

## ANATOMY OF A TOWN

BLACK SCREEN

AUTOMATED VOICE

Your voicemail box is more than half full, please delete unneeded messages.

BEEP.

SHERRIE

Leonard, it's Sherrie. Please call me, I need to talk to you about something important.

BEEP.

AUTOMATED VOICE

This message has been deleted.

SHERRIE

Leonard, please call me back. I really need your help and I can't talk to anyone else about this. Please call-

BEEP.

AUTOMATED VOICE

This message has been deleted.

The sounds of SCRAPING.

FADE IN:

A thin line of daylight against the flat horizon.

More sounds of scraping. The line of light thickens with the coming dawn.

EXT. POLICE STATION - DAWN

LEONARD SHEPHERD (35) scrapes ice and snow from the windshield of a white Ford Bronco with patches of rust, snow piled high on the roof of the truck. The engine warms.

Leonard's tall with dark features. His black hair streaked with bits of gray. He has a handsome, chiseled face. He wears a navy-colored parka with a police insignia sewn on the sleeve.

The side of the truck door reads: CHIPPEWA HEIGHTS POLICE DEPARTMENT.

Leonard pauses, slightly fatigued. His breath condenses with the cold, producing large, white clouds.

The muffled crackle of a police radio sounds from inside the vehicle. Leonard reaches quickly to open the driver's side door.

A female DISPATCHER'S voice comes over the receiver.

DISPATCHER (O.S.)  
Hey, Chief? Are you there?

Leonard pulls off his winter gloves. A traditional Native American beaded bracelet shakes down Leonard's arm as he reaches for the receiver.

LEONARD  
Hey-

Leonard slides into the driver's seat, shuts the door and throws the Bronco into drive.

DISPATCHER (O.S.)  
Joe and Dave are on their way.

LEONARD  
Good deal.

Leonard lights a cigarette as he navigates the snowy roads.

DISPATCHER (O.S.)  
Old Man McNamara says to tell you  
they haven't plowed the road to  
his farm yet.

Leonard pulls to the side of the road on the outskirts of town in order to let a snow plow pass him in the opposite direction.

LEONARD  
They're just getting to it now,  
looks like. I can't tell the road  
from the landscape.

Leonard's view is a blur of pure white.

DISPATCHER (O.S.)  
Just steer clear of the mailboxes.

They both chuckle.

DISPATCHER (O.S.)  
(continuing)  
Says he's sorry, might be a tough  
drive.

Leonard smiles as he drags on his cigarette.

LEONARD  
Tell Old Man McNamara not to  
worry, I'm riding my trusty rusty  
sorrel.

The dispatcher laughs again.

DISPATCHER (O.S.)  
Will do.

EXT. MCNAMARA FARM - DAWN

Leonard's truck cuts through the deep snow towards the house.  
It's a modest, well-maintained farmhouse.

MCNAMARA (70s), a round, solid man, stands in the doorway  
watching Leonard, puffing on a wooden pipe. He wears a  
flannel shirt tucked neatly into faded pinstripe overalls.

EXT. MCNAMARA FARM - CONTINUING

Leonard climbs up the front steps. McNamara nods to Leonard  
as he slips on a heavy winter jacket.

MCNAMARA  
Chief Shepherd.

LEONARD  
Mr. McNamara.

MCNAMARA  
First day of spring.

LEONARD  
It's a beauty.

McNamara steps outside.

MCNAMARA  
The wife-

McNamara walks painfully.

LEONARD  
-Clara.

MCNAMARA  
I broke my hip last year. Clara  
went, otherwise I would have gone  
to the wood pile myself.

The two men trudge away from the house, sinking past their knees in the deep snow.

Leonard searches his big jacket pockets for a moment, producing a policeman's note pad and pen. Leonard flips it open.

LEONARD

What time did Clara go to the wood pile?

MCNAMARA

'Bout five.

Leonard scribbles.

LEONARD

Are you always up that early?

MCNAMARA

(chuckles)

Old habits die hard.

The large wood pile comes into view, partially covered by a red plastic tarp.

They hear VOICES and turn toward the house.

Two men, DAVE (25) and JOE (35), stand at the front door talking to CLARA (60s). Clara points towards the wood pile.

McNamara looks questioningly at Leonard.

LEONARD

Those are my guys.

MCNAMARA

Should we wait?

LEONARD

They'll catch up.

The two men continue through the deep snow.

LEONARD

(continuing)

You're not doing too bad for having a break.

McNamara nods.

MCNAMARA

Can't carry nothing though. That's  
why Clara had to go to the wood  
pile this morning.

The sounds of GROWLING draw their attention.

Leonard gestures for McNamara to stay behind him as he  
advances to the wood pile, drawing his service revolver.

More sounds of GROWLING as Leonard turns the corner of the  
wood pile and sees a coyote tearing at the flesh of the  
corpse of a nude, dead woman.

Her head and neck are exposed, the coyote has torn away most  
of the flesh there and works at knocking the logs away from  
her torso.

Leonard knocks his pistol against a metal barrel but the  
coyote isn't frightened by the noise, she stands her ground.

Leonard re-holsters his weapon.

LEONARD

Coyote, rabid maybe.

McNamara scratches his head, confused.

MCNAMARA

Never seen 'em this far north.

LEONARD

They are going wherever they can  
find room... and food.

Leonard picks up a log, whipping it at the coyote's head.

The coyote YELPS as it collapses.

Leonard puts one boot on the throat of the animal, crouching  
down, closing his eyes. He cracks the coyote's skull with the  
butt of his weapon.

Leonard watches as the animal dies.

MCNAMARA

'Course we never used to have  
murders here either. This is the  
second in as many years.

Leonard clears his throat.

Joe and Dave have reached the two men. Dave takes in the bloody scene.

DAVE  
Christ-

Joe looks at the body.

JOE  
What are the chances she got there  
by herself?

LEONARD  
I wouldn't take that bet.

Dave and Joe nod "hellos" to Old Man McNamara. Leonard looks at his officers.

LEONARD  
(continuing)  
Dave, I need you to call animal  
control, we're going to have to  
transport this coyote to the  
medical examiner's, along with the  
body.

Dave doesn't follow his logic. Leonard pats the stomach of the animal gently.

LEONARD  
(continuing)  
Maybe she's got evidence for us.

Joe looks at the body and observes that the head has been nearly chewed off by the animal, her face unidentifiable.

Wisps of long blonde hair blow in the wind.

LEONARD  
(continuing)  
Did you get a look at her before  
the coyote-

McNamara shakes his head.

MCNAMARA  
Maybe Clara-

Joe notices a tattoo of a orange sun and blue moon eclipsing on the hip of the corpse. He clears his throat a little nervously.

JOE  
Somebody's gotta know who has that  
tattoo.

Leonard looks at the tattoo...

BEGIN MEMORY HIT #1

A hand brushes over the tattoo, grasping her hip. The hand wears a wedding band and the traditional Native American bracelet.

END MEMORY HIT #1

INT. DINER - NOON

It's a typical small town diner, filled with locals. Well-lit, perhaps a little dingy, but clean.

A waitress, SALLY FOSTER (45) slim and no-nonsense, bustles around serving customers.

A television mounted on the wall shows a news program, the volume barely audible.

HARVEY BOYLE (45), graying, very tan and athletic, sits at the counter reading the newspaper.

Sally refills Harvey's coffee cup, walking quickly towards the kitchen, she glances at the television. The news program has switched to a commercial.

On screen, Harvey Boyle stands in front of a brand new sport utility vehicle in the commercial.

SALLY  
Hey, Harv- you're on again.

Harvey and the customers turn their attention to the television set, she turns up the volume.

HARVEY  
(on TV)  
-just stop by for a look- today!

On camera, Harvey turns his attention to an attractive blonde woman, SHERRIE HARRIS (35), dressed in a black leather mini-shirt, low-cut blouse and high heels.

A group of four men sit at a table, eating, drinking coffee and chain-smoking. They all wear mechanics' blue jumpsuits.



They watch, one of the men, JACK HARRIS (35), looks away, fiddling with his wedding ring. A large bandage wraps the palm of his hand.

SHERRIE  
(on TV)  
Boyle Automotive has the biggest  
deals in the county.

Sherrie looks invitingly into the camera, smiling seductively. The ad is campy yet effective.

A MAN seated at a table near Harvey lets out a low whistle.

MAN  
That'll keep your engine running.

Harvey smiles on and off camera. Another CUSTOMER seated next to Harvey at the counter slaps him on the back.

CUSTOMER  
How's business?

HARVEY  
Not a lot of people buying new  
cars these days. This recession-

CUSTOMER  
Ah, it'll get better. Americans  
love their new cars.

A woman enters the diner purposefully. She's Harvey's wife, JOSEPHINE (38). Her hair and make-up perfect, she's slim and pretty.

Harvey and Josephine lock eyes for a moment. Harvey frowns.

EXT. DINER - DAY

Leonard parks the Bronco outside the diner. Plows busily clear snow from the small downtown city streets.

A man, the MAYOR (50s) short and fat, comes out of the diner.

LEONARD  
Mayor-

MAYOR  
I've just heard. Stop by my office  
later today and fill me on the  
details.

Leonard nods as he opens the door, a bell sounds sounds his arrival.

INT. DINER - CONTINUING

Customers glance up at Leonard. A man nods in his direction, Leonard nods back.

Leonard glances around, taking the police note pad from his pocket. Harvey glances up at Leonard as he passes.

HARVEY

Chief-

LEONARD

(to Josephine)

We don't see you in town much  
these days, Josephine.

JOSEPHINE

I try to stay in my green house.

LEONARD

Can't say I blame you.

Josephine smiles politely at Leonard.

Leonard consults his note pad briefly as he scribbles something.

HARVEY

Busy pulling cars outta ditches  
this morning, Chief?

Leonard smiles a little.

LEONARD

I'm sure one or two of them came  
from your dealership. Your machine  
shop will be getting busy today.

HARVEY

Yeah, ready to get those slackers  
to work over there.

Harvey nods with his head, Leonard follows his gesture. The table of mechanics laugh as they finish lunch.

Harvey and Josephine walk toward the door.

LEONARD  
(to Harvey)  
Are you going to be at the  
dealership later today?

JOSEPHINE  
We've got an appointment.

Harvey shuffles his feet a little.

HARVEY  
(to Leonard)  
Sure. This afternoon, late.

The couple starts to leave.

JOSEPHINE  
(still in earshot)  
Next week's our fund-raiser for  
the Sheriff. I offered our efforts  
for his reelection and I will ask  
the board of directors for my  
father's endowment to also lend  
support-

Sally passes Leonard.

SALLY  
Coffee, Leonard?

Leonard glances down at his boots for a moment, an  
involuntary look of shame overcoming him.

LEONARD  
Not today, Sally, thanks.

Leonard walks slowly to the table of mechanics. Jack glances  
up at Leonard.

JACK  
Whattya staring at, Chief?

Jack gives him a sarcastic grin.

LEONARD  
Got a minute, Jack?

Leonard looks at the other men at the table who stare at the  
intruder.

JACK  
Not really.

Jack extinguishes his cigarette, standing up, the other men start to follow. Leonard grabs his elbow gently.

LEONARD  
(whispering)  
It's about Sherrie.

Jack laughs as he pulls free from. Leonard's grip.

JACK  
(whispering back)  
What? Let me guess, you wanna fuck  
her. Get in line.

Jack pulls on his jacket, exiting with the other mechanics.

Leonard follows them to the door. A man wearing an expensive business suit, ANTIQUE DEALER (60,) talks with Harvey and Josephine across the street.

Jack gets into a brand new pick-up truck as Leonard steps outside the diner.

OUTSIDE

LEONARD  
Jack-

Jack pretends to be concentrating.

JACK  
Now wait, that can't be it. I  
thought you Indians got too drunk  
to fuck. That why there ain't too  
many of you fellas around anymore?

Jack's co-workers laugh. Leonard's temper flares.

LEONARD  
Get out of the fucking truck, Jack.

Jack looks questioningly at him as he slides out of the passenger seat.

LEONARD  
(continuing)  
Does Sherrie have a tattoo of a-  
like a sun and a moon bleeding  
together?

Jack nods, he looks smaller.

LEONARD  
(continuing)  
She's dead, Jack. We found her at  
the McNamara farm.

Jack wrings his hands.

JACK  
Christ-

LEONARD  
When's the last time you saw her?

JACK  
Maybe a week.

Leonard writes this information down.

JACK  
(continuing)  
What happened?

LEONARD  
A week? You didn't think anything  
might be wrong?

JACK  
Fuck, Leonard. You know we weren't  
exactly the king and queen of the  
prom anymore.  
(beat)  
She did her thing, I did mine.

LEONARD  
Know who she was staying with?

Jack starts to get a little nervous.

JACK  
Nope-

LEONARD  
What happened to your hand?

Jack looks at his hand, as if he'd forgotten anything had  
happened to it. He looks at Leonard but just shrugs.

Leonard observes as Harvey, Josephine and the Antique Dealer  
get into Harvey's car together.

SHERIFF DAVIS (60) and a DEPUTY (40) park their vehicle. The  
Sheriff is a tall man with a mane of wild, white hair. He's  
handsome for his age.

He stops, talking to Josephine briefly at the passenger window before they cross the street to the diner.

JOSEPHINE  
(to the Sheriff)  
Tim, I'd like you to meet...

Her voice trails off due to their distance from Leonard. The Sheriff shakes hands with the man.

LEONARD  
(to Jack)  
I'm going to need you to come by  
the medical examiner's to... make  
the identification... and then to  
make a formal statement.

Jack looks at Leonard, then at the truck with his co-workers. He's immobile. He looks at Leonard again, his face crestfallen.

Leonard nods at the guys waiting in his truck.

LEONARD  
(continuing)  
Can one of them drive you home?

