

SCAPEGOAT

by

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ROLL OPENING CREDITS

FADE IN:

EXT. PARK - NIGHT

A small park with no one around, solitude. The trees stand as sentinels around a paved jogging path.

A WOMAN jogs solo down the path listening to her headphones. We cannot see the woman's face clearly. A blur of motion from the trees and the woman is tackled by a MAN, her headphones break as they hit the ground.

She struggles aggressively, but he pins her hands down above her head as he holds a knife to her belly.

He leans down and whispers.

MAN

This will all be over soon.

He licks the beads of sweat off her cheek. He works one-handed, while holding the knife to her throat, he pulls her jogging shorts free.

FADE OUT:

THE SOUND OF THE WOMAN SCREAMING.

TITLE CARD: SIX MONTHS LATER

INT. HOUSE - DAY

A small but quaint home with all the furnishings of suburbia.

WILLIAM KAINE, an imposing figure not so much in physique as in attitude. Kaine is in his late fifties.

He dresses in the uniform of a corrections officer. His many awards for service watch him from the walls.

INT. KITCHEN

The table is set for four people. Kaine's wife, SUSAN, fixes breakfast, ham and eggs, at the stove. His daughter EMILY, fifteen, is at the table. Kaine sits at the head of the table. Susan places breakfast on the table and sits. The family eyes the unoccupied place at the table.

Without a word Kaine gathers the plate and silverware from the vacant spot at the table and passes it to Susan. Susan places the plate in the cupboard. She starts to cry. Kaine gets up to comfort her.

KAINE
(softly)
You need to let it go.

Kaine and Susan make it back to the table. The family bows their heads.

KAINE
(continuing)
Emily, please.

EMILY
Dear God, thank you for this food.
Thank you for our home. Please
comfort us in our time of need,
and please punish the sinners.

Kaine smiles to himself.

EMILY
(continuing)
Amen.

EXT. PRISON - DAY

A crib of scum in all it's glory. A sign reads PENNSYLVANIA STATE PENITENTIARY The sky is as dark as the prison itself.

INT. PRISON - DAY

JEFF KELLEY, in his late twenties, decked out in a correction officer's uniform, walks the halls with a Jansport backpack in tow. He cuts left down a flight of stairs. He looks back and forth cautiously.

INT. STORAGE ROOM - DAY

The storage room holds cabinets of cleaning materials as well as forgotten supplies from over the years.

Jeff takes off the backpack and withdraws a JVC video camera from it. He checks the battery life and takes off the lens cap. He surveys the ceiling. He moves and stack of wooden boxes underneath an air duct.

Jeff climbs the pyramid of crates and dislodges the vent cover. He places the camera inside and replaces the vent cover. He moves the boxes to their original position. He leaves the storage room the way he found it, empty and dark.

INT. STORAGE ROOM - LATER

The door swings open. In comes Kaine, dragging a resisting inmate, DARYL WILCOX. Daryl is a skinny, wimp of a man. White trash through and through. His voice is silenced by a strip of duct tape.

Kaine handcuffs Daryl to an exposed pipe, arms over his head. Daryl struggles aggressively.

Kaine unbuttons his uniform shirt, exposing a "wife beater" tank-top. He pulls a nightstick from his belt.

KAINE

Let me tell you the reason I've brought you here, Daryl.

Kaine struts his stuff.

KAINE

(continuing)

I've been here for twenty-five years working my ass off. Day in and day out I see fuckers like you go free. While you're here you get free room and board, cable television and three square meals a day. Hell, I don't even have cable television, but I do eat better than you, thanks to my wife. You know if someone like you were in Russia and were convicted, you'd be shot on the spot.

Daryl watches with fear glazing in his eyes.

KAINE

(continuing)

So, when do you get out Daryl?

Daryl mumbles.

KAINE

(continuing)

This week isn't it?

(instantly angry)

You wife beating son of a bitch.

She's dead and you're alive.

What's wrong with this picture? No justice, no punishment. I say an eye for an eye. What do you think?

Kaine rips the duct tape from Daryl's mouth. Daryl screams.

DARYL

Fuck you!

KAINE

Fuck me!? That's it? That's all
you have to say for yourself? I
say, fuck you!

Kaine lashes out with his nightstick striking repeatedly across Daryl's ribs. Daryl struggles against the handcuffs making his wrists bleed. Kaine hits him against his thighs and knees.

THE SOUND OF BONES CRACKING as the nightstick makes contact.

Kaine takes a breather.

KAINE

(continuing)

Had enough?

Daryl struggles to breathe.

KAINE

(continuing)

What?

Kaine creeps next to Daryl almost placing his ear against Daryl's mouth, but just out of reach.

DARYL

(whispering labored)

Go fuck yourself.

Kaine steps back and brings the nightstick down with all his fury across Daryl's jaw. Daryl slumps.

Kaine paces back and forth admiring the damage. He hurriedly puts the nightstick back in his belt and grabs his uniform shirt.

Kaine opens the door and peeks out his head.

INT. BOTTOM OF STAIRS

A larger than-life black man, dressed in the garb of a corrections officer. This is ISAAC DANSK, he's one twitchy guy, always on edge.

Dansk is leaning against the wall with a halfway finished cigarette.

KAINE

Make sure no one's coming. I'll
bring him out.

Dansk throws down the cigarette stomping it out.

INT. STORAGE ROOM

Kaine finishes buttoning his shirt and tucks it in. He
uncuffs the limp form of Daryl and drags him out the door.

INT. HALLWAY

DANSK

Jesus Christ! I thought you were
going to go easy on him.

KAINE

He pissed me off.

DANSK

He looks like he's dead.

KAINE

What are you? A fucking doctor or
something?

DANSK

You know, he'll probably squeal.

KAINE

No he won't.

Dansk throws Daryl's limp form over his shoulder. Kaine
inspects the area as they leave.

KAINE

(continuing)

Let's go.

INT. PRISON SHOWERS - DAY

An empty, white sanitized group shower.

Kaine and Dansk carry the naked body of Daryl, one holding
his arms the other his legs.

KAINE

Put him down.

DANSK

I don't know about this.

Dansk wipes the sweat beaded on his forehead with a handkerchief.

DANSK
(continuing)
Sooner or later someone is going to find out. We're going to get caught. We're going to get caught.

Kaine gets in Dansk's face.

KAINE
Are you going pussy on me?

Dansk backs away from Kaine.

DANSK
No sir. I'm just saying I think you need to chill a little.

KAINE
Don't tell me what to do. This will all blow over. Just a routine work over from one of the gangs.

INT. SHOWERS - LATER

A group of THREE INMATES enter the shower wrapped in towels.

INMATE#1
Holy, sweet Jesus!

Daryl's body remains in the same place, horribly disfigured. Blood stains the once white walls a deep crimson. Blood covers everything. On Daryl's chest is carved one word, EZEKIEL. Underneath the word is carved the reference 7:3.

INMATE#2
Mother fucker!

Inmate#1 runs from the shower with apparent fear.

INMATE#3
We better get someone, man.

The inmates leave the shower and Daryl's body behind. Blood, fresh and glistening, covers the tile floor.

EXT. PRISON COURTYARD- DAY

Behind chain link fences topped with razor wire is a 1998 white Ford Econoline coroner's van.

CORRECTIONS OFFICERS mill about watching TWO CORONER'S ASSISTANTS load the covered body of Daryl Wilcox into the back of the van. Dansk and Kaine are part of the crowd. Behind the fences INMATES rubberneck the scene.

The warden, THOMAS MILLER, in his late sixties, is a pure bureaucrat, quick to look good in the public eye. He and the CORONER are at the steps to the entrance of the prison spectating and chatting.

WARDEN MILLER

Now, let's keep this hush-hush.
With all that's happened over the
past months we don't need the
extra exposure.

The Warden shakes the Coroner's hand slipping him a fifty dollar bill in the process.

CORONER

Mum's the word, but this is the
forth one. If this keeps up and
the word gets out, which it will
sooner or later.

WARDEN MILLER

Yeah, yeah, I know. Any idea as to
what this Ezekiel thing means?

CORONER

Looks like some kind of bible
reference to me, but then again
I'm agnostic, so what do I know?

The coroner turns and goes to the van. The warden scans the gathered crowd and spots Kaine talking to Dansk.

DANSK

Do you think the Warden knows
anything?

