

INT. GOVERNMENT OFFICE - NIGHT

MACK, sits at his desk waiting. There are two shot glasses on his desk, one is for Mack, the other for John Stevens. There is a KNOCK at the door. Mack folds his arms.

MACK

Come in.

The door opens and in walks STEVENS. He looks around the room then sits down across from Mack.

STEVENS

You said you wanted to see me?

Mack stares at him for a moment trying to read him. Stevens becomes a bit restless. Mack pulls a bottle of scotch from his desk drawer and pours himself and Stevens drink.

MACK

Here's to the job that never ends.

They both raise their glasses to toast. They both drink.

STEVENS

Do we have something to celebrate?

Mack is silent.

STEVENS

What's this all about?

MACK

Did you do it?

STEVENS

Do what?

MACK

You know what I am talking about?

Stevens sits back.

STEVENS

No, I don't think I do.

Mack leans in closer.

MACK

Come on Jimmy. I know you hear the same things I hear.

STEVENS

Are you really asking me that?

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Mock Sides: Original Scripts for Workshop Actors

MACK

I have to. Look, if you did it, I can try and help you out. I owe you that much. But I have to know the truth.

Stevens gets up.

STEVENS

Mack, you know me. Do you really believe I would betray my country?

MACK

I know I know. I have to ask. If I didn't they would think we were in on it together. They know our history.

STEVENS

What does that have to do with anything?

MACK

It has everything do to with it. They know what you did for me. They think I'm biased.

STEVENS

So have someone else take over the investigation.

Mack is silent. Stevens studies him.

STEVENS

You think I did it don't you?

MACK

I don't know! All the evidence suggests...

STEVENS

Man, screw the evidence. You know me! I didn't do this! I'm being set up.

MACK

Okay, we'll figure this out. Just stay calm.

STEVENS

Stay calm? Do you know the penalty for treason? I have bled for this country. This is the thanks I get?

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Mock Sides: Original Scripts for Workshop Actors

Mack stands up.

MACK

Jimmy, I'll take care of it. Trust me. Let me do a little more digging and get to the bottom of this.

Stevens stops for a moment and looks at Mack.

STEVENS

You have to find out what's going on. You owe me at least that.

MACK

Don't worry. I'll figure it out. Just go home and wait there. I'll try to buy us some time.

STEVENS

Thank you. You know I would do the same thing for you.

MACK

I know you would. I know. Now get out of here.

Stevens begins to leave...

MACK

John. Don't go digging around this yourself. It'll just look like your trying to cover your tracks.

Stevens gives a vague glance, then leaves. Mack picks up a tissue and a plastic bag from his drawer. He carefully grabs the shot glass Stevens had been drinking from and places it in the bag. Once the door is shut Mack picks up the phone.

MACK

(into phone)

Yeah ...Look, I'm not sure I can go through with this ...I know ...you're right. It's just, well, he knows me too well and I just don't know if I can pull this off ...okay. Okay. I used a glass from the Ambassador's office. I'll make sure it's back in place before you make the hit. Then I'm done, you understand?

He hangs up the phone and stares at the shot glass

FADE TO BLACK.