

A
"Simon & Simon"
Story

By

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INT: JANET'S OFFICE (DAY 1)

JANET is sitting behind her desk, and LAURA is sitting in a chair, in front of the desk.

JANET

Well I'm sorry, but there is nothing I, or the DA, can do to help you.

LAURA

Look, I know how busy it can get around here, but ... you were my last hope. And since you won't help me ... I've no-one else to turn to.

LAURA looks sad.

JANET

I'm really sorry but...

LAURA

I understand, I really do.

LAURA heads for the door. JANET tries to think of some way to help. She mutters line to herself.

JANET

AJ!
(to Laura)
Wait a minute.

LAURA stops and turns to JANET.

JANET

Though I might not be able to help you ... I have two friends, who are the best detectives in San Diego. So I've been told. They could devote more time to your case than we could. Anyway, here's their number.

JANET writes it down.

JANET

Maybe you can give them a call.

LAURA smiles and takes the piece of paper from JANET.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

2.

LAURA
Thanks, maybe I will.

CUT TO:

INT: AJ'S PLACE -- LIVING ROOM (DAY 2: 10:00AM)

AJ is looking for something upstairs. RICK is in the living room, watching the football game. RICK is relaxed on the sofa, drinking a can of beer, and eating popcorn. He is cheering for his team. MARLOW, is also on the sofa, laying beside RICK. There is a knock on the front door.

AJ (VO)
Rick, can you get that?

RICK ignores him, and whoever is at the door, knocks again.

AJ (VO)
RICK!!

PAN TO:

UPSTAIRS

AJ
I guess I'll have to get it myself.

AJ comes down the stairs, mad.

PAN TO:

EXT: AJ'S PLACE

The woman at the door, knocks again. She is about to leave, when AJ opens the door. AJ is in a bad mood, and speaks loudly.

AJ
LOO...

AJ sees it's a woman, and smiles. His voice goes nice and sweet.

AJ
Hi. May I help you?

LAURA
I sure hope so, Mr. Simon.

LAURA smiles at AJ.

(CONTINUED)

AJ
Name's AJ.

He smiles again.

LAURA
Laura.

They just stand there and stare at each other for a while.

RICK (VO)
AJ.
(beat)
Who's at the door?

AJ acts as if he has just been snapped out of some sort of spell.

AJ
Oh, sorry, come on in.

LAURA
Thanks.

PAN TO:

INT: KITCHEN

LAURA enters and AJ closes the door.

AJ
Wait here, while I get Rick.

LAURA sits and AJ heads for the living room.

CONTINUE TO:

INT: LIVING ROOM

RICK
Who was at the door?

AJ turns the television off. RICK jumps up off the couch and yells.

RICK
Hey! What'd ya do that for?

AJ
We have a possible client in there.

AJ points to the kitchen.

(CONTINUED)

RICK

Oh.

(beat)

Wait, a client, and you didn't even think of discussing it with me first?

AJ

Rick, tell me how could I discuss it with you if she is waiting in the kitchen now to tell us why she needs our help?

RICK

Oh.

They start to go to kitchen. RICK stops.

RICK

She. I should have known it. Don't tell me, let me guess. 5 foot, blue-eyed, and blond. Right?

AJ

Wrong.

(smile)

AJ

Brunette.

They head to kitchen.

CONTINUE TO:

INT: KITCHEN

They enter the kitchen.

AJ

Rick, this is Laura. Laura, this is my brother, Rick.

RICK / LAURA

Hi.

RICK and AJ sit at the table. (RICK is at the North end of the table, AJ is at the South end of the table, and LAURA is on the West side of the table.)

AJ

What can we do for you?

AJ smiles at her.

(CONTINUED)

LAURA

It all started three months ago,
when I moved into an apartment with
Cathy.

RICK

Cathy? Who's Cathy?

LAURA

She's my best friend, and roommate.

(beat x3)

Anyway, like I was saying ... It
all started three months ago, I
kept getting letters, and phone
calls saying, "you ruined me, now
I'm gonna ruin you." At first, I
didn't think anything about it.
And, because of the neighborhood, I
figured it was probably just a
couple of kids looking for fun.
But, after the apartment was broken
into several times, I realized it
was more than that. So, I went to
the police, and they wouldn't even
listen to me. They thought I was
crazy. Next, I decided to try the
DA. And someone there, by the name
of, Janet Fowler, said she knew you
two and that if anyone could help
me, you could.

AJ and RICK exchange a look when LAURA mentions JANET.

RICK

Just leave it to good ole Janet.

(beat x2)

So, you think that someone is out
to kill you?

LAURA

I guess you could call it that.

AJ

Do you know of anyone who might
want...

LAURA

Not really.

RICK

Was there anything unusual about
the break-ins or phone calls?

(CONTINUED)

LAURA

Like what?

RICK

You know ... anything special happen on that day? Maybe a birthday, wedding, tri...

LAURA

Come to think of it ... Cathy was always out of town when... You don't think she'd have anything to do with this. Do you?

RICK

Wel...

AJ gives him a shut up stare.

AJ

That's what we have to find out, right?

LAURA

Right.

RICK

Okay, where should we start?

LAURA

How about ... the apartment?

AJ

I guess that's as good a place as any to start. Let's go.

They rise from the table. AJ and LAURA head for the door, RICK heads back to the living room. LAURA stops, and turns to AJ.

LAURA

Mind if I borrow your phone? I just want to call and let Cathy know that you and Rick are coming over.

AJ

Sure. Go ahead.

LAURA goes to the phone, and AJ goes to the living room, to get RICK.

CONTINUE TO:

INT: LIVING ROOM

AJ
Aren't you coming?

RICK
Just leave her address, and I'll be
around later

AJ
Okay.

AJ goes back to the kitchen.

CONTINUE TO:

INT: KITCHEN

LAURA is waiting.

AJ
Ready?

LAURA
Sure. Isn't Rick coming?

AJ
He's ... checking out something.
He'll be around later.

AJ opens the door, LAURA exits.

AJ
Bye Rick!

RICK (VO)
Bye!

AJ closes door.

PAN TO:

INT: LIVING ROOM

RICK turns the game back on.

JUMP TO:

INT: LAURA'S APARTMENT (NOON)

LAURA opens the door.

LAURA
Well, here we are.

They enter and LAURA closes the door.

AJ
Nice place you have here.

LAURA
Why, thank you.

Momentary pause.

AJ
You don't mind if I have a look
around, do you?

LAURA
Of course not. After all, that is
what you're here for. Right?

AJ
Right.

AJ looks around for about 30 seconds.

LAURA
AJ, will you please come here.

AJ
One second.

LAURA puts on a record. AJ walks over.

AJ
Find something?

LAURA
No. But ...

Momentary pause.

AJ
But what?

LAURA
This is gonna sound stupid.

(CONTINUED)

AJ
Go on, say it.

LAURA puts her arms around his neck.

LAURA
I'm glad Rick didn't come.

AJ
So am I.

AJ kisses her. After about 20 seconds, there is a knock on the door. They break the kiss.

AJ
I'll get it.

LAURA releases AJ, who goes to the door and opens it. SURPRISE, it's RICK.

AJ
Rick? What...

RICK walks in.

RICK
I thought you might need me down here, so...

AJ
But I thought you were...

RICK
Come up with anything yet?