Dansk wipes sweat from his head, tossing his cigarette butt on the ground. He lights another one.

KAINE

He doesn't know anything. He
couldn't tell his ass from a hole
in the ground unless I point it
out for him. He's too caught up in
his politics and worried about the
upcoming election.

The Warden comes up from behind Kaine.

DANSK
Coming up on your six.

Kaine turns around to greet the Warden.

KAINE
Hello, sir...

WARDEN MILLER
Spare me the bullshit Kaine. I
want to see you in my office in
five minutes.

The Warden leaves.

KAINE
Asshole.

DANSK
I'm telling you, he knows.

Kaine shakes his head and smirks.

KAINE
Dansk, if that smoking doesn't
kill you, an ulcer will.

Kaine leaves Dansk alone to finish his cigarette.

INT. WARDEN'S OFFICE - DAY

Golf memorabilia is strung throughout the warden's office. Pictures of golf celebrities shaking hands with the Warden especially stand out. A few campaign posters and signs stand out with his slogan THOMAS MILLER "HE KEEPS OUR COMMUNITY SAFE".

Warden Miller sits behind his desk with bible in hand.

WARDEN MILLER
Let's see...

He flips pages.

WARDEN MILLER
(continuing)
Ezekiel 7:3. Here we are
(He reads)
"Now is the end come upon thee,
and I will send mine anger upon
thee, and will judge thee
according to thy ways, and will
recompense upon thee all thine
abominations."

THE SOUND OF A KNOCK ON THE DOOR.

Warden Miller sets the bible back on his desk.

WARDEN MILLER
(continuing)
Come in.

Kaine strides in, sure of himself.

WARDEN MILLER
(continuing)
Take a seat, Kaine.

Kaine sits.

WARDEN MILLER
(continuing)
What the fuck is going on in here?
Four murders in the past six
months? Do you know how this will
make me look?

KAINE
I'm sorry sir. I'm working on it.

WARDEN MILLER
Do you have any idea who this
Ezekiel killer is?

KAINE
No, not yet.

WARDEN MILLER
(sarcastically)
Well there's a surprise. If you
were doing your job and didn't
treat this place like it's your
own personal playground, maybe you
would know something by now.

KAINE

What do you want me to do? I can't be everywhere at once.

WARDEN MILLER

Well, you better figure out how. I'm sick of this bullshit. It makes me look bad. Sometime the media's going to get a hold of this and then the governor will withdraw his support because of public opinion. You're getting weak Kaine. If I don't see some improvement, you may be looking for a new job soon. Got it?

KAINE

Yes sir.

WARDEN MILLER

Get the hell out of here.

Kaine rises with contained fury and turns to leave.

WARDEN MILLER

(continuing)

I mean it Kaine. I want results. You find out who's doing this, or you'll be the one to hang.

Kaine shakes his head in disgust and exits.

Warden Miller gets up from his desk and goes to a coffee maker nearby. He pours himself a steaming cup. He picks up the phone from his desk.

WARDEN MILLER

(continuing)

Fran, get the governor on the phone. I'll wait.

The Warden takes a drink and promptly misses his mouth and spills on his cheap silk shirt.

WARDEN MILLER

(continuing)

Shit!

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

Dansk waits in the hall, wiping sweat from his forehead.

Kaine casually approaches.

DANSK
How'd it go?

KAINE
Same old shit. He's just concerned
about his audience.

DANSK
So, what do we do now?

KAINE
We crack a few heads and pin it on
someone.

DANSK
Anyone in particular?

KAINE
No one yet, but someone's bound to
piss me off today.

INT. PRISON STORAGE ROOM - DAY

Jeff closes the door and sets down the backpack. He moves some of the storage crates underneath the duct and climbs up on the crate and retrieves the camera from its hiding place.

He checks the camcorder and climbs down from the crates and stuffs it into the backpack. He puts the vent cover back in place and moves the storage crates back to their original position. He leaves the storage room.

INT. JEFF'S HOUSE - NIGHT

In the kitchen Jeff and his wife ANDREA eat homemade meatloaf. Andrea is the same age as Jeff and very petite. It's obvious that she is eight months pregnant.

Jeff heartily scarfs the meatloaf.

JEFF
This is great, honey.

He holds his plate out for seconds. Andrea cuts a piece and puts it on Jeff's plate.

ANDREA
(melancholy)
Thanks.

JEFF
(concerned)
What's wrong, honey?

Andrea plays with her food while she speaks.

ANDREA
I don't know.

JEFF
Sure ya do. You can tell me.

She hesitates. Jeff reaches for her hand and squeezes it gently.

ANDREA
I just don't feel good.

JEFF
What, is the baby giving you
problems?

ANDREA
No, it's not that.

A beat.

ANDREA
(continuing)
Well yeah, it is.

She stands up and backs away from the table.

ANDREA
(continuing)
I feel so...so...

JEFF
I know how you feel.

Andrea breaks in sharply.

ANDREA
No. You don't know how I feel.
This has never happened to you.

Jeff stands up and goes to Andrea. She reaches out and stops him. Jeff reaches out for her and she collapses in his arms a mass of anger and frustration. He caresses her hair.

JEFF
Everything will be alright.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Jeff sits hunched close to the television in the living room, remote in hand. The sound is low on the television. ON THE TV, we see played before us, Kaine beating Daryl Wilcox. Jeff stops the tape and rewinds it, starting it from the beginning.

A half-asleep Andrea enters in a silk nightgown. She startles Jeff.

ANDREA

Jeff, when are you coming to bed?

Jeff quickly pushes stop on the remote and the TV screen goes blue.

JEFF

I just finished up honey, I'll be in soon. Why don't you go back to bed?

ANDREA

I can't sleep.

JEFF

Did you remember to take your vitamin?

ANDREA

No, I forgot.

JEFF

Go back to bed and I'll bring it to you when I come in.

Andrea starts to head back to bed. Jeff ejects the tape from the VCR and stuffs the tape back in the backpack.

ANDREA

What's that for?

JEFF

Just a little something I've been working on.

Jeff zips up the backpack and ushers Andrea towards the bedroom. Worried, he watches her go.

INT. PRISON BREAK ROOM - DAY

A small kitchen like area. A coffee maker sits on the counter next to the sink.

Jeff mixes a fresh pot of coffee alone. Kaine and Dansk enter talking.

KAINE
(to Jeff)
Hey pour me one while your at it.

JEFF
I was just going to ask if you wanted some. Can I get some for you too, Dansk?

DANSK
No thanks. Don't have time, I gotta go check on something.
(to Kaine)
See you later.

KAINE
Yep.

Dansk leaves the break room. Jeff brings over two cups of steaming coffee. He hands one to Kaine.

KAINE
(continuing)
So, how are you liking it here?

JEFF
It's taken some time but I think I'm getting used to it.

KAINE
You never really do get used to it. The prisoners stay here and we get to go home at night and bang our wives.

JEFF
Does it ever get to you?

KAINE
At one point or another it gets to all of us. Thank God for retirement.

JEFF
Any pointers on how to deal with it?

KAINE
With what?

JEFF

The pressure.

KAINE

You'll find a way. We all do. You've only been here a little while, you're barely skimming the surface. After twenty-five years, I'm sure you'll find something.

JEFF

Does it ever get to you, to know that hardened convicts are walking the streets? They come in here and then they leave, right back out in the open. No sense of being punished, no guilt, no justice.

Kaine takes a long sip from his coffee.

KAINE

Stop pissing on my leg and spit it out.

Jeff looks hard into Kaine's eyes.

JEFF

Daryl Wilcox was no accident was it? The inmates didn't kill him, did they? How long did you think you'd get away with it?

Kaine throws down his cup of coffee and reaches over the table and grabs Jeff by his collar hauling him over the table, turning it over. He stands up and throws Jeff against the wall. Kaine holds him there one-handed over the throat.

KAINE

Listen to me you little fuck! I was running this place before your dad shot his wad into your mom! I run it how I see fit! If you still want your job you better keep your mouth shut and mind your own fucking business! Got it?!

Kaine stares hard into Jeff waiting for an answer, but Jeff is mute. Kaine releases him and exits the break room. Jeff straightens his shirt and tie.

He reaches in his pants pocket and withdraws a Sony mini-cassette recorder. He pushes a button and the recorder stops.

EXT. PRISON EXERCISE YARD - DAY

SEVERAL INMATES are out and about. Some lift weights, others play basketball, and some talk like old ladies in sewing circles.

Dansk hovers on the outskirts watching and waiting.

DANSK
(to himself)
This is fucked up, fucked up.
We're gonna get caught. Fuck!
Fucking Kaine!

He wipes sweat from his forehead with a hanky and lights up a smoke. Kaine approaches Dansk from behind.

KAINE
We got a problem.

DANSK
Fuck! Fuck, I knew it.

KAINE
Calm down, don't get your panties
in a wad. I took care of it.

DANSK
Jesus Christ, I knew this was
going to happen. Who's on to us?

KAINE
Kelley, but keep your cool, he
doesn't have any proof. Nobody
would believe him over me, right.

Dansk looks hard at Kaine. A tense moment passes between them. Kaine grabs Dansk by the front of the shirt.

KAINE
(continuing)
Right?

DANSK
(softly)
Yeah. Yeah, you're right.

Dansk again wipes his forehead.

KAINE

Everything is under control, just keep your mouth shut. Why don't you go get a drink?

DANSK

I'll do that.

Dansk walks off like he has a stick up his ass, nervous as ever.

Kaine turns around and crosses his arms, a symbol of power, as he surveys the yard. TWO INMATES playing basketball start arguing and shoving one another. It soon turns into an all out fight. A circle of inmates form to cheer on the brawlers. Kaine rushes over.

Kaine reaches down and grabs one inmate by the neck hauling him off the other.

KAINE

Knock this shit off!

The inmate on the ground accidentally kicks Kaine. Kaine throws the inmate he has collared down.

Kaine's baton appears in his hand as if by magic. He lowers it down onto the inmate on the ground. Beating him repeatedly. The inmate struggles at first against Kaine's blows but then goes unconscious. Kaine stops, breathing heavily, he sheaths his baton. The inmates in the circle have grown silent.

KAINE

(continuing)

What the fuck are you all looking at? Get out of here before I put you all on lock down.

Kaine pushes through the mass of inmates and disappears from the yard.

INT. WARDEN'S OFFICE - DAY

Warden Miller is practicing putting on one of those putting greens, the kind that spits back your ball. He shoots and misses the putt.

WARDEN MILLER

Damn it!

THE SOUND OF A KNOCK AT THE DOOR.

WARDEN MILLER
(continuing)
Come in.

Jeff enters with his backpack in tow.

WARDEN MILLER
(continuing)
Hello Mr....Kelley, isn't it?

JEFF
That's right. Just call me Jeff,
sir.

The warden continues putting.

WARDEN MILLER
Okay, Jeff, what can I help you
with?

Jeff looks around the office at all the golf memorabilia. He goes to a picture of Chi Chi Rodriguez.

JEFF
Is this Chi Chi Rodriguez?

Warden Miller looks up from aligning a putt.

WARDEN MILLER
Yes it is. You a golf fan?

JEFF
No, not really. I played once and
got something like fifty-five over
par. I'm pretty good at miniature
golf though.

Warden Miller chuckles. He puts down the putter and sits behind his desk.

WARDEN MILLER
Take a seat.

Jeff sits and places the backpack on the floor.

WARDEN MILLER
(continuing)
So, what can I help you with?

JEFF
Well sir, I have some information
you might be interested in.

WARDEN MILLER

Really? What kind of information?

JEFF

Some that might be damaging to your campaign.

The warden shows mild concern.

WARDEN MILLER

Go on.

JEFF

The murders that are happening around here aren't being committed by inmates. They're being done by one of us.

WARDEN MILLER

What do you mean? Who?

JEFF

Captain Kaine, sir.

WARDEN MILLER

Kaine? That's impossible! I know that he has a short temper, but he's been here for twenty-five years. He'd never jeopardize his career by going as far as murder.

JEFF

He puts on a good act sir, but he has some extracurricular activities that you are probably not aware of. I have proof.

WARDEN MILLER

(surprised)

By all means, show me what proof you have.

Jeff opens his backpack and retrieves the mini-cassette recorder. He pushes play.

JEFF (V.O.)

Daryl Wilcox was no accident was it? The inmates didn't kill him, did they? How long did you think you'd get away with it?

KAINE (V.O.)

Listen to me you little fuck! I was running this place before your dad shot a wad into your mom! I run it how I see fit! If you still want your job you better keep your mouth shut and mind your own fucking business! Got it?!

Jeff pushes stop on the recorder.

WARDEN MILLER

That doesn't prove anything Mr. Kelley. And it certainly wouldn't hold up in court. More over, it doesn't damage my reputation at all.

JEFF

Maybe not, but this will.

Jeff retrieves a video tape from the back pack. Jeff indicates a Zenith TV/VCR combo in the office.

JEFF

(continuing)

May I?

WARDEN MILLER

Please.

Jeff gets up and goes to the TV/VCR. Warden Miller gets up and goes to the coffee maker. He pours himself a cup.

WARDEN MILLER

(continuing)

Would you like any?

JEFF

No thanks.

The warden sits down again behind his desk with his cup of coffee. Jeff pushes the power button and pops the tape in. He pushes play.

ON THE TV we see Kaine beating Daryl Wilcox.

The warden takes a sip of coffee, upon seeing Kaine on the screen he gags on the coffee spilling it down his front.

WARDEN MILLER

Shit! I've seen enough, turn it off.

Jeff pushes the stop button. The warden dabs a napkin down his front. Jeff takes the tape and stuffs it back in the back pack.

WARDEN MILLER

(continuing)

Fuck! If the media gets a hold of this my campaign will be over. The governor is not going to be happy. How did you get a hold of this?

JEFF

I guess you could say that I have some extracurricular activities of my own.

WARDEN MILLER

What do you want?

Jeff gets up and heads towards the door.

JEFF

Warden I'm not doing this for money or for favors. I just want to see Kaine behind bars.

Jeff exits the office.

Warden Miller picks up the phone and pushes a button. He waits patiently.

WARDEN MILLER

This is Warden Miller down at the prison. Can you send a unit over?

He hangs up the phone.

WARDEN MILLER

(continuing)

Son of a bitch!

INT. PRISON CAFETERIA - DAY

Rows and rows of fold-down bench tables occupied with inmates chowing down on what could pass as food.

Kaine keeps a vigil on the inmates.

Two uniformed, POLICE OFFICERS enter.

POLICE OFFICER #1
Captain William Kaine?

KAINE
Yes.

POLICE OFFICER #1
Would you please come with us, sir?

KAINE
What the hell is this about?

The inmates are at full attention while Kaine converses with the policemen.

POLICE OFFICER #2
Please sir, just come with us.

Police officer #2 grabs Kaine by the arm. Kaine shakes off his grasp.

KAINE
Let go of me! What's the meaning
of this?

THE SOUND OF MUFFLED QUESTIONS FROM THE INMATES.

Both police officers grab Kaine. One on each side of him.

KAINE
(continuing)
Get the fuck off of me!

Kaine struggles to break free. The police officers slam Kaine hard on the floor and slap on a pair of handcuffs.

THE SOUND OF THE INMATES CHEERING.

POLICE OFFICER #1
Stop resisting sir.

KAINE
Fuck you!

The officers lift Kaine up. A glob of what looks like mash potatoes flies through the air and hits Kaine on the side of the face.

ANGRY INMATE (O.S.)
Take that, mother fucker!

More food starts soaring through the atmosphere and the police officers quickly haul Kaine out of the cafeteria.

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

Dansk and Jeff stand in the hall surrounded by other CORRECTIONS OFFICERS.

The police officers hold Kaine firmly while they parade him through the halls. Kaine flashes Jeff a cold stare as he walks by.

KAINE

You mother fucker! Don't think you've done anything. You can't prove anything.

POLICE OFFICER #2

C'mon, let's go.

Kaine looks at Dansk. Dansk has a worried expression, he cannot meet Kaine's gaze. Dansk wipes his forehead and loosens his collar. He walks away from the scene.

INT. WARDEN'S OFFICE - DAY

Warden Miller parts his blinds and peeks out into the courtyard as he sees the police officers shove Kaine into the backseat of their waiting 1999 Crown Victoria.

WARDEN MILLER

God damn it, Kaine.

EXT. PRISON COURTYARD - DAY

Jeff watches as Kaine is put into the back of the police car. Once the door is shut he heads back inside.

INT. PRISON BREAK ROOM - DAY

Dansk is smoking and trying to pour a cup of coffee all at once. He is visibly rattled; collar loose, tie hanging askew. Jeff enters.

JEFF

Hey Dansk, how's it going?

DANSK

What are you trying to do Jeff?

JEFF

Me? I'm not doing anything. You on the other hand...

DANSK

But I didn't do anything! It was all Kaine.

JEFF

But you helped him, right?

Dansk looks at Jeff sharply.

JEFF

(continuing)

Sounds like accessory to me.

Dansk paces back and forth frantic.

DANSK

But it wasn't my idea.

JEFF

Either way you're screwed.

Jeff leaves. Dansk contemplates his options, taking a deep drag off his smoke.

INT. HOLDING ROOM - DAY

Kaine sits straight-faced at a plain table. There's not much in the room. A Sony TV/VCR combo sits in the corner.

A man enters the room. This is WALTER STRAUSS Kaine's lawyer. In his late fifties with a little bit of a weight problem, always with a donut nearby.

Walter has difficulty closing the door due to files and a large box of BUNGLE DONUTS under his arm. He closes the door and sets the objects on the table. He sits across from Kaine.

WALTER

Hello, Will.

KAINE

Hi, Walter.

Walter opens up the box of donuts and holds a glazed one out to Kaine.

WALTER

Want one?

KAINE

No.

Walter takes a bite.

WALTER

Well, you've got yourself in hot water now. This is big.

Walter opens some of the files spread in front of him with sticky fingers. He reads for a moment.

WALTER

(continuing)

Okay, it says here that you're being charged with the murder of Daryl Wilcox. You are also suspected of committing three other murders.

KAINE

Three! I thought I was only being charged with one?

WALTER

Well William, even one is too many, but it says right here that you're being charged with the murders of

(reading)

Daniel Shapiro, death by suffocation on January 13, 2000; Jimmy Russell-death by broken neck on March 6, 2000; Elliot Price-death by inflicted knife wounds on April 27, 2000; and finally Daryl Wilcox, death by inflicted wounds to the head on June 7, 2000. Quite a mess.

KAINE

Wait a minute. How are the other ones, besides Wilcox, related to me?

Walter scans the file once more.

WALTER

It looks like Daryl Wilcox was found with the inscription of Ezekiel 7:3 carved into his chest, just like all the other victims. In effect, they think you're the Ezekiel killer.

Kaine thinks for a moment.

WALTER

(continuing)

I have to ask Will, are you?

Kaine looks hard into Walter's eyes.

EXT. PRISON COURTYARD - DAY

The Warden exits the front doors of the prison. Nearby is parked a 1991 Chevy Astro news van. Upon the warden exiting, a beautiful female news reporter AMY STROSENBERG and CAMERA CREW exit the van and rush towards the Warden. The Warden quickly turns around to re-enter the prison.

AMY

Sir! Sir, can we have a moment of your time?

WARDEN MILLER

(to himself)

Shit!

The Warden turns around with a fake smile anyone could spot a mile away.

WARDEN MILLER

(continuing)

Sure. How can I help you?

AMY

Sir, we've recently been informed about a series of killings that have taken place here at the prison. Do you have any comments on that?

WARDEN MILLER

Well, right now there's a full investigation going on. We want to make it clear that we're going to get to the bottom of this. Thank you.

The Warden turns to leave again.

AMY

Sir, what about the report of one of your own officers being arrested for the killings?

WARDEN MILLER

As I said before there's a full investigation going on. I'm sure all of the facts will come out. Thanks.

AMY

Do you think that this supposed investigation will hurt your chances in the election?

WARDEN MILLER

No, I don't think so.

The Warden goes back inside the prison.

Amy turns towards the camera.

AMY

We'll keep you updated throughout our own investigation of "Murder Behind Bars".

INT. DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE - DAY

A small corner office, a desk takes up the bulk of space in the room. Jeff sits across from a smart-looking man in his mid-thirties, this is District Attorney GREG PRESLY.

Greg reaches across the desk and shakes Jeff's hand.

GREG

Nice to meet you, Mr. Kelley. I'm District Attorney, Greg Presly.

JEFF

Just call me Jeff. Presly? Any relation to Elvis?

Greg smiles.

GREG

No. I spell "Presly" without an "E" at the end.

JEFF

Oh. Sorry, I was just curious.

GREG

It's alright, I'm used to it. Well Jeff, I've got quite a case here. You already supplied a great deal of information with the video tape you took. Any other information you have about these killings, as well as who may be involved, would greatly help.

JEFF

Kaine had a partner.

GREG

Really? Who?

JEFF

Isaac Dansk, Kaine's right hand man.

GREG

I didn't see him on the video.

JEFF

He's not on the video, but I saw him with Kaine as he committed the murders.

GREG

In court it will be your word against his.

JEFF

Oh, I don't think you'll have a problem getting Dansk to confess to his involvement.

INT. DANSK'S APARTMENT. - NIGHT

A small shit hole of a place, obviously Dansk is a bachelor.

Dansk is crouched on the couch, a coffee table sits in front of him. He smokes, the ash a mile long. It isn't his first, the nearby ashtray is close to overflowing. A bottle of JACK DANIEL'S is within reach. Our attention is drawn to a shiny, black GLOCK 9 millimeter centered on the table, along side a full magazine.

Dansk wipes sweat from his forehead.

DANSK
(to himself)
What am I going to do? Fucking
Kaine.

He snuffs out the cigarette, and takes a swig of the alcohol. He picks up the 9 millimeter and checks the chamber. He inserts the magazine and wraps his lips around the barrel.

THE SOUND OF A KNOCK AT THE DOOR.

Dansk's finger tenses on the trigger, he closes his eyes.

THE SOUND OF A KNOCK AT THE DOOR.

Dansk takes the gun from his mouth slowly, and places it back on the table. He answers the door.

Two uniformed POLICE OFFICERS stand in the doorway.

POLICE OFFICER #1
Isaac Dansk?

DANSK
Yeah.

POLICE OFFICER #1
Turn around and place your hands
on your head.

Dansk reluctantly complies.

DANSK
What did I do?

Police officer #2 takes one of Dansk's hands from the top of his head and brings it behind his back. He cuffs Dansk.

POLICE OFFICER #1
You're under arrest for accessory
to murder.

The police officers finish handcuffing Dansk and take him away.

DANSK
Can one of you guys grab my smokes?

EXT. PRISON EXERCISE YARD - DAY

A group of INMATES are leaning against a wall like slackers that have nothing to do.

INMATE#1
So, who's this Ezekiel mother-
fucker?

INMATE#2
You didn't hear, man?

INMATE#1
Hear what?

INMATE#3
Ezekiel is Kaine, man.

INMATE#1
Kaine?

INMATE#2
Yeah man, he did them all.

INMATE#1
I always knew he was one twisted
son of a bitch.

INMATE#3
I hear he did it because of his
daughter.

INMATE#1
I didn't know he had a daughter.
Never figured on Kaine to be a guy
that got action. What happened to
her?

INMATE#2
She was raped and murdered.

INMATE#1
(reacting)
Shit.

INT. CHURCH - DAY

Jeff and Andrea sing a hymn, pillars of righteousness in a
packed church. Jeff looks over at Andrea and smiles. He leans
over and gives her a kiss.

INT. JAIL CELL - DAY

Kaine sits on his bed engrossed in studying the bible.

INT. DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE - NIGHT

One lamp is lit on the corner of the desk. An endless amount of folders are spread upon his desk. Greg studies.

INT. HOLDING ROOM - DAY

Dansk is seated at a plain table. His lawyer, CARL DENNING, slightly round and balding, sits across from him.

CARL

Mr. Dansk, I'm Carl Denning. I've been appointed to be your public defender. You're accused of being an accessory to murder. So what's the story?

DANSK

I didn't do anything. It was all Kaine.

CARL

Yes, but you were with William Kaine when the murder was committed, right?

DANSK

Well, yes and no.

CARL

What do you mean?

DANSK

Yes, I was with him, but Kaine didn't kill him.

CARL

It's shaping up to look like the evidence is pretty irrefutable, he'll be found guilty of murder, and you'll be guilty as an accessory.

DANSK

What can I do?

CARL

Here's what I suggest. The DA is looking for witnesses. Maybe we can make a deal with him.

(more)

CARL (cont'd)

If you testify against Kaine, that will put him away for a very long time, probably a life sentence. If you plead guilty of the charge and testify that Kaine forced you to help him then maybe you'll get ten years and only serve five.

Dansk is taken aback he wipes sweat from his forehead. He lights a smoke and thinks.

DANSK

I can't do five years.

CARL

I'm sorry, but that's your best bet.

INT. GOVERNOR'S HOUSE - DAY

A mini-mansion, well-decorated. Everything is fashioned in leather.

Warden Miller sits on a couch drinking a cup of coffee. A slight drizzle of coffee falls from his mouth onto his shirt.

WARDEN MILLER

(whispering)

Goddamn it!

Warden Miller looks around as he quickly wipes away the mess.

GOVERNOR SWENSON makes his entrance. The governor is your typical good-old-boy, stern and stiff. When the governor arrives the Warden stands and the men shake hands.

GOVERNOR SWENSON

Hey Tom, good to see ya. Please take a seat.

WARDEN MILLER

Good to see you too, sir. What is it you wanted to speak with me about?

GOVERNOR SWENSON

Well Tom, I am concerned about your present situation at the prison.

(more)

GOVERNOR SWENSON (cont'd)
 I've put in my two cents with
 everyone concerning this election
 and this trial could really turn
 around and bite me in the ass.

WARDEN MILLER
 I can assure you, that the
 situation is under control.
 There's nothing to worry about.

GOVERNOR SWENSON
 The media is saying that you've
 been too concerned with the
 election rather than what's going
 on at the prison. The people don't
 want someone who shirks
 responsibility.

WARDEN MILLER
 The media will always be just
 that, the "media". They blow
 everything out of proportion.

The Governor interjects.

GOVERNOR SWENSON
 But the people listen to the media
 Tom. If this trial turns out bad
 for you, so will your chances of
 becoming mayor.

INT. CHANNEL 7 NEWS ROOM - NIGHT

A man, SAGE CROMWELL and a woman, DOROTHY CUMMINGS, sit at
 the desk. Lights shine down from the set illuminating their
 made-up faces.

SAGE CROMWELL
 Good evening, I'm Sage Cromwell.

DOROTHY CUMMINGS
 And I'm Dorothy Cummings, thank
 you for joining us tonight. Our
 top story focusses on "Murder
 Behind Bars" and the impending
 trial of William Kaine, who some
 believe is the prison killer known
 as Ezekiel.

SAGE CROMWELL

Tonight we have a special interview with District Attorney Greg Presly who will be prosecuting Kaine at the upcoming trial. Amy Strosenburg has the story.

Switch to television.

Amy has the microphone, she holds it for Greg.

AMY

Mr. Presly, how do you believe your case stands at this point?

GREG

Well, I believe we have strong evidence and testimony against Kaine. I think the outcome of this case will be without question and justice will be served.

AMY

What kind of evidence do you have?

GREG

Right now I'm not at liberty to say, but be guaranteed at the trial it will be irrefutable.

AMY

What about your witness? Can you tell us anything?

GREG

Again, I'm sorry, but rest assured all will come out during the trial.

AMY

Thank you for your time Mr. Presly.

GREG

My pleasure.

AMY

By the way, are you related to Elvis?

GREG

Ah..no.

AMY
Back to you Sage, and Dorothy.

INT. CHANNEL 7 NEWS ROOM - DAY

DORTHY CUMMINGS
Thanks, Amy.
(to camera)
We'll keep you posted on the story
as it progresses.

INT. HOLDING ROOM - DAY

Kaine and Walter are the only two present in the room.

WALTER
It's not looking good for us, Will.

KAINE
What do you mean?

WALTER
Well, the DA has a video of you
beating Daryl Wilcox, as well as
a witness that will testify that
you committed the other murders.

Kaine is silent.

WALTER
(continuing)
If you're thinking of still
pleading not guilty, then I
strongly suggest that you think
about an insanity plea. It's an
easy way out.

Kaine bursts.

KAINE
But I'm not fucking insane!

WALTER
Calm down, I'm not saying that you
are, but an insane verdict would
keep you out of prison and only
give you minimal time in a
psychiatric hospital.

KAINE
I'd rather go to prison than be in
a rubber room.

Walter sports a concerned look.

WALTER

What about your family, Will? You have to think about them. In fact, that would be another thing to bring up in court that would help on an insanity plea.

KAINE

I won't do it.

WALTER

I'm just asking you to think about it. Look, we say the environment of the prison got to you after twenty-five years, that combined with your daughter's rape and subsequent murder, we'll have the jury eating out of our hands. There's no way that they'd convict you.

Walter looks to Kaine for an answer. Kaine is silent.

WALTER

(continuing)

Just a thought.

INT. JAIL CELL - DAY

Dansk sits in his cell on the bed, back against the wall smoking. He seems to be fiddling with the bed's sheets.

He takes a long drag on the cigarette then throws the butt in the toilet. He stands from the bed and measures the length of the sheet with the top level of the bars in his cell.

Dansk climbs to the top level of the bars on the front of his cell. He precariously balances and wraps the sheet around one of the bars and then pulls it over his head and around his neck. He looks down for a long moment and then steps off.

He hangs for a moment, looking as if he's struggling. Short of breath, he let's himself down and sinks to the floor sobbing.

EXT COURTHOUSE - DAY

A Channel 7 new's van and crew are on scene.

AMY

Today, William Kaine, the alleged Ezekiel killer, is brought here (motions to courthouse) for his arraignment. It's predicted that Kaine will plead not guilty to the murders, but who knows what we'll find out. Stay tuned for more of "Murder Behind Bars."

INT. JEFF'S HOUSE - DAY

In his bedroom, Jeff has pants on and a "wife beater" shirt. A crucifix hangs from his neck. He kisses it and puts it inside the shirt against his skin. Andrea comes up from behind and wraps her arms around him.

ANDREA

Are you nervous?

JEFF

Not yet.

ANDREA

So, what's going to happen?

JEFF

I'll tell you what's going to happen. Kaine is going down for what he did and so is Dansk for helping him.

They face one another.

ANDREA

Well, I guess I'm nervous enough for both of us.

JEFF

What do you have to be nervous about?

ANDREA

What if he's found not guilty, when all's said and done? You'll be screwed.

JEFF

There's no way that he's going to walk.

INT. JAIL CELL - DAY

Kaine in best dress. He picks up a bible laying on his neatly made bed. He sits on the edge of the bed and opens the bible. He opens to Ezekiel 7:3 which is highlighted.

KAINE

(low and to himself)

"Now is the end come upon thee,
and I will send mine anger upon
thee, and will judge thee
according to thy ways, and will
recompense upon thee all thine
abominations."

Kaine closes the bible and looks up at the ceiling.

INT. COURTHOUSE - DAY

A large courtroom, rosewood decor everywhere you look. Walter sits on the defendants side along with Carl. Greg Presly sits as the prosecuting attorney. A COURT RECORDER prepares. Among the audience sits Jeff and Andrea. On the opposite side sits Kaine's wife Susan, and daughter Emily.

INT. HOLDING ROOM - DAY

Kaine sits at a plain table, handcuffed and in Sunday dress. TWO ARMED BAILIFFS stand watch over him.

BALIFF

Okay Mr. Kaine, stand up, it's
time.

Kaine stands obediently and is led away out of the room.

INT. COURTROOM - DAY

Kaine is led into the courtroom to sit next to Walter. After Kaine is seated Dansk is also led in to sit beside Carl. Judge ALEC KNOX enters in swirling black garb from behind the stand.

BALIFF

(continuing)

All rise! The honorable Alec Knox
presiding.

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

Amy Strosenburg stands with Warden Miller in the middle of an interview.

AMY

So Warden Miller, do you think
William Kaine is guilty?

WARDEN MILLER

Well, we'll see here today, but
I've known William Kaine for
twenty-five years. He's a good
man. I am fully confident in the
system and I am sure the truth
will come out. If you'll excuse
me, I think it's getting underway.

Warden Miller enters the courtroom.

INT. COURTROOM - DAY

The court recorder stands.

COURT RECORDER

This is case number 1543789 the
state of Pennsylvania versus.
William Kaine and Isaac Dansk.

