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CO-EXEC. PRODUCER: DEBRA J. FISHER		
PRODUCED BY: JILL DANTON		
DIRECTOR: ROGER YOUNG		

LAW & ORDER:

LOS ANGELES

"PASADENA"

Written by

Debra J. Fisher

09/17/10 Full White - Pages 1-51  
09/21/10 Rev. Blue - Page 37  
09/25/10 Full Pink - Pages 1-51  
09/28/10 Rev. Yellow - Pages 1-1A, 5, 11-13, 15-19, 23, 26, 30-31  
36, 39-41, 44, 47-50  
10/01/10 Rev. Green - Pages 1-1A, 2, 4, 9, 12-17, 19-23, 25-29, 32, 34,  
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LAW & ORDER: LOS ANGELES

"PASADENA"

CAST

DETECTIVE REX WINTERS  
DETECTIVE TOMAS "TJ" JARUSZALSKI  
LIEUTENANT ARLEEN GONZALES  
DA JERRY HARDIN  
DEPUTY DA RICARDO MORALES  
DEPUTY DA EVELYN PRICE

JUDGE SONIA HIRSH

**CONGRESSMAN THOMAS NELSON \***

PATRICIA NELSON  
ADAM YARBOROUGH  
**CAROLYN YARBOROUGH \***  
REBECCA TOWNLEY  
THERESA TOWNLEY  
ROBERT FORESTER  
HARRISON

DAVID ELLERBEE  
TERRY SULLIVAN  
LINDA TABOR  
ANTONIO SANTIAGO  
DR. WEINSTEIN  
KERN  
LOUISE HAMMOND  
BARTENDER  
HAL  
SGT. COOPER

**TECH STACEY MARIS \***

TECH  
DESK NURSE  
WAITER  
HOMELESS MAN

LAW & ORDER: LOS ANGELES

"PASADENA"

SETS

INTERIORS:

ROBBERY HOMICIDE DIVISION (RHD)

BULLPEN

INTERROGATION ROOM #1

INTERROGATION ROOM #2

OBSERVATION GALLERY

COMPUTER ROOM

GARAGE

DA'S OFFICE

DA HARDIN'S OFFICE

MORALES' OFFICE

PRICE'S CUBICLE

CONFERENCE ROOM

SUPERIOR COURT BUILDING

COURTROOM

**CASA ANTONIO RESTAURANT**

(DOWNTOWN) \*

APARTMENT (WEST HOLLYWOOD)

DOCTOR'S OFFICE (PASADENA)

FORESTER'S HOUSE (LARCHMONT)

HOSPITAL (DOWNTOWN)

HALLWAY

ICU

**COMMISSARY \***

ROOM

MEDICAL GROUP (HOLLYWOOD)

NELSON'S CONGRESSIONAL OFFICE

(RIVERSIDE)

NELSON HOUSE (RANCHO MIRAGE)

LIVING ROOM

**HOTEL (WESTSIDE) \***

BAR

YARBOROUGH HOME (PASADENA)

DINING ROOM

YARBOROUGH MEDIA STRATEGIES

RECEPTION AREA

EXTERIORS:

DOWNTOWN

**CASA ANTONIO RESTAURANT \***

ALLEY BEHIND

HOSPITAL

PATIENT COURTYARD

NEW PARKER CENTER

PASADENA

YARBOROUGH HOME

LARCHMONT

FORESTER'S HOUSE

BANNING

GAS STATION

BEL AIR

HOUSE

BACKYARD

PALM SPRINGS

HOUSE

STREET

CHARGER [MOVING]

LAW & ORDER: LOS ANGELES

"PASADENA"

TEASER

1 INT. CASA ANTONIO RESTAURANT - DOWNTOWN - NIGHT 1 \*

The dinner rush is on at this packed, upscale, of-the-moment Latin restaurant. REBECCA TOWNLEY (33, striking, magnetic, stylishly dressed) dances the intricate, high energy ballet that is her job as the hostess/manager.

Rebecca greets a COUPLE at the hostess stand... She greets a BUSINESSMAN and CLIENT... She greets a REGULAR with a laugh at his joke and a touch on his arm....

She checks with this table and that... Pouring wine... Asking about the food... She directs the BUSBOYS and WAITERS here, there, and everywhere... She makes sure that chef/owner ANTONIO SANTIAGO (42, plump, Spanish accent, think José Andrés) pays a visit to all his most valuable clientèle... No detail unattended.

Hands are shaken... Kisses exchanged... Flirty laughs offered... Hugs given... And then...

A moment: Rebecca alone. She sighs. Drained. And we see how much energy it takes to keep all those plates spinning.

1A INT. CASA ANTONIO RESTAURANT - DOWNTOWN - LATER THAT NIGHT 1A \*

The bustling restaurant is now empty, except for Antonio and some of the kitchen and wait-staff. They partake in the post-closing drinking ritual as Rebecca enters.

ANTONIO

Rebecca -- Ven aqui. Drink with us.

REBECCA

I can't. So tired. Lo siento, mucho.

The staff respond with friendly jeers.

REBECCA (cont'd)

Mañana en la noche. If we make it through dinner rush without breaking a plate, I'll bust out the good stuff.

Someone LOBS a piece of bread at her, she ducks.

CONTINUED

REBECCA (cont'd)  
(playful)  
You're all fired.

WAITER  
Que? No hablo inglés.

REBECCA  
No problema. Yo hablo español. Todos  
ustedes quedan despedidos!

As the laughter continues, Rebecca exits --

2 EXT. CASA ANTONIO - ALLEY BEHIND - DOWNTOWN - NIGHT

2 \*

Rebecca moves quickly down the poorly lit, ominous alley.  
All local businesses are closed.

Suddenly -- A VEHICLE appears in the alley, its headlights  
BLARE. Rebecca squints and shields her eyes. The driver  
STOMPS the gas. Rebecca never has a chance --

3 EXT. CASA ANTONIO - ALLEY BEHIND - DOWNTOWN - NIGHT (TIMECUT) 3\*

Thirty minutes later. LAPD, LAFD, and EMTs fill the alley along with LOOKIE-LOOS and the STAFF from the restaurant. An ambulance speeds away from the scene, lights flashing and siren wailing. WINTERS and TJ get briefed by SGT. COOPER (30s, female, drained).

SGT. COOPER  
EMT said she had multiple fractures,  
internal bleeding --

TJ indicates the large pool of blood where Rebecca lay --

TJ  
Lot of external bleeding too.

SGT. COOPER  
They're giving her 50-50 odds. \*

WINTERS  
We know where she came from?

SGT. COOPER  
(indicates)  
The restaurant. They said she works  
there. Name's Rebecca Townley.

Cooper indicates objects scattered on the ground --

SGT. COOPER (cont'd)  
We got a purse here, car keys there,  
cellphone smashed to bits --

TJ  
How about a witness?

SGT. COOPER  
Santa Claus.

She motions to a HOMELESS MAN (60s, African American) with a full white beard, round belly and Santa hat, sitting on the edge of the perimeter, watched over by a Uni.

SGT. COOPER (cont'd)  
He says he saw it go down.

Winters gives TJ a "this is all you" look. TJ crosses to the Homeless Man.

TJ  
How're you doing, sir? You saw what  
happened to that girl?

CONTINUED

HOMELESS MAN

Santa needs cookies and milk first.

He rubs his index and thumb together.

TJ

Sorry, sir. Can't do that. I always  
figured Santa to be a good citizen.

