

"RUNAWAY JURY"

By

Brian Koppelman

David Levien

Rick Cleveland

Matthew Chapman

Transcribed by Zoran Duke Rausavljevich
by watching the movie
949-378-2721
ZDuke423@gmail.com

FADE IN: INTERIOR COURTHOUSE MEN'S RESTROOM.

RESTROOM CONFRONTATION

[Rankin Fitch is washing his hands. Wendell Rohr enters and stops just at the entrance letting the door close behind him. Fitch notices Rohr, turns off the faucet, and dries his hands.]

RANKIN FITCH

Wendell Rohr, an overdue pleasure. Rankin Fitch. [Hand shake] Nice suit. Very um...of the people.

WENDELL ROHR

Yours is nicer. What would you call it? "Gun lobby protecting it's own?" Ooh, swank shoes! Big Tobacco?

FITCH

Big alligator. Wrestled it myself.

[A man begins to enter the restroom. The door bumps ROHR in the back. Rohr closes the door, forcing the man out, and proceeds to lock it.]

ROHR

Um, excuse me, we're cleaning up in here.

[Rohr closes the door, forcing the man out, and locks it.]

FITCH

Am I gonna get beat up now, Mr. Rorh?

ROHR

Whad-ya do to my witness? Threaten his family? Write him a check? Just curious about what your technique is Mr. Fitch.

FITCH

Maybe he uh decided against biting the hand that fed him these past few years.

ROHR

You know exactly why he came to us.

FITCH

Oh, please. Don't tell me you hung your case on somebody's conscience.

ROHR

I hung my case on my own conscience.

FITCH

Ahh, I get it now. You are a moral man living in a world of moral relativity. It's just so quaint, so precious—

ROHR

Hey! Don't do that! This is about my witness, right? This is about you messing with my client, my case, and the rules of law that govern our country!

FITCH

Our country?

ROHR

Yes!

FITCH

I didn't figure you for a patriot, Mr. Rohr. What with your blatant disregard for the people's right to bare arms, you know, the 2nd amendment.

ROHR

Is that why you're doing this? To protect the constitution, is that it?

FITCH

Of course not. I'm in it to win.

ROHR

Oh.

FITCH

Just like you are.

ROHR

Yeah.

FITCH

Because that's what I was hired to do.

ROHR

Uh huh.

FITCH

Everything else is colored bubbles.

ROHR

Colored bubbles! Colored bubbles? A system that calls for twelve people to sit and listen to testimony of witnesses, fella, and that includes my witness, who you've disappeared!

FITCH

If you're relying on testimony to win this case, you've already lost it. Fella! You think this jury cares anything about negligent distribution, product liability-

ROHR

You bet your ass they do-

FITCH

Aw, most of them can't even say the words let alone understand the meaning. You think your average juror is King Solomon? No, he's a roofer with a mortgage! He

wants to go home and sit in his
barcalounger and let the cable TV wash
over him. And this man doesn't give a
single solitary droplet of shit about
truth, justice, or your American way.

[Beat]

ROHR

They're people, Fitch.

FITCH

My point exactly.

ROHR

You don't have an idea of what I've been
talking about. Do you, son?

[Beat]

FITCH

What do you hope to achieve if you win?

ROHR

What do you mean?

FITCH

You gonna bring Jacob Wood back to life?
No. You just ensure that his wife goes to
the cemetery in a better car, and that the
heel that she snaps on the way to the
gravesite belongs to a twelve hundred
dollar shoe. You get your name in the
paper, but Jacob Wood, and all the other
gun violence victims remain rotting in
their crypts.

[Beat]

ROHR

You know what, Fitch? You're gonna lose.

FITCH

I doubt it.

ROHR

Oh, maybe not this case, maybe not the next, but someday. You know, someday. I've seen it before with guys like you. You wanna know why?

FITCH

Why?

ROHR

Because you cannot carry that much contempt without it becoming malignant. Until you're gonna be all alone in a room full of shadows, and all you're gonna have is the memories of all those people's lives you have destroyed.

FITCH

Ah, that's a good story Wendell. It's just further proof of why you can't beat me. Because, you may be right, but the thing of it is: I don't give a shit. What's more? I never have.

[Fitch opens the restroom door, chuckles, and leaves.]