

"NORA"

BODIES OF EVIDENCE 2/25

HE TRIPPED

1.

W

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM - DAY

Nora sips from a steaming cup of coffee as a GUARD brings in Charlie Yung, handcuffed again.

CHARLIE

Where's my lawyer?

NORA

On his way.

CHARLIE

What're you -- my conjugal visit?

NORA

Could be. Depends on what you've got to say.

Nora motions to the guard. He exits, locking the door behind him.

CHARLIE

I'm not saying nothing.

NORA

Then you'll never have me, Charlie. Sit down.

CHARLIE

I'm not talking to you.

Nora circles Charlie, shoves a chair in behind him. Charlie falls into the seat.

NORA

Okay. I'll talk to you. Let's see... Kwan was into you for how much? Five thousand dollars?

(no response)

Oh, right. You're not talking. Okay, say five thousand dollars. He couldn't keep up the payments. Couldn't even make the vig. Can't let him get away with that, can you? Makes you look bad.

(beat)

Anyway, it's closing time. You walk into his bakery shop. He begs for more time. You tell him it's too late. Your boy with the sunglasses puts a gun to Kwan's head, pulls the trigger.

(beat)

Now: I don't think you mean to kill the guy. Dead guys can't pay their debts. But the kid with the sunglasses has an itchy finger.

A flicker of reaction.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

NORA

(continuing)

But whether you mean to or not going in, you're looking at Murder One coming out. Unless...

CHARLIE

Unless what?

NORA

You tell me who the shooter is. Let him go down. You'll be able to negotiate.

CHARLIE

I don't know what you're talking about.

Nora presses her face close.

NORA

Yeah, you do. I got a feeling this itchy fingered kid is the kid with the Uzi on the six o'clock news. The kid who's made a mess down in Chinatown. I can live with the bodies, but he took out my favorite dim-sum place. He's got to go down for that, Kwan.

CHARLIE

Why don't they take you down? You're the one who shot a cop.

NORA

(ignores that -- as well as she can)

The shooter's name. What is it?

CHARLIE

Your partner, right? He dead yet?

It's all Nora can do not to kill this punk.

NORA

Your last chance, Kwan. Give me the name and I'll talk to the D.A.

CHARLIE

I'll ask my lawyer.

NORA

When your lawyer gets here the offer's withdrawn.

CHARLIE

That's unconstitutional.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: 2

NORA

I know.

Charlie thinks for a beat, then seems to make up his mind to take the offer. But he looks around, as if suddenly afraid that someone -- a guard, an inmate in a nearby cell -- will hear. He leans forward as if to whisper. She leans down to listen....

Instead of whispering a name Charlie slips his tongue into Nora's ear. Nora smashes Charlie in the face. He topples backwards in his chair, CRASHES to the floor.

The door flies open, Guard rushes in.

GUARD

What happened?

Charlie sits up, blood gushing out of his nose.

NORA

He tripped.

END SCENE