The court recorder hands a file to the Judge.

JUDGE KNOX

Thank you. Mr. Strauss how does
your client plea to the charge of
murder in the first degree?

Walter stands.

WALTER

Your honor, my client William
Kaine pleads not guilty.

Walter sits.

JUDGE KNOX

Mr. Denning, how does your client
plea to the charge of accessory to
murder?

Carl stands.

CARL

Your honor, my client, Isaac
Dansk, also pleads not guilty.
Thank You.

Carl sits.

JUDGE KNOX

Due to the nature of these crimes I have opted to have the suspects held without bail for the duration of the proceedings. Counsellors do you have any objections?

CARL

Your honor, my client is not being tried for murder, therefore I request that bail be set at this time.

GREG

Your honor, I strongly object to Mr. Denning's request. His client has pertinent information to these proceedings.

JUDGE KNOX

Mr. Denning, I am going to have to agree with Mr. Presly. Therefore, I am denying your request for bail. Let's set the preliminary hearing for next friday at 9:30 a.m. That is all.

The Judge slams down the gavel.

BALIFF

All rise!

Dansk has a white hankie in hand and is dabbing his forehead. The Bailiffs walk over to the defense's table where they grab Kaine and Dansk and lead them away. As Kaine stands, he sees Susan. Their eyes lock.

INT. JAIL - DAY

A glass divider separates Kaine and Susan. They both hold a phone.

SUSAN

Why is this happening William? Did you kill those people?

KAINE

Jesus, of course not Susan.

SUSAN

What am I going to do if you are found guilty?

Susan starts to cry.

SUSAN
(continuing)
Damn it William, what are we going
to do?

KAINE
This will all be over soon, I'll
be home soon.

SUSAN
Does this have anything to do with
Teri's death?

Kaine averts his eyes from Susan's gaze.

INT. COURTHOUSE - DAY

The court room is packed. A TV/ VCR sits off to the side of
the courtroom an area where all can see it. Greg Presly is
standing next to the TV.

GREG
Your honor, I present this tape as
evidence of Mr. Kaine's crimes.

WALTER
I object, your honor! Although
this tape shows Mr. Kaine beating
Daryl Wilcox, it does not show my
client killing him.

GREG
Your honor, I am merely presenting
this evidence to show what Mr.
Kaine is capable of.

JUDGE KNOX
Overruled Mr. Strauss. I'll accept
this video as witness to Mr.
Kaine's disposition.

GREG
Thank you, your honor.

Greg pushes play. The video shows Kaine beating Daryl Wilcox.

INT. COURTHOUSE - LATER

Jeff sits on the stand. Greg is up and about.

GREG
(continuing)
So, Mr. Kelley, you did in fact see the defendants commit these heinous acts?

WALTER
Objection your honor, Mr. Presly is leading the witness.

JUDGE KNOX
Sustained. Mr. Presly, please rephrase your question.

GREG
I'm sorry your honor. Mr. Kelley who did you see commit these murders?

JEFF
Captain Kaine, sir.

GREG
Will you please point him out for the court?

Jeff points right at Kaine.

GREG
(continuing)
What about Mr. Dansk?

JEFF
He was also there with Kaine.

CARL
Objection! My client was not present on the video; there is no hard evidence proving that Isaac Dansk had any involvement whatsoever in the beating of Daryl Wilcox.

JUDGE KNOX
Sustained. The court will note that Isaac Dansk is not present on the video. Please continue Mr. Presly.

GREG
Thank you. No more questions your honor.

JUDGE KNOX
Mr. Denning, do you have any questions?

CARL
Yes sir I do have one question for Mr. Kelley.

JUDGE KNOX
Very well, proceed Mr. Denning.

Carl rises from his position behind his table.

CARL
Mr. Kelley, the court has noted that Isaac Dansk is not present on the video tape. What evidence can you present that would prove that Isaac Dansk had any involvement with the beating and subsequent murder of Daryl Wilcox?

JEFF
I saw Dansk help Kaine move Daryl's body to the shower where it was discovered.

CARL
Is that it?

JEFF
Yes.

CARL
So basically what you're saying is that it's going to come down to your word against his, is this correct?

JEFF
But they are always together. Kaine doesn't go anywhere without Dansk.

CARL
No further questions.

JUDGE KNOX
Very well, Mr. Strauss, do you have any questions?

WALTER
Yes sir, I do?

JUDGE KNOX
Proceed.

WALTER
Mr. Kelley, do you hate Mr. Kaine?

JEFF
I can't say that he's...

WALTER
Just a simple yes or no Mr. Kelley.

JEFF
Well then, yes.

WALTER
Do you have it out for Mr. Kaine?

JEFF
Of course not. That's ridiculous.

WALTER
The reason I ask, Mr. Kelley, is
that I find it hard to believe
that you witnessed Mr. Kaine
commit each of these murders.

GREG
Objection your honor, irrelevant.

JUDGE KNOX
Where are you going with this
counselor?

WALTER
My point, is your honor, that Mr.
Kelley hates Mr. Kaine. He
possibly hates Mr. Kaine so
strongly that he is in fact,
trying to set up Mr. Kaine.

JUDGE KNOX
Overruled Mr. Presly, but Mr.
Strauss keep in mind that this is
only a preliminary trial.

WALTER
Yes, your honor. No further
questions.

JUDGE KNOX

Mr. Kelley, you may step down. Mr. Presly, do you have anything further to present?

GREG

No, sir.

JUDGE KNOX

Well then, I find sufficient evidence and reasonable suspicion against William Kaine and Isaac Dansk to have this case go to trial. Let's set the date for next Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. Let's adjourn until then.

The judge slams his gavel down.

INT. HOLDING ROOM - DAY

Dansk paces back and forth smoking like a chimney. A nearby ashtray is halfway full.

Carl Denning enters.

DANSK

Where the fuck have you been?

CARL

Settle down, I've been finishing up some paperwork for the trial.

DANSK

What the hell went on today? Why didn't you get the case against me thrown out?

CARL

I couldn't.

DANSK

What do you mean, "you couldn't"? You didn't say a whole hell of a lot out there today.

CARL

Look, don't blow a gasket. Everything will be fine. Just stick to the plan and it will all work out.

INT. COURTHOUSE - DAY

The room is full to capacity. The jury box is filled, tension shows on their faces. A baliff steps to the front of the room.

BALIFF

All rise! The honorable Judge Alec Knox presiding.

Judge Knox enters from his chambers.

JUDGE KNOX

Thank you. You may be seated.

The court recorder stands.

COURT RECORDER

This is case number 1543789 the state of Pennsylvania versus William Kaine and Isaac Dansk.

The court recorder passes a file to the judge.

JUDGE KNOX

Good morning everyone, we have a long day ahead of us, so lets get started. We'll start with opening statements from Mr. Presly.

Greg gets up from his table and steps to the front of the room.

GREG

Thank you, your honor.

He turns to the jury.

GREG

(continuing)

Ladies and gentlemen, I'm here today to prove to you without a shadow of doubt that the defendants William Kaine and Isaac Dansk are guilty of the crimes they've been charged with. William Kaine for first degree murder and Isaac Dansk for accessory to murder. These men were put in a position of trust, as corrections officers.

(more)

GREG (cont'd)

Yes, their victims were convicted criminals, but that did not give these two men,

(he points at the defendants)

The right to take their lives. It's your job as the jury to judge whether or not these men are guilty of the heinous crimes they've been charged with. I believe with the evidence in hand and the testimony available that the truth will come forth.

Greg takes a seat.

JUDGE KNOX

Mr. Denning, your opening statement please.

Carl Denning steps forward. He points towards the defendants.

CARL

My client Isaac Dansk stands accused of helping this man
(he points to Kaine)
William Kaine in committing murder. Mr. Dansk is a gentle, indiscreet man who would never hurt a soul. Sure, he may look like he's a pro-wrestler, but don't let his looks fool you. I will prove that Isaac Dansk had nothing to do with these murders. Thank you.

Carl takes a seat. Kaine leans over to Walter and whispers in his ear.

KAINE

What the fuck is going on?

WALTER

I don't know, but don't worry.

JUDGE KNOX

Mr. Strauss, your opening statement please.

Walter stands up.

WALTER

Yes sir.

(he faces the jury)

My client, William Kaine is not a nice man.

Kaine spreads open his arms in an act of disgust.

KAINE

(whispering to himself)

What the fuck?

WALTER

He's been working within the prison system for twenty-five years. Twenty-five years! That's longer than some of you have been alive. He guards us from rapists, murderers, and thieves, so that we all can sleep better at night. It was inevitable that Mr. Kaine would vent his anger on those surrounding him. Though there is no excuse for his actions, he is not a murderer. While yes he did beat some of the inmates, he is not guilty of killing them. Decide for yourself, take your time, think long and hard about this man who has served the public for many generous years. Thank you.

Walter takes a seat.

JUDGE KNOX

Mr. Presly, you are free to call your first witness.

Greg rises.

GREG

Thank you, your honor. I call Jeff Kelley to the stand.

Out of the audience Jeff comes forward to the witness stand. The baliff meets him at the base of the stand with a bible. Jeff places his left hand on the bible.

BALIFF

Raise your right hand. Do you swear to tell the whole truth and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

JEFF

I do.

BALIFF

You may be seated.

GREG

Will you state your name and occupation for the record please?

JEFF

Jeff Kelley. I'm a corrections officer at Pennsylvania state penitentiary.

GREG

How long have you been working there, Mr. Kelley?

JEFF

About six months.

GREG

Would you say in that time you got to know Mr. Kaine and Mr. Dansk fairly well?

JEFF

Oh yes, from the first day I'd say that I knew them fairly well.

GREG

Please explain for the jury what you mean.

JEFF

From the day I started at the prison I knew something was wrong.

INT. PRISON LOCKER ROOM - DAY - FLASHBACK (SIX MONTHS AGO)

Long, steel, grey lockers stand throughout the room. Some benches are situated at various places.

Jeff is at a locker changing into uniform.

JEFF (V.O.)
I was changing in the locker room
when Mr. Kaine and Mr. Dansk first
made their introductions.

Kaine and Dansk approach Jeff from behind. Jeff is oblivious
of them.

GREG (V.O.)
What happened?

KAINE
Jeff Kelley, isn't it?

Jeff is startled and turns around.

JEFF
Yes.

Jeff extends his hand for a shake. Kaine ignores it.

KAINE
Are you sure you don't belong with
the boy scouts? You look like a
flamer to me.

Jeff drops his hand.

KAINE
(continuing)
I'm William Kaine, captain of the
officers here. This is Dansk. When
I'm not here, which is not very
often, he's in charge.

DANSK
(to Kaine)
I got something to do.

Dansk leaves. Kaine moves closer to Jeff.

KAINE
Listen, this is how it is. I make
the rules, this is my show, if you
see something you don't like or
don't agree with, you keep your
fucking mouth shut. I don't wanna
hear it. Got it?

Jeff is mute.

KAINE
(continuing)

Good.

INT. COURTHOUSE - DAY (BACK TO PRESENT)

GREG
Mr. Kelley, did you ever see Mr.
Kaine exhibiting any violent
behavior?

JEFF
Sure.

GREG
Please, elaborate.

JEFF
It wasn't long after I started
working, maybe a week, that I
really got my first glimpse of the
violence Kaine was capable of.

EXT. PRISON COURTYARD - DAY - (FLASHBACK)

A ring of inmates surround Kaine and another inmate, DANIEL SHAPIRO, engaged in fighting. Jeff is also in the middle of it pushing back the crowd. Dansk watches nearby.

JEFF (V.O.)
I was working in the courtyard and
a fight broke out between Kaine
and an inmate named Daniel
Shapiro. I tried to break it up.

JEFF
Get back! Back off now!

The crowd moves back a little.

Behind Jeff, Kaine wails on Daniel. Jeff turns around and grabs the fighting inmate, throwing him to the ground and quickly handcuffing him. Jeff finishes and turns on Kaine holding a hand to his chest.

KAINE
What the fuck do you think you're
doing?

JEFF
I'm stopping this.

KAINE
I say when it's finished.

JEFF
It's finished, now.

Kaine gets in Jeff's face.

KAINE
This is far from over.

Kaine pushes past Jeff towards Dansk. Jeff hauls up the handcuffed inmate and moves towards the interior of the prison.

JEFF (V.O.)
As I was escorting Daniel into the prison, I saw Kaine exchange words with Dansk, I could only imagine what they were saying, but I'd soon find out.

GREG (V.O.)
So, what did end up happening?

Kaine whispers in Dansk's ear.

JEFF (V.O.)
Later on I found out that Dansk was ordered to teach me a lesson, so to speak.

INT. PRISON LOCKER ROOM - DAY- (FLASHBACK)

Jeff gathers his things from his locker. Dansk approaches.

JEFF
How ya doing, Dansk?

DANSK
A word to the wise, don't interfere.

Dansk sucker punches him in the gut. Jeff drops to his knees, coughing. Dansk eyeballs him as he leaves.

INT. COURTHOUSE - DAY (BACK TO PRESENT)

GREG
Daniel Shapiro? That was the first murder victim.

Greg goes over to his desk and grabs a file. He opens it up as if reading from it.

GREG
(continuing)
It says here that Daniel Shapiro died on January 13, of 2000. He was suffocated. Do you know anything about this Mr. Kelley?

JEFF
I saw it happen.

There is a murmur from the audience. The Judge strikes his gavel.

JUDGE KNOX
Quiet! Settle down! You may continue, Mr. Kelley.

JEFF
I witnessed it all.

GREG
And who did you see commit this act?

JEFF
William Kaine.

Kaine stands up and lunges forward.

KAINE
You're a fucking liar!

Walter grabs Kaine and pulls him back to his seat.

JUDGE KNOX
Mr. Kaine, you will restrain yourself or I'm going to have you restrained. Do you understand?

WALTER
I'm sorry your honor. It won't happen again.

JUDGE KNOX
It had better not Mr. Strauss. Mr. Presly please continue.

GREG

Could you please explain to the court, in detail, what you witnessed?

JEFF

Later that night, I was going to the infirmary to check up on Daniel.

GREG

What were the extent of Mr. Shapiro's injuries that would make him have to stay in the infirmary?

JEFF

Daniel, in his fight with captain Kaine, had received a broken rib and a slight concussion.

GREG

Please go on.

INT. PRISON INFIRMARY - NIGHT - (FLASHBACK)

A semi-darkened room filled with vacant beds, except for one.

Kaine hovers over Daniel who is lying in a bed asleep.

INT. HALLWAY - NIGHT - (FLASHBACK)

Jeff approaches a metal door with a small glass window. He looks inside.

JEFF (V.O.)

As I got to the infirmary, I looked through the window and saw Captain Kaine. To avoid a confrontation with Kaine, I waited outside.

INT. INFIRMARY

Kaine quietly grabs a pillow and holds it tightly in his hands.

JEFF (V.O.)

Kaine grabbed a pillow and held it down over Daniel's face.

Kaine pushes the pillow over Daniels face. Daniel starts to thrash about. Gasping under the pillow for a few moments, he goes limp.

INT. HALLWAY

Jeff tries to open the door, but it is locked.

GREG (V.O.)

Didn't you try to stop Kaine?

JEFF (V.O.)

Yes, but the door was locked.

INT. COURTHOUSE - DAY (BACK TO PRESENT)

GREG

So, what did you do?

JEFF

I went to go get help, but by the time we came back Kaine was gone and Daniel was dead.

GREG

Didn't you tell anyone that Captain Kaine had done this?

JEFF

Yes, but no one would believe me. I even went and talked with the warden.

GREG

And what did the warden say?

WALTER

Objection! This is hearsay!

JUDGE KNOX

Sustained Mr. Strauss. Mr Presly, please ask a different question.

GREG

Sorry, your honor. Jeff, was there anything odd about Mr. Shapiro's body when it was discovered?

JEFF

Yes. On his chest was carved Ezekiel 7:3.

INT. INFIRMARY - DAY (FLASHBACK)

Daniel Shapiro's body lying on the bed. His gown is ripped open and bloody. On his chest is carved in horribly formed, but legible writing EZEKIEL 7:3.

INT. COURTROOM - DAY (PRESENT)

Greg walks over to his table and grabs a bible. He opens it reading.

GREG

Ezekiel 7:3. "Now is the end come upon thee, and I will send mine anger upon thee, and will judge thee according to thy ways, and will recompense upon thee all thine abominations."

