

*a Few Good Men 1*

INT. KAFFEE'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

JO and SAM are sitting in silence. It's dark outside.

JO

Where do you think he is?

keep it

SAM doesn't know. JO is beside herself, and trying to together.

JO

(continuing)

As far as Downey was concerned, it was an order from Kendrick. It didn't matter that he didn't hear it first hand. He doesn't distinguish between the two.

opens

SAM understands, but he doesn't say anything. The door and KAFFEE walks in.

JO

(continuing)

Danny. I'm sorry.

KAFFEE seems to be in an incredibly normal mood.

KAFFEE

Don't worry about it.

JO

Sam and I were just talking about how all we really have to do is call some witnesses who'll talk about implied orders...or maybe we put Downey back on the stand before we get to Dawson.

KAFFEE

Maybe if we work at it we can get Dawson charged with the Kennedy assassination.

JO studies KAFFEE for a moment.

JO

Are you drunk?

KAFFEE

(a simple answer)

Pretty much. Yeah.

JO

(pause)

I'll make a pot of coffee. We have a long night's work ahead.

KAFFEE

She's gonna make coffee. That's nice.

(beat)

He wasn't in his room.

(Kaffee's amazed)

He wasn't even there.

(beat)

That was an important piece of information, don't you think?

JO

(pause)

Danny, it was just a setback. I'm sorry. But we'll fix it and then move on to Markinson.

KAFFEE

Markinson's dead.

JO and SAM are frozen.

KAFFEE says this with no particular feeling one way or other.

the

KAFFEE

(continuing)

You really gotta hand it to those Federal Marshals, boy.

(he almost has to laugh)

It's not like he hanged himself by his shoelaces or slashed his wrists with a concealed butter knife. This guy got, into full dress uniform, stood in the middle of that room, drew a nickle plated pistol from his holster, and fired a bullet into his mouth.

Jo and SAM don't say anything.

KAFFEE

(continuing)

Anyway, since we seem to be out of witnesses, I thought I'd drink a little.

JO

I still think we can win.

KAFFEE

Then maybe you should drink a little.

JO  
Look, we'll go to Randolph in the morning  
and make a motion for a continuance. 24  
hours.

KAFFEE  
(beat)  
Why would we want to do that?

JO  
To subpoena Colonel Jessep.

KAFFEE  
What?

JO  
Listen for a second--

KAFFEE  
No.

JO  
Just hear me out--

KAFFEE  
No. I won't listen to you and I won't hear  
you out. Your passion is comforting, Jo.  
It's also useless. Private Downey needed  
a trial lawyer today.

JO  
(pause)  
You chicken-shit. You're gonna use what  
happened today as an excuse to give up.

KAFFEE  
It's over!

JO  
Why did you ask Jessep for the transfer  
order?

KAFFEE  
What are you--

JO  
In Cuba. why did you ask Jessep for the  
transfer order?

KAFFEE  
What does it matter--

JO

Why?!

KAFFEE

I wanted the damn transfer order!

JO

Bullshit! You could've gotten it by picking up the phone and calling any one of a dozen departments at the Pentagon. You didn't want the transfer order. You wanted to see Jessep's reaction when you asked for the transfer order. You had an instinct. And it was confirmed by Markinson. Now damnit, let's put Jessep on the stand and end this thing!

KAFFEE

What possible good could come from putting Jessep on the stand?

JO

He told Kendrick to order the Code Red.

KAFFEE

He did?! Why didn't you say so!? That's great! And of course you have proof of that.

JO

I--

KAFFEE

Ah, I keep forgetting: You were sick the day they taught law at law school.

JO

You put him on the stand and you get it from him!

KAFFEE

Yes. No problem. We get it from him.

(to SAM)

Colonel, isn't it true that you ordered the Code Red on Santiago?

SAM

Look, we're all a little--

KAFFEE

I'm sorry, your time's run out. What do we have for the losers, Judge? Well, for our defendants it's a lifetime at exotic Fort Levenworth. And for defense counsel Kaffee? That's right--It's-- A Court-Martial. Yes, Johnny, after falsely accusing a marine officer of conspiracy,

Lt. Kaffee will have a long and prosperous career teaching typewriter maintenance at the Rocco Columbo School for Women. Thank you for playing "Should We or Should-We-Not Follow the Advice of the Galacticly Stupid".

A

And with one motion, he knocks everything from his desk.

ton of papers, books, files, etc., falls to the floor.

There's dead silence. Maybe just the sound of KAFFEE breathing after this exhausting outburst.

Finally...

JO

I'm sorry I lost you your set of steak knives.

slams

Jo picks up her purse and coat and walks out. The door behind her.