

Star in the Desert

by

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The Death of William D Taylor

Star in the Desert

SCENE 1 EXT. DAY NEVADA DESERT NIXON

A man is standing outside a phone box waiting. There's a well-dressed lady inside chatting away.

GARETH HUGHES
(looking annoyed)

He stares at her.

(under his breath)
Come on, come on lady, hurry up.

PHYLISS HAVER

She's looking around and doesn't take any notice of the strange-looking man standing outside. Then their eyes meet briefly. She looks away.

(thinking to herself)
I'm sure I know him, where have I seen
that face before, where?

She continues her telephone conversation. She looks back at him and looks him up and down. Speaking to the person on the phone.

There's a guy here waiting, I'm sure I
know him, but I can't think where I've
seen him before. He looks so familiar!

GARETH HUGHES

Pacing back and forth outside the phone box.

(under his breath)
Come on, hurry up.

PHYLISS HAVER

As she speaks to the other person on the phone she keeps looking at Gareth.

I'm sure I know him, I'm damn sure of
it. But where?

She starts to describe him (Gareth) to the person on the other end of the phone. She looks at him again.

GARETH HUGHES
(smiling through gritted teeth)

He nods and waves at her.

PHYLISS HAVER
(smiling)

She waves back at him.

That smile, I've seen it before, but
where.

GARETH HUGHES

Looking at the ground and kicking a stone.

For goodness sake lady.

PHYLISS HAVER
(smiling)

She straightens her hat.

I'd better go, dear, before this guy
blows a gasket.

She puts the hand set back on the receiver and turns to open
the phone box door.

(smiling)

She looks at him (Gareth) directly in the eye.

Thank you, sir, for your patience.

GARETH HUGHES
(smiling)

He nods and takes a step towards the phone box.

(muttering)
That's ok, that's ok...

PHYLISS HAVER

She starts to walk away but turns on her heels.

(loudly)
Goddammit, Gareth, Gareth Hughes. I
knew I'd seen that face somewhere
before. Goddamit I knew it.

GARETH HUGHES

He turns around and steps away from the phone box

(slightly shocked)
I was Gareth Hughes, but that was a
long time ago and a lifetime away from
here.

GARETH HUGHES

He looks directly at her (Phyliss)

I haven't been called Gareth for many years now, not since.

(pauses)

Not since I left...

PHYLISS HAVER

(excitedly)

So where have you been all these years and how did you...

GARETH HUGHES

Lifting his hands.

Hang on, wait a minute, do I know you? Have we've met before?

PHYLISS HAVER

(excitedly)

Moving towards him with arms open.

It's Phyliss, Gareth, Phyliss Haver you remember don't you?

GARETH HUGHES

(scratching his head)

He takes a small step back.

Phyliss is that you? Is that really you? It's been so long since I've seen anyone from the old days, so long.

PHYLISS HAVER

Yes, it's me Gareth goddammit, it's me.

GARETH HUGHES

(bemused)

He moves closer and gives her (Phyliss) a hug.

So what are you doing in these parts?

PHYLISS HAVER

I could ask the same Gareth?

GARETH HUGHES

I haven't been called that for many years. I'm known as Brother David around here and have been here since...

PHYLISS HAVER
(cutting in)
Since when?

GARETH HUGHES
Since I decided to leave the old life
behind.

PHYLISS HAVER
(confused)
What happened Gareth? One minute you
were still on the scene and the next
you were gone!

FLASHBACK HOLLYWOOD 1920'S

SCENE 2 EXT. DAY PAWNSHOP DOWNTOWN L.A

A man is pacing back and forth outside a pawnshop.

GH

Walks towards the shop and presses his face up against the
window.

SHOP OWNER

He's reading a paper he looks up and catches the eye of GH.

GH
(startled)

Steps back from the window and starts to walk towards the
door of the store.

SCENE 3 INT.DAY PAWNSHOP

SHOP OWNER
(muttering)

Glances up from the newspaper and looks GH up and down and then goes back to reading the newspaper.

GH
(nervously)

Looks around banging into things.

SHOP OWNER

Looks up from the newspaper.

(sharply)
Can I help you, sir?

GH
(nervously)
Um, um.

SHOP OWNER
(sharply)

Looking GH straight in the eye.

Can I help?

GH

Still looking around he points towards a glass cabinet behind the shop owner.

I'm looking for something just like that! Yes, that's it, just like that.

SHOP OWNER
(smiling)

Rubbing his hands together slowly turns around and then back to GH.

Ah yes, expensive mind, very expensive. But I'm sure I can give you a good deal. Oh yes!

GH

Points towards a gun.

What's that and how much is it?

SHOP OWNER

Turns to look at the cabinet.

Ah, that's a very nice piece indeed
sir, oh yes very nice. It's a
Harrington and Richardson Victor 32.

Rubbing his hands together

Oh yes, sir very nice piece. Although,
ammo is extra, just for you to know.

GH

I'm sure it is!

SHOP OWNER

Moving towards the cabinet and unlocking it.

Would sir like to take a closer look?
Only one owner and very little use!
And I'm sure I have some ammo here
somewhere!

GH

Steps back from the counter.

I'm not sure, I don't know!

SHOP OWNER

Go on sir try it out for size, it
won't hurt. Go on here it is.

He hands the gun over to GH.

GH

Picks up the gun it feels cold to the touch.

I don't know!

GH

Throws the gun down on the counter

SHOP OWNER

Go on sir pick it up. Doesn't feel
good?

(pause)

Looks GH in the eyes

I tell you what, if you give me 20
bucks I'll throw in some ammo. What do
you say?

SHOP OWNER

Its a good deal sir a very good deal.
And for a man of your standing that's
a steal. What do you say? It's a
beautiful gun!

GH

(nervously)

Picks the gun up and looks and SH.

You say you'll throw in the ammo, is
that right?

SHOP OWNER

(smiling)

Yes sir, of course, I'm a man of my
word. You can trust me, indeed you
can.

GH

Ok, I'll take it, yes I'll take it!

SHOP OWNER

(smiling)

That's excellent sir, excellent. There
is one more thing.

GH

(nervously)

What's that?

SHOP OWNER

I'll need a name and address, it's
just a formality, that's all.

Shrugging his shoulders.

State law see!

GH

Fumbling around in his jacket for his wallet.

Ah, yes, of course!

SHOP OWNER

It's just for the form that's all! And
your name sir.

GH

Oh, right my name. Um, it's, it's
Edward, Edward Sands. That's right,
Sands.

SHOP OWNER

And your address sir?

GH
It's, um, 404 Alvarado Street.

SHOP OWNER
Are you sure sir?

GH
Of course, I am. It's Alvarado Street,
apartment 404.

SHOP OWNER
(sarcastically)
Now that's all cleared up, would you
like me to gift wrap it for you, Mr
Sands!

GH
Pulls a wallet out from the inside pocket of his jacket.

No, I'll just take as it is, there's
no need for all that.

SHOP OWNER
He slowly pushes the gun and ammo towards GH.

That'll be 20 bucks then.

GH
Throws a 20 on the counter and picks up the gun and ammo and
puts them in his jacket pocket.

SHOP OWNER
Picks up the 20, rolls it then sniffs it and puts it behind
his ear.

Thanks, it's been a pleasure.

GH
Looks the shop owner up and down, turns and makes his way
towards the door.

SHOP OWNER
(smiling)
Shrugs his shoulders

That's the easiest 20 bucks I've made
in a long time.

GH
Glances over his shoulder he opens the door and leaves.

SCENE 4 EXT.DAY PAWNSHOP DOWNTOWN L.A

GH

Lifts his jacket collar, looks up and down the street and walks towards a taxi rank on the opposite side of the street. He walks towards the front of the taxi rank, stops and puts his hand inside his jacket pocket. He grasps the gun.

(smiling)
That feels good.

He opens the door of the cab and gets in.

SCENE 5 INT.DAY TAXI CAB

CAB DRIVER

Looks up from her paper and glances into the rearview mirror.

Where to buddy?

GH
Alvarado Street.
(pauses)
No, I mean Westlake.

CAB DRIVER

Throws the cigarette she's been smoking out of the cab window. Turns to face GH.

Where?

GH
Westlake, that's right Westlake Park.

CAB DRIVER
Right! Westlake.

GH

Pulls out a silver cigarette case and opens it, he gets a cigarette out and lights it. He reads the inscription written inside the case.

(to himself)
Mad about the boy, Rudy.
(thoughtfully)

Puts the cigarette to his lips and takes a long drag and opens the rear passage window.

CAB DRIVER

Glances in the rearview mirror.

Everything ok, buddy?

GH

Looks directly at the rearview mirror.

(sharply)

Do I look alright, do I?

CAB DRIVER

Shakes her head and reaches for a cigarette behind her ear.
Lights the cigarette and takes a drag.

I only asked that's all, no need to
bust my chops.

GH

Looks out of the cab window and then back towards the cab
driver.

Just pull over to the curb a moment.

CAB DRIVER

Glances into the rearview mirror.

But this is Alvarado street! I thought
you wanted Westlake?

CAB DRIVER

Turns the cab towards the curb and stops.

GH

That's fine, just sit here for a
while.

CAB DRIVER

Looks around and then looks into his rearview mirror.

GH

What's your name Cabbie?

CAB DRIVER

It's O'Shea, Danielle O'Shea

GH

Pointing with his finger.

Danielle, do you see that bungalow,
the one in the far left corner?

CAB DRIVER

Looks towards the bungalow and nods her head slowly.

GH

Do you see that guy standing outside?

CAB DRIVER

Nods her head.

Yeah!

GH

Well, he's my lover!

CAB DRIVER

Turns towards GH and the back to look towards the bungalow.

GH

That isn't my bungalow.

(pause)

It belongs to another man.

(pause)

It's taken me a while to find out who
he's been seeing, behind my back.

(pause)

I'm going to kill them. What do you
think of that?

CAB DRIVER

(slightly confused)

Looks at GH in her mirror and then back towards the bungalow.
Shrugs her shoulders.

Hey buddy, this is Hollywood. Are you
getting out here?

GH

(slightly distracted)

Yes, yes I am.

CAB DRIVER

Turns to face GH.

That'll be \$1 and 50 cents.

GH

Reaches into his jacket and pulls out a wallet.

Here's 2 bucks, and keep the change.

CAB DRIVER

Takes the money from GH.

Thanks, thanks, buddy.

GH

Gets out of the cab and walks towards a bench on the sidewalk and sits down.

CAB DRIVER

Looks towards GH tips back her hat, scratches her head and drives away.

SCENE 6 INT.DAY BUNGALOW APT.404B

A man is standing outside the front door of apartment 404b. He steps forward to ring the doorbell, he waits.

WDT(BILL)

He's sitting at his desk writing, he gets up and goes to answer the door.

Rudy, it's good to see you.

He hugs him and kisses him on the cheek.

Come in, come in.

Before closing the door he has a quick look outside.

RV

(slightly flustered)

I think he knows Bill, I think he knows.

WDT(BILL)

(smiling)

Grabs RV by the shoulders and looks into his eyes.

Don't worry, there's no need to worry.
He'll never find out about us.

RV

But you don't know him like me, you don't. You just don't.

WDT(BILL)

I know, I know.

RV

He can be very jealous, and if he finds us, I just don't know Bill.

WDT(BILL)

Hugs RV and reassures him.

It's going to be alright, trust me that's all I ask.

RV

Kisses Bill and goes to sit down.

I could do with a drink!

WDT(BILL)

Yes, of course, Old Forester?

RV

Yes, straight!

WDT(BILL)

(Laughs)

Pours the bourbon and takes it over to RV.

RV

Takes the glass and drinks the bourbon in one go.

WDT(BILL)

Another?

RV

Wipes his mouth with his hand.

Yes, one more.

WDT(BILL)

Walks towards the drinks cabinet.

SCENE 7 EXT. DAY ALVARADO STREET

GH

GH is sitting on a bench smoking a cigarette, he turns to look towards 404b. He gets up and paces back and forth.

What will I say?

He takes a long drag from the cigarette and throws it on the ground and steps on it.

I can't take anymore, I just can't.
I'm going to confront him. Yes, that's
it, face to face.

He reaches inside his jacket pocket. He caresses the gun and slides his hand over it.

(smiling)
You're still there, you beautiful
thing.

He starts to walk towards the bungalow.

You can do this, you can.

He climbs the steps leading to the front door, he stops and turns away.

I have to do this, have to. I can't
take any more, I just can't.

He turns back towards the door and reaches for the doorbell. He presses it.

The door opens.

(shocked)
You bastard!

SCENE 8 INT. DAY BUNGALOW APT.404BD

WDT(BILL)
(smiling)

Is standing at the door.

Gareth, how nice to see you.

GH
Where is he?

RV

Jumps up from his seat and drops his glass and steps back into the bedroom.

WDT(BILL)
(smiling)
Who?

GH
You know, Rudy.

WDT(BILL)
Oh yes, Rudy! Why?

Pushes GH away.

What do you want with him?

GH
He's here, isn't he?

WDT(BILL)
What makes you think that.

GH
I saw him. You chicken queen, you're all same. Just a quick fumble that's all you want.

WDT(BILL)
(smiling)
Well, he might be here. I'll just check. Be a good man and wait here.

He steps back and closes the door and walks back into the sitting room.

Rudy, where are you, my boy, where are you?

RV
I'm in here, in the bedroom.

WDT(BILL)

Come out of there you silly thing.
There's no need to hide, no need at
all.

RV

(shaken)

I told you didn't I, I said he would
find us.

WDT(BILL)

Come on now, it's ok.

RV

But I told you, I told you.

WDT(BILL)

Embraces RV and kisses him on the forehead.

Let me deal with this, it's going to
be ok. Trust me, that's all, you silly
thing.

RV

Ok, but why did he call you a chicken
queen? You're not like that, are you!
Just using me?

WDT(BILL)

Of course not, my boy. Not at all.

GH

Bangs the front door of the bungalow

Come on, come on. Where are you, you
bastard.

RV

See, I told you what he was like.

WDT(BILL)

Now, there's no need to worry. Have
another drink, go on. I'll be right
back.

RV

Walks towards the drinks cabinet and pours himself a bourbon.

WDT(BILL)

Goes to the front door and opens it.

WDT(BILL)

Gareth my dear boy, come on, you need to calm yourself.

GH

I want to see him now, right now.

WDT(BILL)

Look, my dear boy, you need to calm down. There's no need to get yourself in such a state.

GH

He reaches into his pocket and pulls out the revolver, he points it at WDT.

Don't tell me to be calm, take me to Rudy, right now, you bastard.

WDT(BILL)

My dear boy, there's no need for all this, come on, no need at all. We're all friends here, aren't we?

GH

Signals with the gun for WDT to move inside.

(shouts)

Get inside now, right now, you fucking queen.

WDT(BILL)

(calmly)

Steps back from the door and walks towards the sitting room.

Ok, ok, just watch where you're pointing that thing, that's all.

GH

Don't tell me what to do, get in there.

Closes the front door and pushes WDT with the barrel of the gun pressed up against his back.

Rudy, Rudy, where are my boy, where are you. It's me, Gareth.

RV

Opens the door of the bedroom.

(shaking)

I'm here, right here.

GH

It's so good to see you, I've been worried about my boy. Really worried.

RV

Well, you can see I'm alright. What do you want Gareth? What is it?

GH

I was worried about you that's all. And, and...

WDT(BILL)

And what?

GH

Shakes the gun at WDT.

You keep out of this. It's got nothing to do with you. It's between me and Rudy.

WDT(BILL)

Laughs

RV

Gareth! What's that you've got? Where did you get it from?

GH

It's a little something I picked up downtown, that's all. Something to make life, a little bit easier, to move things along, that's all.

RV

What do you mean?

GH

Do you think that I haven't noticed! Do you think I'm dumb?

RV

(shaking his head slowly)
Of course not.

GH

Really! Then why all this? What's going on?

RV

It's just, what I mean is.

GH

Just what?

WDT(BILL)

Come on my boy, yes what do you mean.

GH

Close your head, you fucking queen!

WDT(BILL)

Takes a step back towards the drinks cabinet.

I think we could all do with a drink,
what do you think my dears?

GH

I know I've been busy with everything
and I know I should have spent some
more time with you, but...

RV

That's just it, isn't it? Time, you
always say the same thing, over and
over. Well, time has run out for us.
That's all...

GH

Please, Rudy, give me another chance,
that's all I ask. Let me try again. I
don't want to lose you, especially to
this cake-eater.

WDT(BILL)

I'll take that as a compliment, my
dear boy. Now, what about that drink,
Old Forester?

GH

Shakes the gun at WDT.

I've had just about enough of you.
You're no better than a drugstore
cowboy.

He looks back towards RV and takes a couple of steps towards
him.

Rudy, you don't mean anything to him,
you're just another boy to him that's
all.

WDT(BILL)

This is horse shit.

GH

Please listen to me Rudy, please. I love you, can't you see.

RV

Do you?

GH

Of course, I do.

RV

Then why the gun, why?

WDT(BILL)

What the fuck! You two, honestly, you're like a couple of drama queens. I've got to have a drink.

GH

Please Rudy, please.

WDT(BILL)

(sarcastically)

Yes, please Rudy, please, why don't you just fuck off.

RV

I thought I meant something, that we were going to...

WDT(BILL)

Runaway together, like the movies, happy ending.

WDT(BILL)

Turns to GH.

So my boy, what are you going to do with that.

Points to the gun in GH hand.

Are you going to shoot me, was that the plan all along. I saw you earlier sitting out there. Pacing back and forth. You're nothing but a loser, that's all, a loser.

GH

Lifts up the gun and points it towards WDT.

I'm not, you fuck, I'm not.

RV

Please, Gareth please, put the gun
down. It's not worth it.

GH

(sighs)

Lowers the gun to his side.

RV

Give it here Gareth, give it to me,
please.

GH

Passes the gun to RV.

WDT(BILL)

See I told you, nothing but a loser
that's all, a fucking loser. Now,
where's my drink.

He turns towards his writing desk.

Ah, there it is. Now both of you can
just fuck off.

RV

Looks at GH

GH

He's looking down at the floor.

RV

Gareth.

GH

Yes.

RV

It's' all going to be ok.

He lifts the gun and aims it at WDT and pulls the trigger.

WDT(BILL)

Fuck!!

He falls to the floor.

GH

Looks down at WDT on the floor and then back at RV.

What have you done, you stupid boy!

RV

Looks down at the body and drops the gun, then looks back at GH.

I just couldn't take anymore, that's all. He pushed me too far.

(pause)

When your head says one thing and your heart says another, your head always loses.

GH

(calmly)

Picks the gun up and puts it in his jacket pocket.

But not like this...

RV

(shaken)

I just couldn't take anymore, that's all.

GH

It was never meant to be like this.

RV

What did you think was going to happen, you brought the gun.

GH

Looks around the room.

It was just meant to be an empty threat, that's all.

RV

What do you mean...

GH

Look, someone must have heard the shot, so we haven't got much time before the cops...

RV

What did you mean, by empty threat?

GH

Slaps RV across the face.

Listen, we haven't got much time. We need to clear this mess up before...

RV

Shakes his head and steps back from GH.

Why did you do that?

GH

You need to pull yourself together.

RV

I don't care, I just don't care
anymore.

GH

Looks around the room.

Just do what I say, and everything
thing will be just fine.

RV

Walks towards the window and looks out.

What are we going to do?

GH

(calmly)

Listen to me, this is what we're going
to do.

Looks at RV and slowly walks towards him.

Bill, had a manservant, a valet yes?

RV

Yes, that's right, Sands I think,
that's right, Edward Sands.

GH

Lights a cigarette and starts to walk back and forth.

I know, Sands. We can pin it on him,
that's right. He was always up to no
good, and Bill always went on about
him.

RV

Sands?

GH

Yes, Sands, he was always up to
something. Bill told me once he even
tried to forge a check. So we can make
it look...

RV

Look like what?

GH

Shakes his head.

Come on my boy, do I have to explain.

RV

Oh, right.

GH

Well, do you want to face the music
for this and pay the price?

RV

I should, shouldn't I?

GH

Come on, do you really want to. Your
still young and have your career in
front of you, do you want to give it
all up, just for this. When we can
shift the blame onto a lowlife like
Sands, do you, my boy, do you?

RV

I suppose...

GH

Grabs RV by the shoulders.

You suppose, are you fucking mad. This
is an ideal opportunity, Sands is
working-class, he does for others. And
he will be taking the blame for this
mess, I can assure you, my boy, oh
yes.

RV

Nods his head.

GH

Looks around.

We need to find something of Sands,
look in there.

Points towards the bedroom.

RV

But that was Bill's room.

GH

I know, they were at it...

RV

Walks towards the bedroom shaking his head.

(muttering)

At it, they were at it.

GH

Yes, I know. Just get on with it, see what you can find, there's bound to be something.

RV

Ok, ok.

He walks towards the bedroom.

GH

Starts to look around the apartment. He calls out to RV.

Have you found anything yet?

RV

Not yet.

GH

Hurry up, there must be something in there, come on, come on.

RV

(flustered)

Ok, ok.

(bangs around)

I think I've found something.

GH

What is it, bring it here, come on, quickly now, quickly.

RV

Ok, ok, I'm coming. I've found these, will it do?

He hands a pair of shoes to GH.

GH

What's this you've got, a pair of shoes! They do look a bit rough, and just like something Sands would wear. Oh yes, these will do nicely my boy.

RV

What are you going to do?

GH

Just watch my boy, just watch.

He takes off his own shoes and puts on Sands shoes.

Right.

He walks to the front door, opens it and looks out. Turns to RV.

I want you to stand by the window and keep an eye out, ok.

RV

(looks confused)

What are you doing?

GH

I'm going to go outside and break in through the bedroom window.

RV

What?

GH

Look, if we want to set Sands up, we've got to make it look like a break-in gone wrong.

He makes his way to the door.

Make sure you keep an eye on things, ok.

RV

Ok, ok.

GH

Makes his way out of the apartment and goes around to the bedroom window. He picks up a stone and smashes a windowpane opens the window and climbs in.

(shouts out)

Rudy, Rudy, it's done my boy, it's done.

RV

What now?

GH

Starts to walk towards WDT body.

Make it look convincing, my boy.

RV

Looks down at GH feet.

There's mud on your shoes.

GH

(excitedly)

I know, I know, I couldn't have wished for better. Makes it look more dramatic, don't you think?

RV

This isn't a scene from one of your cheap movies, this is happening, he's dead.

GH

I know, I know, but still...

RV

You're sick, that's what you are, sick.

GH

(pause)

But I'm not the one that pulled the trigger, am I?

RV

Looks towards WDT on the floor.

No, I am.

(pause)

You're enjoying this too much, that's all.

GH

I'm, only trying to help and be a good friend, that's all my boy, that's all.

RV

It's all too much, that's all I'm saying, too much.

GH

I know, but this needs to be done, and the more convincing we are the better our chances.

RV

Ok, but still you need to...

GH

Need to what. Look this needs to be done and I want to get away ok.

RV

Ok, Ok! I've got it.

GH

Right, I'm glad you've got it, at last. Now, we need to get into Bill's desk. Did you write to him at all?

RV

Maybe a couple of times.

GH

What do you mean, by a couple, come on what do you mean? Love letters were they love letters?

RV

Just a couple of times that's all.

GH

Makes his way to WDT desk.

Ok, we need to get rid of them.

Breaks open WDT desk.

I think I've found something, yes it looks like your handwriting.

He shows RV.

RV

Yes, they're mine.

He begins to read the letter.

GH

What are you doing, are you mad.

Snatches the letter out of RV hands.

We haven't got time for this, what are you thinking. The cops could be here any minute.

RV

I know, I know, it's just, maybe I should have...

GH

It's too late now for maybe's and all that, we need to deal with the here and now.

(pause)

You can think things through later, that's all I'm saying.

RV

You're right, I know that, just...

GH

Look we need to deal with this right now, or both of us could be facing the hangman's noose. And I don't want that, he was never worth that, was he?

RV

No, you're right.

GH

I know I am, my boy, I know.

Looks back at the desk.

Are there any more letters?

RV

No, we've got them all.

GH

Ok, then. Did you give him anything, anything that could tie you to him, anything?

RV

No, I never spent the night here, not at all, we just, you now...

GH

Nods his head.

It's ok, my boy, it's ok.

RV

I never meant for, for all this, you know that, don't you?

GH

I know, my boy, I know.

RV

Moves towards GH and hugs him.

I thought he loved me, but I was just kidding myself, I know that now.

GH

You're not the first my boy not at all. It would have happened sooner or later. It just happened to be you that pulled the trigger.

He gets two cigarettes out of his cigarette case and lights them, he gives one to RV. He puts the cigarette case down on a side table.

Here you are my boy, this will help calm the nerves. We need to make sure we don't leave anything behind.

GH leans on the side table to take off Sands's shoes, he knocks the cigarette case onto the floor. He continues to wrap the shoes in an old newspaper. He puts his own pair back on.

It's not how I expected the day to go, yes I had planned to come here to confront you and Bill, but that's all. But the cops won't see it like that, will they?

RV

No, they won't.

GH

Shaking his head.

No, they won't.

He steps towards RV and grasps his shoulders.

(pause)

We're in this together, this is on both of us. We must never speak of this to anyone, and I mean anyone. You understand don't you, my boy.

RV

Yes, of course, I do.

GH

Are you sure there's nothing else here?

He looks around the desk and picks something up.

This might help.

RV

What's that?

GH

It's Bill's checkbook. Sands tried to forge Bill's signature, didn't he? So if we take this as well, it might convince the cops, that Sands did have something to do with all this.

RV

You devious bastard.

GH

(smiling)

I know, we need to make sure that all the evidence points to Sands, that's all.

(smiling)

Looks directly at RV.

With my brains and your good looks, we could go places.

RV

Maybe, we could.

GH

Looks towards WDT body.

We need to clean this mess up and move the body.

RV

No, leave it right there. I can afford a blemish on my character, but not on my clothes.

GH

(slightly shocked)

That ciggy worked.

RV

Yes, it seems that way.

Walks towards WDT body and prods it with his foot.

I want him to be found just like this.

(pause)

He was a monster and he deserved to be shot in the back, that's all.

(pause)

He deserved it, the way he treated so many...

GH

I know, I know, but we need to go, Rudy, we need to go, and now.

Walks towards RV and grabs him by the arm.

Come on my boy, come on, we need to go before the cops get here.

They both make their way to the front door and leave.

GH

Come on, hurry up, hurry up.

RV

Pauses and looks back at WDT.

GH

Grabs RV.

Come on, we need to go.

RV

But we can't leave him like that.

GH

(frustrated)

We haven't got time for this, come Rudy, now.

He pushes RV through the front door.

GH

We need to find a cab and get to the club. We'll be safe there.

They both make their way around the side of the apartment.

GH

We can get a cab on West Maryland Street. There's always one waiting there.

RV

(in a daze)

Are you sure, Gareth?

GH

Of course, I am. I've picked one up there many times.

RV

What do you mean?

GH

(distracted)

Looks around for a cab.

There's one, come on, hurry up.

Both GH and RV get into the cab.

GH

B.B.B.'s, do you where that is?

CAB DRIVER

Glances in the rearview mirror.

Of course, Las Palmas.

GH

(calmly)

Nods

That's right, take us there, please.

CAB DRIVER

Turns in his seat.

Ah, it's you again. Everything turn out ok?

GH

(shocked)

Um, it's, it's...

CAB DRIVER

Danielle, Danielle O'Shea. You remember, don't you?

The cab drives off.

SCENE 9 EXT AND INT.DAY ALVARADO BUNGALOW

A police car pulls up on Alvarado street and two police officers get out and run towards WDT apartment.

P.O LINDENBERG
Who called the cops? What's going on here?

EDNA PURVIANCE
(excitedly)

Beckons the two police officers.

It was me, it was me.

P.O LINDENBERG

Walks towards Edna.

Ok, ok. What's going on here lady?

EDNA PURVIANCE

Points towards WDT apartment.

It came from there, 404b.

P.O LINDENBERG
What did?

EDNA PURVIANCE
A kind of a gunshot, yeah that's right a gunshot.

P.O LINDENBERG
A what?

EDNA PURVIANCE
A gun being fired.

P.O LINDENBERG

Looks towards WDT apartment and then back at the Edna.

Are you sure?

EDNA PURVIANCE

Nods.

Of course, do you think I'm dumb or something?

P.O LINDENBERG

Looks towards the other police officer.

Hey, Rogers, you'd better go and have
a look.

P.O ROGERS

Walks towards the front door of WDT apartment. He tries the
front door, it's locked. Rings the doorbell and waits.

He looks towards Lindberg and shrugs his shoulders.

P.O LINDENBERG

Try again, make sure that's all.

P.O ROGERS

Bangs on the front door. Then has a look through one of the
windows.

Lindenberg.

P.O LINDENBERG

Looks towards Rogers.

Yeah!

P.O ROGERS

You'd better come and have a look.

P.O LINDENBERG

Miss Purviance, stay right here.

EDNA PURVIANCE

Nods her head.

Ok.

P.O LINDENBERG

Makes his way up to Rogers.

What's up?

P.O ROGERS

Points towards the front window.

You'd better take a look for yourself.

P.O LINDENBERG

What is it?

He looks.

Hell.

Looks at Rogers.

Kick the door down, now.

Both officers enter the apartment and walk towards WDT body.

P.O LINDENBERG

There's blood everywhere.

Turns to Rogers.

Go back to the street and call for help.

P.O ROGERS

Runs out of the apartment back to the street.

P.O LINDENBERG

Pulls out his service revolver and starts to look around the apartment.

P.O ROGERS

Runs towards a police call box on the street and opens it, lifts up the receiver.

We need a detective now. There's been a shooting at 404b South Alvarado.

OPERATOR

Ok, ok. Do you know who it is?

P.O ROGERS

I'm not sure, but it looks like that director guy, Taylor.

OPERATOR

We'll have someone there as quick as possible.

(pause)

What's your badge and box number honey?

P.O ROGERS

It's Rogers 710 and box number 151 on South Alvarado.

OPERATOR

Ok honey, thanks.

P.O ROGERS

Puts the receiver back and closes the box, he looks around and scratches his head. He then makes his way back to WDT's apartment.

Hey, Lindenberg, have you found anything?

P.O LINDENBERG

No, not yet. Did you get through?

P.O ROGERS

Yes, they're sending someone.

P.O LINDENBERG

Did they say who?

P.O ROGERS

Shakes his head.

Both of them start to look around.

P.O ROGERS

Looks at Lindenberg.

What do you think happen here?

P.O LINDENBERG

Looks like a robbery gone wrong to me.
He must have put up a fight.

Points to the floor.

P.O LINDENBERG

And look! There's mud everywhere.

P.O ROGERS

Nods.

I'll go and wait by the door, in case that detective turns up.

P.O LINDENBERG

Carries on looking around.

Ok, Rogers, ok. I'll keep looking.

P.O ROGERS

Walks towards the door and waits.

Hey, Lindenberg, it looks like
someone's coming this way.

P.O LINDENBERG

Can you see who it is?

P.O ROGERS

Hang on, wait a sec. Oh shit!

P.O LINDENBERG

What, who is it?

P.O ROGERS

It's Ziegler, Lieutenant Ziegler.

SCENE 10 EXT DAY. B.B.B'S CLUB

A cab pulls up outside the club.

GH

Opens the door of the cab and throws some money at the
cabbie.

Will that do?

CAB DRIVER

Picks up the money. Looks towards GH.

Yeah, that works.

GH

Looks towards RV

RV

(unsure)

Looking down at the cab floor.

GH

Hey, Rudy.

Grabs RV and starts to pull him out of the cab.

RV.

Looks towards GH.

Are we there?

GH

Yes, my boy, come on, we're here.

RV

Slides towards the cab door.

GH

Helps RV out of the cab slams the cab door.

Come on, we'll be safe inside.

CAB DRIVER

Looks at GH.

See ya soon, be safe.

Cab drives off.

RV

Looks at the neon lights of the club.

Ah, BBB's, we're here.

GH

Yes, my boy of course we are. Come on,
let's get inside.

RV

(smiling)

Looks at GH.

I love this place.

GH

I know, my boy, I know.

Both GH and RV walk towards the entrance of the club.

DOORMAN

Lifts his hat and nods, he opens the door for GH and RV.

Nice to see you again, Mr Hughes.

He nods at RV. Both GH and RV enter the club.

SCENE 11 INT DAY. B.B.B'S CLUB

CONCIERGE

Ah, Gareth, Rudy nice to see you.

(pause)

Hope you are keeping well and here for
a good time?

GH

Looks towards RV and then back at the concierge.

Yes, of course, we are, what else?

CONCIERGE

Rubbing his hands together.

Excellent, just excellent.

He turns around and picks up a couple of small wooden
hammers.

Here you are, gentlemen. You know what
to do with these!

GH

Nods.

CONCIERGE

He beckons a bell boy.

Here you are.

Looks the bell boy up and down.

(sharply)

Show these fine gentlemen to their
table, boy.

BELL BOY.

Nods.

This way, please.

CONCIERGE

(smiling)

Don't take any wooden nickels, boys!

Both GH and RV enter the main club.

CLUB-GOERS
(smiling)

All start to hit their hammers on the tables and turn to look at GH and RV.

GH

Looks at RV and puts his arm around his shoulder.

It's ok.

RV
(smiling)

Looks at GH and waves back at the crowd.

BELL BOY.
Here you are, gentlemen, your table.

Both GH and RV sit down.

CLUB-GOERS

Stop and carry on drinking and looking at the show.

RV
(anxiously)

Starts to look around, looking to see who's there.

GH
You need a drink

Looks towards the nearest waiter and clicks his fingers.

Two sidecars.

WAITER
(smiling)

Nods and walks off.

GH

Looks at RV and reaches for his hand.

RV

Pulls his hand away.

GH
You'll better after a drink.

He reaches inside his left jacket pocket and then his right.

(panicked stricken)
Where is it, where!

Fumbles around in his pockets.

RV

What's wrong, what is it?

GH

Looks around and then back at RV.

I've, I've lost my cigarette case.

RV

What do you mean? You give me a cigarette back at Bill's.

(pause)

You must have left it in the cab, that's all.

GH

I don't think so.

RV

(calmly)

Yes, of course, it must have fallen out of your pocket, that's all.

GH

(getting worked up)

No, it didn't. I always keep it in my inside jacket pocket. I like to know where it is.

RV

Are you sure? You must have put it down somewhere. Have another look.

GH

(snappy)

Another look! I'm not stupid.

RV

I know, I know. I'm only trying to help that's all.

GH

I'm sorry, I just need to think that's all.

RV

(dismissively)

Snaps his fingers at a waiter.

Two more sidecars and make a snappy.

WAITER

Yes, of course, Mr Valentino, of course.

RV
(smiles)

Reaches for GH hand.

Maybe a couple of sidecars will help.

GH
I don't know Rudy, I just don't know.

RV
What do you...

WAITER
Here are your sidecars sir.

GH
Looks up at the waiter and smiles. Then looks back at RV.

The thing is.

RV
What?

GH
I might have left my case back at
Bill's place.

RV
Are you kidding me, are you?

GH
I'm afraid not. I must have left it
there after I took off those awful
shoes.

RV
Awful shoes, what are you talking
about, is that all you can think
about, Sands shoes?

GH
Looks down at the table.

I'm sorry, I just don't know what to
do that's all.

RV
Reaches over and grasps GH hand.

There's only one thing for it.

GH

Looks up.

I know, I know.

RV

We need to go back and find that case
before the cops do. You know that
don't you, or we're both for it.

GH

Fumbles around in his jacket pocket.

RV

What are you looking for?

GH

I need a ciggy.

RV

Your kidding right?

SCENE 12 INT DAY. ALVARADO BUNGALOW

LT. ZIEGLER

Walks up to PO Rogers.

I'm Ziegler, Lieutenant Ziegler,
flying squad.

Looks Rogers up and down.

Are you Rogers?

P.O ROGERS
Yes, I mean yes Lieutenant.

LT. ZIEGLER

Moves towards Rogers.

You, called it in then?

P.O ROGERS

Takes a step back.

Yes, sir.

LT. ZIEGLER

Pushes Rogers back and steps inside the bungalow looking
around.

Two of you then?

P.O ROGERS

Nods his head.

LT. ZIEGLER

Points towards Lindenberg.

Who are you?

P.O LINDENBERG
210 Lindenberg, Lieutenant. I was
just...

LT ZIEGLER
(dismissively)

Looks around the room.

I didn't ask for your life story.

P.O LINDENBERG

No sir.

LT. ZIEGLER

Walks towards the body of WDT and kneels down beside it.

Which one of you was the first in?

P.O ROGERS

I kicked the door in and Lindenberg was the first in.

LT. ZIEGLER

Then what?

P.O ROGERS

I left Lindenberg and went to call it in lieutenant.

LT. ZIEGLER

Looks towards Lindenberg.

Have you touched anything?

P.O LINDENBERG

No sir, just had a look around that's all, just in case.

LT. ZIEGLER

Lifts up his hat and scratches his head

Had a look around, just in case, right!

P.O LINDENBERG

I thought they might still be here, lieutenant.

LT. ZIEGLER

(thoughtfully)

Starts to go through WDT pockets.

Had a look around and you thought did you, Lindenberg.

Stands up and walks towards WDT desk. Glares at Rogers.

And you Rogers? Where were you, when Lindenberg was doing all this thinking!

P.O ROGERS

Here, lieutenant, right here by the door.

LT. ZIEGLER

Looks at Lindenberg and then back at Rogers.

That's right, exactly where you should have been.

(pause)

Looks both Lindenberg and Rogers up and down.

Ok, you two, outside, I'll take from here.

P.O LINDENBERG

Looks at Rogers and then back at Ziegler.

LT. ZIEGLER

Points to the front door, and then turns away from them.

Go on off you go, fuck off.

Both Lindenberg and Rogers make their way out of the apartment.

LT. ZIEGLER

And close the fucking door.

SCENE 13 EXT DAY. WEST MARYLAND ST. ALVARADO ST.

A cab pulls up and GH and RV get out on West Maryland St. they make their way down the back of WDT's apartment towards Alvarado.

GH

Puts his arm around RV shoulder.

We've got to be discreet.

RV

Shakes his head.

I know.

GH

We need to find a way into the apartment without being seen.

RV

(nervously)

I know, Gareth, I know.

GH

This is our only chance you know that don't you.

RV

Yes, of course, I do, of course.

Both GH and RV reach the bench in front of the apartments. They sit down and look up towards WDT's apartment.

GH

Kicks RV leg.

Look, there are two cops standing outside Bill's.

RV

I can see that, I'm not blind.

Both Lindenberg and Rogers are standing outside WDT's apartment smoking.

P.O LINDENBERG

Nudges Rogers.

Look at those two on the sidewalk.

P.O ROGERS

Looks towards GH and RV

What about them?

P.O LINDENBERG

(laughing)

They look like a couple of cake eaters.

P.O ROGERS

Maybe they've heard about Taylor.

(pauses)

There were rumours that he was a bit of quiff.

Both Lindenberg and Rogers turn to each other and laugh.

GH

(quietly)

Moves closer to RV.

Ok, how are we going to play this?

RV

We can't wait here, we'll get noticed.

GH

You don't say!

RV

Ok, Ok.

GH

Do you know anyone that lives, I mean lived next to Bill?

RV

Scratches his head.

I guess I might know the guys at 406, I've had a couple of drinks with them.

GH

(sarcastically)

Have you now.

RV

Come on, does that matter now.

GH

No, you're right. So who are they?

RV

The MacLean's, that's right Doug and Faith.

GH

Can they be trusted, can they?

RV

I think so, they're a couple of good eggs!

GH

Ok then, its settle, we'll make a move up to 406.

RV

What now?

GH

Yes, of course. We need to lie low until the cops go, and the MacLeans are our best bet.

RV

What if they ask too many questions.

GH

Don't worry about that, we'll figure something out. After all, aren't we supposed to be a couple of movie stars?

Nudges RV.

Both GH and RV get up from the bench and make their way towards 406.

GH

Come on my boy, come on. What number do they live at again?

RV

(sighs)

Gareth, I already told you, it's 406, goddammit 406.

Pushes GH.

Are you deaf or something?

GH

Scratches his head.

I just forgot that's all, I am getting
on and with all that's happened
today...

RV
(smiling)

Taps GH on the back.

You old queen.

GH

Laughs and looks back at RV. They both start to walk-up
towards the MacLeans.

GH
Rudy, keep you head down as we pass
Bill's place, ok!

RV
(no expression)

Nods his head.

GH

Turns to look back at RV.

Ok?

RV
I heard!

GH
Ok, I'm glad, it's important.

RV

Nods.

GH
(speaks slowly)
Keep your head down.

P.O LINDENBERG
(smiling)

Nudges Rogers.

Hey, it's those two quiffs.

P.O ROGERS

Gets out his nightstick and points it towards GH and RV.

Hey, you two.

GH

Keep your head down, my boy.

RV

Nods.

P.O ROGERS

Laughing and nudging Lindenberg.

Hey, chicken heads.

The door opens behind Lindenberg and Rogers.

LT ZIEGLER

What the fuck are you two up to,
didn't I tell you to shut the fuck
up.Well?

P.O LINDENBERG

Points towards GH and RV

It's just a couple of quiffs, that's
all sir.

LT ZIEGLER

Takes a long hard look at GH and RV and then looks back
Lindenberg and Rogers.

You two are supposed to be on point,
so, shut the fuck up, right?

P.O LINDENBERG

Yes, sir.

P.O ROGERS

Yes, of course, sir, of course.

LT ZIEGLER

(muttering)

Goes back inside WDT's apartment.

GH

Grabs RV by the arm.

Come on, quick.

Both Lindenberg and Rogers watch as GH and RV walk towards the MacLeans.

RV

Turns to GH.

That was close.

GH

Looks back towards WDT's apartment.

You don't say, my boy, you don't say.

RV

When we get to the door let me do the talking, ok.

GH

Ok, my boy there your friends after all.

RV

(smiling)

It's just that, they can be a bit strange and can come as a bit of a shock, that's all.

GH

Slowly nods his head.

Oh, right!

RV

Walks up to the door of the MacLeans, knocks and shouts out.

Hey there, anyone home?

(smiling)

Turns to face GH.

They may take a while.

Turns back and puts his ear against the door.

Someones coming.

GH

Here we go then.

RV

Winks at GH.

FAITH
(Sluggishly)

Half opens the door and peers from behind it with a glass in her hand.

Who is it?

RV
It's me Faith, Rudy, Rudy Valentino.

FAITH
(squinting)

Fully opens the door, moves closer and looks RV up and down.

Rudy, is that you?

RV
(smiling)
Yes, of course, it is dear.

FAITH

Hugs RV.

Ah, Rudy my old friend.

Turns around.

(shouts out)
Hey Doug, it's Rudy!

DOUG
Who?

FAITH
Rudy Valentino, you know Bill's little friend.
(smiling)

She looks GH straight in the eye.

And who's this?

RV
This is my old friend Gareth, Gareth Hughes.

FAITH

Swaying back and forth

Gareth, Gareth Hughes.

GH
Yes, that's right Gareth.

FAITH

Scratches her head and takes a sip from her glass.

I know you, but where, where have I
seen you before?

RV

Faith dear, can we come in?

FAITH

Of courses, my dears of course.

SCENE 14 INT DAY. MACLEANS APARTMENT

They all go inside 406.

FAITH

Rudy, Gareth, would like a drink or
something stronger?

RV

Um, what do you mean?

FAITH

Well, do you want to get fried or
gowed-up?

GH

What do you mean?

FAITH

Well, I have a couple of pipes! What
do you say? Your not a couple of wet
blankets are you?

RV

Looks towards GH.

Of course, we're not, are we?

GH

Well, it wouldn't be the first time. I
have been known to frequent China town
now and again.

FAITH

Doug, Doug get the pipes out, we're
going to get gowed-up.

Looks directly at GH moves towards him and does a little
dance.

FAITH
You haven't said anything.

GH
(taken aback)

Steps back.

About what dear.

FAITH
My clothes, of course, what you think?
Well.

GH
It looks good on you, who's your
tailor?

FAITH
It's one of Doug's, it's one of his
old suits. I think it looks better on
me.

RV
It sure does sister, it sure does.

FAITH
Walks over to a mirror and does a little dance.

Yes, it does.
(shouts)
Doug where are those dam pipes, you
fucking quiff. Whoops sorry boys!

GH
Looks over towards RV and then back at Faith.

FAITH
Well, I know Rudy is, how about you
Gareth? Well.

RV
Faith, leave him alone.

DOUG
Staggering towards Faith.

I've found them, dear, I've found
them!

FAITH
Here he is, my wonderful fucking
husband.

DOUG

Hands the pipes to Faith.

Here you are dear, I've found them.

FAITH

I can see that and what the fuck are you wearing?

DOUG

Don't' you like it?

FAITH

I've told you before, don't wear my new stuff. I only bought that dress last week you, you...

RV

Looks towards Doug.

Nice to see you again, dear.

DOUG

Staggers towards RV and gives him a hug.

Rudy, Rudy, my dear Rudy.

Steps back and looks towards GH.

And you are?

GH

Gareth, Gareth Hughes.

DOUG

Scratches his head

Gareth you say, Gareth Hughes!

GH

(smiling)

Nods his head.

That's right.

DOUG

Now, where have I seen you before?

GH

(under his breath)

For fuck...

RV
(excitedly)
Let's get gowed-up, shall we?

FAITH

Puts her arm around GH.

Come on boys, let's go into the
parlour, we'll be more comfortable
there.

RV
(smiles)

Puts his arm around Doug and gives him a kiss on the cheek.

DOUG

Laughs out loud.

Easy, my boy, the night is young.

Slaps RV on the backside as they walk into the parlour.

FAITH

Looks around the parlour.

Who's for some cocktails.

Looks at RV and winks.

I know what you like. How about you
Gareth?

GH
Um, Um...

DOUG
Come on dear, we're dying of fucking
thirst here.

FAITH

Looks at Doug and then back at GH.

What will it be dear?

GH
(sheepishly)
Any chance of a sidecar?

FAITH
Yes, of course, coming right up.

FAITH

Looks at RV.

And you dear?

RV

I'd like to wrap my lips around a
(pause)
Mary Pickford.

DOUG

Laughs and looks at Faith.

Wouldn't we all dear.

FAITH

(thoughtfully)
Oh yes, so would I.
(sighing)
Ah, Mary Pickford.

Sways towards GH and RV with their drinks.

Take a load off, boys.

DOUG

Sprawled on the chaise longue, looks at RV.

Yes dear, right here, there's plenty
of room. I won't bite, promise.

Taps the seat.

FAITH

Gareth be a dear, come and sit by me.

Looks GH in the eyes.

So tell me, dear, why are the cops at
Bill's place?

There's a knock at the front door.

FAITH

Touches GH lips with her finger.

Hold that thought!

She gets up and makes her way to the front door.

SCENE 15 EXT DAY. MACLEANS APARTMENT

FAITH

Opens the front door.

Well hello, handsome!

LT ZIEGLER

Tips back his hat and nods.

Good evening mam!

FAITH

Good evening to you too.

LT ZIEGLER

Pulls back his jacket to reveal his detective badge clipped to his belt.

I'm lieutenant Ziegler L.A.P.D, flying squad.

FAITH

(smiling)

Slowly looks down towards his badge and then looks back up at his face.

I can see that honey.

DOUG

(shouting)

Who is it?

FAITH

(shouting)

Turns around.

Some detective guy.

DOUG

(shouting)

What's he want with us?

FAITH

If you give me a fucking chance I'll find out.

(smiling)

Looks back at Ziegler.

Sorry honey, I have a quiff for a husband.

LT ZIEGLER
(smiling)
I'm sure you have mam.

FAITH

Looking Ziegler up and down.

So, lieutenant what can I do for you.

LT ZIEGLER
I'm canvassing the neighbourhood,
there's been some trouble at 404.

DOUG
(shouting)
Faith, dear, Faith.

FAITH
What?

DOUG
What's he want.

FAITH
(shouting)

Turns around.

There's been some trouble at Bill's
place.

DOUG
(shouting)
What?

FAITH
There's been some trouble at Bill's
place, you fucking quiff.

DOUG

Gets up and makes his way to the front door.

Excuse me, my dears.

FAITH

Looks at Doug.

What the fuck do you want?

DOUG
(out of breath)
There's been what, where.

LT ZIEGLER

Looks Doug up and down.

FAITH

(sarcastically)

May I present my fucking husband, Doug
fucking Maclean.

LT ZIEGLER

Good evening sir.

DOUG

(slowly)

Looks Ziegler up and down.

Oh yes, and a good evening to you too.

Back in the parlour RV gets up from his seat and starts to
walk around the room.

RV

It's the cops, the cops.

GH

Calm down, my boy, calm down.

RV

Calm down. That's ok for you to say.
You didn't pull the trigger, did you,
no, it was me, fucking me.

GH

But it's my cigarette case in Bill's
apartment.

(pause)

Look, sit down Rudy, sit down, I'll
pour you another drink.

RV

Yes, I need a drink that's it, a
drink.

GH

Now calm down my dear boy. They have
no reason to suspect anything, unless.

RV

Unless what?

GH

They don't even know we're here, do
they!

Back at the front door.

LT ZIEGLER

What's all the hubbub, bub!

FAITH

Looks at Doug.

You wouldn't believe me if I told you.

LT ZIEGLER

Try me lady, who's there?

FAITH

A couple of friends.

LT ZIEGLER

Who?

DOUG

Rudolph Valentino and friend.

LT ZIEGLER

Who?

FAITH

(slowly)

Swaying moves closer to Ziegler.

Rudolph Valentino and friend.

LT ZIEGLER

Waves his hand in front of his face.

Your kidding, right!

DOUG

Slowly shakes his head.

LT ZIEGLER

Ah right, so those were the two, mm!

Steps back from both Faith and Doug. Looks both of them up and down.

So tell me, did you hear or see anything earlier on today.

FAITH

Looking at Doug.

No, we were fried, weren't we dear.

DOUG
(smiling)
Yes, we were.

LT ZIEGLER
What about Mr Valentino and friend?

Faith and Doug swaying back and forth look at each other.

FAITH
Fried as well, yeah we're all fried
up.

LT ZIEGLER
(smiling)

Tips his hat.

Ok, Mr and Mrs Maclean, thanks for
your time. Please give my regards to
Rudy and friend.

SCENE 16 EXT.NIGHT ALVARADO APARTMENTS/WEST MARYLAND ST.

Both Gareth and Rudy are walking passed WDT's apartment.

RV
(high and smiling)

Swaying back and forth, waves to Lindeberg and Rogers and
starts to walk towards them.

Hi, my dears, hi.

GH
(under his breath)

Grabs RV and pulls him back.

What the hell are you doing, are you
mad, my boy? Come here.

RV
You stick in the mud, I'm only having
a bit of fun, that's' all dear!

Both Lindeberg and Rogers look at each other, Rogers starts
to walk towards RV.

GH

Lifts his arm.

Sorry officer, I'm really sorry.

P.O ROGERS

Looks both GH and RV up and down. Tips back his hat and scratches his head. Then pulls out his nightstick and begins to point it at them.

I know you two, you've just come out of 406, haven't you?

GH

That's right officer, that's right.

P.O ROGERS

I thought so!

Takes a step towards RV and takes a long look at him, then turns to GH.

You look fried to me, I'd be very careful if I were you two, oh yes. Maybe I should call a wagon.

GH

Please don't! There's no need for any of that. We're on our way home, I promise.

P.O ROGERS

I don't know about that.

Looks towards Lindenberg.

Hey, Lindenberg, come here.

P.O LINDENBERG

What!

P.O ROGERS

Come here.

P.O LINDENBERG

Makes his way towards GH, RV and Rogers.

What the hell do you want now?

P.O ROGERS

Gestures towards GH and RV with his nightstick.

These two, what do you think.

P.O LINDENBERG

What about them?

P.O ROGERS

Do they look fried to you, do they?

P.O LINDENBERG

Takes a step towards both GH and RV and sniffs their breath.

Yep, they sure are.

Takes a step back and takes a long hard look at RV.

Wait a minute, I've seen that face
somewhere before, but where?

P.O ROGERS

Looks at RV and steps closer to him.

Yeah, now you mention it!

RV

Takes a step back from both Lindenberg and Rogers. He takes his handkerchief out of his jacket pocket and starts to wave it around and dance.

Gentlemen, don't you recognise me? I'm
Rudolph, Rudolph Valentino!

He continues to dance around Lindeberg and Rogers.

But you can call me Rudy, my dears.

Both officers take a step back from RV.

GH

(looking embarrassed)

Makes a grab for RV.

I'm really sorry, please forgive him.

P.O LINDENBERG

Looks at GH.

Hang on, I've seen you somewhere
before as well.

(pause)

I know, it's, it's, don't tell me.
That's right, it's Gareth, Gareth,
something, it'll come to me now?

GH

Nods his head slowly.

Gareth Hughes!

P.O LINDENBERG

Yes, Rudolph Valentino and Gareth um,
um.

GH

Hughes.

P.O LINDENBERG

Looks Rogers up and down.

I must apologise for my partner, he's
not a movie fan like me and the wife.

GH

That's ok officer, there not much
light here!

P.O LINDENBERG

Looks towards Rogers

I think we can let these two fine
gentlemen on their way! Wha do you
say, Rogers?

P.O ROGERS

(scowling)

Begins to put his nightstick away and looks at both GH and
RV.

I suppose so, ok Lindenberg, they can
go.

P.O LINDENBERG

(smiling)

Mr Valentino, Mr um

GH

Hughes!

P.O LINDENBERG

Yeah, that's right, both of you can be
on your way. Have a fine evening
gentleman.

P.O ROGERS

Gestures with his hand.

Yeah, on your way gentlemen.

Both GH and RV make their way down to Alvarado street.
Lindenberg and Rogers look on and then start to make their way back to WDT's apartment

P.O LINDBENBERG
(laughing)

Shaking his head turns to Rogers.

Rudolph Valentino, who would have believed it!

P.O ROGERS
(laughing)
And Gareth, um, um Hughes!

SCENE 17 EXT. NIGHT ALVARADO ST./WEST MARYLAND ST.

GH and RV make their way onto Alvarado Street, then turn right towards West Maryland Street.

GH
What the hell Rudy?

RV
(laughing)

He puts his arm around GH.

What's wrong dear?

GH

Pushes RV away.

What's wrong? You stupid bastard! What were you thinking!

RV

Shrugs his shoulders.

I don't know? I was only having a bit of fun with those Johns, that's all.

GH
This is serious stuff Rudy, you know that don't you?

RV
Of course, my dear, of course!

GH
(sarcastically)
Of course, my dear, he says!

RV
I didn't mean anything by it, it was
just a bit of fun. I just don't know
what came over me, I, I just don't!

GH
Gives RV a friendly clip on the back of the head.
Ok, ok, let's just forget.

RV
Nods his head.
Yes, ok, thanks.

Both GH and RV turn onto Maryland.

GH
Grabs RV by the arm and pulls him back.

Look when we get to Bill's place, we
need to be careful. No room for slip-
ups ok, you got that?

RV
Yes, of course, I have.

GH
Are you sure Rudy?

RV
Of course, I am, I'm not dumb!

GH
Ok then, as long as you've got things
straight.

RV
(sharply)
Yes, I have.

GH
(under his breath)
400, 402, 404. Here we are, Bill's
place.

Both GH and RV stop outside the back of WDT's apartment.

RV
What now?

GH

Looks up and down the street.

Ok, we need to get in without being seen.

RV
(loudly)
We!

GH
(under his breath)
Quiet Rudy! Those cops are still there!

RV
No, no way, I'm going back in there!
Not a chance! Not even your sweet smile will get me back in there!

GH

Looks around and scratches the back of his head.

Ok, ok.

RV
No, no way, dear no way.

GH
Ok, Rudy, ok, I heard you!

Looks up and down the street and then back at RV.

Ok, this is what we're going to do.

Grabs RV by the arm and pulls him closer.

GH
First, I need you to keep an eye out for those cops. So you need to go and stand over there by that corner, ok.

RV

Nods his head slowly.

Now, Gareth, now?

GH

Pulls RV back.

No, not yet! You need to help up there.

Points to a window.

RV

Up there?

GH

(sharply)

Yes, that's Bill's bedroom, if anyone should know, you should!

RV

Yes, ok, ok.

GH

Looks around and turns to RV.

Right, let's get on with it before anyone comes!

Both GH and RV move towards the bedroom window. They both take one last look around.

GH

Ok, Rudy, left me up!

Lifts up his leg.

RV

Stoops down and grabs GH by his leg.

GH

Come on, Rudy push.

RV

Ok, ok, I'm trying my best.

GH

Grabs the window sill, and pulls himself up.

Nearly there.

RV

(under breath)

Come on, you old queen, come on.

GH

Pushes the window open and climbs inside.

(quietly)
I'm in my dear boy, I'm in!

RV
(out of breath)

Leans against the wall.

Thank fuck...

GH
Did you hear me, Rudy, I'm in.

RV
Looks up at GH and nods his head slowly.

GH
(quietly)
Rudy, Rudy.

RV
Looks up at GH.

What?

GH
You need to go and keep a lookout for those cops, right!

RV
Ok, ok, I know.

Walks towards the corner of WDT's apartment and leans against the wall. Gets his cigarette case out, opens it, pulls out a cigarette, puts it in his mouth and lights it. Then has a look around. Shrugs his shoulders.

What a waste of time.

GH
Looks out of the bedroom window and shakes his head.

What does he think he's doing?

Starts to turn around.

(shocked)
What the fuck are you doing here?

Takes a step backwards.

ES

Steps out of the darkness holding a gun.