AJ
No.
(close door)
Not yet.

AJ and RICK start searching the apartment. RICK looks like he is looking for something in particular. After about 30 seconds, RICK addresses LAURA.

RICK
By the way, where's Cathy? I thought she'd be here?

AJ realizes that Cathy is the reason that RICK came down.

AJ
Oh, so th...

LAURA
She went to The Roller Palace.

RICK
Know when she'll be back?

LAURA
She said around 5:00.

RICK
Would you happen to have a picture
of her?

LAURA
I think so. Why?

RICK
I just thought, that since she's
your best friend, she might know of
someone who'd want to kill you.

AJ is stunned. That's actually a good idea.

AJ
That's a good idea, Rick.

LAURA
I'll go get that picture.

LAURA exits room to get picture, and returns in about 7
seconds.

LAURA
Here it is.

LAURA hands the picture to RICK, who takes it and heads for
the door.

RICK
Thanks.

LAURA
Good luck.
(softly mutter)
You'll need it.

RICK opens the door, exits, and closes the door. LAURA turns
to AJ.

LAURA
Well, here we are, all alone again.

She puts her arms around him.

AJ
So what do say we ... pick up where
we left off?

LAURA smiles. AJ kisses her.

CUT TO:

INT: THE ROLLER PALACE (1:00PM)

There is music playing in the background. RICK enters, and walks over to a man, who is tying his skate. RICK can't see his face.

RICK
Excuse me sir, have you seen this
girl?

RICK shows him CATHY's picture. The man, PETER SMITH, glances at photo. PETER responds, without looking at RICK.

PETER
Sorry, can't say I have.

RICK
Well do...

PETER gets up, and recognizes RICK.

PETER
Richard! Richard Simon.

RICK looks at him with a "do I know you" look.

PETER
It's me, Peter.

RICK still doesn't know him.

PETER
You know, Peter Smith?

RICK remembers him.

RICK
Oh, Pete. Hi, how've you been?

PETER
Fine.

(CONTINUED)

RICK

Boy, it's been ages since I last saw you. Still going to Law School?

PETER

No, I left. I decided to become a doctor. Been at it now for about 2 yrs.

(beat)

By the way, what're you and AJ doing now? Last I heard, you were helping people find lost pets, or settle claims or wills.

RICK

(laugh)

Well Pete, you know AJ. He always loved adventure and excitement.

PETER

Yeh, I know.

(beat)

Growing up with you two was anything but boring.

(beat)

Remember that time, in Grade 7, when Mrs. Henderson's dog disappeared, and AJ talked us into searching for him?

RICK nods.

PETER

He had us looking for that dog everyday after school, and all weekend, until we found him.

RICK

And do you remember the look on his face, when we found him?

PETER

(nod)

How about the look on Mrs. Henderson's face, when AJ gave her the dog.

RICK and PETER both, start laughing.

PETER

Ever since then, anytime something strange happened, or something or someone disappeared, AJ had the two

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

PETER (cont'd)
of us off after him, trying to
solve it.
(beat)
Boy, it sure was boring after you
guys moved to Florida.

RICK
Yeh, the three of us sure made a
good team, didn't we?

PETER
Yeh, we did.

RICK
Remember what they used to call us?

PETER
Sure do.

PETER / RICK
"THE HARDY BOYS OF SAN DIEGO."

PETER and RICK start laughing.

RICK
Anyway, like I was saying, AJ
always loved adventure, so, he
decided he wanted to become a
licensed Private Detective. He
studied and apprenticed under Myron
Fowler at THE PIERLESS DETECTIVE
AGENCY in Florida, for 5 years.
Then he got his license.

PETER
Boy, who ever thought our AJ, would
become a PI.

RICK
That's not all. About 6 yrs ago, he
asked me to be his partner. And, we
opened our own agency.

PETER
Well, congratulations, Rick.

RICK
If you ever need any help, give us
a call.

RICK hands PETER a card.

RICK
Here's our number.

PETER takes card, and reads it.

PETER
SIMON & SIMON CONFIDENTIAL
INVESTIGATIONS. Catchy name Rick.

RICK
It's been nice seeing you again,
Pete. Maybe you could drop around
sometime. I'm sure AJ would like to
see you again.

PETER
Yeh, maybe I will. See ya.

PETER starts to skate off. RICK calls him.

RICK
Pete, wait.

PETER stops.

RICK
Could you tell me of anyone who
might know this girl?

PETER
Well...
(think)
Joe might. He knows practically
everyone who comes here.

RICK
Joe?

PETER
Sorry. That big guy...
(point to Joe)

PETER
...over at The Skate Rental.

RICK
Oh. Thanks. Bye.

PETER
Bye.

PETER skates off. RICK walks over to The Skate Rental.

PAN TO:

SKATE RENTAL

RICK approaches JOE,

JOE
May I help you?

RICK
I was just wondering if you might
know this girl.

RICK puts CATHY's picture on the counter. JOE looks at it.

JOE
Maybe. What's it to you?

RICK
I just want to ask her a few
questions.

JOE
Name?

RICK
Rick.

JOE
Not yours, hers.

RICK
Oh. Cathy.

JOE points to CATHY.

JOE
The one in the blue shirt, at the
Snack Bar.

RICK picks up picture.

RICK
Thanks.

RICK walks over to the snack bar.

PAN TO:

SNACK BAR

RICK buys a drink and walks over to CATHY's table.

RICK
Hi. Mind if I join you?

CATHY
Not at all handsome. And ... what
might your name be?

RICK
Simon. Rick Simon.

CATHY
Mine's Cathy.

RICK
I know.

CATHY raises an eyebrow in surprise.

CATHY
You know?

RICK
Yes. You see, I'm here to ask you a
few questions.

CATHY
Questions? What sort of questions?

RICK
The main one, do you know of anyone
who would want to kill Laura?

CATHY
Laura? Laura who? I know at least
four Laura's.

RICK
Laura ... Laura ...

RICK realizes he doesn't know LAURA's last name.

RICK
Your roommate Laura.

CATHY
Oh, Laura White. Well... wait is...
is she alright?

(CONTINUED)

RICK
She's fine. For now anyway. Just
answer the question.

CATHY
Let's see ... I can't think of any
off the top of my head but ... I'm
sure I'll think of some.

RICK
Well, here's my number...

RICK writes his name and number on a napkin, and hands it to
her.

RICK
Call me if you think of anything.

CATHY
Sure thing sugar.

CATHY smiles at him. He smiles back, and rises from the
table.

RICK
Bye.

CATHY
Bye.

RICK walks off. CATHY drops the smile, and goes over to a
pay phone, and dials a number.

CATHY
Can I speak to Officer Clark,
please?

OFFICER ALLEN (VO)
Hang on.

10 second pause, as OFFICER ALLEN transfers call to OFFICER
CLARK.

CLARK (VO)
Hello.

CATHY
Hi, T.P.?

CLARK (VO)
(Worry) Who is this?

(CONTINUED)

CATHY
It's me Cathy.

CLARK (VO)
(Relief) Oh. Hi, Cathy.

CATHY
Look, there was this guy...

CATHY looks at napkin and reads RICK's name.

CATHY
Rick Simon, here asking questions
about Laura.

CLARK (VO)
Laura? Laura who?

CATHY
You know what Laura I'm talking
about.

CLARK (VO)
No, I don't.

CATHY
Well, let me refresh your memory.
The Laura I'm talking about, is the
one that sent you, or should I say
T.P Murphy, to prison 5 years ago.

CLARK (VO)
Oh, you mean Laura White. What sort
of questions did he ask?

CATHY
Look, that's all I have to say to
you. Good bye, Murphy.

CATHY slams the phone down, and storms out. CAMERA pans to show PETER sitting at the table behind the phone, sipping a soft drink. He overheard everything. He rises, and decides to call RICK. He picks up the phone and calls the number on the card that RICK gave him. He gets the answering machine. At the tone of the beep, he leaves the following message.

PETER
Rick, it's Pete. You know that girl
you were looking for? Well, I just
overheard a conversation between
her and an Officer Clark. That's
not all she called him. She also
called him T.P Murphy. It seems

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

PETER (cont'd)
that a Laura White, sent him to
prison 5 years ago. Talk to ya
later. Ciao.

CUT TO:

INT: LAURA'S PLACE (6:30PM)

There is music playing in the background. AJ and LAURA are sitting on the couch, kissing. AJ breaks the kiss.

AJ
I better get going.

LAURA
Do you have to?

AJ
Well, I...

LAURA
Oh AJ. Please don't go. I wouldn't
feel safe without you near me. When
I'm with you, it's as if there is
nothing else on Earth, except us,
and...

AJ
Okay, okay. I'll stay.

LAURA kisses him.

CUT TO:

INT: AJ'S PLACE (8:00PM)

RICK is watching TV. The doorbell rings. RICK, walking backwards, goes to the door. He's walking backwards, so that he can still watch what he is watching. The commercials come on as he reaches the door. RICK turns, and opens the door.

CATHY
Hi Rick.

RICK
Cathy. Come in.

CATHY
Thanks.

CATHY enters and starts looking around.

(CONTINUED)

RICK
Make yourself at home.

CATHY smiles.

CATHY
Nice place you got here.

RICK
Thanks.
(beat x3)
Well actually, it's my brother's.

CATHY
Your brother's?

RICK
Yeh.

MARLOW runs in from the KITCHEN and goes to CATHY.

CATHY
Is he your brother's too?

RICK
No. He's mine.

CATHY
What's his name?

RICK
Marlow.

CATHY
As in Philip Marlow?

RICK laughs as CATHY pets MARLOW.

CATHY
He's not here now is he?

RICK
Who?

CATHY
Your brother?

RICK
No. AJ's over at Laura's.

CATHY smiles at RICK and sits on the couch.

CATHY

Oh. So I guess that means I can't go back there.

RICK walks over to couch. CATHY smiles at him again. RICK sits on the couch.

RICK

What makes you say...

CATHY kisses him. The kiss lasts for about 3 seconds. RICK breaks it.

RICK

Why'd you come here?

CATHY

Well... I... umm... Oh yeh, I came up with a name.

RICK

A name? A name for what?

CATHY

For who might want to kill Laura.

RICK

Oh. Who's name did you come up with?

CATHY

Well...

CATHY yawns.

CATHY

Can't it wait till morning, I'm awfully tired.

RICK

Sure.

RICK kisses her. The commercials end, and she rests her head on his shoulder. They watch whatever he was watching.

CUT TO:

INT: LAURA'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM (DAY 3: 9:00AM)

LAURA wakes up, and AJ's not there. She says his name sleepily.

LAURA

AJ.

She notices he is gone.

LAURA

AJ.

(Louder)

AJ!

AJ (VO)

I'm out here?

LAURA sits up.

LAURA

Could you please come in here.

AJ (VO)

I'll be there in a minute.

LAURA lays back down. AJ enters, with breakfast and a rose. LAURA looks at him. She smiles.

LAURA

You didn't have to...

AJ

I wanted to.

AJ puts the tray on the bed, and kisses LAURA.

CUT TO:

INT: AJ'S PLACE - KITCHEN (10:00AM)

RICK and CATHY enter.

RICK

Would you like a cup of coffee?

CATHY

Sure.

RICK goes to make the coffee, instant. CATHY sits at the table. RICK makes the coffee, then joins CATHY at the table.

(CONTINUED)

RICK

Well, I can't guarantee it will be the best. You see, AJ usually makes the coffee around here.

CATHY

AJ?

RICK

My brother.

RICK hands CATHY her cup.

CATHY

Thanks.

CATHY takes a sip as RICK sits.

CATHY

Umm, this is good.

RICK takes a sip of his coffee. She's right, it is good.

RICK

You're right. It is good.

They drink their coffee. CATHY leans over the table, and kisses RICK.

RICK

Last night, you said you had a name for us?

CATHY

Us?

RICK

Yeh, us.

(beat)

My brother and I, are P.I's

CATHY

Oh.

(beat)

T.P Murphy.

RICK

Murphy? That name sounds familiar.

CATHY

It should. He was convicted, about five years ago, for first degree murder.

RICK

That's right.

(beat)

But what does this have to do with
Laura?

CATHY

She was their number one witness,
and...

RICK

She told them what she'd seen, or
heard, or whatever... and he was
sent to jail. And on the way out of
the courtroom, he threatened to
kill her if she was alive when he
got out. Right?

CATHY

Something like that. He was
released...

RICK

Three months ago.

CATHY

(surprise)

How'd you know?

RICK

Wild guess.

(beat)

Actually, that's when Laura started
getting those phone calls, and
letters, and break-ins.

CATHY

(surprise)

Break-ins! She never told me the
apartment had been broken into!

RICK

She didn't?

CATHY

No. She didn't!

RICK

Oh. Well, you were always out of
town when...

CATHY kisses him.

CUT TO:

INT: THE CAMERO - 11:00AM

LAURA

Are you sure Rick won't mind us dropping in on him like this?

AJ

Mind? Why should he mind?

LAURA

I don't know.

AJ

Here, are two good reasons he won't mind. First, it's my house, and second, he's probably not doing anything. Come to think of it...

AJ glances at the car clock.

AJ

...he's probably either still asleep, or working on his boat.

CUT TO:

INT: AJ'S PLACE - 11:05AM

RICK is kissing CATHY.

PAN TO:

EXT: AJ'S - DRIVEWAY

The camero pulls up in the driveway. AJ and LAURA get out of the car and walk to the door.

PAN TO:

INT: AJ'S

CATHY

Don't you think we should find your brother?

RICK

Why?

(CONTINUED)

CATHY
To see if he's come up with
anything yet?

RICK
Well, I...

The door opens. AJ and LAURA enter.

AJ
I thought I heard voices. You must
be Cathy.

CATHY
(sweet)
And you must be AJ.

RICK
AJ...

LAURA
I see you found her. Get any
information from her?

RICK
One name. T.P Murphy. Ring a bell?

LAURA tries to remember where she has heard that name
before.

LAURA
T.P Murphy...
(beat)
Murphy...
(beat)
T.P...
(remembers)
Oh no!!

AJ
You know him?

LAURA
Know him! I sent him to prison for
murder.
(beat)
I didn't even know he was out. When
did he get...

RICK
Thr...

(CONTINUED)

LAURA

Don't tell me. Three months ago,
right?

RICK

Bingo.

AJ

Rick, what do ya say we start
looking for this Murphy. Okay?

