with that analysis
Gentlemen and I'm recommending City
Citations for everyone.

SONNY

Chief, SERGEANT DANIELS deserves a
medal just for putting up with us!

SERGEANT DANIELS

(smiling)

That medal Chief..I'll definitely
accept.

CHIEF O'CONNOR

The D.A. and the Commissioner are
giving statements to the Reporters,
but we know who they're really
waiting for, don't we?

As SERGEANT DANIELS, Chief O'Connor, Sonny, Palpanetti,
Richie and Pablo comes out, cameras flashes all around.

NEWS REPORTER #1

Chief O'Connor, we heard a
shot..what happened inside?

NEWS REPORTER #2

We saw the Coroner's vehicle
driving away.

NEWS REPORTER #3

What about department
restructuring? Will SERGEANT
DANIELS come out of retirement?

CHIEF O'CONNOR

A suspect tried to take a Officer's
service revolver and it mistakenly
fired, killing him. As for that
other question, you have to ask
SERGEANT DANIELS.

NEWS REPORTER #3

Bad news travels fast Chief.. How
did Judge McNeil's suicide factor
into this crime spree?

CHIEF O'CONNOR

I can't comment on an ongoing investigation. As soon as all the information is in, City Officials will be making full statements!

NEWS REPORTER #1

The man who was shot.. was he involved in any of the car jackings?

CHIEF O'CONNOR

Yes, he was..

NEWS REPORTER #2

District Attorney Libenthal was somewhat vague on the false arrest charges for the four Gentlemen standing next to you.

CHIEF O'CONNOR

I have no idea what will transpire in the next few days. We just have to wait and see.

NEWS REPORTER #3

Guys, what's on your agenda now that you're heroes and free from jail?

SONNY

All I want to do right now is go and see my family and have a good home cooked meal.

PALPANETTI

If it wasn't for the sacrifice SERGEANT DANIELS made for us, we wouldn't be standing here today.. he's the real hero.

SONNY

SERGEANT DANIELS followed his instincts as an Officer and helped us get out of prison and we are very, very grateful to him.

CHIEF O'CONNOR

These four guys were wrongly incarcerated, but it hurts even more when its your own people causing the trouble.

NEWS REPORTER #1

Since all this praise is for you SERGEANT DANIELS, may we have a few words from you.

SERGEANT DANIELS

The carjacking capers are over and I'm glad these young men have their lives back.

CHIEF O'CONNOR

That will be all..my Officers will escort you out.

The Reporters are ushered out.

CHIEF O'CONNOR (cont'd)

Well fellows, one of my officers will escort you down to the Property Agent's Room to get your personal property.

PALPANETTI

What about you Sarge..what are you going to do?

SERGEANT DANIELS

Right now, I'm going home to see my little girl..I have a lot of explaining to do.

SONNY

Can I call you sometime..you know..like catch up on old times.

SERGEANT DANIELS

(smiling)

Sure Sonny, why not.

RICHIE

Sarge..Sarge..keep your head up. You're..you're be all right.

SERGEANT DANIELS

You know what Richie? I will..thanks.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
He's right, you know.

PABLO
I see you're used to all this
hoopla for bravery and going beyond
the call of duty and stuff.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
I can vouch for him.. he's used to
it.

SERGEANT DANIELS
(nodding positively)
Yeah, I guess I am, but this is
your time.

RICHIE
I'm not a hero. I didn't.. didn't
do nothing.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Oh yes you did. You and Sonny
helped coordinate the movement of
the vehicles in the sting..both of
you were a very big help.

SERGEANT DANIELS
Chief, if you need me for anything,
you know where I'll be.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
Take a little time off and be with
your daughter and give my offer
some thought.

SERGEANT DANIELS
Thanks Chief..she's very fragile
right now.

CHIEF O'CONNOR
I understand. If there is anything
Clara or I can do, don't hesitate
to call.

SERGEANT DANIELS
We'll be all right.

SONNY

Again, I'm really sorry about your wife Sarge. Maybe if we hadn't asked you for help, she would still be alive.

SERGEANT DANIELS

Georgia and I discussed your arrests on many nights and she said to me.. "If you are their only hope.. then help them."

Everyone shake hands and embrace.

SONNY

Sarge, me and the guys saw you and the Chief all huddled up after CAPTAIN MILLER was taken away. What was that all about?

SERGEANT DANIELS

The Chief made me an offer.

SONNY

We were talking about how you would be a good fit as Chief O'Connor's go-to man as his new Captain.

PALPANETTI

Yeah, and we know that position just opened up.

SERGEANT DANIELS stares at everyone and breaks out into a big smile.

SONNY

What?

SERGEANT DANIELS takes out the Captain's badge and place it on his front pocket.

RICHIE

Now, now..that's what I'm talking about.

PABLO

Congratulations, My friend.

SERGEANT DANIELS

All right fellows..now you know. Go
and see your families..I have to
pick up my little girl.

Tears swell up in Sonny's eyes as he watch SERGEANT DANIELS
walk away.

PALPANETTI

Sonny, are those guilty tears I see
welling up in those steely eyes of
yours?

SONNY

I guess you can say that. Its been
over twenty years and he's doing it
to me again.

PALPANETTI

Doing what? What else has he done
other than kept us from spending
years in prison?

SONNY

When he left the old neighborhood I
cried. Now look at me.. I'm a grown
ass man and I'm doing it again. I
know now why he is, who he is..very
unique in his own way.

FADE OUT:

