

WAY OUT

A Screen Play

by

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WGA protected

FADE IN

EXT. MIDDLE OF NOWHERE - NIGHT

Dim light reveals a lone dark figure standing in the middle of nowhere.

White smoke emanates from the ground and wafts around him.

CLOSE UP on the face of COP. Late thirties, maybe the wrong side of

forty, a cunning caucasian male with rather sadistic tendencies about

him, wearing a dark overall coat, hand gloves and a cowboy style black

hat.

White smoke wafts in front of his face. He speaks matter-of-factly,

directly into camera.

COP

I may not be the best person to tell you this. I know, you're probably wondering what I'm talkin' about but trust me, after this, you'll most likely hate me guts. Think I care? That's the least of my worries since I don't give a damn what you think. Still, you oughta know this. Well, I remember like t'was yesterday. His name was Jos, Jas...damn! Anyway...  
(*readjusts his hat*)  
...what'd you do if you're in his shoes?

The camera ZOOMS away from his face revealing:

EXT. CITY STREET - PAVEMENT - DAY

Cop striding confidently along a commotion filled street pavement ,

with a swam of police officers rushing towards a crime scene  
with their

guns aimed at a parked police car.

The faint sound of panic screams, screeching car tyres and  
gunfires,

carries to us on the wind.

Dissolve to;

A TITLE SEQUENCE FOLLOWS - A CONTINUOUS SHOT FROM A CAMERA  
MOUNTED ON

THE SUN - ILLUSTRATING THE JOURNEY OF THE SUN ACROSS THE SKY  
FROM

SUNRISE TO MID-DAY

Camera set on the sun over MANHATTAN as it moves across the sky

illuminating the city of New York from sunrise and stops  
directly at

mid-day over the city.

The camera then ZOOMS in on:

EXT. CITY STREET - PAVEMENT - DAY

8th avenue;12:30pm

JASON STEWART, a sly 35 year old defense attorney, full of male  
charisma and bravado, wearing a conservative suit, walking the  
pavement

along the busy street.

Jason is busy conversing on the phone.

EXT.CITY STREET - PAVEMENT - DAY

12:45 pm

Jason is deeply engrossed in a phone conversation while walking along

the busy street pavement.

A MALE TRUMP suddenly steps in his way and stops him. Jason stops but

then ignores the trump.

TRUMP

Could you spare me some change, Sir?

Jason looks at the trump from head to toe then back up again.

JASON

What's your problem, huh? Can't you see am busy?

Jason brushes the Trump aside then makes to walk away. He still holds

the phone to his ear.

The Trump grabs Jason's coat and tries to hold onto it. Jason manages

to brush him off him. He strides on.

JASON (CONT)

Hey, fuck off!

The Trump manages to pickpocket and steal Jason's wallet. He looks

behind him as Jason walks away with the phone to his ear.

TRUMP

Hey, fuck off!

The Trump smiles then hides the wallet in his oversize coat. He turns

to the next female pedestrian.

TRUMP

Hello ma'am, could you?

Jason continues on his way.

MALE CALLER

*(on phone)*

What did you just say?

JASON

*(wipes a hand over his eyebrow)*

No, sorry about that. I was just talkin' to some trump. trust me, the papers will be ready by tomorrow.

MALE CALLER

*(on phone)*

Are you certain?

JASON

If there's one person guaranteed to get away with anything, you can bet your dime it will be done.

MALE CALLER

*(on phone)*

Better be. I surely wouldn't appreciate any more delays.

INCOMING CALL ALERT

JASON

Could you hold on just a sec?

MALE CALLER

*(on phone)*

I'll pass by your office at around noon tomorrow if that's okay with you.

JASON

It's fine.

Caller hangs up.

Jason checks then receives the incoming call.

JASON

Why did it take you so long to call back? You know, my patience is running out. You'd better be havin' some good news or else?

FEMALE CALLER

*(on phone)*

Sorry Sir, the judge was still held up in a meeting.

JASON

Are the papers signed?

FEMALE CALLER

*(on phone)*

Yes. I'm on my way back to the office.

JASON

Make sure to inform James I'll be abit late for the meeting. They can start without me.

FEMALE CALLER

*(on phone)*

Consider it done.

Caller hangs up.

Jason scrolls through his phone book and continues walking.

EXT. CITY STREET - PAVEMENT - DAY

12:55 pm

Jason is busy talking on his cell phone while walking the crowded

pavement.

A hot dog VENDOR on the opposite street pavement is busy attending to

his customers.

Jason bumps accidentally against Cop headed for the opposite direction.

Cop inserts an object into Jason's coat side pocket with Jason seemingly unaware. The two men turn to look each other in the face.

COP

Sorry about that?

JASON

*(with a rather rude gesture)*

You better be!

Jason walks away and resumes his phone conversation.

Cop nods his head in surprise then walks away.

JASON

As I was saying, the deal is off  
unless you can come up with a much  
better offer.

Dissolve to;

EXT. CITY STREET - PAVEMENT - DAY

Jason is standing by the Vendor's cart as he awaits his order.  
He is

still conversing on the phone.

The Vendor takes his time. There is a growing line of eager  
customers.

JASON

What's takin' you so long? Hurry up!

Camera SET ON a silencer sniper gun target aimed at Jason's  
chest.

The Vendor completes Jason's order and places it on the cart.

Jason grabs the order from the cart but then places it back on  
top of

the cart with his other hand still holding the phone to his ear.

JASON

Just a sec!

Jason hangs up the phone. He feels for his wallet in his trouser  
pocket.

We see the same gun target change from Jason then it is aimed at the

Vendor. The Vendor continues serving other customers.

JASON

Where's my wallet?...  
(*looking alarmed and confused*)  
...I had it in...

Everyone turns and looks at Jason. Jason continues searching his pockets.

VENDOR

Is there a problem?

Jason feels something in the side pocket of his coat and looks relieved

as he reaches into the pocket.

JASON

Never mind.

Jason withdraws the hand into open view.

Everyone awes then quickly move away from him. The Vendor looks scared.

VENDOR

Look, whatever you want...just take  
it...please, don't shoot me...I beg you!

Jason has a small pistol in his hand. He quickly realizes then tries to

let it fall.

- Camera SET ON bullet casing giving us a perfect point-of-view of the

target

- Smack. The gun's bolt shrieks the explosive cap, gunpowder ignited, the BULLET driven out of the barrel.

- Shed of its casing - now only a slug - the BULLET emerges into bright sunshine. It is flying down the main street in Manhattan.

- The BULLET gives us a perfect point-of-view of the target and

finds its mark, slamming into the vendor's diaphragm right into the heart.

Jason's grip on the pistol tightens.

The Vendor gets fatally shot in the heart and instantly falls to the

ground right next to the cart.

There is too much chaos and panic.

Camera TRAVELS ROUND Jason as he remains glued to the same spot. He

looks down at the shot and bleeding Vendor.

JASON

*(to the crowd)*

It wasn't me! Someone else must have shot him.

Everyone moves as far back away from Jason. They stare at him coldly.

JASON

*(To himself)*

Now, what?

A MALE POLICE OFFICER doing foot patrols nearby senses the commotion.

He rushes to the crime scene and spots Jason still holding the small

pistol in his hand.

The Male officer quickly draws his gun and takes aim at Jason as he

slowly advances towards him.

MALE OFFICER #1

Sir, put the gun down. I said drop the gun and move away from it. Do it now before I shoot?

Jason lets the gun fall to the ground. He slowly advances backwards

away from the gun onto the street road.

The Male officer slowly advances towards the unconscious Vendor. He

leans towards him then checks for his neck pulse with his gun still

aimed at Jason.

The Male officer steps away from the dead vendor then RADIO CALLS for

back-up.

MALE COP #1 (CONT)

*(speaking into radio call device)*

This is Sergeant William requesting for immediate back-up along the 8th avenue. I repeat, there is a dead body on the street and an armed male

suspect at the scene.

There is traffic snarl-up as a huge crowd of curious onlookers begin to

grow. A female pedestrian closely captures the unfolding events on

phone camera.

The Male officer advances slowly towards Jason with his aim still

locked at Jason.

MALE OFFICER #1(CONT)

Sir, get on your knees and put your hands where I can see them.

Jason stops advancing backwards. He gets on his knees on the street

road while facing away from the Male officer.

MALE OFFICER #1 (CONT)

Don't move?

Jason raises both his arms and rests them against the back of his head.

The Male officer advances towards Jason. He puts his gun away, frisks

Jason then takes the hand cuffs. He cuffs Jason with both his arms to

his back.

JASON

*(to the police officer)*

Look officer, I didn't shoot him. I swear,

I don't know where the gun came from.

MALE OFFICER #1

*(to Jason)*

Sir, you have the right to remain silent,  
you have the right to an attorney, anything  
you say or do now can and will be used  
against you in a court of law.

The Male officer cuffs Jason then helps him back on his feet. He  
secures the crime.

MALE OFFICER (CONT)

*(to the crowd)*

Everyone, this is now a crime scene stay  
where you are and don't move any closer.

A curious middle aged MALE RUSSIAN tourist tries to move towards  
the  
shot vendor.

MALE OFFICER #1 (CONT)

*(to the curious male tourist)*

Hey you, step back.

MALE RUSSIAN TOURIST

*(to the police officer with a heavy russian accent)*

But, I'm a doctor!

MALE OFFICER #1

Fuck that! Move back or I'll help you  
join him in hell, paradise or wherever  
the heck he may be.

The stubborn Tourist quickly moves back to the growing crowd of  
curious

onlookers. He takes snapshots of the crime scene from a distance.

Dissolve to;

EXT. CITY STREET - ROAD - DAY

1:15 pm

Several cop cars, and a paramedics' van and the CSI team also arrives

at the crime scene.

Several news vans and crew also arrive at the scene and begin filming

the situation.

The police secure the crime scene. Jason is led to and bundled into the

rear seats of a waiting cop car. The dead Vendor's body is wrapped into

a big, black plastic bag.

Cop now dressed as a police officer, is seated calmly on the driver's

seat of the same cop car Jason is bundled into. He starts the car

engine.

The car then drives away from the crime scene.

INT. POLICE CAR - DAY

Jason is seated but looking uncomfortable in the rear seats of the car.

His hands are cuffed to his back. He struggles in his seat.

Cop now driving the car gives Jason a curious close peek,  
through the

car's overhead mirror. He continues steering the car.

COP

*(to Jason)*  
What's bugging you?

JASON

*(to Cop)*  
What do you think?

COP

Was that really necessary? I was just  
trying to be helpful. What's wrong with  
you?

Jason continues shifting on his seat.

COP (CONT)

That won't help you at all. Why don't  
you try sitting in an upright position. It  
may ease your woes.

Jason looks at Cop who is steering with his hand gloves on.

JASON

*(to Cop)*  
Why don't you just mind your own  
business?

COP

Mind my own business? Hmm...  
*(hesitates for a while)*  
unless you are stupid enough, your business  
is now my business.

The cop takes a peek at Jason.

COP (CONT)

I thought you're a smart lawyer. Didn't they teach you some simple rules of nature back at the law school? Even a 5 year old can't be as clueless?

The cop laughs.

COP (CONT)

You damn ass.

Jason jostles himself and manages to get his hands from behind his

back. He sits upright with his cuffed hands now rested on his lap.

COP (CONT)

That wasn't hard, or was it?

JASON

*(to Cop)*  
Thanks for nothin'.

Jason looks calm and relaxed and rests back on the car seat.

He feels for his cell phone in his pockets. He looks up and sees the

phone lying undisturbed on the dashboard of the car next to Cop.

JASON (CONT)

What the fuck are you doin' with my phone?

Cop reaches over the dashboard then grabs the phone. He holds it in the

air as he continues steering with one hand.

COP

This your phone? Oh, my bad, I didn't know.

Cop places the phone back on the dashboard. He continues steering with

both hands.

COP (CONT)

What's the concern for anyway? I don't think it'll be of much help to you now.

JASON

*(to Cop)*

Would you please give it back? I need to use it.

COP

It's no use. As it is, you're already in serious trouble. Only God can save you now. Start praying.

JASON

What trouble? I haven't done anythin' wrong. Besides, you cops have nothin' on me. Just give me the damn phone, will you?

The cop clinches his hands tightly on the steering wheel. He sighs

heavily.

COP

Jason Stewart...

*(bites his lower lip)*

...So you think you can muzzle your way into anything, don't you? Well, not this time. I promise you!

JASON

Who the heck are you? How did you know my names?

*(tries to get a glance at Cop's face)*

What'd you want from me?

COP

Whole lot more than you can ever imagine. Let's go for a ride, shall we?

SCREECHING CAR TIRES

Cop steers the car into another less busy street road.

LOUD CAR SIREN

Dissolve to;

EXT. CITY STREET - ROAD - DAY

W 42nd St; 1:25 pm

The same cop car is being driven at moderate speed along the street

road.

SIREN FADES

COP (V.O)

Do you honestly believe you're innocent?

JASON (V.O)

What's that got to do with anythin'?

COP (V.O)

*(with a raised voice)*  
Answer the damn question? do you believe  
you're a good man?

JASON (V.O)

So...  
*(Hesitates for a moment)*  
fuck you!

SCREECHING CAR TIRES

The cop car stops in the middle of the busy street road. A taxi  
cab

nearly hits it on the rear but swerves into an empty lane.

FRUSTRATED CAB DRIVER (V.O)

What the fuck's your problem?

The cab swerves into an empty lane causing a traffic commotion.

LOUD CAR HONKING AND HOOTINGS

A traffic commotion builds up. The cop car remains stationary in  
the

middle of the road with the engine still running.

COP (V.O)

That wasn't a nice thing to say, especially  
for someone in deep shit as you.

JASON (V.O)

What's wrong with you? Can't you see the  
jam you are causing? I know my rights  
and I think you better take me down  
to the station before?

COP (V.O)

Before what? Say it. I am the law,

they can wait for as long as I  
think necessary.

There is silence for a moment.

COP (CONT) (V.O)

Think you're the only one with rights?  
What makes you think you're so special  
all of a sudden? Think I give a  
damn about you? Well, Think again,  
a bit harder this time round. I'm not  
like the trump you just shoved away.

JASON (V.O)

Wait a minute, how, how'd you know  
about the trump. You're not spying on  
me now, were you?

INT. POLICE CAR - DAY

Jason strives to catch a glimpse of Cop's face.

Cop looks straight ahead on the road. He catches a glimpse of  
Jason

through the overhead mirror.

COP

So what if I was, d'you care  
that much?

Jason catches a glimpse of Cop staring at him through the  
overhead

mirror.

JASON

(to himself)  
No.can't be...  
(to Cop)

...I mean, how'd  
you?

COP

What's wrong with you? Of course I'm not  
that trump. Think I would stoop that low?

JASON

Damn it!...  
(*to himself*)  
...that stupid trump stole my wallet.

COP

What? Now you're more concerned about the  
wallet...  
(*hesitates for a while*)  
...you're rich, I'm sure you can afford  
thousands of those if not better. Quit  
whining and grow up.

JASON

(*to Cop*)  
It's people like you who encourage criminals, I  
don't...

The cop drives the car.

COP

(*to Jason*)  
You're a criminal, aren't you? I'm sure they'll  
treat you worse than those same criminals you  
despise so much. Maybe, lock you up for  
life...  
(*hesitates then peeks at Jason*)  
Now, I remember, you're in it for murder?  
Well, how about that? I'm sure the executioner's  
really baying for your blood, that is, if I'm not  
mistaken.

JASON

In your dreams, you cops have nothing on me. I'll be out before you catch your next breath. All I need is a few phone calls and...

(gestures with his cuffed hands)

...I'll be free like a bird...

(to Cop)

...I think I'll do you a favor instead say, make them make you face the executioner instead. What do you make of that?

COP

You for sure sound so confident. What if something were to happen to you say between now and then. A little tragedy perhaps, and by the way, who were you thinkin' of callin', huh? James?

Jason is alarmed.

JASON

That's none of, wait a minute, what are you talking about? Do you, how, do you know James?

Cop smiles and continues steering.

COP

I thought I told you before, your business is my business, I for sure do know more about you than you can ever imagine.

JASON

(to Cop)

How long have you been spyin' on me?

COP

I don't think you need ever worry about that now, do you? Besides, I'm not a stalker, just a spy. That ain't bad or is it?

JASON

*(to Cop)*

Who sent you? What'd you want from me?

COP

You'll know in due time.

*(to Jason)*

What's the time?

Jason looks at his wrist watch.

JASON

*(to Cop)*

Half-past-one, why'd you ask?

The car reaches a road diversion then stops.

Dissolve to;

EXT. CITY STREET - ROAD - DAY

W 41st St;1:35 pm

The cop car is now being driven at normal speed along the less busy

street road.

INT. POLICE CAR - DAY

Jason is seated uneasy on the back seat all the while striving to catch

a glance of Cop's face.

JASON

*(to Cop)*

Why'd you keep drivin' around like a mad man? Aren't we supposed to be headed for the station?

COP

I think it's time I made that call.

JASON

*(to Cop)*

What're you talkin' about? What call?

SPLITSCREEN - INT. POLICE CAR/LAW FIRM - DAY

Cop takes out another cell phone from his trouser pocket. He dials a

number into it and puts the phone on speaker.

PHONE RINGING

COP

*(to Jason)*

Patience, I'm pretty sure this will interest you.

Meanwhile, JAMES, a cocky 36 year old defense attorney is busy scrutinizing a pile of folders on his office desk.

James lets his cell phone placed on top of the same office desk ring

for a while.

PHONE RINGING

James reaches over and answers the call.

JAMES

Hello!

COP

Hello James!

Jason sits quietly on his seat.

JAMES

Are you done?

COP

Everything's under control. I have him with me.

Jason takes a deep breath then sighs deeply. He rests back on his seat

and looks straight ahead at Cop.

JAMES

Make sure to leave no trails. I don't want anyone suspectin' my involvement.

COP

Relax, In case you don't trust me, why can't you do it yourself?

JAMES

I was just worried going by the news I just saw. How can you possibly have him with you? Wait a sec?

James reaches for the TV remote. He turns up the TV volume.

ANCHORMAN

*(on TV)*

New York city based defense attorney Jason Stewart, was just moments ago arrested by the police on murder suspicion...

*(rerun of footage of Jason getting arrested)*

...after he was found holding what the police suspect is the murder weapon used at the crime

scene, moments after a street vendor was shot dead.  
It's still not clear.

James switches off the television.

JAMES

How's it possible?

COP

I'm an expert at this. Trust me, nothin's  
impossible. And just to look on the brighter  
side, does Jason know about you and  
his wife?

Jason sits uneasy.

JAMES

Why'd you have to bring that up?  
I thought we already talked about it? She's  
no longer his wife and as far as  
am concerned, she loves me. That's the end  
of the story.

Cop peeks at Jason.

COP

That's not a nice thing to do. More  
especially to a trusted friend, is it?

JAMES

That's his fucking problem, not mine. Make sure  
he doesn't see the light of day again.  
*(shifts through the file folders)*  
You can go ahead and dump his body  
in an ocean for all I care.

COP

Sure, if that's what you want. Why the

hatred?

Cop peeks at Jason. Jason is now seated with his head rested against

the seat and eyes closed. He breathes uneasily.

COP (CONT)

Aren't you friends? He's your partner for heaven's sake?

JAMES

Just get the job done. As far as I'm concerned, he doesn't, never did exist. Remember, leave no traces and call me when you're done.

James hangs up.

COP

You for sure do have one hell of a friend there.

Cop peeks at Jason. Jason is still seated with his eyes closed.

COP (CONT)

What's with the monk business?

COP (CONT)

*(to Jason)*

Answer me when I talk to you. You really don't want to see me pissed off now, do you?

Jason opens his eyes suddenly then fumes at Cop.

JASON

He sent you to kill me, didn't he?

COP

It's not yet time.

JASON

Time for what, what are you waiting for?  
If you're going to kill me anyway,  
I'm here.  
(without a care)  
Go right ahead, shoot me. I don't care.

COP

I'm not goin' to kill you.

JASON

If you say so, what the heck  
are you doin' this for? How much did  
he pay you, a million dollars?

COP

That's kind of confidential. You're not going  
to die by my hands. Either way, you'll  
end up dead.

Jason laughs.

JASON

Are you sure about that?...  
(to Cop)  
...I'm not that kind of person you know,  
If that's what you think, then let me  
offer my sincere apologies. You're in for a  
great disappointment.

COP

Believe me, when the time is right, it  
will happen.

JASON

*(rather arrogantly)*  
Don't bet on it.

COP

Why shouldn't I? Think they care? Those guilty person's you spend so much of your time defending. This may come as a shock to you but, they don't give a fuck about you or anyone else.

JASON

*(to Cop)*  
That's their problem, not mine. Besides, it's my job so long as the fat paycheck keeps coming.

Jason rests back on the seat with his cuffed hands rested on his lap.

He nods his head sideways, shuts his eyes then hisses a sigh of relief.

JASON

This world is so fucked up.

COP

Now we're gettin'somewhere, don't blame the world though, it's people, not the world.

Dissolve to;

EXT. CITY STREET - ROAD - DAY

12th Ave; 2:00 pm

The same cop car is now cruising its way along the busy avenue road.

We see a FLASH ride of the same car along the highway. It is a

beautiful summer afternoon.

Dissolve to;

EXT. CITY STREET - ROAD - DAY

W 57th St; 2:15 pm

The car is caught up in a traffic snarl-up.

INT. POLICE CAR - DAY

Cop looks across the street pavements and spots several pedestrians

walking freely and undisturbed.

Jason is seated uneasy with both his elbows rested on his lap and his

forehead rested against his open palms.

LOUD CAR HOOTINGS

COP

*(to Jason)*

Don't you just wish you're once again  
a free man...

*(looks across the street at the pedestrians)*  
...just like them?

Jason looks up then across the street pavements. He looks stressed.

JASON

*(to Cop)*

I guess there's no slightest of chance for  
that happening now. If only I could turn  
back time to undo all the wrong I've done.  
Maybe even enjoy my life a bit more and  
appreciate what I've got...

*(glares across the street)*  
...all that is now gone in a snap, just  
like that.

COP

*(to Jason)*  
Don't give up hope, everyone gets a second  
chance, how you use it is what makes  
the difference.

Cop looks across the street and spots a male pedestrian looking  
all

busy, as he walks the street pavement while busy conversing on  
his

cellphone.

COP

Who does he remind you of? Any  
resemblance?

Jason spots the male pedestrian.

JASON

*(while staring at the male pedestrian)*  
If only I had known better, maybe...

The traffic congestion clears. Cop steers and drives the car.

COP

No one knows. We all live life clueless  
as to what awaits us the very next  
second. I guess its human nature, our fate  
lies not on what we know, but on  
the choices we make each day.

FLASHBACK TO;

INT. SUBURBAN HOUSE - LIVING ROOM -DAY

Jason and his wife MARTHA, a 30yr old pretty, patient and overbearing

mother of two, are at each other, yelling and shouting.

DAVID, their 5yr old son is standing close by together with his 3yr old

sister AMANDA. They are all tears as they watch their parents fight.

Amanda clings tightly to her little teady bear and against her brother.

Tears stream down her chubby cheeks.

MARTHA

Let go of my arm...

*(Struggling to free herself from Jason's tight grip)*

...the only thing you seem to care about is your work...

*(Jason let her go and she punches him on the chest)*

...you don't care at all about us. I'm sick and tired of all this, this is it, I'm leaving with the kids. You can stay married to your work for all I care. You can forget about us from now on.

JASON

*(to Martha)*

Honey, please stop this nonsense...

*(reaches to grab Martha but she evades his grip)*

...let's talk things over like adults. I'm sure we can resolve whatever differences we may be having. This is nothing to fight over...

*(points in the direction of David and Amanda clinging together and looking scared)*

...not in front of the kids.

Martha advances back towards Jason with a furious look on her face.

MARTHA

*(to Jason)*

So, now you are concerned about them...

*(pointing at David and Amanda)*

...tell me, when was the last time you ever bothered to know how they're doin' the many times you been away on meetings and you know what?...

*(points a finger at Jasons face)*

...don't try to tell me how to raise my kids, I have had enough with you already.

*(turns her back on Jason and makes her way towards the two kids)*

...good bye!

Martha walks away from Jason She grabs the two kids by the arms and

drags them along towards the main door.

David and Amanda accompany their mother rather half-heartedly all the

while sobbing.

MARTHA

*(reaches a hand to the door knob and opens the door)*

You'll soon be hearing from my lawyer...

JASON

*(to Martha while remaining transfixed on the same spot)*

Martha...Mart

Jason doesn't make an attempt to stop Martha.

Martha walks out of the house with the two kids. The kids are now

crying.

We hear a car engine start.

SCREECHING CAR TIRES

Jason rushes out of the house.

EXT. SUBURBAN HOUSE - DAY

Jason quickly rushes out of the house.

The station wagon is already out of the drive way back on the road. The

car speeds away.

Jason stands and stares as the car speeds off. He stands on the mowed

lawn barefoot. Jason looks down at his feet then tip toes back into the

house.

He bangs the main door behind him.

FLASHBACK TO;

EXT. LAW FIRM - DAY

Jason and James are seated in a rather cosy office.

James looks at Jason who is busy checking some files on his laptop

placed on top of his office desk while at the same time, looking over a

small pile of folder files on the same desk.

JAMES

(to Jason)

What's buggin' you man?

JASON

*(while looking through the pile of folders)*  
Nothing, are you prepared for the meeting?

JAMES

Sure.

JASON

We've got to make sure the agreement gets signed today. Anything contrary, will be suicidal for the firm.

JAMES

*(to Jason)*  
I'm sure there's something botherin' you. What is it?

JASON

Never mind...  
*(types on the laptop)*  
...I'll take care of it. Are these...  
*(flips through the folder files)*  
...all the documents we need for the meeting?

JAMES

*(looks at the pile of folders)*  
I think so?

JASON

*(to James)*  
What'd you mean by that? You oughta be certain. We can't afford to mess things up, not now.

Jason picks up the phone receiver then dials.

PHONE RINGS

SUE, Jason's secretary is at the end of the line.

SUE (V.O)

Sir!

JASON

Sue, can I see you in my office?

SUE (V.O)

When?

JASON

Just get in here!

Jason hangs up the phone. He places the receiver back.

James closely monitors Jason's every move.

JAMES

*(to Jason)*

How long have we known each other, huh?...

*(catches his breath)*

...15 yrs? Let's see, we're at the same law school, interned at the same firm and we'll as you know, started this firm together. Am I right?

JASON

*(to James)*

What's that go to do with anythin'?

Sue walks into the office.

SUE

*(to Jason)*

Sir, you called me?

Jason looks up and sees Sue standing by the office door while staring

at him. He reaches for the folder files, grabs them then reaches his

hand out to Sue.

Sue walks towards Jason's desk and grabs the folder files but then

stands and looks at Jason.

James all the while stares at the two blankly.

JASON

*(to Sue)*

look through those folder file carefully and make sure nothing is missing for the meeting.

Sue holds on to the folder files resting them against her chest then

turns and makes as if to leave.

JASON

*(to Sue)*

And please, alert us when the clients arrive for the meeting.

Sue stops, turns then looks back at Jason.

SUE

*(to Jason)*

Okay!

JASON

*(to Sue)*

That's all.

Sue walks out of the office carrying the folders.

James looks at Sue leaving the office then turns and his attention to

Jason.

JAMES

*(to Jason)*

I know when something is not right with you. This meeting's very important for the both of us and it would destroy me to see it ruined. Do you get what I'm trying to say?

Jason yawns.

JAMES (CONT)

*(to Jason)*

Whatever it is, I can handle it. We've never kept secrets from each another and I know for a fact that that is the major attribute to our success. What's wrong with you?

JASON

*(to James)*

It's so hard sometimes, you know?

JAMES

What is?

JASON

It's Martha and I, we're having some little domestic misunderstandings.

JAMES

*(somewhat relieved)*

That's it, that's what's been eating your brains out?

JASON

Pretty much, I told you it was nothin' to worry about.

JAMES

Sure, but let me give you some, you can call it, sound advice.

JASON

Go right ahead.

JAMES

How long have you two been married?

JASON

You're kidding!

JAMES

Never mind, my point is, couples fight all the time. You aren't the first, and neither will you be the last. Take a good example of Gina and I, we used to argue almost all the time.

JASON

You two were cursed.

JAMES

Whatever you say but my point is, you should give each other some space, time to think things over...  
*(rather casually)*  
...enjoy your new found freedom. I guess you know what I mean.

JASON

Hmm, I'm listening.

JAMES

Look at me, don't I look happy? Ever since Gina and I divorced, I've been having the time of my life. I feel so free.

JASON

*(points at James)*

Hold on right there. What has your divorce got to do with anything?...

*(rests back on his seat)*

...I love my wife and will do anything absolutely necessary just to keep her by my side. I meant every word I said during our wedding vows. I haven't broken any and am sure not goin' to start now.

JAMES

*(to Jason)*

Yeah,yeah,yeah! till death do us part and all that crap. Let me correct you, nowadays, it's till divorce do us part. I hate to be the one to tell you this but if she wants out, there's nothing you can do about it. Be a man and let her go.

JASON

It's easier said than done.

JAMES

Grow up, this is the 21st century. Sometimes, it's better to move with the tide. People change, why shouldn't you?

JASON

I'm not people, I'm me. Situations may change or not but whatever does change, it's better I handle it my way than copy what someone else does.

JAMES

Snap out of it. Let her be. I'm quite sure you'll soon find someone better.

JASON

She's the woman for me. I don't think I will ever find anyone that would make me as happy as she did. It's hard to let go of the only precious gift nature has granted you. I hope you understand what I'm going through.

JAMES

Relax man; I know I'm not the right person to tell you this but, that's the way life is.

Jason smiles

JASON

I guess you're right. I never thought a man whose like you could have so much sense.

JAMES

What are friends for?

PHONE RINGS

Jason reaches over and picks the phone receiver.

JASON

Sue, what is it?

SUE

*(on phone)*

Sir, the clients have already arrived. What should I tell them?

Jason gestures at James. He blocks the receiver with his hand.

JASON

*(Whispering to James)*  
They're here...

JAMES

Let me go and prepare, I'll see you  
in the board room.

Jason nods.

James gets up from his seat. He walks out of the office.

SUE

*(on phone)*  
Sir, are you there?

JASON

Yes. Kindly escort them to the board room  
and tell them we'll be right with them  
in a very short while.

SUE

*(on phone)*  
Is that all?

JASON

Sure. Before I forget, do you have the  
folders ready?

SUE

*(on phone)*  
I've just handed them to James. He's already  
on his way to the board room along  
with the clients.

JASON

I see, that's okay.

Jason taps on the desk then hangs up the phone. He prepares to leave the office.

Dissolve to;

EXT. CITY HIGHWAY - DAY

Joe Dimaggio Hwy; 2:30 pm

The car is being driven a recommended speed limit along the highway.

COP (V.O)

Do you still love her?

JASON (V.O)

It doesn't matter anymore.

COP (V.O)

Of course it does. Why don't you call her, maybe she'd be willing to listen to you or even give you a second chance.

JASON (V.O)

You don't know Martha like I do. Why should I even care about her anyway, she's already betrayed me with my best friend, or so I thought he was. I feel more hatred towards her right now than love.

COP (V.O)

That's bullshit. I know you definitely want to talk to her.

INT. POLICE CAR - DAY

Cop reaches over the dashboard and grabs Jason's phone. He continues to

steer the car with the other hand.

COP

Why don't we call her right now...  
(*scrolling through Jason's phone book*)  
...I know she would more than happy  
to hear your voice.

Cop spots Martha's number then presses dial and puts the phone speakers

on.

Jason is seated calmly with his elbows on his laps and his chin now

rested on his open palms. He looks ahead of him.

PHONE RINGING

SPLITSCREEN - INT. POLICE CAR/APARTMENT BUILDING - LIVING ROOM/KITCHEN

- DAY

Meanwhile, Martha is at her apartment tending to her house hold chores

in the kitchen.

David runs towards the living room. He reaches over the desk and unhooks the phone receiver. He puts it to his ear.

DAVID

Hello!

A tear is clearly visible in Jason's eyes.

JASON

Dave, Hi, its daddy!

DAVID

Hello daddy, where are you?

JASON

I'm somewhere safe. How's your little sister, is she okay?

DAVID

We're fine. Are you coming home soon?

JASON

No, why?

DAVID

Daddy, are you and mum having a divorce?

JASON

Where did you hear that? Mum and I are just having some little differences, nothing to worry about.

MARTHA

*(to David from the kitchen)*

David, honey...

*(wipes a plate with a dry pice of clothe)*

...who is it?

DAVID

*(places a hand over the phone receiver and shouts back)*

It's daddy...

Martha quickly puts away the plate, wipes her hands on her apron and

quickly makes her way out of the kitchen towards the living room.

DAVID (CONT)

Then, why are you...

David turns and sees his mother. Martha reaches over and grabs the

phone receiver away from her son. She puts it to her ear then blocks

the receiver with one hand. She looks at David.

MARTHA

*(grabing the phone receiver from David)*  
Gimme that...

MARTHA (CONT)

*(to David)*  
David, honey, go play with your sister.

David does not move an inch. He tugs at her mother's dress in protest.

MARTHA (CONT)

I said...  
*(to David rather harshly)*  
...go play with your sister.

David shrugs off his shoulders in protest but then walks away half-heartedly.

COP

What?

MARTHA

Why'd you even bother calling here? You know I don't wanna talk to you.

COP

Hey, is that the way to talk to your husband?

MARTHA

Who is this? Why did you call?

COP

I'm a good friend of Jason's. Don't worry, I mean no harm.

Jason remains still on his seat.

MARTHA

What do you want? Did that loser ask you to call on his behalf?

COP

Calm down, Jason just wanted to say Hi and know how you and the kids are doing. Is that too much to ask?

MARTHA

Tell him to go to hell. In fact, you better inform him to be ready cause I'm soon filing for a divorce and for full custody of the kids.

COP

Look woman, I'm not your messenger. If you have something to say, tell it to

your husband, he can hear you, he's not deaf.

MARTHA

Why do I even waste my time talking to you, you two deserve each other.

JASON

Martha, Why did it have to be him?

MARTHA

So, now you finally found the voice to talk, huh? You know what, it doesn't matter anymore. I need not explain myself to you or anyone else.

JASON

Why James of all people? Why him?

FLASHBACK TO;

EXT. SUBURBAN HOUSE - NIGHT

A black BMW drives into the driveway of the suburban house; this is the

home of Jason.

James alights from the car and walks towards the main door. He is

carrying some two paper shopping bags.

James reaches for the door bell and rings it.

DOOR BELL RINGS

Moments later, Martha opens the door and sees James. She's all over him

with tears in her eyes.

JAMES

*(rather taken aback)*  
Hi!

MARTHA

*(Amidst tears)*  
Hi!

James and Martha hug. They stare each other in the eye.  
Martha is standing on the doorway and blocking the entrance.

JAMES

*(suggestively)*  
May I?

Martha detaches herself from James and steps sideways. She  
ushers James

in.

MARTHA

Oops! Sorry about that. It's just that I'm  
glad to see you.

JAMES

So am I.

James walks into the house. Martha follows closely behind him  
then

shuts the door behind her.

JAMES (V.O)

Is everything okay?

MARTHA (V.O)

Same as usual, it's James. I'm so stressed with his endless business meetings and trips. He doesn't seem to have time for us and me, I have needs too, you know?

INT.SUBURBAN HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

James walks into the living room. Martha takes the two shopping bags

from him. She peeks into them.

MARTHA

What's the surprise?

JAMES

That's what it is, a surprise. Put them away, we need to talk.

Martha quits looking into the bags. She looks at James who is getting

comfy on a couch.

MARTHA

You said it.

Martha walks towards the kitchen.

James uses the TV remote then switches on the TV. He scans the TV

channels then settles on a channel showing a re-run of the previous

night's game.

Martha walks back into the living room. She looks at James, the TV then

back at James. She nods her head.

MARTHA

What's it with you men and football? Don't you ever get tired of it?

James quickly reaches over for the TV remote. He turns the TV off. He

turns then looks at Martha.

JAMES

I'm all yours, ears, eyes and all that I am.

Martha smiles.

MARTHA

*(to James amid smiles)*  
You're so funny.

JAMES

*(to Martha)*  
I'm glad to see you smile. You should do that more often, cause you've got such a lovely smile.

MARTHA

Stop that, I'm married.

JAMES

So!

MARTHA

I think the only flattery I need should be from my husband.

JAMES

*(rather cheekily)*  
But I don't mind?

MARTHA  
Maybe you should, he's your friend.

JAMES  
I'm sure Jason will be okay with it.  
He sure did get married to a pretty  
lady. I think he understands what other men  
go through when they see you two together.  
Besides, I'm his best friend, I can do  
no harm.

Martha sits on the same couch besides James. They look each  
other

directly in the eyes.

MARTHA  
I almost forgot, can I get you anything?  
I was just heading to bed, when you  
arrived.

JAMES  
What about the kids?

MARTHA  
They're already asleep. Now, can I get you  
anything?

JAMES  
It's a bit late. Don't bother.

MARTHA  
Are you sure you don't need anything?

JAMES

I'll be fine. What's on your mind?

MARTHA

Nothing really, I just called you because I needed someone to talk to.

JAMES

What about Jason, I'm sure he'd never mind even though he's away on business.

MARTHA

It's not like that, I mean, I hate phony relations. I just long for real company, talking to a real person makes me feel much more alive and appreciated. Jason is always away...I feel lonely without him.

JAMES

I'm here, talk to me.

MARTHA

Thanks so much for coming, I really do appreciate it. Anyway, how's Gina and the kids?

JAMES

Everyone's okay. Is that all you wanted to ask me? I mean, you could have just called her.

MARTHA

James!

Martha looks away then back at James.

JAMES

Yeah!

MARTHA

Have I changed that much?

JAMES

*(to Martha)*

I already told you, you're still as pretty as you used to. Nothing has changed...not much.

Martha sits upright. She looks James straight in the eyes.

MARTHA

What do you mean?

JAMES

I only meant well. You've got kids and we'll, married to my best friend. Otherwise, you still are very much attractive.

MARTHA

*(to James curiously)*

Is Jason cheating on me? You are his friend, maybe you know something that I don't.

JAMES

If we were that close, I think he would have married me instead of you. Jason loves you so much and I don't think he's seeing anyone else. There maybe, but none that I know of.

MARTHA

You're such a good and honest friend. It's hard to find friends like you nowadays.

JAMES

*(to Martha)*

Pretty much the last one remainin'.

Martha smiles

MARTHA

You're so funny.

Dissolve to:

INT. SUBURBAN HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

James is on his way to the main door. Martha follows closely behind

him.

James stops then turns to face Martha. Martha stops. They look each

other directly in the eyes.

JAMES

Guess I'll see you later, say tomorrow, that is if it's okay with you.

MARTHA

That's fine.

Martha and James look each other in the eyes.

JAMES

Are you sure?

James reaches over and kisses Martha on the lip. Martha reluctantly

kisses him back.

James and Martha kiss passionately, caressing each other while standing

close to the main door. They slowly advance backwards towards the

living room.

Martha pulls back away from James. James holds onto her by the waist.

They look each other in the eyes.

MARTHA

*(to James nervously)*

I don't think we should be doing this.

This doesn't feel right.

James looks Martha in the eyes. He pulls her closer to him.

JAMES

*(to Martha passionately)*

Don't worry, we are just two consenting adults consumed by passion. It will stay as a secret between the two of us.

MARTHA

But...

James plants a soft kiss on Martha's lip. Martha lets herself go and

kisses him back. They continue kissing.

Martha stops then forcefully pulls her way out of James's grip.

James tries to hold onto her but then let her free.

MARTHA (CONT)

This's not right...I think you should go.

Martha avoids staring James in the eyes.

JAMES

Are you sure?

MARTHA

*(to James shyly)*  
Just leave...

James slowly steps away from Martha. He turns then walks towards the

main door.

James grabs his jacket and puts it on. He then reaches for his car keys

placed on a desk near the main door.

James reaches for the main door knob but then stops. He turns back and

looks at Martha. James walks towards Martha who remains standing, fixed

on the same position.

James reaches to plant a kiss on Martha's cheek. Martha moves her face

away from him. She stops him with her hand.

MARTHA

*(to James insistently)*  
Please...go...

JAMES

*(to Martha looking disappointed)*  
Okay...

James walks then leaves the house.

Martha follows him closely then shuts the main door behind him.  
She

turns and leans on the door on her back.

Martha rests her palms on the door then runs her hands over her  
body in

a romantic gesture.

Dissolve to:

SPLITSCREEN - INT. POLICE CAR/APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Jason is seated uncomfortable in the back seat of the cop car.

Martha is on the phone.

MARTHA

At least he cares a little bit more  
than you do.

JASON

Then, you should have married him.

MARTHA

Know what, maybe I will. I sure hope  
they lock you up forever. You'll never see  
me or the kids again.

Martha bangs the phone receiver and hangs up.

She has tears in her eyes. She wipes them with the back of her  
hand.

Jason is seated with his elbows rested on his lap and fore head rested

on his open palms. He looks down.

Cop steals a glance at him.

COP

*(to Jason)*  
Be a man...

Jason looks up.

JASON

*(to Cop)*  
Shut the fuck up. You...

Jason clinches his hands tightly into a fist. He restrains himself from

hitting the mesh separating him and Cop.

Jason bites on his fist. Tears develop in his eyes.

Jason rests back on the seat. His face is looking upwards. He rests his

cuffed hands on his lap.

Jason reaches over and rubs his open palms on his face then hair.

COP

*(to Jason)*  
C'mon, I told you they all want you dead. You're fucked to the bitter end.

Cop continues driving the car.

He changes lanes at will.

Dissolve to:

EXT. CITY STREET - ROAD - DAY

Broadway; 2:45 pm

The car is being driven at moderate speed along the street.

The car drives into a free parking-lot outside a busy take away restaurant.

Cop alights from the car then walks into the open restaurant.

INT. POLICE CAR - DAY

Jason is all alone in the car. He MUMBLES to himself.

Jason is seated uneasy and continues to rock back and forth on his

seat. He looks across the street pavements at the passing pedestrians.

No one bothers to look in his way.

INT. POLICE CAR - LATER

Jason looks and sees Cop emerging from the restaurant.

Cop is holding two take-away disposable plastic cans and two buns. He

walks steadily towards the car greeting the passing pedestrians along

the way.

EXT. TAKE-AWAY - RESTAURANT - DAY

Cop places the two cans on the car roof. He holds on to the buns.

He opens the car door beside the driver's seat. He steps back a little

then reaches into the car. He draws all the car windows half way.

COP

How refreshing. I know you need some fresh air, don't you?

Cop pulls back from the car. He shuts the car door beside him then

rests on it with his back as he faces the restaurant.

Cop sips his drink then bites on the two buns together.

He chews.

COP (CONT)

*(to Jason with mouth full)*

Hmm, tastes sweet. Need some?

Cop teases Jason with the buns.

Jason continues MUMBLING to himself as he rocks back and forth on his

seat.

Cop swallows hard.

COP (CONT)

Bet you can do with a can of fresh fruit juice instead.

Cop grabs the other can from the car roof replacing it with his can.

He reaches into Jason's side window and holds the drink to him.

COP (CONT)

I know you want it, get over yourself  
and take it before I pour it all  
over your stupid looking face.  
(to Jason, insists)  
Here, take it!

Jason stares at the can held out to him. Cop continues munching  
on the

buns.

Jason reaches over then grabs the filled can.

He gulps the drink.

COP (CONT)

Doesn't it taste great? I knew you'd love  
it, that's why I bought for the two  
of us. Am I nice or what?

Cop bites a huge chunk off the buns. He sips his drink then  
talks with

his mouth full.

COP (CONT)

It's been long since I tasted something so  
nice. Maybe, I should be coming here more  
often. What do you think, huh?

Jason is seated with the now empty can held in his hand. He  
stares at

the can and continues rocking on his seat.

Meanwhile, a mother and her 7yr old son walk past the parked car  
on the

pavement next to the restaurant.

The 7yr old boy looks across and sees Jason rocking in his seat.  
He

stops then points at Jason.

7YR OLD BOY

*(to his mother)*  
Mom, look!

The boy's mother stops the looks in Jason's direction.

CONCERNED MOTHER

*(to 7 yr old son)*  
Honey, let's go.

The woman grabs her son by the arm then drags her along as they  
walk

away.

The 7yr old boy has difficulties keeping pace with her mother.  
He looks

behind him.

Cop waves at the little boy.

The little boy tries to wave back at the cop but his mother  
stops him.

The woman continues holding onto her son's arms as she hurriedly  
walks

away.

The little boy gives up then looks ahead.

COP

*(to Jason)*  
Isn't it funny? Moments ago, they really wanted  
to be as successful just like you. But  
now that you're down, no one wants to  
even associate with you. Isn't the world unfair?

Cop finishes eating. He empties his can.

Cop reaches into the car and grabs the other can from Jason's hands.

Cop disposes the two cans then wipes his hands on his uniform.

Cop gets back into the car, starts the car engine and drives away.

EXT. CITY STREET - ROAD - DAY

E 42nd St; 2:50 pm

The car is driven at reasonable speed along the busy street.

The traffic flow is a bit slow.

COP (V.O)

When was the last time you toured the city? Doesn't it look magnificent?

JASON (V.O)

To you perhaps...how did you know where to find me? Was this all a set-up?

COP (V.O)

Why do you ask?

SILENCE

COP (CONT)

Did you hear me? So, now you're acting dumb...you can't talk, can you? I knew it, you're ever so predictable.

FLASHBACK TO:

EXT. CITY STREET - PAVEMENT - DAY

Jason is walking the busy pavement of the street.

He is conversing on the phone.

COP (V.O)

It wasn't that hard. You always seemed to do the same thing day in day out, whenever you were in the city. It gets even more exciting...

Jason is standing in line next to a street Vendor, selling hot dogs. He

is still conversing on the phone.

COP (CONT) (V.O)

What is it with you and the hot dogs? You never seem to pass up the opportunity every time you see a vendor. I don't know what thrills you about them. Maybe, it's part of who you are...I don't know.

We see Cop dressed as a civilian also standing in the same line behind

Jason.

Jason makes his purchase. He looks for his wallet then pays the vendor

while still busy on the phone. He then grabs his purchase and moves

sideways then takes a bite.

Cop purchases a hot dog from the vendor. He moves closer to where Jason

is as he takes a bite.

COP (CONT) (V.O)

I was curious to know, so I decided  
to buy me one.

The two men continue biting and chewing oblivious of each  
other's  
presence.

COP (CONT)

Tastes really good...

Jason turns and stares at Cop. His mouth is still full. He  
swallows

then looks back at him.

JASON

That's an understatement. They are the most delicious  
hot dogs you will ever get to eat  
in New York. I just love these vendors...  
Jason

Jason reaches over with his open hand. Cop shakes his hand.

COP

ANDREW...Here so often?

JASON

Hmm, not really, but I like coming here  
mostly on a day like today and wednesdays  
round lunch hour. It's hard to admit but  
I think I'm kind of addicted.

COP

I think I know why.

Cop bites on the hot dog then chews on it.

Cop turns to look Jason in the face. Their eyes meet.

COP (CONT)

Now,  
(to Jason)  
where'd I see that face?

JASON

Probably, on TV...

Cop smiles then nods his head.

COP

Yeah, I think I remember...Jason, Jason Stewart...  
the best criminal defense attorney there is in  
New York.

JASON

(Grins)  
Well, I don't know about that...

COP

You are the best, my son was a  
great fun and always wanted to be like  
you some day.

JASON

Why? What happened to your son?

COP

He passed on about a year or so  
ago...

JASON

Was it an accident?

COP

Leukemia actually...I think he got it from his late mother. We tried our best to save him, I guess it was his destiny...

JASON

*(to Cop with remorse)*

Sorry to hear about your loss...

COP

It's done...forget about it...by the way, I like you and always enjoy that TV show...I've never missed an episode...

FLASHBACK TO:

INT. APARTMENT - TELEVISION - DAY

A female anchor named JANE BROOKS appears over the television.

JANE BROOKS

*(on TV)*

News just in indicate that SARAH DEIN, the politician implicated in the murder of the late Craig Edwards, a renowned rights activist, has been acquitted of the first degree murder charge by a New York criminal court...

*(TV footage of scenes from outside the court)*

...our reporter SEAN is at the scene and brings us more on this new development. Sean, what's the public reaction to this acquittal?

TV footage reveals:

WE DEMAND JUSTICE, SARAH DEIN ROT IN JAIL, read some of the placards

waved by a group of peaceful demonstrators outside the court.

Several news vans and crew are also at the scene filming the situation.

SEAN

*(on TV reporting from outside the court)*  
Thanks Jane, as you can clearly see, the verdict was clearly unexpected and has come as a huge surprise to members of the civil rights group...  
*(moves towards a male protestor)*  
...excuse me, Sir, what's your take on the court's ruling?

MALE PROTESTOR

The ruling is absurd, I mean, it's a total disgrace not only to our legal system but also to the entire society.

INT. APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Cop is seated on an old couch in the middle of the unkempt room facing

an old TV set, while dressed in a sleeping gown, vest and boxer short.

Beside the old couch is a small coffee table on top of which lies

several empty beer cans, a beer bottle and a small pen knife.

TV reveals STEPHANIE McCULOCK, the aggressive female prosecutor and

die-hard feminist emerging from the court accompanied by the prosecution assistants.

FEMALE REPORTER

*(on TV to Stephanie)*  
Ma'am, I take it from the verdict that, uh...

STEPHANIE

*(on TV to the reporter)*

It's Stephanie...

*(continues on her way down the stairs)*

The journalists try to keep pace with her and mob her.

SEAN

*(on TV to Stephanie)*

Ms. Stephanie, is the prosecution satisfied with the court's ruling?...

*(Stephanie stops to address the press)*

...is it what you expected?

STEPHANIE

*(on TV to reporters)*

The prosecution team is equally surprised by the ruling.

FEMALE REPORTER

*(on TV to Stephanie)*

So, what's your next course of action?

STEPHANIE

*(on TV to reporters)*

Despite the unexpected ruling, we are going to look further into the verdict...

*(TV shows the defense team walking out of the court accompanied by Sarah, the defendant)*

...we may even consider re-pealing the ruling in the supreme court.

DEMONSTRATORS

*(on TV chanting and waving placards)*

We want justice, we want justice, we want...

*(several court guards restrain them)*

...justice, we want justice...

Cop grabs the beer bottle and sips from it with his eyes partially

shut.

He scratches himself in the groin area.

