

DEVIL'S ADVOCATE

MILTON

You're right about one thing... I have been watching. Couldn't help myself. Watching, waiting, holding my breath. But I'm no puppeteer, Kevin. I don't make things happen. Doesn't work like that. Freewill -- it's like butterfly wings -- one touch and it never gets off the ground. I only set the stage. You pull your own strings.

KEVIN

What did you do to Mary Ann?

MILTON

A gun? In here?

KEVIN

What did you do to my wife?

MILTON

On a scale of one to ten, ten being the most depraved acts of sexual theater, one being an average Friday night run-through at the Lomax household, I'd say...(beat)Six.

Kevin FIRES the GUN -- BANG! BANG! BANG! -- bullets pass right through him -- into the wall --

MILTON Whoa... Got me! Damn!(laughing) That's my boy. Step on up! Stay angry! Keep hold to that great fury! Hang on tight, Kevin, because it's the final fig leaf.

Kevin lowers the gun to his side.

KEVIN

Who are you?

MILTON

Never lost a case. Why? Why? Because you're so fucking good? Yes. But why?

KEVIN

Because you're my father.

MILTON

Well, I'm a little more than that. Awful hot in that courtroom, wasn't it? 'What's the game plan, Kevin?'(reporter's voice)'It was a nice run, Kevin. Had to close out someday.'

KEVIN

Who are you?

MILTON

I have so many names.

KEVIN
Satan.

MILTON
Call me Dad.

KEVIN
Mary Ann, Barzoon, Weaver...

MILTON
Come on. You're not listening. Blaming me for Mary Ann? I hope you're kidding. You could've saved her any time you liked. She only wanted love. But you knew it wouldn't really work out, didn't you? Mary Ann in New York? Face it, you started looking to better-deal her the minute you got here.

KEVIN
That's a lie.

MILTON
Hey, it's not that you didn't care for her, it's just you were a little bit more involved with someone else. Yourself.

KEVIN
What the hell do you know about love?

MILTON
Bio-chemically no different than eating large quantities of chocolate. Don't be such a fucking chump. There's only one real sickness in all of creation and that is self-delusion. I told you to take care of your wife -- that the world would understand. And you made a choice. 'You know what scares me, John? I leave the case, she gets better and I hate her for it...'Remember?

KEVIN
You set me up. It's entrapment.

MILTON
Who told you to pull out the stops for Mr. Gettys? And Moyez – the direction you took – Snake handlers, Popes and swamis all feeding at the same trough – whose ideas were those? And then Cullen -- knowing he's guilty --seeing those pictures – putting that lying bitch on the stand...What did I say, Kevin? Maybe it was time to lose, right? You didn't think so.

KEVIN
That's my job. That's what I do!

MILTON
Exactly! Vanity is definitely my favorite sin. Self love. It's so basic. What a drug. Cheap, all-natural, and right at your fingertips. Pride. That's where you're strongest. And believe me, I understand. Work for someone else? -- Hey, I couldn't hack it.' Better to reign in Hell than serve in Heaven.'

KEVIN

What do you want from me?

MILTON

What do I want? I want you to be yourself!

KEVIN

It is a test, isn't it? The whole game, you sitting there, keeping score.

MILTON

No. That's the other guy. I don't judge anybody. As far as I'm concerned, everyone's a winner. God's your prankster, my boy. Think of it. He gives man instincts. He gives you this extraordinary gift and then, I swear to you -- for his own amusement -- his own private, cosmic gag reel -- he sets the rules in opposition. It's the goof of all time. Look but don't touch. Touch but don't taste. Taste but don't swallow. And while you're jumping from one foot to the other he's laughing his sick fucking ass off! He's a tight-ass. He's a sadist. He's an absentee landlord! Worship that? Never. I'm here, on the ground, my nose in it since the whole damn thing began. Why? Because I worship man himself. And it's my time now. Our time.

KEVIN

So what are you offering?

MILTON

Are we negotiating?

KEVIN

Always.

MILTON

Yes!

KEVIN

What are you offering?

MILTON

Everything. Anything. All of it! What am I offering? I'm offering bliss. Instant bliss. Bliss by remote control. Bliss on tap. That first line of cocaine. That walk into a strange girl's bedroom. The jury coming back in thirty-eight minutes. Freedom. Revolution! Viva la causa!