EXT. KATIE'S HOUSE - AFTERNOON

Leonard pulls up to the house, getting out of the truck with a shovel. He struggles through the deep snow to the front steps and begins shoveling.

A FOR SALE sign leans in the front. Leonard starts scooping snow, piling it in front of the sign.

KATIE SHEPHERD (35) opens the front door, watching Leonard from the screened porch. She's very pretty, wearing fashionable glasses and holding a stack of papers in one hand and eating an apple with the other.

When Leonard finishes the steps and starts shoveling the sidewalk, Katie opens the screen door quietly, clearing her throat. Leonard looks up at her. She steps outside.

Leonard resumes shoveling. Katie walks down the steps to Leonard.

KATIE  
When you moved out, Len, that  
meant you don't have to shovel the  
walk anymore.

Leonard stops.

LEONARD  
Is that what it meant?  
(beat)  
When were you going to do it?

Katie sighs, taking another bite of apple.

KATIE  
Actually, one of the neighbor kids  
is going to do it. Well, was going  
to do it until I gave him  
detention today.

Leonard continues.

KATIE  
(continuing)  
Christ, Leonard, will you just  
stop?

He doesn't.

LEONARD  
How's school?

KATIE  
When are you going to sign the  
papers?

LEONARD  
How's the car running?

KATIE  
I'm going to move out of Chippewa  
Heights as soon as the spring term  
is over.

LEONARD  
How's your family?

Katie sighs.

KATIE  
There are all of your mother's  
boxes still piled in the porch.

Katie grabs his wrist. Leonard covers her hand with one of  
his.

LEONARD  
Where are you going to go, Katie?

Katie falters for a moment.

KATIE  
Minneapolis maybe. You know how I  
feel about river towns.

Leonard looks at her a long moment. Katie has to look away.

LEONARD  
Correct me if I'm wrong but  
Minneapolis is also a river town.

Katie tosses the apple core into the snow bank. She sighs deeply, deliberately.

KATIE  
But there's enough space that I  
can isolate myself from toxic  
elements if I need to.

This stings Leonard.

LEONARD  
Can I see the kids?

KATIE  
Of course.

INT. KATIE'S HOUSE - CONTINUING

They enter the living room to the sounds of BARKING. Two huge BLACK LABS run in, tackling Leonard playfully.

Leonard pets them, gets licked and slobbered on, loving every second of it. Katie watches them, smiling despite herself.

KATIE  
You know, you can take them for a  
while, if you'd like.

Leonard doesn't respond. He checks their teeth and ears.

LEONARD  
Have they been to the vet?

Katie sighs.

KATIE  
I heard about Sherrie.

LEONARD  
Already?



KATIE

It's all over town. Everyone's saying she was murdered.

(pause)

She's not exactly my favorite person but she didn't deserve this.

Leonard stands, dusting himself off.

LEONARD

I'm going to the medical examiner's this afternoon for a preliminary report.

KATIE

Jack and Sherrie were having some rough times, do you think Jack-

LEONARD

I'll find out. Maybe.

He stand for a moment, immobile.

KATIE

It's not going to be like last time.

LEONARD

Maybe not.

INT. MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE - AFTERNOON

Leonard walks into a small, cramped office where Dave sits.

LEONARD

Anything?

DAVE

Not yet.

The medical examiner, SAM RHOADES (70), squat and gruff, walks into the office.

SAM

Chief Shepherd-

LEONARD

Sam-

SAM

I'm not going to be able to tell you much right now.

## EXAMINATION ROOM

Sherrie's body lies on a metal table. The coyote lies on another table.

Dave stares at the body, which has been dissected, her internal organs removed, resting in stainless steel bowls. Dave covers his mouth, gagging.

SAM  
(to Dave)  
Have you ever been deer hunting?

Dave nods, turning his head away. Sam shakes his head about Dave's reaction.

SAM  
(continuing)  
Have you ever gotten one?

Dave nods.

SAM  
(continuing)  
It's the same.

Dave turns back to the table, wincing a bit.

DAVE  
(whispers)  
I don't think so-

SAM  
She died of blunt force trauma to her head. There are three skull fractures. Definitely not an accident.  
(beat)  
There isn't any residue on the wound so I can't tell you what might have been used as a weapon.

Sam moves to the coyote, the contents of her stomach held in a large steel bowl. Sam pokes at the entrails as Dave makes a face of disgust.

SAM  
(continuing)  
However, over here we have brain and skull fragments. I haven't finished yet but- Sherrie bled, a lot, somewhere else.

Leonard paces tensely around the body.

LEONARD

Tell me something I can go on, Sam.

Sam shakes his head.

SAM

Well, there is something pretty strange. She's been washed.

LEONARD

What?

SAM

The body has been washed.

DAVE

Kinky-

Leonard shoots Dave a stern look.

LEONARD

It was snowing.

SAM

I know, I know, but there's soap residue in what's left of her hair.

(beat)

And, the other thing I can tell from the coyote's stomach contents, is that there was some kind of dust in Sherrie's brain matter.

LEONARD

Sawdust?

SAM

Maybe. I thought of that too, seeing as where she was found. But, it's finer. I think it's plaster dust.

LEONARD

Construction site.

SAM

Maybe. That'd be a place to start. I've sent it to be examined to see if we can pinpoint it.

(more)

SAM (cont'd)  
I'm estimating the time of death  
to be at least twenty-four hour,  
maybe forty-eight.

LEONARD  
Was she raped?

Dave scoffs, Leonard pinches his side.

SAM  
No fluids, but she was washed off.  
Report comes back tomorrow or the  
next day.

Dave starts to leave. Leonard looks at Sam for a second.

LEONARD  
(to Dave)  
I'll catch up with you-

Dave leaves.

SAM  
Gonna be at the meeting tonight?

Leonard looks away from him.

LEONARD  
I'm going to try.

SAM  
Now's especially important.

EXT. MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE - CONTINUING

Leonard and Dave exit the building as Joe hurries up to them.

LEONARD  
Late-

JOE  
Sorry.

Dave's still disgusted by the sights of the examination room.

DAVE  
Don't be.

JOE  
What did you find?

LEONARD

We're looking for a bathtub in a construction site. Dave'll fill you in. I'm headed to Harvey's.

INT. HARVEY'S AUTOMOTIVE - DAY

Leonard sits in the lobby. The walls are covered with glossy photos of new automobiles, including a framed still photo from one of Harvey's television ads. Harvey stands with his arm wrapped tightly around Sherrie, both of them smiling.

A RECEPTIONIST (20) comes into the lobby. She's an attractive young woman, dressed a little provocatively for her employment situation.

LEONARD

I'm here to see Harvey.

The receptionist looks confused.

RECEPTIONIST

He's gone for a business meeting in the Twin Cities. He'll be gone a couple of days.

Leonard tries to cover his irritation at being swerved by Harvey.

LEONARD

I see. I must of misunderstood when I spoke to him this morning. He said he'd be in late this afternoon. I wanted to ask him about Sherrie Harris.

The receptionist prickles a little at hearing Sherrie's name. She begins shuffling papers absently around the desk.

RECEPTIONIST

Oh? What about her?

LEONARD

She's dead.

The receptionist looks up with a start.

LEONARD

(continuing)

Thought maybe you'd already heard-

She shakes her head.

LEONARD  
(continuing)  
Any truth to the rumors about  
Harvey and Sherrie?

RECEPTIONIST  
They, ah-  
(still shocked)  
They spent a lot of time together.

EXT. POLICE STATION - CONTINUING

Jack Harris swings open the door to the police station as Leonard, Dave and Joe jump out of their vehicles.

Jack and Leonard exchange brief glances before Jack goes inside.

LEONARD  
Why don't you guys start by  
canvassing Bud's Place, you know  
how everyone ends up there after  
work.

DAVE  
(disappointed)  
Aahh-

Joe grabs Dave by the elbow.

JOE  
Come on-

INT. POLICE STATION - CONTINUING

RUTH CARLSON (50) round and rosy-cheeked, sits outside an office door that reads, CHIEF OF POLICE.

She carries a reporter's note pad, leaping up as soon as she sees Jack walking down the hallway.

Leonard pauses when he sees her, taking a deep breath.

RUTH  
Jack-

Jack barrels past her, not stopping, entering Leonard's office.

LEONARD  
Ruth-

RUTH  
Big story, Chief.

Ruth looks at her note pad.

RUTH  
(continuing)  
I'm putting out a special edition.

LEONARD  
It'll be awfully thin. I won't  
have the medical examiner's full  
report for a couple of days.

RUTH  
My- source- told me the body was  
found at the McNamara farm buried  
in one of their wood piles. Is  
that correct?

Leonard sighs deeply.

RUTH  
(continuing)  
What other details can you give me?

LEONARD  
That's it, Ruth. I told you  
already-

RUTH  
Jack Harris? Is he a suspect?

LEONARD  
I'm not prepared to discuss the  
details of the case at this time.

Leonard opens the door to his office. Ruth cranes her head  
around to peek at Jack.

LEONARD  
(continuing)  
You'd be better off waiting until  
the report comes in.

RUTH  
The town can't wait. It's such big  
news. It isn't often there's a  
murder in this town.

Leonard looks down briefly as he lets the door to his office  
fall shut.

RUTH  
(continuing)  
Do you see any links, Chief?  
Seeing that other case went  
unsolved-

Leonard visibly winces.

LEONARD  
I see no links.

RUTH  
How can you be certain?

LEONARD  
I suppose I'm not, but Jenny  
Foster was a young girl and  
Sherrie Harris was a woman in her  
thirties. Jenny Foster was stabbed  
to death, Sherrie Harris appears  
to have been bludgeoned to death.

Ruth dutifully scribbles.

RUTH  
It doesn't seem like they are  
connected.

LEONARD  
I've got to go-

Leonard starts through the door again.

RUTH  
Last I heard from you about the  
Jenny Foster case, you were going  
to widen your search of  
dealerships with a sale around the  
time of Jenny's murder, what have  
you found?

He starts to gently shut the door in her face.

LEONARD  
Nothing concrete...yet.

Ruth scribbles in her notebook, nods to him without looking  
up and leaves.

INT. LEONARD'S OFFICE - CONTINUING

Jack sits reclined across from the desk, smoking a cigarette  
and swigging from a flask.



JACK  
Nosy old bitch.

LEONARD  
Just doing her job.

Leonard flips open his notebook. Jack observes Leonard's office. It's crammed with boxes of personal things: clothes, books, fishing gear.

JACK  
Our tax dollars covering rent now?

Jack picks through one of the boxes and takes out an old basketball jersey. He holds it up for inspection.

JACK  
(continuing)  
Good old Leonard Shepherd,  
starting forward.  
(beat)  
You never would have been a  
starter for the team if you  
weren't an Indian or is it Native  
American? I can't keep up-

Jack drinks deeply from the flask, wadding up the jersey and tossing it back into the box.

LEONARD  
(ignores the comment)  
So, you said the last time you saw  
Sherrie was about a week ago?

Jack thinks about the question for a second, while he continues to peer into the box. Leonard pushes the box away from Jack with his foot.

JACK  
Maybe it was more like four or  
five days ago.

Leonard considers him carefully.

LEONARD  
Can you be more specific?

JACK  
I- I didn't kill her.

LEONARD  
Then I would try to be more  
specific.

JACK  
I don't remember.  
(beat)  
I've been hitting the bottle  
pretty hard these days, but you  
know all about hitting the bottle,  
don't you, Chief?

Jack's baiting isn't working.

LEONARD  
Sure do. Know where she was  
staying?

JACK  
Nope.

LEONARD  
No idea?

Jack extinguishes one cigarette as he lights another.

JACK  
Nope.

Leonard and Jack exchange a stalemate look.

LEONARD  
Any idea who might want her dead?

JACK  
Almost every wife within county  
lines? Some crazy who came along?  
Who knows?

EXT. POLICE STATION - NIGHT

Leonard exits the police station. Across the street sits a bar called "Bud's Place." Dave's and Joe's squad cars are parked outside.

Leonard shakes his head as he crosses the street.

INT. BUD'S PLACE - CONTINUING

Dave and Joe sit in the corner of the crowded bar. It's loud and smoky inside. Glasses clink. The juke box plays classic rock.

A cocktail WAITRESS meets Leonard on his way to Dave and Joe's table.

WAITRESS

What can I get for ya, Chief?

LEONARD

Coffee. Thanks.

Leonard sits down at the table. Already several large and empty beer steins litter the table.

Leonard lifts and sets down one of the empty beer steins.

LEONARD

(continuing)

What have you found out? Not too much, I gather.

JOE

She didn't show up for work three days ago but no one seemed to think that was too unusual. She's kind of Harvey's accessory sales associate. Then I bumped into Larry, the owner of the corner store, and he said she came in three days ago to buy cigarettes. Said he remembers because she was wearing this white sweater without a bra-

Dave whistles.

JOE

(continuing)

What did Jack have to say?

LEONARD

Not much.

The waitress brings a mug of coffee and more glasses of beer to their table.

LEONARD

(continuing)

Thanks.

(beat)

Dave, I asked you to call those dealerships on the west coast looking for a car sale around the time Jenny Foster was killed, what have you come up with?

DAVE

Ah-

(surprised)

Well, not much. I mean, well,  
since we don't have the plate  
number-

LEONARD

-but we do know it had Dealer  
plates and we do know it was a  
dark colored four-door sedan.

DAVE

Right-

LEONARD

Expand the search, where else,  
besides a car dealership, would  
have access to Dealer plates?

(beat)

How about auto salvages?

Joe and Dave look at him blankly.

DAVE

Chief...

Leonard dumps sugar and cream into his cup a little  
frantically.

LEONARD

Look into that right away tomorrow-

JOE

Chief, we already looked at that  
angle, last year, at the time of  
her death-

Leonard just blinks at him.

JOE

(continuing)

It's just one of those cases-

Katie and a man, PRINCIPAL BROOKS (45), walk into the bar and  
sit near the window. Joe elbows Leonard who doesn't respond,  
he just observes them laugh while they order a drink.