JANE BROOKS

*(on TV)*

Sean, what's the general mood outside the court...

*(TV footage of reporters jostling for interview with the defense team)*

...Sean, can you hear me?...

*(Tv shows Sean readjusting his earpiece with a hand holding a microphone and reaching out to the defendant)*

...it seems we're having trouble, let's go back to Sean for a live briefing by the defense team, Sean...

Cop places the beer bottle back on the table. He pays close attention

to the TV footage.

SEAN

*(on TV to Sarah)*

Ma'am, how'd you feel after your acquittal of the murder charge against you?

SARAH

*(on TV to reporters)*

As I said before today, I'm innocent and the court has just re-affirmed my plea...

*(Looks beside her at Jason, her defense attorney)*

...I only hope,

FEMALE PROTESTOR

*(on TV shouting at Sarah)*

You filthy bitch...

*(a court guard restrains her)*

...you deserve the death penalty.

JASON

*(on Tv interrupts Sarah to the press)*

I'm sure as you've heard from my client that this ruling is a clear indication of her long standing innocence.

Cop grabs the small pen knife from the table. His grip tightens around

the knife.

PROTESTORS

*(on TV chanting)*

You murderer, we want justice, we want justice...

JASON

*(on Tv to reporters)*

Despite the clearly evident differing opinions on this matter, we all have to respect the court's verdict. It is a true test if not victory for not only my client, but a vote of confidence on our justice system.

Cop stabs the side arm of the couch viciously, sinking the knife deep

into it with lots of rage.

FLASHBACK TO:

EXT. CITY STREET - PAVEMENT -DAY

Jason has finished eating the hot dog and so has Cop. The two are still

standing at the same spot near the vendor's cart.

COP

I really like you...I would do anything just to have a lawyer like you represent me in court. You're really good at it...

JASON

Are you by any chance in a law suit?

COP

Not really, I was just thinking that...Oh, forget it...

Jason reaches into his wallet and takes out a card. He hands it over to

Cop.

JASON

No, take this. In case you need a lawyer, don't hesitate to give me a call. I'll be more than glad to assist you...

Cop takes the card then looks at it closely.

COP

You don't have to. But thanks anyway...

Jason makes as if to leave.

JASON

I've got to get back to the office, see you around and don't forget to give me a buzz...

Jason gives Cop a handshake then walks away. Cop looks at the card then

at Jason as he walks away from him.

COP

*(murmurs to himself)*

I will...most definitely.

COP (CONT) (V.O)

Whenever I tried calling you, all I ever  
heard was...

Dissolve to:

EXT. CITY STREET - PHONE BOOTH - DAY

Cop is in a public phone booth along the busy street. He is  
holding a

small card in his hand.

He looks at the card then DIALS a number into the public phone  
as he

holds the receiver to his ear.

PHONE RINGING

COP

Hello!

SUE

*(on phone)*

J&J attorneys at law, may I help you?

COP

Can I speak with Jason?

SUE

*(on phone)*

Who's calling?

COP

I'm a good friend of Jason's and I  
was wondering if I could speak with him?

SUE

*(on phone)*

Where are you calling from?

COP

Nowhere, Ah! I mean, I'm in town. Is  
he free to talk? He left me his  
card...

Cop looks at the card held in his hand.

COP (CONT)

Well, he said I could call him whenever  
I needed help. Can I talk to him?

SUE

*(on phone)*

I'm sorry Sir, Jason's in a meeting right  
now. Perhaps you could try calling back later...

Cop looks disappointed.

COP

Never mind. Maybe I will.

Cop hangs up the phone. He gets out of the phone booth giving  
way to

another user. He just stands there.

Dissolve to:

EXT. CITY STREET - PHONE BOOTH - DAY

Cop is yet in another phone booth. He is holding the phone receiver to

his ear.

SUE

*(on phone)*  
He's out of town...

Dissolve to:

EXT. CITY STREET - PHONE BOOTH -DAY

Cop is in another public phone booth. He is holding the receiver to his

ear.

SUE (CONT)

*(on phone)*  
I'm sorry...

Cop bangs the receiver against the phone and walks out of the booth

leaving the receiver dangling from the phone.

COP (V.O)

I made several attempts at trying to reach you on the phone but...never once was I successful. I thought I could if I tried a new approach...

Dissolve to:

INT. OFFICE RECEPTION - DAY

Cop is dressed up in a descent suit. He walks towards the office reception.

Sue is seated at the reception looking all busy.

Cop approaches the reception desk then leans against it.

COP

*(to Sue while grinning)*

Excuse me ma'am, I'm here to see Jason Stewart...Is he around?

Sue looks up and sees Cop.

SUE

I'm sorry, do you have an appointment?

COP

You see, I have been trying to call Him but...anyway, I thought that maybe I should come and see him personally.

SUE

I'm really sorry, I can't help you.

COP

*(to Sue)*

But why, he's around isn't he? Tell him its Andrew...He knows me...

SUE

Sir, you need to book an appointment first. Otherwise, I'm not in a position to assist you.

COP

*(Murmurs to himself)*

Protocol...sheer protocol...I hate this  
shit...fuck.

SUE

*(to Cop alarmed)*  
What did you say?

COP

Never mind, when is he available?

Sue grabs a small book then looks through it page by page.

She spots something then stops and looks up at Cop.

SUE

Hmm...  
*(looks through the appointment book)*  
...this whole week he'll be busy. Maybe,  
next week on Tuesday...say at around 2:00  
pm

SUE (CONT)

Is that okay with you?

COP

That's fine.

Sue writes down Cop's appointment details on the book.

COP

I guess I'll be back on Tuesday...

SUE

*(Clears throat)*  
Hmm!

Cop walks away from the reception. He walks towards the office elevator. There are people waiting for the elevator.

Dissolve to:

INT. OFFICE RECEPTION - DAY

The elevator door opens.

Cop and some five other individuals walk out of the elevator.

Cop is well dressed as he strides on confidently towards the reception

desk.

COP (V.O)

I made several unsuccessful attempts though  
I never gave up hope. I continued making More  
of the same appointments until...

Sue is seated at the office reception. She is on the phone.

Cop walks towards the reception. He stops then looks at Sue.

SUE

*(to caller)*  
That's okay.

COP

*(to Sue)*  
Excuse me!

Sue looks up at Cop. She gives him a smile. She still clings on to the

phone receiver on her ear. She blocks the receiver with one hand.

SUE

*(to Cop)*  
Just a second...

Sue reaches over and grabs a small piece of paper and a pen as she

listens into the phone receiver.

Sue writes down some details on the piece of paper.

SUE (CONT)

*(to caller)*  
Is that all?

MALE

*(on phone)*  
Yes, make sure he gets back to me  
as soon as he gets the message.

SUE

*(to caller)*  
I'll do that. Thanks for calling.

Sue puts the paper away in one of the folders on her desk. She turns

and looks at Cop.

SUE (CONT)

*(to Cop)*  
Afternoon Mr. Andrew!

COP

*(to Sue rather timidly)*  
Am I lucky?

Sue nods her head sideways.

SUE

I'm sorry again. He just cancelled all his appointments at the last minute. He had a tight schedule with a client and had to leave urgently...I told him about you and he said, he'll get back to you soon.

Meanwhile, James walks out of his office carrying some folder files in

his hand. He strides confidently towards the reception.

COP

What then do you think I should do?

SUE

I guess you'll have to continue with the appointments and pray you get lucky next time.

COP

*(to himself)*

This is so damn frustrating...I'm getting tired of it all...

James approaches the reception. He looks at Cop then at Sue.

James reaches his hand out to Cop. He hands Sue the folder files.

JAMES

*(to Cop)*

Hi, I'm James Blake, but you can just call me James.

Cop stretches his hand out and greets James. They shake hands.

COP (V.O)

The day I met James...

COP (CONT)

*(to James)*

Andrew...that's what people call me.

James looks at Sue.

JAMES

*(to Sue)*

Why haven't you helped this gentleman?

Sue puts the folder files on the desk. She looks at James.

SUE

*(to James)*

Sir, this is Mr. Andrew.

Sue gestures at Cop.

JAMES

So I know...

SUE

*(to James)*

He's the one who's been trying to see Jason.

James turns and looks at Cop with a grin on his face. He pats him on

the shoulder and leaves his hand resting on it. Cop looks uncomfortable.

He looks at James suspiciously.

JAMES

*(to Cop)*

Mr. Andrew, it's a pleasure we finally meet.  
A friend of Jason's is a friend of  
mine too.

James takes away his hand. Cop looks somewhat relieved.

COP

*(to James half-heartedly)*

Thanks.

JAMES

*(to Cop)*

I hope you wouldn't mind coming with me  
to my office. Maybe I can be able  
to assist you...

COP

*(to James)*

I don't know...I wanted to see Jason.

JAMES

*(to Cop)*

Trust me, I'm sure Jason wouldn't mind.  
Besides, he's my best friend and as you  
can see, my associate. Anything he can  
do for you, I can surely do it on his  
behalf.

COP

*(to James)*

If you insist, sure, let's go.

The two men walk away from the reception. James stops then turns  
to

look at Sue.

JAMES

(to Sue)

Keep those files together with the rest and  
make sure to call me in case of  
any emergency.

SUE

Fine!

The two men walk towards James's office. James ushers Cop into  
his  
office.

COP (V.O)

The rest as they say is history.

Dissolve to:

EXT. CITY BRIDGE - DAY

Queenboro Bridge W;2:55 pm

The cop car is being driven among other traffic at moderate  
speed along

the bridge.

Camera TRAVELS OVER the beautiful city of New York revealing  
City

topography.

Dissolve to:

INT. POLICE CAR - DAY

Jason is seated with his eyes closed and the back of his head rested

against the seat. His cuffed hands are rested between his open legs.

Meanwhile, Cop steals glances at Jason as he continues steering the

car.

Jason opens his eyes then looks at Cop.

JASON

*(to Cop)*

You are not a real cop, are you?

COP

Was it too hard to know? Why did I take you so long to guess? I thought you were smart...you're so damn stupid.

JASON

Then, how did you...

Jason stares behind Cop anxiously.

COP

This,...

*(to Jason amid smiles)*

you must be kidding me? It wasn't hard at all...

FLASHBACK TO:

EXT. STREET ALLEY - DAY

Cop who is dressed as a civilian is busy kicking a male Trump lying

between huge garbage bins, in a street alley.

