

SCRIPT TITLE

Written by

Name of First Writer

Based on, If Any

Address
Phone Number

NIGHTCRAWLER

NINA

I've been trying to reach you for the last hour. In the future when you don't have anything, man up and don't dodge my fucking calls!

LOUIS

I do have something.

NINA

What?

LOUIS

Home invasion triple murder in Granada Hills.

NINA

That's just breaking now.

LOUIS

We got there before the police.

NINA

You have it?

LOUIS

I'm not gonna list the many benefits of this piece. I think it's probably best if you just watch it for yourself.

NINA

I could have had somebody out there by now. Why didn't you call it in?

LOUIS

To increase your need and improve my marketing position.

NINA

Frank! Johnny! Bay 2, now!

They watch the tape.

GUY

What did you pay for this?

LOUIS

The price hasn't been negotiated yet.

NINA
Give us a minute. Thanks.

The employees leave the room.

NINA (CONT'D)
How much?

LOUIS
\$100,000.

NINA
How much?

LOUIS
\$50,000.

NINA
I need a number. 9 minutes, I need
a number.

LOUIS
I just gave you two.

NINA
\$3,000.

LOUIS
I got #3,000 for the food truck
stabbings.

NINA
There were more dead.

LOUIS
Those were poor Mexican people in a
roach coach. Two of them were
illegals. These are 3 wealthy
white people shot and killed in
their mansion including a suburban
housewife shotgunned in her bed. I
know you, Nina. I know your
interest and excitement in this
product is greater than the amount
you're offering.

NINA
\$5,000.

LOUIS
\$30,000.

NINA
\$7,000.

LOUIS
\$25,000.

NINA
\$8,000.

LOUIS
\$15,000.

NINA
\$9,000.

LOUIS
\$15,000.

NINA
\$10,000.

LOUIS
\$15,000.

NINA
Give me a serious number.

JAKE
\$15,000.

NINA
Can't do it. It'll never happen.
There is a matter of precedent. 10
is my last best offer.

LOUIS
Okay.

He goes to leave.

NINA.
Really? Where are you going?

LOUIS
7 has approached me at least
several times. The MD there gave me
his number. They'll make me a
better offer. It's a 5 minute
drive.

NINA
Hold on! 12.

LOUIS
15.

NINA

I can't spend a month's budget on a single story.

LOUIS

What if the story's not over? The people who did this escaped. They're still out there. Walking around with the rest of us. If I had a family and I lived in a home that might make me nervous. I'd want updates on what was going on. With this footage, people would turn to your channel for the story. Now I like you, Nina, and I look forward to our time together. But you have to understand \$15,000 isn't all that I want. From here on, starting now, I want my work to be credited by the anchors and on a burn. That the name of my company is video production news, a professional news gathering service. That's how it should be read and that's how it should be said. I also want to go to the next ROOM??? And meet your team. And the station manager and the director and the anchors and start developing my own personal relationships. I'd like to start this morning. You'll take me around. You'll introduce me as the owner and president of video production news and remind them of some of my many other stories. I'm not done. I also want to stop our discussion over prices. This will save time. So that when I say a particular number is my lowest price, that's my lowest price. And you can be assured that I arrived at whatever that number is very carefully. Now- when I say that I want these things, I mean that I want them. And I don't want to have to ask again. And the last thing that I want Nina, is for you to do the things I ask you to do when we're alone together in your apartment. Not like the last time. So... I'll tell you what... I have the van crash on Moorpark tonight.

(MORE)

LOUIS (CONT'D)

It was a couple of stringers
actually. That could leak by
itself on an average night. I'd be
willing to throw that in for free.
So what do you say? Do we have a
deal?