Positive ID

By

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January 2012    tom.reidy@talk21.com
INT. POLICE STATION. DAY

DS MARK MAGEE is a smartly dressed man in his thirties. He walks down a long corridor reading a sheet of paper and carrying a leather case. In various rooms we see policemen and women on telephones and in front of computers. DS Magee comes to the end of the corridor and stops outside a large room. WPC MARY JONES is waiting for him.

DS MAGEE
Good morning Constable Jones. Is everything ready?

WPC JONES
Yes Sir. Sergeant Fraser has updated the investigation team. They’re just waiting for your briefing.

DS MAGEE
Thank you Constable.

DS Magee looks through the office window. There are about a dozen officers in the room, men and women. A few are dressed in uniform and others are in civilian clothing. Some are chatting between themselves, some reading papers. A few are looking at their mobile phones.

DS Magee opens the office door.

DS MAGEE
After you Constable Jones.

WPC JONES
Thank you sir.

DS Magee follows WPC Jones into the office.

The officers already seated stop talking, put down their papers and put away their mobile phones.

DS Magee motions WPC Jones to sit down and then unzips his leather case and puts some files on the table in front of him. He flicks through some note cards and then looks at the white board behind him. There is a large map with different coloured pins in various locations. There is also photos of clothing and a knife. There are dates and times written at various intervals. Finally we see the word VICTIMS under which the figure six has been written.

DS Magee faces the officers.

(CONTINUED)
DS MAGEE
Good Morning ladies and gentlemen.

The assembled officers murmur a collective greeting

DS MAGEE
Right. Let’s get down to business. As you are all aware, our rapist struck again last night. That’s six attacks in less than three weeks. Same area, same MO. The victim, like all the others, was young, blonde and under the influence of alcohol. A knife was again held to the victim’s throat throughout the attack. Thankfully no injuries were sustained. However, I’m under no illusion that the next time we may not be so lucky. There’s no telling what this monster will do if someone puts up a struggle. The next time it could be a murder investigation.

UNIFORMED PC
Where did this one take place Sir?

DS MAGEE
The location was less than five hundred yards from the last attack. A car park just South of Waterlow Road. The profiling team believe it’s someone with local knowledge, almost certainly someone who lives or works in the Archway area.

UNIFORMED PC
The Gazette certainly seem to think so.

DS MAGEE
Sorry?

UNIFORMED PC
Look.

The PC holds up a copy of the Islington Gazette. The headline reads ARCHWAY RIPPER STRIKES AGAIN.

DS Magee takes the newspaper from the PC he starts to read the story.

(CONTINUED)
DS MAGEE
Are these people for real? The Archway Ripper? I can’t believe they want to give a name to this psychopath. It’s just trivialising the whole thing. Surely they should have some respect for the families.

WPC JONES
Perhaps it might bring in a few leads Sir. We need all the help we can get at the moment.

DS Magee turns around and looks at WPC Jones with a scowl on his face

DS MAGEE
Thank you Constable

He turns back to the face the other policemen and throws the paper onto the desk.

DS MAGEE
This case won’t be solved by some reporter looking for a cheap headline. It will only be solved by good, solid police work. Door to door enquiries, checking all witness statements, cross referencing the Sex Offenders Register. These are the things that will...

He is interrupted by a mobile telephone going BEEP BEEP. A plain clothes detective to the right of the group glances at his mobile phone

DS MAGEE
As I was saying, it’s police work and legwork that will solve this case. I’m sure the clues that we’re looking for are out there, we just need to...

DS Magee notices the same plainclothes detective show another plainclothes detective his phone. Both are smiling at the what they see. DS Magee walks over and stops just in front of the two officers. Both look up at him and stop smiling. The owner of the phone puts it back in his jacket pocket.
DS MAGEE
(smiling)
Good joke was it lads?

DC MILES
Sir?

DS MAGEE
I was asking if it was a good joke.

DC MILES
What do you mean Sir?

