COMMON LAW

"Pilot Episode"

Written By The Wibberleys

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"Pilot"

1 EXT. CULVER CITY COMMUNITY CENTER - DAY

1

A woman's voice talks over the establishing shot of this modern community center.

DR. RYAN (O.S.)

Today, we're going to discuss intimacy...

2 INT. CULVER CITY COMMUNITY CENTER - DAY

2

We MOVE though the center and find a door to a meeting room. There is a handwritten sign on the door, "Shhh! Couples Therapy in Session."

DR. RYAN (O.S.)

...and that doesn't just mean sex...

3 INT. CULVER CITY COMMUNITY CENTER, MEETING ROOM - DAY

3

We enter the room to find DR. ELYSE RYAN (30s, attractive) leading a group therapy session. Five DISPARATE COUPLES sit in fold-up chairs arranged in a circle.

DR. RYAN

Intimacy's about trusting enough to share your most personal secrets.

As she talks, she passes out a stack of stapled papers.

DR. RYAN (CONT'D)

Your partner can't know what your needs are unless they really know you. So...

The CAMERA circles around, following the stack of papers as it's passed from couple to couple. First, an elderly Vietnamese couple take two. This is MR. and MRS. NGO.

DR. RYAN (CONT'D)

These are Partner Awareness Profiles, and it's going to be your homework this week...

Next, a 40-something couple from the suburbs take two surveys and pass them along. This is KATHY (a desperate housewife) and her husband STEVE (an aging frat boy).

DR. RYAN (CONT'D)

You have to do this assignment together. It's a list of questions that you answer for each other...

A trailer park/biker couple sporting matching ball-and-chain tattoos each take a survey and pass the rest along. This is CLYDE and ROZELLE (both in their 50s).

DR. RYAN (CONT'D)

We are going to go behind closed doors and peel away the layers...

A young, new-agey couple (DAKOTA and PETER) take surveys. They're the only couple holding hands. So in love.

DR. RYAN (CONT'D)

...of our expectations, jealousies, and fears just like we peel off our clothes...

The CAMERA finally stops on TWO GUYS. This is TRAVIS MARKS (30s, jeans, unshaven) and WES MITCHELL (30s, clean-cut, wearing a tailored suit).

DR. RYAN (CONT'D)

...and expose ourselves.

Travis takes a survey, but Wes doesn't. Travis elbows him.

DR. RYAN (CONT'D)

Who wants to go first?

Dr. Ryan scans the group, stopping on Travis and Wes.

DR. RYAN (CONT'D)

Let's start with Wes and Travis.

The guys shift uncomfortably. Us? First?

DR. RYAN (CONT'D)

How long have you been together?

WES/TRAVIS

Two years./Five years.

WES

We've known each other for five. We've been partners for two.

DR. RYAN

Wes, tell me. How did Travis get his name?

Wes shrugs. He clearly does not want to be here.

WES

Travis was adopted. I doubt <u>he</u> even knows.

That instantly irritates Travis.

TRAVIS

I wasn't adopted.

(to the group)

I grew up in foster care.

WES

OK, smart guy. How did you get your name?

TRAVIS

Dr. Ryan's asking you, not me.

WES

(to the group)

See? I was right. He doesn't know. Nobody knows.

TRAVIS

Alex knows.

The mention of the name "Alex" burns Wes.

WES

You're not allowed to talk about Alex.

DR. RYAN

Who's Alex?

TRAVIS

Wes's ex.

Wes clearly doesn't want to talk about Alex.

WES

Aren't we supposed to be talking about why no one wanted to adopt Travis?

TRAVIS

You're deflecting.

WES

I'm getting back on topic, which is: why does no one like you?

TRAVIS

Now, you're projecting. You're the one no one likes.

The group watches, amused by the exchange. Steve leans into Kathy and talks low.

STEVE

These guys make us look good.

MRS. NGO

They're never gonna make it.

Sitting next to her, Peter shoots Mrs. Ngo a disdainful look.

PETER

Why do you have to be so negative all the time?

Rozelle overhears Peter's comment and eyes him and his lovey-dovey partner Dakota, annoyed.

ROZELLE

You guys just got married. What're you even doing in here?

DAKOTA

Because we don't want to be you in twenty years, OK?

Dakota curls her hand around Peter's.

DR. RYAN

All right. Remember, everyone: we express feelings, not judgments or opinions--

She's interrupted by two BEEPING PDAs. Both Wes and Travis check their phones, and then they both jump up.

WES/TRAVIS

We have to go./Sorry, Dr. Ryan.

DR. RYAN

Don't forget to complete your partner profiles!

Travis grabs the profiles, and they rush out. Dr. Ryan calls after them--

DR. RYAN (CONT'D)

It's the gateway to true intimacy!

5

4 EXT. CULVER CITY COMMUNITY CENTER - DAY

Travis catches up with Wes as they head to the parking lot.

WES

I can't believe we're doing this.

TRAVIS

We wouldn't be if you hadn't pulled your gun on me.

WES

I wouldn't have pulled my gun on you if you'd just learn to apologize.

TRAVIS

I didn't do anything wrong.

WES

You know what? Just shut up.

TRAVIS

Dr. Ryan said we're supposed to talk about these things.

They reach a silver Fisker Karma hybrid sports car parked at the curb and Wes clicks the doors unlocked.

TRAVIS (CONT'D)

I think she's going to be good for us. She seems really smart.

Wes shoots Travis a look, realizing--

WES

Give it up. She's way out of your league.

5 INT. WES'S CAR - DAY

They climb in, and Wes fires up the engine.

TRAVIS

Is that what you think? That I'd hit on our therapist?

WES

Are you seriously asking me that?

Travis gets on the police radio--

TRAVIS

Homicide Unit Two, responding to 1522 Fulton Street for body found.

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6.

We now realize that Wes and Travis are not gay partners. They are COP PARTNERS.

6 EXT. DOWNTOWN LOS ANGELES, SKID ROW - DAY

6

Wes and Travis head to the cordoned-off crime scene, which is swarming with FIRST RESPONDERS and CRIME SCENE TECHNICIANS.

They're greeted by a sloppy, overweight BEAT COP, who's surprised to see them together. They talk as they all push through a crowd of LOOKIE-LOOS.

BEAT COP

I thought you guys broke up.

TRAVIS

We're in couples counseling.

The beat cop laughs, then realizes they're not joking.

BEAT COP

Get out. For real?

TRAVIS

We wanted to find the magic again.

Wes's look says it all. The beat cop considers that.

BEAT COP

Does that work? Because my wife keeps saying we need counseling.

Wes regards the slovenly cop, incredulous.

WES

You're married?

BEAT COP

13 years. Now, all of a sudden she thinks I'm a sex-addict because I want to do it more than once a month. Maybe the wife and I should join your group.

They duck under the police tape cordoning off the area.

WES

Let me save you a lot of time and money. You don't need therapy. You just need to lose weight.

BEAT COP

She says she likes me chubby.

WES

And you believe her?

That stops the beat cop. He regards Wes.

BEAT COP

You're an asshole, you know that?

TRAVIS

No. He doesn't know that. That's why he's in therapy.

They arrive at the DEAD BODY wearing filthy jeans, no shoes, and lying face-down in the mud.

WES

So, what do we got?

BEAT COP

Victim is a white male. Indigent. John Doe. Puncture wounds in the neck.

Donning rubber gloves, Wes and Travis kneel to inspect the body. Travis searches the victim's pockets. Wes lifts the victim's shirt. The skin on the victim's back is reddish.

BEAT COP (CONT'D)

Another homeless junkie looking to score got the Sidewalk Special.

WES

Interesting theory. Except the victim wasn't killed here—he's lying on his stomach, but the hypostasis on his back indicates he was moved. He wasn't homeless either. He's wearing designer jeans.

Wes and Travis gently roll the body over, and we now see the victim's face. The victim has a straggly beard and more stab wounds to his chest and cuts on his hands.

WES (CONT'D)

But you were right about the white male part. Keep up the good work, and you'll make captain in no time.

BEAT COP

(to Travis)

How do you work with this guy?

TRAVIS

Our therapist says it's because I'm attracted to abusive relationships.

Wes spots something poking out under the VICTIM'S BODY. He reaches down and slides out a BLOODY EAGLE SCOUT KNIFE.

WES

Eagle Scout knife.

TRAVIS

What? They giving out merit badges for killing homeless people now?

Wes shoots him a look.

TRAVIS (CONT'D)

You used to laugh at my jokes.

WES

You used to be funny.

The knife is photographed, bagged, and tagged as they talk.

WES (CONT'D)

(to the beat cop)

Any witnesses?

BEAT COP

Probably, but no one's talking. Bad for business. Fulton Street is the Rodeo Drive of drug dealing.

Travis scans the crowd of lookie-loos.

TRAVIS

You know, when I was a kid, I lived in a neighborhood like this. One time, this rich guy crashed his car, and by the time the ambulance arrived, his rims, radio, watch, wedding ring...everything was gone.

Catching on, Wes looks to the shoeless John Doe, then follows Travis's gaze to the crowd where Wes now notices--

A TEENAGER wearing new sneakers.

WES/TRAVIS

Let me do the talking.

But the teenager realizes they're looking at him and takes off running. Wes and Travis peel off in pursuit, leaving the beat cop confused. He calls after them--

BEAT COP

Hey! Where're you going?!

7 EXT. EAST LOS ANGELES NEIGHBORHOOD - VARIOUS - DAY

7

The teenager bangs into people on the crowded sidewalk. We TRACK with him as he cuts across a street and weaves through traffic.

ON WES and TRAVIS, sprinting in pursuit.

WES

He's headed for the apartments.

Indeed, the teenager ducks into the entrance to a run-down building. Travis calls out an audible as he pulls ahead--

TRAVIS

'97 Packers!

WES

Got it!

Wes peels down an alley as Travis charges into--

8 INT. TENEMENT APARTMENT BUILDING - DAY

8

Travis enters the empty lobby. He freezes. Listens. FOOTSTEPS can be heard running in a nearby stairwell--

9 INT. TENEMENT APARTMENT BUILDING, STAIRWELL - DAY

9

Trash, hypodermics, and crack pipes crunch under Travis's boots as he bounds up the stairs three at a time. For the first time, we see how truly athletic Travis is.

10 INT. TENEMENT APARTMENT BUILDING, HALLWAY - DAY

10

The teenager sprints down the dank hall, sucking gas. Travis is 20 yards back but gaining.

TRAVIS

You can't outrun me. I was steeple chase State Champion!

The teenager rounds a corner. Comes to a dead-end. But doesn't quit. He DIVES OUT THE FIRE ESCAPE WINDOW!

11 EXT. TENEMENT APARTMENT BUILDING, FIRE ESCAPE - DAY

11

The teenager CRASHES through the glass and shoulder-rolls to his feet. He grabs the ladder and rides it down--

12 EXT. ALLEY - DAY

The teenager lets go and drops, landing hard on the pavement. He comes up to find--

Wes. He grabs the teenager.

WES

Take it easy. We just want to talk to you.

The teenager doubles over, exhausted.

TEENAGER

I didn't do anything!

Travis jumps down from the fire escape ladder.

TRAVIS

You killed a guy for his shoes.

TEENAGER

I didn't kill anyone.

