

WIDOW'S HOUSE.

By

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FADE IN:

SUPER: PHILADELPHIA, AMERICA. 25th NOVEMBER, 1984.

INT. COURT ROOM-DAY.

Crowd full to its capacity, few reporters, and a group of elderly and executive people...also known as the JURY.

We NOTICE seven people hovering inside the accusation box, some sobbing and crying with focus to--

-a MAN, early 40's sitting in the witness locker, his face seems flustered yet frustrated...

...he sobs as tears stream down softly. This is CLAUSE CLEVERLAND(41).

Clause looks at the crowd, all silently wait to hear from him...he tilts eyes to--

-judge ANDY MADISON(44) with a quiet determination, not getting any younger but glamorous...

...she overlooks at her half glasses to Clause, compassionate eyes...she wraps her files.

ANDY
(clears throat)
I think Mr. Clause has nothing to
add on.

CLAUSE
(sobs)
...your honor, no.

ANDY
No, what?

CLAUSE
It's mistake.

Crowd and Andy chuckle.

A beat.

CLAUSE(CONT'D)
(more serious)
A very big mistake.

Crowd chatters. Noisy.

ANDY
(to crowd)
Order,order please.

Crowd turns silent,Clause sobs...he is accused's last hope.

ANDY(CONT'D)
(to Clause)
What were you trying to say
Mr.Clause?

CLAUSE
You don't understand this.

ANDY
Make me.

CLAUSE
(a beat...then)
Those people never killed anybody.

Crowd chatters in wonder,opposing Clause's words.Andy
propels back on her seat.

ANDY
(lingers)
Mr.Clause,haven't you heard from
the previous witnesses...there is
evidence that the accused murdered
people.

Clause nods in disbelief.

CLAUSE
Does the court believe in
spirits?,your honor?

ANDY
(loud)
No...because they don't
exist,science proves that too.

CLAUSE
But witnesses swear with the
bible...which is full of
spirits,good and evil spirits.

Crowd bursts into laughter.

ANDY
(to crowd)
Order.

Crowd turns silent.

ANDY(CONT'D)
 (to Clause)
 This is not a comedy store...and
 your funny talks are not taking you
 anywhere.

CLAUSE
 (sobs..sniffs)
 Am going to tell you a story,a true
 story your honor...about
 ANITAH....Anitah Winters.

Andy gazes in a daze as we BLACK OUT to--

TITLE: W I D O W ' S H O U S E .

SUPER: PRESENT DAY.

THURSDAY 3rd,OCTOBER.

PHILADELPHIA,AMERICA.

INT.CAR-DAWN(MOVING).

Man drives,Woman asleep at the front seat...

...her twitching eyelids explain the dreams unseen,both in
 their twenties,love birds and admirable.

These are HENRY MORGANS(29) and ELIZABETH ARMSTRONG(27).

We jump to the back seat,a little girl plays with her doll
 quietly....call her EMILY MORGANS(6).

Elizabeth blinks awake,lost.She waves her hand,grasps
 air....admiring the moment as other cars drive to their
 where abouts.

ELIZABETH
 (to Henry)
 Honey,how long have I been asleep?

HENRY
 (grins)
 Four hours.

ELIZABETH
 (shy and soft)
 Am thirsty.

HENRY
Hold on, just three kilometers.

Elizabeth turns focus to Emily, she doesn't care whether her mum is awake.

ELIZABETH
Hey, sweetie.

EMILY
Mum you snore.

Henry bursts into laughter, Elizabeth mortified but blends in.

ELIZABETH
(to Emily)
Sweetie, that hurt me.
(to Henry)
Do I really snore?

Henry chuckles, almost choosing his side and--

EMILY
(chuckles)
I got you mummy.

Elizabeth sighs, challenged but happy.

HENRY
(to Elizabeth)
She really got you.

Elizabeth nods, accepting defeat.

EMILY
Sofia the first is hungry.

HENRY
(to Emily)
Who the hell is Sofia the first?

ELIZABETH
The doll.

