

LOCKED IN THE CHIFFOROBE

Written by

Jamie Sawyer

EXT. NESSY HARGRAVE'S FRONT PORCH - EVENING

Nessy rocks in her chair across the planks of wood. A swarm of love bugs create crazy shadows in the haze of the streetlight. A glass of iced tea sits on an old table next to her.

Crickets and cicadas fill the still air with a HIGH-PITCHED HUM. A GUNSHOT breaks the monotony.

NESSY
(Shrieks)

Nessy jumps from the chair to her knees and crawls to the front door.

NESSY (CONT'D)
Lord help me Jesus.

Nessy pulls the door open and crawls inside the house.

INT. NESSY'S LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

She crawls to pick up a phone on a side table. She calls her son, Douglas.

INT. DOUGLAS HARGRAVE'S RANGER CRUISER - MOMENTS LATER

Douglas picks up his phone on the first ring.

DOUGLAS
Special Agent Hargrave.

NESSY
They're shooting up the cemetery.

Douglas pulls the cruiser to the side of the road.

DOUGLAS
Slow up Momma, who's shooting?

NESSY
I don't know. Just get here.

DOUGLAS
On my way Momma.

INT. NESSY'S LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Nessy crawls to the wall and turns the lights out. She picks up her late husband's binoculars, crawls to the front window and looks out through the corner of the window.

EXT. THE NATIONAL CEMETERY - MOMENTS LATER

Yancy runs up a hill in the cemetery toward Nessy's home. His nice clothes are wrinkled. He's sweating.

EXT. NESSY HARGRAVES' FRONT PORCH - MOMENTS LATER'

Nessy holds her husband's service revolver by her side.

NESSY

Show me your hands!

YANCY

Don't shoot me Miss Nessy... I need shelter!

Yancy stumbles to the edge of the porch with his hands in the air.

NESSY

What the hell were you doing running through the cemetery at night?

YANCY

I was checking out some easements on the edge of the cemetery when, you know, bang.

NESSY

My son will be here any minute to sort this mess out. Mr. Yancy, get up here on the porch where I can see you.

Yancy steps up onto the porch, straightening his clothes and tucking in his shirt. Nessy motions him into the rocking chair and stands at her door holding the revolver.

NESSY (CONT'D)

You checking out easements at night, in the cemetery. Better get that story straight before my son gets here.

YANCY

Well, Miss Nussy, sometimes my clients like to do things without getting noticed.

Douglas' cruiser pulls up in front of the house, headlights shining up onto the porch. He walks up and sees his mother holding the revolver and Yancy in the rocking chair.

DOUGLAS

Whoa. Momma, hand me that gun and sir, if you could step off of the porch with your hands up.

Yancy stands and walks toward Douglas. Nussy hands the gun to Douglas.

NESSY

Son, this is Yancy Earl. He come running up out of the cemetery after that gunshot went off.

DOUGLAS

And you say you know Mr. Earl?

NESSY

He's that boy who does those conservation easements. He wanted us to do it a while back.

DOUGLAS

Mr. Earl, what was it you were doing down in the cemetery?

YANCY

Well that's just it, I wasn't in the cemetery. I was up on the other side. And the shots came from up in the woods above the cemetery.

DOUGLAS

Well, Mr. Earl, why don't we take a drive over to the place you were when you heard the shots.

Douglas grabs Yancy by the arm and walks him to the cruiser. Yancy gets in the front seat.

DOUGLAS (CONT'D)

Momma, go on in the house now. And lock the door.

INT. DOUGLAS HARGRAVE'S RANGER CRUISER - MOMENTS LATER

YANCY

If you just want to take me around
to my car, I can show you where I
was.

Douglas follows Yancy's direction around the edge of the cemetery to a dirt road, where they turn and drive to the end, and find Yancy's convertible Cadillac and a Sheriff's SUV.

DOUGLAS

Mr. Earl, just sit tight while I
see if this Sheriff is out here. We
wouldn't want to spook him.

EXT. AREA BEHIND CEMETERY MAINTENANCE SHED - MOMENTS LATER

Douglas walks around the Sheriff's SUV shining a flashlight. He returns to his own car and opens the door for Yancy. Yancy hops out of the car and starts walking back toward the road and the cemetery.

YANCY

You see... what should I call you
officer?

DOUGLAS

Agent Hargrave.

YANCY

Okay, Agent Hargrave. All this land
over here is just wasting away. But
it's close enough to the cemetery
and the Yazoo to make it the
perfect easement.

DOUGLAS

And that's what you were doing out
here.

YANCY

Oh sure. I do a lot of work at
night.

They cross the road and walk down into the cemetery. When they get to a large tree, Yancy stops.

YANCY (CONT'D)

This is it. I was right here when I
heard a gunshot come from right up
there.

As Yancy points into the woods above them, a rustling sound comes from the tall row of bushes between them and the woods. Douglas draws his weapon and a flashlight.

DOUGLAS

Federal Agent, come out with your hands up.

Ricky Buford comes out of the bushes in his sheriff's deputy uniform.

RICKY

Deputy Buford, Warren County Sheriff's Office.

DOUGLAS

Deputy, are you out here investigating the shots fired?

RICKY

Yes sir. I was out on the highway and pulled in when I got the call.

DOUGLAS

What brought you down into the cemetery? You know this is my jurisdiction down here.

RICKY

I thought I saw someone running down this way.

YANCY

Well, that would have been me.

RICKY

May have been. But, I dropped my keys somewhere around here and I left my flashlight up in the truck.

Douglas holsters his gun and pulls out his flashlight. He walks with the deputy over to the bushes. He shines his light as the deputy crawls into the hedge. It catches the reflection of the keys. Laying next to them is a silk handkerchief. Ricky quickly swipes them up and stuffs them in pocket as he pulls himself out of the bushes.

DOUGLAS

Well, that's one mystery solved. Deputy, if you say the shots came from up in those woods, that's all you.

The men walk back toward their cars.

RICKY

Yeah, the shots definitely came from up in those woods.

DOUGLAS

Mr. Earl, I've got your contact information. When we get back to our cars, you can be on your way. Deputy, if you want me to follow you up there to investigate...

RICKY

Nah, that's alright. I'd better call the Sheriff.

DOUGLAS

Well, I'll leave it with you then.

Douglas walks toward his car.

YANCY

Good night officers.

DOUGLAS

Deputy Buford, do you want Yancy's contact information.

RICKY

Nah, I know where to find him.

INT. DOUGLAS HARGRAVE'S RANGER CRUISER - MOMENTS LATER

Douglas calls his mother.

DOUGLAS

Yeah, momma, everything's fine. Just lock your doors now and get some sleep.

I'll check on you first thing in the morning.

Douglas turns away from his mothers house going up the hill toward the woods. He turns off on a rough dirt road. His headlights fix on some deep tire tracks in the mud. He pulls to a stop, leaving his headlights on.

EXT. DIRT ROAD IN WOODS - MOMENTS LATER

Douglas walks up the dirt road, his flashlight shining into the headlight beams.

When he gets to the top of the hill, he sees a body in the middle of the road. He turns and walks back to his car.

INT. DOUGLAS HARGRAVE'S RANGER CRUISER - MOMENTS LATER

Douglas picks up his cell phone.

DOUGLAS
Sheriff Buford, Agent Douglas
Hargrave.

INTERCUT to Sheriff Buford's living room.

SHERIFF BUFORD
Well damn. Don't tell me somebody's
pissing on graves or something.

DOUGLAS
No sir. You've got a dead body up
in the woods above the cemetery.

SHERIFF BUFORD
And what the hell are you doing
patrolling those woods?

DOUGLAS
Sheriff, I'm just reporting this as
a concerned citizen. Haven't called
it in to anybody but you. Oh, and
your nephew Ricky. I figured he may
have already told you about it.

EXT. DIRT ROAD IN WOODS - LATER

Sheriff Buford's lifted SUV rumbles onto the dirt road. He gets out and walks over to Douglas.

SHERIFF BUFORD
Alright, Agent, where's this body
you found.

The two men walk up the hill to the body.

DOUGLAS
Looks like a drug deal gone bad.
Dead Mexican. Got shot and run
over. Whoever shot him has his car.

SHERIFF BUFORD
You sound like a little bit more
than a concerned citizen.

DOUGLAS

I guess I'm more concerned than your Deputy was. He was the first to respond.

SHERIFF BUFORD

And he didn't call it in?

DOUGLAS

The only reason I got involved was because your Deputy told me he had chased a witness into the cemetery.

SHERIFF BUFORD

A witness?

DOUGLAS

Yes, a Yancy Earle. He showed up at my mother's house after running through the cemetery.

SHERIFF BUFORD

Uh huh. Well I'll be damned Agent Hargrave. There it is, just as you described it. One dead Mexican.

Douglas tears a page from a note pad and hands it to the sheriff.

DOUGLAS

Well, here's Mr. Earle's contact information if you want it.

SHERIFF BUFORD

Agent, thank you for being a concerned citizen. I can take it from here.

INT. YANCY'S BEDROOM - MORNING

Yancy sits at a table in his bedroom drinking coffee, smoking a cigarette and reading the *Vicksburg Post*

He picks up the phone and calls his friend Joe Davis Montgomery.

YANCY

Joe Davis?

JOE DAVIS

Yancy? Really?

YANCY

I know it's early. Please tell me you're not auctioning off your piece of family land.

INT. JOE DAVIS' BEDROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Joe Davis sits on the edge of his bed. He slides on some Gucci slippers and walks out of the luxury bedroom leaving Joline to sleep.

JOE DAVIS

What the hell Yancy. I'm not selling it. They're trying to take it away from me.

YANCY

Who is they?

JOE DAVIS

The trust lawyers. Something about the original deal old man Jones made with my family.

YANCY

Joe Davis, you have got to tell me about these things. You know I can make things happen. Get your clothes on, we're going to breakfast.

JOE DAVIS

Okay Yancy, but I'm going to need some champagne with my donuts. I'll meet you up at the Krispy Kreme.

YANCY

You just sit tight. I'll pick you up in a little bit.

EXT. IN FRONT OF THE MONTGOMERY MANSION - LATER

Yancy pulls up in his convertible Cadillac and honks the horn. Joe Davis shuffles down the front steps and hops in the car.

INT. YANCY'S CONVERTIBLE CADILLAC - MOMENTS LATER

YANCY

What kind of trouble have you gotten yourself into now.

JOE DAVIS

Nothing big. You know Gucci ain't
free. And neither is Dom.

Joe Davis pops the cork on a bottle of champagne and takes a
sip from the bottle.

YANCY

But, Joe Davis, you get ten
thousand dollars a month.

JOE DAVIS

I know and the last few months have
been tight.

YANCY

Oh come now.

Yancy pulls through the Krispy Kreme drive-thru and orders a
dozen hot donuts and a cup of ice.

YANCY (CONT'D)

A dozen hot glazed and two cups of
ice, please ma'am.

They get their donuts and pull into a parking place. He fills
the cups with champagne and picks up a donut.

JOE DAVIS

So I ran up a little credit card
debt and was just going to take out
a loan to pay it off.

YANCY

Joe Davis, you have no business
using credit cards.

JOE DAVIS

Well I didn't know I had to pay it
all off at once.

YANCY

Exactly why you shouldn't have one.

JOE DAVIS

So, as soon as the bank closed the
loan, the lawyers came out of the
woodwork saying the loan voided my
trust.

YANCY

Oh heavens. You have got to tell
Joline. You know she can snap her
fingers and get you out of this.

JOE DAVIS

But she's have to snap her fingers at Josh. And, you know how she feels about that.

YANCY

Now Joe Davis, Josh is a very reasonable person. But you've got to get ahead of this before the whole town knows! We're going to go deal with this right now.

JOE DAVIS

What's behind door number two?

YANCY

You're not getting any fun until we deal with door number one. Let's go see Joline and have a little chat. I'll handle everything.

INT. JOE DAVIS AND JOLINE'S KITCHEN - MOMENTS LATER

Yancy arranges the donuts on a platter, pours a glass of champagne for Joline, then drains the bottle in his own cup. He signals for Joe Davis to call for Joline.

JOE DAVIS

Joline? Baby, you up?

A few beats later, Joe Davis' phone rings. He answers it.

JOE DAVIS (CONT'D)

Hey baby.

INT. JOLINE'S BATHROOM

Joline is in a bubble bath smoking a joint. Her phone sits on a towel on the edge of the tub.

JOLINE

To answer your question, I am up. And I'm in the tub. What trouble are you getting yourself into?

JOE DAVIS

No trouble baby. Yancy and I just picked up some hot donuts and cold chapagne. How will that go with your bath?

JOLINE

Lover, you always know just what I need. Get your little butt up here.

INT. JOE DAVIS AND JOLINE'S KITCHEN

Joe Davis is leaving the room with donuts and champagne. Yancy sits at the kitchen table with his laptop open.

YANCY

Run along. And put something nice on. But nothing too fancy for Josh in case it comes to that.

Yancy looks up the property in question on his laptop and sees that there is a lien on the property due to a contract dispute. He sees the name of a law firm in Atlanta as the lien holder.

A few moments later, Joline comes down the stairs into the kitchen. Yancy stands up quickly and properly.

JOLINE

Joe Davis told me I had a gentleman caller down here. You're no gentleman.

YANCY

But I am at your service. Who else is going to bring you donuts and champagne when you're high.

JOLINE

Who are you to call me high, Yancy.

YANCY

Sit down and let's catch up.

Yancy pulls a bottle of champagne from the wine refrigerator and tops off her glass, and his.

JOLINE

What kind of trouble has Joe Davis gotten himself into this time.

YANCY

Your husband took out a loan on his piece of family land and it put the trust lawyers all in a tizzy.

JOLINE

Why on earth would Joe Davis Montgomery need a loan?

YANCY

Who knows. But I think the only way out of this is to go talk to Josh. I told Joe Davis to put on his nicest, straightest suit.

JOLINE

Oh god, do we have to bring Josh into this? Let's just pay the loan off and pretend it never happened.

YANCY

I think it's going to take your brother to make those lawyers in Atlanta stand down.

Joe Davis comes down the stairs wearing a very nice plain black suit and white shirt.

JOLINE

Joe Davis, I thought you were going to stay out of trouble.

JOE DAVIS

Baby, it's just some fine print on a contract that's a hundred years old.

JOLINE

Well that's just the sort of thing you shouldn't be dealing with.

JOE DAVIS

I know. I've got to deal with this head on. Yancy and I are going over to see Josh.

JOLINE

Well that sounds like a nightmare. Let me call my brother and see if we can't keep that from happening.

Joline picks up her phone and walks out onto the patio and lights a cigarette.

EXT. JOLINE'S PATIO - MOMENTS LATER

JOLINE

Josh, ol' Joe Davis has gone and done it this time. You know what I'm talking about?

INT. JOSH JONES PICKUP TRUCK

JOSH

Sis, all I know is there's some contract dispute that has to do with the trust.

JOLINE

Joe Davis is scared shitless that his whole family is going to lose their inheritance.

JOSH

Oh come on. It's not like we're going to take back a farm we gave to our slaves. Who want's that.

JOLINE

Big brother, if I have to pay off his loan to clear this up, let's just make sure the Montgomery's don't catch wind of it.

JOSH

Alright, I'll handle it. But tell Joe Davis he might have to give up some trust money.

JOLINE

Oh Jesus. You mean you're going to put him on restrictions?

JOSH

Unless you can keep him in line.

INT. JOE DAVIS AND JOLINE'S KITCHEN

Joline walks in and drops her phone on the table. Yancy hops up and fills her glass.

JOLINE

Well boys, it's all taken care of. Joshy will handle it without anyone needing to know. And, Joe Davis, you're on restrictions.

JOE DAVIS

To Joline, my love, and Yancy, my lover, cheers to the powerful people who make our lives possible.

INT. PARKS SERVICE INVESTIGATIVE BUREAU - MORNING

Agent Hargrave walks into a video command center. A tech is sitting at a computer.

DOUGLAS

We need all the cameras in the cemetery. All cars coming and going. All pedestrians too.

The young tech draws a line around the area on a satellite image. With a few key strokes, he orders a query.

DOUGLAS (CONT'D)

Wait, that's it?

TECH

Give it a minute and you'll have everything you need. Every movement, sequenced in time, from one camera to the next.

The tech stands up and points at the screen.

TECH (CONT'D)

So, right now, you've got about twenty motion detections. Let's say one is a car that is picked up here. You'll get seventeen cameras picking it up between here and here.

DOUGLAS

What if a camera picks up someone running through the cemetery?

TECH

In that case, one of our interior cameras, in a tree or on a monument, would pick up the motion and follow it.

Several video players fill the screen.

DOUGLAS

Okay, now what?

TECH

Come sit over here. When you hover over one of the videos, it shows you the timestamp and location. Just click play. I'm going to get some coffee.

Douglas scans the videos. The first five all picked up at the same corner and followed the same route, including Yancy's Cadillac. He notices that the command center also displays tag numbers and registration information. He clicks through the names of Yancy, Ricky and their three friends and jots the information down in his note pad.

He clicks on the next video and it shows a large red pickup truck coming up the hill past his mother's house toward the dirt road. He jots down that information.

The other videos are men running through the cemetery.

The tech comes back into the room.

DOUGLAS

Okay, you were right. Everything I need. Is there a way to send me the registration information?

TECH

Oh sure. I'll zip up the whole query. You'll have videos, drivers licenses, the whole nine.

INT. DOUGLAS HARGRAVE'S RANGER CRUISER - LATER

Douglas calls his mother.

INT. NESSY'S LIVING ROOM

NESSY

Hello?

DOUGLAS

Hi Momma, you doing alright?

NESSY

Oh, I'm alive by the grace of God.

DOUGLAS

Yes you are. Momma, do you remember seeing a big red truck come up by your house last night?

NESSY

Just that old Jefferson Jones. He runs up by my place all the time.

DOUGLAS

How do you know Jefferson Jones?

NESSY

Oh, I don't know him. I just know to stay away from him.

DOUGLAS

How come?

NESSY

I don't know. Cause he's a racist with an attitude? Cause his family got money? Cause he owns a lot of swampland?

DOUGLAS

I get it.

NESSY

Douglas, if you don't have to, don't go near this one.

DOUGLAS

I hear you, momma. I'm just going to check on Mr. Earle. I'll talk to you about him later.

NESSY

You be careful out there. I only got the one of you.

INT. SHERIFF'S OFFICE - LATER

Ricky Buford is sitting across from his uncle, Sheriff T.J. Buford.

SHERIFF BUFORD

Ricky, how the hell did this Fed get all twisted up in our business?

RICKY

He just showed up out of nowhere. You know his mama lives up the hill there.

SHERIFF BUFORD

And you were in the cemetery when he just appeared?

RICKY

Yessir. I had chased a suspect into the cemetery. But he turned out to be an innocent witness.

SHERIFF BUFORD

And that would be Yancy Earle. Who has also talked with this Fed.

RICKY

He's the one who said the gunfire came from the woods above the cemetery.

SHERIFF BUFORD

And who called me to go up into those woods? Not you. The Fed called me.

Sheriff Buford stands up from his desk.

SHERIFF BUFORD (CONT'D)

I get a call from a Federal agent to meet him in the woods to check out a dead Mexican.

RICKY

I just figured it was somebody spotlighting deer.

SHERIFF BUFORD

Well it wasn't. Now we have a murder investigation to deal with. Since you were first on the scene, it seems only right you would solve this one.

RICKY

I've never investigated a murder before.

SHERIFF BUFORD

The Mexican is in the morgue. The scene's taped off. Get to it.

INT. DOUGLAS HARGRAVE'S RANGER CRUISER - LATER

Douglas calls Yancy.

INT. YANCY'S CONVERTIBLE CADILLAC

YANCY

Yancy Earle...

DOUGLAS

Mr. Earle, this is Agent Hargrave. Would you have time to talk today?

(MORE)

DOUGLAS (CONT'D)

We found a body up in those woods.
So, that gunfire is now a murder.

YANCY

Oh heavens, I could have been
killed!

DOUGLAS

Could we meet for coffee? Or I
could meet you after work.

YANCY

How about a cocktail, off the
record?

DOUGLAS

How about some iced tea on my
momma's porch, off the record.

YANCY

Well that sounds delightful.

DOUGLAS

Thirty minutes?

YANCY

I'll make it happen.

EXT. NESSY HARGRAVE'S FRONT PORCH - LATER

Yancy pulls up in front of Nussy's house. He walks up onto
the porch where Nussy and Douglas are already sitting.

DOUGLAS

Mr. Earle, thank you for meeting
me. I believe you know my mother?

YANCY

Well she saved my life. Of course I
know Miss Nussy.

DOUGLAS

Have a seat. Mr. Earle...

Yancy turns a rocking chair and sits.

YANCY

Oh please, call me Yancy.

DOUGLAS

Yancy, what do you know about
Jefferson Jones?

YANCY

Besides the fact that he's the richest redneck in Vicksburg?

NESSY

You know that's right.

DOUGLAS

Where'd they get their money?

YANCY

All you have to do is visit that plantation.

DOUGLAS

And that's where Jefferson Jones lives?

YANCY

That's where Jefferson Jones does whatever the hell Jefferson Jones wants to do.

NESSY

Mmmm...hmmm

YANCY

The Jones family, they own a whole bunch of people. Jefferson runs the operation out at the plantation. His cousin Josh runs the Foundation and the Deere dealership, among other things.

DOUGLAS

And how does the plantation make money? They ain't growing cotton.

YANCY

No, they're making cocaine. They've been processing coca leaves up there for more than a hundred years.

Douglas stands up and starts pacing.

DOUGLAS

Say again?

YANCY

Oh yeah, it's all legal. Tons of coca leaves come in from Bolivia.

(MORE)

YANCY (CONT'D)

They grind em up and turn it into
flavoring and cocaine.

DOUGLAS

And what happens to the cocaine?

YANCY

They sell it up-river to a company
that turns it into medical cocaine.

DOUGLAS

All legal.

YANCY

Oh yes. It's all grandfathered in.

DOUGLAS

How's that?

YANCY

A deal between the Jones family and
the government. It's bulletproof.

Douglas walks in front of Yancy and reaches his hand out.
Yancy shakes his hand as Douglas pulls him up from the chair.

DOUGLAS

Yancy, I'll be in touch.

Douglas winks at Yancy.

DOUGLAS (CONT'D)

Tell your friends I may be in touch
too. You know, the ones on the
video.

Yancy swiftly walks down from the porch, stopping briefly to
thank Nussy.

YANCY

Miss Nussy, thank you for the
hospitality.

NESSY

Yancy, you stay out of trouble now.

EXT. DIRT ROAD IN WOODS - AFTERNOON

Deputy Ricky Buford stands at the edge of the crime scene.
His phone rings.

RICKY

Hey Yancy. I'm kinda busy.

INT. YANCY'S CONVERTIBLE CADILLAC - MOMENTS LATER

Yancy's in the middle of town at a stop light.

YANCY

Well, that Parks Agent has us on video. You included.

RICKY

Aw shit. Well, you won't believe this... that gunshot was a murder.

YANCY

Yeah, I know.

RICKY

How do you know?

YANCY

Agent Hargrave called me. And get this, he thinks Jefferson Jones is somehow involved.

RICKY

No shit.

YANCY

Yes shit. So you better stay away from it.

RICKY

Not possible. It's my case.

YANCY

Oh Jesus. How did that happen?

RICKY

My uncle's being an asshole.

YANCY

Well, you didn't hear it from me. Oh, and Agent Hargrave said he may be in touch.

RICKY

Fuck me. And fuck you Yancy.

YANCY

Bye now.

INT. JOE DAVIS' BEDROOM - LATER

Joe Davis and Joline lounge on the bed. She's smoking a joint. He's sipping a martini.

JOLINE

Joe Davis, how do you get yourself in these messes. When it could be so simple?

JOE DAVIS

I get trapped in these messes. It's like they know I can't say no.

JOLINE

What do you mean? Who is they?

JOE DAVIS

Your family. Jefferson started all this.

JOLINE

Whoah. Started what?

JOE DAVIS

He told me if I helped him grow the business I could get a bigger piece.

JOLINE

Grow the business?

JOE DAVIS

I don't know. He just said I could buy in for a hundred grand.

JOLINE

What the hell Joe Davis.

JOE DAVIS

I just wanted to have money of my own.

JOLINE

You do. Maybe not as much as me. But, you've got money.

JOE DAVIS

Money. But not Gucci money.

JOLINE

Oh Joe Davis, you're Gucci head to toe and crying in your martini.

JOE DAVIS

It was supposed to be so easy. Do a quick deal and double my money.

JOLINE

I hope you're not talking about a coke deal.

JOE DAVIS

Yes. But it's worse than that.

Joline stands up from the bed and tamps out her joint in an ash tray.

JOLINE

Do tell.

JOE DAVIS

Jefferson killed the guy.

JOLINE

What?

JOE DAVIS

I swear. I saw it.

JOLINE

Christ, Joe Davis. What are you going to do?

JOE DAVIS

Hell if I know. Jefferson told me to lay low wait to hear from him.

JOLINE

We don't lay low. We're going to get ahead of this. Get your ass up.

INT. PARKS SERVICE INVESTIGATIVE BUREAU - LATER

Douglas sits at his desk looking at videos of the red truck driving up the road next to the cemetery. He zooms in and sees two people in the truck.

INT. SHERIFF'S OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

Ricky sits at his desk. He's flipping through photographs of the murder scene on his computer screen. He stands up and looks out the window. His phone rings.

EXT. FRONT PORCH OF JONES PLANTATION HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Jefferson Jones paces with his phone in his hand.

JEFFERSON

Ricky Buford?

Jefferson Jones.

Your uncle tells me you're handling
your first murder case.

I'm about to make your life real
easy. Let me tell you how this is
going to go down.

INT. JOSH JONES' HOUSE - NIGHT

Joline and Joe Davis sit on a massive covered back patio
around a stone fireplace. Josh walks out from the house and
sits down with a beer.

JOSH

Alright sis, I think I've got the
trust lawyers back in their cages.
All we need to do is pay the loan
back pronto and we can make this
all go away.

JOLINE

Josh, we may have a bigger issue.

JOSH

You've got the money to pay the
loan.

JOLINE

But, it's what the money was used
for. Joe Davis tells me that
Jefferson is doing side deals.

JOSH

Joe Davis, you poking your nose
around where it shouldn't be?

JOE DAVIS

Jefferson came to me.

JOSH

For what? No offense Joe Davis, but
there's not a damn thing you could
do to help Jefferson.

JOE DAVIS

He wanted me help him do a deal
with some Mexican.

Josh stands up walks over to the fireplace with his back to
Joe Davis and Joline.

JOSH

Joe Davis, your loan problem may
have put your inheritance at risk.
But if what you're telling me is
true, that could screw all of us.

JOLINE

That's not the half of it.

JOSH

Not the half of it? It could be the
end of it!

JOLINE

Jefferson killed the guy he was
doing the deal with.

Josh turns toward them.

JOSH

Alright, listen. I don't need to
know any of this. You never told me
this.

JOLINE

What do you want us to do?

JOSH

I want you to go home. I want you
to pretend it never happened. And,
I want you to pay the bank back
first thing in the morning.

JOE DAVIS

Josh, I'm really sorry. I was
telling Joline...

JOSH

Shut up Joe Davis. Go home.

Joline and Joe Davis walk into the house to leave.

INT. DOUGLAS HARGRAVES' RANGER CRUISER - MORNING

Douglas is driving toward Vicksburg. He picks up his phone and calls Sheriff Buford.

SHERIFF BUFORD
Sheriff Buford.

DOUGLAS
Sheriff? Agent Hargrave with the...

SHERIFF BUFORD
I know who the hell you are.

DOUGLAS
As a courtesy, I wanted to offer my security camera footage to you.

SHERIFF BUFORD
Son, I think we've got this covered.

DOUGLAS
Sheriff, I understand you don't want me in your business. Just know I've got a truck going to and from the scene with two individuals. Can't identify both of them. But I do know who the truck belongs to.

SHERIFF BUFORD
You don't say. Who owns the truck?

DOUGLAS
The Joshua Purvis Jones Foundation.

SHERIFF BUFORD
I tell you what son. You just drop that footage off and we'll call it a day.

DOUGLAS
I'm on my way to Vicksburg now. It will be in your hands shortly.

SHERIFF BUFORD
Alright then.

INT. JOE DAVIS AND JOLINE'S KITCHEN

Joline and Joe Davis sit at the kitchen table in front of a bowl of strawberries sipping champagne. She taps on her cell phone that's laying on the table.

BANK MANAGER

First Citizens, this is Greg, how can I be of service today?

JOLINE

Greg, this is Joline Montgomery. I need you to transfer the full payoff for Joe Davis' loan from my account.

BANK MANAGER

That won't be a problem. Do you have the loan account number handy?

JOLINE

You know I don't. Just look it up for me and take care of it, okay?

BANK MANAGER

Yes ma'am. Just one minute while I look it up.

JOLINE

Don't have time for all that. Just send me the payoff confirmation today when you get this done.

BANK MANAGER

If you wouldn't mind holding just one minute.

JOLINE

I would mind. I'll be looking for an email from you within the hour. Bye now.

Joline taps the phone to hang up and then stands up, lights a joint and walks out onto the patio. Joe Davis follows holding the bottle of champagne.

JOE DAVIS

Baby, you are one hell of a spitfire. You now that?

JOLINE

Shut the fuck up Joe Davis.

JOE DAVIS

Oh baby, I know I screwed up.

JOLINE

Why in the hell would you get tangled up in Jefferson's shit?

(MORE)

JOLINE (CONT'D)

A coke deal? A murder, for Christ's sake?

JOE DAVIS

I know, I know. I had no idea what I was getting myself into.

JOLINE

You never do. I don't want you leaving this house until we figure this out. Not a damned word to anyone.

Joe Davis walks over to Joline with the bottle.

JOE DAVIS

Can I top you off?

JOLINE

Might as well.

EXT. THE JONES PLANTATION - LATER

Josh Jones drives up to the front of the plantation house. Jefferson steps out onto the porch. They meet on the front steps.

JOSH

Jefferson.

JEFFERSON

What's up Josh?

JOSH

Oh nothing. Just trying to figure out how to keep my cousin from destroying the family empire.

JEFFERSON

Easy there. Have you forgotten who we are?

JOSH

I know exactly who I am. You, on the other hand, seem to think your last name is Capone.

JEFFERSON

Hey, I've got it all handled. I colored outside the lines, and we're getting that all cleaned up.

JOSH
Easy as that, huh?

JEFFERSON
Easy as owning the Sheriff, cuz.

JOSH
Let's take a little drive.

Jefferson reluctantly walks down the steps. They get in Josh's truck.

INT. JOSH JONES PICKUP TRUCK - MOMENTS LATER

Jefferson lights a cigarette as they drive down a dirt road on the plantation.

JOSH
Damn it Jefferson, really?

Jefferson lets the window down and ignores the comment.

JEFFERSON
Where we going?

JOSH
I want to check in on the operation.

JEFFERSON
Go ahead then. It's running smooth as white silk.

JOSH
Except for the kilos you're skimming to sell on the side?

JEFFERSON
Look Josh, there are things you don't know about this business.

JOSH
What I do know is that we've been running this operation for a hundred years without any trouble. And, I'd like to keep it that way.

JEFFERSON
You want to keep it that way? Then we've got to keep Mexicans out of Mississippi.

JOSH

So selling them our legal coke is going to keep them away?

JEFFERSON

Nope. Killing them is going to keep them away.

Josh stops the truck and looks over at Jefferson.

JOSH

Killing people is not part of our business. We're protected from top to bottom. All you're doing is putting eyes on us.

JEFFERSON

Let me explain something to you. We make the cheapest, purest cocaine on earth. If the Mexicans show up and want a piece of that action, I've got to shut that shit down.

JOSH

How the hell would the cartel know about our operation?

JEFFERSON

They don't. Just drive. I'll make it crystal clear for you.

INT. COCAINE PROCESSING PLANT ON THE PLANTATION - MOMENTS LATER

Josh and Jefferson walk into the big warehouse building. It's the opposite of a lab in the jungle. Stainless steel machinery is humming. 50-gallon drums of chemicals line the walls.

JEFFERSON

Here's the deal little cousin, we've been paying off the law with cocaine for years. The Mexicans aren't moving in on our business. They're moving in on Sheriff Buford's business.

JOSH

Something I do not need to know about.

JEFFERSON

You asked. That dead Mexican is going to be written off as a deal gone bad. Some local dealer tried to buy from the cartel and got spooked.

JOSH

And what about Joe Davis?

JEFFERSON

What about him?

JOSH

Why did you have to bring him into all of this?

JEFFERSON

Somebody had to get rid of the Mexican's car.

JOSH

But Joe Davis?

JEFFERSON

He's the dumbest person in the family. And one of the few who need money.

JOSH

So you are going to pay him?

JEFFERSON

Just like I told him.

JOSH

Not that I give a damn. But, he is a witness. We need to keep him in line.

JEFFERSON

Already handled. Sheriff put his little nephew on the case. He's going to make an arrest this afternoon.

INT. SHERIFF'S OFFICE - LATER

Sheriff Buford and Ricky Buford are sitting in the Sheriff's office. Ricky places a file on the Sheriff's desk.

SHERIFF BUFORD

So you've got a suspect?

RICKY

Yes sir. Local dealer. Here's the rap.

SHERIFF BUFORD

You made quick work, boy. You going out to pick him up?

Agent Hargrave knocks on the Sheriff's glass door. Sheriff Buford motions him in.

DOUGLAS

Sheriff. Here's a drive with the surveillance video.

SHERIFF BUFORD

Alright. We'll add it to the file.

DOUGLAS

Just so you know. I've got another drive from the cemetery. There was some activity there as well.

Ricky shifts nervously in his chair.

RICKY

Agent, I think we've got a solid suspect.

The Sheriff motions for Ricky to shut up.

DOUGLAS

Oh really? That was fast. If you need that other drive...

SHERIFF BUFORD

I don't think we'll need it. But, why don't you bring it in anyway.

DOUGLAS

Just happen to have it right here.

Douglas hands the Sheriff two thumb drives.

SHERIFF BUFORD

Go on now. We've got work to do.

Douglas leaves the office.

RICKY

What's on those?

SHERIFF BUFORD

Hell, I don't know. I don't even know how to look at them. Why don't you take them and see if there's something you can use.

RICKY

Yes sir!

Ricky quickly takes the drives and leaves the office.

INT. SHERIFF'S OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

Ricky sits down at his desk and puts the thumb drive labeled cemetery into his laptop. A series of videos pops up. He sees himself in two of the thumbnails. The Sheriff walks up behind him. He quickly closes his laptop.

SHERIFF BUFORD

What you got there?

RICKY

I don't know. I can't figure out what's on them.

SHERIFF BUFORD

Well, if there were people running around in the cemetery, we can use them as witnesses against your perp.

RICKY

Yes sir.

EXT. NESSY HARGRAVES' FRONT PORCH - LATER

Douglas sits on the front porch with his mother. He calls Ricky Buford.

RICKY

Ricky Buford.

DOUGLAS

Deputy, Agent Hargrave. Have you had a chance to look at that surveillance footage?

RICKY

Not really, no.

DOUGLAS

When you get a chance, I want you to pay close attention to two facts. One, if your suspect is Jefferson Jones, you'll see his truck on the first thumb drive.

RICKY

Okay.

DOUGLAS

Second, the activity in the cemetery is something I don't think you want coming to light.

RICKY

Are you threatening me?

DOUGLAS

No, not at all. I just want to make sure justice is served.

RICKY

I'm doing everything I can Agent.

DOUGLAS

Well, there are four witnesses on that video you should probably interview.

RICKY

I don't think I'll need to.

DOUGLAS

You never know.

RICKY

I've got to run.

DOUGLAS

One last thing, deputy. If you don't question Jefferson Jones, you're not doing your job.

RICKY

Understood.

Douglas stands up and paces. He turns toward Nussy.

DOUGLAS

Momma, these guys are going to frame somebody for this murder. You watch.

NESSY

Honey, they been doing that for years.

DOUGLAS

But, ignoring evidence to protect someone is a crime.

NESSY

Douglas, do not get involved with this. You're going to get yourself hurt.

DOUGLAS

Momma, don't worry about me. I can take care of myself.

NESSY

I only got one of you. Don't go messing around now.

Douglas kisses his mothers head and leaves.

EXT. YANCY'S CONVERTIBLE CADILLAC - MOMENTS LATER

His phone rings. He picks it up.

YANCY

Hi Ricky.

RICKY

Yancy, I've got the videos.

YANCY

Oh my word. How bad is it?

RICKY

I don't know. But, I do know that agent you talked to needs to stay out of it.

YANCY

What's he doing?

RICKY

He wants us to go after Jefferson Jones.

YANCY

Oh hell no.

RICKY

I know. Fuck him.

YANCY

What are you going to do, Ricky?

RICKY

I don't know yet. But, I've got to make these videos disappear. And, I may need your help with that.

YANCY

What on earth could I do?

RICKY

I may need you to say you saw the guy we're arresting driving up into those woods.

YANCY

Are you kidding me? I've already told that agent everything I know.

RICKY

But, his story is not our story.

YANCY

So you want me to lie? In court? Ricky, you're going to get me killed!

RICKY

Just sit tight. I'm doing everything I can.

YANCY

Well do more. I can't be tied up in all this!

RICKY

Over and out.

INT. JOE DAVIS' BEDROOM - EVENING

Joe Davis is laying in bed watching television, drinking a martini. Joline walks in.

JOLINE

Joe Davis, you're off the hook.

JOE DAVIS

With the murder?

JOLINE

No. And don't say that. You've got your money back and the loan's paid off.

JOE DAVIS

What about the money I was supposed to make?

JOLINE

Listen, you greedy little queen, you're lucky to be laying up in that bed right now.

JOE DAVIS

I know. But, we've gone through all this and Jefferson said he would pay me.

JOLINE

Jefferson paid Josh. And I paid the bank. So, no. You just get to keep on living your life of leisure.

JOE DAVIS

What about the murder?

JOLINE

Josh says it's all handled. But, you're on restrictions.

JOE DAVIS

Oh come on Joline. Can't you just spank me?

JOLINE

Seriously Joe Davis, you are on house arrest. No leaving. No talking to anyone. Until they make an arrest.

JOE DAVIS

I still want you to spank me.

Joline shoots a bird at him, lights a joint and walks in the bathroom.

INT. SHERIFF'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Ricky sits at his desk. The office is empty. He's looking at the videos on his laptop. He sees himself walking into the bushes with Reggie Robinson and Bernie Yoste. He watches the video and confirms that nothing incriminating can be seen.

He opens another video and sees Yancy getting a blow job from Sandy Leach. He picks up the phone.

RICKY
Sandy? It's Ricky.

SANDY
Well, hi Ricky! What are you up to tonight?

RICKY
Nothing. Don't even go there.

SANDY
Have I done something?

RICKY
No. But I need your help.

SANDY
Anything. What do you need?

RICKY
Listen, those shots we heard the other night ended up being a murder.

SANDY
A murder?

RICKY
Yeah. And the Parks Service has you on video.

SANDY
On video?

RICKY
Yeah. It's bad. You're on your knees.

SANDY
Heavens no.

RICKY
So, I may need you to be a witness.

SANDY
A witness? To what?

RICKY
I need you to say you saw someone driving into the woods where the shots were fired.

SANDY
But, I didn't see anything!

RICKY
Doesn't matter.

SANDY
But... But I can't have this. This
will ruin me.

RICKY
Take it easy. If you make a
statement, we'll make sure nothing
gets out.

SANDY
Ricky, I've worked so hard to keep
this a secret.

RICKY
You work for the cemetery. How the
hell did you not know about the
cameras.

SANDY
(crying) I don't know. Oh man, I'm
so screwed.

RICKY
Sandy, stop blubbering. Just play
along with my plan and everything
will be fine.

SANDY
(crying more) I can't help it. I
can't... I just can't.

RICKY
I'll come see you in the morning.

SANDY
(crying)

RICKY
Get some sleep. I'll see you
tomorrow.

SANDY
Sleep. Right. (crying more)

Ricky hangs up, closes his laptop and leaves the office.

EXT. IN FRONT OF THE MONTGOMERY MANSION

Yancy pulls up in front of Joe Davis' house and trots up to the front door. Joline comes to the door and stands in the doorway.

JOLINE

Well if it isn't Yancy Stevenson
Earle the third.

YANCY

And, if it isn't the lovely Miss
Joline Jones Montgomery.

JOLINE

What do you need Yancy.

YANCY

I need to see Joe Davis. It's
important.

JOLINE

Not going to happen today. He's on
restrictions.

YANCY

Restrictions? For how long?

JOLINE

Until Josh tells us otherwise.

YANCY

Goodness gracious!

JOLINE

You're going to have to find
another playmate for a while. In
fact, you probably shouldn't be
here.

YANCY

Moi? Persona non grata?

JOLINE

Sorry Yancy, he's off limits to
everyone. Josh's orders.

YANCY

Can you pass him a message?

JOLINE

Sure.

YANCY

Tell Joe Davis the Sheriff wants me to testify. He wants me to say I saw some crackhead going up into those woods.

JOLINE

Is that all?

YANCY

Is that *all*? Actually no. Tell him this Parks Service agent has a hard-on for Jefferson. He's trying to blackmail me.

JOLINE

Yancy, I thought you were the only one who got hard-ons boys like Jefferson.

YANCY

This is not funny Joline!

JOLINE

You're so cute when you get scared. I'll pass along the message. Bye sugar.

Joline blows Yancy a kiss and closes the door.

EXT. VICKSBURG MILITARY PARK - LATER

Sandy Leach, dressed in a Confederate uniform, is preparing an area of the park for a reenactment. Agent Hargrave walks over a hill and startles him.

SANDY

Oh, hello officer.

DOUGLAS

How do you do? Getting ready for reenactment?

SANDY

Yes sir. Ought to be nice weather.

DOUGLAS

Listen, I know you're always out here. I was hoping you may be able to help me out with something.

SANDY

Be happy to if I can.

DOUGLAS

The other night, we had some people trespassing out in the cemetery.

Sandy nervously turns away from the agent and starts fidgeting.

SANDY

Oh, I hope it's not some roughnecks vandalizing graves.

DOUGLAS

I don't think so. I was just wondering if you had heard anything about it. You know there was a murder up in the woods above the cemetery that same night.

SANDY

I did hear something about that. Maybe I read it in the paper?

DOUGLAS

Mr. Leach, we can stop the cat and mouse game.

Sandy turns around quickly when he hears his name, like he's seen a ghost.

SANDY

Officer, I haven't the slightest idea...

DOUGLAS

It's okay Mr. Leach. Your secret is safe with me. But I do want your help.

SANDY

My secret? Officer, not many people know my grand-daddy was a Yankee.

DOUGLAS

That's not the secret I'm talking about.

SANDY

Well, sometimes I do bring my friends out here at night. And I know it's against policy. But...

DOUGLAS

Calm down. I'm not interested in that. Even though it is all on video.

SANDY

Please don't get me fired, officer.

DOUGLAS

No need for that.

SANDY

Officer... I'm sorry, what is your name?

DOUGLAS

Agent Douglas Hargrave, with the Parks Service Investigative Services Bureau.

SANDY

Agent Hargrave, I am the face of the Military Park. I can't afford to have my good name tarnished.

DOUGLAS

And that's exactly why I would like you to help me.

SANDY

Help you how?

DOUGLAS

Have you ever asked the Joshua Purvis Jones foundation for money?

SANDY

Yes. I believe they give us about five thousand dollars a year for my events.

DOUGLAS

Perfect. This year, I'd like you to recognize them for that support. At your event.

SANDY

That shouldn't be a problem.

DOUGLAS

I'd also like you to personally invite Josh Jones to say a few words.

(MORE)

DOUGLAS (CONT'D)

And be sure to send a personal invitation to Jefferson Jones as well.

SANDY

That's all?

DOUGLAS

For now. Just remember, we've got cameras all around this place.

SANDY

Thanks for the tip agent. A little too late. But thanks.

EXT. RUNDOWN NEIGHBORHOOD IN VICKSBURG - LATER

Ricky leads two other sheriff's cars through the streets. He stops in front of a shotgun shack with plywood over the windows and gets out. The other deputies gather around him.

RICKY

Alright boys. This is our guy.
Let's take him down.

Ricky motions for two of the deputies to go around to the back of the house. He walks up on the front steps and bangs on the door. It opens. Several junkies scramble and run to the back of the house, stumbling over themselves. They are all rounded up and put into cars and taken away.

INT. THE JONES PLANTATION - LATER

Jefferson Jones is walking through his cocaine processing facility. His phone rings. It's Ricky Buford.

JEFFERSON

Hello.

RICKY

Jefferson, it's done.

JEFFERSON

Who'd you round up?

RICKY

We picked up four junkies. Take your pick.

JEFFERSON

Which one has a record that fits?

RICKY

Shit, two of them have to sober up enough to get them ID'd. Of the other two, one has been arrested for armed robbery, cocaine possession...

JEFFERSON

Any intent to distribute?

RICKY

Yes. His name is Maurice Carter.

JEFFERSON

Book him. And get your little fairy friends in the loop.

RICKY

Yes sir.

INT. YANCY'S KITCHEN - EVENING

Yancy is making dinner, listening to music. There's a knock at his door. He opens the door. Ricky and Sandy are standing there. He invites them in.

YANCY

Good evening gentlemen, come on in.

RICKY

Thanks Yancy.

They walk to the kitchen and sit around a table.

YANCY

So, can I offer anyone a drink? Deputy, I assume you are off duty?

SANDY

I know I'm off duty. Get me a cocktail!

YANCY

Gin and tonic?

SANDY

Perfect.

RICKY

I'm going to pass. We need to figure some things out.

YANCY

Cool your jets. Everybody's got time for a little refreshment. Deputy, how about a beer?

RICKY

If it will end this small talk, fine.

Yancy walks over to his bar.

YANCY

Go ahead Ricky. I'm listening.

RICKY

Alright. We arrested Maurice Carter for the murder. His file is right here.

YANCY

Is that a good thing?

RICKY

It will be, once the two of you make statements.

SANDY

What about the videos?

RICKY

We'll get to that.

YANCY

And what about that Park Ranger fella?

RICKY

First things first. You both saw this man drive up into the woods where that Mexican was shot.

YANCY

And, what were Sandy and I doing when we saw him?

RICKY

Yancy, you already told the Parks agent you were scoping out property. Sandy, you're going to say you were in the cemetery making sure nobody was defacing the graves.

SANDY

And what about the video they have of you, Reggie and Bernie?

RICKY

Some of us were smart enough to go into the bushes. Those two concerned citizens were just helping me find my keys.

YANCY

Well isn't that convenient for you.

RICKY

Can't argue with that.

YANCY

And what was this Maurice driving?

RICKY

He owns a 1984 Monte Carlo, white.

YANCY

Oooh, a hooptie with spinnie rims. Who woulda thought?

SANDY

And how did I see him when I was in the cemetery?

RICKY

Good question. You both saw him out on the highway, where there aren't any cameras.

YANCY

So this is how you set people up. Remind me not to get on your bad side.

RICKY

All you have to do is point him out in a lineup, ID the car, and say where you were when you saw it.

SANDY

Can we talk about the Parks agent now? He came to see me today.

YANCY

Do what? Where were you?

SANDY

I was setting up for the memorial this weekend. He walked right up on me.

RICKY

What did you tell him?

SANDY

Nothing. But he told me he had me on video. Kind of threatening like.

RICKY

And what did he want from you?

SANDY

It was really odd. He wanted me to invite the Jones family to my memorial ceremony and recognize them.

RICKY

Aw shit. That motherfucker.

YANCY

I told you. He's got it out for Jefferson Jones.

RICKY

That ain't happening.

SANDY

Well, I've got to invite them. He's hanging that video over my head.

RICKY

Go ahead. But you better damned well believe I'm going to be there making sure that agent doesn't stick his nose where it don't belong.

YANCY

And you better make sure those videos don't see the light of day.

RICKY

Oh, I will.

YANCY

Cheers to that. What do you say we wrap of this serious talk and have some fun.

RICKY

No time for that. I've got shit to take care of.

SANDY

Yancy, if you can drive me home, I don't have to be anywhere.

Ricky gets up, rolls his eyes at his two queer friends and heads for the door.

INT. DOUGLAS HARGRAVES' RANGER CRUISER - MORNING

Douglas is driving down a country highway. He crests a hill and a sea of green John Deere equipment appears down the hill. He pulls into the John Deere dealership with a cloud of dust off the gravel and comes to a stop.

INT. JOSH JONES' JOHN DEERE DEALERSHIP - MOMENTS LATER

Josh Jones is standing behind a counter and sees the agent pull in. He walks out from behind the counter and meets him at the door. The agent walks in.

JOSH

How you doing Agent Hargrave. Don't suppose I could interest you in a new tractor today?

DOUGLAS

(laughs) You know my daddy and grand-daddy bought plenty of equipment from you on Uncle Sam's dime.

JOSH

Yes sir. The government's been a good customer over the years.

DOUGLAS

I'm actually here to see Reggie Robinson.

JOSH

I didn't know you were friends with Reggie.

DOUGLAS

I'm not. I just had a few questions for him.

JOSH

Reggie's one of my best guys. Hope he's not caught up in anything.

DOUGLAS

No, no. Just need a quick word.

JOSH

I don't know what he's up to. Let me page him.

Josh walks behind the counter and holds down an intercom button.

JOSH (CONT'D)

Reggie, you're needed in the office. Reggie. Office, please sir.

DOUGLAS

Thank you Mr. Jones. I guess you heard about the murder the other night?

JOSH

I did. Hated to see that. Not what we need in Vicksburg.

DOUGLAS

You know it was just up the road from my mother's house.

JOSH

That's terrible.

Reggie walks in from the back of the shop into the lobby area.

DOUGLAS

Mr. Robinson?

REGGIE

Yes sir.

JOSH

Reggie, this is Agent Hargrave with the Parks Service. You're not in any trouble. He's just looking for information.

REGGIE

Thank you Mr. Jones. You know I wouldn't be getting into anything. Agent Hargrave, what can I help you with?

DOUGLAS

Mr. Robinson, why don't we walk outside.

JOSH

If it's all the same to you agent, I don't think there's anything Reggie wouldn't say in front of me.

DOUGLAS

If that's okay with Mr. Robinson, I don't have any problem with that.

REGGIE

No sir. I don't keep any secrets from Mr. Jones.

DOUGLAS

Alright. Mr. Robinson...

REGGIE

You can call me Reggie.

DOUGLAS

Reggie, you might have heard there was a murder the other night.

REGGIE

No sir. Where?

DOUGLAS

It happened real close to the national cemetery. Otherwise, I wouldn't get involved. But, your truck did come up on one of my surveillance cameras. And, I was just wondering if you might have seen something.

REGGIE

My truck?

DOUGLAS

Yes, it was seen over by the maintenance building.

REGGIE

Oh, yeah. Ricky Buford called me to help him out.

DOUGLAS

Help him how?

REGGIE

He had lost his keys out in the cemetery chasing someone and wanted me to come out there with a flashlight.

DOUGLAS

I see. And did you find his keys?

REGGIE

No sir. We looked for a while and he finally just sent me home.

JOSH

Agent, this all sounds pretty innocent.

DOUGLAS

I'm sure it is. Did he tell you who he was chasing?

REGGIE

No sir. I didn't ask.

DOUGLAS

One last question. Do you know a man named Bernie Yoste?

REGGIE

Um... Yes. I believe he's an accountant.

JOSH

He's actually our accountant. What does he have to do with this?

DOUGLAS

Was he out in the cemetery that night?

REGGIE

As a matter of fact, he was. He stopped on his way home to see what was going on.

DOUGLAS

Well, Mr. Robinson, I really appreciate the information. Josh, would you happen to have Mr. Yoste's contact?

JOSH

I do, but I'm not sure he would appreciate me giving it out.

(MORE)

JOSH (CONT'D)

Reggie, you can get back to work. I want to have a word with the agent.

Reggie turns quickly and leaves the way he came.

JOSH (CONT'D)

Agent Hargrave, I'm not sure what you're up to, but if you're investigating a murder that happened on county land, you're going to get sideways with Sheriff Buford real quick.

DOUGLAS

I appreciate the advice. I'm just following up on the video surveillance that we captured that night so I can turn it over to the Sheriff.

JOSH

And what video do you have?

DOUGLAS

I can't really talk about it. But, there were several people in the cemetery at the time of the shooting. And, there was a vehicle seen going to and from the scene.

JOSH

You know they've already made an arrest.

DOUGLAS

I hadn't heard about that. How did you know?

JOSH

Like you, I can't really talk about that. Just know I'm looking out for you here.

DOUGLAS

I'm sure you are. Have a good day now.

Douglas leaves the dealership.

INT. THE JONES PLANTATION - MOMENTS LATER

Jefferson is standing out on the front porch smoking a cigarette. His phone rings.

JEFFERSON

What's up Josh.

JOSH

Agent Hargrave just showed up here. He's still poking around about the murder.

JEFFERSON

That sumbitch don't know when to quit. We've already got someone going down for this.

JOSH

I know. But, he's got video.

JEFFERSON

Of what?

JOSH

Some of it is just a Sheriff's deputy and a couple of guys in the cemetery. But he says he's got someone driving to and from the scene. Could that be you?

JEFFERSON

Shit. I did drive up by the cemetery because I had picked up Joe Davis. But, that don't matter.

JOSH

It could. He's given the video to the Sheriff.

JEFFERSON

Josh, do I need to remind you we own the Sheriff?

JOSH

I get that. But, we don't want that video getting out.

JEFFERSON

I'll do you one better Josh. How about I get the video and we'll see what's on it.

JOSH

At least we'd know what we're dealing with.

JEFFERSON

Done. Call you later.

EXT. NESSY HARGRAVES' FRONT PORCH - LATER

Nessy and Douglas sit on the front porch looking out over the cemetery.

DOUGLAS

Momma, sounds like they've arrested somebody for that murder.

NESSY

Well, let's put an end to that then.

DOUGLAS

I would, but I know they've probably just picked up a black man to pin the murder on.

NESSY

Um hmmm. What you expect?

DOUGLAS

Justice for one. I've got Jefferson Jones on video. I know it was him.

NESSY

Son, you can know all you want. But, you ain't gonna change the system.

DOUGLAS

So, I should just an innocent man go down for a murder he didn't commit?

NESSY

Wouldn't be the first time. And ain't gonna be the last.

DOUGLAS

I just can't do it. And, you know those gay boys in the cemetery are going to help cover it up.

NESSY

Who? Fancy Yancy Earle?

DOUGLAS

Yes, momma. They'll say whatever they have to.

NESSY

Sure will. Can't be caught with their pants down, can they.

DOUGLAS
 (laughs) Momma, you're somethin
 else.

NESSY
 Douglas Hargrave, I know you can't
 stand injustice. Neither could your
 daddy. But, this ain't your battle
 to fight.

DOUGLAS
 I'm not looking for a fight. I'm
 just looking for the truth.

NESSY
 Sometimes the lie wins. Just
 remember that.

DOUGLAS
 Okay momma, I love you.

Douglas walks down off the porch to his car.

INT. JEFFERSON'S OFFICE AT PLANTATION - LATER

Ricky sits in front of Jefferson's big wooden desk. Deer
 heads line the wood-paneled walls.

JEFFERSON
 Ricky, Ricky, Ricky. Let's see what
 you've got.

Ricky hands him a thumb drive. Jefferson sticks it into his
 laptop. Videos of his truck come up on the screen. He watches
 the videos as Ricky squirms in his seat.

JEFFERSON (CONT'D)
 I don't see what the big fucking
 deal is. So, I drove by the
 cemetery. Is this all you got?

RICKY
 Yeah. There's nothing there.

JEFFERSON
 Ricky, what about the other videos?

RICKY
 There aren't any other videos of
 you.

Jefferson stand up and walks around his desk to where Ricky
 is sitting. He puts a hand on his shoulder.

JEFFERSON

I'm not talking about me. I'm talking about your little circle jerk buddies.

RICKY

I've already got them ready to testify.

JEFFERSON

I know. I just want to see what they've got on you.

RICKY

Come on Jefferson. I'm doing everything you asked me to do.

JEFFERSON

Not everything. I want to see the videos. Or, I could just out every one of you.

Ricky reluctantly reaches in his pocket and hands Jefferson another thumb drive. Jefferson chuckles and walks back behind the desk. Several videos pop up on the screen. He watches, getting a big laugh out of it. Ricky squirms in his chair.

JEFFERSON (CONT'D)

Shit, I should put these on a porn site.

RICKY

There's nothing there of me. My story stacks up.

JEFFERSON

We all know the truth. Sweet Ricky sucking some black cock while that little Jewish guy jerks you off?

RICKY

Come on dude, just stop.

JEFFERSON

Listen you little faggot, do your job. Make this go away.

RICKY

We've already charged the guy you wanted. I'll take care of it.

JEFFERSON

If you don't want to be known as
the cocksucking cop, you better.
Now get the fuck out of here.

INT. BERNIE YOSTE'S OFFICE - AFTERNOON

Bernie Yoste sits at his desk in his accounting office. A bell rings on the door in front. He stands up and walks out of his office. Agent Hargrave is standing in the entrance.

BERNIE

Good afternoon, officer.

DOUGLAS

Are you Mr. Yoste?

BERNIE

Yes sir, I am. How can I help you?

DOUGLAS

I'm following up on a few things.
As you might have heard, there was
a shooting up by the cemetery the
other night.

BERNIE

Yes, just terrible.

DOUGLAS

Were you in the cemetery that
night?

BERNIE

I was on my way home and noticed a
Sheriff's car and a friend's truck
up there. So I stopped.

DOUGLAS

Why did you stop?

BERNIE

I thought my friend might be in
trouble. Turns out Reggie was just
helping the officer.

DOUGLAS

Mr. Yoste, is the Jones family one
of your clients?

BERNIE

I'm sorry officer, I don't discuss
who my clients are.

(MORE)

BERNIE (CONT'D)

I have non-disclosure agreements with most of them.

DOUGLAS

Well, Josh Jones told me this morning. So, I don't think he minds me knowing.

BERNIE

Even so, I cannot discuss it.

DOUGLAS

I see. Has the Sheriff asked you anything about that night?

BERNIE

No. I wouldn't have much to offer. It seems the shooting happened before I got there.

DOUGLAS

Well, if you happen to remember anything, could you give me a call?

Douglas hands Bernie his card and leaves.

INT. YANCY'S KITCHEN - EVENING

Yancy and Sandy are standing in his kitchen sipping wine while he cooks dinner. Yancy is very animated, perspiring, flustered.

YANCY

Oh Sandy, I just don't know how much of this I can take!

SANDY

I know. My memorial ceremony better not turn into a drama scene.

YANCY

Do you think Jefferson will show up?

SANDY

Gosh I hope not. I sent him a personal invitation, just like I was told.

YANCY

Why do you think that agent wants them there?

SANDY

He probably wants to talk to him in a public place. You know black folks don't like going up to the plantation.

The doorbell rings. Yancy puts his wine down.

YANCY

That must be Reggie and Bernie.

Yancy walks to the door and welcomes them in.

YANCY (CONT'D)

Hi boys, thanks for coming over.

BERNIE

Sure. We've got to stick together on this.

They all walk back to the kitchen.

SANDY

Hi guys. Anything new we should know about?

BERNIE

Agent Hargrave came by my office this afternoon.

REGGIE

And, he came by the dealership this morning.

YANCY

Persistent little bastard, isn't he? What did he ask y'all?

BERNIE

You know, what was I doing in the cemetery. I stuck to the story. On my way home and saw the deputy and Reggie looking for something.

REGGIE

Same. Told them Ricky called me out there to help him look for his keys.

SANDY

You guys got off easy. He showed up at the cemetery and has me inviting Jefferson Jones to my biggest event of the year.

YANCY

Boys can I get you something to drink?

SANDY

Hell yes. I need a vodka.

REGGIE

I'm fine. I've got some things to do tonight.

BERNIE

What do you think is going to happen?

SANDY

I don't know, but I hope it doesn't wreck my ceremony...

BERNIE

Not that Sandy, I mean with the murder?

YANCY

Guys, it sounds like everything is going as planned.

BERNIE

But the way this agent is digging, I don't think he's going to stop there. He knows I work for the Jones family.

REGGIE

And he obviously knows I do too.

YANCY

Ricky told us ya'll aren't even on the videos. Sandy and me weren't so lucky.

REGGIE

Damn. Really?

SANDY

I heard it with my own ears.

BERNIE

If that's the case, make mine a double, Yancy.

YANCY

Will do Bernie! That's something to celebrate right?

SANDY

It's not over yet. Yancy and I have to testify.

REGGIE

In court?

SANDY

Yes. And we have to lie.

REGGIE

What do they have you saying?

SANDY

That Maurice Carter did the deed.

REGGIE

Maurice Carter?

YANCY

That's who Ricky told us to finger.

REGGIE

I know Maurice Carter. At least I did. We grew up together.

YANCY

Oh Reggie, I'm sorry.

REGGIE

Man, fuck them! Y'all gonna take down a guy who never had a chance.

SANDY

It's our only way out.

REGGIE

It ain't your only way out. You could just tell the truth.

The room goes silent. They all look at each other uncomfortably.

YANCY

Telling the truth means admitting we're gay. We'd all be run out on a rail.

Yancy walks slowly around the room, stopping at Reggie, then Bernie, then Sandy.

YANCY (CONT'D)

Let's see, we'd have a colored queer, a kosher queen, and the little Yankee wankee. Sound about right?

BERNIE

Yancy's right. And I'm the only one here who's married. I would be drawn and quartered.

SANDY

I just can't.

REGGIE

I get it. We've all got a lot to lose. I've already lied to the agent about why I was out there.

YANCY

All of us have. We just need to lay low and stick to the script.

INT. JOE DAVIS AND JOLINE'S KITCHEN - MORNING

Jefferson sits at the table with Joe Davis and Joline.

JEFFERSON

Joe Davis, you're almost out of the woods. Once your friend Yancy ID's the guy we had arrested, we'll have an indictment.

JOE DAVIS

God, I hope so. I can't spend another day cooped up in here.

JOLINE

Sounds like we'll have a little coming out party at the Memorial Ceremony.

JEFFERSON

Are you planning to go to that?

JOLINE

I wouldn't miss it for the world. A proper southern family getting recognized in a Yankee cemetery?

JEFFERSON

It doesn't smell right to me.

JOLINE

What do you mean?

JEFFERSON

Somebody put them up to it. Is Josh going?

JOLINE

Oh honey, Josh isn't just going. He's speaking.

JEFFERSON

For fuck's sake. What's he going to say? God bless the dead Yankees who our tainting our southern soil?

JOE DAVIS

Has a nice ring to it.

JOLINE

You know Yancy showed up over here all bent out of shape about that park ranger. Said he had it out for you.

JEFFERSON

God damnit. I'll get Sheriff Buford on his ass.

JOE DAVIS

Now that's a gross thought.

JEFFERSON

Shut the fuck up Joe Davis.

JOLINE

Easy cousin. Just take care of it, like you always do.

INT. SHERIFF'S OFFICE - LATER

Yancy and Sandy stand behind a two-way mirror looking into a line-up room. Ricky and the Sheriff stand behind them. A row of black men walk in, all wearing orange jumpsuits.

SHERIFF BUFORD

Alright boys, all you have to do is point to the man you saw driving up into those woods.

YANCY

I hate to sound racist, but they all look alike.

SHERIFF BUFORD

No shit.

RICKY

Just remember what we talked about.

YANCY

I guess it's the first guy who walked in, on the right.

SHERIFF BUFORD

We're going to need more than a guess.

YANCY

Definitely, the man on the right.

The sheriff pushes a button on an intercom.

SHERIFF BUFORD

Inmate number 7, step forward.

RICKY

Alright Sandy, your turn.

SANDY

It's inmate number 7.

SHERIFF BUFORD

You win a prize.

The sheriff pushes the button again.

SHERIFF BUFORD (CONT'D)

Alright, take em back.

Ricky puts two typed statements in front of Yancy and Sandy.

RICKY

If y'all can just sign these statements, that will wrap it up.

SHERIFF BUFORD

Nice work Ricky. You've solved your first murder case.

INT. JOSH JONES' JOHN DEERE DEALERSHIP - AFTERNOON

Josh is sitting at his desk, writing his speech. Reggie knocks on the frame of the open door.

REGGIE

Mr. Jones, you got a minute?

JOSH
Sure Reggie, what you got?

REGGIE
I need to talk to you about something.

JOSH
Have a seat.

REGGIE
I don't know why I'm telling you this. But, I feel like I can trust you. And I want you to hear it from me.

JOSH
Does this have to do with whatever that agent was asking about?

REGGIE
Not really. You know I've been a good worker for years here.

JOSH
Yes. You have.

REGGIE
And you've been really nice to give me a place to live.

JOSH
Reggie, you're a good employee.

REGGIE
Mr. Jones. I don't know why this matters, but I've been hiding something from everyone for a long time.

JOSH
I can't imagine you'd have a drug problem, Reggie. What is it?

REGGIE
I'm gay, Mr. Jones.

JOSH
Well Reggie, that's none of my business, or anyone else's.

REGGIE
I know. But, I don't want it to be something anyone can hold over me.

JOSH

I understand. Is someone doing that?

REGGIE

Not really. But, I get the feeling that's what that agent was driving at.

JOSH

Do you want me to say anything to him?

REGGIE

Oh no. Please no, Mr. Jones. I just needed to get a weight off my shoulders. And, I didn't want to lose my job.

JOSH

Reggie, I couldn't fire you if I wanted to for being gay. As long as it doesn't interfere with your job, I could care less.

REGGIE

I'm sorry, Mr. Jones. Sorry.

JOSH

Get back to work now. This never happened.

REGGIE

Okay, Mr. Jones. Sorry

EXT. THE NATIONAL CEMETERY - MORNING

Sandy stands in uniform in front of rows of white chairs. A podium is set up on a hill above him. A big red truck drives into the grass behind him. Jefferson Jones gets out.

SANDY

Sir, you can't drive on the grass here!

JEFFERSON

I can do any damn thing I want to.

SANDY

Sir, I'm Sandy Leach. I'm in charge of this event.

JEFFERSON

I know who you are. I'm Jefferson Jones and I'm paying for this event.

SANDY

Oh, my apologies. I was hoping you would attend.

JEFFERSON

You and who else?

SANDY

I don't understand?

JEFFERSON

Sure you do. Who put you up to this?

SANDY

Mr. Jones, I just wanted to show our appreciation...

JEFFERSON

Did you talk to that nigger park ranger?

Sandy chokes on his words.

SANDY

He came out here asking questions.

JEFFERSON

Listen you little faggot, when he shows up today, I want you to pass a message along.

SANDY

I don't know if he'll...

JEFFERSON

You don't know shit, do you? You tell that motherfucker if he wants to see me, he can come out to my place. I'm not walking into some bullshit trap.

SANDY

Okay. And he knows where that is?

JEFFERSON

If he doesn't, he's dumber than you are. And take that uniform off.

(MORE)

JEFFERSON (CONT'D)

You're a disgrace, you little
cocksucker.

INT. JOE DAVIS' BEDROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Joe Davis is putting on a nice suit to wear to the memorial ceremony. Joline is in the doorway to the bathroom in her robe, smoking a joint.

JOLINE

Don't you look respectable?

JOE DAVIS

Thank you, baby. That's what I'm
going for.

JOLINE

You want a hit off this joint?

JOE DAVIS

No, I don't want Josh to see me any
way but straight.

JOLINE

Good luck on that one.

JOE DAVIS

You know what I mean. Straight and
narrow.

JOLINE

You are narrow. But, you're
anything but straight.

JOE DAVIS

Just stop. I've got to be on my
best behavior.

JOLINE

Is Yancy going to be there?

JOE DAVIS

I don't know. I haven't been
allowed to talk to him.

JOLINE

Let's give him a call.

Joline pulls her phone out of her robe pocket and calls
Yancy.

YANCY

Hi Joline.

JOLINE

Yancy boy! Are you getting ready for the big event?

YANCY

I was born ready honey. But, I'm not really looking forward to it.

JOLINE

Oh? I thought you would be on full display.

YANCY

I had to spend yesterday afternoon at the Sheriff's office. I just feel gross.

JOLINE

Awe. Poor little puddin'. Joe Davis can't wait to see you. We'll save you a seat right up front.

YANCY

Listen, that parks agent is going to be there today. I found out he set this whole thing up.

JOLINE

Set what up?

YANCY

The family recognition. I think he wants to catch y'all off guard.

JOLINE

Oh honey, I'm never off guard.

YANCY

You just may want to warn Joe Davis and Josh. Is Jefferson going?

JOLINE

I have no idea. I doubt it.

YANCY

If he is, you may want to give him a heads up.

JOLINE

I hope he does try to confront Jefferson. That would be quite a scene.

YANCY

We don't want a scene. No drama.

JOLINE

Now when is the last time those words came out of your mouth?

YANCY

I know. But not today.

EXT. THE NATIONAL CEMETERY - LATER

People are gathering for the memorial ceremony. Sandy stands on the stage in uniform holding a bugle. Joline and Joe Davis are sitting in the front row, with Yancy. Josh is sitting on the stage. Douglas walks up to Yancy.

DOUGLAS

Mr. Earle, good to see you.

YANCY

Hello Agent Hargrave. I guess you're providing security?

DOUGLAS

No, no. I'm here to honor the memory of the fallen.

Douglas turns to Joline and Joe Davis and reaches out a hand.

DOUGLAS (CONT'D)

Good afternoon. Agent Hargrave with the Parks Service Investigative Services Bureau.

Joe Davis shakes the agent's hand.

YANCY

How rude of me. This is Joline and Joe Davis Montgomery. They are benefactors of the National Cemetery, and everything else in Vicksburg.

JOLINE

Now Yancy, no need for that. Agent Hargrave, pleased to make your acquaintance.

DOUGLAS

Mr. and Mrs. Montgomery. Nice to meet you. I understand the Jones family is getting recognized today. Do you know them?

JOE DAVIS

Know them? We are them. This is Joline Jones Montgomery.

Joline grabs Joe Davis' hand and grips it tightly.

DOUGLAS

Oh, pardon me. In that case, congratulations and thank you for your support.

JOLINE

Again, no need for that. Vicksburg has blessed my family and we are just returning the favor.

DOUGLAS

Are there any other members of your family here? I wouldn't want to make the same mistake.

JOLINE

Just my brother Josh. He'll be representing us today.

DOUGLAS

Yes, I know Josh. We've bought a lot of heavy equipment from him over the years.

JOLINE

Well, on his behalf, thank you for the business.

DOUGLAS

My family has been caretakers of the cemetery going back to the 1800s.

JOE DAVIS

You don't say. My great-grandmother was a slave too.

DOUGLAS

Actually, my great grand-father was free. He had a thriving business digging caves for wealthy families to live in during the siege.

JOE DAVIS

I didn't mean anything...

JOLINE

Agent Hargrave, it looks like the ceremony is about to start. It was nice to meet you.

Sandy steps forward on the stage and starts playing taps on the bugle. Agent Hargrave walks to the back of the crowd. When Sandy's finished, he steps to the podium.

SANDY

Townspeople of Vicksburg, thank you for coming out to mourn the fallen. While many of your ancestors are buried down the hill in Soldier's Rest, we commemorate all those who lost their lives in the conflict. And we join together to enjoy a brighter future.

Today, we recognize one of the founding families of Vicksburg for their undying support of our National Cemetery, which brings hundreds of thousands of tourists to our fair city each year.

Without further ado, I would like to present Josh Jones with a token of our appreciation.

Josh stand up and walks to the podium to accept a plaque.

SANDY (CONT'D)

Mr. Jones, you have our gratitude. Now, if you would like to say a few words.

JOSH

Thank you Mr. Lynch. I'm a man of few words. So I will keep this brief. Just the other night, in the woods up behind me, there was a murder. It wasn't a death like those we honor today. Today, Vicksburg is under siege once again. Another siege that threatens our way of life. The man that was killed in those woods belonged to a drug cartel from Mexico.

(MORE)

JOSH (CONT'D)

And he was killed by a local man who had been sucked into a life of crime by poverty. So, my family is pledging our financial support an area of our city that is in the grip of poverty and crime. We will be building a new community center in one of our most blighted neighborhoods. We are also pledging support for our Sheriff's office. Sheriff Buford? Would you do the honors?

Sheriff Buford drives a black military vehicle out from behind a row of bushes. The crowd cheers. Agent Hargrave stands in the back staring in disgust.

EXT. THE NATIONAL CEMETERY - MOMENTS LATER

Sandy stands in front of the stage as the crowd leaves. Douglas walks up to him.

DOUGLAS

Well that was something.

SANDY

Indeed it was. One of the best yet.

DOUGLAS

No, I mean the show with the assault vehicle.

SANDY

Oh that was a surprise to me too.

DOUGLAS

What about Jefferson Jones? Did you invite him?

SANDY

Yes. He declined. But, he did invite you to visit him on his plantation. I really can't be seen talking right now.

DOUGLAS

Were you told not to speak with me?

SANDY

I can't talk about it. I really need to mingle.

INT. JEFFERSON'S OFFICE AT PLANTATION - LATER

Jefferson welcomes the Sheriff into his office. He opens a special bottle of rare whiskey and pours two glasses. He opens some big glass doors and they stand looking out on the plantation.

JEFFERSON

Cheers to your new fleet of assault vehicles.

SHERIFF BUFORD

Yes sir. Jefferson, you outdid yourself this time.

JEFFERSON

We gotta keep those spics out of our business somehow.

SHERIFF BUFORD

You got that right. I've deputized some of my old security crew to man the vehicles.

JEFFERSON

Perfect. How's the murder case going?

SHERIFF BUFORD

He's indicted. Got him ID'd by those two boys. Nothing but the trial now.

JEFFERSON

We're going to run this up through federal court right?

SHERIFF BUFORD

I was thinking it would be circuit court.

JEFFERSON

Nope, remember, I own that land he was killed on. Annexed it as part of the plantation. So, it'll go to the Honorable Hiram Carlisle in Natchez.

SHERIFF BUFORD

Well shit, that makes things easy.

JEFFERSON

Damn straight. One stop in Natchez
and then a one-way ticket to Yazoo
City.

SHERIFF BUFORD

(laughs) Damn son, you got this all
figured out.

There's a knock at the front door.

JEFFERSON

Now who the fuck would be coming
out here unannounced?

Jefferson walks out of the room.

EXT. FRONT PORCH OF JONES PLANTATION HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Douglas stands on the front porch. Jefferson opens the door.

JEFFERSON

I'll be god damned. You lost?

DOUGLAS

You Jefferson Jones?

JEFFERSON

I am and unless you're lost or have
a warrant, you need to get your ass
back in your car and go out the way
you came.

DOUGLAS

I was told I had an invitation to
visit you.

JEFFERSON

I guess that queer who likes to
play dress-up can't take a joke.

Sheriff Buford walks out and joins Jefferson on the porch.

DOUGLAS

I was expecting to see you at the
memorial this morning.

JEFFERSON

Well you didn't. Now, step on off
boy.

SHERIFF BUFORD

You heard him. You got no business here.

DOUGLAS

Just one question and I'll be on my way.

JEFFERSON

That ain't the way this works. Go on now.

DOUGLAS

Who was in the truck with you that night?

JEFFERSON

None of your god damned business.

SHERIFF BUFORD

You best be going now.

DOUGLAS

Sheriff, you know what your nephew was doing out in the cemetery that night, don't you?

SHERIFF BUFORD

Now listen son, you've done overstepped here.

DOUGLAS

Mr. Jones, you've got some pretty big tires on that truck. I've seen tracks like that somewhere.

JEFFERSON

Sheriff, arrest this motherfucker for trespassing before I show him where his ancestors are buried.

DOUGLAS

No need for that. I'll be going.

Jefferson steps down off the porch toward Douglas.

SHERIFF BUFORD

Jefferson, let him go.

Douglas walks quickly to his car. Before he gets in, he has one last word.

DOUGLAS
Sheriff, tell your nephew to stay
out of the cemetery.

SHERIFF BUFORD
Fuck you.

EXT. JOLINE'S PATIO - AFTERNOON

Joline, Joe Davis and Yancy sit outside drinking champagne.

JOLINE
Welcome back Yancy, we've missed
you.

YANCY
You have no idea. This week has
been the most stressful in my life.

JOE DAVIS
You and me both.

YANCY
At least your safe now. I still
have to testify in court.

Yancy's phone rings.

YANCY (CONT'D)
Oh Jesus, it's Ricky.

JOLINE
Well answer it. And put it on
speaker.

Yancy answers the phone and leaves it sitting on the table.

RICKY
Yancy?

YANCY
The one and only.

RICKY
Listen, that guy from the Parks
Service showed up at Jefferson's
place. It's a complete shit show.

YANCY
Wait a minute, he went to the
plantation?

RICKY
Yes, and my uncle was out there.

YANCY
I thought this was a done deal.

RICKY
I did too. This guy just won't let
it go.

YANCY
What did he say?

RICKY
He got in Jefferson's face about
his truck. And wanted to know who
was with him.

Joe Davis slumps in his chair and sighs.

YANCY
Oooh. What did Jefferson do?

RICKY
Told him to fuck off.

YANCY
Well what now?

RICKY
I don't know. But, tell your
friends to stick to the story. Now
more than ever.

YANCY
Will do. Be safe Ricky.

Yancy ends the call.

YANCY (CONT'D)
Well, that's some crazy shit.

JOE DAVIS
Yancy, that person in the truck...

JOLINE
That person in the truck can't be
identified. And it needs to stay
that way.

Joline kicks Joe Davis under the table.

YANCY
Wait a minute, you know who it was.

JOLINE

Haven't the slightest idea. And, it doesn't matter.

YANCY

I know you know, Joline. Who was it?

JOLINE

Yancy, sweet pea, you know better than to press me.

YANCY

You're right. Was it someone we know?

JOE DAVIS

It was me.

INT. JOSH JONES' JOHN DEERE DEALERSHIP - NIGHT

Josh stands in the back lot of his dealership next to several military trucks full of crates. About twenty humvee-style vehicles are parked behind them. Jefferson pulls in with a cloud of dust behind him and gets out.

JOSH

What's up cousin?

JEFFERSON

That nigger park ranger is all up in my business. But other than that, just fine.

JOSH

What's he want out of all this?

JEFFERSON

Couldn't give a fuck. How's the shipment look?

JOSH

Everything we expected. Enough to arm a small battalion. Plus a few extra goodies.

JEFFERSON

Perfect. I heard your speech was spot on. The Sheriff sure was happy.

JOSH

Just trying to make the world a better place, you know.

JEFFERSON

Well, it would be a lot better without that motherfucker sticking his nose where it doesn't belong.

JOSH

I guess I'll need to donate some equipment to the Parks Service next.

JEFFERSON

Hey, I am worried about one thing though.

JOSH

What's that?

JEFFERSON

Joe Davis. He's got loose lips. And I don't mean just suckin' cock.

JOSH

I've had him on lockdown. Joline's keeping an eye on him.

JEFFERSON

I just want insurance.

JOSH

What do you want to do?

JEFFERSON

I think he needs to come live at the plantation for a while. Under real lockdown.

JOSH

Sure, but then he's going to see a lot more than he usually does.

JEFFERSON

Naw. It'll be like old times. He can see how his great grandmother lived. I could use a house boy.

JOSH

I guess we can't be too careful. Want me to talk to Joline?

JEFFERSON

She won't give a shit. I'll just go pick him up in the morning.

JOSH

Alright. You want me to get these trucks out to the plantation tonight?

JEFFERSON

Hell yeah. Bring it on.

INT. JOE DAVIS AND JOLINE'S KITCHEN - MORNING

Joe Davis sits by himself at the kitchen table with his head in his hands. Joline is pacing on the patio in her robe smoking a joint. The doorbell rings. Joline walks in going to the door.

JOLINE

Sit your ass right there.

EXT. IN FRONT OF THE MONTGOMERY MANSION - MOMENTS LATER

Ricky is standing on the top step. A Sheriff's humvee is parked behind him. Joline answers the door.

RICKY

Miss Joline.

JOLINE

Deputy. Please don't tell me you're bringing trouble to my doorstep.

RICKY

Actually, I'm here to take some trouble off your hands. Jefferson wants to see Joe Davis at the plantation.

JOLINE

And he sent you?

RICKY

Yes ma'am.

Joline turns away from Ricky and starts walking into the house.

JOLINE

Joe Davis, it's for you...

Ricky follows her into the house and closes the door.

INT. JOE DAVIS AND JOLINE'S KITCHEN - MOMENTS LATER

Joe Davis stands up. Joline walks past him back onto the patio and continues smoking her joint. Ricky walks into the kitchen.

RICKY

Mr. Montgomery, Jefferson sent me to pick you up.

JOE DAVIS

For what?

RICKY

He wants you at the plantation until the trial is over.

JOE DAVIS

Oh hell to the no.

RICKY

That's the order.

JOE DAVIS

So, what, am I supposed to pack a bag?

RICKY

Up to you. I can always come back to pick something up.

JOE DAVIS

Really? No.

Joline pokes her head in the door, holding the joint outside.

JOLINE

Joe Davis, get your shit. Don't think you have a choice in this one.

Joe Davis shakes his head in disbelief and walks upstairs.

RICKY

Do you want me to wait outside?

JOLINE

I don't give a fuck what you do. Pour yourself a drink as far as I'm concerned.

RICKY
On duty, ma'am.

JOLINE
Oh, fuck off deputy. Just sit down
and wait.

She closes the door behind her.

EXT. THE JONES PLANTATION - LATER

Ricky pulls up in the humvee with Ricky in the front seat. He gets out and pulls Joe Davis' suitcase from the back. Joe Davis gets out looking flustered.

JOE DAVIS
Be careful with that now. It cost
more than your salary.

Ricky walks up to the front door with the suitcase and rings the doorbell. Jefferson comes to the door. Joe Davis reluctantly walks up the steps.

JEFFERSON
Joe Davis Montgomery, welcome home.

They all walk into the house.

INT. JEFFERSON'S OFFICE AT PLANTATION - MOMENTS LATER

Jefferson walks to the bar cart and pours himself some whiskey. He turns as Ricky puts the suitcase on the floor and Joe Davis shuffles in behind him.

JEFFERSON
It's been too long.

JOE DAVIS
Oh, I'm sure.

JEFFERSON
Ricky, how do you like that humvee?

RICKY
Just what we need Mr. Jones.

JEFFERSON
Well, I'm glad to have you boy's
protecting me again. Seems like old
times.

RICKY

I guess my uncle would know better than me.

JEFFERSON

You'll learn. Give it time. So, Joe Davis, who the fuck knows you were in the car that night?

JOE DAVIS

Only you, and I guess the deputy here.

JEFFERSON

You sure you haven't let it slip out in the middle of a blowjob?

JOE DAVIS

Funny Jefferson. Real funny.

JEFFERSON

Ricky, get the fuck out of here. Alright?

RICKY

Yes sir.

Ricky leaves quickly.

JEFFERSON

No, Joe Davis, it's not funny. That's not the way we do business around here. You keep your fucking mouth shut, and you take the money. That's all you have to remember.

JOE DAVIS

Got it. So what's this all about?

JEFFERSON

This is about you being part of my fucking family. And respecting that bond.

JOE DAVIS

No really, what's this about Jefferson.

JEFFERSON

It's about you not fucking this up like everything else you do.

JOE DAVIS

So, you're locking me up in your house?

JEFFERSON

No, no. You're going to live here like your great grand-nanny lived. You're not locked up. You just know your place.

JOE DAVIS

Fuck me.

JEFFERSON

In fact, you can stay in the same room that our house girls lived in.

JOE DAVIS

And how long will this torture go on?

JEFFERSON

Until I say you're free. Top of the stairs, turn right, second room on the left. Go on now.

Joe Davis begrudgingly picks up his suit case and walks out of the office.

INT. YANCY'S BEDROOM - LATER

Yancy and Sandy are laying in bed together. Sandy's Confederate uniform is slung over a chair.

YANCY

Look at the two of us. As if we didn't have enough to hide.

SANDY

I've got even more to hide.

YANCY

Don't tell me you've found more trouble.

SANDY

No, I just feel like everyone sees me as a fraud. You know how my great grand-daddy defected from the Union troops during the seige?

YANCY

Yes, good for him.

SANDY

But only a few people know that. Every time I put that Confederate uniform on, I feel like people see right through it.

YANCY

Sandy, I think everyone knows you would not have made a great soldier.

SANDY

Gee thanks. Jefferson told me I was a disgrace.

YANCY

Wait, when did you see Jefferson?

SANDY

He showed up before the memorial. Just drove right up on the lawn.

YANCY

Did he threaten you?

SANDY

Not really. He was just being a bully. But, he knew I'd been talking to the Parks Service.

YANCY

How did he know that?

SANDY

I told him.

YANCY

Oh Sandy. That's not good.

SANDY

I don't understand.

YANCY

There's a lot you don't understand about this. But, you cannot be talking to that agent.

SANDY

But Jefferson told me to tell him to go out to the plantation.

YANCY

No. So that's why he showed up out there.

SANDY

You mean he actually went to the plantation?

YANCY

Yes. You can imagine the drama.

SANDY

I'm scared Yancy.

YANCY

Listen, as long as he needs your testimony, you're safe. Just lay low and do what he says.

INT. JUDGE HIRAM CARLISLE'S OFFICE - AFTERNOON

Judge Carlisle sits at his desk looking at a case file. There's a note on the file to call Josh Jones. He picks up his phone and dials.

JOSH

Josh Jones.

JUDGE CARLISLE

Josh, Hiram Carlisle. I had a note to call you about a case up in Vicksburg.

JOSH

Yes, judge. A murder.

JUDGE CARLISLE

Looks like a pretty cut and dry case.

JOSH

It does, but I wanted to give you some context. There's a Parks Service agent who has been interfering with the Sheriff's investigation.

JUDGE CARLISLE

And this wasn't on Parks Service land?

JOSH

No, it happened on our family land. So it's covered by our agreement with the government.

JUDGE CARLISLE

I see. And it looks like you've got witnesses lined up?

JOSH

That's where the problem comes in. The agent has been threatening the witnesses. He has them on video hooking up in the National Cemetery.

JUDGE CARLISLE

So they were in the commission of a crime under his jurisdiction when they witnessed this crime?

JOSH

Technically, yes. But, they weren't in the cemetery when they ID'd the shooter.

JUDGE CARLISLE

Okay, and he's threatening to out these boys if they don't recant?

JOSH

Exactly.

JUDGE CARLISLE

Got it. Let me see what I can do.

Judge Carlisle gets up from his desk and opens a chifforobe. He unlocks a drawer and puts the case file in it. Then he pulls a robe from it and puts it on.

EXT. FRONT PORCH OF JONES PLANTATION HOUSE

Jefferson stands with Joe Davis looking out at the new security force on the plantation. Several humvees and guards with submachine guns are taking positions around a new gate at the entrance.

JEFFERSON

Don't worry Joe Davis, they aren't here to keep you in. They're here to keep the Mexicans out.

JOE DAVIS

So, I can leave?

JEFFERSON

No. You've got work to do.

JOE DAVIS
You know, I'm not a slave.

JEFFERSON
Maybe not, but I do own you.

Reggie walks up from the side of the house.

REGGIE
Mr. Jones, I've got the trench
finished.

JEFFERSON
Let's go take a look.

Jefferson walks down off the porch. Joe Davis stands there
defiantly. Jefferson turns around.

JEFFERSON (CONT'D)
Don't just stand there, come on
boy.

Joe Davis shuffles off the porch and follows Jefferson and
Reggie. They walk out through the field.

EXT. THE JONES PLANTATION - MOMENTS LATER

Jefferson, Joe Davis and Reggie stand on the edge of a trench
that's about four feet deep and surrounds the warehouse
building where they process cocaine. A big earth mover sits
at the edge of the trench.

JEFFERSON
Nice work Reggie.

JOE DAVIS
Looks like a mass grave.

JEFFERSON
More like a moat to protect your
future. Not that you deserve it,
you little queen.

REGGIE
If that's all, I'll load up and
head back.

JEFFERSON
Yeah, Reggie, I'm sure Josh need
you. Thanks for coming out.

REGGIE
Yes sir.

Reggie walks over to earth mover and drives it up on a flatbed truck.

JEFFERSON

Now then, Joe Davis, time for you to earn your keep.

JOE DAVIS

Doing what? I don't own any work clothes.

JEFFERSON

I wouldn't waste my time asking you to actually work. I need you to run an errand for me.

JOE DAVIS

The last time I did that, I ended up in the middle of a murder.

JEFFERSON

I just need you to take a thank you note over to the Military Park.

JOE DAVIS

You don't write thank you notes.

JEFFERSON

It's from the family.

Jefferson hands him an envelope addressed to Sandy Leach.

JOE DAVIS

I don't have a car.

JEFFERSON

Take one of those humvees. And don't make any stops on the way. Get on with it.

EXT. NATIONAL CEMETERY VISITORS CENTER - LATER

Joe Davis pulls up on the sidewalk in front of the visitors center and gets out like he owns the place.

INT. NATIONAL CEMETERY VISITORS CENTER - MOMENTS LATER

Sandy stands behind the desk and welcomes Joe Davis.

SANDY

Well hello, Joe Davis.

JOE DAVIS

Sandy. The family wanted me to deliver this as a thank you.

SANDY

Oh how nice. It was such a beautiful ceremony.

JOE DAVIS

Could I ask you something?

SANDY

Sure. What is it?

JOE DAVIS

How long have you been seeing Yancy?

SANDY

Um... Could we take this conversation into my office?

JOE DAVIS

No. Just answer me.

SANDY

I've... I've known Yancy for some time.

JOE DAVIS

Do me a favor and stay away from him. Okay?

SANDY

I don't understand.

JOE DAVIS

Just stay away. Now take this. Thanks from the Jones family.

INT. SANDY'S OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

Sandy sits at his desk sobbing. He opens the note card. It's blank on the inside. Agent Hargrave's business card falls out. Written on the back: "Stop talking."

INT. BERNIE YOSTE'S OFFICE - LATER

Josh and Bernie sit in his office going over some financials.

JOSH

Bernie, the Community Center expenses need to come from the Foundation. But, all of the military equipment needs to be expensed to the plantation business. My dealership doesn't need any paper trail.

BERNIE

Sure thing. I do have a question about the equipment though. There were twenty personnel carriers and assault vehicles, correct? I don't know what fair value is, but fourteen million dollars seems very high.

JOSH

Don't worry about that. Just expense it to the plantation as general equipment. But none of it was purchased through the dealership. Got it?

BERNIE

Sure. I do have one other question.

JOSH

Go ahead.

BERNIE

It's not about this. It's about that Parks Service agent who's been snooping around.

JOSH

He came to see you too?

BERNIE

Yes. I just want to make sure I'm not expecting any kind of subpoena.

JOSH

No. He doesn't have any jurisdiction. Just don't talk to him.

BERNIE

Oh, I'm not. I told him I was under a strict non-disclosure agreement.

JOSH

But he asked you about our
business?

BERNIE

No, he was really here asking about
me being in the cemetery the night
of that murder.

JOSH

Were you?

BERNIE

Yes, I stopped on my way home when
I saw Reggie's truck and a
sheriff's car on the side of the
road.

JOSH

So Reggie was out there too?

BERNIE

Yes, Ricky Buford had called him
out there.

JOSH

Well, if that agent shows back up
here, tell him to call me.

BERNIE

Sure thing Mr. Jones. He won't get
anything out of me.

EXT. YANCY'S CONVERTIBLE CADILLAC - AFTERNOON

Yancy and Joline are out for a drive with the top down.
They're sipping champagne and listening to music. They drive
to an overlook above the river and park.

YANCY

Joline, I cannot believe Joe Davis
just threw it out there that he and
Jefferson are murderers.

JOLINE

Yancy, darling, Joe Davis is not a
killer. He's harmless. He just said
he was with Jefferson earlier that
night.

YANCY

You know more than you're telling me. Here, have some more champagne and let me in on it.

JOLINE

I will tell you this. He's terribly jealous that you and Sandy have a thing on the side.

YANCY

Oh that's nothing. It's just role play. Who doesn't want to get fondled by a Confederate soldier?

JOLINE

Well, that's all he could talk about after you left the other day.

YANCY

And now he's stuck out at the plantation with nothing to do but stew about it. You know I love him.

JOLINE

That's why he's so twisted. He wants you all to himself.

YANCY

He can have me. As soon as we get past all this mess, I'll settle right on down.

JOLINE

Oh Yancy, you'll never settle down. Too many people like you.

YANCY

I can't help it if I'm fabulous.

EXT. NESSY HARGRAVES' FRONT PORCH - EVENING

Nessy sits on her front porch listening to gospel music on an old radio. A single gunshot goes off in the distance from the cemetery.

NESSY

Oh my word. Not again.

Nessy quickly goes inside.

INT. NESSY'S LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Nessy picks up the phone and calls Douglas.

NESSY

Douglas. Come quick. I heard another gunshot.

EXT. THE NATIONAL CEMETERY - MOMENTS LATER

Sandy sits leaning against his great grandfathers tombstone, dressed in full Confederate uniform, dead. An envelope lays in his lap. An antique pistol is on the ground beside him.

EXT. NESSY'S LIVING ROOM - LATER

Douglas walks into the house. Nessy sits in a chair in the corner.

NESSY

Oh Douglas, I don't know how much more of this I can take!

DOUGLAS

It'll be alright momma. Now where did the shot come from.

NESSY

Down in the cemetery. Just down the hill.

DOUGLAS

Alright. You sit here. I'll go check it out.

NESSY

Be careful son. I don't know what I would do if I lost you.

DOUGLAS

I'll be safe momma. Don't worry.

EXT. THE NATIONAL CEMETERY - MOMENTS LATER

Douglas walks through the cemetery with his gun drawn and flashlight out. He sees a head sticking up over a tombstone and crouches behind another tombstone.

DOUGLAS

Federal agent! Show your hands!

The body doesn't move. Douglas waits a beat and advances on the tombstone. He discovers Sandy's body and calls in a report.

DOUGLAS (CONT'D)
Dispatch, over.

DISPATCH
Dispatch, go ahead.

DOUGLAS
Got a ten-fifty-six in the national cemetery in Vicksburg. Dropping location. Notify coroner.

DISPATCH
Copy that.

INT. NESSY'S LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Nessy looks out the window and sees the coroner van pass, followed by the Sheriff's SUV with lights flashing.

EXT. THE NATIONAL CEMETERY - MOMENTS LATER

Sheriff Buford and the Coroner walk up on the scene. Douglas has taped off an area around the body.

SHERIFF BUFORD
Well son, looks like you've got something to keep you busy now.

Sheriff Buford walks inside the tape and stands over the body.

DOUGLAS
Sheriff, I'd appreciate it if you wouldn't disturb the scene.

SHERIFF BUFORD
And, I'd appreciate it if you would mind your own business. But, that hasn't happened yet either.

The coroner and his assistant start to move the body. Douglas interrupts them.

DOUGLAS
Excuse me. I need to bag some items that were on the body.

Douglas walks over and puts latex gloves on. He picks up the pistol and places it in an evidence bag. He reaches for the envelope on his lap and his business card falls out.

SHERIFF BUFORD

A suicide note with a business card
in it?

DOUGLAS

Not sure it's a suicide note.

SHERIFF BUFORD

Who's business card?

DOUGLAS

Appears to be mine.

He flips it over and sees the note, "Stop Talking." The Sheriff is right over his shoulder.

SHERIFF BUFORD

Well what do you make of that?

DOUGLAS

I'm not sure. This isn't my
writing.

SHERIFF BUFORD

Doesn't look good, agent. No matter
how you slice it.

Douglas steps outside of the crime tape and places the evidence bags on the ground. He motions to the coroner.

DOUGLAS

You can go ahead and take the body.

The coroner and his assistant place the body on a gurney, cover it and wheel it to the van. Sheriff Buford squats down next to the headstone.

SHERIFF BUFORD

Well I'll be damned. Wasn't his
name Sandy Leach?

DOUGLAS

Believe it was.

SHERIFF BUFORD

Well it looks like this Yankee
soldier may have been a relative.

DOUGLAS

Possible.

SHERIFF BUFORD

And, it looks like he was being threatened. Maybe somebody didn't want him to testify.

DOUGLAS

If you're implying that I had anything to do with this...

SHERIFF BUFORD

Not implying anything son. Just sayin. You stay out of my investigation, and I'll stay out of yours.

DOUGLAS

Sheriff. I can assure you, in this case, I will uncover the truth.

SHERIFF BUFORD

Unless the poor guy offed himself because you threatened him, right?

DOUGLAS

Wrong, sir. Whoever put my card in his hand wrote those words. And, I hope it wasn't you.

SHERIFF BUFORD

Either way, you've got a dead, gay Yankee. Ain't too many people gonna care.

INT. NESSY'S LIVING ROOM

Douglas walks in and finds his mother sitting in the same chair waiting for him.

DOUGLAS

Momma, nothing to worry about.

NESSY

What do you mean?

DOUGLAS

Looks like a suicide.

NESSY

Who?

DOUGLAS

The fella who runs the visitors center.

NESSY

Oh no. I just hate that.

DOUGLAS

It's sad. I've got to go back to the office to write all this up. I just didn't want you to worry.

NESSY

Son, I don't know nothing about it. But, you sure he killed himself?

DOUGLAS

We'll find out. I love you mamma.

INT. JOE DAVIS AND JOLINE'S KITCHEN - MORNING

Yancy stands in the kitchen making coffee and setting up some breakfast snacks after spending the night at Joline's. He's looking at his phone and sees an article about the suicide.

YANCY

Jesus, Mary and Joseph! This can't be!

He fumbles around in confusion as Joline walks in.

JOLINE

What is it Yancy?

YANCY

Sandy Leach was found dead in the cemetery last night.

JOLINE

That's terrible. What happened?

YANCY

It says it looks like suicide.

JOLINE

I can't believe it. We were just talking about him.

YANCY

I know. And you said Joe Davis was jealous. Surely he didn't do anything to upset him.

JOLINE

He's under lock and key at the plantation.

YANCY

But he could have texted him or something.

JOLINE

I don't think so. Jefferson probably has his phone.

YANCY

(crying) Why did this happen?

JOLINE

Now, now. Yancy, you never know what's going on with someone.

YANCY

But, I know he was scared to death about testifying. And between that agent and Jefferson, he was getting it from both sides.

JOLINE

Probably not the first time.

YANCY

Jesus Joline, don't even.

INT. PARKS SERVICE INVESTIGATIVE BUREAU - LATER

Douglas is back in the video room pulling clips from the visitors center and the cemetery with the video tech.

TECH

You'd never used these cameras and now you're here every week.

DOUGLAS

Yeah, I hate that people have to die for me to learn new tricks.

TECH

Here we go. Looks like a hummer pulls up in front of the visitors center. Unregistered vehicle.

DOUGLAS

So we don't know who that is. Zoom in.

TECH

Let's switch to the inside camera. We may get a better look.

DOUGLAS

Alright. There. I know that man. I met him at the memorial. Looks like he's handing him something.

TECH

Zooming in. Screen shot. There you go. It's an envelope.

DOUGLAS

Now pull up the video from the cemetery.

TECH

Alright, camera twenty-three. There's Mr. Leach walking into the cemetery. Camera twenty-six. Mr. Leach standing at a grave.

DOUGLAS

The grave he was found on was a Union soldier named Leach. Any way to find out if they were related?

TECH

Not in our system. But, easy enough from other databases.

DOUGLAS

Can you look into that for me?

TECH

Sure. Oooh, there's the money shot.

DOUGLAS

Come on now. A man died.

TECH

Sorry. Want me to send all these to you?

DOUGLAS

Yes. Especially the one of the man with the envelope.

INT. IN FRONT OF THE MONTGOMERY MANSION - LATER

Douglas pulls up in front of the Montgomery mansion and walks to the front door. Joline answers.

DOUGLAS

Mrs. Montgomery?

JOLINE

Yes. We met the other day.

DOUGLAS

Is your husband home?

JOLINE

No.

DOUGLAS

I was hoping to talk to him about an incident that happened last night.

JOLINE

Like I said, he's not here.

DOUGLAS

I don't know if you heard, but Sandy Leach, the director of the Military Park committed suicide last night.

JOLINE

That's terrible.

DOUGLAS

Your husband may have been the last person to see him.

JOLINE

I wouldn't know.

DOUGLAS

Do you expect him back later today?

JOLINE

No.

DOUGLAS

If you speak with him, would you have him call me?

JOLINE

I haven't ever been a secretary, and I don't intend to start now. You have a good day now.

Joline shuts the door in his face.

INT. JOE DAVIS AND JOLINE'S KITCHEN - MOMENTS LATER

Yancy stands in the corner, like he's been hiding. Joline walks back in.

YANCY

What the hell was that about?

JOLINE

That damned Parks Service agent snooping around. He says Joe Davis was the last person to see Sandy before he killed himself.

YANCY

That can't be. He was at the plantation.

JOLINE

I don't know. But it's time to circle the wagons. Get your shit together. We're going to see Jefferson.

INT. SHERIFF'S OFFICE - LATER

Sheriff Buford sits at his desk. Ricky sits across from him.

SHERIFF BUFORD

Ricky, I'm only going to talk about this one time. So listen up.

RICKY

Yes sir.

SHERIFF BUFORD

Look, I know you're a faggot.

RICKY

I'm not gay, Uncle T.J.

SHERIFF BUFORD

Yeah, you are. You wouldn't be jerking off in the cemetery if you weren't.

RICKY

I lost my keys!

SHERIFF BUFORD

Yeah. And some nigger and some little Jewish fella came out to help you. As if being queer wasn't bad enough.

RICKY

Look, I'm doing my job.

SHERIFF BUFORD

And you won't be much longer if anyone knows you're a faggot. So, find a girl, get married. Do whatever. But, stop fucking around.

RICKY

Get married?

SHERIFF BUFORD

I don't give a shit. Whatever's making you do this shit, just make it stop. Now get the fuck out of here.

EXT. THE JONES PLANTATION - LATER

Joline drives up to the guarded gate at the plantation in a Mercedes with Yancy in the car with her.

GUARD

Sorry, no one's allowed in today.

JOLINE

Oh fuck off. Open the God damned gate.

The guard gets on his walkie and calls up to the house.

JOLINE (CONT'D)

Open the gate dickhead.

The guard hesitates and tries to hold her off. She revs the engine and lurches forward a little, kicking up dust. The guard's walkie blurts something. He opens the gate. She speed through to the front of the house.

INT. JEFFERSON'S OFFICE AT PLANTATION - MOMENTS LATER

Jefferson pours himself a glass of whiskey and wheels around to see Joline and Yancy walking in.

JEFFERSON

Well hey little spitfire. Be easy on my guards out there.

JOLINE

Jefferson, this has gotten out of hand. That Parks agent showed up at my house this morning.

JEFFERSON

Well shit. We can't have that now can we?

JOLINE

No we can't. Tell me you didn't have anything to do with Sandy Leach killing himself.

JEFFERSON

No, I believe your fancy little friend would know more about that, right Yancy?

JOLINE

How the hell would Joe Davis have been the last person to see him if he was locked up here?

JEFFERSON

I did send your husband to deliver a thank you note from the family for that wonderful ceremony.

JOLINE

What did it say? Thank you, now go kill yourself?

JEFFERSON

Of course not. Joe Davis! Get your little ass in here!

Joe Davis walks down the stairs and into the room.

JOE DAVIS

Oh, hi Joline. I thought I heard you. Hi Yancy.

JEFFERSON

Joe Davis, did you hear something about Sandy Leach killing himself?

JOE DAVIS

No! When did that happen?

JOLINE

Last night. And, that agent must have video of you going to see him.

JOE DAVIS

I was just doing what I was told.

JOLINE

We all know where that gets you. Jefferson, enough with the games. Let's put an end to this madness.

JEFFERSON

It's all under control. In fact, I'm glad you came out here. Yancy boy, now that you're the only witness, we're going to need to put you in protective custody.

YANCY

I'm going to stay here?

JEFFERSON

No, you're going to stay in Natchez.

YANCY

Natchez? Oh hell to the no.

JEFFERSON

Under the watchful eye of Judge Hiram Carlisle. You'll love it.

JOLINE

I'm coming to stay here. I can't have just anyone coming up to my door.

JEFFERSON

That's fine. But don't worry about that nigger park ranger. We've got him teed up on witness intimidation charges.

EXT. JUDGE CARLISLE'S HOME - MORNING

A black humvee pulls up in front of the Judge's house. A guard gets out and escorts Yancy to the front door. Judge Carlisle answers.

JUDGE CARLISLE

You must be Yancy Stephenson Earle the third.

YANCY

Yes sir.

JUDGE CARLISLE

Come on in. Thank you for the
escort deputy.

Yancy walks in. The deputy leaves.

INT. JUDGE CARLISLE'S HOME - MOMENTS LATER

Yancy reluctantly sets his suitcase down in the entryway.
Judge Carlisle puts an arm around him and walks him into the
living room.

JUDGE CARLISLE

So, Mr. Earle...

YANCY

You can call me Yancy if you're
comfortable with that.

JUDGE CARLISLE

In that case, my friends call me
Hi. My given name's Hiram. But
that's too formal, don't you think?

YANCY

Yes sir.

JUDGE CARLISLE

And please dispense with the sir.
For the next couple of weeks, we're
just two friends working our way
through a situation not of our
making.

YANCY

Okay Hi, as awkward as this may be,
thank you for your hospitality.

JUDGE CARLISLE

Sure Yancy. Can I get you a
cocktail?

YANCY

Why, that would be sublime.

JUDGE CARLISLE

Gin and tonic? Lime?

YANCY

Ideal. Thanks Hi.

JUDGE CARLISLE

Yancy, I was sorry to hear about your friend Sandy. Poor thing.

YANCY

I know. He was just so scared to be outed. You know he killed himself on his great-granddaddy's grave.

JUDGE CARLISLE

Was his great-granddaddy a Yankee soldier?

YANCY

Yes. He defected from an Illinois regiment during the siege.

JUDGE CARLISLE

Well that's nothing to be ashamed of. He must have been a man of good taste.

YANCY

I suppose. But Sandy was always trying to overcompensate.

JUDGE CARLISLE

For the fact that he was gay, or a Yankee?

YANCY

Both.

JUDGE CARLISLE

Well cheers Yancy. I'm assuming you're purely southern?

YANCY

Indeed.

JUDGE CARLISLE

And you're too cute to be straight.

YANCY

So I've been told.

INT. PARKS SERVICE INVESTIGATIVE BUREAU - LATER

Douglas sits at his desk looking at his business card with the note written on it. He looks at a photo of Sandy leaning dead against the tombstone. His boss walks in.

DOUGLAS' BOSS

Agent Hargrave, I'm going to have to put you on temporary leave while we take over this investigation.

DOUGLAS

But, I know exactly who is behind this.

DOUGLAS' BOSS

Doesn't matter. When a man commits suicide with your business card in his hand, we've got to conduct an internal investigation.

DOUGLAS

So, that's it?

DOUGLAS' BOSS

You can leave your badge and service weapon on the desk.

EXT. JEFFERSON'S PATIO AT PLANTATION - LATER

Jefferson stands with Joe Davis and Joline looking out at machine gun turrets that have been set up in the trench surrounding the warehouse.

JOLINE

Jefferson, I don't know why you had to start a damned war with a Mexican cartel.

JEFFERSON

Look, I killed one roach. When you see one, you know there are more. I'm just setting a roach trap.

JOLINE

I get it. But I never thought I'd see our family plantation rigged up like a military base.

JEFFERSON

Trust me. It's for the best.

JOE DAVIS

So, when will I be able to go back to my life without looking over my shoulder?

JEFFERSON

Joe Davis, I don't know if you'll ever stop looking over your shoulder. Living your secret little life like you do.

JOE DAVIS

That's not what I mean. Nobody's going to arrest me or kill me for wearing Gucci.

JEFFERSON

Don't be so sure. You do have a little black in your blood.

JOLINE

Now Jefferson, that's enough. Joe Davis doesn't deserve all that. We just need to move on like none of this ever happened.

JEFFERSON

Listen, there's no way Joe Davis is every going to be tied to this. Just take your trust money and keep quiet. The judge is on the case.

EXT. NESSY HARGRAVES' FRONT PORCH - LATER

Douglas and Nessy sit on her front porch.

NESSY

Honey, I can't believe they did you this way.

DOUGLAS

It's a set up. Plain and simple. What the Jones family wants, the Jones family gets.

NESSY

You ain't telling me anything I don't already know.

DOUGLAS

It's one thing to get away with murder. But why you got to pin it on an innocent black man.

NESSY

You know the answer to that one.

DOUGLAS
I know it ain't right.

NESSY
You also know the same people that
got the system rigged own the cops,
the courts... and the cocaine.

DOUGLAS
Not to mention corrections.

NESSY
(laughs) Preach son. Preach.

INT. JUDGE CARLISLE'S HOME - MORNING

Yancy and Hiram sit on a patio outside Hiram's bedroom
wearing robes, sipping coffee.

JUDGE CARLISLE
Yancy, I believe I can trust you as
a friend.

YANCY
Oh, and I you.

JUDGE CARLISLE
I want to show you something.

YANCY
I think you already have, Hi.

JUDGE CARLISLE
Nothing substitutes for experience.
Which is exactly what I want to
share with you.

Hiram gets up and walks into his bedroom. Yancy follows.

JUDGE CARLISLE (CONT'D)
Yancy, you see that old chifforobe?
I have one just like it in my
office. This one belonged to my
daddy. The one in my office was his
brother's.

YANCY
Your uncle's. I'm assuming your
daddy was named Hiram as well?

JUDGE CARLISLE

He was the third. Which makes me the fourth and final. His brother was named Jet.

YANCY

Jet Carlisle. I bet he was a mess.

JUDGE CARLISLE

Jet was a queer one. My daddy looked after him.

YANCY

Are they still living?

JUDGE CARLISLE

Sadly, no. They've both passed.

YANCY

I'm sorry. But, having both of their chifforobes keeps them with you.

JUDGE CARLISLE

More than you know Yancy. You see, the one in my office keeps my robe in one side. My case dockets are in the drawers.

YANCY

Right. That makes sense.

JUDGE CARLISLE

In this chifforobe, I keep my daddy's robe and my uncle's robe.

Hiram pulls two robes from their hangers, one a black judge's robe, the other a silk smoking robe.

YANCY

I hesitate to ask what's in the drawers.

JUDGE CARLISLE

Case dockets that will never see the light of day. And secrets that need not see the light of day if everyone cooperates.

YANCY

Are you saying I will end up in one of those drawers?

JUDGE CARLISLE

Precisely. I would never make you show up in court. You are in my protective custody and I will take your testimony directly... and seal it.

YANCY

Hi, I do trust you as one of my closest friends.

JUDGE CARLISLE

Yancy, my friends are untouchable. Because, in one of those drawers, there are exonerations. In another, there is testimony. And in the third, there are homosexuals like me and you who are fully protected by the powerful people in that first drawer.

YANCY

You mean Sandy could have ended up in that drawer with me.

JUDGE CARLISLE

Oh, most definitely. Tragic.

YANCY

You would have enjoyed him.

JUDGE CARLISLE

Or we would have. Rest his yankee soul.

INT. JOSH JONES' HOUSE - EVENING

Josh sits on his patio drinking a beer. The phone rings.

JOSH

Hello.

JUDGE CARLISLE

Josh, it's Hiram Carlisle.

JOSH

Hello judge.

JUDGE CARLISLE

I just wanted to make sure everything was going as planned.

JOSH

As far as I know. You know, Judge, I try to just run my daddy's business and stay out of trouble.

JUDGE CARLISLE

That's right. What do you hear from your cousin?

JOSH

He's dug in deep. It's looks like a war zone out there.

JUDGE CARLISLE

I guess he's expecting unwelcome guests?

JOSH

You could say that.

JUDGE CARLISLE

Well, Josh, thank you and your family for all you do. Have a good evening now.

INT. JUDGE CARLISLE'S HOME - MOMENTS LATER

Hiram and Yancy are sitting up in bed wearing robes.

JUDGE CARLISLE

Yancy, what do you think would happen if a crazed Mexican killed a gay man in Mississippi?

YANCY

My god. I guess everybody would do a tequila shot.

JUDGE CARLISLE

White people get real skeptical about Mexicans. They also get a little sympathetic toward the gays.

YANCY

Why are you even asking this?

JUDGE CARLISLE

Because that's what they are going to find happened to our friend Sandy. And, you are going to be the witness to it. The first case will plea out.

YANCY

So, I'm saying I was with Sandy in the cemetery when he was killed by a crazed Mexican?

JUDGE CARLISLE

You're a quick learner, Yancy.

YANCY

Anonymously?

JUDGE CARLISLE

Yes. He was sucking your dick on his grand daddy's grave when a Mexican shot him.

YANCY

And I survived how?

JUDGE CARLISLE

Well, I'm not going to have you sucking Mexican dick to save your life. I think you hid behind a crypt when you heard them coming.

YANCY

Like, in the distance, I heard a pack of crazed Mexicans?

JUDGE CARLISLE

Right. And, you zipped up and ran.

YANCY

And we're doing all this to make gay people more acceptable and Mexicans not so much?

JUDGE CARLISLE

Well, that. And, it's very convenient that Sandy was murdered on Federal land.

YANCY

So, where are you going to find a pack of Mexicans to arrest?

JUDGE CARLISLE

I'm pretty sure that's already being handled.

EXT. THE JONES PLANTATION - MOMENTS LATER

Jefferson stands on the porch of his house looking out at the gate flooded with spotlights and guarded by military vehicles. A small convoy of sheriff's vehicles comes up the road to the gate. They proceed to the front of the house. Jefferson goes out to meet them. The Sheriff steps out of the first vehicle.

SHERIFF BUFORD

Jefferson. Everything is going as planned.

JEFFERSON

What about the honcho?

SHERIFF BUFORD

He'll be here. Where do you want me to put these guys?

JEFFERSON

Drive them up to the warehouse and leave them locked up where they sit.

INT. THE JONES PLANTATION - MOMENTS LATER

Joline and Joe Davis watch out of the front window from Jefferson's office, sipping on a whiskey and smoking.

JOLINE

I remember watching little Jefferson out there on an ATV pretending to be Rambo. Now he's all grown up.

JOE DAVIS

And holding us hostage.

JOLINE

Oh, I think those people in the vans out there are the hostages.

JOE DAVIS

What people?

JOLINE

About a dozen cartel members we've rounded up from various jails.

JOE DAVIS

I want nothing to do with this.

JOLINE

Oh honey, what you witnessed will be nothing compared to this.

JOE DAVIS

What the hell is going down?

JOLINE

That Mexican you saw get shot was from Jalisco. So are all those Mexicans out there.

JOE DAVIS

I have no idea where that is. But, I like the name. Jalisco.

JOLINE

They aren't supposed to be here. We have our Mexican friends. And we don't need any new ones.

JOE DAVIS

I never knew I had Mexican friends.

JOLINE

Well you're about to meet them.

EXT. THE JONES PLANTATION - MOMENTS LATER

A convoy of black SUVs pulls up to the gate. They are led to the front of the house by two military style vehicles. A row of spotlights in the bunkers flash on. Jefferson walks up to the first vehicle. The rear passenger side window lowers slightly. The door opens and a cartel boss steps out.

INT. JEFFERSON'S OFFICE AT PLANTATION - MOMENTS LATER

El Fantasma walks in with Jefferson. Joe Davis quickly stands up and joins Joline as she walks to greet them.

JEFFERSON

My cousin and her husband. Part of the family business. This is El Fantasma.

JOLINE

Lovely to see you.

EL FANTASMA

And you, as always.

JOLINE

And, this is Joe Davis.

EL FANTASMA

You killed my friend! (pauses,
laughs) No really. He was not my
friend.

JOE DAVIS

Well then, he was no friend of mine
either.

Jefferson shews Joline and Joe Davis away. He and El Fantasma
walk to the bank of windows looking out over the plantation.

JEFFERSON

You're about to see the little army
I've built.

EL FANTASMA

How many are we taking down
tonight?

JEFFERSON

Seventeen.

EL FANTASMA

All from Jalisco?

JEFFERSON

Yes. And all coordinated with the
Feds.

EXT. JOSH JONES' JOHN DEERE DEALERSHIP - MOMENTS LATER

Josh sits in the passenger seat of a Federal Swat Team
vehicle. A small convoy of blacked out military style
vehicles sit behind them. Josh holds Agent Hargraves' business
card and calls him.

DOUGLAS

Agent Hargraves

JOSH

Agent, Josh Jones. I wanted to let
you know that Fish and Wildlife is
picking up the man who killed that
Mexican. Turns out it was two rival
cartel members.

DOUGLAS

Mr. Jones, I never had jurisdiction over that case. I just had real evidence.

JOSH

I understand. What I couldn't tell you at the time was that my cousin Jefferson has been working with Fish and Wildlife on an investigation.

DOUGLAS

Well, I appreciate the information.

JOSH

What you'll appreciate more is that we are also picking up three other Mexicans who killed Sandy Leach in your cemetery.

DOUGLAS

Come again?

JOSH

You know, he was found dead on his daddy's grave with your business card in his hand.

DOUGLAS

I know the case. But, I've got video of...

JOSH

Agent, do you want to arrest three murderers or deal with a lawsuit for allowing an employee to commit suicide on your watch?

DOUGLAS

Well, I'm on leave. So, I'm not sure how I'm supposed to arrest anyone.

JOSH

That's all just paperwork. You have a good night now. It will all be on your desk tomorrow morning.

DOUGLAS

But,

JOSH

There's really no decision to make here, Douglas. Keep up the good work.

EXT. THE JONES PLANTATION - MOMENTS LATER

The armed vans full of cartel members sit outside the giant warehouse. All of the vehicles from the front of the property drive down the hill to join them. Sheriff Buford and Ricky stand outside looking up at the plantation house.

RICKY

So, what's about to happen here?

SHERIFF BUFORD

(laughs) Justice son. One of these fellas killed your Mexican. Case solved.

RICKY

But I thought we'd already arrested someone.

SHERIFF BUFORD

Wrong man. Shitty detective work.

RICKY

I was just doing what I was told.

SHERIFF BUFORD

Well keep at it. Three of these Mexicans killed your little fairy friend in the cemetery.

RICKY

What are you talking about?

SHERIFF BUFORD

Don't worry boy. Your secrets are safe with me. To a point. Now get over there and help pull those Mexicans out of that van.

INT. JEFFERSON'S OFFICE AT PLANTATION - MOMENTS LATER

Jefferson, El Fantasma, Joline and Joe Davis stand at the windows of Jefferson's office looking out at the activity down the hill at the warehouse.

JEFFERSON

I guess now would be a good time to
toast this partnership.

Jefferson pulls a silver tray from his desk drawer with thick lines of cocaine cut out. Joe Davis pulls a silver straw from his jacket pocket.

JEFFERSON (CONT'D)

Our guest has the honors.

El Fantasma picks up a silver straw from the tray and does a line. Jefferson follows. Then Joline and Joe Davis. They walk out on the patio outside Jefferson's office.

EXT. THE JONES PLANTATION - MOMENTS LATER

The Mexican prisoners are lined up and marched down to face the armed trench. A machine gun is placed in front of each prisoner. Sheriff Buford paces in front of them.

SHERIFF BUFORD

I know some of you may not hablo English. Not my problem. The way I see it, you've got three choices. You can run for it. You can fight. Or you can surrender. It's completely up to you. That's the rules. Just let me get the fuck out of the way first.

A military vehicle picks up the Sheriff and they drive back toward the warehouse. When they are out of range, the spotlights go black. Mass chaos ensues. Several of the prisoners grab guns and run for the cane fields. Others scramble to take up positions. A few drop to their knees to surrender, quickly realize they will be in the crossfire and grab guns as well.

EXT. JEFFERSON'S OFFICE AT PLANTATION - MOMENTS LATER

Jefferson, El Fantasma, Joline and Joe Davis stand out on the patio watching the action below. The first burst of machine gun fire from the cane field is returned swiftly killing one of the prisoners.

JEFFERSON

Nice shot. Now watch this. It's about to go down.

From their vantage point, they can see the paths made through the fields.

They watch as his team of ex-special-forces soldiers leap out of the trench and fan out to hunt. One by one, the prisoners are either killed or captured.

EL FANTASMA

Like predators, no?

JEFFERSON

That was just a taste. Once we get them out of here, we'll show you what else we've got.

EXT. THE JONES PLANTATION - MOMENTS LATER

Jefferson's goon squad drags the prisoners out of the fields, both living and dead. They are loaded onto military style trucks and driven away. The Feds follow. Sheriff Buford stays behind with Ricky.

SHERIFF BUFORD

Now that's law enforcement. Three cases wrapped up in fifteen minutes.

RICKY

Who set all this up?

SHERIFF BUFORD

That, son, is none of your god damned business. But, where the hell are we? Look, there are things you don't need to know. Just like there are some things I don't need to know.

RICKY

Right.

SHERIFF BUFORD

Go on now. Get the hell out of here.

INT. JEFFERSON'S OFFICE AT PLANTATION - MOMENTS LATER

Joline and Joe Davis do a line and look up to see two small rockets flying across the field and detonating in the distance.

JOE DAVIS

What the hell was that?

JOLINE

That was your inheritance check getting bigger.

JOE DAVIS

You don't mean?

JOLINE

You just got an insurance check. And, Jefferson just got that old empty house of yours demolished to put in a new processing operation.

JOE DAVIS

But that was my grandmother's house!

JOLINE

You'll get over it. Trust me. And it's not like a house built for a lover, who was also your slave, should be a monument.

EXT. NESSY'S LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Nessy is on the phone with Douglas.

NESSY

Douglas, something's blown up over here.

DOUGLAS

I know momma. Nothing to worry about. They round up a bunch of Mexicans who were hiding out on the back of Jefferson's plantation.

NESSY

Lord, I hope all this stops.

DOUGLAS

I think it will now, momma. You rest easy. I'll call you tomorrow.

EXT. JEFFERSON'S OFFICE AT PLANTATION - MOMENTS LATER

Jefferson and El Fantasma stand alone watching the house burn in the distance.

JEFFERSON

Well, what do you think?

EL FANTASMA

I think you are much safer now. Me?
I'm always running.

JEFFERSON

My guys are your guys. My weapons,
your weapons.

EL FANTASMA

I trust the new facility will have
a little hideaway?

JEFFERSON

More like a hidden penthouse.

INT. JUDGE CARLISLE'S HOME - MOMENTS LATER

Hiram and Yancy sit up in bed drinking wine. His phone rings.

JUDGE CARLISLE

Hello

JOSH

Judge, just wanted to tell you to
have a very good night.

JUDGE CARLISLE

Perfect. Well done. Good night now.

YANCY

So they've arrested the crazed
Mexicans?

JUDGE CARLISLE

Killed four. Arrested thirteen. The
four killed were guilty of murder
anyway. So that just saves me a
couple of trials.

YANCY

A couple of trials?

JUDGE CARLISLE

Right. Sandy's murder and the
murder of that Mexican.

YANCY

But, no trial. Does that mean...

JUDGE CARLISLE

It means you go straight into the protected drawer of the chifforobe, without having to go into the testimony drawer first.

YANCY

Hi, that's the best news I've had in weeks.

JUDGE CARLISLE

Well, Yancyboy, you're going to be compensated for your trouble.

YANCY

What do you mean? Hi, you've shown me perfect hospitality.

JUDGE CARLISLE

The Jones family will be contacting you about a land trust. I've already put it together for them, so all you'll have to do is process the paperwork.

YANCY

I'd be happy to do that gratis.

JUDGE CARLISLE

Nonsense. Your commission is already written into the deal.

YANCY

Hi, if you set this up for me, I don't know how to thank you.

JUDGE CARLISLE

Sure you do Yancy.