WES

No one thinks you did.

TRAVIS

I do.

TEENAGER

He was already dead.

TRAVIS

You know how many times we've heard that one?

TEENAGER

I swear. I just took his shoes.

TRAVIS

He's lying. Let's shoot him.

Travis reaches for his gun.

WES

Travis, you can't shoot him.

TRAVIS

Why not? He ran from a crime scene. He's wearing the victim's shoes. I'm betting after I shoot him, we find more evidence on him. And if not, we'll plant evidence on him--

Travis checks his magazine.

TRAVIS (CONT'D)

I'd better put in the untraceable bullets...

The teenager watches nervously as Travis starts switching out the bullets.

TEENAGER

All right! I took his cellphone and wallet. He had no money...

The teenager pulls a CELLPHONE and a WALLET out of his pocket.

TEENAGER (CONT'D)

You cops are worse than criminals.

WES

Hey, don't lump me in with him.

Wes checks the cellphone. The face is CRACKED. He tries to turn it on, but--

WES (CONT'D)

Looks like the cellphone's toast. Hopefully, ITC can pull some data off it.

As Wes talks, Travis opens the wallet. Inside, he finds an ID with a UNITED STATES SENATE SEAL on it.

TRAVIS

Check this out.

CLOSE ON ID: Under the SENATE SEAL (an EAGLE grasping a U.S. FLAG), we see the VICTIM's photo and the typed words:

"FAMILY OF SENATOR ROBERT MACCALLUM. RELATIONSHIP: SON"

WES

Our John Doe is the son of a senator.

Travis and Wes exchange a knowing look.

TRAVIS

This is going to be all over the news.

WES

Maybe your real mom will recognize you on T.V. and finally try to contact you.

TRAVIS

"Biological mom" is the correct term. All of my moms are "real."

As they continue to bicker we--

DISSOLVE TO:

TITLE CARD OVER BLACK SCREEN:

"You may feel as though you know your partner quite well--maybe too well...but you'd be surprised at what you don't know."

--From Relationship Rescue, by Dr. Phil

13 INT. WES'S CAR, MOVING - DAY

Wes drives. Riding shotgun, Travis fills out the profile.

TRAVIS

"Question 1: Where did you meet your partner?" Easy. Police Academy sharp-shooting competition. I won.

WES

<u>I</u> won. And we're not doing the questionnaire.

TRAVIS

"Question 2: Has your partner ever had his heart broken?"

Wes shoots Travis a look that could kill.

TRAVIS (CONT'D)

OK. Let's skip that one.

(skips ahead)

Here's an easy one. "What's your

partner's favorite color?"

(Wes ignores him)

You have to answer. Captain's orders, remember? We're gonna lose our jobs if we don't pass therapy.

WES

No one "passes" therapy. It doesn't work that way. They just show you ink blots until you admit you feel like a woman in a man's body, which only leads to either surgery or more therapy.

TRAVIS

Fine.

(writes something)

"Pink."

14 EXT. L.A.P.D. SOUTH BUREAU, CAPTAIN'S OFFICE - DAY

14

CAPT. PHIL SUTTON (50s, an ex-Marine) sits behind his desk. We may notice he wears prayer beads on his wrist, and right now, something's burning on his desk...a cigar?

Wes and Travis stand in his office. They try to act like the smoke isn't bothering them.

CAPT. SUTTON

This has got to be by-the-book. The D.A. can't have her detectives objecting to each other's testimony in court.

TRAVIS

We're not like that anymore, Cap. Right, Wes?

WES

Right.

CAPT. SUTTON

Really? Because I heard about your session today. Doesn't sound like you two are making much progress.

WES

Did Dr. Ryan tell you that? Because that's a violation of doctor-patient confidentiality.

CAPT. SUTTON

Wes, don't start in with your lawyer crap. You have no rights. You lost them when you pulled your gun on your partner.

WES

Travis has forgiven me for that. Why can't you?

CAPT. SUTTON

Why do my two best detectives have to be such a pain in the ass?

BETH (O.S.)

Are we interrupting something?

All heads turn to find Detectives BETH SANTANOVA (40s, butch) and NORA GOODEN (30s, lipstick lesbian) in the doorway.

CAPT. SUTTON

Yes, come in.

They enter. Nora waves the smoke from her face. Travis and Wes exchange looks, realizing--

TRAVIS

You're giving the case to Cagney and Lacey?

CAPT. SUTTON

D.A. specifically requested them.

BETH

Smart lady.

TRAVIS

This is sexual discrimination.

NORA

Or maybe the D.A. just wants the best two dicks in the department on the case.

WES

(to the captain)

So the D.A.'s running your department now? Did she tell you what to wear today too?

Wes is trying to get a rise out of him, but the captain is steely.

CAPT. SUTTON

If you're trying to make me angry, Mitchell, it's not going to work. I know my triggers. I've evolved. Unlike you two.

TRAVIS

How do you know if you don't give us a chance to prove we've changed?

That stops the captain. He considers that point.

WES

You know this is an election year.

CAPT. SUTTON

Exactly, and this case will either make or break the D.A.'s campaign.

WES

Oh. So you <u>want</u> the D.A. fired. That's actually brilliant. It's like reverse psychology.

TRAVIS

Although it's also classic passiveaggressive behavior. If you don't like the D.A., you should just confront her--

NORA

--You guys are psycho-babbling sociopaths, you know that?

TRAVIS

(overly sincere)
Thank you for caring enough to share.
My partner and I promise to weigh
your input carefully.

NORA

Blow me.

TRAVIS

Threat or invitation?

CAPT. SUTTON

All right. That's enough. (to Wes and Travis)
I'm giving this case to you.

Wes and Travis grin.

CAPT. SUTTON (CONT'D)

But not because you want it-because you <u>need</u> it. It's going to force you two to take your counseling seriously. The D.A.'s itching to have you two thrown in jail, so you'd better start learning how to get along.

WES/TRAVIS

We can do that./Deal.

BETH

They're not going to last a week.

NORA

Three days tops.

CAPT. SUTTON

Alright, alright. No more negative energy. In fact, let's all smudge. Everyone take a breath.

With that, the captain waves the smoke, closes his eyes and inhales deeply. We realize now that he's burning sage.

The detectives inhale, pretending to go along.

CUT TO:

CLOSE ON the bloodied EAGLE SCOUT KNIFE. All of its elements are extended: knife, screwdriver, saw, scissors, etc.

WOMAN'S VOICE (O.S.)

The Boy Scouts of America started giving these things out in 1911 as an award to the highest achieving boy scouts...

We're in--

15 INT. L.A.P.D. SOUTH BUREAU, FORENSICS LAB - DAY

15

A high-tech sanctuary. Sitting at a bay of computers is ELLEN (20s, nerdy, cute). Wes and Travis look over her shoulder at a magnified picture of the knife.

ELLEN

I've seen lots of different kinds of knives used as murder weapons before: steak knives, bowie knives, Ginsu knives, but never an Eagle Scout knife. It's ironic. It's poetic. It's making a statement.

WES

We'll be sure to tell the killer how much you appreciate his symbolism, but in order to do that, we're going to need some actual scientific evidence to find him.

ELLEN

I was getting to that.
 (to Travis)
Your partner doesn't understand
foreplay, does he?

TRAVIS

He's not a cuddler.

Ellen and Travis share a flirtatious look. That stops Wes.

WES

Wait. You two are...?

ELLEN

Travis didn't tell you?

TRAVIS

I told him.

WES

No, you didn't.

TRAVIS

So, now you know. Can we please try to stay focused on the case?

WES

I don't know. Can we?

TRAVIS

Yes, we can.

(to Ellen, professional) Ellen, please continue.

ELLEN

According to the RFLP DNA analysis, the blood on the knife matched Tobey MacCallum's.

She talks as she ZOOMS IN on the portion of the knife's handle not visible unless all of the elements are extended.

ELLEN (CONT'D)

And as far as prints go, the killer did a pretty good job of wiping the knife down, but...

ON THE SCREEN, two HOLOGRAPHIC FINGERPRINTS (not bloody) rise off the inner handle ridges.

ELLEN (CONT'D)

I did manage to find two partials. One is Tobey's. The other's unknown. I ran it through IAFIS, but came up empty. Whoever else handled this knife doesn't have a criminal record.

16 INT. L.A.P.D. SOUTH BUREAU, CORRIDOR - DAY

Wes and Travis exit Ellen's office.

WES

You know I hate it when you date people at work.

TRAVIS

Where else am I supposed to meet girls? Everyone I meet is either dead, a suspect, or under arrest.

Wes just shakes his head balefully.

TRAVIS (CONT'D)

Don't be like that. I really like her.

WES

Uh-huh.

TRAVIS

She could be "the one."

WES

This week.

TRAVIS

Hey, don't be a hater because I know how to move on.

WES

I've moved on.

TRAVIS

You haven't dated anyone in a year.

WES

It's hard to find someone you haven't already dated.

17 EXT. SENATOR MACCALLUM'S HOME, BEL AIR - DAY

17

Wes's car snakes through a swarm of PRESS crowded outside the senator's gated mansion.

18 INT. WES'S CAR, MOVING - DAY

18

REPORTERS snap photos through the windshield as they pull past them and onto the property. An attractive ASIAN REPORTER bangs on the window, asking questions.

TRAVIS

Hey, it's Cindy Lu from Channel Two.

Travis smiles and waves to CINDY LU through the window. Wes grimaces at her.

WES

She almost looks human in person.

19 INT. SENATOR MACCALLUM'S HOME, STUDY - DAY

SENATOR MACCALLUM (late 50s, stately) paces. Travis and Wes sit on a sofa, taking notes. The senator is devastated but doing his best to hold it together.

SENATOR MACCALLUM

It's not like I hadn't imagined this a thousand times...

(beat)

Tobey's an addict. Has been for years. He hit rock bottom in June and finally agreed to treatment. He'd been living at the facility ever since.

WES

We'll need the name of the facility.

SENATOR MACCALLUM

Sober House West.

TRAVIS

When's the last time you talked to Tobey?

SENATOR MACCALLUM

Three days ago. Zach and I visited him on Family Day at the Sober House.

TRAVIS

Zach?

SENATOR MACCALLUM

Tobey's younger brother, my other son.

He gestures to a framed PORTRAIT of the two boys when they were young in happier times on his desk.

TRAVIS

Where is Zach? Can we speak with him?

SENATOR MACCALLUM

He went for a drive. He does that when he gets upset. Last time he saw Tobey, they got in a fight. Not the way you want to remember saying "good-bye."

TRAVIS

What was the fight about?

SENATOR MACCALLUM

Tobey said he needed money. Zach assumed it was for drugs. Tobey got mad that Zach didn't trust him, but we were told to cut him off at the intervention.

The senator drops into a chair, destroyed by guilt.

SENATOR MACCALLUM (CONT'D) Tobey was a hard person to love. He was high the entire year his mother was dying of cancer. He didn't even make it to her funeral.

The SENATOR'S AIDE enters.

AIDE

Sorry to interrupt, senator. The press conference is about to start.

Wes and Travis stand.

WES

We'll get out of your way.

TRAVIS

First, can you tell us: Was Tobey an Eagle Scout?

SENATOR MACCALLUM

No. But Zach was. Why?

The guys exchange curious looks.

WES

An Eagle Scout knife was found at the scene. We believe it was the murder weapon.

That surprises the senator.

TRAVIS

Do you know where Zach was last night?

SENATOR MACCALLUM

You're not suggesting Zach is a suspect in his brother's murder?

WES

This is all just preliminary, sir.

SENATOR MACCALLUM

Zach was here studying. I went to bed at eleven, and he was still working when I got up at six.

TRAVIS

That's a lot of homework.

SENATOR MACCALLUM

Zach has dyslexia. It takes him longer to tackle material.

Travis hands the senator his business card.

TRAVIS

Let us know when you hear from him, will you? We'll need to talk to him.

The senator takes the card. Wes sees the depth of grief in the senator's eyes. He's a broken man.

20 EXT. SENATOR MACCALLUM'S HOME, STUDY - DAY

TRAVIS

Zach's on the run.

Wes and Travis head back to Wes's car.

WES

You don't know that.

TRAVIS

We should call in an APB.

WES

If we call in an APB, the press will get wind, and Zach will be crucified before he ever gets a chance to defend himself.

TRAVIS

OK, but we're going to look awfully stupid when our prime suspect tweets about his escape from the country.

WES

I didn't say we shouldn't find him. I just said I don't want to make it public. Let's have ITC triangulate Zach's cellphone signal. And he's not our <u>prime</u> suspect. He's <u>a</u> suspect, a person of interest.

TRAVIS

Who got in a fight with the victim, owned an Eagle Scout knife, and conveniently disappeared. You say, "potay-toe" and I say, "potah-toe."

WES

It's "tomay-toe" and "tomah-toe."

TRAVIS

Whatever.

21 EXT. SOBER HOUSE WEST - DAY

Wes's car pulls through the gates and up the long driveway to this swanky house in the Hollywood Hills.

As Wes and Travis park and climb out, the house owner and operator, VINCE WEST (early 30s), comes out to greet them with MARCUS (30s, corn-fed bruiser).

WES

Detectives Mitchell and Marks.

They flash their BADGES.

TRAVIS

Who runs this place?

VINCE

That'd be me. Vince West. This is Marcus Hunter, the house security.

WES

You both live here?

VINCE

I do. Marcus doesn't.

MARCUS

I only get called in when there's trouble with the residents. I run security for all the sober houses in the area.

VINCE

I called Marcus as soon as I realized Tobey was missing this morning.

TRAVIS

Mind if we look around?

22 INT. SOBER HOUSE WEST, TOBEY'S BEDROOM - DAY

Vince leads the cops in. The room is neat. Wes and Travis immediately start poking around as they talk.

WES

When's the last time anyone saw him?

MARCUS

He was in his room at lights out at eleven last night, but he wasn't here this morning.

WES

Any idea where he might have gone?

VINCE

Usually when people disappear around here, it's because they're using again. In his case heroin.

TRAVIS

Tobey's father mentioned that Tobey got in an argument with his brother recently.

VINCE

We're not supposed to disclose what goes down in therapy--

GRETCHEN (O.S.)

His brother killed him.

They turn to find resident GRETCHEN HILLSDALE (22, gorgeous) standing in the doorway.

VINCE

Gretchen...

Vince shoots her a look for violating the confidentiality.

GRETCHEN

What? Tobey's dead, and it's Zach's fault.

Wes and Travis exchange side-glances, then--

WES

What'd they fight about?

GRETCHEN

The usual: money, drugs. Zach told Tobey he was sick of his crap. He (MORE) GRETCHEN (CONT'D)

said he wished Tobey would just die and save the family the trouble. Guess he got what he wanted.

23 EXT. SOBER HOUSE WEST, DRIVEWAY - DAY

23

Wes and Travis head to Wes's car.

WES

It doesn't mean anything. Emotions run high in therapy sessions. People sometimes say things they don't mean.

TRAVIS

And people sometimes say exactly what they mean. Tobey was an embarrassment to the family, and Zach finally snapped.

Just then, Wes's phone RINGS. He answers.

WES

(into his phone)

Mitchell here... Yeah? We'll be right there.

He hangs up, turns to Travis.

WES (CONT'D)

They found Zach.

SMASH CUT TO:

SWIRLING EMERGENCY LIGHTS spin on top of RESCUE VEHICLES.

Wes and Travis cut through the police cordon, showing their badges to a UNIFORM COP who lets them through. We are in--

24 EXT./INT. DOWNTOWN FINANCIAL DISTRICT - DAY

24

Wes and Travis make their way into the lobby of a building.

TRAVIS

It was almost too easy. Brother kills brother. It's classic Cain and Abel.

WES

You do realize how the law works, don't you? People are innocent until proven guilty.

TRAVIS

Remember that the next time you get the urge to pull your gun on me for doing something I didn't do.

Wes and Travis enter the elevator ...

25 INT./EXT. DOWNTOWN SKYSCRAPER - ROOF - DAY

PARAMEDICS, and cops wait, tense.

...and exit the elevator onto a ROOFTOP. L.A.F.D.,

Travis and Wes cross the roof and finally come to a stop. CAMERA SWEEPS around, revealing the stunning city skyline in a panoramic ARC, and then lands on--

A DESPERATE MAN (20s)

Standing on the edge of the roof. About to throw himself 30 stories down to his death. The center of all this attention.

This is ZACH MACCALLUM. He sees Wes and Travis approaching.

ZACH

(edgy, upset)

Don't get any closer. I'll jump!

Wes and Travis stop.

TRAVIS

You're not going to jump.

WES

Good idea, Travis. Dare him to jump.

TRAVIS

If he was going to jump, he would have already.

ZACH

You don't know me! You don't know what I've done!

TRAVIS

We know exactly what you've done.

WES

Maybe you should let me do the talking.

(to Zach)

I'm Detective Wesley Mitchell--

TRAVIS

-- Maybe we should let him decide.

Travis looks to Zach.

TRAVIS (CONT'D)

Who do you want to talk to? Me or him? I'm Detective Travis Marks.

ZACH

I don't want to talk to either of you!

TRAVIS

Then, why haven't you jumped yet?

WES

Will you shut up?

Their approach confuses Zach.

ZACH

I just wanted to tell my dad I'm sorry first!

WES

Sorry for what?

ZACH

My brother's dead because of me!

Zach looks down, more resolute than ever about jumping.

TRAVIS

You should've picked a higher building.

WES

Travis...

TRAVIS

I'm just saying...you <u>could</u> live. You'd be a vegetable, but--

ZACH

-- I decided I'd rather talk to him.

Zach gestures to Wes. Wes shoots Travis a cocky look.

WES

See? He'd rather talk to me.

Travis looks around, getting an idea. He nods and peels off, disappearing down the roof access stairwell.

WES (CONT'D)

Listen. You can't jump. Don't do that to your father. He'll never get over it. I know.

ZACH

You don't know anything.

WES

Trust me. I do.

26 INT. DOWNTOWN SKYSCRAPER, LOBBY - DAY

26

Travis emerges from the elevator and crosses to a JANITOR mopping the floor. Travis flashes his badge.

TRAVIS

I need your help.

27 EXT. DOWNTOWN SKYSCRAPER - ROOF - DAY

27

Wes edges toward Zach.

WES

Look. Whatever you did, I'm sure your father will forgive you.

ZACH

We had a bond. I should've trusted him.

WES

Who?

ZACH

Tobey! He said his ex-dealer was going to kill him if he didn't pay him back the \$5,000 he owed him. I didn't believe him. I thought Tobey was gonna go buy drugs. I should've given him the money. Now, he's dead, and it's all my fault...

His voice trails off. Full of despair.

WES

So, you didn't kill Tobey?

That stops Zach.

ZACH

Of course, I didn't kill him. He was my brother. I loved him.

WES

An Eagle Scout knife was found at the scene. Was it yours?

Zach reels, confused--

WES (CONT'D)

We believe it was the murder weapon.

ZACH

I gave my scout knife to Tobey when he graduated rehab. You gotta believe me. I didn't kill him.

WES

Well, if you jump, everyone's going to think you did.

ON ZACH. Reconsidering, despondent but unsure.

WES (CONT'D)

Come on. Come down from there.

Wes takes a step toward him and holds out his hand.

WES (CONT'D)

Your father's had a bad enough day already.

Zach nods, finally giving in.

WES (CONT'D)

Give me your hand.

But now that Zach's decided to live, the height is terrifying.

He's overcome by vertigo as he shifts his footing and turns to face the railing. His foot slips--Zach DROPS!

Wes hurries to the railing in horror to see Zach has only dropped a few feet into a WINDOW WASHING APPARATUS, which rises up, commandeered by Travis who wears a smug smile.

TRAVIS

I get credit for this one.

WES

You almost made him jump. I talked him down.

TRAVIS

Doesn't look that way.

WES

He slipped.

(to Zach)

Tell my partner you slipped.

Zach just regards the guys, confused.

ZACH

You're partners?

28 EXT. DOWNTOWN SKYSCRAPER, VALET - MOMENTS LATER

28

A distraught Zach sits in an ambulance. EMTs check him over while he talks to Wes and Travis.

WES

Can anyone corroborate that you gave Tobey your knife?

ZACH

No. It was a private thing just between us. Tobey had always made fun of me for being a Boy Scout, so when he graduated rehab, I thought I'd give it to him as a joke. But he was actually really proud of it.

WES

Any idea who Tobey's drug dealer was?

ZACH

No, he would never tell us. He was afraid if our dad found out, he would try to have him arrested and only make things worse.

TRAVIS

We're going to need to get your fingerprints.

Now, a SEDAN pulls up, and Senator MacCallum climbs out.

ZACH

Am I being arrested?

WES

No. But I suggest you get a lawyer.

The senator rushes up to his son, and they embrace.

SENATOR MACCALLUM

Oh, thank God. I was so worried.

29 EXT. DOWNTOWN PARKING LOT - DAY

Wes and Travis head back to Wes's car.

TRAVIS

Tobey's ex-drug dealer threatened to kill him unless he pays him \$5,000? I don't buy it.

WES

Agreed. Not many drug dealers out there selling their product on credit. But Tobey needed the money for something.

Wes chirps his car unlocked.

TRAVIS

Probably drugs.

Travis opens the car door--CLUNK! Wes instantly reacts.

WES

Did you just ding my door?

TRAVIS

No.

Wes hurries over to inspect the door. There is indeed a dent. A tiny dent.

WES

You did. You dinged my door.

TRAVIS

That was already there.

WES

It was not.

TRAVIS

You shouldn't park in compact spaces.

Travis climbs in and slams the door closed on Wes.

CUT TO:

TITLE CARD OVER BLACK SCREEN:

"Nothing can keep an argument going like two people who don't know what they're really arguing about."

--Oprah Winfrey

Common Law: "Pilot" - 4/29/10

31.

FADE IN ON:

A PHOTO OF WES AND TRAVIS receiving a MEDAL OF VALOR from the mayor. We WIDEN TO see--

A WALL filled with dozens of similar photos, honors, and awards from their two years in better days as partners. We hear their voices talking over as we gaze at the photos.

WES (O.S.)

Admit you dinged my car.

TRAVIS (O.S.)

Are you still thinking about that?

WES (O.S.)

It just happened.

TRAVIS (O.S.)

Hey, I offered to drive.

WES (O.S.)

My dry cleaner has banned me from riding in your car.

We WIDEN to reveal we're in--

30 INT. L.A.P.D. SOUTH BUREAU, HOMICIDE BULLPEN - DAY

s

30

Ellen is here, looking at the photos. There are two desks butted up against each other. One is tidy; the other is a pig-sty. These are Wes and Travis's desks, respectively.

Travis and Wes approach, moving through the bullpen, loudly bickering.

TRAVIS

You're a control-freak, you know that?

WES

You're careless.

TRAVIS

You're anal-retentive.

WES

You're pig-headed.

ELLEN

You guys sound like my parents.

Travis sits at his desk. He pulls open a drawer, grabs the couples questionnaire, and starts filling in some answers.

ELLEN (CONT'D)

What's that?

TRAVIS

Couples questionnaire asks for two adjectives to describe your partner. I was having trouble until just now.

Ellen glances back at the photographic wall of happy times.

ELLEN

I don't get it. You guys used to be so good together. What happened?

TRAVIS

Wes refused to get my coffee order right.

WES

Travis never wipes his feet before he gets into my car.

TRAVIS

Nobody wipes their feet before they get into a car.

WES

Nobody is as finicky about their coffee as you are.

TRAVIS

When I get take-out for us, I always get your order right.

WES

That's because my order's easy.

TRAVIS

Easy? You special order everything. You're the guy who makes the lines long.

WES

Only because I care about what I put in my mouth. Unlike you--

ELLEN

--OK, sorry I asked. Here.

She hands them a PRINT-OUT.

ELLEN (CONT'D)

I managed to download a list of recent calls off Tobey's busted cellphone's memory card.

Wes takes the printout and peruses it.

WES

Last call Tobey made was at 3:04am on the night he was killed.

ELLEN

I tried dialing it; it's disconnected.

WES

See if you can find out how long it's been disconnected and who it used to belong to.

Travis looks at the printout over Wes's shoulder.

TRAVIS

What's 323-698-2675? Tobey called it multiple times.

ELLEN

It belongs to a Dominic Santori.

TRAVIS

Dominic Santori? Randi used to talk about him.

ELLEN

Randi from narcotics?

Travis stops, caught. Ellen studies him, realizing--

ELLEN (CONT'D)

You dated Randi?

TRAVIS

We only went out a couple times.

ELLEN

Is there anyone around here you haven't dated?

WES

Good question.

CUT TO:

A GERMAN SHEPHERD wearing a K-9 jersey runs through a training exercise. It sniffs a row of items: a mannequin, a duffel bag, a sandwich. It stops on a can of coffee and lays down.

We WIDEN TO reveal we're in--

31 INT. L.A.P.D. SOUTH BUREAU, GARAGE - DAY

31

Detective RANDI FLETCHER (tough but pretty, 30s) opens the can of coffee to reveal a BAGGIE OF HEROIN hidden inside.

RANDI

Good boy, Hudson!

She praises her K-9, but it gets distracted and peels away.

We FOLLOW the dog as he bounds over to Wes and Travis. Travis affectionately roughs up Hudson's fur.

TRAVIS

Hey, buddy!

The dog sniffs Travis's groin.

RANDI

Easy, Hudson. There's nothing there.

TRAVIS

That's cold.

The dog smothers Travis with sloppy kisses.

RANDI

I don't know why he likes you so much.

WES

He's a dog. He knows his own kind.

Randi can't help but laugh a little at that.

RANDI

So what brings Homicide down here?

CUT TO:

CLOSE ON A COMPUTER SCREEN. There is a photo of a slick-looking businessman, DOMINIC SANTORI (40s), and his rap sheet.

RANDI (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Dominic Santori.

We're in--

32 INT. L.A.P.D. SOUTH BUREAU, NARCOTICS BULLPEN - DAY

32

Randi works at her computer. Wes and Travis study the computer screen over her shoulder.

RANDI

Owns a car dealership on Wilshire in Beverly Hills. We believe he's smuggling heroin into the country in his cars, but our dogs have never been able to pick up the scent.

WES

So...maybe Tobey was telling the truth about owing a drug dealer money after all.

TRAVIS

What kind of cars does Santori sell?

RANDI

High-end ones, Lamborghinis, Bugattis.

WES

I always wanted to test-drive a Bugatti.

33 EXT. CLASSIC IMPORTS - BEVERLY HILLS - DAY

Wes and Travis stand in the car lot, watching as an EXOTIC SPORTS CAR rolls off a car carrier truck.

TRAVIS

How much is that one?

WES

Six-fifty.

TRAVIS

Thousand?

WES

It's a Swedish Koenigsegg CCX, third fastest car in the world.

TRAVIS

I'd rather keep the money and take the bus.

WES

That's because you don't understand art. The engine block is made of an aluminum alloy. The body is crafted from carbon fiber and Kevlar--

MAN'S VOICE

--I've been waiting for that car...

They turn to find a salesman (DOMINIC SANTORI) approaching.

DOMINIC

... to come in for six months.

WES

I've been waiting for it my whole life.

Dominic grins and holds out his hand.

DOMINIC

Dominic Santori.

Wes shakes his hand.

DOMINIC (CONT'D)

We got a black one inside. It's only a CCR, but it's a sweet ride if you want to give it a whirl.

Dominic gestures to another EXOTIC SPORTS CAR parked in the nearby showroom.

WES

I'd rather take this one out.

DOMINIC

Sorry. It's not street legal yet. We gotta change out its smog system first. Federal law.

Wes gives Travis a look, the short-hand of partners--

WES

Right, because you can't drive it with an illegal smog system.

Travis catches on--

TRAVIS

Right. And we wouldn't want him to break any laws.

(to Dominic)

So. How much is this car without all the drugs stuffed in it?

WES

(annoyed)

Travis, I'll do my own negotiating.

Dominic eyes the guys.

DOMINIC

Who the hell are you?

They flash their badges.

WES

Homicide. We want to ask you a few questions about Tobey MacCallum.

DOMINIC

Never heard of him.

WES

Then why did he call you seven times the week before he was murdered.

Dominic pulls out his cellphone and punches in a number.

DOMINIC

I'm calling my lawyer.

TRAVIS

Did he owe you money?

Dominic ignores him as he waits on his phone. Travis pulls out his qun, but Dominic isn't scared.

DOMINIC

What're you going to do? Shoot me?

TRAVIS

Why not? I have a gun. I shoot bad guys. That's what I do.

WES

He's not lying. He does stupid things all the time. I'd answer his questions if I were you.

DOMINIC

I'm not answering anything.
 (into his phone)
Hey, Larry. It's Dom...

Travis trains his gun on the Swedish import.

TRAVIS

The first question is easy. Why was Tobey calling you?

Dominic forgets about his cellphone, suddenly more concerned about his expensive baby.

DOMINIC

Whoa. Hey! That's a \$700,000 car.

WES

He doesn't care. He'd rather ride the bus.

TRAVIS

(low, to Wes)

Is the smog system in the front or the back?

WES

Back.

Travis turns his gun to the back-end of the car.

DOMINIC

(into his phone)

I've got two cops down here...

WES

(to Travis)

A little bit lower and to the left.

Travis adjusts his aim.

TRAVIS

I'm giving you one more chance. Did you threaten Tobey's life?

DOMINIC

(to Travis)

My lawyer wants to know your badge number.

TRAVIS

Tell him it's 9-1-1.

With that, Travis SHOOTS THE CAR--BLAM! Wes winces. Dominic is apoplectic, shouting into his cellphone.

DOMINIC

(into his phone)

Crazy cop just shot my car!

WES

Sir, please calm down.

Travis kneels down to assess the damage--WHITE POWDER IS SPILLING OUT of the emissions.

TRAVIS

Looks like it sprang a leak.

Dominic looks under the car, sees the powder, and panics.

DOMINIC

(into his phone) I'll call you back.

He closes his phone and turns to the cops.

DOMINIC (CONT'D)

Listen. I won't press charges for shooting my car if you just leave now.

As they talk, Travis surreptitiously scoops up a sample of the powder and places it in a baggie.

WES

It doesn't matter if you want to press charges. This is a crime scene now. We have to impound your car as evidence. I assure you my partner will be prosecuted to the fullest--

DOMINIC

--All right. Fine. I'll tell you everything I know about Tobey if you just forget about all of this.

Travis and Wes consider that with a shrug. OK.

WES

How did you know Tobey?

DOMINIC

I had nothing to do with his murder. I wasn't even in town.

WES

Why was he calling you?

DOMINIC

He needed money.

TRAVIS

(dubious)

He asked you for money?

WES

Did he say what he needed it for?

DOMINIC

No, but he seemed pretty strung-out. He kept looking back at the car he rolled up in. Someone was waiting inside, but I couldn't see them--the windows were tinted.

WES

What kind of car?

DOMINIC

A 1969 Pontiac GTO. Black with gold flames.

WES

You know your cars.

DOMINIC

It's my business.

TRAVIS

Did you give Tobey the money?

DOMINIC

He's the son of a senator. I figured it'd be a good idea to have him in my back pocket. Tobey promised he'd work it off washing cars.

The guys regard him, unsure.

TRAVIS

Where were you last night?

DOMINIC

I was at a car show all day yesterday in Phoenix. I didn't get home until this morning. You can check with the airlines.

WES

We'll do that.

Wes and Travis turn to go. Dominic nervously looks to his "leaking" car.

DOMINIC

So, you're going to forget about all this, right?

WES

We're Homicide. We don't care about drug dealers.

34 EXT. WILSHIRE BOULEVARD - DAY

Wes and Travis head back to Wes's car parked across the street. Wes pulls out his phone.

TRAVIS

(sarcastic)

Once in a while it feels good to just let the criminal walk. Especially when we have evidence and everything.

Travis holds up the baggie of heroin. Wes dials a number.

WES

You shot his car. That's illegal search and seizure and a lawsuit. We could never arrest him.

TRAVIS

So we do nothing?

WES

(into his phone)

Hey, Randi. Santori's smuggling the heroin in through his import cars' emissions systems. We got a sample for your dogs. They're gonna have a field day... You're welcome.

With that, he hangs up. Travis shrugs.

TRAVIS

Sucks we won't get credit for that.

35 EXT. SALVAGE YARD - DAY

A graveyard of dismantled and rusting automobile carcasses, stacked in rows. Wes and Travis move down an aisle.

TRAVIS

If Tobey's drug dealer owns a classic muscle car, then this is where he'd get the parts.

WES

Unless he's heard of eBay.

TRAVIS

Ever tried shipping an engine block?

They hear a footstep. They both wheel around as--

A DOZEN MEN ARMED WITH SHOTGUNS and BASEBALL BATS emerge from the shadows, leveling their guns at Wes and Travis.

WES

Whoa-whoa-whoa! Don't shoot!

Wes and Travis put their hands up. Nobody lowers their guns. One scar-faced MAN speaks.

SCARFACE

This is private property.

TRAVIS

We're looking for Fat Man.

Scarface eyes him, wary.

SCARFACE

Who's looking?

TRAVIS

T-Bone.

Scarface signals one of his men who peels off and disappears into a garage. Wes gives Travis a side-glance.

WES

"T-Bone"?