RICK

Okay.

AJ

(smile)

And I know just the place to start.

AJ heads for the door. RICK turns to the girls.

RICK

Come on, we'll drop you off on the
way.

They exit the house.

JUMP TO:

INT: JANET'S OFFICE (11:45AM)

JANET enters with AJ and RICK behind her.

JANET

No way!

RICK / AJ

Come on, Janet.

AJ

It's just one name.

RICK

Have we ever disappointed you
before?

JANET

Well...

RICK

Don't forget, you got us into this.

(CONTINUED)

AJ
The least you could do, is help.

JANET
Look guys, I could...

AJ
Please Janet.

JANET gives in.

JANET
Okay.

AJ and RICK smile.

JANET
What was it you wanted again?

AJ
Everything on a T.P Murphy.

JANET
Murphy? Where have I heard that name before?

RICK
5 yrs ago he was sent to prison for murder.

AJ
He was released 3 months ago.

JANET
And you think he might be behind what's happening to Laura?

AJ / RICK
Right.

JANET
I'll see what I can find.

AJ
Thanks. Call us, at my place, if you come up with anything, okay?

JANET
Sure.

AJ / RICK
Bye.

They exit. JANET thinks of something.

JANET

Wai...

But they are gone.

JUMP TO:

EXT: FRED'S PIZZA PLACE (NOON)

RICK goes up to the counter. FRED, the guy behind the counter, takes his order.

FRED

May I help you?

RICK

1 medium pizza and 2 large cokes.

FRED

Coming right up.

(beat)

You can go sit with your girlfriend. I'll have Sam...

FRED points to another guy behind the counter.

FRED

...bring it over.

RICK

Thanks.

RICK goes to join CATHY.

JUMP TO:

INT: AJ'S - LIVING ROOM (12:30PM)

AJ and LAURA are sitting on the couch, eating a wonderful lunch, and drinking champagne. AJ kisses her, and the phone rings. AJ breaks the kiss.

AJ

That must be Janet.

AJ answers the phone.

AJ

Hello.

(CONTINUED)

JANET (VO)
Hi AJ. I have some ... bad news.

AJ
What is it?

JANET (VO)
It's Murphy.

AJ
What about him?

JANET (VO)
He was never released.

AJ
He wasn't? Why not?

JANET (VO)
He's dead.

AJ
So much for our theory.
(beat x2)
When did he die?

JANET (VO)
Last year.

AJ
Anything else on him?

JANET (VO)
Well, I don't know if this is gonna
do any good ... but before he went
to prison he was engaged to a girl
by the name of Cathy Sno, and...

AJ
Cathy?

JANET (VO)
Yes. Why?

AJ
Hang on a minute Janet. That might
be more important than you think.

AJ puts JANET on hold, and turns to LAURA.

AJ
Cathy's last name wouldn't happen
to be, Snow, would it?

LAURA

As a matter of fact it is. Why?

AJ releases the hold button, and addresses JANET.

AJ

Thanks Janet. That's another one we owe you.

JANET (VO)

A...

AJ hangs up, cutting JANET off, and turns to LAURA.

AJ

How long have you known Cathy?

LAURA

About 4 yrs. Why?

AJ

Well your not going to believe this but, before Murphy was sent to prison, he was engaged to her.

LAURA

ENGAGED! To be married?

AJ

Yeh.

LAURA

(semi-mad)

Cathy became my friend just so he could keep track of me.

(beat)

So that's how he knew my address.

AJ

Well, not really.

LAURA

What do mean?

AJ

He wasn't released.

LAURA

He wasn't? Why not?

AJ

He died. In prison. Last year.

(CONTINUED)

LAURA

Oh.

(beat)

Wait, what about Rick?

AJ

What about him!

LAURA

Well, I think Rick likes Cathy.
And, if I'm right, he's not gonna
like what I have to say about her.

AJ

You're right.

(beat)

Not only is he not going to like
it, he won't believe it.

CUT TO:

INT: AJ'S PLACE (7:30PM)

AJ is pacing, waiting for RICK to come home. After about 30
seconds, the door opens, and RICK enters.

AJ

Rick, I have something to tell you.

RICK

Oh. Good or bad?

AJ

That depends.

RICK

On what?

AJ

On how you feel about Cathy?

RICK

Cathy? What's she got to do with
this?

AJ

Well, I...

Momentary pause.

(CONTINUED)

RICK
AJ, tell me.

AJ
Okay. But I think you better sit
down first.

RICK sits on the couch.

AJ
Before Murphy was sent to prison,
he was engaged to her.

RICK
Alright AJ, enough with the jokes.
Now what did you really want to
tell me?

AJ
Rick, this is no joke. I'm serious.

RICK
AJ, even if it was true, that was 5
yrs ago, and...

AJ
Rick, Murphy's dead!! ... Laura
sent him to prison, and since Cathy
was engaged to him, she probably
holds Laura responsible for his
death.

RICK jumps up off the couch, mad.

RICK
AJ, listen, I...

AJ
No, you listen!!! If this was any
other case, Rick, and any other
person, you'd see the connection!

RICK
Well, this isn't anyone else. It's
Cathy. And I for one, don't think
she's involved.

AJ
Rick, I...

RICK
AJ, the only way I'm gonna believe
you is if you have proof.

(CONTINUED)

AJ is getting mad.

AJ
Proof! You want proof!

AJ picks up the phone.

AJ
Here's the phone.

AJ hands RICK the receiver.

AJ
Call Janet yourself.

RICK takes the receiver.

RICK
All right little brother, I will.

RICK dials JANET's number.

RICK
She better be there.

JANET's phone rings. Twice.

JANET (VO)
Hello.

RICK
Janet, it's Rick.

JANET (VO)
If this is about Murphy, I ...

RICK
I know. I just want to verify something you told AJ.

JANET (VO)
Sure. What is it?

RICK
You told him that Murphy was engaged to a Cathy Sno.

JANET (VO)
That's right.

RICK
Could you spell her last name?

JANET (VO)

Sure.

(beat)

S-N-O.

RICK looks disappointed.

RICK

Would you happen to have a picture
of her?

JANET (VO)

I don't know but, I could check.

RICK

Could you check now please? This is
important.

JANET (VO)

Okay. Hang on.

(Off screen JANET looks for a picture.)

AJ

Rick, why'd you ask her to spell..

RICK looks at him.

RICK

How do you think it's spelled?

AJ

S-N-O-W.

RICK

Wrong. There's no W. At first I
thought it was S-N-O-W, but...

(Off Screen JANET returns.)

JANET (VO)

Rick?

RICK

Yeh.

JANET (VO)

I found a picture of her.

RICK

I'll come around and get it.

(CONTINUED)

JANET (VO)
No wait, I'm going that way, so
I'll bring it over.

RICK
Thanks. See ya in a while then.

JANET (VO)
Okay. Bye.

RICK
Bye.

RICK hangs up the phone, and turns to AJ.

RICK
Well, we'll see in a minute, if
it's the same Cathy Sno.

FADE TO:

INT: AJ'S PLACE - KITCHEN - 8:00PM

There is a knock on the side door. AJ rises from the table,
and yells.

AJ
I'll get it.

AJ answers the door. It's JANET.

AJ
Hi Janet, come on in.

JANET
Thanks.

JANET enters and AJ closes the door.

