

A FEW GOOD MEN
(Lights up on softball field)

KAFFEE

(Out to the field.)

Get your glove down, Sherby, you gotta get your glove down. Pick up some dirt with that ball.

JO

Excuse me— I wanted to talk to you about Corporal Dawson and Private Downey.

KAFFEE

Say again?

JO

Dawson and Downey?

KAFFEE

Those names sound like they should mean something to me, but...

JO

Harold Dawson and Loudon Downey your clients?

KAFFEE

The Cuba thing! Yes! Dawson and Downey.
Right.

KAFFEE

(Pause)

I've done something wrong, haven't I?

JO

I was wondering why two guys have been in jail since this morning while their lawyer is outside hitting a ball.

KAFFEE

We need the practice.

JO

That wasn't funny.

KAFFEE

It was a little funny.

JO

Lieutenant, would you feel very insulted if I recommended to your supervisor that he assign different counsel?

KAFFEE

Why?

JO

I'm not sure how to say this without possibly hurting your feelings, but I don't think you're fit to handle this defense.

KAFFEE

You don't even know me. Ordinarily, it takes someone hours to discover I'm not fit to handle a defense.

(continuing)

Oh come on, that was damn funny.

JO

(Almost confidential)

I do know you. I know you went to Harvard Law on a Navy Scholarship and I know that you're probably just treading water for the three years you've gotta, just kinda layin' low til you can get out and get a real job, and that's fine and I won't tell anyone. But my feeling is that if this case is handled in the same fast-food, slick-ass ' Persian Bazaar manner with which you seem to handle everything else, something's gonna get missed. And I wouldn't be doing my duty if I allowed Dawson and Downey to spend any more time in prison than absolutely necessary, because their attorney had pre-determined the path of least resistance.

(Pause.)

KAFFEE

Wow. I'm sexually aroused, Commander.

JO

I don't think your clients murdered anybody.

KAFFEE

What are you basing this on?

JO

There was no intent.

KAFFEE

The doctor's report says that Santiago died of asphyxiation brought on by acute lactic acidosis, and that the nature of the acidosis strongly suggests poisoning. Now, I don't know what any of that means, but it sounds pretty bad.

JO

Santiago died at 1am at 3 the doctor wasn't able to determine the cause of death. 3 hours later he said it was poisoning.

KAFFEE

Oh. Now I see what you're saying it had to be professor plum in the library with the candle stick.

JO

(Picks up attaché.)

I'm gonna talk to your supervisor.

KAFFEE

Okay. Go straight up Pennsylvania Avenue. It's a big white house with pillars in front.

JO

Thank you.

KAFFEE

I don't think you'll have much luck though.

I was assigned by division, remember? Somebody over there's thinks I'm a pretty good lawyer so.

(Pause)

So while I appreciate your interest and admire your enthusiasm, I think I can handle things myself.

JO

Do you know what a code red is?

KAFFEE

No.

JO

What a pity. (SHE exists)