Sheriff Davis and his Deputy also enter the bar.

Joe elbows Leonard again as the Sheriff and Deputy walk to  
their table.

SHERIFF

Chief-

The Sheriff smiles slyly.

SHERIFF

(continuing)

Working hard to find Sherrie's  
killer, I see.

JOE

We're-

LEONARD

-taking a break.

The Sheriff pushes the beer steins away from the edge of the  
table, grips the edge and leans in.

SHERIFF

I remember when it was more  
important to drink than it was to  
do my job-

He glances at Leonard's half full coffee cup.

SHERIFF

(continuing)

Right, Chief?

Leonard doesn't respond.

SHERIFF

(continuing)

Sherrie Harris was always good at  
getting herself into sticky  
situations.

LEONARD

I'm not into blaming the victim,  
Sheriff Davis.

The Sheriff just chuckles.

SHERIFF

The McNamara farm lies just  
outside city limits, that's our  
jurisdiction.

The Sheriff pushes off the table with his hands, rocking back  
on his heels. Leonard glares nastily at him.

LEONARD

She wasn't murdered there. The  
body was dumped there.

The Sheriff looks at his Deputy.

SHERIFF

My boy here is married to one of  
the girls who works at Harvey's  
and she says a couple of days ago  
Sherrie got a call from Jack and  
she left work, saying she was  
going to the lake.

(beat)

And what do you know? Nobody's  
seen her since.

(beat)

You have a nice break, boys.

They leave the bar. Leonard glares at Dave and Joe.

DAVE

Nobody at the dealership said  
anything like that to us-

JOE

The lake?

LEONARD

Jack has an ice fishing house.

Leonard drains his coffee cup as he stands.

LEONARD

(continuing)

Let's have a look.

Joe reaches for his car keys on the table but Leonard swipes  
them away from him.

LEONARD

(continuing)

I'll drive.

EXT. LAKE - NIGHT

Leonard, Joe and Dave stand outside Jack's padlocked ice  
fishing house. The wind howls as the freshly fallen snow  
whips around their feet.

LEONARD

I think I got something to cut  
that off with.

Leonard walks back to the Bronco and pulls a tool box out of the back. Leonard cuts off the lock with a loud SNAP.

JOE  
I think we need a warrant now.

LEONARD  
It's officially Spring, his  
fishing license has expired, both  
mean he should have torn down.

The three officers file inside.

INT. ICE HOUSE - CONTINUING

There's a small cot with a pillow and blanket on it. Dave  
knocks over a lamp in the crowded interior.

LEONARD  
(angry and irritated)  
Watch it, Dave! This is all  
potential evidence.

DAVE  
Shit, sorry!

The three men begin to carefully search tackle boxes and  
equipment. Empty beer cans litter the small space.

Dave opens a small metal locker, tossing out fishing  
paraphernalia. He finds a plastic bag crammed in the bottom,  
pulls it out, peering inside with his flashlight.

DAVE  
(continuing)  
Chief-

Dave tugs on a white cashmere sweater that's soaked with  
dried blood.

They all stare at it a moment. There is the sound of an  
ENGINE humming in the distance.

Leonard considers the situation for a long moment.

LEONARD  
I don't think he's that stupid.  
Rebag it- carefully-

Dave gingerly slides it back into the bag.

JOE  
Oh, I don't know. Maybe not  
stupid, but careless.

Leonard reaches for the sweater just as a loud SMACK hits the icehouse, the men reel from the impact.

EXT. ICE HOUSE - CONTINUING

They crawl out of the ice house to see Jack stumbling drunkenly out of his pick-up. He's hit the ice house accidentally.

JACK  
(finally notices them)  
What the fuck are you doing here?

Jack stumbles up to Leonard, getting in his face.

LEONARD  
Driving under the influence-

JACK  
I asked you what the fuck you're  
doing, you fucking prairie nigger!

LEONARD  
What's this, Jack?

Leonard grabs the bagged sweater from Dave, holding it up.  
Jack stares at it, recognizing it.

JACK  
I didn't-

Leonard takes out his handcuffs. Jack lunges at Leonard, wild with rage and panic, knocking him to the ground with a PUNCH to the jaw.

Leonard recovers quickly, tackling Jack. The two wrestle for a moment. Jack pins Leonard, grabbing for his gun.

Joe fires a warning shot into the air. The sound startles Jack for a moment, allowing Leonard to push free.

Jack gets back into his truck, he steers straight for the ice house. Dave and Joe dive out of the way.

There's another SMACK that breaks the wooden hut into splinters.

Leonard jumps into the Bronco, chasing after him.



INT. TRUCK - CONTINUING

Leonard picks up the radio receiver.

LEONARD

This is Chief Shepherd requesting  
assistance at Chippewa Lake, Over-

The police radio crackles.

VOICE (O.S.)

Sheriff's Department reads you,  
over-

EXT. LAKE - CONTINUING

Jack heads to the middle of the lake, signs read:

DRIVING PROHIBITED

DANGER

THIN

ICE

EXT. ICE HOUSE - CONTINUING

Dave and Joe watch.

JOE

The ice!

They start to run after the two vehicles.

EXT. LAKE - CONTINUING

Leonard speeds up, cutting him off. Jack's truck SLAMS into  
Leonard's stopped vehicle.

Leonard slips down from the truck, stunned.

The ice starts to CRACK and POP beneath them.

Jack doesn't realize that the rear of his vehicle has  
already sunk.

Leonard lies on the ice, distributing his weight, as his own  
vehicle begins to sink.

LEONARD

Jack! Jack! Get out!

Jack panics. He unrolls his window, the icy, ink-black water pours in on top of him.

JACK

Help!

He's sinking fast. Leonard takes off his boots and jacket, jumping in just as his own vehicle falls through the ice with a loud SNAP, breaking the surrounding ice into a huge open pool.

Leonard swims to Jack's truck, Jack grabs Leonard around the neck.

LEONARD

Kick loose!

Jack tries but his weight, panic and intoxication make every movement slow and sloppy, bringing them under. Both men submerge for a long moment...

Dave and Joe are almost to them. They drop to their bellies, inching their way to the ice's edge.

Leonard resurfaces with Jack under one arm. Both men puff giant clouds of cold, condensed air.

COUGHING

Their lips and cheeks have already turned a sickening blue.

JOE

Chief-

Joe throws out an arm, pulling him out of the water.

Dave grabs for Jack and the two officers manage to pull them onto the ice, shuttering for warmth, sputtering for air.

INT. POLICE STATION - LATER

A DOCTOR (50s) examines Jack who lies on a cot in a cell.

LEONARD'S OFFICE

Leonard's wrapped in a blanket, sitting at his desk, shivering. Dave brings him a cup of coffee.

Sheriff Davis stands in the office with his Deputy.

The doctor comes into Leonard's office. Leonard doesn't pay any attention. He watches Jack who's asleep.

DOCTOR  
Let's have a look at ya, Chief.

Leonard waves him away.

LEONARD  
(impatient)  
I'm fine. How is he?

DOCTOR  
He'll be okay. The dunk in the lake will make his hangover extra fun tomorrow but no signs of hypothermia. But, I'd feel better if the two of you spent the night in the hospital.

Leonard sips from his cup, still shivering. The doctor feels Leonard's forehead.

LEONARD  
We're staying put.

DOCTOR  
It's your liability.

LEONARD  
Thanks for reminding me.

The doctor leaves.

SHERIFF  
Fine work tonight, Chief.

LEONARD  
We'll see if the search holds up in court.

The Sheriff tips his hat back on his head and rolls onto his heels.

SHERIFF  
I wouldn't worry too much about it. I know Judge Capron. I'm sure when you explain the situation, he'll understand.

Leonard just looks back at him warily. The Sheriff glances through the ajar door, spying Jack passed out in the cell.

SHERIFF  
(continuing)  
Jack Harris is nothing but a  
pathetic drunk.  
(beat)  
Glad we could help you boys out  
tonight.

The Sheriff tips his hat. Joe comes in with a coffee refill.

The Sheriff nods his way out the door.

JOE  
That prick forgets he used to be  
a pathetic drunk.

DAVE  
(to Leonard)  
Why don't you let Joe drive you  
home and I'll stay-

Joe nudges Dave, quietly indicating the couch with a folded blanket and pillow on it, as Leonard grabs the evidence bag with the cashmere sweater and tosses it to Joe.

LEONARD  
(to Joe)  
I want you to take this to Sam,  
he'll be waiting.

DAVE  
What do you want me to do, Chief?

Leonard thinks for a long moment.

LEONARD  
I want you to go back to Bud's and  
talk to everyone. Let's see if we  
can draw a picture of her entire  
last day based on who might have  
run into her.... when and where-

INT. POLICE STATION - MORNING

Leonard suddenly awake, startled as the outside door to the building slams.

Leonard pulls on his jacket, going into the outer office, finding Joe there.

JOE  
Morning, Chief.

Leonard nods as he starts the coffee pot.

LEONARD  
I'm gonna step out for a smoke.

EXT. POLICE STATION - DAWN

Leonard stands just outside smoking, lost in thought.  
Everything still and quiet except for the sounds of a few birds.

Sally Foster unlocks the front door to the diner across the street. She hurries over when she sees Leonard.

SALLY  
Chief Shepherd!

Leonard looks up at the sound of his name.

LEONARD  
How are you, Sally?

He drags a little nervously on his cigarette as she crosses the street.

INSIDE

Joe watches from the window as Leonard and Sally talk.

STREET

Sally looks pale and stricken, as if she might have been crying.

SALLY  
I'm doing okay. Thanks for asking.

Sally wrings her hands.

SALLY  
(continuing)  
I know you're investigating  
Sherrie's death and...

Tears spill over onto her cheeks.

SALLY  
(continuing)  
...It's bringing back everything,  
wondering what happened to my  
little girl, why-

Leonard nods, he is visibly uncomfortable, looking ashamed.

SALLY  
(continuing)  
You find out what happened to  
Sherrie. Find out what happened-

Her face contorts with emotion.

SALLY  
(continuing)  
Sherrie worked at the diner for a  
while in high school. She had a  
hard life- her mother was already  
dead and her father was a drunk-  
(beat)  
No one is too tarnished for  
justice.

Leonard takes her statement to heart, as if she has stabbed  
him with a sword of duty.

Sally wipes her tears, pulling herself together as she  
crosses the street again.

INT. POLICE STATION - CONTINUING

Joe hands Leonard a cup of coffee.

LEONARD  
(slumping into the  
chair at his desk)  
Thanks.

JOE  
You know-

Joe sits at his desk as Leonard drains his coffee cup quickly.

JOE  
(continuing)  
It's going to be something simple.

Leonard looks up at him questioningly.

LEONARD  
What?

JOE  
It's going to be something simple  
that leads us to the killer.

Leonard refills his coffee, his back to Joe.

LEONARD  
Which killer would that be?

Leonard raises his eyebrows.

LEONARD  
(continuing)  
Which?

JOE  
Half of homicides are never  
solved. Despite best efforts.

Dave darts in the office.

LEONARD  
(to Dave)  
What did you find out last night?

JOE  
I'll check on Jack.

Dave flips through his notebook, clearing his throat.

DAVE  
Pete Anderson was at Bud's one  
night last week and saw Sherrie  
there drinking by herself. Jack  
was there too for a while but he  
left. Then he played a game of  
pool in the back room, stepped out  
for some fresh air and heard two  
people arguing-

Dave stops, clearing his throat again.

LEONARD  
Was it Sherrie?

Dave nods.

DAVE  
Yep. He heard a crashing sound. He  
went out the back door to check it  
out and said he found Sherrie on  
the ground, lying in the remains  
of a tipped over trash can. Says  
she was pretty pissed about it  
because she was wearing this  
expensive, white sweater. She was  
pretty lit too.

Leonard takes Dave's notebook, scanning it quickly.

LEONARD  
Didn't see the other person-

DAVE  
Nah, gone already.

LEONARD  
He must have heard whether it was  
a man or woman she was arguing  
with-

Leonard looks at Dave for the answer.

DAVE  
Ah, he didn't say. And ah, I  
forgot to clarify.

Leonard hands the notebook back to him, irritated.

LEONARD  
Did he see Jack and Sherrie  
interact at all?

Dave shakes his head. Joe enters the office.

JOE  
Jack's awake and says he wants a  
lawyer-

DAVE  
He can't afford one-

Leonard snaps Dave's notebook shut.

LEONARD  
Call the public defender. I'm  
gonna talk to him first, though.  
(beat)  
I need you to get a formal  
statement from Pete.

Dave shuffles his feet.

DAVE  
Oh... really? He said he didn't  
see the other person.

LEONARD  
Yeah, I know, but he's an eye  
witness. He can identify the  
clothing she was wearing. Come on,  
you know the drill.



INT. INTERROGATION ROOM - CONTINUING

Leonard enters the room with two cups of coffee. Leonard shuts the door hard, Jack winces from his hangover.

Leonard remains standing, sipping his coffee as Jack looks longingly at the coffee cup.

Leonard walks across the room where there's a newspaper lying on the edge of the table, he pages absently through it. Jack stares at Leonard as he moves around the room.

LEONARD

Nice swim we had last night.

JACK

I don't remember-

LEONARD

You tried to mow down three officers with your brand new truck while intoxicated. Now, not only are you looking at a murder charge, we'll add three counts of attempted vehicular homicide-

JACK

You had it coming.

LEONARD

Good, your memory's coming back-

JACK

I remember enough to know I didn't kill her.

LEONARD

Considering what we found in your ice house, hardly think a jury will believe that.

Jack's voice is without its usual force.

JACK

What the fuck, Leonard, are you gonna give me that cup of coffee?

LEONARD

I brought it for your attorney, I thought he was already here.

JACK

Well, he ain't.

Leonard sips his coffee.

LEONARD  
It'll keep.