JANET
Where's Rick?

AJ
In the living room.

AJ and JANET head to the living room.

CONTINUE TO:

INT: LIVING ROOM

AJ and JANET enter the living room.

JANET
Here's that picture you wanted
Rick.

JANET hands RICK the picture.

RICK
Thanks.

RICK takes it and looks at it. It's CATHY. RICK storms out
of the house.

AJ
Rick. Rick. Rick, come back here.
Rick.

AJ and JANET run after RICK.

CONTINUE TO:

EXT: AJ'S PLACE

AJ and JANET exit only to find RICK driving off.

AJ
Rick. Rick. RICK!

RICK's gone. JANET turns to AJ.

JANET
What's the matter with Rick?

AJ and JANET go back into the house.

CONTINUE TO:

INT: AJ'S PLACE

AJ
It's Cathy. You see Ri...

JANET
Oh. I'm sorry AJ, I had no idea.

AJ
It's not your fault.

(CONTINUED)

JANET
Rick must feel terrible.

JANET's eyes focus on a clock.

JANET
I'm really sorry, I wish I could
stay, But...

AJ
It's okay, Janet. You go on to your
meeting. I'll see you later.

JANET
Yeh.
(beat)
AJ, I'm ...

AJ
It's okay. I'm alright. Really I
am.

JANET
See ya.

JANET gives him a friendly kiss on the cheek.

AJ
Bye.

JANET exits.

AJ
I hope I'll see Rick again.
(beat)
Alive.

FADE TO:

TIME FLIES

AJ is sitting on the couch, reading. He can't concentrate on
the book, so he starts pacing, and looking at his watch
every five minutes.

CONTINUE TO:

TIME RESUMES (9:00PM)

The phone rings. Thinking that it might be RICK, AJ dashes on the phone.

AJ
Rick!

LAURA (VO)
Sorry. It's Laura.

AJ looks disappointed.

AJ
Oh.

LAURA (VO)
What's wrong?

AJ
When Rick found out about Cathy, he stormed out of here. I haven't heard from him since.

LAURA (VO)
You alright?

AJ
I'm fine.

LAURA (VO)
If you want, I'll come over and stay with you till Rick gets back?

AJ
Sure. But, don't let Cathy know you're coming over, okay?

LAURA (VO)
But that's impossible. She's watching a movie, and the door is in perfect view, from the set. She's bound to ask me where I'm going.

AJ
Oh.
(beat)
Wait, I've got a plan.

FADE TO:

INT: LAURA'S APARTMENT (9:10PM)

CATHY is watching a movie. She turns around, and notices that LAURA's not coming back to watch the movie. LAURA is heading towards her room, when CATHY calls her.

CATHY
Laura?

LAURA
Yes.

CATHY
Where are you going?

LAURA
To bed.

CATHY
So early? Aren't you gonna finish watching the movie with me?

LAURA
Well, Andrew...

CATHY
Andrew?

LAURA
Sorry, AJ.

CATHY
Oh.

LAURA
He's got something special planned for tomorrow.

CATHY
See you in the morning then. Good night.

LAURA
Night.

LAURA goes to her bedroom and closes the door.

CUT TO:

INT: AJ'S PLACE (10:00PM)

AJ's watching a movie, the same one as CATHY is watching. There is a knock on the door. Thinking it might be RICK, he races to the door. He opens the door.

AJ
Ri... Hi Laura.

LAURA
"Hi Laura." Is that all I get?

AJ
Sorry.

AJ kisses her.

AJ
Come on in.

LAURA enters and AJ closes the door. They go to the living room and sit on the couch.

LAURA
Rick still isn't back?

AJ
No. And I'm really starting to worry about him.

LAURA
Look, Andrew, I...

AJ
(raise an eyebrow)
When did you start calling me Andrew?

LAURA
That is what the A stands for, isn't it?

AJ
Yes.

LAURA
I think that Andrew is a nice name. It suits you.

LAURA kisses him.

(CONTINUED)

AJ
I hope I hear from Rick soon.

LAURA
Stop worrying. I'm sure nothing's gonna happen to him. Besides, Rick's not a child, he can take care of himself.

AJ
I suppose you're right.

AJ kisses her and the phone rings.

AJ
Oh no.

AJ answers the phone.

AJ
Hello?

TOWN (VO)
AJ?

AJ
Yes.

TOWN (VO)
It's Town.

AJ
What can...

TOWN (VO)
It's Rick.

AJ
Where is he?

TOWN (VO)
Here. At the station. We found his truck in a ditch. He just missed a tree.

AJ
Is he alright?

TOWN (VO)
He is now. You better come down and get him.

(CONTINUED)

AJ
I'm on my way.

TOWN (VO)
I'll leave your name with Allen.

AJ
Thanks for calling Town. Bye.

TOWN (VO)
See ya.

AJ hangs up the phone.

LAURA
What's wrong?

AJ
It's Rick. They've got him at the station. I'm going to get him. Coming?

LAURA
Yeh.

They start to walk toward the door. LAURA stops.

LAURA
On second thought, I don't think I should go.

AJ
Why not?

LAURA
Rick might get upset if he saw me. After all, Cathy is my friend.

AJ
I see your point. But, you can't go back to the apartment, and I don't want to leave you here alone.

LAURA
Why not?

AJ
If Cathy finds out you're not at the apartment, this is the first place she'd look for you.

LAURA
You're right. I'll come.

AJ and LAURA exit.

CONTINUE TO:

EXT: AJ'S PLACE

They get into the Camero, and drive off.

CONTINUE TO:

EXT: POLICE STATION (10:30PM)

AJ parks the car.

CONTINUE TO:

INT: CAMERO

LAURA
I'll wait here.

AJ turns to her, and kisses her.

AJ
Okay.

LAURA
Don't be long.

AJ flashes her a smile.

AJ
I'll be back before you know it.

AJ gets out of the car. LAURA watches him walk to the station entrance.

CONTINUE TO:

INT: STATION

AJ enters, and goes to the front desk.

AJ
Officer Allen?

(CONTINUED)

ALLEN

Yes.

AJ

A.J Simon. Town... Lt. Brown said I'd be here to pick up my brother Richard Simon.

ALLEN

Right this way.

ALLEN takes AJ to RICK.

AJ

Rick, thank god your alright. I was starting to worry about...

RICK

AJ, just get me out of here.

AJ

Officer, would you mind opening this cell.

ALLEN

Not at all.

ALLEN starts to open the cell. AJ stops him.

AJ

On second thought, maybe I'll just leave him here overnight, and pick him up in the morning. A night in jail might do him some good. Okay?

ALLEN looks at AJ. AJ gives him a signal that it's only a joke. ALLEN plays along.

ALLEN

Sure. No problem.

AJ and ALLEN start to leave. RICK, thinking AJ is seriously considering leaving him here all night, tries to stop AJ.

RICK

AJ. AJ. A-A-J. A-A-A-A-A-A-J-J-J-J.

AJ turns around.

AJ

Yes.

RICK

Please get me outta here. I want to go home.

AJ pretends to be thinking about it.

AJ

Well.....

RICK

AJ!

AJ

Oh, alright. Officer.

ALLEN

Sure.

ALLEN opens the cell. RICK tries to walk out of the cell, only he can't keep his balance. AJ helps him. AJ and RICK are heading for the door, when ALLEN stops them.

