

THE CLIENT 1-1 (SPP)

HE

Take me back to the hospital.

SHE

I'm not taking you any where until we've had a conversation.

HE

Where's the phone, I need to call a cab.

SHE

Help yourself. It's forty from here, forty-five maybe with a tip.

HE

Look, you're fired okay, can't you get that through your head?

SHE

No, because I can't do my job if you're hiding things from me. Did it ever occur to you how it made me feel to go into that room, and take on Poltrick on your behalf without the facts?

HE

I should have smelled your breath before I hired you, then I would have known you were a drunk.

SHE

I've been sober for three years.

HE

Yeah right, that's what all the drunks say. How they're gonna get sober and all. They even say they love you but they don't. And then they come home wasted and beat on you and your mother so bad that you gotta hit them in the face with a baseball bat.

THE CLIENT 1-2

SHE

You're talking about your daddy aren't you?

HE

Yeah well, I got rid of him. When me and my mom went to court to get a divorce our lawyer sucked as usual, so I went up there myself and I told the judge about all the beatings and how he made us sleep in the street. And that's when my father became my ex-father. Now I've got you and you're a drunk and a bad lawyer too, so now I'm getting rid of you too. You're fired. I can handle this myself.

SHE

Mark, I used to think I could handle everything myself. Sometimes being strong means asking for help. Now I know you've been taking real good care of your family, but the FBI's not going to leave you alone. You gotta let me help you.

HE

Leave me alone, I need a cigarette.

SHE

Smoking is terrible for you. Hey, what did Roman tell you in the car?

HE

God, why do I have to answer all these questions? Why don't you have to answer any questions?

SHE

Okay, that's fair enough. Ask me some.

HE

Like what?

THE CLIENT 1-3

SHE

Whatever you want. Go ahead, there are no limits. You ask me and I will answer.

HE

And you'll tell the truth.

SHE

Absolutely.

HE

All right, what's this thing you always wear around your neck?

SHE

This is my compass. I wear it so I'll never lose my way again.

HE

Those your kids?

SHE

Yes.

HE

Where are they?

SHE

They're with their dad. We're divorced.

HE

You ever see them?

SHE

They don't really want to see me.

THE CLIENT 1-4

HE

'Cause of your drinking and drugging?

SHE

Because after the divorce, I drank some. Yeah... I drank a lot.

HE

Why?

SHE

You're right. There must be a cigarette around here some where. I married a Memphis doctor. I worked to put him through medical school and as soon as he became rich and famous he traded me in for a younger model. I didn't have a dollar to put food in the fridge or a car to go look for a job, but I figured I could handle it just like you, but I was wrong.

HE

So then you started to drink?

SHE

Yeah... first I stopped sleeping and eating. I was scared to death. I just kept staying up every night watching my babies, trying to figure out what I was gonna do. Finally I took some sleeping pills, which he'd given me. I was not trying to kill myself, but that's when he pounced. Got himself a fancy lawyer.

HE

He set you up.

THE CLIENT 1-5

SHE

Yeah. I didn't have anybody, but I figured after all those years of blowing noses and wiping butts and fixing meals and car pooling the kids every which way, you know, that would count for something. I was a fool. The court declared me unfit and just like that they were gone. He took my little girl and my little boy. Anyhow, that's how I started drinking, but I got myself sober and I stayed sober and I put myself through law school.

HE

Do you miss your kids?

SHE

So much I try not to think about it.

HE

He told me. Roman told me where the bodies are buried.

SHE

You want to tell me Mark? I'll call the police and put an end to this right now.

HE

But I swore on an oath that I wouldn't tell nobody. They're gonna get me Reggie. I seen it on T.V. The mob *never* forgets.

SHE

Oh my god, they came after you, didn't they?

HE

Yeah.

SHE

I gotta get security on your brother's room and notify the police and get you out of here, back to the hospital where you'll be safe.

HE

Reggie, I'm scared.