

*"COLLATERAL FILE"**M/W**BILLY
ANNIE*

BILLY

Have you flipped out?

ANNIE

Hey, come on, I'm trying to help.
They don't know I'm Joey's sister.
Maybe I can find out something
there. Look under a few rocks.

He doesn't like the whole thing.

BILLY

Bullshit.

And she doesn't like his attitude.

ANNIE

It's okay if you almost get killed,
it's okay if my brother gets in the
shit, but I stand around and wring
my hands, right? That's my job.

Billy looking at her -- she picks up the folder.

ANNIE

By the way, here's the file on your ..
dad's murder.

BILLY

Look, I don't want you playing
detective. I don't see...

She interrupts.

ANNIE

Who asked you? In case you haven't
heard, it's a free country.

Walks into the bedroom. Slams the door behind her.

INT. ANNIE'S APARTMENT - KITCHEN AREA - THE FOLLOWING
MORNING

Billy is at the kitchen table reading through the police
file. He's obviously been up all night. Annie appears
behind him, wearing her file clerk "uniform" - sunglasses
sweater, jeans and sneakers-- puts a cup down next to
Billy. She's still in something of a bad mood thanks to
their little set-to the night before.

ANNIE

Find anything, Dick Tracy?

(CONTINUED)

BILLY

Nope. Somebody shot him with a .38. Point-blank range. No sign of a struggle. No fingerprints. No clues. Nothing.


ANNIE

I don't get it. What did you expect to find?

BILLY


I don't know...I guess I thought maybe if I went through it, I could figure out something... and I have.

(as she looks at him)

Point-blank range. That means whoever did it probably knew him. 

ANNIE

You thought that anyway.

 Smiles at her in a resigned - to - it sort of way.

BILLY

All right. You're right. Getting the file was a big waste of time. I'm an idiot. You're smart.

ANNIE

No, getting the file was a good idea.

BILLY

Why?

ANNIE

Because that's how I found out something else. There was a notation to a collateral file on Reynolds' stationery stapled to one of the reports. Reynolds is keeping an open file on Kerch. Has been ever since he came down from Miami.

BILLY

A possibly very interesting piece of information. Did you bring it?

ANNIE

I couldn't. Reynolds walked in when I was at the cabinet. I didn't want to take the chance.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

ANNIE (CONT'D)

I only had one move left. I called Miami and had a general 607 run. That's a computer check of all public documents on the name you feed it, I programmed your friend, Mr. Perry Kerch.

BILLY

How come you didn't tell me about all this last night?

She gives him a doubly frosty look.

ANNIE

You were so busy telling me not to play detective I didn't think you'd want to hear about it. I'll try and get to it today -- if there's anything in it, I might even tell you about it. Goodbye. I don't want to be late for work.

Gives him a quick kiss -- just a peck. Heads for the door. He smiles as she closes it behind her.

(CONTINUED)

END