ALLEN

Wait a minute, sir.

They stop.

ALLEN

Mr. Simon doesn't leave here, unless these papers are signed.

AJ

Of course.

CONTINUE TO:

TIME FLIES

AJ and RICK go to the desk. AJ signs the papers. Then they exit. AJ takes RICK to the car, and they drive home. When they get home, AJ and LAURA help RICK in.

CONTINUE TO:

INT: AJ'S PLACE

They enter the house. RICK, seems to be able to stand on his two feet.

(CONTINUED)

AJ / LAURA
Night Rick.

RICK
Night. See ya in the morning.

RICK goes to his room, leaving AJ and LAURA alone in the living room. LAURA walks over to the patio doors, and looks out, at the moon.

LAURA
Oh AJ, isn't it beautiful?

AJ
It sure is.

They walk out.

CONTINUE TO:

EXT: PATIO

They look up at the full moon glistening on the water. LAURA kisses him.

JUMP TO:

INT: AJ'S PLACE - RICK'S ROOM (DAY 4: NOON)

RICK wakes up, with a splitting headache.

RICK
Oh, my aching head.

RICK gets up, and exits his room.

CONTINUE TO:

INT: BATHROOM

RICK opens the medicine cabinet, and removes a bottle of Aspirin. He opens the bottle, and takes out two. He swallows them, with a glass off a water. AJ enters.

AJ
Morning Rick.

RICK
Morning.

(CONTINUED)

AJ
Or, should I say afternoon?
(beat)
How are you feeling?

RICK
Fine.
(beat)
Just, keep your voice down, please.

AJ
My voice isn't loud. It just sounds
that way, because your head's
thumping. Serves you right for
drinking so much.

RICK exits. AJ follows him.

CUT TO:

INT: KITCHEN

AJ and RICK enter. LAURA is making lunch. RICK looks at her,
as he is sitting at the table. He turns to AJ.

RICK
What's she doing here?

AJ
In case you've forgotten, Rick, she
is our client.

AJ sits at table.

FADE TO:

TIME FLIES

They eat lunch and talk a bit.

CONTINUE TO:

TIME RESUMES

RICK finishes his lunch, and decides to call CATHY, to
straighten things out.

RICK
I think I'll call Cathy.

(CONTINUED)

AJ
You sure you want to that?

RICK
I have to.

RICK goes to the phone, and calls CATHY. LAURA kisses AJ. FOCUS on RICK. He calls the number, and the phone rings, and rings, and rings. RICK hangs up and tries again. Still no answer. RICK goes back to table.

RICK
Your number is 555-2353, right?

LAURA
Yes. Why, is something wrong?

RICK heads for the door.

RICK
I don't know, but there's no answer to the phone, and Cathy said she'd be there all day.

AJ
Wait for us, Rick.

They exit.

CONTINUE TO:

EXT: AJ'S PLACE

They get into the Powerwagon, and head for LAURA'S.

FADE TO:

INT: LAURA'S APARTMENT (1:00PM)

LAURA opens the door. The apartment is a mess. They start looking for CATHY.

AJ / RICK / LAURA
Cathy!
(beat)
Cathy!
(beat)
Cathy!...

There is no answer. They continue looking for her. LAURA finds CATHY'S body, in the bath tub, with three stab wounds

(CONTINUED)

around her heart. LAURA screams. AJ and RICK go running to her. AJ takes LAURA in his arms and tries to comfort her, while RICK walks over to the tub to investigate. LAURA starts crying. AJ and LAURA say their lines simultaneously.

AJ
Sh ... sh. It's okay,
Laura. It's okay.

LAURA
It's not fair AJ. It's just
not fair.

AJ
I know.

RICK
Well now we know that Cathy wasn't
the one trying to kill Laura.

AJ lifts LAURA's head, and looks her in the eye.

AJ
Laura did you do what I told you to
do, last night?

LAURA
Yes. Why?

AJ
Follow me.

They go to LAURA's room, only to find the door is locked.

LAURA
Wait, I could have sworn I left the
door open. And unlocked.

AJ
Do you have a spare key for this
room?

LAURA
I think so.

LAURA goes to the KITCHEN, and gets the key. She returns, and gives it to AJ. AJ opens the door, and they find the room covered in blood.

AJ
I was right.

RICK
Mind sharing your thoughts with us.

AJ
Don't you see it?

RICK
See what?

AJ
Cathy wasn't the intended victim.

RICK
She wasn't?

AJ
No.
(turns to Laura)
You were.

LAURA
Me?

AJ
Cathy probably came in here last night, and the murderer was waiting for you. When Cathy came in, he thought she was you, and killed her.

LAURA
Then, why, was her body found in the bathroom.

AJ
The killer probably dragged the body to the bathroom. That would explain those tracks on the carpet.

LAURA
But why's the apartment in such a mess?

RICK
He probably wanted it to look like a burglary. And, that's what the police would believe... because you told them that the apartment had been broken into recently.

LAURA
But that still doesn't explain why he'd kill Cathy.

AJ
It would look like she accidentally
stumbled onto him, and for fear of
being recognized, he killed her.

RICK
I think we better call the police.

RICK goes to the phone, and calls 911.

RICK
Hello, I'd like to report a murder.

FADE TO:

INT: LAURA'S APARTMENT (A FEW MOMENTS LATER)

RICK, AJ, and LAURA, are all sitting on the couch. There is
a knock on the door. RICK rises.

RICK
I'll get it.

RICK goes to the door, and opens it. Three cops are standing
there. One of them, CLARK, recognizes RICK.

CLARK
Ah, Mr. Simon, right?

RICK
Rick. Come on in.

CLARK
Thanks.

The cops enter, and RICK closes the door. LAURA turns to AJ.

LAURA
Can we go now?

AJ
Sure.

AJ turns to CLARK.

AJ
Well Officer, we'll just leave you
to your investigation. If you come
up with anything, let us know.
Here's our number.

AJ hands CLARK their card. AJ, LAURA, and RICK, head for the
door.

(CONTINUED)

CLARK
Sure. By the way...

AJ
Don't worry. Everything's the same
as it was when we got here. Oh, her
name is ... I mean was, Cathy.
Cathy Sno.

CLARK looks shocked as CATHY's name is said.

CLARK
That's C-A-T-H-Y S-N-O, right?

RICK
Right.

The cops start looking around as AJ, RICK, and LAURA, exit.

CONTINUE TO:

EXT: APARTMENT

AJ, LAURA, and RICK, get into the Powerwagon, and drive off.

CONTINUE TO:

INT: POWERWAGON

No one notices, that they are being followed by a white
Corvette.

LAURA
I shouldn't have told her.

AJ looks at RICK, RICK looks at AJ, both look at LAURA.

AJ / RICK
Told her what?

LAURA
That Murphy was dead.

AJ
You told her he was dead!

LAURA
Yes, but she told me that it wasn't
true, because she'd spoken to him 2
days ago.

(CONTINUED)

AJ
Wait a minute. Rick, wasn't Cathy
the one that told us that Murphy
had been released?

RICK
Yeh, and...

RICK notices the Corvette.

RICK
AJ. ... See that car behind us?

AJ
(turn around to look)
Yeh. What about it?

RICK
Well, it's been...

