

Points Of View

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FADE IN:

INT. POLICE STATION - DAY

Two POLICE OFFICERS, RAYMOND BURR (45) and JOHN SCHOLLES (38) lead a YOUNG MAN in cuffs through a hallway and into a cell.

The man is MARSHAL GROVES, he is barely fourteen years old. He wears a nosering and below his shirt, the edges of a big tattoo are visible on his neck.

Marshal has a strong build for his age, definitely a threatening posture.

MARSHAL

Come on suckers, let me go. How many more times do we want to go through this?

JOHN

You better shut it, kid.

MARSHAL

Or what? You know you got no proof as always and the judge will let me out again. Don't you have anything better to do?

Without a further reaction, the police officers make him sit down on a bench in the cell.

They exit the cell and lock up the door.

JOHN

You wait here for the youth welfare, and I don't wanna hear anything from you, is that clear?

MARSHAL

Yeah, whatever you say.

JOHN

Fine.

The officers leave.

Marshal looks around in the cell and rolls his eyes.

He waits a few moments then gets up from the bench and leans on the cell door.

MARSHAL

(loud)

Hey, how long do you want me to sit here and stare at the walls?

No reply.

MARSHAL

(louder)

Hey man, I've done nothing wrong,
you just can't do this!

Still no reply.

Marshal seems on the edge. He gives the cell door a heavy kick in rage, then plummets back down on the bench. His face reveals he is really pissed off.

A few moments later, he hears a DOOR open up. FOOTSTEPS approach his cell.

MAN (O.S.)

Hey man, ain't I allowed to make a
call? I wanna call my lawyer so he
can come over here and kick your
guys asses!

JOHN (O.S.)

Oh yeah right, I'm sure a guy like
you has a star lawyer on hand.

The two police officers chuckle as they come close to the cell. They've got TONY MILLER cuffed as well. Tony is in his early twenties, but he looks worn out.

His skin is pale and he is rather lean. Too much alcohol and drugs left their marks on him.

The officers open the cell door and park Tony next to Marshal on the bench.

Tony stares at Marshal with a disturbed look.

TONY

What the hell? What about my phone
call?

The officers leave the cell again and lock up the door.

JOHN

You can make your call after we
spoke to the witness.

Tony breaks out in a boastful laughter.

TONY

Witness? That granny wouldn't even
recognize her own grandchild, man!
Are you serious?

John shakes his head and the officers walk off.

TONY

Man, these jerks.

Tony turns to Marshal who pointedly ignores him so far.

TONY

And what about you kiddo? What the hell are you doing here?

Marshal doesn't answer. Tony goes on to mock him.

TONY

Did you steal your nanny's bra?

Tony laughs out loud about his own joke, Marshal slowly turns his head at him and eyes him with a threatening look.

MARSHAL

Better thank god I'm cuffed or I'd show you first hand why I'm here.

Tony dives into eccentric excitement. His speaking descends into baby talk.

TONY

Uhhh, a tough guy. I'm soo scared of the little champ! Hahahaha!

Marshal frowns and turns his head away again while Tony is about to freak out and can't stop laughing.

TONY

Shall I call your mommy when I'm outta here?

More eccentric laughing.

MARSHAL

What makes you so sure you'll get outta here any time soon?

While Tony talks he still fights a laughing fit.

TONY

These.. haha.. these jerks believe that grandma is able to identify me. She.. Hahaha.. She was picking up her dog's shit when I knocked out that bitch and took her purse.

MARSHAL

You knocked her out?

TONY

Hahaha, yeah, more or less.. She didn't see my cudgel coming when I slammed it over her head.. Hahaha..

A smile crosses Marshal's face.

MARSHAL

Sometimes it's almost too easy isn't it?

Tony stares at him in surprise. After a moment he breaks out into even more crazy laughing.

TONY
Hahahahaha, almost too easy he says.. Hahahaha! I like you kid! Hahaha.. What's your name?

MARSHAL
I'm Marshal.

TONY
I'm Tony but people call me Toke, don't ask me why.

MARSHAL
Toke, huh?