The garage door opens, and out steps a huge SAMOAN MAN. He's heavily inked with traditional tattoos. He sees Travis and brightens.

FAT MAN

T-Bone!

TRAVIS

Fat Man!

FAT MAN

My name is Fuamatu-Ma'afala, dickweed.

TRAVIS

Watch that mouth, or I'm telling momma.

FAT MAN

Momma always said you were a snitch.

Fat Man pulls Travis into a bear hug. Everyone watches, confused, shotguns still drawn.

FAT MAN (CONT'D)

Put your guns down. This is my foster brother.

The henchmen all lower their guns. Fat Man eyes Wes.

FAT MAN (CONT'D)

Who's this?

TRAVIS

That's Wes. He's my partner.

FAT MAN

(incredulous)

You're gay?

TRAVIS

No. I'm a cop.

The henchmen all reach for their guns again, but Travis stops them with--

TRAVIS (CONT'D)

(quickly)

We're just looking for a car.

36 INT. GARAGE - DAY

Wes and Travis follow Fat Man through what we realize now is a chop shop. A small crew of GREASY MECHANICS dismantle a BMW ROADSTER, pulling off its rims, fenders, dashboard.

FAT MAN

I can't believe you're a cop. Do they know what you used to do?

TRAVIS

No, because juvie records are sealed.

Fat Man moves to a file cabinet as they talk.

FAT MAN

You should call mom. She misses you.

TRAVIS

She was only my mom for seven months.

FAT MAN

Only because you went to juvie.

WES

What'd he do?

Fat Man rifles through his files.

FAT MAN

You name it...here we go.

Fat Man pulls out a file and opens it.

FAT MAN (CONT'D)

'69 GTO, black with gold flames, numbers-matching 400 motor. Needed new panel skins. The owner said it'd been in the family for years.

WES

You got a bill or something with the owner's name?

Fat Man regards Wes like he's an idiot.

FAT MAN

We're a cash-only sorta business.

He passes the file to Travis who opens it.

CLOSE ON THE FILE. Inside is a polaroid of the '69 Black GTO with Gold Flames. One thing is clearly legible--

TRAVIS

License plate.

Travis quickly jots down the number.

TRAVIS (CONT'D)

Thanks, bro.

They start to head out. Fat Man calls after them.

FAT MAN

Hey! Don't forget about Mother's
Day!

TRAVIS

How could I? Busiest day of my life!

37 INT. SALVAGE YARD - DAY

Wes and Travis head to Wes's car. Travis is on his cellphone.

TRAVIS

(into his phone)

Thanks, Ellen.

(hangs up, looks to Wes)

GTO's registered to a Clayton Moore, a meth head with convictions going back to the 90s. I got an address.

WES

Your foster brother's a car thief.

TRAVIS

He's a repo man.

WES

You say, "tomay-toe." I say "tomah-toe."

TRAVIS

I wouldn't say, "tomah-toe" to his face if I were you.

38 EXT. GARDENA NEIGHBORHOOD - DAY

38

Wes and Travis head down the sidewalk in this low-rent part of town. Bars on the windows. They come to--

39 EXT. GARDENA BUNGALOW - DAY

39

A small clapboard bungalow. A car sits parked in the driveway, covered by a car cover. Travis lifts the cover. It's indeed the black GTO with gold flames.

They share a look. They draw their guns and split up.

ON TRAVIS as he quietly walks to the back of the house.

ON WES. He moves forward. Up the porch steps. Suddenly, he hears the sound of a SHOTGUN RACK--CLICK!

Wes SLAMS himself against the wall. Ready for a qunshot.

Silence. Then he hears the SHOTGUN RACK again--CLACK-CLICK. Then again--CLACK-CLICK.

Wes can't figure it out. He raises his weapon. He leaps out, SPINS and AIMS at the screen door, yelling--

WES

L.A.P.D.! FREEZE!

THROUGH THE SCREEN DOOR, we reveal--

A NEWBORN BABY swinging back and forth in a cheap ROCKER with a broken hinge. With each motion, the hinge creaks CLACK-CLICK. The baby GURGLES.

OFF Wes, lowering his weapon...

40 INT. GARDENA BUNGALOW - DAY

40

A cramped living room. Wes and Travis are here with IRENE MOORE (20s, ex-junkie) who bounces the FUSSY BABY in her arms. Irene's eyes are red from crying.

IRENE

At first, when I found out I was pregnant, I wasn't going to tell Tobey. It wasn't like we were in love or anything. We were both high at the time. And he was just this cute junkie with a nice smile.

She fights tears. It's clear that it's hard for her to talk about Tobey. The baby cries in spite of her best efforts.

IRENE (CONT'D)

But I needed money for the medical bills. The second I told him, Tobey insisted on helping out. And then when he saw the ultrasound, it was like he became a different person. He said he finally had something to live for.

WES

Why didn't Tobey tell his family about you and the baby?

IRENE

He was going to, but he wanted to prove he could stay clean first. We wanted to get out of here. He didn't like being around all the drug users. He'd gotten freaky that way. We found a place in a better neighborhood, but the landlord was asking for a big deposit.

The baby continues crying. Travis reaches for him.

TRAVIS

Here. Let me.

Irene gratefully passes the baby over. Travis coos and cuddles it as they talk.

WES

Who's Clayton Moore?

IRENE

My cousin. He's in prison. Got his third strike last month. He won't be coming back this time.

The baby finally stops crying. Irene's amazed. Even Wes can't help but be impressed by Travis's soft touch.

IRENE (CONT'D)

How'd you do that?

TRAVIS

I've had a lot of little brothers and sisters.

She smiles and takes the calmed baby back.

WES

Do you recognize this number?

Wes shows her the "323" phone number in his notebook.

IRENE

No.

She sets the baby into its crib and stares at him.

IRENE (CONT'D)

What am I going to do? I don't think I can make it without Tobey.

She leaves it there. Holding on to the memory of Tobey, all she has left now. Travis hands her a business card.

TRAVIS

Call these people. Tell them Travis Marks sent you. They can help.

41 INT. UPSCALE PSYCHIATRIST'S OFFICE - DAY

> This office is warm, elegant, and tastefully decorated. FEMALE PATIENT (30s, wealthy) lies on a couch. Dr. Ryan

> > FEMALE PATIENT

My sister has a new boyfriend.

DR. RYAN

And how do you feel about that?

FEMALE PATIENT

I'm happy for her, of course. mean, he's not unattractive.

DR. RYAN

Hmm.

sits at her desk.

FEMALE PATIENT

Hmm?

DR. RYAN

You could have simply said that he's attractive.

FEMALE PATIENT

I did.

DR. RYAN

No. You said he's not unattractive. That's a highly constructed double-negative. It usually means there's something going unsaid. Is there?

The patient pauses, thinking about that.

DR. RYAN (CONT'D)

Think out loud. Whatever comes to mind.

FEMALE PATIENT

My father always liked my sister more than me.

DR. RYAN

What makes you say that?

FEMALE PATIENT

(blurts out)

OK! I had sex with with my sister's boyfriend! But not because I liked him. It's just, if you knew my sister--

A KNOCK at the door interrupts. Dr. Ryan checks her watch, confused. She rises and crosses to the door.

DR. RYAN

(to her patient)

Hold that thought.

Dr. Ryan opens the door and is surprised to find--

CAPTAIN SUTTON. He's holding two thick folders.

DR. RYAN (CONT'D)

Phil. I'm in a session.

He sees the patient on the couch.

CAPT. SUTTON

I'm sorry. I just wanted to drop these off.

He tries to hand her the files.

DR. RYAN

What are they?

CAPT. SUTTON

Wes and Travis's psych evals.

She pushes the dossiers away.

DR. RYAN

I prefer to get to know my patients through therapy.

Captain Sutton shoves the files into Dr. Ryan's hands.

CAPT. SUTTON

We don't have time. I need you to fix them and fast.

But Dr. Ryan won't take the files.

DR. RYAN

You know this process is never "fast." It's taken us years to get you where you are.

FEMALE PATIENT

Years?! Can't you just give me a pill?

CAPT. SUTTON

Come on, Elyse. You're the best therapist I know.

DR. RYAN

Phil, remember, you have to learn to let people fail.

CAPT. SUTTON

I'm working on it. Just look at the files. Please? They're on a really important case. Which involves my job. Which involves my insurance. Which involves you.

She can't help but smile at that.

DR. RYAN

Fine.

She takes the files. He smiles.

DR. RYAN (CONT'D)

See you on Tuesday.

Common Law: "Pilot" - 4/29/10

TITLE CARD OVER BLACK SCREEN:

"One of the oldest human needs is having someone to wonder when you are coming home at night."

--Margaret Mead

FADE IN ON:

42 EXT. CHEVIOT HILLS - DUSK

42

50.

The skyscrapers of Century City hang as a backdrop to this quaint neighborhood. Wes stands on the front walk of a white-picket-fence house, watering the lawn.

A LEXUS pulls up, and out climbs a stunning and sophisticated WOMAN (30s). She's wearing a wool-skirted business suit. This is ALEX MCFARLAND. She sees Wes and sighs.

ALEX

What are you doing here?

WES

The St. Augustine needs fertilizer.

Alex moves to the trunk of her car and pops it open.

ALEX

You need to get your own lawn.

WES

This is my lawn.

She pulls a briefcase and a box of files out of her trunk. Wes turns off the hose and moves to help her.

ALEX

I only agreed to share custody of it because I assumed you'd have your own place by now.

WES

I'm looking.

43 INT. ALEX'S HOME - DUSK

43

Carrying a box, Wes follows Alex inside this cozy home.

ALEX

I think you like living in a hotel.

She sets her things on a grand piano, which is covered with more boxes filled with files. Wes sets the box down.

WES

You shouldn't put all these boxes on the piano.

ALEX

When you get your own place, you can have the piano. Now, what's wrong?

WES

What makes you think there's something wrong?

ALEX

Well, you didn't come over here for a booty call.

WES

I didn't realize that was an option.

ALEX

It's not. Unless you suddenly decided to quit the police force. Now, come on. You always obsess over the lawn when something's bothering you. What is it?

WES

There's this kid. A good student, promising future. He's a suspect in his own brother's murder. I don't think he did it, but I haven't been able to prove it.

ALEX

I thought you and Travis were on probation.

WES

Captain Sutton put us in couples counseling.

That stops Alex. She regards him, surprised.

ALEX

You'd go to couples counseling with Travis, but you wouldn't with me?

WES

It's not voluntary, and you and I didn't need therapy. We knew exactly what our problem was. You didn't want to be married to a cop anymore.

ALEX

No. I didn't marry a cop. I married a lawyer. I can't live my life worrying whether my husband is dead when he doesn't answer his phone right away.

WES

I wish I didn't have to be a cop.

ALEX

And I wish you could stop blaming yourself for something that wasn't your fault.

As she talks, Wes unconsciously touches the SAINT CHRISTOPHER MEDALLION that hangs around his neck.

ALEX (CONT'D)

You were a good lawyer, Wes.

WES

People need good cops more than they need good lawyers. Besides, if people need a good lawyer, they've got you.

They share a look. It's clear they still love each other.

ALEX

You know, maybe this counseling will be good for you.

WES

Yeah, maybe.

(then)

Hey, do you know how did Travis got his name?

She regards him, quizzically.

WES (CONT'D)

He said he told you. It's a therapy exercise.

ALEX

The fireman who found him on the station steps named him after a Teddy Bear left in his baby carrier.

Wes considers that with a smirk.

WES

"Travis the Teddy Bear"?

ALEX

Maybe I shouldn't have told you.

WES

No-no.

(devious grin)

This is definitely going to bring us closer. Thanks.

He turns to go.

WES (CONT'D)

I'll pick up some fertilizer for the lawn next time I come by.

Wes leaves. Alex watches him go, wistful.

44 EXT. PACIFIC SANDS MOTEL (SANTA MONICA) - NIGHT

A BEATER pulls in, and Travis climbs out with a SOCCER BALL. He heads to a motel room, passing a MOUSY HISPANIC MAID (20s, full-figured) pushing a cleaning cart. This is LUNA.

TRAVIS

Hey, Luna!

She turns, and Travis tosses her the ball. She catches it.

LUNA

What is this?

TRAVIS

(in Spanish, subtitled)

A present for your son. You said he wants to play soccer this year.

Luna regards the present, touched.

LUNA

Gracías.

TRAVIS

De nada!

He heads off. Luna calls after him.

LUNA

There's a lady waiting for you in your room. I let her in.

TRAVIS

Is she pretty?

LUNA

The ones who come looking for you always are.

Travis grins. That's what he wanted to hear. He continues on. Luna watches him go. She clearly has a crush on him, but she's too shy to act on it.

45 INT. PACIFIC SANDS MOTEL, MOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

45

A WOMAN (her back to us) waits in this very lived-in motel room. Travis enters, and the woman turns to reveal--

CINDY LU from Channel Two. Travis smiles, surprised.

CINDY LU

Detective Marks?

She holds out her hand.

CINDY LU (CONT'D)

Cindy Lu from--

TRAVIS

--I know who you are.

She eyes him flirtatiously. He eyes her back.

CINDY LU

Can I buy you dinner?

Travis holds up his bag of take-out from Hank's Hoagies.

TRAVIS

I already got dinner.

CINDY LU

I love Hank's Hoagies. Wanna share?

TRAVIS

Sorry, Cindy. I don't share with reporters.

She gives him a sexy, pouty look.

CINDY LU

Really? Because...if you share with me, I'll supply the dessert.

She unbuttons her top blouse button suggestively.

TRAVIS

Normally, I love being used by hot women...

She unbuttons another button. This is killing Travis.

TRAVIS (CONT'D)

...but I can't divulge any details about the MacCallum case.

Her smile fades.

TRAVIS (CONT'D)

Still want a bite of my hoagie?

CUT TO:

46

TITLE CARD OVER BLACK SCREEN:

"Time wounds all heels."

--Jane Ace

FADE IN ON:

46 INT. MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE, CORRIDOR - MORNING

Travis and Wes talk as they walk down the corridor.

TRAVIS

So, I think I pretty much have this all figured out.

WES

I seriously doubt that.

TRAVIS

There's only one thing that's got me stumped...

He pulls the couples profile out of his back pocket.

TRAVIS (CONT'D)

(reads)

"Question 13: Which one of my partner's physical features is he or she least happy with?"

Wes rolls his eyes.

WES

Let's try to stay focused. We have a case to solve...

(pointedly)

... Travis the Teddy Bear.

Travis shrugs.

TRAVIS

I made that up.

WES

Nice try.

They reach a lab entrance. Travis stops.

TRAVIS

You go in. I'll wait out here.

Now, Wes stops to regard Travis, realizing--

WES

You dated the coroner.

TRAVIS

It was just a one-night thing.

WES

Let me guess. You didn't call her afterwards.

TRAVIS

She scares me. She knows 100 ways to kill a man and get away with it.

WES

This is why you don't date people at work. Now, come on.

47 INT. MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE - DAY

The cold, sterile tiles and metal exam tables stand in contrast to the hot pathologist, JONELLE (30s), who's cutting into a body. It's TOBEY MACCALLUM.

Wes and Travis enter. Jonelle doesn't look up.

JONELLE

My report's not done yet.

WES

Any preliminary results?

JONELLE

Yes.

But that's all she says. She shoots Travis a dirty look and then continues to work. Wes eyes Travis balefully and then turns to Jonelle, clearing his throat. WES

Listen, if you had to kill Travis, how would you do it? I mean, hypothetically. Because I've been thinking about it a lot.

She pulls out Tobey's LIVER and sets it in a scale.

WES (CONT'D)

I figure I could strangle him, then hang him, and make it look like suicide.

JONELLE

Yeah, but your best bet is poisoning: insulin or potassium chloride. Undetectable.

She weighs the liver and makes a notation as she talks.

TRAVIS

Hey, I'm right here.

They ignore him.

JONELLE

But the safest way would be to leave no corpse behind.

WES

You're right. Vat of acid.

She starts slicing the liver in a meat cutter. Travis watches her, unnerved.

JONELLE

Or chop him up and feed him to the sharks--

TRAVIS

OK! I should've called! I'm a jerk.

Wes and Jonelle both look to Travis, surprised.

JONELLE

Did he just admit he's a jerk?

WES

He's in therapy.

She eyes Travis. He shrugs. It's true. She peels off her gloves, then grabs her report, and reads from it.

JONELLE

Multiple stab wounds to the upper quadrant. Defensive wounds noted on left and right hands. Left carotid artery was punctured. Cause of death: massive hemorrhaging. Size and depth of punctures are consistent with the blade of the Eagle Scout knife.

WES

What about Tobey's tox screen?

She flips a page.

JONELLE

Diacetylmorphine--positive.

Wes and Travis reel at the revelation.

TRAVIS

Tobey was using heroin again.

WES

Any indication how long ago Tobey relapsed?

JONELLE

I could only find one recent subcutaneous injection.

She points to a spot on Tobey's arm: an INJECTION MARK on his upper arm, far from the older track marks on his forearms.

WES

That's not where he usually shot up.

TRAVIS

He was probably looking for a new vein.

JONELLE

That's just it. The needle never even hit a vein. The heroin was injected into the muscle tissue.

That gets Wes thinking.

WE.S

Could he have been forcibly injected?

JONELLE

It's possible.

TRAVIS

Or maybe Tobey missed the vein because he was interrupted. By the killer.

WES

If Tobey had heroin, where did he get it? He gave Irene all the money.

TRAVIS

Maybe Tobey stole it. He was living with a house full of ex-junkies.

48 EXT. SOBER HOUSE WEST, BACK YARD - DAY 48

Residents work in the garden. Wes and Travis stand over Vince and Gretchen who are planting a row of flowers.

VINCE

Well, Tobey didn't get it from anyone here. Marcus conducts random searches. Residents here aren't even allowed to have cold medicine. (then)

Can you hand me the hydrangea?

Vince points to the wheelbarrow filled with various flowers.

WES

I wouldn't plant the hydrangea there. It'll give the bamboo white flies. Plant these.

Wes hands a couple of potted plants to Vince. As Vince reaches for them, Travis notices TWO CRUDE PRISON TATTOOS on Vince's arm.

TRAVIS

You did time in prison?

VINCE

Two stints for possession -- a real motivator to stay sober.

49 EXT. SOBER HOUSE WEST, DRIVEWAY - DAY 49

Wes and Travis head to Wes's car.

TRAVIS

Any other ideas where Tobey might've gotten the heroin?

WES

None of it makes sense. If Tobey was using again, Irene would've known.

TRAVIS

What? You still think someone forcibly injected a heroin addict and then stabbed him?

WES

Yeah, that doesn't make sense either.

TRAVIS

And yet, you still think Zach is innocent.

WES

No, I'm just not sure he's guilty.

Travis's phone buzzes. He checks a text message.

TRAVIS

Really? Because Ellen just texted that Zach's fingerprint matched the print on the knife.

50 EXT. L.A.P.D. SOUTH BUREAU, PARKING LOT - DAY

50

A CRUSH OF REPORTERS descends on Wes and Travis as they climb out of Wes's car. The guys push through the throng of REPORTERS, which includes Cindy Lu.

CINDY LU

Detective Marks! Is it true Zach MacCallum is a suspect in his brother's murder?

She shoves the microphone in their faces.

WES

No comment!

Travis and Cindy exchange a look as Wes and Travis slip into the building. Wes doesn't miss it.

51 INT. L.A.P.D. SOUTH BUREAU, LOBBY - DAY

51

Wes and Travis enter.

WES

I can't believe you told Cindy Lu that Zach's a suspect.

TRAVIS

I can't believe you'd actually think I'd do that.

WES

I saw the way she looked at you. You're such a big-mouth. Admit you talked to her.

TRAVIS

She came by, but nothing happened.

WES

Right. Just like nothing happened to my door.

TRAVIS

Will you forget about your door already?

WES

Apologize for dinging it.

TRAVIS

Apologize for calling me a big-mouth.

They round the corner and run right into CAPTAIN SUTTON.

Wes and Travis instantly switch over, acting like they're getting along. Travis fake-laughs at Wes.

TRAVIS (CONT'D)

You're so funny!

The captain eyes them.

CAPT. SUTTON

Good to see you're getting along because the D.A.'s on her way.

52 EXT. L.A.P.D. SOUTH BUREAU, PARKING LOT - DAY

The REPORTERS mob LAURA GOTTESMAN (50s, would rather win cases than make friends) as she climbs out of her SUV. A DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S BADGE hangs around her neck.

The REPORTERS follow the D.A., hurling questions, as she heads toward the station.

REPORTER #1

Will the D.A.'s Office be filing criminal charges against Zach MacCallum.

LAURA

Investigators are still gathering evidence.

CINDY LU

Is it true that the murder weapon was an Eagle Scout knife owned by Tobey MacCallum's brother?

LAURA

Who told you that?

REPORTER #2

Is the D.A.'s office giving the senator preferential treatment?

The reporters call after Laura as she slips by--

REPORTER #3

Anyone else's son would've been arrested by now!

53 INT. L.A.P.D. SOUTH BUREAU, CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

Laura storms in to find Wes, Travis, and the captain waiting for her. The conference has been prepared for a presentation of the MacCallum murder case's evidence.

LAURA

My job is hard enough without your department selling off details of this case to the press.

CAPT. SUTTON

Good to see you too, Laura.

LAURA

You don't care that you have a leak?

CAPT. SUTTON

How do you know it's not someone in your office?

LAURA

Because the people in my office are professional, or they're fired.

She looks pointedly at Wes and Travis and then--

LAURA (CONT'D)

Why are you two here?

CAPT. SUTTON

I put them on the case.

LAURA

I specifically asked for Santanova and Gooden.

CAPT. SUTTON

Laura, sometimes you're your own worst enemy. You're up for re-election. You need this case solved. Mitchell and Marks are the best detectives in the department. Now, sit down, and listen to what they have to say.

She sits, stewing.

LAURA

Fine. Let's hear it. (to Wes and Travis)
Have you solved the case?

Travis and Wes exchange nervous looks.

TRAVIS

Well, we're working on a theory--

Travis slides the case file to Laura.

WES

--which is one of many.

The captain shoots the guys a look. They shift uncomfortably under his glare. Laura peruses the file.

LAURA

Did the print on the Eagle Scout knife match Zach's print or not?

TRAVIS

Yes--

WES

--but Zach's already admitted it was his knife. He said he gave it to Tobey as a gift when he got out of rehab.

LAURA

Well then, let's just take his word for it.

Something in the file catches Laura attention.

LAURA (CONT'D)

It says here that you have a witness to a threat on Tobey's life by Zach?

WES

It was more "I wish you would die" than "I'm going to kill you."

LAURA

Does Zach MacCallum have an alibi?

TRAVIS

He claims he was studying all night long, but he has no corroborating witnesses.

LAURA

So, we have means, motive, opportunity, and no alibi. Why haven't we arrested this guy yet?

WES

Because we still have several loose ends.

LAURA

Like?

WES

Like: Where did Tobey get the heroin found in his system? And who did Tobey try to call before he was killed? The last number he dialed was disconnected.

LAURA

Tobey was high. He was probably trying to call the Easter Bunny.

WES

We don't know where Tobey was killed or even where he went that night.

LAURA

After we arrest Zach, we can interrogate him and find out.

WES

If you arrest Zach, it's over. You'll destroy his life and his father's career. Just give us two more days to follow up on the loose ends--

LAURA

--I'm already being accused of giving the senator preferential treatment. I can't afford to give him any more. She closes the case file. She's made her decision.

LAURA (CONT'D)

I'm issuing an arrest warrant for Zach MacCallum.

WES

You can't make an arrest because you're being pressured by the media.

Laura simmers. Travis talks low to Wes.

TRAVIS

I think you should shut up now.

WES

No, you're the one who should shut up. If you hadn't leaked any of this to the press, they wouldn't be pressuring the D.A. for an arrest.

TRAVIS

(between his teeth)
I told you I didn't leak anything to the press.

LAURA

(to the captain)
May I have a word with you, please?

54 INT. L.A.P.D. SOUTH BUREAU, CAPTAIN'S OFFICE - DAY

54

The MacCallum case file is thrown down on the captain's desk.

LAURA

I want those two off this case, and Detectives Santanova and Gooden on like I originally asked you.

CAPT. SUTTON

They're just asking for two days.

LAURA

I can't have my detectives questioning me or each other in court.

CAPT. SUTTON

They question because they're good at their jobs.

55 INT. L.A.P.D. SOUTH BUREAU, CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY 55
Travis fumes.

TRAVIS

Way to get us kicked off the case. Now, Beth and Nora are going to get all the credit.

WES

What are you--upset you're not going to get your picture in the paper so you can hit on another reporter?

56 INT. L.A.P.D. SOUTH BUREAU, CAPTAIN'S OFFICE - DAY

56

CAPT. SUTTON

You don't run this department.

LAURA

If you're not going to take them off the case, then I'm going over your head.

CAPT. SUTTON

No, you're not. Because I'm President of the Police Union, and in the last twelve elections, the candidates the union endorsed for D.A. won.

That stops Laura.

LAURA

When did you become president?

57 INT. L.A.P.D. SOUTH BUREAU, HOMICIDE BULLPEN - DAY

57

CLERKS and COPS (including Beth and Nora) stop to listen as Wes's and Travis's voices rise in the conference room.

WES (O.S.)

You know what your problem is?

TRAVIS (O.S.)

Yeah. I'd love to hear what my problem is from you.

WES (O.S.)

Your mother abandoned you!

TRAVIS (O.S.)

You don't know anything about my mother!

One SECRETARY dons ear-plugs, used to this.

58 INT. L.A.P.D. SOUTH BUREAU, CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

58

WES

It's why you hit on anything that breathes. You're starved for attention.

Travis stands there, apoplectic.

TRAVIS

Oh yeah? Really? Well, maybe if you had been a better lawyer, that kid wouldn't have killed himself.

That stops Wes. They both have crossed the line. They stand there, in a smoldering stare-down.

59 INT. L.A.P.D. SOUTH BUREAU, HOMICIDE BULLPEN - DUSK

59

The sudden silence is unnerving. The eavesdropping cops and clerks exchange anxious looks.

60 INT. L.A.P.D. SOUTH BUREAU, CAPTAIN'S OFFICE - DUSK

60

CAPT. SUTTON

Now, just relax. They're in couples counseling.

LAURA

Couples counseling? Are you serious?

CAPT. SUTTON

They're getting much better--

Just then--CRASH!

61 INT. L.A.P.D. SOUTH BUREAU, HOMICIDE BULLPEN - DUSK

61

The glass wall looking into the conference room SHATTERS as Wes and Travis smash through it and tumble into the bullpen, hands at each others' throats!

The captain and Laura rush out of the captain's office to find the duo locked in battle.

CAPT. SUTTON

Hey! Break it up!

But the guys aren't listening. They hurl each other over a desk, sending books and papers scattering, and then tumble to the floor, neither letting up.

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Beth, Nora, and the other cops jump in to pull and then hold the guys apart.

TRAVIS

That's it. We're done!

WES

You don't get to decide when we're done! I decide! And we're done!

Wes pulls himself from the cops and storms out. Travis yells after him.

TRAVIS

Great! Finally! Thank you!

Travis storms out in the opposite direction. The captain just gapes, stunned. Beth grins.

BETH

If I didn't know any better, I'd say those two are in love.

CUT TO:

TITLE CARD OVER BLACK SCREEN:

"Sometimes we need a common enemy to unite us."

--Condoleeza Rice

FADE IN ON:

62 INT. VICEROY HOTEL, CAMEO BAR - SANTA MONICA - NIGHT

62

Swanky hotel lounge. Wes watches the news of Zach's arrest, which plays on a flatscreen that hangs over the bar.

ON THE SCREEN, the distraught senator watches as police load his handcuffed son into a police car. The footage cuts to Cindy Lu, who interviews Beth.

CINDY LU (ON T.V.)

I'm standing here with Detective Beth Santanova, one of the lead detectives on the MacCallum murder case, with an exclusive update...

Beth smiles flirtatiously at Cindy Lu.

BETH (O.S.)

Well, Cindy, while I can't divulge too many details, I can say that we have a very strong case... Wes shakes his head, realizing--

WES

(to himself)

Beth was the leak.

He grabs his beer and heads to a grand piano. He sits and starts to play. He's good.

DR. RYAN (O.S.)

Do you take requests?

Wes looks up to find Dr. Ryan. He doesn't stop playing.

WES

You make house calls?

DR. RYAN

The captain asked me to check on you. See if I can help.

WES

And what makes a double divorcée such an expert on partnerships?

DR. RYAN

You ran a background check on me?

WES

I'm a detective. That's what I do.

DR. RYAN

I know. I also know why you quit law to become a detective, why you got a divorce, and why you're still living in a hotel nine months later.

Wes stops playing for a beat, realizing--

WES

The captain gave you my personnel file?

DR. RYAN

Travis's too. Did you know he was raised in eight different foster homes?

WES

So, why aren't you bothering him?

DR. RYAN

Because I knew you'd be alone.

Wes turns back to the piano, trying to ignore her.

DR. RYAN (CONT'D)

You know, you two are a lot alike. You both live your lives with few emotional attachments. You live in a hotel; he lives in a motel.

WES

Look. You can tell the captain you tried, but it's over. We're done.

DR. RYAN

You want to hear my theory on what makes a lasting partnership?

WES

No.

DR. RYAN

You don't have to like the same things; you just have to hate the same things. And you and Travis both hate injustice. You both chose police work for a reason. You guys could've chosen anything. Your I.Q.s are off-the-charts. But you both want to be in Homicide where you think you can make a difference.

WES

(surprised)

Travis has a high I.Q.?

DR. RYAN

Like I said. You're a lot alike. It's why you fight. You're like brothers.

WES

Brothers aren't always alike. Sometimes one has zero coping skills and becomes a heroin addict while the other overcomes dyslexia and becomes an Eagle Scout...

His voice drifts off. He stops playing piano and stares at her, an epiphany.

WES (CONT'D)

(thinking out loud)
Is dyslexia hereditary?

DR. RYAN

It's a neurobiological condition that is genetic in origin, yes.

He stands abruptly.

WES

I'm glad we had this talk.

DR. RYAN

You are?

WES

Yes. Thanks! I have to go.

With that, Wes rushes out, leaving Dr. Ryan befuddled.

63 INT. PACIFIC SANDS MOTEL, MOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Travis and Ellen drink champagne out of plastic cups on his bed. The room looks really lived in. Ellen soaks it in.

ELLEN

Have you ever thought about living in a real house?

Travis answers by kissing her and whispering--

TRAVIS

You know what would be really hot?

ELLEN

Doing this on a bed you actually owned?

The moment is interrupted by a POUNDING on the door. Travis hops up out of bed and peeks out the window. It's Wes.

TRAVIS

Go away!

64 EXT. PACIFIC SANDS MOTEL, PARKING LOT - NIGHT

64

63

Wes yells through the motel room door.

WES

I got a new lead on Tobey MacCallum's murderer.

TRAVIS (O.S.)

We broke up, remember?

INTERCUT WES and TRAVIS. Travis returns to his business with Ellen.

WES

I need your help!

That stops Travis mid-grope. He looks to Ellen.

TRAVIS

What did he just say?

ELLEN

(irked)

I don't know. I wasn't paying attention.

Travis calls to the door.

TRAVIS

What did you just say?!

WES

I need your help!

Curious, Travis gets up, but Ellen stops him.

ELLEN

Travis, it's our two-week anniversary. You promised.

She seductively pulls down the straps of her dress. Unable to resist, Travis grabs her. They fall onto the bed.

WES (O.S.)

Tobey was dyslexic!

That stops Travis again. He rises and crosses to the door.

ELLEN

If you open that door, I'm leaving, and I swear I'm not coming back.

Travis stands at the closed door, weighing his options.

WES (O.S.)

I think he transposed the digits in that disconnected telephone number.

Now, Travis finally opens the door, revealing Wes.

TRAVIS

Now look who's starved for attention.

Ellen grabs her purse and pushes past them.

ELLEN

(to Travis)

I hope Wes embroidered your name on his new black panties for you.

With that, she leaves. Travis watches her go, crushed by what-could-have-been. He turns to Wes.

TRAVIS

She had my name embroidered on her new panties.

WES

You were about to break up with her anyway.

TRAVIS

I was not.

WES

It's been two weeks. You've never dated any girl longer than two weeks.

TRAVIS

Yes, I have.

WES

Who?

Travis considers that, realizing--

TRAVIS

Ellen \underline{was} starting to hint about moving in together.

WES

You see? I did you a favor.

Travis grabs his shoes and starts putting them on.

TRAVIS

For the record, I didn't leak anything to the press.

WES

I know. Cindy Lu's bi.

TRAVIS

(surprised)

Really?

WES

Or maybe she just is when she wants info.

65

TRAVIS

(kicking himself)

I can't believe I passed that up.

WES

Come on. We need to borrow Randi's dog.

As they head to Wes's car--

TRAVIS

Why?

WES

I had ITC run the number through all combinations of digits, then cross-referenced those with currently working numbers. Guess what number came up? Marcus Hunter.

TRAVIS

The guy who runs security for the sober house?

WES

Irene said Tobey couldn't stand anyone doing drugs around him.

TRAVIS

(catching on)

Tobey caught someone using at the sober house and tried to call Marcus to report them.