HOMELESS MAN

(a beat, then --)

That car come at her like a bat outta  
hell. It hit her. Then it stop. Then  
it back up over her again.

TJ

You see the driver or the license?

HOMELESS MAN

No. But the car, it coulda been gray  
or black. That's all.

TJ

Okay, thank you.

(aside, to Uni)

Take Santa down the street to Tommy's,  
get him a chili dog. And don't let him  
out of your sight.

He hands the Uni a couple of bucks, then joins Winters  
who's looking through Rebecca's purse.

TJ (cont'd)

The car took two runs at the girl.  
Makes it attempted murder.

WINTERS

Homicide.

Off TJ, Winters shows him what he found in the purse -- a  
SONOGRAM PHOTO from Rebecca's purse. The photo is taped to  
a card inscribed with Rebecca's name.

WINTERS (cont'd)

Rebecca Townley was 16 weeks pregnant.

TJ reacts. The cops consider the pooled blood. Off  
Winters as he moves off --

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

4 INT. CASA ANTONIO RESTAURANT - DOWNTOWN - NIGHT

4 \*

Winters and TJ interview Antonio who's reeling from the news.

ANTONIO

Rebecca's been with me for two years.  
My best manager, very upbeat person.  
Is she going to make it?

WINTERS

We don't know. Can you think of anyone  
who'd want to hurt her?

ANTONIO

No. She and her husband split up last  
summer, but I think that was all cool.

TJ

How about a boyfriend?

ANTONIO

I don't think she was going with  
anyone.

TJ

But somehow she managed to get  
pregnant.

ANTONIO

She's pregnant?

WINTERS

She was. About three months.

ANTONIO

Man, she didn't say anything. We're  
practically like family here.

WINTERS

You notice any change in her habits,  
anything unusual?

ANTONIO

Yeah, last month she said she was  
quitting. She was working in my Santa  
Monica restaurant. I told her I can't  
afford to lose her. She agreed to stay  
on for a little while but only if she  
could work here, downtown.

CONTINUED



TJ

She say why she wanted to quit?

ANTONIO

No. But now it makes sense -- pregnant ladies, they're all a little loco.

Off Winters and TJ --

5 INT. APARTMENT - WEST HOLLYWOOD - DAY

5

KERN (28, gay, fit manager) escorts Winters and TJ in the front door.

KERN

Rebecca hasn't actually been inside her home for at least a month.

TJ

You keep tabs?

KERN

I notice. The window in my kitchen faces her front door. The lights haven't been on. No music, no TV. Only time I've seen her is twice, late at night, picking up her mail downstairs. I figure she met some guy, was spending time at his place.

WINTERS

Looks like she took her clothes with her.

Winters has opened the closet in the bedroom -- it's mostly empty. TJ is checking the fridge --

TJ

Yup, one month -- that's about the age of the mold on this loaf of bread.

WINTERS

Anyone been here looking for Rebecca?

TJ

Or maybe you noticed someone outside watching the building?

KERN

You mean, like a stalker? That's interesting. No, I haven't seen anybody like that.

CONTINUED

TJ

Okay, thanks.

KERN

Sure. Tell Rebecca, Kern's praying for her. And you catch that guy. Rebecca's a nice girl.

He leaves. Other than furniture and kitchen stuff, there's not much else in the place: no computer, no papers, etc. As the cops continue poking around --

WINTERS

Definitely looks like she was trying to shake someone.

TJ

I'm going with the ex-husband. Maybe things weren't so "cool" after all.

6 EXT. FORESTER'S HOUSE - LARCHMONT - DAY

6

Expansive homes on a tree-lined street. ROBERT FORESTER (37, business attire) pays a cab and grabs his luggage as Winters and TJ approach. (NOTE: in the driveway is a green SUV). TJ badges Forester.

TJ

Robert Forester?

ROBERT

Yes?

WINTERS

You been away?

ROBERT

On business. In Twenty-Nine Palms. What's this about?

WINTERS

Your ex-wife, Rebecca Townley, was in an accident.

ROBERT

Is she alright?

WINTERS

She's in a coma.

ROBERT

My god. Please. Come inside.

7 INT. FORESTER'S HOUSE - LARCHMONT - DAY

7

Robert enters with Winters and TJ, sets his suitcase down.

ROBERT

So what happened?

TJ

Hit and run in the alley behind her restaurant last night. When's the last time you talked to her?

ROBERT

Maybe five months ago. Some financial b.s. we had to sort out.

Winters sees a photo of Forester and a hottie on a beach.

WINTERS

New girlfriend?

ROBERT

Yes. I've moved on.

TJ

So the financial b.s. -- alimony?

ROBERT

There's no alimony. We have good jobs, no kids. There was a settlement. A clean break. Everyone behaved, under the circumstances.

WINTERS

What circumstances?

Robert shrugs, doesn't answer.

WINTERS (cont'd)

You cheated? Or her?

ROBERT

Her.

WINTERS

The same man who got her pregnant?

ROBERT

Pregnant? I had no idea...Is she...?

WINTERS

Afraid not. She lost it. Any chance it was yours?

CONTINUED

ROBERT

No. She never told me who the other guy was. Believe it or not, I didn't care to know. I just wanted out.

TJ

If you had to take a guess?

ROBERT

Probably somebody she met at her restaurant, some a-hole with a big expense account. Becky always had big aspirations.

The cops exchange a look.

TJ

Just for drill, Mr. Forester, we'll need documentation about your trip to Twenty-Nine Palms, boarding pass, hotel bills, that kind of thing.

ROBERT

Sure. No problem. I just need to call my girlfriend first.

The cops nod, Forester moves off. TJ looks at Winters.

TJ

Bitter much?

8 INT. LAPD GARAGE - DAY

8

A garage full of black and whites and seized vehicles. Winters is next to a Miata, writing an inventory of items as TJ enters with some documents --

TJ

Forester's alibi checks out -- hotel's got him in his room all night, surfing the net on his computer. Moves us to suspect number two.

WINTERS

The baby daddy.

TJ

(re: car)  
Rebecca's?

WINTERS

Meter Maid found it two blocks from the crime scene.

Winters motions to items laid out on the Miata's hood.

\*

WINTERS (cont'd)

We got a car club card...Proof of insurance...

TJ

Unpaid parking ticket. Reminds me, I think I got one of those.

WINTERS

Don't let it go to warrant, or I'll be knocking on your door...

(he finds)

A corporate gas card...Yarborough Media Strategies. I don't remember seeing that Rebecca's ever worked there.

TJ

Maybe her baby daddy does.

9 INT. YARBOROUGH MEDIA STRATEGIES - RECEPTION AREA - DAY

9

Winters and TJ study a wall of framed political memorabilia -- buttons, ribbons, signage from the 40s through 60s, when ADAM YARBOROUGH (35, corporate, Ivy League) approaches.

YARBOROUGH

I'm Adam Yarborough. I'm told you were asking about Rebecca Townley.

TJ

Yes. Does she work here?

YARBOROUGH

She's not one of our regular employees, no. Why do you ask?

WINTERS

We found your company gas card in her car.

Winters holds up a photo of the gas card. A subtle hitch in Yarborough's demeanor.

YARBOROUGH

She's an outside consultant. Why were you searching her car?

TJ

She was run down two nights ago. She's in a coma.

YARBOROUGH

Oh God...

The cops wait, then --

WINTERS

Aren't you going to ask about her baby?

Yarborough looks at them, then --

YARBOROUGH

I, I think I need to speak to an attorney. Leave your card with the receptionist. Thank you.