TONY
Yeah, I know it's dumb, but you get used to it..

Tony's laughter calms down into an occasional chuckle.

TONY
So tell me, what did you do?

MARSHAL
That teacher made me look like an idiot in front of the class, had to teach him a lesson.

TONY
You hit your teacher?

MARSHAL
Nope.

Tony looks at him curiously.

MARSHAL
I battered him, then locked him up in the girl's toilet.

Tony is baffled for a moment, then breaks out into weird laughing again.

TONY
Hahahahaha, you're a right one!
HAHAHAHAHAHAHAHA.

He almost topples off the bench, Marshal puts up a complacent grin.

Tony slowly recovers himself.

TONY
What you think they'll do with you?

MARSHAL
Nothing, as always.

TONY
(surprised)
How so?

MARSHAL
See, that teacher learned his lesson now. If he sings, I'll maybe get some community service or something, but he knows I'll come back to the school sooner or later.

TONY
(impressed)
You sure he'll hold his tongue?

MARSHAL
I told him what I'd do with his wife if he doesn't - so yeah!

Another laughing tirade by Tony.

TONY
Damn it, you're really okay, man.

MARSHAL
Thanks.

FOOTSTEPS are heard in the distance again. Tony and Marshal shut up immediately.

The steps come closer and an about thirty year old woman approaches the cell. This is JENNA HARRIS.

JENNA
Hello Marshal.

MARSHAL
(dismissive)
Miss Harris..

Tony's face reveals he's getting horny.

TONY
Hey man, you know her? Don't you want to introduce me?

JENNA
Do you want to tell me what happened in school this time?

MARSHAL
You mean with MR. PARSONS? I found him locked up in the girl's toilet and wanted to help him. Just in that moment Mrs. Johnson came in and blamed me for that mess.

Jenna eyes him angrily, Tony chuckles at Marshal's explanation.

JENNA

Do you think I'm totally dumb?

Marshal rolls his eyes and plays innocent some more.

MARSHAL

If you don't believe me, why don't you ask Mr. Parsons what happened?

JENNA

I will do just that.

She shakes her head.

JENNA

Really, Marshal - I wonder what is wrong with you? How can a boy of your age have absolutely no empathy for other people?

Marshal is amused about that comment.

MARSHAL

Empathy? ... Come on..

Jenna seems awkward upon his behaviour.

JENNA

You wait here, I'll have a talk to Mr. Parsons.

MARSHAL

Do that, and greet him from me.

Jenna walks off.

TONY

Man, she's hot.

MARSHAL

She's a dumb bitch. Thinks she can heal the world, you know?

TONY

Dumb or not, she's hot stuff, boy.

MARSHAL

Yeah right, good luck with it. I'm sure all her sainthood made her frigid anyway.

Tony breaks out into laughter again.

TONY

Maybe she's just waiting for the right one.

MARSHAL

And that be you, huh?

TONY

Hahaha, I can be very convincing..
If you know what I mean..

A dirty smile crosses Marshal's face.

A DOOR opens up somewhere, FOOTSTEPS approach the cell again. It's John again.

JOHN

(to Tony)

Get up, time for your phone call.

TONY

Finally, I already thought about
filing a complaint about you.

Tony gets up from the bench and the officer lets him out of the cell. He leads him to a phone on the wall across the cell.

JOHN

Five minutes, not a second longer.

The officer removes the cuffs from Tony's wrists and hands him the earphone. Tony takes it and dials a number.

TONY

This is Tony Miller, Mr. Banks is
my lawyer. I've been arrested and
need to speak with him.

(beat)

Yeah okay, I'm waiting.

More FOOTSTEPS in the distance, John turns around.

RAYMOND (O.S.)

Hey John, look at this.

John takes a few steps towards Raymond, the two officers meet in front of the cell, Marshal watches them while Tony is on the phone talking to his lawyer in the background.

Raymond hands John a printout.

JOHN

What is it?

Raymond whispers something into John's ear.

John's face turns into stone.

JOHN

You mean..?

RAYMOND

Yes..

JOHN

His mother?

Raymond nods, John turns his face to Marshal.

MARSHAL

You talking about me? What's up
with my mother?

John and Raymond eye each other, then John turns back to
Marshal.

JOHN

Wait here and be quiet, I'll call
Miss Harris.

(to Raymond)

Keep an eye on him.

He nods at Tony on the phone and walks off.

MARSHAL

(to Raymond)

Hey, what's going on? Is my mother
here? Did you call her?

Raymond frowns then turns to Tony who is still speaking.

RAYMOND

Hey, your time is up!

Tony doesn't react and keeps talking.

TONY

(on the phone)

.. okay, but hurry over here, I'm
sure they'll try to pin something
on me.

Raymond walks over to the phone and ends the call.

TONY

Hey man, what the..

RAYMOND

Five minutes are up. You come with
me now.

Raymond pushes Tony against the wall and puts the cuffs back
in place.

TONY

(yelling)

Man, that's police brutality! When
my lawyer is done with you you'll
end up writing parking tickets!

RAYMOND

You better shut up man. This time
you've gone too far. That woman you
attacked is in coma, better pray
she doesn't die.

Raymond leads Tony away through the hallway, he keeps
yelling.

TONY (O.S.)

The woman I attacked? I attacked
nobody, I'm an upright citizen!
This whole thing is purely
arbitrary!

RAYMOND (O.S.)

If she dies, you can tell that to
the guy with the lethal injection.

A door slams and Marshal is left alone in silence.

He waits a few moments, then gets up from the bench and
leans his head on the cell door.

MARSHAL

(loud)

Mum? Are you there?

No response.

MARSHAL

(louder)

Mum?

Nothing.

He shakes his head and sits down on the bench again.

He sits in silence until another DOOR opens and Jenna's
footsteps come closer to the cell again. She arrives with an
angry look.

JENNA

Mr. Parsons confirmed your story,
you're off the hook.

MARSHAL

See? I told you..

JENNA

Shut up. We both know he's lying.
What did you threaten him with?

Marshal puts up an innocent face.

MARSHAL

What are you talking about? Are you
paranoid or something?

Jenna's answer is interrupted by another door and more footsteps. Jenna turns around to the person approaching.

It's John. He whispers something into Jenna's ear. Jenna's eyes focus Marshal with consternation as he speaks.

JENNA

(to John)

And there is no doubt?

John shakes his head.

JENNA

I understand, we'll take care for him.

JOHN

Okay.

John unlocks the cell and walks to Marshal.

JOHN

Get up.

Marshal complies, John takes off his cuffs.

JOHN

You will go with Miss Harris now, she'll bring you to a youth asylum.

MARSHAL

A youth asylum? Why? Didn't Mr. Parsons clear this up? Can't I go home?

John eyes Jenna then gives Marshal a clap on the shoulder.

JOHN

Good luck, boy.

John walks off.

JENNA

Come on, lets go.

MARSHAL

Go? What the heck.. Tell me what's going on already.

JENNA

Marshal.. I don't know how to start. That man who was there with you in the cell before.. He attacked a woman to steal her money.

MARSHAL

Fine, and what does that have to do with me?

JENNA
Well.. That woman..

MARSHAL
Don't keep me in suspense..

JENNA
Marshal, that woman was your
mother.

Marshal's face turns to horror.

JENNA
She's in the hospital, the doctors
are doing what's in their power.
She can't care for you now, so
we'll have to shelter you somewhere
for the time being.

Marshal stands there with an open mouth, he seems apathetic.

Jenna puts an arm around him.

JENNA
Come now.

They walk through the hallway towards the exit. Half way, a
door opens up. Raymond and Mr. Parsons step out.

The teacher's face is strewn with bruises and he becomes
frightened as he spots Marshal in the hallway.

Marshal stops for a moment and looks right into the
teacher's eyes, then walks on with Jenna.

A few steps later, he stops again and turns around to
Mr.Parsons.

MARSHAL
Mr. Parsons, I just wanted to say
I'm sorry.

He turns around again and leaves the building with Jenna.

FADE OUT.