

A PERSISTENCE OF VISION 2 - 1

HE

Look, why don't you get out of here for a while? Get some fresh air. Go for a walk.

SHE

No. I must be here in case you hear anything about my son.

HE

I understand. Is your husband still down at the boat shed?

SHE

Yes. When he's upset it always helps him to work with his hands.

HE

....and you make soup.

SHE

Frankly, I... I don't know what I'm doing. Just going through the motions.

HE

I can see that.

SHE

Lieutenant, may I ask you a personal question?

HE

Yes.

SHE

You're seem awfully young to be an officer. I mean, I haven't seen a police officer as young as you in this area. Is this a promotion for you?

HE

I call it more of a test.

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SHE

I see. Well, would you say that you're... you know, accepted by the other officers? I mean, do they cooperate with you?

HE

You know, I admire you, Mrs. Trager. You cut right through the bush, don't you? The same bush your husband has been beating around since I got here. Yes, I'm getting the cooperation I need. And if the time comes when I don't, I'll be the first one to say so.

SHE

I'm sorry, I didn't mean to offend you.

HE

People who ask hard questions always offend. I make my living doing it.

SHE

I seem to do it for free. You never said, Lieutenant... do you have a family?

HE

No. I'm divorced.

SHE

What I mean is.... do you have any children?

HE

No. My wife wouldn't stop dancing long enough to have any.

SHE

Oh, she was a dancer.

HE

No. She just liked to party.

SHE

Well, she... she must have been very young.

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HE

She was.

SHE

...and pretty.

HE

No - beautiful. ...on the outside.

SHE

I thought that's where it counts.

HE

So did I... then.

SHE

You know something, Lieutenant? You're very easy to talk to.

HE

That's nice to know.

SHE

And I think you're the kind of person people want to confide in.

HE

I don't always let them.

SHE

Why not?

HE

Because then I feel responsible for them.

SHE

And you take your responsibilities seriously, don't you?

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HE

Very. Mrs. Trager, I hope everything turns out fine for you. I want to find your son and bring him home to you. But whatever happens, don't let this drive a wedge between you and your husband. I've seen it happen.

SHE

You know, don't you?

HE

Yes, I know.

SHE

How?

HE

Your face last night - never play poker for money. ... People we love can let us down, Mrs. Trager. Most times it just pays to accept that. Does it really matter now who let your son walk down to that store?

SHE

I guess it doesn't. Not now.

HE

Then tell your husband that. He needs to hear it.