A man from the Corvette, fires a gun at the Powerwagon.

RICK
...been there since we left
Laura's.

The man fires another shot.

AJ
You think we could lose them?!!

RICK
We could try.

The man fires another shot. LAURA turns around, and
recognizes the car.

LAURA
That's impossible!!!

The man fires another shot.

AJ
What's impossible?

LAURA
That car!

The man fires another shot.

RICK
What's wrong with it?

LAURA
It's Cathy's!

AJ and RICK exchange a look. The man in the Corvette, fires another shot.

AJ
Rick. Turn in there, we might lose them.

The man fires another shot. The Powerwagon turns into the parking garage. After about a two minutes, they lose the Corvette. They all relax, as they exit the parking garage, and continue to AJ's.

LAURA
That was close.

AJ
How about calling the office when we get back, and see if there are any messages on the machine.

RICK
We haven't checked it in two days. There might be something important on it.

AJ
And I have a feeling there is.

CUT TO:

INT: AJ'S PLACE (2:00PM)

As AJ, LAURA, and RICK enter the house, the phone rings. AJ answers it.

AJ
Hello.

CLARK (VO)
Mr. Simon?

AJ
Yes.

CLARK (VO)
This is Officer Clark.

AJ signals RICK to pick up the extension. RICK picks it up.

(CONTINUED)

AJ
Did you come up with anything
officer?

CLARK (VO)
Well, I think you should come down
to the station.

AJ
We'll be right there.

AJ and RICK hang up the phones and head for the door.

LAURA
Where are we going?

AJ
The station.

They exit house.

CONTINUE TO:

EXT: AJ'S PLACE

They walk toward the Camero.

LAURA
Did Clark find something?

RICK
He must have. And whatever it was,
he wanted to show us it in person.

They get into the Camero, and drive off.

JUMP TO:

INT: POLICE STATION (2:30PM)

AJ, RICK, and LAURA, enter the station, and go to the front
desk.

AJ
Hello, I'm A...

ALLEN
Right this way.

AJ, RICK, and LAURA, follow ALLEN to a room.

CONTINUE TO:

INT: ROOM

In the room, is CLARK. He is sitting at a desk, facing the wall.

CLARK
Ah, Mr. Simon.

CLARK turns around and LAURA recognizes him. She must have been to upset earlier to notice.

CLARK
I've been expecting you.

LAURA tries to get AJ's attention. She quietly calls his name till he hears her.

AJ
Well, what is it you found?

CLARK
Well, I ...

AJ hears LAURA.

AJ
One moment.

AJ walks over to LAURA. They have the following conversation, in whispers.

AJ
What is it?

LAURA
That's not Officer Clark!

AJ
It isn't? Then who is it?

LAURA
If I hadn't found a recent picture I wouldn't have known. I must have been too upset earlier to notice.

AJ
Noticed what?

LAURA
He's Murphy!

(CONTINUED)

AJ
Are you sure?

RICK walks over and reaches them as AJ says his last line.

RICK
Sure about what?

AJ
Laura says that he is Murphy!

RICK
Are you sure?

LAURA
Look.

LAURA takes a photo out of her jacket pocket. Written on the back, is To my darling Cathy. Love T.P XOXO.

AJ
Where'd you...

LAURA
In Cathy's room, when...

CLARK
Hey!!! Are you guys interested in what I ... we, found. Or not?

AJ
Of course. Sorry.

CLARK takes a knife, covered in blood, out of the desk drawer. The knife is in a clear evidence bag. RICK whispers to AJ.

RICK
If that was there before, why didn't we find it?

AJ
Would you mind telling us where that knife was found?

CLARK
I...

AJ
I suppose you've already dusted it for prints?

CLARK
Yes. I did. And do you know who's
prints I found?

RICK whispers to AJ.

RICK
Spiderman's.

AJ laughs to himself.

AJ
We could stay guessing all day, but
that wouldn't do any good, would
it. So, why don't you just tell us?

CLARK
Okay, but you won't believe this. I
know I didn't. The prints, belonged
to Cathy Sno.

All look shocked as CATHY's name is said.

AJ
You mean suicide?

CLARK
Looks like it.

CUT TO:

THE CAMERO (3:00PM)

AJ
Cathy could have been the last one
to use that knife. And, if the
killer was smart, he could have
worn gloves. So...

RICK
That would mean his prints wouldn't
appear on the knife.

AJ
Right. Or, he could have put the
knife back in Cathy's hand, to get
her prints on it, then put it
wherever they found it.

LAURA
Janet was right. You guys are the
best.

(CONTINUED)

AJ / RICK
Thanks.

CUT TO:

INT: JANET'S OFFICE - 3:30PM

AJ, RICK, and LAURA, enter. JANET is at her desk.

JANET
Hi guys. Hi Laura.

AJ / RICK / LAURA
Hi.

JANET
I suppose you want me to check a name or something?

AJ
Janet, why do you always think we're here for business? Can't we just drop in for a friendly visit?

JANET
Not "The Simon Brothers". Besides if you're here to get a name, I...

AJ
Janet ...

JANET
Look, I...

LAURA
This concerns a certain officer, that they have reason to believe, is T.P Murphy.

JANET
Murphy? Didn't he die in a prison escape last year?

AJ
Escape? You didn't say anything about an escape!

JANET
I didn't?

(CONTINUED)

AJ
No, you didn't.

JANET
Sorry guys, I guess...

RICK
Who was on guard duty, the night
Murphy escaped?

JANET
I'll check.

JANET leaves. AJ turns to RICK.

AJ
What difference does that make?

RICK
Well, I just got an idea. How's
this sound.
(beat)
Say the officer on duty was Clark
... and when Murphy escaped, he
took Clark with him.

AJ
Okay.

RICK
Then, Murphy had a plastic surgeon
change each of their appearances,
so that Murphy was Clark, and Clark
was Murphy. And then killed the
real Clark, who everyone would
believe was Murphy. Then Murphy,
could replace Clark.

AJ
That's amazing Rick. I think you're
getting better at this.

RICK
Thanks!

JANET walks in with a file of papers. She goes to her desk,
puts the file down, and looks through it.

JANET
The name of the guard was ... Here
it is, Clark.

(CONTINUED)

AJ / RICK / LAURA
Clark!!!!

JANET
You know him.

AJ
Is there anything in there about
him being missing for a period of
time?

JANET reads some more of the file.

JANET
Yes. After Murphy escaped, Clark
was missing for about 2 weeks.

RICK
How long before Murphy's body
turned up?

JANET reads some more.

JANET
About 2 weeks.

AJ
Doesn't that seem odd, ... how both
showed up, at about the same time?

No one says anything. AJ turns to RICK.

AJ
Well Rick, it looks like you might
be right.

JANET
Rick, right? About what?

RICK
Well, it's nothing really.

AJ
Go on Rick, tell her your idea.

RICK gives AJ a look.

FADE TO:

INT: JANET'S OFFICE (A FEW MOMENTS LATER)

RICK has just finished telling JANET his idea.

JANET
Are you sure this is Rick's idea?

AJ
I was surprised myself. This case is turning him into a regular Sherlock Holmes.

LAURA
Would you happen to have a picture of Clark?

JANET
I think there's one in this file somewhere.