JACK  
I can't afford a lawyer.

LEONARD  
No? Thought maybe you had come  
into some cash since you're  
driving around in a brand new pick-  
up.

JACK  
That was a gift.

LEONARD  
From who?

JACK  
Sh-Sherrie.

Leonard takes a long pull off his coffee cup.

LEONARD  
Now that's interesting.

Leonard paces around the back of the table.

LEONARD  
(continuing)  
Why would Sherrie, given that your  
marriage was falling apart, want  
to give you a forty thousand  
dollar gift?

JACK  
She- she wanted a divorce-

Leonard sets the coffee cup in front of Jack. Jack snatches  
it up, swigging from it.

LEONARD  
Where did she get the money?

JACK  
Dunno- didn't ask-

LEONARD  
I don't believe you.

JACK  
I don't care.

LEONARD  
Why did Sherrie want a divorce?

JACK  
What did your wife say to you,  
Chief?

Jack drinks his coffee as Leonard sits across from him,  
leaning in.

LEONARD  
If my wife came home and said she  
wanted a divorce and gave me a  
truck to buy me off, I might  
wonder what else I could get if I  
held out and waited- Didn't want  
to tell you about her jackpot,  
Jack?

Jack's visibly pissed off. Leonard leans back in his chair.

LEONARD  
(continuing)  
Or maybe it wasn't the money.  
Maybe it was who she was getting  
it from. Some mysterious guy that  
could make a beautiful prom queen  
wife divorce her high school  
quarterback husband. What's the  
matter, Jack? Did you get pissed  
off because you weren't man enough  
for her anymore?

Jack bolts up from the table, swiping the coffee cup to the  
floor, smashing it to bits.

Leonard gets up from the table.

JACK  
She was a fucking conniving slut  
but I didn't kill her.

LEONARD  
You're gonna have to do better  
than that.

JACK  
Fuck you.

Leonard moves to leave the room.

JACK  
(continuing)  
I want another cup of coffee.

Leonard surveys the smashed cup.

LEONARD  
Short on cups around here.

EXT. POLICE STATION - CONTINUING

Leonard exits the building, finding Ruth Carlson standing outside. Leonard nods an acknowledgement in her direction as he walks past her to Joe.

LEONARD  
(whispers to Joe)  
Start looking into her financials.

RUTH  
Quite a scene out on the lake last night, Chief.

Leonard stops walking.

RUTH  
(continuing)  
I saw Dave with an evidence bag.

LEONARD  
No comment.

Ruth flips through her notebook.

Leonard just looks back at her.

RUTH  
How did the murder happen? Why was she killed? Where was she killed? Who is on your list of suspects?

Leonard shakes his head in response to her onslaught of questions.

RUTH  
(continuing)  
How about we exchange some information? I've been told someone was seen going in and out of the ice fishing house but it wasn't Jack.

LEONARD  
Who is your source?

RUTH  
You know better than to ask.

LEONARD  
Tell your source they are  
withholding information from this  
investigation. If they know  
something, they should come  
forward.

Ruth frowns.

LEONARD  
(continuing)  
Obstructing justice-  
(beat)  
Who is your source?

She doesn't react.

RUTH  
Does Jack have an alibi?

He doesn't react.

RUTH  
(continuing)  
Maybe you should ask whatever  
bottle was his companion for the  
night-

Leonard scoffs, incompletely, unconvincingly.

RUTH  
(continuing)  
How quickly we forget, huh, Chief?

Leonard doesn't respond as Ruth winks at Leonard, scribbling  
in her notebook.

RUTH  
(continuing)  
Jack doesn't have an alibi-

Ruth starts to walk away.

LEONARD  
I didn't say that-

Ruth opens her car door but turns back to him.

RUTH  
You know, this is starting to feel  
familiar, my coming to you for  
details regarding a murder case  
and having to walk away empty-  
handed...

INT. DINER - DAY

Leonard stands at the counter, waiting for his food order.

SALLY  
Coffee?

LEONARD  
Please, thanks.

Sally takes out a mug, pouring coffee, quickly and expertly.  
Leonard glances into the back of the diner, seeing Katie  
sitting with Principal Paul Brooks.

He watches as the two of them get up from the table, they're  
finished with their meal. They make their way toward the door.

LEONARD  
(continuing)  
Katie.

Katie turns to Leonard. There is awkwardness. Katie looks at  
her companion.

KATIE  
Paul, you remember Leonard?

Paul extends his hand, after a long and deliberate pause,  
Leonard shakes it.

PAUL  
Of course, how is the  
investigation going, Chief  
Shepherd? Are you close to finding  
Sherie's killer?

Leonard does not appreciate his inquiry.

LEONARD  
School on a Saturday?

PAUL  
Ah-

KATIE  
(overlapping;  
irritated)  
-We're going over the curriculum  
for final exams.

LEONARD  
(to Katie)  
Do you have a minute?

Katie looks at Paul, then back at Leonard. Paul squeezes her elbow.

PAUL  
I'll see you later, Katie.

Katie watches him leave.

LEONARD  
Later?

Katie turns to Leonard, now angry.

KATIE  
What do you want, Len?

LEONARD  
Maybe sometime you'll have lunch  
with me.

Katie sighs, moving to leave too.

LEONARD  
(continuing)  
Katie-

Leonard takes her by the elbow as Sam enters the diner. At first Sam doesn't see Katie standing there.

SAM  
Leonard, there you are. I've got  
the report back-

Leonard's grip slides off Katie's elbow.

KATIE  
Why don't you just stick to  
obsessively shoveling my sidewalk.

She leaves.

SAM  
I'm sorry. I wasn't trying to  
interrupt.

Leonard waves away the apology.

LEONARD  
I was just beating my head against  
the wall.

INT. POLICE STATION - CONTINUING

Sam and Leonard walk into the office to find Dave and Joe  
both on telephones. Dave hangs up excitedly.

DAVE  
Chief!

Leonard observes the Sheriff sitting in the small waiting  
room outside of his office. The Sheriff waves at him, giving  
him an insipid, smug grin. Joe hangs up his phone as well.

JOE  
Chief!

LEONARD  
Gimme ten minutes, guys. Will you  
have a seat, Sam?

Sam nods, sitting across from Dave.

Leonard waves the Sheriff into his office.

LEONARD'S OFFICE

The Sheriff sits across from Leonard's desk, removes his hat,  
letting out a Big Man Sigh.

SHERIFF  
How's the investigation shaping up?

LEONARD  
We've got an eye witness lead and  
an evidence lead.

SHERIFF  
Good, Good. Glad to hear it.

The Sheriff glances around Leonard's office with a look  
that's half-nosy, half-amused.



SHERIFF  
(continuing)  
Running out of storage space?

LEONARD  
Something like that.

SHERIFF  
In all my years working as a  
municipal officer, I'd have to  
say, if it looked like the husband  
did it, we found out we were right.

LEONARD  
Did that have anything to do with  
the evidence?

The Sheriff laughs off the implication of anything untowardly.

SHERIFF  
Sometimes.  
(pause)  
And then sometimes intuition was  
our guide.

The Sheriff flicks an imaginary speck off his uniform shirt.

SHERIFF  
(continuing)  
Intuition tells me you're a good  
chief of police when is comes to  
certain duties.

Leonard doesn't give the Sheriff any reaction.

SHERIFF  
(continuing)  
However, the county seat can not  
gain a reputation for being unable  
to solve its homicides in a timely  
and efficient manner-

As if to punctuate the point, Leonard and the Sheriff hear a  
CRASHING sound in the main office and then a shout.

JOE (O.S.)  
God damn it, Dave! Watch it!

The Sheriff stands, putting on his hat.

SHERIFF

You'll let our office know if there's anything we can do to help expedite the investigation.

LEONARD

I'll ask for the help.

The Sheriff smiles at the threat of a boundary.

SHERIFF

These are touchy jurisdictional issues best left up to say, the Mayor.

MAIN OFFICE

Leonard re-enters the room as the front door shuts behind the Sheriff.

LEONARD

Okay, Sam, what have you got for us?

SAM

The dust came back as a match for standard dry wall particles.

Dave slaps the desk excitedly.

DAVE

Hot damn! I just got off the phone with the city and they have five permits out, two for new construction and three for renovations. One of them has been issued to Jack and Sherrie Harris.

LEONARD

(reminding Dave)

There are four other permits to check out.

(beat)

We shouldn't have any trouble getting a search warrant for Jack and Sherrie's house to look for evidence that she was killed there.

Sam stands to leave.

SAM  
You'll get my full report by the morning.

Leonard nods at him.

JOE  
And I traced the sale on Jack's truck. It came from Harvey's dealership but it's in Sherrie's name, paid for in cash.

LEONARD  
Does that still sound like a gift?

Joe shrugs.

JOE  
Could be.

Leonard considers this.

JOE  
(continuing)  
Pay off?

LEONARD  
So far his version of the story checks. I'll put in the paperwork to subpoena any separate financial records of Jack's to see if he's hiding something.

Leonard grabs his jacket.

LEONARD  
(continuing)  
Dave, check into the other permits and when you're done with that, start calling auto salvages in the tri-state area.

Dave and Joe exchange glances, Joe shrugs.

LEONARD  
(continuing)  
Joe, let's take a drive out to Harv's.

JOE  
He's out of town-

LEONARD

I want to see what Josephine has to say. Sherrie worked for Harvey.

DAVE

I've heard they were a lot more involved than that.

EXT. HARVEY'S HOUSE - AFTERNOON

Leonard and Joe park in front of a restored Victorian house, snow immaculately shoveled, a small labyrinth is surrounded by a circular drive.

JOE

Can you imagine trimming those hedges?

LEONARD

Yes, I can.

Leonard rings the bell.

LEONARD

(continuing)

I trimmed them every summer from age eleven to seventeen.

JOE

Old timber fortunes must pay well for yard work.

Leonard laughs.

LEONARD

It didn't pay a dime.

JOE

Why the hell not?

LEONARD

My mother was their live-in cook and housekeeper.

Joe looks around the outside of the house.

JOE

You lived here?

Leonard nods as the door is opened by HELEN (60s).

LEONARD

We're here to speak to Mrs. Boyle.

Helen nods, making the way for them to enter, then climbs the stairs.

INT. HARVEY'S HOUSE - CONTINUING

Leonard looks around the foyer draped in sheets of clear plastic to protect the furniture from plaster dust.

Leonard observes an empty PEDESTAL where a something would normally be displayed.

Josephine and Helen start down the stairs.

JOSEPHINE  
Helen, would you make coffee?

Helen nods and walks past them, giving the officers a neutral look.

JOSEPHINE  
(continuing)  
Gentlemen.

Josephine shakes their hands. She's dressed elegantly in a designer pants suit.

JOSEPHINE  
(continuing)  
Please excuse the mess. Harvey and I are restoring the tiling in the foyer.

Leonard touches the pedestal, rubbing his fingertips together.

LEONARD  
It's certainly different.

Josephine squeezes Leonard's shoulder.

JOSEPHINE  
You know this house as well as I do, especially as a child.

Josephine leads them into a side study room.

Leonard glances at the photographs of Josephine and her parents.

JOSEPHINE  
(continuing; to Joe)  
Leonard's mother was an excellent cook.  
(more)

JOSEPHINE (cont'd)  
And our labyrinth has never looked  
the same since he and his mother  
left us.

Josephine smiles to herself then looks directly at Leonard as  
she sits. Leonard and Joe follow suit.

JOSEPHINE  
(continuing)  
It is entirely too hard to find  
competent, reliable help these  
days.

JOE  
Well, most people want to work for  
themselves.

Helen has entered the room silently to pour coffee, a ghost  
of servitude.

JOSEPHINE  
(smiling smugly)  
Not the Shepherds. One generation  
served the family who founded the  
town and the next generation  
serves and protects it-

LEONARD  
There were probably a few people  
around before the Carleton family  
came along.

Josephine sips her coffee, ignoring his comment.

JOSEPHINE  
Now, what is it I can do for you?  
Perhaps I can get Harvey to donate  
a vehicle to the department? I  
hear you lost one in this terrible  
business with the Harris  
people...We can't let a killer go  
unpunished.  
(raising her voice)  
Can we, Leonard?

She smiles a little with her dig at Leonard.

LEONARD

We came to speak with Harvey since Sherrie worked at his dealership, we thought he might have some insight. But since he's not here, we decided to talk to you instead.

Josephine feigns surprise and ignorance.

JOSEPHINE

I suppose he might. You should definitely speak to him when he returns the day after tomorrow. He's away at a sales meeting. You know Harv- he isn't satisfied with what he has-

(pause)

-he intends to expand his enterprise in the Twin Cities area, another dealership, perhaps a whole chain. But, I certainly don't have any insight into this situation-

LEONARD

Yesterday, at the diner, Harvey said he'd be at his office when he knew he wouldn't be-

JOSEPHINE

Did he? I don't remember.

(pause)

I was thinking about the Sheriff's fund-raiser we're hosting. He and my father were childhood friends.

JOE

Can you tell us where your husband was two nights ago?

Josephine's eyes narrow on Joe. Josephine turns away from him, speaking directly to Leonard.

JOSEPHINE

I'm afraid Harvey's and my leisure activities differ... greatly.

LEONARD

Is that "yes" or "no?"

Josephine stands, smoothing down the fabric of her slacks.

JOE  
A lot of people are saying that  
Harvey and Sherrie were-

Josephine turns to Joe, anger flares in her eyes.

JOSEPHINE  
Were what? Sleeping together?

They are both a little surprised that she came out with it.

JOSEPHINE  
(continuing)  
He probably was, he often has  
someone on the side, as they say.  
As I said, our leisure activities  
differ greatly.

She starts towards the foyer.

JOSEPHINE  
(continuing)  
Wait a minute!  
(turns to Leonard)  
As part of the purge of this old  
house, I've been cleaning all the  
storage spaces.