A cop car drives slowly past the same street alley.

POLICE CAR SIREN

We see the cop car reversing backwards past the street alley then it

slowly drives into the same alley.

Cop continues kicking the trump unmoved by the approaching police car.

CAR SIREN STOPS

The cop car stops a few yards from Cop who continues kicking the trump.

A male police officer then alights from the same car. He reaches for

his gun then advances cautiously towards Cop.

MALE OFFICER #2

*(to Cop)*

Do we have a problem here?

The male officer spots the trump lying on the ground. He quickly draws

his gun then takes aim at the cop.

MALE OFFICER #2 (CONT)

*(to Cop)*

Step away from the man, or I'll shoot.

Cop slowly steps away from the trump. He stops then spits at the trump

and lashes at him with one last ferocious kick.

MALE OFFICER #2 (CONT)

*(to Cop)*

I said step back...

Cop moves back away from the trump.

MALE OFFICER #2 (CONT)

*(to Cop)*

Put your hands where I can see them...  
move.

The male officer reaches over then pushes Cop against the wall.  
He

starts to frisk him.

Meanwhile, the trump GROANS loudly.

MALE TRUMP

Aaarrgggh!hmmmm...

The male officer gets distracted. He turns to look at the trump.

MALE OFFICER #2 (CONT)

*(to battered trump)*

Sir, are you okay?

Cop quickly reaches for the officer's gun. He lashes at him with the

barrel of the gun and hits him hard on the back of his head.

The male officer falls to the ground unconscious.

COP

*(to unconscious police officer)*  
Thanks a lot.

Cop drags the body of the officer behind the large garbage bins.  
He

goes ahead and undresses him.

Cop emerges dressed as a real police officer.

Cop binds the unconscious officer on the hands and legs using  
dart

tape.

He then tries to lift the male unconscious officer.

COP (CONT)

*(to unconscious officer while panting)*  
You're one heavy son of a bitch.

Cop walks away towards the cop car. He gets into the car, opens  
the

rear boot then starts the car engine and drives it slowly  
towards the

unconscious officer.

Cop stops the car. He gets out, lifts the body of the male  
officer then

dumps him in the rear boot of the car. He closes the rear boot.

Meanwhile, the trump gets up then starts to walk away. He looks  
battered.

Cop sees the trump walking away while stooping near the shut  
rear boot

of the cop car.

COP (CONT)

*(to trump)*

Hey, where do you think you are going?

The trump stops.

Cop makes as if to grab the gun. He doesn't.

Cop reaches into his pocket and takes out a wallet. He removes a ten

dollar bill from the wallet and hands it to the trump.

COP (CONT)

*(to trump)*

Here, take this.

The trump walks back towards Cop. He grabs the money from Cop's hands

then walks away.

COP (CONT)

*(shouts behind trump)*

And stay out of the streets...

Cop readjusts his uniform and looks pleased. He then gets back into the

car, shuts the car door beside him and reverses the car back onto the

road.

Dissolve to:

INT. POLICE CAR - DAY

Jason is seated restless on his seat.

Cop continues driving the car while stealing glances at Jason.

JASON

How long have you been planning all this?

COP

It doesn't matter anymore. I have you, exactly where I wanted you to be.

Jason shifts in his seat. He looks disturbed.

JASON

*(to Cop while stammering)*

But...but, you didn't have to kill him.  
If you were after me, why didn't you  
shoot me instead?

COP

I didn't want to miss out on this...  
I like you, not that I will let  
you live, there's just this thing about you  
that...

*(to Jason)*

I can't figure out exactly what it is...

JASON

He didn't deserve to die...you murdered  
an innocent man.

COP

I did what?

JASON

*(to Cop)*

You murderer...you killed an innocent man. It's  
you who deserve to die.

COP

First of all, I didn't kill anyone. It was your entire fault and every damn person on the street knows it.

*(Angrily)*

They all saw you do it. Don't blame me, it's your fault. Your hide is on the line and they will torture you until you confess, you fool?

JASON

*(to himself)*

He didn't deserve to die...

COP

*(to Jason rather harshly)*

What, so now you want to play God. Who the fuck do you think you are to get to chose who lives or dies... fuck you! You're such a hypocrite.

Cop steals a glance at Jason. Jason looks disturbed.

COP (CONT)

Here you are talking about innocence, do you ever stop to think of the many innocent victims you hurt every single day just by defending their tormentors?

Cop stops the car but then continues driving.

COP (CONT)

I honestly hate your guts.

*(to Jason)*

Do you ever read the holy book? You know, I like the part where it says all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. Now, if that's the case, how certain are you that the man was innocent. Are you God?

JASON

It wasn't his fault...you shouldn't have killed him.

COP

Matter of fact, I did you a great favor, I let you live. The least you can do is be grateful for my compassion.

JASON

*(to Cop)*

Go ahead with it already...Kill me, I'm tired of all this.

Jason develops tears in his eyes. He looks deeply shaken.

COP

That was nothing...it was all but foreplay. You look ugly when you cry. Besides, they say real men don't cry....maybe you're not the man I thought you were...

JASON

*(amidst tears)*

I'm fuckin' tired of this...

COP

No you're not, In fact, I bet you are enjoying every bit. Doesn't it feel great?

JASON

*(to Cop)*

Fuck you.

COP

*(to Jason)*

That wasn't necessary...people die each and every day...I was simply fulfilling natures need...It

was his time to go. May his soul  
rest in eternal peace...maybe, he's gone to  
hell...how do we say it then?

Cop peeks behind him at Jason. Jason looks torn, an emotional  
wreck.

INT. PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE - DAY

Prosecutor's office; 3:00 pm

Stephanie is seated behind a desk in her spacious office in the  
City.

She looks busy with her laptop placed on the large office table.  
She

has her eye glasses on.

There is a bunch files close by on the same table.

Her secretary walks into the office.

SECRETARY

*(to Stephanie)*  
Excuse me, ma'am!

Stephanie looks up at her secretary. The secretary is standing  
looking

all eager.

STEPHANIE

Yes!

SECRETARY

Someone just called and asked that you tune  
to the news on channel 5...

STEPHANIE

*(to secretary)*  
And who is it?

SECRETARY

*(to Stephanie)*  
I don't know. He sounded more like a man. I didn't get the chance to ask for the name.

Stephanie gestures at her secretary. She gets back to work on the

Laptop and the papers.

Meanwhile, the secretary walks towards the large TV set placed strategically at a corner in the office. She grabs the TV remote from

on top of a desk nearby and switches it on.

The secretary tunes to a news channel.

TV reveals earlier footage of a re-run of Jason getting arrested at the

crime scene.

The secretary covers her mouth with her hands in awe.

SECRETARY

*(to herself)*  
Oh...my...God!

Stephanie gets distracted.

STEPHANIE

*(to secretary)*  
What is it?

The secretary points in the direction of the TV screen.

Stephanie gets from her seat then looks at the news. She moves closer

then removes her eye glasses.

STEPHANIE

*(to TV)*

And look who we have here!

Stephanie reaches over and grabs the TV remote from her secretary. She

increases the TV volume.

STEPHANIE

This is great news...amazing..

We turn to the TV channel where a male news reporter is standing at

the crime scene.

MALE REPORTER

*(on TV reporting from the crime scene)*

Defense attorney Jason Stewart, was just moments ago arrested on this very street on murder suspicions.

Various eye witnesses claim to have seen Jason shooting on DON JACKSON, a street vendor, at point blank range. It is still not clear what led to the shooting. Police are still carrying on with the investigations.

Stephanie switches off the TV. She turns and hugs her secretary.

STEPHANIE

*(to herself)*

This is like a dream come true. I've been waiting to nail his ass for such a long time...finally, I'll make sure he

goes in for the maximum penalty...even the executioner would do just fine.

The secretary stands confused. She smiles nervously.

Stephanie lets go of her secretary. She moves back to her desk and

lets herself, fall on her back, on the seat.

She then gestures at the secretary.

STEPHANIE

This calls for a celebration...

*(to secretary)*

...fetch us some wine...I finally got him off my back...the many humiliations are now gone...hurry up, we need to cherish this great occasion.

SECRETARY

*(to Stephanie)*

As you please, ma'am!

The secretary rushes out of the office with a grin on her face.

Stephanie resumes her work but does not concentrate.

INT. PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE - DAY

The secretary rushes back into the office without the wine.

Stephanie looks surprised.

SECRETARY

*(to Stephanie while panting heavily)*

Ma'am...

STEPHANIE

*(to secretary)*  
Where's the wine?

SECRETARY

*(still panting)*  
Ma'am...am...

STEPHANIE

*(to secretary)*  
C'mon, spell it out...What is it?

The secretary catches her breath. She looks at Stephanie.

SECRETARY

*(to Stephanie)*  
Ma'am, there's an urgent call for you on  
line 2.

STEPHANIE

*(to secretary)*  
That's it?

The secretary nods her head in agreement.

Stephanie gestures at her.

STEPHANIE

*(to secretary)*  
What are you still waiting for? Hurry, go  
get the wine...

The secretary leaves hurriedly, closing the door behind her.

Meanwhile, Stephanie reaches over to her desk phone. She  
receives the

call on speaker phone.

STEPHANIE

Hello!

COP

*(on phone)*

How did you find the news, pretty interesting  
don't you think?

STEPHANIE

Who is this?

COP

*(to Stephanie on phone)*

A good friend...one that cares for your  
concerns.

STEPHANIE

Listen, whatever it is you are up to,  
I'm not interested. I've got better things to  
do. So, if you don't mind...

Stephanie reaches to end the call.

COP

*(to Stephanie on phone)*

Hold on ma'am, my sincere apologies. There's someone  
who would like to have a word with  
you...

*(to Jason on phone)*

Jason!

Stephanie stops. She recoils in her seat.

COP (CONT)

*(to Stephanie on phone)*

Jason Stewart, ring any bells?

STEPHANIE

I see!

COP

*(to Stephanie on phone)*  
Don't you want to talk to him?

STEPHANIE

Why did you call me? In case he wants to talk, I'm sure he would have called himself. Wait, wasn't he arrested?

COP

*(to Stephanie on phone)*  
Don't worry yourself ma'am, I have him here with me. He's in good hands.  
*(to Jason on phone)*  
Hey Jason, say hi to madam prosecutor. Maybe you can even tell her about your little secrets...talk to her!