DS MAGEE
Well I take it the text you received was the reason you were both grinning like Cheshire cats. Or maybe I’m wrong. Maybe it was a photo eh? was that it? a nude bird? because it was obviously far more entertaining than my briefing.

DS SULLIVAN
It was nothing of the sort. Your out of order Sergeant.

DS MAGEE
Out of order? You accuse me of being out of order.

(raising his voice)
I’m trying to solve one of the biggest cases this force has had in over 20 years. I’ve got the media making us look like clowns and now you two are acting like a couple of schoolkids.

DC MILES
It’s not what you think Sir.

DS MAGEE
No? well let me tell you what I think Detective Constable. I think you and your friend here are a couple of throwbacks. A couple of old school coppers. Reagan and Carter circa 2012. Hell, you probably think the victims deserved it. Yea, they were drunk, dressed up to the nines, they were asking for it. Is that it? is that how your warped minds work.

(CONTINUED)
DS Sullivan lunges at DS Magee but he is restrained by other officers before he reaches him. DS Magee doesn’t move an inch

DS SULLIVAN (shouting) You wanna see what’s on my phone?

DS Sullivan pulls the mobile from his pocket

DS SULLIVAN Here. Have a look. Go on, have a good look

He holds the phone in the face of DS Magee

DS SULLIVAN There. That’s what I was looking at. That’s what me and Jim were grinning at

DS Magee looks at the phone. there is a picture of a young boy with the message HI DADDY. WILL YOU BE HOME TO TUCK ME IN TONIGHT? I MISS YOU. JOSH XXX

DS MAGEE Your son?

DS SULLIVAN (snatching the phone) Yes, it’s my son. And Jim’s Godson. The kid’s seen so little of me during this investigation I’m surprised he remembers me at all. He’s asleep when I get in at night and he’s asleep when I leave in the morning. I’ve been working hundred hour weeks since this investigation started. I’ve done three straight shifts in the last two days. For what? so that you can take the piss out of me just cos I forgot to turn my phone off. I’ve worked harder than any other officer on this case so don’t you dare stand there and accuse me of not caring.

DS MAGEE (quietly) I’m... I’m sorry. Please accept my apologies.... both of you. I got a bit carried away. I know you’re good officers. We’ve all been under

(CONTINUED)
DS MAGEE (cont’d)
a lot of pressure, but it’s unfair
to take it out on you. Please, will
you accept my apologies?

DS Magee holds his hand out. DS Sullivan pauses for a moment
and looks DS Magee in the eye. His face then mellows and he
shakes his hands. DC Miles also shakes hands and everyone
returns to their seats.

DS MAGEE
I would like to apologise to
everyone for my behaviour. I can
assure you it will not happen
again. However, can everyone just
take a moment to make sure that all
phones are now switched off. We
don’t want any more interruptions.

Everyone in the room checks their phones.

DS MAGEE
Thank you. Now back to the case.

Before DS Magee can go any further a phone starts RINGING.
Everyone in the room looks around for where the noise is
coming from. After a few moments everyone’s eyes settle on
DS Magee

DS MAGEE
(whispers to himself)
Shit

He gingerly takes the phone from his pocket and half
heartedly smiles at the other officers. They all glare back
at him. He blushes

DS MAGEE
It’s my work phone. Emergencies
only.

UNIFORMED PC
Of course it is Sir

DS MAGEE
No I mean it. It’s work related.
Look I’ll put it on loudspeaker if
you don’t believe me.

He lays the phone on the desk and presses SPEAKER

(CONTINUED)
DS MAGEE
(onto phone)
Hello. DS Magee here

DESK SERGEANT
Hello Mark, it’s Sergeant Keane from the custody suite

DS MAGEE
Hi Sean. I’m with the Investigation Team at the moment. I’ve got you on loudspeaker so mind your language mate

DESK SERGEANT
No problem
(in loud voice)
Morning all

The gathered officers respond with a muffled greeting

DS MAGEE
Have you got some news on the case?

DESK SERGEANT
You could say that

DS MAGEE
Go on

DESK SERGEANT
At six am this morning there was a minor road traffic accident on Tufnell Park Road. A tow truck and a number nineteen bus had a slight collision. Minimal damage to both vehicles. But instead of swapping insurance details, the drivers decided to start swapping insults. According to the bus passengers this went on for about five minutes. The tow truck driver then jumped from the cab and ran onto the bus waving a big knife at the bus driver.

DS MAGEE
Sorry Sergeant, but what does this have to do with the investigation?

DESK SERGEANT
I’m coming to that. You see it just so happened that an area car was

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)
DESK SERGEANT (cont’d)

passing the scene and stopped to see what was going on. They managed to disarm the tow truck driver who was arrested, brought to the station and charged. A DNA swab was taken and guess what?

DS MAGEE

Go on

DESK SERGEANT

It matches the sample taken from the third rape.

DS MAGEE

You’re kidding

DESK SERGEANT

No I’m not. And it gets better, The knife is an exact match for the one described as being used by the rapist. Forensics are checking it as we speak, but they’re pretty confident it’s the one we’ve been looking for

DS MAGEE

Has the tow truck driver been ID’d yet?

DESK SERGEANT

Yea, a mechanic by the name of Reilly

DS MAGEE

Home address?

DESK SERGEANT

Newtown Estate, Archway

DS MAGEE

Work address?

DESK SERGEANT

Junction Road Garage, Archway

DS MAGEE

Just like the profiling team said. Lives and works in Archway.

DS Magee starts getting his paperwork together

(CONTINUED)
DS MAGEE
Where’s Reilly now?

DESK SERGEANT
In the cells with the duty solicitor. Although by now they’re both probably in the ID suite.

DS MAGEE
The ID suite? They’ve agreed to an ID parade?

DESK SERGEANT
Yea. The brief informed me that his client had no objections, so it’s all been set up. ID Room seven.

DS MAGEE
But hang on. We need to get some of the victims in.

DESK SERGEANT
Another stroke of luck. One of them was already in the building.

DS MAGEE
What?

DESK SERGEANT
Last night’s victim Holly was giving a statement to two of your guys upstairs.

DS MAGEE
What time is the ID set for?

DESK SERGEANT
It’s happening as we speak. If you run you might just make it.

DS MAGEE
I’m on my way. Thanks Sean, let’s hope we get a result.

DESK SERGEANT
Good luck.

DS Magee turns off his phone, quickly packs up all his papers and starts heading for the door. As he opens the door he turns to all the officers.

(CONTINUED)
DS MAGEE
I want to thank you each and everyone of you for all the hard work you have put in. It’s not over yet, but maybe there is light at the end of the tunnel. I’ll update you all as soon as possible.

DS Magee leaves the office and heads down the corridor. First he walks, then speeds up into a trot and then into a full sprint. He flies down the stairs and is seen out of breath leaning up against a room with a sign saying IDENTIFICATION SUITE 7. He gets his breath back and knocks on the door. An officer opens the door and DS Magee enters

INT. IDENTENTITY SUITE. DAY

The room is dimly lit, with a one way window running down one side. We see a detective standing in front of Holly, a long haired blonde

DC PHILLIPS
I know this is hard for you, but please can you repeat what you have just told me for DS Magee

Holly raises a hand and points at the one way window. Holly turns around and we see that it is a man

HOLLY
Number five. That’s her. That’s the woman that raped me. I am absolutely certain... I’ll never forget that face

DC PHILLIPS
Thank you Mister Holly. I know that must have been difficult, but you did just fine

We see the back of DS Magee as he leaves the suite. Through the one way glass we then see him enter the other room. The line-up is made up of six women. DS Magee approaches number five. She is an attractive women dressed in garage overalls.

DS MAGEE
Kathy Reilly, I’m arresting you for the rape of Jason Holly.

He starts handcuffing her

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DS MAGEE
You do not have to say anything, but it may harm your defence, if you do not mention when questioned, something which you later rely on in court.