Josephine opens a closet door in the foyer, taking out a  
small box.

JOSEPHINE  
(continuing)  
I found this vase and some other  
odds and ends in the servants'  
living space.

She holds the vase up for Leonard to see.

JOSEPHINE  
(continuing)  
Your mother always kept freshly  
cut flowers in it, even in the  
wintertime.

LEONARD  
I remember it.

EXT. HARVEY'S HOUSE - CONTINUING

Leonard and Joe get into their vehicle. Joe shakes his head  
hard.



JOE  
I can't see those two together.

LEONARD  
(shrugs)  
Opposites attract.

JOE  
Shit. Must be like turpentine and  
paint.

Leonard lights a cigarette as they drive.

LEONARD  
Which is which?

Joe shrugs as they both chuckle.

LEONARD  
(continuing)  
They aren't on the list of city  
permits Dave came up with.

JOE  
Maybe they just started or maybe  
whatever they're doing doesn't  
require a permit.

LEONARD  
Maybe we should look into it but  
let's run down the Jack Harris  
angle first.

INT. POLICE STATION - NOON

Jack sits in his cell, smoking a cigarette. Leonard comes  
in, shuffling some papers around on Dave's desk.

LEONARD'S OFFICE

Leonard sets the vase on his desk.

JACK (O.S.)  
(shouts)  
When are they sending me to county?

Leonard goes into the room with Jack's cell in it.

LEONARD  
Doesn't your attorney keep you  
informed?

JACK

He just learned to wipe his ass.

Leonard looks at the clock on the wall.

LEONARD

Sometime this afternoon.

Jack looks scared. Dave enters with a piece of paper and hands it to Leonard, looking at Jack as he does it.

Leonard reads for a moment.

Jack stubs out his cigarette, standing.

JACK

What?

LEONARD

(to Dave)

Make sure the public defender gets a copy of this when they transport him.

JACK

What? What is it?

Leonard considers Jack for a long moment.

LEONARD

Shit, I've got a few phone calls to make.

Jack swears under his breath.

LEONARD'S OFFICE

Dave comes with a stack of files, he sets them on Leonard's desk. Joe follows him inside the office.

DAVE

Here are the files from Jenny the Foster's investigation.

LEONARD

I want to see the list of auto salvages.

DAVE

Every employee drives a car with Dealer plates but they don't keep records of who went where or when.

He hands the list to Leonard who looks at it.

DAVE  
(continuing)  
It shows their deliveries and pick-ups for the past couple of years.

He hands this thick stack of papers to Leonard as well.

Leonard leafs through the second document.

Joe has his own paperwork to give Leonard.

JOE  
Report from the search of Jack and Sherrie's house. Blood was found in the basement by the stacks of drywall. We gave a sample to Sam.

Leonard sets that report aside, glances at Joe, and looks at the first report again.

LEONARD  
One of these names looks sort of familiar.

Dave coughs a little nervously.

INT. POLICE STATION - A LITTLE LATER

Leonard comes out of his office.

JACK  
What's that paper about?

LEONARD  
We're not allowed to discuss the case without your attorney present.

JACK  
What the fuck does it matter? They're going to pin it on me anyway.

LEONARD  
Who's "they?"

JACK  
Everyone thinks I did it.

Jack leans forward, smacking his head against the bars of the cell in anger and frustration.

JACK  
(continuing; scared,  
backed against the  
wall)

Fuck!

He rubs his head as Leonard pulls up a chair.

LEONARD  
Let's have it.

Jack shakes his head.

LEONARD  
(continuing)  
What do you have to lose?

JACK  
Either way I'm fucked.

LEONARD  
Pick a way, then.

Jack lights a cigarette.

JACK  
Alright. Fuck it. Two years ago  
Sherrie's dad died and then  
Sherrie starts spending a ton of  
money. Shit, I don't know, I  
thought her dad had some life  
insurance or something.

Jack drags hard on his cigarette.

JACK  
(continuing)  
Then about six months months ago,  
no more money. Bill collectors are  
calling and I ask her about it.  
These bill collector cocksuckers  
are telling me this is my debt  
too, since I'm married to her. By  
this time, she and I are-

Jack waves his hand through the air.

JACK  
(continuing)  
So, she starts working at the  
dealership, she keeps telling me  
things are going to turn around.  
(more)

JACK (cont'd)  
We're at each other's throats  
constantly about money. Then- then  
she starts it up with Harvey.

LEONARD  
Is that where she was getting the  
money? Harvey?

Jack shrugs, he doesn't know.

JACK  
At first, I didn't care. It's not  
like it was the first time, for  
either of us. But, she tells me  
that her and Harvey are in love,  
and that they're going to be  
together and that she wants a  
divorce.

LEONARD  
She was going to leave you holding  
the bag.

JACK  
Fucking-a right, she was. So I  
told her she had to get me some  
insurance. And she gave me the  
truck and I said that wasn't  
enough and she said she was  
working on it. Then she turns up  
fucking dead.

LEONARD  
What about the building permit?

JACK  
It's Sherrie's house. She was  
fixing it up to sell it out from  
under me.

LEONARD  
You were both at Bud's the day she  
died.

Jack just looks at him blankly.

LEONARD  
(continuing)  
You were there, Pete Anderson saw  
you.

JACK  
I don't doubt it.

LEONARD  
Did you talk to Sherrie? He said  
you were both there for a while.

JACK  
Probably. Honestly, I don't  
remember.

LEONARD  
Her bloody sweater was found in  
your ice house, you were seen with  
her at Bud's hours before her  
death, your home is under  
construction, plaster dust was  
found in her head wounds, and  
blood was found in the plaster  
dust at your house.

Jack looks at his hand, then stares at Leonard.

JACK  
You can't be thinking...I cut  
myself when I was cutting trim  
board in the basement. That  
doesn't mean I killed her-

LEONARD  
Doesn't look good.

JACK  
No shit.

Leonard stands, still holding the paper Dave gave him.

JACK  
(continuing)  
What is that?

Leonard shrugs.

LEONARD  
Sherrie had a safety deposit box.  
We have to wait until a treasury  
official gets here to open it.

JACK  
That's it? Shit-

INT. BANK - CONTINUING

Leonard, Joe and a TREASURY OFFICIAL stand in the safety deposit box area. Sheriff Davis and the Deputy walk into the bank.

Leonard sighs with resignation.

LEONARD

How did you even know about this?

The Treasury Official clears his throat, sensing he's stepping on political toes.

TREASURY OFFICIAL

Initially I called the Sheriff's Department when I was notified about the deceased.

SHERIFF

Mayor requested I be here.

There's a stack of hundred dollar bills.

TREASURY OFFICIAL

There are some creditors who will be interested in that.

The Treasury Official pulls out the rest of the items in the box. There is a mishmash of things, a tattered manila envelope and a book, he pages through it, it's handwritten. He opens the envelope. It's Sherrie's birth certificate.

TREASURY OFFICIAL

(continuing; glancing through the envelope)

Birth certificate, passport, expired travel visa to Mexico.

(beat)

Non-monetary items-

SHERIFF

(impatient)

And Non-evidentiary.

Leonard and Sheriff Davis exchange glances. Leonard nods his agreement to the Treasury Official who sets the items aside.

The Sheriff glances at his watch.

SHERIFF

(continuing)

I'm late for a my campaign meeting.

They both leave.

The Treasury Official continues, picks up the book.

TREASURY OFFICIAL  
(reads)  
Diary of Beverly Sanders.

Leonard and Joe exchange glances.

LEONARD  
Why would Sherrie feel compelled  
to put her mother's diary in a  
safety deposit box?

EXT. BANK - CONTINUING

Leonard and Joe exit together.

LEONARD  
I'm not going straight back, I'll  
meet you in a bit.

EXT. TRAILER HOUSE - DAY

Leonard parks outside the trailer house. Bags of cans,  
bottles and other trash litter the small front yard.

Leonard knocks on the flimsy metal door. The door opens.  
Jacob Wilson (40s) stands before him in tattered clothes.

LEONARD  
Jacob, can I come in for a minute?

Jacob shrugs.

INT. TRAILER HOUSE - CONTINUING

Inside the house, more of the same: stacks of newspapers,  
magazines and paper bags filled with junk.

JACOB  
Sit-

They both do.

LEONARD  
When's the last time you saw your  
brother?

JACOB  
This again?



Leonard looks at him questioningly.

JACOB  
(continuing)  
You really don't remember?

Leonard slowly shakes his head.

JACOB  
(continuing)  
You came here when that Foster  
girl was murdered, demanding that  
I find my brother and turn him in.

Leonard continues to shake his head.

JACOB  
(continuing)  
I told you that piece of shit owes  
me five hundred bucks. If I saw  
him, I'd beat him senseless, just  
like our old man used to-

LEONARD  
I- I-

JACOB  
You were here, totally shit-faced,  
convinced Jimmy killed her.

LEONARD  
What do you think?

Jacob shrugs.

JACOB  
Nothing about Jimmy would surprise  
me.  
(beat)  
I don't know where he is, I don't  
want to know where he is. If he  
shows up here, I'll let you know.  
(beat)  
But he just won't show up here.

INT. CORNER STORE - AFTERNOON

Leonard, lost in thought, buys a pack of cigarettes as PETE  
ANDERSON (50) tall and thin, the eye witness, walks in.

PETE  
Chief.

LEONARD  
Hey, Pete. Glad I ran into you.  
Saves Dave the trouble.

Pete gives him a confused look.

LEONARD  
(continuing)  
We're going to need you to make a  
formal statement.

PETE  
Huh?

LEONARD  
About you seeing Sherrie Harris at  
Bud's the night she was killed.

Pete scratches his balding head.

PETE  
Chief, I've been on the road with  
my rig the past few weeks. Just  
got in this morning.

LEONARD  
Dave didn't talk to you?

PETE  
Like I said-

INT. POLICE STATION - CONTINUING

Leonard walks purposefully into the station and finds Dave  
sitting talking on the telephone as Joe works at a computer.  
Leonard stands over Dave.

DAVE  
(into the phone)  
Thanks for your help.  
(hangs up)  
Chief-

LEONARD  
It was you-

Dave's intimidated by Leonard's tone.

DAVE  
What?

LEONARD  
You were at Bud's that night-

DAVE

No, I-

Leonard grabs him by the collar.

LEONARD

I ran into Pete.

Dave just sputters.

LEONARD

(continuing)

This isn't some fucking bar brawl where we're trying to figure out who threw the first punch! This is a murder. A murder that's going to get solved, so help me, God. Who was Sherrie with that night?

DAVE

I didn't see-

Leonard digs his fingers into Dave's throat. Joe steps forward in alarm as Dave chokes.

JOE

Chief-

LEONARD

Who was it? Who?

DAVE

Your- your... it was Katie.

Leonard releases Dave.

DAVE

(continuing)

She- she was arguing with Sherrie.

INT. POLICE STATION - A LITTLE LATER

Katie enters the police station, angry, flustered.

JOE

Katie, thanks for coming in.

Dave scatters to the corner of the main office.

LEONARD

Follow me.

They go into the interrogation room and sit.

Joe and Dave dash to the viewing area, peering through the small, one-way mirror.

LEONARD  
(continuing)  
Dave says he saw you arguing with  
Sherrie the night she disappeared.

Katie nods.

LEONARD  
(continuing)  
What about?

Katie eyes narrow.

KATIE  
(angry)  
Take a guess.

LEONARD  
I can but I need you to say it.

Katie doesn't respond.

LEONARD  
(continuing)  
Katie-  
(pause)  
Okay, then where did you go?

Joe comes into the interrogation room.

JOE  
Chief-

Leonard shoos him away.

JOE  
(continuing)  
Chief-

The Mayor steps around Joe into the interrogation room, he tips his hat to Katie as a greeting.

LEONARD  
I'm coming.

Leonard closes the door on Katie. The Mayor, Sheriff Davis and the Deputy all stare him down.

LEONARD  
(continuing; angry)  
What?

SHERIFF  
You will not and can not  
interrogate your own wife-

JOE  
(lamely)  
They're almost divorced.

MAYOR  
I know Chippewa Heights is a small  
town but surely we can find  
someone else to handle this-

LEONARD  
This is just a follow-up  
interview. We have our man-

SHERIFF  
Yes, that's probably true but  
before Jack Harris is arraigned,  
we should follow up and ask your  
wife why she was arguing with the  
victim the day she died.

Leonard shoots a glance at Dave who bunches up his shoulders  
as he looks away.

The Sheriff glances at the Mayor.

MAYOR  
The county has more resources to  
conduct this investigation.

LEONARD  
Fine, Joe can conduct the  
interview-

MAYOR  
It's my understanding that the  
body was discovered on the  
McNamara farm and that property  
lies on the city limits.

Leonard sighs.

LEONARD  
She wasn't murdered there-

SHERIFF

Do you know where she was murdered?

Leonard doesn't answer as his anger rises.

MAYOR

My office and City Council would  
be more comfortable turning this  
investigation over to the county-

Leonard starts to protest but realizes it's futile.

MAYOR

(continuing)

This is the final word on the  
matter-

The Mayor walks away, the Sheriff grins.

SHERIFF

(to Leonard and Joe)

Send your case file and all your  
notes over to my office right away.

LEONARD

You can't be thinking Katie-

SHERIFF

We're going to dot and cross  
everything.

The Sheriff and Deputy enter the interrogation room, shutting  
the door on Leonard and Joe.

LEONARD

(to Joe)

Make a copy of everything in the  
file before you send it over.

Dave joins them as they enter the observation room.

INTERROGATION ROOM

SHERIFF

Hello, Katie.

Katie nods at them.

SHERIFF

(continuing)

Obviously Leonard shouldn't  
continue with this interview.

Katie runs her hands through her hair.

SHERIFF  
(continuing)  
We understand you ran into Sherrie  
Harris the night she was killed.

KATIE  
I didn't run into her-

DEPUTY  
That isn't what Officer Dave  
Johnson says.