JANET looks through file. LAURA takes out her picture of MURPHY. JANET finds a picture of CLARK. JANET takes the picture out of the file. LAURA puts her picture on the table, and JANET puts hers, beside it. They are the same.

LAURA
But, if Clark is Murphy, why'd he kill Cathy.

AJ
Murphy probably hired someone to do it. And, when Cathy entered your room, he thought she was you, and killed her.

RICK turns to JANET.

RICK
Mind if I borrow your phone?

JANET
Not at all. Go ahead.

RICK picks up the phone.

AJ
Who are you calling?

RICK
The office.

RICK calls the office and listens to the answering machine. He hangs up and redials.

(CONTINUED)

RICK

You guys have to hear this.

He puts the phone on speaker, and accesses the answering machine tape again.

TAPE (VO)

Rick, it's Pete. You know that girl you were looking for? Well, I just overheard a conversation between her and an Officer Clark. That's not all she called him. She also called him T.P Murphy. It seems that a Laura White, sent him to prison 5 years ago. Talk to ya later. Ciao.

RICK hangs up the phone.

AJ

You mean we had the answer to this 2 days ago?

LAURA

Well, there's your proof.

JANET

Now all you have to do, is get Clark to admit that he's really Murphy!

AJ, RICK, and LAURA head for the door.

AJ / RICK / LAURA

Bye.

JANET

Bye.

CUT TO:

THE CAMERO (4:30PM)

AJ is driving. All's quiet.

AJ

I just thought of something.

(beat x3)

Remember earlier at Laura's when I told Clark that the dead girl's name was Cathy Sno?

LAURA and RICK nod.

(CONTINUED)

AJ
Do you remember how he spelled Sno?

RICK
Yeh. S-N-O.

LAURA
What are you getting at?

AJ
I assumed Sno was spelled S-N-O-W,
until Rick told me it was S-N-O.

LAURA
So?

AJ
Sooo...

RICK
The only way he'd know it was
S-N-O, was if he...

LAURA
...knew her!

AJ
Right.

CUT TO:

INT: AJ'S PLACE - LIVING ROOM (5:00PM)

AJ, RICK, and LAURA, are trying to think of a way, to trap MURPHY.

AJ
I've got it.
(beat)
Laura can call the station, and ask
to speak to Officer Clark, then...

FADE OUT:

INT: AJ'S PLACE - LIVING ROOM (A FEW MOMENTS LATER)

FADE IN. LAURA has just dialed the station.

ALLEN (VO)
Hello.

(CONTINUED)

LAURA
May I speak to Officer Clark,
please?

ALLEN (VO)
Hang on.

LAURA signals AJ, who picks up the extension, and turns on
the tape recorder.

CLARK (VO)
Hello.

LAURA
Officer Clark?

CLARK (VO)
Yes. Who is this?

LAURA
That doesn't matter. I have some
information, that I think you might
be interested in.

CLARK (VO)
What type of information would that
be?

LAURA
The type that could send you back
to prison!

CLARK (VO)
Back?

LAURA
Yes back.
(beat)
You know, that was a good plan you
had.

CLARK (VO)
Plan? What plan?

LAURA
You know, the plan that you used to
escape from prison, Mr. Murphy.

CLARK (VO)
Who is this?

LAURA

A friend.

CLARK (VO)

(beat)

How much do you know?

LAURA

Enough to keep you in jail for a long long time.

CLARK (VO)

Tell me what you know.

LAURA

I know how you kidnapped Officer Clark when you escaped.

(beat)

...and how you had a plastic surgeon make you look like him, and him look like you...

(beat)

...and how you then killed the real Clark. I also know, that you've been harassing Laura White with phone calls and letters.

(beat)

...and, that you were responsible for the death of Cathy Sno, who just happened to be your fiancée.

CLARK (VO)

Look, Cathy was an accident, I...

LAURA

I'm willing to keep all this from the authorities...

(beat)

For a price.

CLARK (VO)

That's blackmail!

LAURA

I've got nothing to lose. Besides, I'd probably be a hero if I turned this over to the authorities.

CLARK (VO)

Ok. You've got a deal.

(CONTINUED)

LAURA

Meet me at the old barn at 8:00pm
and bring \$100,000. Don't be late.

LAURA hangs up. AJ hangs up and stops the recorder.

RICK

Perfect.

LAURA

Thanks.

AJ picks up the phone and calls the station.

AJ

Lt. Brown please.

ALLEN (VO)

Hang on.

(Momentary pause as ALLEN transfers call.)

TOWN (VO)

Hello.

AJ

Town, it's AJ. I have something I
think you might be interested in.

TOWN (VO)

Like what?

AJ

Come over and find out.

TOWN (VO)

I'll be there in 10 minutes.

AJ hangs up.

CUT TO:

INT: AJ'S PLACE (6:00PM)

There is a knock on the front door.

RICK

I'll get it.

RICK goes to the door, and opens it.

(CONTINUED)

RICK
Hi Town, come on in.

TOWN
Thanks Rick.

TOWN enters and heads to the living room.

CONTINUE TO:

INT: LIVING ROOM

TOWN
Well, what is it that I rushed all
the way over here for?

AJ
This.

AJ points to the tape recorder.

TOWN
A tape recorder?

AJ
No. This.

AJ plays the tape.

AJ
Well, what do you think?

TOWN
What do I think? I think, that you
guys will need some cover tonight
at the old barn.

RICK
Thanks Town. See you later.

TOWN
Bye.

TOWN exits.

JUMP TO:

INT: THE OLD BARN (8:10PM)

RICK, AJ, and LAURA, are hiding behind some crates. RICK looks at his watch.

RICK
He's late.

The door opens, and CLARK enters.

AJ
Sh.

CLARK
(yell)
Here's the money, now come out so I can see you.

LAURA
Put the money on the large crate marked HANDLE WITH CARE. Then, turn around and leave.

CLARK obeys. He puts the case on the crate. RICK jumps him, AJ tells him to FREEZE, and TOWN reads him his rights.

FADE TO:

INT: AJ'S PLACE (DAY 5: 3:00PM)

There is a knock on the front door.

RICK
I'll get it.

RICK answers the door.

RICK
Pete! Come on in.

PETER
Where's AJ?

RICK
In the living room.

PETER
Thanks.

RICK
AJ, look who's here.

CONTINUE TO:

INT: LIVING ROOM

RICK and PETER enter the living room.

AJ
Peter Smith!!!

PETER
In the flesh.

AJ
I haven't seen you in years. How'd
you find us?

PETER
I met Rick at the Roller Palace the
other day. We got talking about old
times. He said I could drop around
whenever I wanted to.

AJ
What did you two talk about?

PETER
How growing up with you guys was
never boring.

AJ
Anything else?

PETER
A couple of our first cases.

AJ
Which ones?

PETER
Mrs. Henderson's dog.

AJ
Oh that one.

PETER
And how that ever since that
happened, you had us off trying to
solve everything that happened.

AJ
The three of us sure made a good
team, didn't we?

(CONTINUED)

PETER
We sure did.

AJ
Why don't you stay for a while?

PETER
Can't. I've got to be going. I'll
see you guys around.

AJ
Feel free to drop bye anytime!

PETER
Thanks. Maybe I will. Bye.

AJ/RICK
Bye.

PETER exits. AJ turns to address RICK, and finds him
watching the football game, with MARLOW.

THE END!!!!