WINTERS

One more thing, Mr. Yarborough. You wouldn't happen to know where Ms. Townley's been living the last month, would you?

Yarborough looks at them, flustered, then leaves.

TJ

Partner, you really have a way with people.

10 INT. RHD - BULLPEN - DAY

10

TJ briefs GONZALES. Winters examines Rebecca's financials.

TJ

Yarborough's company has offices here and in DC. But his only residence of record is a house in Maryland he owns with his wife.

GONZALES

Yarborough's got to lay his head someplace when he's in LA.

TJ

He and Rebecca have probably been laying it in the same place.

(MORE)

CONTINUED

TJ (cont'd)

A shag palace he keeps off the grid, so his wife can't find it.

GONZALES

And now he got his girlfriend pregnant, he's worried his wife might find out. What kind of car does he drive?

TJ

Leases a white Beemer. Doesn't match the description or the tire tracks at the scene.

WINTERS

(finds something)

Rebecca charged two visits to an OB-GYN in Pasadena. She has a place in West Hollywood, she works downtown but she goes all the way to Pasadena for an obstetrician --

GONZALES

Maybe because he's near Yarborough's shag palace.

11 INT. DOCTOR'S OFFICE - PASADENA - DAY

11

Winters and TJ with DR. PETER WEINSTEIN (53, fit, salt and pepper hair) surrounded by photos of babies he delivered. Weinstein's expression is one of profound sadness as he looks at a photocopy of the sonogram the cops found in Rebecca's purse.

DR. WEINSTEIN

She'd just found out she was having a boy. She was over-the-moon about it.

WINTERS

I bet. I've got three kids myself. Doctor, we need to get in touch with the baby's father. We think Rebecca might've been staying with him.

Weinstein brings up Rebecca's file on his computer as --

DR. WEINSTEIN

Rebecca never identified the father. I told her we needed to run blood tests on him.

(on computer)

This is the address we have on file for her...

Winters and TJ look at the computer screen.

WINTERS

Pasadena.

DR. WEINSTEIN

(on computer)

And this is the contact she gave in  
case of an emergency.

WINTERS

Adam Yarborough. Same address.

DR. WEINSTEIN

My office sent prenatal vitamins to  
Rebecca at that address last week.

TJ

(to Winters)

I think we have our shag palace.

12 EXT. YARBOROUGH HOUSE - PASADENA - DAY

12

Winters and TJ approach the house with two Unis. Winters  
knocks. A woman, CAROLYN, 30s, answers. They badge her.

\*

WINTERS

Afternoon, ma'am. LAPD. We have a  
warrant to search the house.

(hands it to her)

May I have your name please?

CAROLYN

A search warrant? Why?

\*

TJ

Could you please identify yourself?

CAROLYN

Carolyn Yarborough.

\*

\*

A look between Winters and TJ --

TJ

Are you related to Adam Yarborough?

CAROLYN

He's my husband.

\*

CONTINUED



TJ  
And you live here?

CAROLYN \*  
Yes, of course. Now what's this about?

WINTERS  
Rebecca Townley gave this address as  
her residence.

CAROLYN \*  
(shaken)  
But -- I, I don't know who that is.

WINTERS  
I'm sorry, we're gonna have to search  
the house anyway.

Carolyn retreats back into the house with the warrant. \*  
Winters and TJ share a look as they follow.

WINTERS (cont'd)  
Wife and mistress under the same roof --  
Yarborough knows how to live it up.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

13 INT. YARBOROUGH HOUSE - DINING ROOM - PASADENA - DAY 13

Winters questions Carolyn in the dining room while TJ comes down the stairs. \*

CAROLYN \*

This is a misunderstanding. Rebecca Townley doesn't live here.

WINTERS

So you do know her?

Carolyn peers off down the hall trying to keep track of TJ's movements through the house. \*

CAROLYN \*

No.

WINTERS

Not even as a friend of your husband?

CAROLYN \*

No.

WINTERS

What about as someone he works with?

TJ ambles back into the living room, something in his hand.

CAROLYN \*

I said no. Why are you asking these questions?

TJ flashes the "something" to Winters.

WINTERS

So to be clear, you don't know Rebecca, you've never heard of Rebecca, Rebecca's never been in your house?

CAROLYN \*

No.

TJ

How do you explain this?

He shows her a prescription bottle --

TJ (cont'd)  
Pre-natal vitamins, for Rebecca  
Townley. They were in a pill cabinet  
in the guest room upstairs.

Carolyn goes deer in the headlights. Just then -- \*

Adam Yarborough comes charging in the door.

CAROLYN  
Adam...

YARBOROUGH  
Carolyn. Don't say another word. \*

TJ  
We're just having a conversation.

CAROLYN  
I don't want to talk anymore. \*

WINTERS  
Fine, we'll continue at our offices.

YARBOROUGH  
She's not going anywhere.

WINTERS  
Mr. Yarborough, your wife's lied to us  
from the minute she opened the door.  
If you want us to arrest her for  
obstruction, we can do that. Your  
friends and family can enjoy her  
mugshot tomorrow morning along with  
their Wheaties. Or we can skip the  
arrest and you can all come down to our  
slice of heaven for a friendly chat.

Carolyn looks panicked. Adam caves. \*

14 INT. RHD - INTERROGATION ROOM #1 - DAY 14

TJ with Yarborough and lawyer DAVID ELLERBEE (53, a shark).

YARBOROUGH  
Carolyn can't have children. Rebecca  
was our surrogate. That's why she was  
living with us. \*

TJ  
You impregnated her with your sperm?

YARBOROUGH  
A fertility doctor did that.

TJ  
The name of the doctor?

ELLERBEE  
That's privileged.

Off TJ --

15 INT. RHD - INTERROGATION ROOM #2 - DAY

15

Carolyn and attorney TERRY SULLIVAN (45, bully) huddle.  
Then Carolyn turns to Winters --

\*  
\*

CAROLYN  
Adam had a...a brief affair with  
Rebecca. She got pregnant...Adam and I  
aren't able to have children, so we  
decided to raise the baby as our own.

\*

WINTERS  
That doesn't explain why she was living  
at your house.

CAROLYN  
I...I agreed to care for Rebecca until  
she had the baby. Adam and I are  
deeply committed to making this work.

\*

Winters takes a beat to size her up.

WINTERS  
Must be tough, putting on a brave face.

CAROLYN  
...Adam made one mistake. I wasn't  
going to let it destroy everything  
we've worked for.

\*

SULLIVAN  
As for the night of the hit-and-run, my  
client was at her book club till just  
after twelve-thirty. We can give the  
names of the people who saw her there.

Winters hasn't taken his eyes off Carolyn. Then --

\*

WINTERS  
You're an extraordinary woman, Mrs.  
Yarborough.

Carolyn's not quite sure how to answer that. Off Winters. \*

16 INT. RHD - INTERROGATION #1 - DAY 16

TJ continues with Yarborough.

ELLERBEE

It may not be to your liking,  
Detective, but my client isn't going to  
let you pry into his medical history  
just to satisfy your curiosity --

Winters has come in under this, and given his legal pad to  
TJ to read what he wrote there -- Carolyn's version of  
events. TJ skims, then, to Winters -- \*

TJ

Mr. Yarborough is saying Rebecca was a  
surrogate mother for him and his wife,  
that she was impregnated by a fertility  
clinic.

WINTERS

That's your story? Because your wife  
just told me you impregnated Rebecca  
when you had a fling with her.

ELLERBEE

Don't respond to that.

WINTERS

You went to a lot of trouble to hide  
the fact Rebecca was living with you.  
You ditched her clothes, her suitcase,  
her personal things, all you missed was  
the pill bottle. So what're you really  
hiding, Mr. Yarborough?

ELLERBEE

Adam, we're leaving.

TJ

Last question -- your alibi the night  
Rebecca was run down?

Yarborough looks at Ellerbee who nods.

YARBOROUGH

I was at a fundraiser in Bel Air.

Off our cops --

17 EXT. HOUSE - BACKYARD - BEL AIR - DAY

17

Our cops with LOUISE HAMMOND (64, spry, caftan over bathing suit) as she fishes leaves from the pool with a skimmer.

LOUISE

My husband and I are supporting candidates for state assembly. Adam's firm helped me with the fundraiser.

TJ

Till what time was he here?

LOUISE

About ten-thirty. That's when my husband kicked everybody out. He goes to bed early, he's training for an Iron Man. He's seventy-one.

WINTERS

How well do you know Mr. Yarborough?

LOUISE

Well enough. We've relied on him for five or six years now, we raise money for charities, cultural events -- can you reach that grapefruit for me?

She hands the skimmer to TJ, motions to a grapefruit floating in the middle of the pool. As TJ fishes for it.

LOUISE (cont'd)

Worst idea my husband ever had, putting a fruit tree uphill from the pool. Darn things are constantly rolling in. Is Adam in trouble?

TJ

Probably not. He ever mention the name Rebecca Townley?

LOUISE

No. Oh I see...For what it's worth,  
I've never seen Adam so much as look at  
another woman.

WINTERS

The night of your fundraiser, how was  
he -- worried, preoccupied?

LOUISE

He's always preoccupied. That's what  
makes him so good.

TJ has fished out the grapefruit, holds it in the skimmer's  
basket for Louise.

TJ

You remember if he left with anyone?

LOUISE

Congressman Nelson from Riverside.  
Chairman of Defense Appropriations? It  
was Adam who convinced him to attend --  
they go back to the 2000 campaign.

(re: grapefruit)

It's all yours. My husband and I can't  
eat them. Doctor's orders.

18 INT. NELSON'S CONGRESSIONAL OFFICE - RIVERSIDE - DAY

18

Mahogany desk, leather couches. CONGRESSMAN THOMAS NELSON  
(49, perfect suit, perfect smile) enters with Winters and  
TJ. \*

NELSON

A hit-and-run? Is Adam a suspect?  
(off their silence)

Okay, after the fundraiser, Adam and I  
went for drinks on the Westside. \*

TJ

Until what time?

NELSON

Until the bar closed. I spent the  
night at a hotel because I had an early  
meeting in Century City. How serious  
was this accident? \*

TJ

The victim's in a coma. She was  
pregnant and lost her baby.

CONTINUED

NELSON  
(furrows his brow)  
That's terrible.

Winters admires an election night photograph of Nelson, his wife, Yarborough and Carolyn. \*

WINTERS  
You and Mr. Yarborough are good friends?

NELSON  
He started off as a staffer with me, ended up running two of my campaigns.

WINTERS  
You know of any problems in his marriage?

NELSON  
Not directly.

The cops sense more to the story.

NELSON (cont'd)  
When you campaign with someone, you hear things.

WINTERS  
What kind of things?

NELSON  
Gossip. That Adam had a wandering eye.

TJ  
The name Rebecca Townley ever come up?

NELSON  
No. That's the young woman who was injured?  
(off their nods)  
Look, whatever you hear about Adam, you should know that he's one of the most loyal, trustworthy men I've ever worked with.

An assistant has appeared at the door, Nelson goes to deal with him. TJ looks at Winters --

TJ  
First he says Yarborough cheats on his wife, then he calls him loyal?



WINTERS

Nelson's a politician. Always playing  
both sides.

Winters swipes a PAMPHLET featuring Nelson's picture off a  
side table.

19 INT. HOTEL BAR - WESTSIDE - DAY

19 \*

Winters shows the BARTENDER (30s, sun-kissed blonde) the  
PAMPHLET with Nelson's picture on it.

BARTENDER

Yeah, I remember. Four scotches. Left  
me a hundred dollar gratuity.

TJ

Nice tip.

BARTENDER

He flirted. I let him. My husband and  
I are saving for a house.

TJ

Was the Congressman alone?

BARTENDER

There was another guy with him.

Winters shows Yarborough's DMV photo. The bartender nods.

BARTENDER (cont'd)

Right. Bourbon.

WINTERS

You remember what time this guy left?

BARTENDER

He only had the one bourbon, so it had  
to be early.

WINTERS

Can you possibly pull their tab?

BARTENDER

(nods)

Scotch charged the drinks to his room,  
so it should just take a sec.

She moves off to the register.

CONTINUED

TJ

If Nelson is Yarborough's client, why didn't Yarborough pick up the check?

WINTERS

Maybe because Yarborough was long gone before closing time.

20 INT. RHD - INTERROGATION ROOM #1 - DAY

20

Winters and TJ have pulled Yarborough and his lawyer, Ellerbee, back in. Gonzales and PRICE watch from the Gallery.

TJ

You expect us to believe you nursed that bourbon for two hours?

ELLERBEE

Why not? Maybe he just wanted to keep the Congressman company.

YARBOROUGH

Didn't you talk to Congressman Nelson? Didn't he tell you I was with him?

TJ

He was hard to pin down. I guess that's how he keeps getting re-elected.

Yarborough takes this in, then --

YARBOROUGH

I went straight home from the bar. I didn't hurt Rebecca. My wife and I wanted that baby.

\*

WINTERS

Now see, we'd be more likely to believe you if you and your wife were on the same page about this pregnancy.

TJ

You say it's a surrogate, she says not.

YARBOROUGH

Okay. I had an affair with Rebecca. I met her last summer, there was a fundraiser at Casa Antonio downtown, she was working there --

\*

WINTERS

Downtown? We were told she used to  
work at the restaurant in Santa Monica. \*

YARBOROUGH

Right, Santa Monica, that's where we  
met.

The cops exchange a look. Winters starts flipping through  
his notes as --

WINTERS

Must've been a big shock to you when  
she told you she was pregnant.

YARBOROUGH

Yes, it was.

Winters has found what he was looking for in his notes.

WINTERS

The blood tests for genetic diseases,  
Dr. Weinstein in Pasadena did those?

YARBOROUGH

Yes.

WINTERS

Says here Rebecca's RH negative, so you  
must be RH negative too. Is that what  
Dr. Weinstein told you?

YARBOROUGH

Yes, RH negative.

WINTERS  
Quite a relief.

YARBOROUGH  
It was.

WINTERS  
You excuse us?

Winters leaves with TJ.

21 INT. RHD - OBSERVATION GALLERY - CONTINUOUS

21

Winters and TJ join Gonzales and Price. Gonzales is checking her Blackberry.

WINTERS  
He's lying. Weinstein never ran any tests on the father.

PRICE  
One way to know for sure. Book him for obstruction. He'll get swabbed for DNA, we can get a paternity test.

TJ  
Even if he's not the dad, it doesn't mean he didn't run Rebecca down.

GONZALES  
You can always ask Rebecca Townley.  
(re: Blackberry)  
She just came out of her coma.

22 INT. HOSPITAL - ICU - DOWNTOWN - DAY

22

Cold, harsh. Rebecca's face is swollen and bruised. Both arms in slings, IVs and tubes attached. Her mother THERESA TOWNLEY (50s, exhausted but upbeat) is glued to her side.

THERESA  
The doctor said her mind and her memory are all fine. She's still my Becky.

TJ  
If it's alright we'd like to speak with her alone. Anything she can remember will help our investigation.

REBECCA  
It's okay, Mom...

CONTINUED

THERESA  
I'll be right outside.

Theresa steps away.

REBECCA  
I don't remember much. The last thing  
was, I took my keys out of my purse.  
Did you find my purse?

TJ  
Yes, we found it.

REBECCA  
There was a picture of my baby. So  
tiny.

Winter looks at TJ -- She doesn't know she lost the baby.  
Rebecca notices the look.

REBECCA (cont'd)  
What? What's wrong? Is it my baby --

WINTERS  
We're very sorry.

REBECCA  
(distraught)  
No... No...

Rebecca screams out. Theresa RUSHES back inside.

THERESA  
Becky, take it easy. What happened?

REBECCA  
Tom did this! Tom Nelson killed our  
baby. That bastard killed our baby... \*

A NURSE hurries in to help Theresa calm Rebecca. Our cops  
step back --

TJ  
Congressman Nelson. Sounds like he  
took pressing the flesh to a whole new  
level.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

23 INT. HOSPITAL - HALLWAY - DOWNTOWN - DAY

23

Winters and TJ update MORALES and Price.

TJ

They sedated her, we haven't been able to talk to her since.

MORALES

What were her words exactly?

WINTERS

(refers to notes)

"Tom did this. Tom Nelson killed our baby. That bastard killed our baby."

\*  
\*

PRICE

"Our baby" -- hers and Nelson's.

MORALES

Or hers and the pizza boy. Where was Nelson when she was run over?

WINTERS

At a hotel bar in Westwood.

TJ

He's a congressman, he has the knack of having people do his scutt work for him.

MORALES

If he has a dog in this fight. First step is proving he's the baby's father. We can't force him to be tested without corroboration. So find some.

Morales departs. Price's attention is drawn into the room where Rebecca's mother, Theresa, sits at Rebecca's bedside.

24 INT. HOSPITAL - COMMISSARY - DAY

24 \*

Price sits with Theresa. Offers her a cup of coffee.

THERESA

Becky wouldn't tell me who the father was. She said he needed to keep it a secret.

(incensed)

(MORE)

CONTINUED

THERESA (cont'd)  
What kind of father conceals his  
identity?

PRICE  
A married one.

Theresa ruefully nods in agreement.

THERESA  
I was looking forward to having a baby  
around. I was hoping Becky would  
change her mind and move back to  
Delaware.

PRICE  
Change her mind, from staying in Los  
Angeles?

THERESA  
This is no place for a single mother.  
I told her she needed me. But she said  
she didn't need my help, that she'd be  
moving up in the world. That she'd  
make me proud...I was already proud of  
her.

\*

Price, consoling, places her hand on top of Theresa's.

25 INT. HOSPITAL - HALLWAY - DAY

25

Winters, TJ, and Price.

PRICE  
"Moving up in the world" -- Rebecca  
thought she hit the baby daddy jackpot.

WINTERS  
A five-term congressman seems more like  
the grand prize than Yarborough.

TJ  
Assuming Nelson's the dad, he got  
Yarborough to take the rap for knocking  
up his mistress. Talk about loyalty.

PRICE  
Assumptions aren't corroboration. We  
need someone to confirm it.

WINTERS

If anyone's going to crack, it's  
Yarborough's wife. She was shakey in  
the interrogation.

TJ

(to Price)

You should be the one to talk to her.

PRICE

Why me?

TJ

You're a DDA and she hasn't lied to one  
of those yet.

26 INT. DA'S OFFICE - CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

26

Carolyn and her attorney Sullivan across from Price.

\*

CAROLYN

\*

I told the police my husband had an  
affair, I told them I agreed to raise  
his illegitimate child. How much more  
do I have to humiliate myself?

PRICE

Mrs. Yarborough, we know your husband  
didn't father that child. And for your  
information, Rebecca Townley's accused  
Congressman Nelson of trying to kill  
her.

Price lets that sink in.

PRICE (cont'd)

Now your husband's a good little  
soldier in the Congressman's army, but  
the time to stand-by-your-man is over.  
One more lie and you're going from  
obstruction to murder conspiracy.

And now she lets that sink. Carolyn is making her mind up,  
brushes off Sullivan's calming gesture --

\*

CAROLYN

\*

Nelson convinced my husband into going  
along with this ridiculous cover-up.  
An illegitimate child would've have  
ruined Nelson's plans to run for  
Governor.

(MORE)

CONTINUED



CAROLYN (cont'd)  
My husband believes in Nelson, he  
thought for the greater good, he'd...

She gestures at the pointlessness of her husband's  
"idealism".

PRICE  
Whose good were you in it for?  
(off Carolyn) \*  
I assume you have ambitions too.

CAROLYN \*  
Nelson said he'd appoint me lead  
counsel to the Defense Appropriations  
Committee.

PRICE  
Nice. And what do you know about this  
attempt on Ms. Townley's life?

CAROLYN \*  
Nothing. Rebecca gave the impression  
that Nelson was happy to have a child.  
Happy to be with Rebecca. And she was  
mostly happy to go along with his  
charade.

PRICE  
"Mostly happy?"

CAROLYN \*  
Nelson had sent a car to take her to a  
doctor. She refused to go --

PRICE  
(checking her notes)  
This was to Dr. Weinstein?

CAROLYN \*  
No. It was an Asian name. Taketa. I  
heard Rebecca and Nelson arguing about  
it over the phone later. Big argument.

27 INT. MEDICAL GROUP - HOLLYWOOD - DAY

27

Price enters. The waiting room is deadly silent. Price  
notices one NERVOUS GIRL (early 20s). Price crosses to the  
reception desk. Behind the inch thick glass, the DESK  
NURSE looks up, indicates a sheet on a clipboard.

DESK NURSE  
Sign in.

CONTINUED

PRICE

I'm not a patient. I need to speak  
with Dr. Taketa.

She slides her business card under the window. The Desk  
Nurse looks at it.

DESK NURSE

He's with a patient. It'll be about  
twenty minutes.

Price nods. A COUPLE in their 20s enters, the GIRLFRIEND  
comes to the counter, signs the clipboard, passes it to the  
desk nurse. She hands it to a SECOND NURSE who comes out  
and whisks the Girlfriend away through a metal door leaving  
her boyfriend behind. He looks lost, then sags into a  
chair. Off Price --

28 INT. DA'S OFFICE - DAY

28

Price crosses with Morales.

PRICE

Nelson tried to send Rebecca to an  
abortion clinic. He wanted her to get  
rid of the baby.

MORALES

And he settled for a back-alley  
vehicular abortion instead.

(deciding)

All right. First duck in the row -- a  
subpoena to get proof of Nelson's  
paternity. Second duck -- tie Nelson  
to the driver of the car, whoever that  
may be.

PRICE

Yarborough's the fixer -- maybe he  
found the driver.

29 INT. NELSON HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - RANCHO MIRAGE - DAY

29

Price watches Nelson fume. His attorney, HARRISON (52,  
respected, seasoned) reads the warrant.

NELSON

I won't submit to a DNA test.

HARRISON

They have a warrant.

CONTINUED

NELSON

Call a judge. File an injunction.

HARRISON

Everything's in order. There's nothing we can do.

Nelson fumes, but gives in. Harrison guides him away with a TECH close behind. Price waits, notices his wife, PATRICIA NELSON (40s, refined, conservative).

PRICE

We'll be leaving soon, Mrs. Nelson.

PATRICIA

My husband's happy to help clear up this whole matter.

Price can sense Patricia is playing dumb. An awkward beat. Price notices several copies of Patricia's book on a shelf.

PRICE

I read your book. I thought it was brave to talk about your cancer so openly.

Patricia is pleased by the compliment.

PATRICIA

When I wrote it, remission seemed like a long shot. But here I am.

PRICE

I'm sure your family is happy about that.

As that LANDS.

PATRICIA

I am sorry about what happened to that girl. Losing someone you love is hard enough, but when it's a child...

The Tech returns, putting a vial containing the swab in his kit.

TECH

We're done.

PRICE

(to Patricia)

Thank you, Ma'am. Sorry for the bother.

Patricia smiles. As she watches Price go the smile subtly FADES. Her attention is drawn back to Nelson as he BARKS orders at Harrison and several aides.

NELSON

We need to get ahead of this, before those cable crackpots turn it into something it's not.

Amid the chaos, Nelson notices Patricia across the room.

PATRICIA

One of us has to tell Matthew before he reads about it on the internet. \*

(off Nelson)

It's better if our son hears it from you.

Nelson, faint-hearted, looks to his wife.

PATRICIA (cont'd)

Fine. Then I'll call him.

Patricia, clearly the strong one, turns to leave.

30 INT. DA'S OFFICE - PRICE'S CUBICLE - DAY

30

As Price sorts through MOUNDS of material from Yarborough's office and home, Morales approaches with a lab report.

MORALES

Paternity test positive. That's one duck.

PRICE

I feel bad for Nelson's wife.

(re: the papers)

Here's another duck -- Rebecca's ex-husband, Robert Forester, works for AQG Industries -- which happens to be one Yarborough's public relations clients.

Morales raises an eyebrow.

PRICE (cont'd)

AQG also landed a hundred million in military contracts -- all thanks to earmark legislation sponsored by Congressman Nelson.

CONTINUED

MORALES

Lot of coincidences. How long has this ex-husband been working for AQG?

PRICE

Coincidentally, right after he and Rebecca separated.

MORALES

So, Nelson steals Forester's wife then pays him off with a fancy job. We should all be so lucky. Maybe we just found our driver.

PRICE

He has an airtight alibi in Twenty-Nine Palms.

MORALES

Only one reason I can think of he didn't tell the police about his connection to Nelson. He's hiding something.

31 INT. HOSPITAL - ROOM - DOWNTOWN - DAY

31

Morales and Price try to fill in the blanks with Rebecca.

REBECCA

I don't know how Robert got his job. We haven't really talked since the divorce.

MORALES

But he knew you had an affair with the Congressman?

REBECCA

Yes...He was devastated. Our marriage had problems, but that ended things.

PRICE

How did he react to your pregnancy?

REBECCA

I didn't tell him. It would've destroyed him. He wanted kids, but I wasn't ready. Why do you ask about Robert? You think he's the one?

PRICE

He's definitely a suspect.

CONTINUED

Rebecca replays the moment. Gathers herself.

REBECCA  
I didn't see who was driving. I just  
remember this car, it was so loud,  
there was a silver crown sticking up on  
the hood, and a metal antenna...

They give her a beat, then --

MORALES  
Did your ex-husband ever meet  
Congressman Nelson, or Adam Yarborough?

REBECCA  
No. I don't think so. Why?

MORALES  
You told the police that Nelson had  
killed your baby --

REBECCA  
No, no, I didn't mean that. I was on  
pain killers, I was in shock...Tom  
loves the baby. \*

PRICE  
We know he arranged for you to see an  
abortion doctor.

REBECCA  
He panicked. But we talked. Then he  
found out it was a son...Tom would  
never hurt me. Never. \*

Off Morales and Price --

32 INT. HOSPITAL - HALLWAY - DAY

32

Morales and Price outside Rebecca's room --

PRICE  
She's changed her tune.

MORALES  
Nelson got to her. Now this car, her  
ex-husband would've rented it --

PRICE  
You know how many vehicles have radio  
antennas and hood ornaments?

CONTINUED

MORALES

But most are 15 to 20 years old, and they all have one thing in common. They're not fuel efficient. It's 300 miles roundtrip 29 Palms to L.A.

PRICE

He would've had to stop for gas.

MORALES

I don't know how many gas stations there are between here and 29 Palms, but see if the police can get Robert Forester's picture out to each one. Ask nicely.

33 EXT. GAS STATION - BANNING - NIGHT

33

Off the 10. Winters, TJ, and LOCAL PD chat with gas station owner HAL (50s, grease monkey) who stares at a DMV photo of Robert Forester, hands it back.

HAL

No, I didn't see the man, I close at eleven, but like I told the officer here, when I got to the station about 6 am that morning, I come to find somebody busted the lock on the hose. There was a huge puddle of water out back. Looked like they washed their car.

WINTERS

Show us where?

The cops follow Hal to the back of the run-down place --

WINTERS (cont'd)

There anything else besides a puddle?

HAL

A shirt, looked like it was used to clean the car.

TJ

So the shirt, long gone by now.

HAL

Naw. Still have it. Good cotton shirt makes a good rag.

CONTINUED

33 CONTINUED

33

He picks the shirt from among others rags on a towel rod near the hose out back. Hands it to the cops.

HAL (cont'd)

Can't have too many rags in a gas station.

Off the cops --

34 INT. DA'S OFFICE - DAY

34

Winters and TJ cross with Price, handing her lab reports.

WINTERS

Rebecca's blood was on the shirt. And it gets better...

TJ hands Price a file.

TJ

Latent found Robert Forester's thumb print on the wall by the busted hose.

Price continues toward Morales' office with the reports.

PRICE

I love making his day. Thanks.

35 EXT. NEW PARKER CENTER - DAY

35

A patrol car leads Winters and TJ's Charger into New Parker Center. Forester in the back, trying to hide his face from the reporters flooding the entrance to the garage. Morales and Price witness the circus.

MORALES

One down. Now lets bag us a real live Congressman.

Morales leaves Price behind as he walks toward the expectant press shouting for a comment.

END OF ACT THREE



ACT FOUR

36 INT. DA HARDIN'S OFFICE - NIGHT

36

Morales, Price and HARDIN watch the television as Nelson makes a statement. Hardin's in a lousy mood.

NELSON (ON TV)

Now that LAPD has a suspect in custody. I hope the focus will shift to the one responsible for this heinous crime and away from the wild speculation that has engulfed my family. Our nation faces perilous times and I will not be distracted from my duties...

Hardin turns off the television. Opens his liquor cabinet, pours himself a drink.

HARDIN

They always play the victim card. Like it's our fault he knocked up his mistress.

MORALES

I'd like to move forward with charges against Nelson.

HARDIN

For what? Failure to keep it in his pants?

PRICE

We think he reached out to the ex-husband through Adam Yarborough and convinced him to run down Rebecca. If we can get the ex to flip --

HARDIN

"If" and "we think" aren't words that fill me with confidence. You want to charge a US Congressman, bring me video of him buckling the ex's seatbelt.

Hardin waves them out. Morales and Price exit.

37 INT. DA'S OFFICE - CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

37

Morales and Price spar with Forester and his attorney, LINDA TABOR (53, a ball buster).

CONTINUED

ROBERT

That job was no gift! I was hired because of my qualifications.

PRICE

Explain exactly how running a mailbox store qualified you to do corporate communications for a military contractor.