KATIE  
I meant, she called me and asked  
me to meet her at Bud's Place.

SHERIFF  
I see-  
(pause)  
What did she want?

KATIE  
She-

Katie looks at the mirror, trying to see through it.

KATIE  
(continuing)  
She wanted to apologize.

The Sheriff steps back as the Deputy steps forward.

DEPUTY  
What for?

Katie looks away.

DEPUTY  
(continuing)  
For what?

KATIE  
For sleeping with Leonard.

OBSERVATION ROOM

Dave and Joe sneak a glance at Leonard who stares straight  
through the window at Katie.

INTERROGATION ROOM

DEPUTY  
Sherrie Harris slept with Chief  
Leonard Shepherd.

KATIE  
(angry)  
That's what I said-

SHERIFF  
When did this happen?

KATIE  
Last year-  
(pause)  
During the investigation of Jenny  
Foster's... death.

DEPUTY  
How recently was Chief Shepherd  
sleeping with Sherrie Harris?

Katie looks at him, puzzled.

SHERIFF  
When did it end?

KATIE  
I don't know, as far as I know, it  
was that one time.

DEPUTY  
So the affair wasn't still going  
on when Sherrie was murdered?

KATIE  
I don't think so-

DEPUTY  
How can you be sure?

KATIE  
(getting irritated)  
I can't-

The Sheriff opens the door to leave.

OBSERVATION ROOM

The Sheriff bursts in.

SHERIFF  
This true?



Leonard nods.

SHERIFF  
(continuing)  
You fucked up, you didn't think to  
mention this earlier?

LEONARD  
It isn't relevant-

SHERIFF  
That wasn't and isn't your  
decision to make-  
(angry)  
I'm going to see that everyone  
knows about this impropriety,  
especially the man who gave you  
this job, the Mayor.

The Sheriff slams the door as he leaves, Leonard's face ashen  
with anger and humiliation.

INTERROGATION ROOM

The Sheriff re-enters quietly.

DEPUTY  
So, Sherrie wanted to apologize,  
but you were overheard arguing, so  
you didn't accept her apology?

Katie tries to recover her composure.

DEPUTY  
(continuing)  
You didn't accept her apology?

SHERIFF  
Katie, we can understand why you'd  
be angry with Sherrie-

Katie's face crumbles.

KATIE  
(lying)  
It was over a year ago. I'm just  
trying to forget it.

DEPUTY  
Come on, you weren't angry with  
Sherrie for sleeping with your  
husband?

She glares at the deputy.

KATIE

Of course I was angry with her, I  
hated her.

DEPUTY

So, that's what you two were  
arguing about, your anger over the  
affair-

Katie shakes her head emphatically.

OBSERVATION ROOM

Leonard balls up his fist, resting it against the glass.

INTERROGATION ROOM

Katie grabs the edges of the table, as if she's going to flip  
it up off the ground.

DEPUTY

(continuing)

You're looking pretty pissed off-

Katie glares at him.

KATIE

I'm very pissed off-

DEPUTY

At Sherrie-

KATIE

I was until I realized my anger  
was misplaced. I'm angry with  
Leonard.

(smiles sadly)

It's taken me almost a year to  
figure that out.

The Deputy signals to the Sheriff, they step outside.

HALLWAY

DEPUTY

This isn't going anywhere, do you  
really think she did it?

The Sheriff smiles.

SHERIFF

No-

DEPUTY

Then why-

(beat)

You're enjoying knowing the Chief  
is squirming.

The Sheriff frowns, letting his Deputy know his analysis  
wasn't solicited.

INTERROGATION ROOM

The Deputy and Sheriff step back inside.

DEPUTY

(continuing)

If you're not mad at Sherrie then  
why were you arguing with her?

Katie doesn't respond.

DEPUTY

(continuing)

Why the argument?

KATIE

It's crazy- It can't be true-

DEPUTY

What can't be true?

(pause)

What?

KATIE

She said that- she said she had  
been trying to get a hold of  
Leonard to tell him but he  
wouldn't return her phone calls-

DEPUTY

Tell Leonard what?

Katie shakes her head.

KATIE

She said that she found out that  
she and Leonard are half-brother  
and half-sister.

OBSERVATION ROOM

Leonard leans against the glass, his fist now open as he props himself up, he's tired, shaken up. Joe and Dave look at each other.

INTERROGATION ROOM

The Sheriff genuinely looks surprised.

SHERIFF

She said what?

KATIE

I told her I didn't believe her.  
She said it didn't matter if I  
believed her. It only mattered if  
the Boyles believed her.

SHERIFF

What do the Boyles have to do with  
it?

Katie shakes her head.

KATIE

She said that they all have the  
same father; Josephine, Leonard  
and Sherrie-

OBSERVATION ROOM

Everyone's stunned silent. Leonard looks up a moment at Joe and Dave, whom both glance away from him as he moves to the back of the room, close to the door.

INTERROGATION ROOM

SHERIFF

(continuing)

Henry Carleton's their father?

Katie shrugs.

DEPUTY

Then what happened?

KATIE

I told her I thought she was lying  
and I left.

DEPUTY

What about the trash can?

KATIE

What?

DEPUTY

Officer Anderson discovered  
Sherrie laying on the ground, the  
trash can had been knocked over.

KATIE

She tried to grab my arm when I  
was leaving but I pulled away from  
her and she fell into the trash  
can.

(pause)

I didn't really feel like helping  
her up.

DEPUTY

Then where did you go?

Katie looks at the mirror again then at the Deputy.

KATIE

I had dinner with a friend-

The Deputy leans over her and opens his mouth but Katie puts  
up her hand in order to stop his questioning.

KATIE

(continuing)

Principal Paul Brooks.

OBSERVATION ROOM

Dave and Joe look back at Leonard but he's already gone.

EXT. KATIE'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Katie gets out of her car slowly.

INT. KATIE'S PORCH - CONTINUING

Leonard sits on a chair on the porch, he has an unopened six-  
pack of beer at his feet. There are open boxes everywhere  
with the contents strewn about the floor.

Katie opens the porch door.

Leonard cracks open one of the beer cans, startling her.  
Katie peers at him sitting in the dark. She turns on the  
light, observing his drink.

KATIE  
This feels familiar.

Leonard stands, angry, not with her.

LEONARD  
It doesn't feel familiar to me at all.

KATIE  
What are you doing here?

LEONARD  
I'm looking for my goddamn birth certificate and of course I can't find it.

Leonard goes through papers, glancing at them and then tossing them into a round, metal trash can.

KATIE  
Don't believe it. Sherrie was just trying to lay a scam on them.

Leonard sets the beer aside, untouched.

LEONARD  
(chuckling self-deprecatingly)  
Oh, I don't know.  
(pause)  
My mother quit working for the Carletons shortly after she caught me and Josephine screwing around.

Leonard takes a deep breath, letting it out slowly. He picks up the can of beer again, yet doesn't drink from it.

LEONARD  
(continuing)  
I always assumed it was because she wanted to quit before it went too far and she got fired.

Leonard shrugs.

LEONARD  
(continuing)  
But maybe it was because Josephine-

They are silent for a long moment.

KATIE

Nothing about this surprises me.

LEONARD

About my having two sisters or my  
having slept with one and almost  
slept with the other?

Katie doesn't say anything right away.

KATIE

It doesn't surprise me that there  
are all these secrets and lies.

LEONARD

Maybe if I had bothered to call  
her back-

(beat)

What did Sherrie say about Henry  
Carleton?

KATIE

She said that when her father  
died, the person she knew as her  
father anyway, there were all  
these boxes of stuff to go through  
that she was sure he never looked  
at, even after her mother died.  
She found her birth certificate  
and a diary her mother kept.

LEONARD

Sherrie's father didn't know?

Katie shrugs.

KATIE

Or didn't care-

LEONARD

How did Sherrie know this about  
me?

KATIE

Maybe somehow Sherrie's mother  
knew and wrote about it in her  
diary.

Leonard looks at a photo: INSERT PHOTO: A young Leonard (8)  
and a beautiful woman (his Mother) with dark, flowing hair.

LEONARD  
(shakes his head)  
How is it no one found out?

KATIE  
You know how people in small towns  
know things but never talk about  
them. Enough time has gone by now,  
most of the people involved are  
dead-  
(beat)  
Your mother was a pretty private  
person.

Leonard tears up as he nods. He takes out his lighter, holds  
the flame to the photo, then tosses the photo into the trash  
can. The trash can debris ignites.

LEONARD  
To hell with it, all of it-

KATIE  
Are you sure you want to do that?

Leonard watches the photo melt and curl into ash.

LEONARD  
No-

Leonard averts his eyes from hers as he struggles with his  
emotions.

KATIE  
I can't help you with any of this-

LEONARD  
(snapping at her)  
I'm not asking for your help-

He dumps the entire box of photos into the burning trash can.  
A paper flies away from the can, onto the floor. Leonard  
grabs it.

LEONARD  
(continuing; looks at  
the paper)  
There it is-

INSERT: Birth Certificate

Name: Leonard Shepherd

Mother's Name: Katherine Shepherd



Father's Name: the line is blank.

LEONARD  
(continuing)  
The son of a bitch wouldn't even  
claim me on a lousy piece of paper.

Leonard wads it up, tossing it into the burning trash can.

His eyes brim over with tears.

Katie grabs him, embraces him hard, he breaks down in her arms. His hands tangle in her hair, his lips brush against her forehead. She pulls back, slowly. She's as caught up in their sudden intimacy as much as he is, she steps out of the embrace.

A car door slams outside.

BOY (O.S.)  
I don't know!

GIRL (O.S.)  
I want to start shopping for my  
dress.

Another car door slams. The dogs start barking inside the house, Katie lets them onto the porch.

BOY (O.S.)  
Prom is still two months away!  
Stop bugging me about it-

Leonard and Katie watch the two teenagers standing outside the house.

GIRL  
Just admit it, you don't want to  
go with me-

BOY  
Maybe we should just wait a couple  
of weeks, then figure it out.

GIRL  
Wait? For what?

The boy shuffles his feet as he shrugs.

The dogs settle down at Leonard's feet, one rests its paw on his leg.

BOY

Maybe, maybe we should think about taking a break or something and then in a couple of weeks, if we still want to go together, then we'll plan it-

GIRL

(starts to cry)  
You're an asshole!

Leonard and Katie both smile a little.

LEONARD

(chuckles)  
Should I go break it up?

Katie shakes her head, suddenly a little saddened.

KATIE

They remind me of us.

LEONARD

Now or then?

Katie doesn't answer him.

The girl goes back to the car, gets in and tries to peel away from the curb but fails, except she successfully sprays the boy with slushy snow melt.

Leonard touches Katie's arm. She covers his hand with hers, closing her eyes.

Leonard leans in to her. She opens her eyes, their faces bent close together.

Katie tilts her face down and away from his.

Leonard moves to the front door. He swings it open wide, Katie stands closely behind him, she catches the door, holding it as he steps outside.

KATIE

Len-

He turns back to her.

KATIE

(continuing)  
I've always known we belonged together-  
(more)

KATIE (cont'd)  
(beat)  
But I don't know if we can be  
together-

Leonard considers what she's said. She's hides her emotional face from his view.

LEONARD  
Don't close the door on me yet.

Leonard steps away from the house as Katie stands there in the doorway, watching him go.

EXT. MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE - CONTINUING

Leonard parks outside the building. Sam opens the door for him.

LEONARD  
I want you to run a DNA test  
against me and Sherrie.

Sam raises his eyebrows.

INT. POLICE STATION- LEONARD'S OFFICE - MORNING

Leonard, alone in his office, thumbs through the pile of photocopied papers. Dave comes in, he's hesitant to address Leonard.

DAVE  
Chief, there's something in that  
file you should look at right away.

Dave pulls an envelope out of the stack. Leonard opens it.

INSERT: Birth Certificate

Name: Sherrie Harris

Father's Name: Timothy Davis

The paper slips out of his fingers.

Sam enters the police station. Leonard looks up, his face a mix of shock and anger.

LEONARD  
(to Sam)  
Thanks for coming in.

Sam sits, sighs. He looks at Dave, then back to Leonard.

SAM  
(to Leonard)  
Do you want to talk privately?

Leonard shakes his head slowly.

LEONARD  
No more secrets.

SAM  
You and Sherrie have the same  
father.

Leonard nods as he shuts his eyes a moment. He turns, picks up the vase Josephine gave him, smashing it against the wall. The crystal shards scatter on the floor. He grabs a garbage can, tossing the broken pieces into it.

Sam picks up the birth certificate, reads.

LEONARD  
(heaves for breath,  
to Dave)  
Any luck tracking down Jim  
Flanners whereabouts?

Dave, off balance, struggles to answer.

DAVE  
I've got a lead from his employer  
after the auto salvage. A phone  
number for a girlfriend, I've got  
a voicemail in to her.

Leonard isn't even listening. Sam motions for Dave to leave, Dave creeps out silently.

Leonard looks at Sam, a cold, walled-off stare.

LEONARD  
What reason would I have to not go  
out and get shit-faced right now?

Sam meets his stare with steadiness, empathy in his eyes.

SAM  
I was just going to ask you the  
same question.

LEONARD  
I don't have one-

Sam sits.

Leonard shakes his head, sitting down too.

SAM

What did you think? You'd sober up  
and everything would be fine?

Leonard shrugs as he scratches his neck.

SAM

(continuing)

You still cheated on your wife.  
Jenny Foster's murder still didn't  
get solved. You drank because you  
couldn't solve Jenny Foster's  
murder... your drinking did not  
keep you from solving her murder.

Leonard shakes his head.

LEONARD

What's the difference? The end  
result is the same.

SAM

Sometimes we have to learn to  
surrender.

A telephone rings in the office, after a moment, Dave steps  
into Leonard's office very tentatively.

DAVE

It's Jack-

Leonard picks up the blinking line.

LEONARD

(into phone)

Jack?

JACK (O.S.)

I really need to see you. Somehow  
they're pushing up my trial to  
start next week. How the fuck they  
can do that? My lawyer tells me I  
should take a deal-

(his voice breaks)

I didn't kill her, Leonard. I did  
a lot of things to her... but not  
this.

INT. COUNTY JAIL - CONTINUING

Leonard sits down. Jack, dressed in an orange jumpsuit, handcuffed, comes through the security doors with his ATTORNEY and a GUARD. The attorney and Jack sit down at the small table with Leonard.

LEONARD

How can this be going to trial so quickly?

ATTORNEY

(consults his file)

The Mayor and the Sheriff want this fast-tracked so Judge Capron cleared his docket-

JACK

Fucking collusion-

LEONARD

The evidence against him is circumstantial at best, they don't even have the murder weapon or the location of the murder.

ATTORNEY

(irritated)

We've looked into the Boyles' financials and there's no evidence of blackmail payments to Sherrie or anyone. Without an alternate theory of the crime, we're in big trouble-

Leonard shakes his head, thinking.

LEONARD

What about looking into Sheriff Davis's financials? We found Sherrie's birth certificate and it names him as her father.

The attorney writes this down.

JACK

(shakes his head)

That bastard-

LEONARD

What?

Jack's angry.

JACK  
Sherrie said that she was working  
for his reelection campaign. She  
was going to get some money from  
him.

Leonard and the Attorney both write this down.

INT. POLICE STATION - CONTINUING

Dave and Joe work at their desks as Leonard enters.

LEONARD  
(to Joe)  
Jack's attorney should be able to  
get a subpoena to look at the  
Sheriff's financials based on  
Sherrie's birth certificate.

JOE  
The Sheriff was paying Sherrie?

LEONARD  
I don't know, I don't know what to  
think anymore.  
(beat)  
Dave, call the Sheriff's office  
and ask him to come in for  
questioning.

Dave swallows hard.

DAVE  
Okay-  
(more self-assured)  
Okay.

LEONARD  
Once you've done that, I want you  
to start reading that diary we  
found in Sherrie's safety deposit  
box.

Joe clears his throat.

JOE  
He already has-

Dave shoots Joe a pleading look, embarrassed.

LEONARD  
Anything interesting?

Dave shakes his head.

DAVE  
Mostly just shopping wish-lists so  
far.

Leonard grabs the diary off Dave's desk, glancing through it.

INT. POLICE STATION - LATE

Sheriff Davis walks in purposefully. He barely acknowledges Joe and Dave.

Leonard walks out of his office. They look at each other.

SHERIFF  
This isn't your case anymore-

LEONARD  
No, it isn't. But I'd like to ask  
you a few questions anyway, some  
other details have come up that  
I'd like to discuss with you.

The Sheriff lets out another Big Man Sigh as he follows Leonard into the interrogation room.

SHERIFF  
Not your office? This seems very  
official-

INTERROGATION ROOM

Both men sit, Sheriff Davis sits with his hands folded, tapping his thumbs together. Leonard pours them both a mug of coffee.

LEONARD  
I think it's interesting what  
items the Sheriff's Department  
felt compelled to investigate and  
what it disregarded.

The Sheriff takes a long and deliberate sip from his coffee mug.

SHERIFF  
Such as?

Leonard sets Sherrie's birth certificate in front of him. The Sheriff merely glances at it.



LEONARD  
Disregarded-

SHERIFF  
I fail to see how this document  
has any relevance.

LEONARD  
No? Your being Sherrie's father  
doesn't have any relevance?

The Sheriff leans forward.

SHERIFF  
My having screwed Sherrie's mother  
thirty-five years ago, and  
Sherrie's mother putting my name  
on the birth certificate instead  
of one of ten other men, is  
absolutely not relevant.

LEONARD  
So, your defense is to claim  
Sherrie's mother was a slut.

SHERIFF  
Like mother, like daughter, right  
Chief?

LEONARD  
Sherrie and I have the same father.

The Sheriff doesn't give anything away.

SHERIFF  
Well, if Sherrie was still alive,  
that would make for some awkward  
reminiscing about your affair.

The Sheriff chuckles deeply. His callousness throws Leonard  
off.

LEONARD  
Sherrie tried to tell me about it  
but I wouldn't talk to her because  
I was trying to put my marriage  
back together.

The Sheriff smiles.

SHERIFF  
How's that working out for you?

LEONARD  
And my mother?

SHERIFF  
What about her?

Leonard and the Sheriff stare at each other. Leonard struggles to speak. He lights a cigarette, drags heavily.

The Sheriff watches him hesitate and squirm. Leonard extinguishes his cigarette, turning on him aggressively.

LEONARD  
If you don't claim Sherrie Harris  
then why were you giving her money?

The Sheriff startles at this accusation. Leonard places another document in front of him.

LEONARD  
(continuing)  
Your reelection campaign gave her  
five payments of sixty thousand  
dollars.  
(beat)  
I thought that seems like a lot of  
money for a Sheriff's campaign so  
I dug a little deeper and found  
that you put some of your own  
money into the campaign and I see  
that Josephine Boyle has done the  
same and you also used that money  
to pay her.

SHERIFF  
Nothing unusual about that.

LEONARD  
No, I suppose not, on the surface.  
(reads)  
Sherrie Harris has been hired as  
a campaign consultant.

The Sheriff shrugs.

LEONARD  
(continuing; goading)  
Did she have a lot of political  
campaigning experience?

SHERIFF

None whatsoever but I was looking to sell something like Harvey Boyle hired her to do for him, not make policy for me-

LEONARD

I don't recall seeing her in any campaign ads for you-

The Sheriff doesn't respond. Leonard lays out more documents.

LEONARD

(continuing)

Here are my notes about a missing statue from the Boyle house-

SHERIFF

You thought you remembered a statue there from thirty years ago. Ever think they, you know, redecorate from time to time?

LEONARD

-and the stranger I saw with them the morning Sherrie's body was discovered. You were there too-

SHERIFF

All of this is just supposition.

LEONARD

Yes, I could suppose that it looks like the Sheriff's Department was willing to let this investigation die because you killed Sherrie.

Leonard lets the accusation sink in.

SHERIFF

I didn't kill her.

LEONARD

Looks like you did. You had the motive. She was blackmailing you.

(beat)

I'm going to subpoena you for a DNA test.

The Sheriff stands.

SHERIFF

I'll fight it.

LEONARD  
I hope you do. It will only make  
you look more guilty.

He storms out as Leonard sets aside the Sheriff's empty  
coffee mug.

INT. HARVEY'S HOUSE - CONTINUING

Leonard and Josephine sit together in the study. The sunlight  
shining through the windows bright, bathing both their faces.  
Josephine shifts into the shadows cast by the curtains, her  
face no longer in the sun.

JOSEPHINE  
What exactly do you want to know?

LEONARD  
I'm wondering how much you  
personally donated to the  
Sheriff's campaign.

JOSEPHINE  
Well, I'm not exactly sure, but I  
think about two hundred thousand.

LEONARD  
That seems like a lot for a  
Sheriff's office-

Josephine shrugs, unaffected by the dollar amount.

JOSEPHINE  
I just gave what he asked.

LEONARD  
You two that close?

JOSEPHINE  
He's a family friend. He and my  
father knew each other since they  
were just little boys.

LEONARD  
Did you know the Sheriff had given  
Sherrie about three hundred  
thousand dollars from his campaign  
fund?

Josephine frowns.

JOSEPHINE  
No-

LEONARD  
Did she ask you for money?

Josephine looks out the window.

LEONARD  
(continuing)  
She claimed you have the same  
father.

JOSEPHINE  
I don't believe that for a second.  
That woman was not my sister.

Josephine shakes her head.

LEONARD  
I had the medical examiner compare  
mine and Sherrie's DNA. We have  
the same father.

Josephine glares at him.

JOSEPHINE  
That doesn't have anything to do  
with me-

LEONARD  
Ever think Sherrie might have been  
right? That all of us have the  
same father?

Josephine scoffs as she stands. Leonard stands too.

JOSEPHINE  
Henry Carleton was not your father-

LEONARD  
No, he wasn't. Maybe he wasn't  
your father either-

Josephine looks like she will explode.

LEONARD  
(continuing)  
Don't you think we deserved to  
know the truth? That day my mother  
caught us upstairs, she should  
have told us. Somebody should have  
told us-

Leonard looks up at the ceiling. Josephine shakes her head.

LEONARD  
(continuing)  
What did Sherrie threaten to do?  
Tell to the Board of Directors at  
Henry Carleton's Trust that you  
aren't actually related to him?

She swings back around, violently slapping him, seething.

Leonard just stares back at her.

She reaches out to slap him again but he catches her wrist,  
she twists away from him.

JOSEPHINE  
Get out!

INT. POLICE STATION - LATER

The telephone rings, Dave answers it.

DAVE  
(into phone)  
Chippewa Heights Police Department-  
(listens)  
Hold on a second-

He cranes his neck, looking into Leonard's office.

DAVE  
(continuing)  
Chief?

INT. ANTIQUE DEALERSHIP - MORNING

Leonard enters the store as wind chimes sound his arrival.  
The room's crammed with antiques yet there is a certain  
elegant order at work.

The Antique Dealer bounces out from the back room.

ANTIQUÉ DEALER  
Good morning.

Leonard shows his identification.

The Antique Dealer bends down behind the counter and  
retrieves a box and sets it on the counter.

ANTIQUÉ DEALER  
(continuing)  
I haven't even had a chance to  
unpack it yet.

Leonard puts on plastic gloves as the Antique Dealer unpacks the box. He's about to take it out when Leonard pushes his hands away.

LEONARD

It may have evidence on it, sir.  
Please let me-

The Antique Dealer throws his hands in the air.

ANTIQUÉ DEALER

Of course! Imagine, this was used  
in a crime, perhaps!

LEONARD

Do you have the receipt?

ANTIQUÉ DEALER

Yes, certainly.

He opens a leather briefcase and takes out the receipt.

ANTIQUÉ DEALER

(continuing)

I have purchased from the Carleton  
family in the past. They have an  
interesting collection. Hard to  
believe they were willing to let  
this one go for a song. Then  
again, maybe not...What are you  
looking for?

Leonard lifts the white, marble statue out of the box. It is about 24 inches high. It is a carving of three Victorian Era school children, a boy in the middle of two girls, holding hands as they walk with belted bands of books hanging from their wrists.

LEONARD

I'll know if and when I find it.

Leonard squints at the back of one of the bands of books and sees a small, brown smudge. He gets excited and puts the statue carefully back into the box.

ANTIQUÉ DEALER

What are the chances I'll see that  
statue again?

LEONARD

I wouldn't take that bet.

INT. MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE - AFTERNOON

Sam comes into the waiting room where Leonard paces.

LEONARD

I've got something you have to  
look at right away.

SAM

I thought we were finished with  
this case?

LEONARD

I'm not finished.

SAM

It was Jack's blood at their  
house, not Sherrie's.

Leonard nods, still wearing his plastic gloves, as he takes  
the statue out of the box.

INT. MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE - LATER

Sam comes out of the lab, pulling off his gloves. Leonard and  
Joe stand impatiently.

SAM

There's a preliminary match on  
Sherrie's DNA. I need to do a full  
analysis, that's going to take a  
little while.

LEONARD

It's enough to issue a warrant.

SAM

Maybe even an arrest. There's a  
partial fingerprint too, it's  
barely a smudge but it should be  
enough to match it to a suspect's  
print. You got a print for me to  
match against?

Leonard takes a coffee mug out of a plastic bag.

LEONARD

Call me at the station.

INT. POLICE STATION - CONTINUING

Leonard walks into the main room purposefully. Dave and Joe  
sit working at their desks.



LEONARD  
(to Dave)  
Have you heard back yet from Jim  
Flanners girlfriend?

Dave shakes his head.

JOE  
Chief-

Harvey Boyle comes out of Leonard's office.

JOE  
(continuing)  
Harvey Boyle is back in town, and  
he's ready to talk to you.

LEONARD'S OFFICE

Harvey's pale and unshaven. He flops onto the chair across  
from Leonard.

HARVEY  
You'll never make it stick.

LEONARD  
That statue you sold to the  
antique dealer has a bloody  
fingerprint on it.

HARVEY  
I don't know anything about how  
that got there.

LEONARD  
Tell me about what you do know.

HARVEY  
I was leaving Josephine. I was  
going to meet Sherrie at the truck  
stop outside of town, she had been  
staying there for a couple of  
weeks. Me too, sometimes. But  
Sherrie didn't just want to leave.  
She wanted Josephine to grant the  
divorce. I found out they had  
planned to meet that afternoon so  
I called her at the dealership,  
but she had already left.

LEONARD  
You called her at the dealership?

HARVEY

Yes. Sherrie was stubborn about some things. I had been asking Josephine for a divorce for three months.

LEONARD

Why didn't she want to give you one?

Harvey shrugs.

HARVEY

Pride, I guess. No one divorces a Carleton. I never understood why she wanted to marry a car salesman in the first place. Sherrie? Well, I understood Sherrie. She grew up tough, like I did-

Dave pops his head in.

LEONARD

Yeah?

DAVE

(trying hard to be,  
but isn't, subtle)  
The results on that- ah- thing  
have come back.

Leonard stands.

LEONARD

I'll be right back.

Harvey doesn't hear him.

MAIN ROOM

Sam stands there.

SAM

Thought I'd come in person.

LEONARD

Did the print match?

Sam shakes his head.

SAM

But there's something else I've discovered. I looked at Henry Carleton's autopsy report. His life insurance company required it. His blood type doesn't match yours or Sherrie's.

Leonard thinks this over.

LEONARD

Okay, then Sherrie was wrong, we don't have the same father as Josephine Boyle.

SAM

It doesn't match Josephine's either-

Leonard exhales an explosive breath.

LEONARD

How do you know it doesn't match Josephine's?

SAM

None of this can be used in court. I was doing my own search without a warrant.

LEONARD'S OFFICE

Leonard sits again, determined.

Harvey rubs his hands over tired eyes.

LEONARD

Then what happened?

HARVEY

I waited for hours at the motel but she never showed. I drove to her house, no one was there. I drove around town. Finally I just went back to the house-

Harvey laughs sadly.

LEONARD

(gently)  
-you went back to the house-

HARVEY

I wished then that I had never started it up with Sherrie but I cared a lot about her.

Harvey smiles grimly.

HARVEY

(continuing)

I walked into the house and Josephine was there with the Sheriff.

(pause)

The Sheriff said there had been an accident and Sherrie was dead. But no one was going to believe it was an accident because Sherrie was trying to extort money.

LEONARD

There's no way it could have been an accident. She was bludgeoned on the head three times.

Harvey's face contorts.

HARVEY

They went about cleaning everything up-

BEGIN MEMORY HIT 2

Josephine on her hands and knees, washing blood from the marble floor in the foyer. The statue lies beside her, splattered with blood.

HARVEY (V.O.)

Josephine was hysterical. I didn't know what to do. She kept telling me it was my fault. If I had never-

Harvey grabs Josephine and they argue.

BATHROOM

Josephine pulls Sherrie's body out of the bathtub. The back of her head has been smashed in.

HARVEY (V.O.)

So, I helped. We took the body to the McNamara farm, we had intended to bury her, but it was a blizzard-

END MEMORY HIT 2

Harvey sits back in the chair, half his face cast into shadows by the arm of the chair. He looks at Leonard, pleading for him to believe him.

LEONARD  
Why wash her body?

HARVEY  
We had sex that morning and  
Josephine said we had to get rid  
of that...

Harvey waves his hand through the air.

LEONARD  
Why the McNamara farm?

HARVEY  
The Sheriff said that if the body  
got discovered before we had a  
chance to move... her... he said  
he could pull his weight for  
jurisdiction.

LEONARD  
You helped the Sheriff dispose of  
the body?

Harvey looks like he's going to try to excuse himself but instead he sighs and nods.

LEONARD  
(continuing)  
And the sweater?

HARVEY  
(shrugs)  
The Sheriff said he was going to  
take care of everything.

LEONARD  
Who killed her?

Harvey shakes his head.

HARVEY  
It had already happened. Neither  
of them said anything.  
(beat)  
I suppose that fingerprint will...

Harvey can't continue, recalling the events are taking an emotional toll on him.

LEONARD

It doesn't match my suspect's  
print.

Leonard wads up a piece of paper and tosses it into the trash can. It lands on top of the broken pieces of the crystal vase, the debris shifts causing a clinking noise. Leonard looks into the waste basket, he picks out a shard with a kleenex, holding it up to the light.

LEONARD

(continuing)

You'll testify?

Harvey sighs, recovering composure.

HARVEY

No one will believe that it didn't  
happen exactly the way the Sheriff  
says it did.

INT. HARVEY'S HOUSE - DUSK

In the foyer of the grand house, Joe takes out his handcuffs, getting ready to take Josephine into custody. Leonard and Dave watch. She's a wild, caught animal. Her face beat red, a muscle in her throat twitches.

Josephine looks like she could spit on Leonard.

Josephine shakes her head, she doesn't even want to entertain the idea of this truth.

JOSEPHINE

(frantic, pleading)

You have to make it go away.

LEONARD

I can't-

Josephine twists away from Joe as he tries to cuff her. Leonard grabs her wrists, forcing them together as Joe manages to secure the handcuffs over her wrists.

LEONARD  
(continuing;  
compassionately)  
I can't help but wonder how it  
would have been different if all  
three of us had been told the  
truth.

EXT. HARVEY'S HOUSE - CONTINUING

There are other cars from the Sheriff's Department parked and  
deputies stand around, waiting.

Leonard opens the car door for her and helps her into the  
back seat, hatred in her eyes.

Sheriff Davis stands outside his vehicle, parked across the  
street. He meets Josephine's gaze but the intensity of her  
stare forces him to look away.

Leonard shuts the door on Josephine Boyle, tapping the roof.  
Joe drives away.

DAVE  
We're going to execute a search  
warrant. I can't believe the  
Sheriff's department didn't look  
for other leads.

Leonard shakes his head.

LEONARD  
They are just going to say that it  
was my hunch about the statue and  
that all the evidence pointed at  
Jack-

The Sheriff gets back into his vehicle and drives off.

LEONARD  
(continuing)  
I'm going to take off-

DAVE  
Really?

LEONARD  
Not my case anymore. Did you ever  
hear back from Jim Flanners  
girlfriend?

DAVE

She hasn't seen him for six months  
and I believe her. She said if we  
find him to let her know because  
he owes child support-

Leonard nods, getting into a new truck.

LEONARD

I'll see you back at the station.

INT. POLICE STATION - AFTERNOON

The sun pours through the windows, melted snow water streaks  
the glass as it runs to the sills.

Sally enters the main room where Leonard waits. The boxes  
have been moved from Leonard's inner office into the main  
room.

SALLY

What's all that?

LEONARD

Just my stuff, I'm moving it.

Leonard gestures for them both to sit. Leonard opens a file  
and sits across from her.

LEONARD

(continuing)

I should have asked you to come  
here a long time ago, Sally. I  
should have admitted to you that  
I didn't have any real leads on  
Jenny's killer. I should have  
admitted that to you but instead  
I was led by my pride and  
stubbornness. I'm sorry-

Sally starts to cry.

LEONARD

(continuing)

I'm so very sorry-

Sally hides her face, crying softly for a long moment. She  
looks Leonard in the eye as she stands.

SALLY

Thank you.

Leonard, surprised by her response, stands too.



SALLY  
(continuing)  
I know you tried-

LEONARD  
I-

He's at a loss for what to say. Sally shakes her head.

SALLY  
Leonard, every time I see you, I  
know you are thinking about her.  
(pauses as she tears  
up)  
That's important to me.

She hugs Leonard hard as Joe and Dave walk in. They shuffle around until Sally walks out.

Leonard turns away from them for a long moment in order to compose himself. He finally faces them.

LEONARD  
What did you find?

JOE  
Some dried blood in the cracks in  
the new Italian tile in the foyer.  
A couple of her hairs in the  
bathtub drain.

Leonard sets the diary on Dave's desk.

DAVE  
What did you find in the diary?

LEONARD  
Sherrie's mother and my mother met  
at an AA meeting so that's how  
they found out about their mutual  
relationship with Sheriff Davis.  
My mother said to her that she  
always had her suspicions about  
Mrs. Carleton too.

JOE  
Jack's been released.

DAVE  
He's buying everyone drinks over  
at Bud's.

Dave looks impatient.

LEONARD  
You should go-

Dave looks at Joe.

JOE  
I'll meet you over there.

Dave leaves.

JOE  
(continuing)  
Come with us?

LEONARD  
I don't think Jack is going to  
want to see me, now knowing that I-

JOE  
(chuckles)  
He says he knew the day you told  
him Sherrie was dead. The tattoo-

EXT. POLICE STATION - NIGHT

Leonard exits the police station and finds Ruth getting out  
of her car.

RUTH  
Chief, I wanted to come by to  
apologize-

LEONARD  
How about we exchange some  
information instead? I've got a  
story for you.

RUTH  
(excited)  
Really? I'm working on another one  
myself. That eye witness decided  
to come forward, the one who saw  
someone going into Jack's ice  
fishing house the morning  
Sherrie's was found. He'll be here  
any second to make a statement.

They head back inside.

LEONARD  
It's nice that he decided to come  
forward now, when Jack has already  
been cleared.

The Deputy walks into the police station looking sheepish.

INT. BUD'S PLACE - LATE

Leonard walks into the crowded bar. A large group has gathered in the back, Jack laughs and gesticulates as he talks. Joe and Dave are with the crowd, drinking beers.

Jack sees Leonard and smiles, Leonard breathes a small sigh of relief.

JACK  
Buy you a coffee, Chief?

It's the first time he's said Chief without a pejorative intent.

LEONARD  
Sure-

Jack gestures at a waitress. Jack drains his beer glass.

JACK  
(to waitress)  
A coffee and another one of these  
for me.

Jack sets down his empty glass.

JACK  
(continuing)  
Poor Sherrie, you know?

He looks at Leonard sincerely, Leonard nods.

JACK  
(continuing)  
She didn't deserve this.

The waitress comes back with their drinks.

LEONARD  
No, she didn't.

JACK  
You know-  
(sighs)  
I can't believe I'm going to say  
this. All the shit I've given you  
over the years-  
(more)

JACK (cont'd)  
(pause)  
-it was probably because you were  
a little taller and a little  
better than me.

Jack grins as he raises his glass.

JACK  
(continuing)  
To Sherrie-

Leonard raises his cup too.

LEONARD  
To Sherrie-

INT. MAYOR'S OFFICE - MORNING

Leonard steps inside, seeing the Sheriff is there too,  
Leonard carries a newspaper.

SHERIFF  
Chief Shepherd.

Leonard nods to him. The Mayor hands him a newspaper.

INSERT HEADLINE 1: Josephine Boyle Arraigned this Morning

INSERT HEADLINE 2: Chief Shepherd Will Submit Resignation

Leonard sets the newspaper back on the Mayor's desk.

SHERIFF  
(continuing)  
The Mayor and I were just  
discussing what a bad situation  
for Chippewa Heights it will be if  
we lose Harvey Boyle's dealership.

LEONARD  
Is that right?

MAYOR  
We've received many phone calls  
this morning about your headline-

LEONARD  
I meant to get here before you  
read about it.

MAYOR  
(smiles)  
I know how Ruth can be looking for  
a scoop.

LEONARD  
That's for sure. Turns out she  
just broke another big story,  
she's put out a late morning  
edition.

Leonard places the newspaper on the Mayor's desk.

INSERT HEADLINE: Sheriff Davis planted evidence in Harris  
Murder Investigation.

SHERIFF  
Why would I do something like that?

LEONARD  
To protect your daughter, of  
course.

The Mayor looks at the Sheriff. Leonard spreads out another  
paper on the desk.

LEONARD  
(continuing)  
To protect your daughter who  
killed your other daughter out of,  
partially, a jealous rage but,  
mostly, a fear of losing her  
fortune.

It's Sherrie's birth certificate. They both look at it.

SHERIFF  
That says I'm Sherrie's father,  
not Josephine-

LEONARD  
Here are the results of your court-  
ordered DNA comparison. Sherrie  
and I have the same father.

The Sheriff tries his usual smirk but fails.

LEONARD  
(continuing)  
I've also learned that Josephine  
didn't have the same blood type as  
Henry Carleton.  
(more)

LEONARD (cont'd)  
She has the same rare blood type  
that Sherrie and I both have. That  
you have-

SHERIFF  
(getting angry)  
I don't know how you came across  
that information, but it wasn't  
legally, and it'll never stand up  
in court.

LEONARD  
I don't suppose it will but-

Joe enters the room with the Deputy.

LEONARD  
(continuing)  
-your Deputy's testimony that you  
told him to hide Sherrie's bloody  
sweater in Jack's icehouse will-

The Sheriff shakes his head.

LEONARD  
(continuing)  
-and Harvey Boyle's testimony that  
he helped you and Josephine hide  
Sherrie's body.

Silence in the room while the truth sinks in.

SHERIFF  
It's too bad, sad really, that my  
only son had to be the result of  
a drunken, dark piece of strange-

Leonard punches him hard in the face, his nose explodes. No  
one knows what to do. They all look from Leonard back to the  
Sheriff, who has taken a handkerchief to his bloody nose.

LEONARD  
(shaking with rage)  
Joe has an arrest warrant for  
Sheriff Davis. The charges are  
obstruction of justice and  
planting evidence.

SHERIFF  
I want this prick arrested for  
assaulting an officer of the law.

No one makes a move. The Sheriff glances around the room incredulously. Leonard starts to recover from his anger as he flexes his fingers from the punch.

LEONARD

I think Joe would make an  
excellent replacement for me...

Leonard places his badge, gun and letter of resignation on the Mayor's desk and leaves.

EXT. CITY HALL - CONTINUING

Leonard meets Sam on the stairs to the building. He can see the anguish on Leonard's face.

SAM

See you at the meeting tonight?

Leonard simply nods.

INT. TRUCK - AFTERNOON

Leonard drives along the city streets. The sun shines brightly. Snow melts and icicles drip. Pedestrians wear their coats open at the throat.

Spring is coming.

EXT. PARK - CONTINUING

He sees Katie walking their dogs. He pulls over, honking lightly to get her attention. The back of his truck is stuffed with the boxes from his office.

She covers her eyes from the bright sunshine. She looks lovely as she smiles at him.

Leonard gets out of his truck. They look at each other for a long moment until Katie looks away.

KATIE

(points to truck)  
What's with the stuff?

LEONARD

Moving into a new place.

Katie has a mixed reaction to this news. Leonard hands her an envelope.

LEONARD  
(continuing)  
I signed them.

Katie slips the envelope into her jacket without looking.

KATIE  
Oh, yeah? A new place?

KATIE  
(continuing)  
I'm happy for you.

LEONARD  
Why's that?

KATIE  
I sold the house. My replacement  
at the school bought it.

This concerns Leonard a little, he frowns. They walk in  
silence for a moment.

LEONARD  
Did you close that door?

Katie stops walking, turning to him. She smooths the collar  
of his jacket down with her hands, her touch lingers on his  
chest for a long moment.

KATIE  
Buy you lunch?

INT. DINER - DAY

They sit at a table in the back. Sally comes to the table  
with two menus, she smiles at them both.

SALLY  
Coffee?

LEONARD  
Sure thing.

SALLY  
Katie?

KATIE  
Same.

FADE OUT: