

INT. HOTEL - AFTERNOON

CHARLES walks into the room. He grabs a magazine and starts to sift through it. He puts the magazine down, shakes his head and is about to go back into another room when there is a knock at the door.

He walks over to the door.

CHARLES

Who is it?

From the other side of the door we hear NATHAN.

NATHAN (O.S.)

Detective Johnson, it's Nathan Williams. Can I come in?

Charles opens the door. He looks confused.

CHARLES

What are you doing here Mr. Williams?

NATHAN

Please call me Nathan.

(pause)

Can I come in?

Charles lets him in.

CHARLES

How did you find me?

NATHAN

It wasn't easy. Look, I think I found some new information about Amanda.

CHARLES

Mr. Williams, please, I am not on the case anymore.

NATHAN

Don't say that. You have to help me.

CHARLES

I wish I could but I can't. They removed me from the case and forced me on this little "vacation".

(CONTINUED)

NATHAN

But you are the only one that listens to me. The new guys won't even take my phone calls.

CHARLES

I'm sorry. I'm going to have to ask you to leave.

Charles starts walking towards the door. Nathan stays put.

NATHAN

Why did they take you off the case?

Charles turns around.

CHARLES

I can't talk about that. Please, just leave before I get into bigger trouble.

NATHAN

Trouble for what? You were doing your job. Ask yourself, what is it you had, that freaked them out?

Charles shakes his head. Nathan starts to plead.

NATHAN

Please, it's my little girl.

CHARLES

Do you know the odds of...

NATHAN

I don't care about the damn odds. She's all I have. You have to help me!

He holds out a zip-locked plastic bag containing a piece of cloth.

NATHAN

I found this over by the old La Quinta motel. It's Amanda's, I know it is.

Charles grabs the bag.

CHARLES

A torn piece of cloth?

(CONTINUED)

NATHAN

It's hers. I'm sure of it. I just need some tests ran for DNA. Maybe the guy still has her. Maybe she's okay.

Charles shakes his head.

CHARLES

I can't help you. Talk to the new Detective in charge.

NATHAN

Don't you get it?! I have tried that! No one will listen to me. Once you were off the case it's like the case was closed.

(pause)

You are all I have left. Will you please just run the tests?

Charles thinks about it.

CHARLES

Mr. Williams, I'm not going to disagree that something weird is going on. But if I run any tests it could be my ass. I have more than my job to look out for.

NATHAN

Don't you think that's a bit weird for a child kidnapping case? Why would they take you off a case like this?

Charles is silent.

NATHAN

Please, she's my daughter.

Charles struggles with thought. Nathan is silent while Charles debates.

CHARLES

I know a guy over at the university. I might be able to get something done over there.

NATHAN

Thank you.

(CONTINUED)

CHARLES

You can't tell anyone that I did
this for you. Do you understand me?
If anyone finds out, we might both
be in trouble.

NATHAN

Understood. Thank you. I'll make
this up to you somehow. I promise.

Nathan walks toward the door. He goes to shake Charles' hand.
Charles doesn't shake his.

CHARLES

Don't thank me yet. They are just
tests. There are no guarantees.

NATHAN

I know that. All I am asking for is
someone to listen. Thank you.

Nathan leaves. Charles shuts the door. He looks around the
room worried. He looks down at the cloth and shakes his head
as we...

FADE TO BLACK.