HENRY
(chuckles to Emily)
Tell Sofia to be patient, sweetie.

Car paces down the sub-urban road, until we BLACK OUT to--

EXT.ELEGANT LUXURY HOUSE-DAY

Full master piece of a home,more like a mansion...

....circulated with ranch perimeter barriers,old style but modern designs.

An old fountain currently not at work,welcomes you at the center of this beautiful green lawn.

Car pulls by the drive way, Henry and Elizabeth step out, then Emily with her doll...all astonished.

EMILY

Wow.

HENRY

(to Emily)

You like it?

EMILY

(nods)

Its like a castle.

HENRY

(chuckles to Elizabeth)

What do you think?

ELIZABETH

Quiet place to spend our weekend.

A beat.

ELIZABETH(CONT'D)

(to Henry)

Honey,did he give you the keys?

Before he replies,a Benz parks behind their car...engine dies and--

-a man tumbles out,BENSON CLEVERLAND(35) average height,hesitant though good looking.

He grants us a confident and speechless walk to--

BENSON

(to Henry)

Sorry,am late.

Emily nervously hides behind Elizabeth.

HENRY
(nods)
It's OK, Mr. Benson.

Benson shows off keys from his pocket.

BENSON
This is the last piece.

He gives the keys and a business card to excited Henry then...

....he exchanges a handshake with Elizabeth.

BENSON
Nice to meet you, miss.

ELIZABETH
(smiles to Benson)
Nice to meet you too.

BENSON
(to Henry)
Ah...am...I should be going.

HENRY
Wouldn't you want a cup of coffee?

Benson nods..."NO".

HENRY (CONT'D)
A drink, maybe.

BENSON
Am so tied up, maybe next time.

Before Henry says a word.

ELIZABETH
(to Benson)
Thank you, Mr. Benson...we wish you a safe journey.

BENSON
(smug smiles)
Don't hesitate to contact me in-case of anything.

Benson grins to all, waves goodbye and drives off.

INT.HOUSE,LIVING ROOM-CONTINUOUS.

Despite of the exterior old looks,inside is glamorous,neat and adorable.

Everything in place,a lighting fireplace ejects us to--

KITCHEN.

This is every mother's dream room and a complete office to all chefs....

...Elizabeth lingers,realizes she is not dreaming.

MASTER BEDROOM.

Well ventilated,huge bed with white sheets....a queen's chamber...just enough to arouse a couple's understanding.

Elizabeth excitedly drops her bags by the door way and lays on bed,she loves the entire room.

EMILY'S BEDROOM.

Similar to every babyish girl room,walls painted with bright colored flowers not forgetting teddy bears and princess charts.

Emily picks one princess doll from the bed,hugs it...deep love.

CONTROL ROOM.

All four camera monitors stationed here...its a small private office,enclosing the second floor hallway.

Henry sits in-front of the monitors,switches on the screens--

-all display live feed of the entire house (IN and OUT FOOTAGE).

BACK POOL VIEW.

At the second floor balcony,we gaze at the round pool beneath our feet...

...a large tea plantation behind the ranch perimeter barrier plus a glowing view of the setting sunshine which ILLUMINATES US to--

INT.HOUSE,DINING ROOM-NIGHT.

Family meal, Henry's quick consumption is a definition to starving.

Sofia the first at Emily's laps, Elizabeth adds more meat to husband's plate.

HENRY
Oh...come on, enough.

She forwards the meat bowl to Emily.

EMILY
Mum, Sofia is satisfied.

ELIZABETH
(grins)
You should finish your food too and
take Sofia to bed.

Henry chuckles.

ELIZABETH
(to Henry)
What?

HENRY
A baby got a baby.

He continues eating, not bothered.

ELIZABETH
(teasing)
Did you have one during your age
too?

HENRY
(chuckles)
My father gave me a gun at my tenth
birthday.

ELIZABETH
(nods unbelievably then to
Emily)
Sweetie lets eat, some fathers are
disgusting.

Henry not distracted, chuckles with maximum focus on his meal.