

MOLLY'S GAME - OFFICE SCENE

INT. CHARLIE'S OFFICE - NIGHT

CHARLIE sits alone, dealing out cards as if at a Texas hold'em poker game. A copy of MOLLY's autobiography is on the table. Molly appears in the doorway.

MOLLY

Did you know that--

CHARLIE

(startled)

Oh...I didn't see you.

MOLLY

Did you know that we know what the center of our galaxy smells like? It smells like rum and raspberries. The center of the galaxy is ethyl formate, which is the same gas that gives rum its smell and raspberries their taste.

CHARLIE

Why do you know these things?

MOLLY

To stay busy during games, I surfed the internet. Then I started taking online courses. I'm 12 credits away from a degree in astronomy, I didn't even know I was enrolled.

(beat)

Hey, I wanna thank you for what you said tonight.

CHARLIE

It was Stella...who asked me to be your lawyer. She read the book. I accused her of reading trash, but she defended the book impressively. And then defended you. You're her role model. I'm good with that.

(beat)

There's a new offer on the table.

MOLLY

What is it?

CHARLIE

We hand over the hard drives.

MOLLY

I don't get it.

CHARLIE

We had over the forensic imaging of the emails and texts in exchange for--

MOLLY

Exchange for--what could they possibly offer me to do that?

Charlie walks over to his desk, referencing his notes.

CHARLIE

I wrote it all down. It's, um...your money back. They'll give you all your money back, plus interest. It's over five million dollars.

MOLLY

Is that why they took it in the first place? So they could offer it back to me?

CHARLIE

Yeah. For what it's worth, if we went to trial, you'd have to hand over the forensic imaging and the discoveries.

MOLLY

But that's different than voluntarily handing it over--

CHARLIE

Sure, but it's not really voluntary anymore when the alternative is prison. And that's what they're going to recommend, 42 months.

MOLLY

Why do you keep breaking eye contact with me?

CHARLIE

I'm looking right at you.

MOLLY

You think I should do it.

CHARLIE

You gotta let me keep you out of

prison.

MOLLY

You've seen what's on those hard drives...

CHARLIE

Yeah. Yeah.

MOLLY

It's a lot more than a little color.

CHARLIE

Yeah, but complete immunity. Alright? You get all your money back. You'd be the first defendant to walk out of a courtroom better off than when you walked in.

MOLLY

Careers will be ruined. Families, wives, lives on both coasts--

CHARLIE

Hey, you know, when a rich guy goes to jail, he spreads his money around, his lawyer knows how to take care of that. He spreads his money around. You don't have any. The composition of female inmates in Federal prison--they did not commit financial crimes. They're drug dealers. They get raped by prison guards. You will...you...you will not be anonymous, Molly. You will be a target.

MOLLY

Children will read their father's text messages saying he wished he'd never had kids. These guys--

CHARLIE

These guys, where are they? Why are you in this alone? Where are your friends? Where is the one guy saying, "Hey, you know, Molly, I know you're doing everything to save my life. What can I do for you? Let me buy you a sandwich." Where are they, Molly? You kept their secrets. Where are the people you're protecting by not

telling the whole story in the book?
By settling the Brad Marion suit, by
not taking five million dollars of
your own money back, by going to jail.
Where did everybody go?

MOLLY

It's not their names I'm protecting,
Charlie. It's mine.

CHARLIE

Oh, that's great. Well, we don't have
the luxury of integrity. You have to
take the deal.

MOLLY

No.

CHARLIE

You stay out of jail, you get your
money back, you pay your debts. You
start a new life.

MOLLY

No.

CHARLIE

Is this self-imposed punishment for
naming four guys in a book?

MOLLY

It's not.

CHARLIE

You didn't do anything wrong.

MOLLY

I threw four people under the bus for
\$35,000, Charlie. I noticed you kept
that out of your speech to the
prosecutor.

CHARLIE

No, don't do that to me.

MOLLY

I took advantage of gambling addicts.
Donnie Silverman, my brilliant find.
He lost six million dollars on my
table...

CHARLIE

Molly, stop. Stop. Uh-huh.

MOLLY

...moved to Florida, got a job as a substitute teacher, then hanged himself in the shower.

CHARLIE

Oh. And that's your fault? That's not your fault.

MOLLY

Donnie Silverman's dead. Harlan Eustice is in jail in Nevada wishing he was. But that's not why I'm saying no.

CHARLIE

You're not saying no.

MOLLY

I was named after my great grandmother.

CHARLIE

I don't care.

MOLLY

Molly Dubin Bloom is my name.

CHARLIE

We stay here all night until you understand. Until you understand nobody gives a shit about your good name.

MOLLY

I do!

CHARLIE

Why?

MOLLY

Because--

CHARLIE

Why?

MOLLY

Because--

CHARLIE

Tell me why.

MOLLY

Because it's all I have left. Because it's my name. And I'll never have another.

CHARLIE

Now you read *The Crucible*?

MOLLY

Yeah. Everyone's right. It's great.

CHARLIE

It is great.

MOLLY

I want to go into that courtroom and plead guilty. No deals. No trades.

CHARLIE

And you're very sure?

MOLLY

Yes.