WES

But he got killed before he could.

TRAVIS

We should call Marcus.

WES

Already did. He's meeting us at the sober house.

65 EXT. DETECTIVE RANDI FLETCHER'S HOUSE, BACK YARD - NIGHT

Travis and Wes lead Randi's K-9, Hudson, out of the gate.

WES

Shouldn't we knock on the door and ask Randi if this is OK?

Common Law: "Pilot" - 4/29/10

66

TRAVIS

It's not gonna be OK. She never lets anyone borrow her dog, especially me.

Hudson wags his tail, happy to see Travis. Hudson licks his face. Travis eats it up.

TRAVIS (CONT'D)

(in baby talk to Hudson)

She was always jealous of us, wasn't she?

66 INT. SOBER HOUSE WEST, FOYER - NIGHT

Marcus stands at the door with Wes, Travis, and Hudson.

MARCUS

So, who's using?

WES

First you need to give us permission to let our drug-sniffing dog enter.

VINCE (O.S.)

No, that dog can't enter.

They turn to see Vince has emerged from the back.

VINCE (CONT'D)

That'd be an intrusion on my residents' rights. I'm running a business here.

Marcus eyes Vince, suddenly suspicious.

MARCUS

Yes, and under the conditions of your operating permit, as house security, I have the right to subject anyone and anything to a search if I suspect drug use.

(to Wes and Travis)

Come on in.

Marcus steps aside, letting the guys and Hudson in.

VINCE

This is ridiculous.

Hudson sniffs all around them and quickly gets a bead on a scent. He takes off, and everyone takes off after him.

67 INT. SOBER HOUSE WEST, VARIOUS - NIGHT

67

We FOLLOW Hudson as he moves down the hall. Other residents emerge from their rooms, having awakened to the commotion.

GRETCHEN

What's going on?

Hudson disappears into a room at the end of the hall--

68 INT. SOBER HOUSE WEST, VINCE'S ROOM - NIGHT

68

Hudson moves quickly to a spot in the wood floor and lies down. Wes crosses to the spot and uses his pen to pry up a loose floorboard, revealing--

A SECRET DOPE STASH!

MARCUS

Heroin?

Wes tastes the powder and nods. Everyone reacts, stunned.

WES

Whose room is this?

GRETCHEN

Vince's.

We now notice that VINCE IS NOT HERE.

MARCUS

Where's Vince?

Wes looks around. Travis is gone too.

WES

Where's Travis?

Now, we hear an ENGINE fire up outside.

69 INT. SOBER HOUSE VAN - NIGHT

69

Vince throws the gear into reverse and floors it.

70 EXT. SOBER HOUSE WEST, DRIVEWAY - NIGHT

70

The residents and Wes emerge from the house to see the Sober House van speeding down the driveway! Not far behind--

Wes's car gives chase. In the driver's seat is Travis. Wes sprints after his car as it speeds by.

71 INT. WES'S CAR, MOVING - DAY

Wes pulls open the passenger side door and jumps in. Travis is at the wheel.

WES

Who said you could drive my car?!

72 EXT. STREETS OF THE HOLLYWOOD HILLS, VARIOUS - NIGHT 72

Travis and Wes are in pursuit of Vince in the van. They round a corner at top speed.

73 INT. WES'S CAR, MOVING - DAY

73

71

WES

Whoa, slow down!

TRAVIS

We're in a high speed pursuit and you want me to slow down?!

But Wes ignores him and grips the oh-shit handle as Travis downshifts and whips around a corner. The engine screams.

WES

You're in the wrong gear! You're in the wrong gear!

TRAVIS

You've got control issues, you know that?

74 EXT. STREETS OF THE HOLLYWOOD HILLS, VARIOUS - NIGHT 74

Vince's van blows through a red light, narrowly missing several cars, which crash all around him.

75 INT. WES'S CAR, MOVING - DAY

75

Travis swerves in and out of the crashing cars, narrowly missing one, which tears off a side mirror.

TRAVIS

That was close!

Wes glares at him.

WES

You better hope you die in this car chase!

With the van in his sights, Travis suddenly floors it and RAMS Wes's car into the van!

76 EXT. STREETS OF THE HOLLYWOOD HILLS, VARIOUS - DAY

76

Both cars come to a crashing stop, shattering glass and crumpling metal.

Vince staggers out of his wrecked van and makes a break for it, but Travis jumps out too, tackles him to the ground, and slaps on handcuffs.

TRAVIS

You're under arrest.

It takes Wes longer to get out of the passenger side. The door finally opens and FALLS OFF. Wes surveys the damage. Smoke streams from the hood. Wes gapes, heartbroken.

TRAVIS (CONT'D)

You okay?

WES

I don't want to talk about it.

TRAVIS

Look. If it'll make you feel any better...I'm sorry I dinged your car door before.

77 INT. SOBER HOUSE WEST, TOBEY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

77

CLOSE ON the blue LUMINOL spot where a pool of blood was cleaned up recently.

TRAVIS

Tobey was killed in here.

The police work the aftermath. Wes and Travis study the blood pattern on the floor.

WES

Tobey walked in on Vince, caught him using...

As Wes talks, we FLASH TO--

VINCE'S ROOM. Vince is shooting up. Tobey walks in.

WES (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Tobey went back to his room and tried to call Marcus...

TOBEY'S ROOM. Tobey finds his phone and punches in the number that's printed on a YOU-NARK flyer posted on the wall.

TRAVIS (O.S.)

Vince chased him. He'd had already done time in prison. He had two strikes. One more conviction for possession, and he was going back to prison for life. He stopped Tobey by stabbing him with the only weapon he had—a hypodermic of heroin...

Vince rushes in, sees Tobey on the phone, and STABS HIM IN THE ARM with his needle. Tobey drops his phone.

WES (O.S.)

Tobey fought back. He went for the Eagle Scout knife that Zach had given him to protect himself...

Woozy, Tobey fumbles for his KNIFE in his nightstand.

TRAVIS (O.S.)

But Tobey'd been clean for two months, so the heroin hit him hard. Vince easily got the better of him and stabbed him with his own knife...

Tobey wheels around with his knife, but Vince overpowers him and kills him with it. Tobey collapses, blood pouring out.

WES (O.S.)

Vince transported the body in the sober house van, dumped it and the knife on Fulton Street...

FLASH TO--

FULTON STREET. Vince wipes the knife clean and tosses it out of the van. He pushes Tobey's body out next.

WES (O.S.) (CONT'D)

...because he knew it was where Tobey went to score when he was desperate.

We FLASH to the present to find we're back outside--

78 EXT. SOBER HOUSE WEST, DRIVEWAY - NIGHT

Wes and Travis examine more Luminol bloodstains inside the the back of the wrecked van. Captain Sutton and Laura are here now too.

WES

We're awaiting confirmation, but we're fairly confident the chemical fingerprint of the heroin found in Tobey's system will match that found hidden in Vince's room.

Laura watches as Vince is loaded into a police car.

LAURA

I guess I have to go face the press now and tell them I made a mistake.

CAPT. SUTTON

That's a very bad idea. Let me help you.

LAURA

(suspicious)

Why would you want to do that?

CAPT. SUTTON

Because you're a good D.A., and I want you to win this election. So here's what you say--

CUT TO:

79

CLOSE ON LAURA, who gives a statement to the crowd of PRESS.

LAURA

...And so we had Detectives Beth Santanova and Nora Gooden make a decoy arrest of Zach MacCallum...

We WIDEN to reveal we're on--

79 EXT. COUNTY JAIL - DAWN

The media crowds the steps to the jail.

LAURA

...in order to lure our suspect Vince West into a false sense of security so that Detectives Wes Mitchell and Travis Marks could gather further evidence without constraint. I want to applaud the fine work of the detectives--

But suddenly there's a commotion as the jailhouse doors finally open. All heads turn as ZACH WALKS OUT with his father. Cameras FLASH! The senator hugs his son.

As Wes watches the emotional reunion, he absently touches his Saint Christopher's necklace.

After a long hug, Zach moves to the podium and addresses the media.

ZACH

My brother battled addiction for most of his life, but for the last two months, he was clean. He had not relapsed as had been rumored. Was guilty of believing it myself. I realize now that my brother tried to do the right thing and lost his life for it. Tobey MacCallum was a hero. I am proud of him. And I love him.

More FLASHES as the media swarms him. We--

DISSOLVE TO:

80

TITLE CARD OVER BLACK SCREEN:

"The only normal people are the ones you don't know very well."

--Alfred Adler

DR. RYAN (O.S.)

So. Who wants to go first...

Dr. Ryan's voice talks over as we FADE IN ON--

80 INT. APARTMENT - MORNING

M.O.S.: Irene hurries to her front door, holding her baby.

DR. RYAN (O.S.)

...and share with the group something new you learned about your partner this week?

Irene opens the door to reveal Wes and Travis. They've brought a couple quests--

SENATOR MACCALLUM and ZACH. The senator's eyes well at the sight of the baby.

DR. RYAN (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Wes, Travis...

Irene smiles and hands the senator his grandson.

81

81 INT. CULVER CITY COMMUNITY CENTER, MEETING ROOM - DAY

We're back in group therapy. Travis and Wes are here as are the other couples from the opening.

DR. RYAN

... How about you? Did you guys learn anything new about each other this week?

Wes and Travis shift nervously, on-the-spot.

WES

I learned that Travis was a car thief who spent time in juvie and doesn't call his mom.

Clyde pokes Rozelle and talks low--

CLYDE

See? He doesn't call his mom.

WES

At least one of them. He was also named after a teddy bear.

TRAVIS

I was not.

WES

But he's too embarrassed to admit it.

TRAVIS

You think I'd tell Alex the truth? I knew she'd tell you.

(to the group)
It was a joke.

It's obvious that no one believes him.

DAKOTA

Do you still have the teddy bear?

TRAVIS

(through his teeth)
There was no teddy bear.

DR. RYAN

Travis, what about you? What'd you learn about Wes?

TRAVIS

Besides being gullible? I learned that his favorite color is blue, his favorite movie is "It's a Wonderful Life," he's obsessed with his lawn--

WES

(realizing)

--You've been talking to Alex.

TRAVIS

Oh, and he has a crazy uncle Bob who he avoids at family reunions.

WES

I don't avoid him.

TRAVIS

He doesn't like to talk about it.
Just like the Saint Christopher medal
that he wears around his neck. It
was given to him by the last client
he had when he was a lawyer...

Wes's hackles instantly go up.

TRAVIS (CONT'D)

It's the reason he became a cop.

WES

OK. You need to stop talking to Alex.

TRAVIS

Just because <u>you</u> divorced her, that doesn't make her not <u>my</u> friend.

WES

No. That's exactly what it makes her.

STEVE

He's right. Everyone knows that in a divorce, friends choose sides.

PETER

That's a ridiculous rule.

Peter and Dakota squeeze hands. Kathy rolls her eyes.

KATHY

Get a divorce, and then you can have an opinion on this.

WES

(to Travis)

You're not Alex's friend, and you're not allowed to talk to her anymore.

TRAVIS

So, now, you're telling me who I'm allowed to talk to?

WES

No, I'm telling you who you're $\underline{\text{not}}$ allowed to talk to.

As they continue bicker, we--

SMASH TO BLACK.

THE END.