TABOR

All hail the American Dream, Ms. Price.

MORALES

And American free enterprise. We'll be talking to Adam Yarborough. First one to squawk gets the deal.

Tabor gives Morales a knowing look, a long work history between them.

TABOR

Still using that ploy?

MORALES

It's still working for me.

ROBERT

(adamant)

I didn't try to kill Rebecca. I was in my hotel room. You check my computer, I did work, I sent emails, I bought stuff. It's all time stamped.

PRICE

But somehow your thumbprint and a man's shirt with Rebecca's blood was found at a gas station near 29 Palms.

TABOR

My client takes business trips to the Marine base twice a month. When he drives, that station is a convenient stopping point. As for the shirt, anyone could have planted it. All this so-called evidence only highlights the big hole in the middle of your case: the murder weapon. You don't have the car. No car, no case.

\*  
\*

MORALES

Wrong.

TABOR

That's what I like about you, Ricardo,  
you cover your doubt with confidence.  
Let's go, Robert.

Robert and Tabor exit. Off Morales and Price --

38 INT. RHD - COMPUTER ROOM - DAY 38

Winters, TJ, Price in a semi-circle around COMPUTER TECH STACEY MARIS who works on Robert Forester's laptop. \*

MARIS \*

I can tell you definitively that Mr. Forester's computer was hooked up to the wi-fi in the hotel on that night. I can also tell you that someone else accessed it from a remote location and was using it to surf the Net, write e-mails and work on file documents.

WINTERS

Forester wasn't using the computer?

MARIS \*

Mr. Forester didn't even have to be in the room.

TJ

Somebody just tried to make it look like he was.

MARIS \*

Right, by creating all this activity on his computer.

PRICE

The person who accessed his computer, where were they?

MARIS \*

They could've done it from anywhere in the world. I can backtrack their computer's IP address to a server at a specific location.

39 INT. NELSON'S CONGRESSIONAL OFFICE - RIVERSIDE - DAY 39

Nelson's attorney, Harrison, reads a warrant. Winters and TJ check computers with the several Computer Techs. Morales, Price and several Riverside Sheriff's Deputies look on. Harrison turns to a put-upon Nelson.

CONTINUED

HARRISON

They're looking for a computer from  
this office.

PRICE

We have evidence it was used to create  
an alibi for Robert Forester.

NELSON

By someone in my office? Ridiculous.  
You knock yourself out, Mr. Morales,  
open every drawer, every cabinet. If  
you'll excuse me, I have my district's  
business to attend to.

He moves off with Harrison. Winters and TJ approach.

WINTERS

We checked every machine. Our  
computer's not here.

PRICE

(a nod to Nelson)  
He probably got rid of it.

MORALES

(makes a decision)  
Charge Nelson as Forester's co-  
conspirator. When the screws tighten,  
we'll see who flips.

40 INT. COURTROOM - DAY

40

Preliminary Hearing. JUDGE SONIA HIRSH (from "Hollywood")  
presides. Nelson, Forester, attorneys Harrison and Tabor  
for the defense. Nelson's wife is there. Morales has  
already presented reports and cross-examined witnesses.

TABOR

We move to dismiss this case for  
insufficient evidence, your Honor. Mr.  
Morales doesn't have the car or this  
phantom computer which could somehow  
magically negate my client's alibi.

HARRISON

Nor does he have one shred of evidence  
of any agreement or overt act that  
would implicate my client in a murder  
conspiracy.

CONTINUED

MORALES

Your Honor, the evidence establishes that Mr. Forester's computer was operated remotely at the time he claimed to be in his hotel room. And as your Honor knows, a murder weapon is not essential to prove guilt. As to Congressman Nelson, the People can prove he was part of an ongoing conspiracy to disguise the fact he fathered a child out of wedlock, a conspiracy that included having another man claim paternity, included buying Mr. Forester's silence with a high-paying job, included having the victim Rebecca Townley move out of her home and pressuring her to have an abortion. And finally a conspiracy that included using a computer in Congressman Nelson's congressional office to remotely operate Mr. Forester's computer to help him create an alibi while he was out murdering Rebecca's unborn child. In the name of that child, that unfulfilled promise, the People ask that you let a jury hear this case.

He returns to his seat. A moment as all that sinks in.

JUDGE HIRSH

Well put, Mr. Morales. The court hereby rules there's sufficient evidence to proceed to trial. Defendant Thomas Nelson will remain free on bond, defendant Robert Forester will be held on remand. We are adjourned.

\*

Forester takes the news as if he expected it. Nelson takes it as a shock and bridles. Harrison huddles in close and tries to calm him. Morales and Price take note as they assemble their papers.

MORALES

Fifty bucks, Harrison wants a chat.

PRICE

Do I look like a sucker?

Sure enough, Harrison looks over at Morales.

41 INT. DA'S OFFICE - CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

41

Morales and Price with Nelson and Harrison. For the first time, Nelson is scared.

NELSON

If you say someone in my office used that computer, I believe you. I can only imagine they thought they were doing me a favor. But I swear, I had nothing to do with hurting Rebecca...

MORALES

You were ready to get her an abortion --

NELSON

In a moment of panic. But I love Rebecca, she made me see I was making a mistake. I wanted that baby, and I had plans to do the right thing --

Harrison gestures to silence him. Morales and Price are left to wonder what Nelson meant --

MORALES

Are we supposed to take his word he had noble intentions?

HARRISON

He's been paying Ms. Townley's medical bills, he arranged to pay for her mother's stay here --

PRICE

Did he arrange for a gift basket too?

HARRISON

Fine. Make fun of him. But at the end of the day, you'll be on the business end of a lawsuit for defamation and wrongful prosecution.

He leads Nelson out of the office.

PRICE

Nelson's all about Nelson.

MORALES

Yes. But I believe him about doing the right thing...

(beat)

What's a narcissist's version of doing the "right thing?"

CONTINUED

PRICE

Divorce your wife because you've "grown apart" then marry your mistress.

MORALES

Right. But first you hide the assets.

42 INT. DA'S OFFICE - MORALES' OFFICE - NIGHT

42

Morales, tie off/sleeves rolled up, and a barefoot Price, pour over Nelson's financials scattered around the floor.

MORALES

I never thought I'd say this about a politician, but Nelson's books seem on the up and up...

PRICE

What do you make of this? Ten years ago, Nelson set up a family trust. Then last month, he paid a bill to the same lawyer who set up the trust. No reason he'd go back to that lawyer ten years later --

MORALES

Unless he was setting up a new trust for Rebecca and the baby.

PRICE

The lawyer won't tell us.

MORALES

But someone else might.

43 EXT. HOSPITAL - PATIENT COURTYARD - DAY

43

Morales and Price with Rebecca in a wheelchair.

REBECCA

Tom was adding me and the baby to his family trust. It would've taken effect after the baby was born.

\*

MORALES

You're sure it was his family trust?

REBECCA

Yes. I signed papers at the lawyer's office. Tom said our baby would never have to worry about anything.

\*

MORALES

It sounds like he made it clear you had  
a future together, as a family.

REBECCA

That's what Tom said. \*

PRICE

Did his wife know?

REBECCA

Tom hadn't told her yet. He said we  
had to wait for the right time... \*

Rebecca sees a nurse approach.

REBECCA (cont'd)

I have to go back in...

(beat, looks up)

Sometimes, I still feel the baby inside  
me...The nurse says it's normal.

Morales and Price watch as the nurse wheels Rebecca away.

MORALES

There's no way Nelson could've legally  
added Rebecca to the family trust  
without his wife's permission.

PRICE

So either Rebecca lied to us, or Nelson  
lied to her.

Morales mulls it over a little longer, then --

PRICE (cont'd)

If Nelson's wife wasn't going to be  
around -- I mean like *really* not around  
-- her consent to add Rebecca to the  
trust would be immaterial.

MORALES

Not around, as in dead?

PRICE

She had cancer four years ago.

(then)

Say the cancer came back.



MORALES

Nelson starts planning his future as a widower, he makes arrangements to put Rebecca in the trust --

PRICE

If his wife found out --

MORALES

She'd be very pissed.

44 INT. NELSON HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - RANCHO MIRAGE - DAY 44  
Morales and Price question Patricia.

PATRICIA

My husband may be a philanderer, but I can hardly believe he's a murderer. He's harmless.

MORALES

I'm sorry you have to suffer through all this. Especially given your condition. \*

PATRICIA

What about my condition? \*

PRICE

During our investigation, we found out you've flown to New York five times in the last three months. \*

PATRICIA

On my husband's business.

PRICE

We also discovered a number of calls to a Dr. Berkal at Sloan-Kettering. \*

(Patricia tightens) \*

He's the same oncologist who treated you the first time you had cancer, isn't he?

PATRICIA

If you read my book, you know he is.  
(beat, then --)  
The cancer came back six months ago.

\*

MORALES

What's the prognosis?

PATRICIA

I'm hoping to see my son graduate from  
college in the spring. But I'm not  
sure.

MORALES

Who else knows?

PATRICIA

Just my husband. We both decided it  
was better this way. I abhor pity.

MORALES

It must have come as a great shock to  
find out your husband was planning a  
new life without you. A new life, with  
a new family.

\*

\*

Patricia looks at him evenly.

PRICE

We found another phone call.  
(hands her a print-  
out)

\*

\*

From your Trust and Estates lawyer to  
your personal cell phone -- two weeks  
before Rebecca Townley was run down.

\*

Morales lets that sink in...

\*

MORALES

I doubt a woman like you, who has faced  
down cancer, would stand still for what  
your husband was planning to do.  
Planning to obliterate your memory,  
your life together, the life you gave  
up for his career, obliterate all that  
with this ready-made family the minute  
you succumb to your disease.

\*

PATRICIA

You're accusing me of murder?

MORALES

(beat)

Mrs. Nelson, at this very moment, the  
police are on their way to Palm  
Springs, to a vacation home owned by  
your aunt and uncle.

\*

Patricia's face tightens.

INTERCUT:

45 INT./EXT. CHARGER - STREET/HOUSE - PALM SPRINGS - DAY 45

Winters and TJ, followed by a Palm Springs PD patrol car,  
drive up a residential street.

They pull up to a house. The windows are shuttered, no car  
in the driveway. The place looks deserted. The cops get  
out of the car and walk up the driveway.

AT THE NELSON HOUSE --

MORALES

They keep a car there, don't they? A  
1986 tan Cadillac Deville? A car  
matching the description of the one  
that ran down Rebecca Townley.

\*

\*

No response from an increasingly apprehensive Patricia.  
Price gets a text.

PRICE

The police are outside the house now.

\*

\*

AT THE HOUSE IN PALM SPRINGS --

The Patrol Officers and our cops are putting a jack in  
place to force open the garage door.

AT THE NELSON HOUSE --

MORALES

You have one chance, Mrs. Nelson.  
Agree to testify against your co-  
conspirators and I'll keep you out of  
prison. You can die with dignity, at  
home. But once the police pry open  
that garage and find the car, all bets  
are off.

\*

\*

\*

CONTINUED

Patricia is weakening --

AT THE HOUSE IN PALM SPRINGS --

The cops are using the jack to slowly lift the garage door.

AT THE NELSON HOUSE --

Price is checking her phone for a text --

PRICE

They're getting the door open.

MORALES

Mrs. Nelson, your time is running out.

Patricia finally gives in.

PATRICIA

All right. Yes. I found out about Thomas and that girl. That he would do this to me, to our son...I... \*

(focused)

I told Robert Forester that I'd get him fired unless he helped me. He refused at first but when I told him his ex-wife was pregnant, that cinched it... I told him about my uncle's car, I gave him a key for the garage. I went to the congressional office, I used a computer to fabricate an alibi for Forester... \*

MORALES

Did anyone else help you?

PATRICIA

No. Just Forester. \*

A beat. Morales nods to Price. She goes to the front door to let in two female Riverside Sheriff's Deputies. Patricia looks at Morales --

PATRICIA (cont'd)

It just... simply could not happen. He couldn't just erase me... \*

Morales gets it. The Unis help her up. \*

AT THE PALM SPRINGS HOME --

The cops finally get the garage door open. Light pours into the dark dusty garage.

CONTINUED

The cops look and -- IT'S EMPTY! No car. No Cadillac Deville. Just the usual gardening tools, etc. Off Winters and TJ --

AT THE NELSON HOME --

Morales and Price follow Patricia and the Unis to the front door, when Price gets a text. She checks it, then shows it to Morales. Morales reacts. Then, to Patricia --

MORALES

Who else knew your uncle kept a car in Palm Springs?

PATRICIA

Just Thomas. Why? \*

MORALES

The garage was empty. No car.

Patricia is uncomprehending.

PATRICIA

That's not possible. I gave Forester specific instructions to put the car back in the garage. He would not have gotten rid of it.

MORALES

I'm sure he didn't. But I'm thinking your husband did. He found out what you'd done, he tried to protect you.

A crack appears in Patricia's demeanor....

PATRICIA

Oh God...Tom... \*

Off Morales and Price as the Unis lead Patricia out --

46 INT. COURTROOM - DAY

46

Allocution. Judge Hirsh, Patricia and Harrison, Morales and Price. Nelson in the gallery. The atmosphere is tense. Patricia seems weaker than when we last saw her. \*

JUDGE HIRSH \*

Does either side care to be heard before sentencing? \*

CONTINUED

HARRISON

Your Honor, my client testified in the \*  
successful prosecution of Robert \*  
Forester. She did her part. Probation \*  
is the appropriate sentence.

JUDGE HIRSH

As long as I wear this robe, no one \*  
murders a baby and walks. \*

MORALES

Your Honor, Patricia Nelson has just a \*  
few months to live. Cancer is her \*  
sentence. \*

JUDGE HIRSH

And she'll be serving it at the Century \*  
Regional Detention Center. With \*  
respect to the amended count of \*  
solicitation to commit murder, the \*  
Court hereby sentences Patricia Nelson \*  
to 365 days in the county jail. \*

MORALES

Your Honor -- \*

JUDGE HIRSH

We're adjourned, Mr. Morales. \*

As the court officers handcuff Patricia for transport,  
Nelson leans over the bar for a final embrace with  
Patricia. Patricia allows him to hug her -- and we see  
genuine feeling between these two, if only for the years  
they've shared. Nelson watches, pained, as Patricia is led  
away. He notices Morales and Price nearby, watching him.

NELSON

I do love her. I just....I just  
couldn't stand the thought I was losing  
her...I just couldn't be alone...

This is all the explanation he can muster. Regrouping, he  
leaves. Price watches him dubiously --

PRICE

Please, he cheated on his dying wife  
just so he'd have someone to tuck him  
in at night?

MORALES

You're young but you'll find out. It's  
the one thing we men fear the most --  
being alone. \*

He picks up his briefcase and heads for the exit. Off  
Price --

END OF EPISODE