STEPHANIE

*(rather curiously)*  
Jason, are you there? Is this some kind of prank? Don't expect me to fall for it, if that's what you're up to.

COP

*(to Stephanie on phone)*  
Ma'am, it's no prank...C'mon Jason, she's Waiting...

SILENCE

STEPHANIE

Hello, is anyone there?

COP

*(to Jason on phone)*  
I said talk to her...don't keep her

waiting. You really don't want me to repeat  
the same thing again now, talk to her...

GUN COCKING

STEPHANIE

Hello, please stop this...

COP

*(to Jason on phone)*

I'm going to start counting...one...two...

STEPHANIE

I said stop this nonsense at once...

Stephanie moves closer to the phone.

COP

*(to Jason on phone)*

Three...four...

JASON

*(to Cop on phone)*

Okay, I'll tell her what you want.

Stephanie sighs with relief.

STEPHANIE

Jason, is that really you?

COP

*(to Jason on phone)*

Go ahead...tell her everything.

STEPHANIE

*(abit curious)*

Tell me what, Jason...

JASON

*(to Cop on phone)*

What the fuck do you mean by that?  
I have nothing to say to that bitch.  
I hate her...

STEPHANIE

Who are you calling a bitch? Can someone  
please tell me what the heck is going  
on?

COP

*(to Stephanie on phone)*

Jason would like to confess how they screwed  
you over and over again so as to  
win the court cases...

*(to Jason on phone)*

I said talk...don't tempt me...I swear,  
I'll pull it...

JASON

*(to Cop on phone)*

Fine!

STEPHANIE

*(abit nervously)*

Jason, please explain to me what the hell  
is going on here...

JASON

*(to Stephanie on phone)*

Nothing...

COP

*(to Jason on phone)*

don't tempt me...

JASON

*(to Cop on phone)*  
Alright, I'll tell her...

STEPHANIE

Tell me...tell me what?

JASON

*(to Stephanie on phone)*  
It was all fraud...

STEPHANIE

What are you talking about?

Stephanie tapes the conversation.

JASON

*(to Stephanie on phone)*  
Pretty much all the court cases...

STEPHANIE

How is this possible? You mean to tell me you lied in court?

JASON

*(to Stephanie on phone)*  
Basically my point...everyone was comprised. The judges, jury...pretty much everyone involved in the cases...we even have a spy in your firm who briefs us on any new leads you may have on a case we're pursuing.

STEPHANIE

These are very serious allegations. I hope you understand the implications.

JASON

*(to Stephanie on phone)*

That's up to you...You can chose to believe what you want...

STEPHANIE

If this is true, I will not rest until you and that little shit hole you call a firm are completely ruined.

JASON

*(to Stephanie on phone)*  
That's your fucking problem...

COP

*(to Jason on phone)*  
That's no way to talk to a lady... you need to apologize...

STEPHANIE

I don't need any apologies from that foul mouthed loser. He can go to hell...I'll make sure they lock you up for life... asshole!

JASON

*(on phone)*  
Screw you both...

Stephanie hangs up the phone. She looks happy and pissed off at the

same time.

The office door opens. The secretary walks into the office carrying a

bottle of wine, bottle opener and two empty glasses.

Stephanie looks at her.

STEPHANIE

*(to secretary)*  
What took you so long?

SECRETARY

I had to...

STEPHANIE

*(grabbing the wine bottle)*  
Give me that...

Stephanie reaches out for the wine bottle.

The secretary hands her the bottle. She holds onto the wine glasses and

the bottle opener.

STEPHANIE

*(to secretary)*  
Where's the opener?

Stephanie looks at the wine bottle. She stares at the secretary.

The secretary hands Stephanie the bottle opener. Stephanie uncorks the

wine bottle. She lets the lid fall, places the opener on the table then

drinks from the bottle.

The secretary stares at Stephanie.

SECRETARY

*(to Stephanie)*  
Ma'am, is there a problem?

Stephanie gulps the wine.

Stephanie then puts the wine bottle back on the office table.  
She looks

up at her secretary.

STEPHANIE

*(to secretary)*

Cancel all my appointments for today...

The secretary holds out the wine glasses.

SECRETARY

*(to Stephanie while waving the two wine glasses)*

Okay, what about these?

STEPHANIE

*(to secretary)*

Take them back to wherever you got them  
from...I don't need a glass, I've got  
this...

Stephanie grabs the wine bottle. She drinks from it.

Stephanie gestures at her secretary to leave. The secretary just  
stares

at her boss then walks out of the office with the two empty  
glasses and

the bottle opener.

Dissolve to:

EXT. CITY STREET - ROAD - DAY

2nd Ave; 3:15 pm

The car is being driven at a moderate speed along one of the  
less

congested lanes along the avenue.

There are many pedestrians walking the pavements in the avenue.

JASON (V.O)

Why don't you just kill me? I have  
nothing more to lose if that's what's keeping  
you from doing it.

COP (V.O)

What about your dignity?

JASON (V.O)

I don't give a fuck...

INT. POLICE CAR -DAY

Jason is seated looking hopeless and torn.

Cop steers the car.

COP

Take a look at beside the seat you're  
on...there's something there that I'm sure will  
interest you...

JASON

I don't care anymore...

COP

Do it now before I get really pissed  
off...

*(to Jason)*

Do it, now?

Jason reluctantly reaches beside the seat. He quickly withdraws  
his

hand.

COP

Why do you fear? Your prints are already  
on it...c'mon, don't be such a sissy...  
I know you want it...

Jason reluctantly but cautiously reaches beside the seat then  
withdraws

his hand.

Jason holds onto the gun with his hands still cuffed. He takes a  
closer

look at it. He looks at Cop.

Cop peeks at Jason.

COP

Don't even think about it...

JASON

Why not?

Jason takes aim at Cop.

JASON

Who's in control now, huh?

Cop looks ahead on the road and continues driving.

COP

Don't fool yourself, you don't have the guts.  
Besides, you are not a killer...

JASON

You think I can't, huh? Think am weak...  
Let me show you I'm more than you

think I am...besides, I already killed someone,  
didn't I...What makes you think I cannot  
do it again?

Cop laughs

JASON

*(to Cop)*

What's so funny, think am bluffing?

Jason makes as if to pull the trigger.

COP

Put the gun down and stop acting like  
an excited kid...you are a coward, a  
fool. That's the gun that shot the vendor  
in case you are in the dark...You're  
fucked now more than ever...

Jason freaks out then let's go of the gun. The pistol falls  
beside him

on the same seat.

JASON

*(to himself)*

You lied to me...

COP

I told you, I knew you had no  
guts...

Jason rocks back and forth on his seat like a lunatic. He  
mumbles

incorrigibly to himself.

Dissolve to:

EXT. CITY STREET - ROAD -DAY

E 5th St;3:30 pm

The car takes a sharp bend then drives into the street at moderate

speed.

The traffic flow is smooth.

EXT. CITY STREET - PARKING LOT - DAY

Near NYPD Precinct Station House

The car drives to a halt at a free parking space just a block away from

the police station.

Cop then alights from the car. He doesn't lock the car door but leaves

it partially open.

Cop walks away from the car towards the busy street pavement.

EXT. POLICE CAR - DAY

Jason remains seated in the car. He continues to mumble and rock back

and forth on his seat.He watches as Cop walks away then disappears into

the groups of pedestrians.

The key to his handcuffs lie undisturbed on the dashboard of the car.

Across the opposite street pavement, a male and female police officers

walk out of a building directly facing the parked cop car. The two cops

walk a short distance then stop. They chat away seemingly unaware.

Beside Jason on the same seat, lies a small pistol.

Jason reaches for the pistol and picks it. He holds onto it. He then

checks the barrel of the pistol. The pistol is loaded with a single

bullet. Jason then COCKS the gun.

Jason aims the gun at his head. The car keys dangle from the car ignition.

Jason shuts his eyes. He reaches for the trigger.

A sudden BUMP rocks the car.

Jason opens his eyes. Tears stream from his eyes.

The BUMPS persist.

Jason looks behind him. there's no one.

Across the street, the pedestrians look alarmed by the sudden persistent BUMP but then they just walk away.

Jason feels for the door beside him, it's open. Jason takes a second

aim, right below his chin.

Dissolve to:

INT. POLICE CAR - DAY

The police car RADIO ALARM beeps all over sudden.

COP

*(on police radio call)*

All units, be on the look out for a missing  
cop car registration XAP 9H5 last seen driving  
into and parking along E5th Street...

*(Jason jerks in his seat)*

...there's a possible cop kidnapping and an  
armed male suspect in the car. I repeat,  
proceed with caution, over.

Across the opposite street, the female cop is now talking into  
the

transceiver and points in the direction of the parked cop car.

The two cops draw their guns. They make their way across the  
street

road slowly dodging the passing traffic and advance cautiously  
towards

the car.

Jason reaches for the trigger.

Cop, now dressed in civilian clothes, walks freely among the  
other

pedestrians.

Cop across at Jason then gives him the 'I'm watching you'  
gesture with

his hand as he continues on his way.

Jason shuts his eyes. He slowly reaches for the trigger. Tears  
stream

from both his eyes.

Dissolve to:

EXT. CITY STREET - ROAD - DAY

The two armed police officers advance cautiously towards the parked cop

car.

GUN SHOT RING THROUGH THE AIR

There is absolute panic and chaos, as pedestrians flee.

More gunshots as the two police officers fire back at the parked cop

car. Several police officers are drawn to the scene from the nearby

police station.

Meanwhile, Cop strides on unperturbed.

Dissolve to:

EXT. CITY STREET - PAVEMENT - DAY

The city street where we first found Cop walking away from a crime

scene. The aftermath of a police shooting.

The police officers manage to rescue their trapped colleague from the

rear boot of the cop car.

COP (V.O)

This world is strange, one moment you're  
free, the next in bondage.

POLICE CAR SIREN

A police car carrying a male convict slowly drives past.

COP (CONT) (V.O)

*(turns to look in the direction of the  
male convict)*

...isn't it strange, you spot someone in  
a car but what you may never realize is,  
they may be in dire need of your help.

Cop walks on through the mass of fleeing pedestrians. From a  
distance

is the sound of an ambulance siren.

FADE TO BLACK