

44 CONTINUED:

44

...Allison takes a deep sigh and slides out of bed as stealthily as she can, grabbing a robe as she makes her way out as stealthily as she can...and we...

CUT TO:

45 MARJORIE

45

...standing in the KITCHEN, pouring herself a glass of soda water as a visibly troubled Allison enters...Marjorie looks up as if caught, training a sheepish glance at Allison...

MARJORIE

Allison. You've found me raiding the fridge.

ALLISON

You're more than welcome to, of course.

MARJORIE

I'm afraid Joe's barbecue isn't sitting well with me. What's keeping you up?

...Allison does her best to find a smile for Marjorie in spite of the torrent of scenarios playing in her head as a result of her dream...

ALLISON

Bad dreams.

MARJORIE

Must be very bad.

...Allison busies herself finding a glass and pouring herself some of what Marjorie is drinking...

ALLISON

They can make it hard to go back to sleep.

MARJORIE

I suppose I can't help but ask.

ALLISON

About my dream?

...Marjorie shrugs, as if to tell Allison that the topic had to be broached eventually...then...

MARJORIE

The newspaper -- in the stories I read about you they said that's how you...

(CONTINUED)

ALLISON

It's one of the ways.

MARJORIE

One does wonder...how it all works.

ALLISON

Sometimes it's all very clear, most of the time it isn't. And times like tonight, it just makes everything very, very difficult.

MARJORIE

How so?

...Allison regards Marjorie -- the cat's out of the bag and there's only one way to address this, head on...

ALLISON

There's a man accused of murder and the one person who can exonerate him may be a deranged psychotic.

...Marjorie is genuinely taken aback by this...

MARJORIE

Oh my...

ALLISON

It's bizarre...they almost got into a car accident, they were both on the road at the same place at the same time, going in opposite directions. I mean, what are the chances?

MARJORIE

...and...this is the kind of thing you deal with all the time?

ALLISON

It's harder now. With everything that's happened...I used to be able to pick up the phone and tell my friend at the police about my dreams, but now...

MARJORIE

I don't know much about what you go through, but it must have been difficult, keeping who you are to yourself, trying to protect your family.

...Allison shrugs a yes...Marjorie offers Allison a thoughtful nod as she takes a drink...

(CONTINUED)

ALLISON

Thank you.

MARJORIE

Whatever for?

ALLISON

Being so good about this. I wish that we
-- that I -- had handled it differently.

MARJORIE

Oh, Allison. That's...that's all fine.
I do think I understand.

ALLISON

You do?

MARJORIE

Well. Joe believes in you. Why
shouldn't I?

ALLISON

Thank God he does...it would drive me
crazy without him.

...Marjorie acknowledges this with a quick smile, but she has
more questions to ask...

MARJORIE

What about your friends? They must come
to you all the time -- for advice, for, I
don't know, for readings.

ALLISON

It never seems to work for people who are
close to me. I get blind-sided all the
time. It's never convenient.

MARJORIE

That's...a shame.

...Marjorie looks away, trying to keep the look of dashed
hopes playing across her face from being too obvious...
Allison can't help but notice, even as Marjorie turns to open
the refrigerator and put the water bottle inside...Marjorie
turns from the refrigerator to look at Allison...

MARJORIE

I haven't been honest with you -- about
why I came here.
(then)
I thought you could help me.

(CONTINUED)

...and this is where it all comes together for Allison...Marjorie coming to visit so suddenly, bearing generous gifts...

ALLISON

Marjorie. Is this about your health?

MARJORIE

Do you know? I mean, can you tell?

ALLISON

I can tell there's something you want to share.

...Marjorie tries to put on a brave face as she speaks, but with each word, her resolve crumbles...

MARJORIE

It was supposed to be a routine checkup. A cancer screening. They tell you it's routine and then -- the next thing you know they're scheduling a surgery, like it's something common. Like you shouldn't worry.

ALLISON

When?

MARJORIE

This Tuesday.

ALLISON

Oh. God. Why didn't you say something?

...and now there's tears in Marjorie's eyes, and the longer she speaks, the less she tries to stop herself from crying...

MARJORIE

I didn't want to upset you...or Joe, or the girls. I wanted them to see me healthy and happy. I wanted them to have that memory in case they find that it's spread and...at least that's what I told myself, but, in truth, I came because I'm scared and I thought you could use your gift for me.

(off Allison)

I thought that you could tell me. One way or another. Even if it's bad news, I just need to know how it's going to turn out, because it's the not knowing that's killing me.

(CONTINUED)

...Allison takes a step toward Marjorie and slowly, tentatively, embraces her...

ALLISON
I'm sorry. I'm so sorry.

...and as Allison holds her mother-in-law, wanting, but unable to help her...

CUT TO:

46 SEVERAL IMAGES OF BROWN-HAIRED MEN 46

...wearing suits...all of them well-coiffed and posed...the pictures are ink-jet printed on letter paper...LANDING on the CONFERENCE ROOM TABLE at Ameritips as we...

GO WIDER TO REVEAL

...Cynthia Keener, putting the images before Allison...

CYNTHIA
These are doctors John Corey, Stephen Johnson, William Wiley...

ALLISON
Where did you get these pictures?

CYNTHIA
It's the twenty-first century. Dentists have websites...here's the last one matching your description...Leo Klein, DDS.

...and before the page lands on the desk...

ALLISON
That's him.

CYNTHIA

Sure?

ALLISON
I've dreamt about this man every night for three days. I'm sure.

...Allison looks down at the picture...and off the image of Leo Klein, showing his perfect teeth for the camera...

MATCH CUT TO: