

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM TED - DAY

1987.

BILL (*laughing*) Okay, okay, so then the teacher says: 'It's imagination time. Today, we're gonna pretend to be like animals. And so she goes uh: 'Little Suzie, what is a lion like? And little Suzie weirs out and slashes a paw and goes: Raaaaw! And she's like: That's great, little Suzie! So then she's like: Billy, what is a turkey like?' And he flaps his wings all around the room. (Gobbles like a turkey) And then she gets to Brian. And she says: Brian, what is an elephant like? And Brian stops, he thinks about it for a second. And he stands up and he drops his bridges and drawers right then and there and starts crab walking around the room going: Phhhhew I'm an elephant. Phhew!!

They both laugh.

TED: Wait, how old was he?

BILL: Four.

TED: Did you get the call or did your wife?

BILL: It was her. She was not happy.

TED: Jesus, your son sounds like a hoot.

BILL: Aw, he's a good kid. (*Beat*) He's gotta be -what? - six months or so older than Rosa?

TED: How old is your boy now?

BILL: Five.

TED: That sounds about right.

BILL: What do you imagine they're doing right now? You know, while their daddies talk murder.

TED: I haven't seen her. I don't... I don't know what she does. I like to imagine that she's got a nice dollhouse and that she goes out riding her bike. But then I also hope that she's... careful, you know?

BILL: Hm. A lot of dangerous men in the world.

TED: Too many.

BILL: Do you have a picture?

Ted takes out a picture of his daughter.

BILL: She's beautiful.

TED: She takes after her mother.

BILL: Have you seen her mother recently?

TED: Not in a few months. I miss the hell out of them. Rosa is getting to that age.

BILL: That age?

TED: When she understands what people say about me.

BILL: Yeah well, how do you even explain that to a child?

TED: How do you explain that to an adult? Full-grown adults walk around that don't understand that they shouldn't believe everything they hear in the press. How can you expect a 4-year old to? Does your son know what you do?

BILL: He knows his daddy protects people.

TED: Well, Rosa's daddy... Well, he doesn't. *(Beat)* Did you get that letter I sent?

BILL: The latest one? Is that the one about the girl who sends you the pictures?

TED: Yeah. I mean, a lot of women send photographs.

BILL: Well, not like these.

TED: No. I don't know where you would go to get something like these developed.

BILL: The wall of your cell must be quite a sight to see.

TED: Oh, I don't keep them. No, I trade them. To other inmates.

BILL: You don't like them?

TED: I always know there will be more in the next day's mail. *(Beat)* Turn the tape off.

Bill does so.

TED: I don't think I can do this anymore.

BILL: Why not?

TED: I... You're getting inside my head. I don't like people being inside my head.

BILL: I'm not inside your head.

TED: And you're just so full of it.

BILL: No, I -

TED: I bet you think you know what I would do if I'd broke out of this place.

BILL: I don't.

TED: No, but you do. But you think you do. Tell me... Tell me what you think I would do if I'd broke out of this place?

BILL: Well, the first thing you'd do is steal a car. And you'd probably head up to the state of Washington. And you'd probably... remove a couple of people that are under your skin.

TED: Yeah?

BILL: Maybe an investigator that's pissing you off. Not returning your letters. Maybe a journalist who's been unkind. Then there's somebody else... I

don't know. A guy you think is having sex with your wife. Then you'd steal another car, slip over to the border into Canada and never ever come out. We'd never hear ever from you again.

TED: Fuck you!

Ted furiously throws all the papers on the ground. Bill calmly stands up to pick them up. Ted looks at him.

TED: You can turn the tape back on.

BILL: Are you sure?

RED: I wouldn't know what else to do with my time.

He turns the tape recorder back on.

BILL: You could write another book.

TED: Oh, never again. That didn't work out.

BILL: It was a best-seller.

TED: Well, we did correctly anticipate the basic desires of the book buying public. They do wanna be titulated. There were people who read that for genuine reasons, but they were mislead.

BILL: How so?

TED: It's a funny thing when money gets involved. When people do things for money that they ordinarily wouldn't. Those guys, they wanted me to talk about things that I was suspected of and I was like: I can't do that. All I can do is speculate. Anybody who read those books knows nothing about me or what actually happened.

BILL: Well, there are other people who wrote books. Who knew you before any alleged criminal activity and they felt they knew you.

TED: What, you mean Anne Roux?

BILL: Do you remember her?

TED: Vividly. In her own way she's a very nice person. All we did was share shifts at a call-in crisis centre. We never saw each other socially. My former fiancé, my girlfriend, friend, what have you -Liz, she wrote a book about me. She had a far better opportunity to get to know me.

BILL: Better than Diane Edwards?

TED: Diane is a lovely person. But we were only just friends. We've never lived together. Liz... she saw me day in and day out for years.

BILL: Diane is referred to as a someone you cared very deeply for.

TED: There are a lot of theories about me that are just a bunch of bull crap. People think Diane and I broke up and somehow this was the... traumatic episode that made me go over the edge, but.. it's simply not true. It's completely untrue. I know in my heart that that episode was not important. But, then you have Liz, friends, family, relatives... they're all re examining our relationships, you know they... Did I see it coming? Could I have

stopped it? You know how it is. I saw it in him when he was five years old. People, they don't wanna feel fooled. You know, there's a... Oh I knew he had it in him when he wouldn't open the door for me one time. That sort of thing.

BILL: Yeah, or you kicked a cat.

TED: Oh yeah, I kicked a cat. And one time I jumped out from behind the bushes to scare Ann.

BILL: Well, who hasn't done that?

TED: And one time it was that I, I-I walked along the railroad tracks to see how long I could go without falling off. Come on, I mean... it's ridiculous. Gimme a break. Jumping out from the bushes was never my thing anyway. There are a lot of myths and misunderstandings about me.

BILL: Like you're a... master of disguise?

TED: Oh my God, yes. Yes! Just half a dozen photographs of my many faces. But they were all taken within a ten year period. They had my graduation photo from '65 and my arrest photo from '75. If you grow a beard, just instantly grow a beard, or you come in with a different mood, wearing a different expression... people will think you look like a different person. But this is the myth that they wanted to tell. The master of disguise.

BILL: But when you were caught you had to tell the police who you were. Even though you were on the FBI's top-10 list.

TED: I told them. They didn't believe me.

BILL: When you were a fugitive, did that list have any bearing on the way you behaved?

TED: My matter of survival? Yeah. Yeah. But to be honest, and I don't mean to insult your intelligence or anything. But I don't think y'all catch anybody, not really. I mean there are exceptions, certainly. But I think most guys get themselves caught.

BILL: Do you think sometimes, they wanna get caught?

TED: I never wanted to be caught. I know that's a top tier theory but its more pop-psychology crap. No, the truth is that nobody looks at those things. Nobody keeps their eyes peeled all day long, looking for somebody they saw in a most wanted picture. Even cops, they walk around, they don't believe they're ever gonna run into that person. So all you have to do is... go about your day. Don't act weird and everyone thinks you're just a regular guy.

BILL: I imagine that's how serial killers get their victims as well?

TED: I imagine it is too. You know, we should write a book.

BILL: You just said that -

TED: No, no, not about me. About profiling. We could call it the Bill and Ted show.

BILL: I'm not writing a book. Not with you, not with anybody.

TED: Why not?

BILL: Then I'd just be like all the other prima donna's, right?

TED: Yeah, but think about what it could do for your career.

BILL: My career's fine.

TED: You know. If things were different... I could be sitting in that chair. I could do what you do.

BILL: I have no doubt about that.

TED: And if things were different, you could be out there... patrolling the streets... looking for the right girl. Getting to know her habits, how she does her hair... what shoulder she slings her purse over... does she bite her nails? You could be that guy. If things were different.

BILL: If things were different.