Greg hesitates.

GREG

(continuing)

Very interesting. Daniel Shapiro was in prison serving a life sentence for murdering a woman by suffocating her; The same fashion that he was killed in.

He returns the bible to the table.

GREG

(continuing)

Jeff, what do you know about the Ezekiel killer?

JEFF

Two things. One, that he has gained myth-like status within the prison among the inmates. And two, that every victim had that same scripture carved into his chest.

INT. HOLDING ROOM - NIGHT

Kaine sits impatiently waiting. Walter comes through the door.

KAINE

What the hell happened out there today?

WALTER

I don't know.

KAINE

What do you mean you don't know?
I thought Dansk and I were in this
together.

WALTER

Calm down, I'll talk to him and
find out what's going on.

KAINE

If that chicken shit thinks he's
going to let me take the fall for
this whole thing...

WALTER

Just settle down Will. I'll go
talk to him now. Get some rest and
I'll see you tomorrow.

Walter pats Kaine on the shoulder and leaves the room.

KAINE

Fuck!

EXT. COURTHOUSE - NIGHT

Carl opens the door to a 1997 Ford Tempo Taxi. Walter runs up.

WALTER

Wait!

Carl turns toward Walter.

CARL

Walter! What's the problem?

WALTER

What happened today?

CARL

My client told me everything that
happened. As far as he is
concerned, he's not guilty of the
crime he's been charged with.

WALTER

But he helped Kaine.

CARL

Only because he was forced to.

WALTER

Forced? Have you taken a look at your client recently? There's no way anyone could force him to do anything! If that's your strategy there's no way the jury's going to fall for it.

CARL

Maybe so, but it's better than burning with your client.

Carl gets in the taxi and shuts the door. The taxi drives away. Walter stands watching on the curb.

INT. COURTHOUSE - DAY

Jeff is on the stand. Greg is pacing in front of the jury.

GREG

So, tell the court about Jimmy Russell.

JEFF

Well, a couple months after the Daniel Shapiro murder an inmate, named Jimmy Russell, was murdered.

GREG

Did you know Jimmy Russell?

JEFF

Yes, I had become acquainted with him.

GREG

Tell us what you know, from the beginning please.

JEFF

I had been working in the cafeteria about that time.

GREG

Do you remember the date?

JEFF

Not exactly, I know it was in the beginning of March.

GREG

Go on.

INT. PRISON KITCHEN - DAY - (FLASHBACK)

Jeff is walking back and forth in the back section of the kitchen where all the food is prepared. Inmates work on different projects.

JEFF (V.O.)

I watched over the inmates while they were preparing food. The main reason I was there was to make sure that none of the inmates took any knives or anything that could be used as a weapon of sorts. Everyday I worked, Jimmy Russell would always go back and forth between Captain Kaine's office and the kitchen.

JIMMY RUSSELL, a homely looking, skinny black guy, walks through the kitchen and through swinging metal doors.

GREG (V.O.)

Where was Kaine's office located?

JEFF (V.O.)

It was located to the rear of the kitchen. If you open up some metal doors you would see his office.

The doors swing open and Kaine's office door is visible.

GREG (V.O.)

Continue.

JEFF (V.O.)

I always wondered what he and Kaine were doing back there?

Jimmy knocks on Kaine's office door. Kaine answers. Jimmy enters.

INT. PRISON CAFETERIA - DAY (FLASHBACK)

Jeff mills about. From behind him, Jimmy approaches, tapping Jeff on the shoulder.

JEFF (V.O.)

One day Jimmy came up to me, he seemed extremely agitated about something.

JEFF

Hey Jimmy, what's wrong?

JIMMY

What I'm about to tell you, you have to promise you won't tell another fucking soul. I'm really fucking scared.

JEFF

It's okay, you can trust me.

Jimmy looks back and forth on edge.

JIMMY

Well, you see, Kaine is making me do things that I don't want to do.

JEFF

Like what?

JIMMY

Well...,fuck...,how do I say this? He's making me do fellatio.

JEFF

What?

JIMMY

Blowing...you know fucking umm... sucking his dick! I don't want to do it anymore. You've got to help me.

JEFF

I don't know how I can. Even if I told somebody they wouldn't believe me over captain Kaine.

JIMMY

What if I got you some evidence or something?

JEFF

How?

JIMMY
I'll save it.

INT. PRISON COURTYARD - DAY - (FLASHBACK)

Jeff is lolling about watching the rings of inmates and trying to stay awake. Jimmy approaches.

JEFF (V.O.)
A few days later Jimmy found me.

JIMMY
Hey man, I got it.

JEFF
Got what?

JIMMY
Evidence man.

JEFF
What do you have?

JIMMY
Captain Kaine's sperm.

JEFF
What? How?

JIMMY
Follow me.

Jeff and Jimmy rush off.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY (FLASHBACK)

No one is around. The lights are off.

Jeff and Jimmy stand in front of an industrial size freezer.

JIMMY
I know the shit would go bad if I left it out somewhere, so I hid it in the freezer.

JEFF
(slightly disgusted)
You did put it in something, right?

JIMMY
Oh yeah, it's in a plastic baggy.

Jimmy opens the door not finding his baggy.

JIMMY
(continuing)
Where is it? I know it's here
somewhere.

Jimmy moves a bunch of frozen products about in anger.
Frustrated he starts tossing the stuff on the floor.

JIMMY
(continuing)
Where the fuck is it?

JEFF
You can't find it?

Jimmy turns to Jeff.

JIMMY
I know I fucking put it in there.
You've got to believe me.

JEFF
I do believe you, but nobody else
will.

Jimmy hits the freezer door several times.

JIMMY
Goddamn it! Shit!

JEFF (V.O.)
That was the last time I talked to
Jimmy.

Jimmy slides to the floor sobbing.

INT. COURTHOUSE - DAY (BACK TO PRESENT)

GREG
So, you never saw him again after
that?

JEFF
Well, yes and no.

GREG
What happened to him?

JEFF
He was killed.

GREG

How?

INT. CAFETERIA KITCHEN - NIGHT - (FLASHBACK)

The lights are out and the place is empty. Jeff is walking slowly through the kitchen.

JEFF (V.O.)

I was there making sure the doors were locked and everything was secure.

Jeff pulls on a few doors and drawers finding them locked.

JEFF (V.O.)

(continuing)

I noticed some light coming from the base of the swinging doors in front of Captain Kaine's office. I just thought someone left a light on, so I went back to check it out.

Jeff sees a light and goes back to investigate.

JEFF (V.O.)

(continuing)

As I got closer, I could here sounds coming from the office.

He goes through the swinging doors and peeks into Kaine's office.

INT. KAINE'S OFFICE - DAY (FLASHBACK)

GREG (V.O.)

What did you see?

JEFF (V.O.)

It's pretty graphic.

Kaine has Jimmy bent over with his pants down.

INT. COURTHOUSE - DAY (BACK TO PRESENT)

THE SOUND OF THE AUDIENCE CRINGING

WALTER

Objection! Mr. Kaine's sexuality has no bearing on this case! I strongly object.

Kaine jumps to his feet.

KAINE
I'm not a fucking homo! You're the
homo, you fucking liar!

The judge hammers the gavel several times.

JUDGE KNOX
Order! Baliff restrain Mr. Kaine
now!

The Baliff rushes over to Kaine and puts him in shackles.

JUDGE KNOX
(continuing)
Everyone calm down, or I'll throw
the entire lot of you out!

GREG
Your honor, Mr. Kelley is leading
up to how Mr. Kaine's sexuality
has bearing on this case.

The audience settles down and only a few sounds of mumbling
remain.

JUDGE KNOX
Okay Mr. Presly I'll overrule it
this time, but I better see some
relevancy very quickly.

Walter throws his hands in the air and sits down.

JUDGE KNOX
(continuing)
Continue Mr. Kelley.

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT - (FLASHBACK)

Jeff stands in the dark empty kitchen listening.

THE SOUND OF MOANING.

JEFF (V.O.)
I was in disbelief of what I saw,
but what happened next was even
worse.

KAINE (O.S.)
C'mon you little bitch, this is
how you like it, isn't it? Want
some more?

INT. KAINE'S OFFICE - NIGHT - (FLASHBACK)

Kaine reaches down in front of him and takes Jimmy by the
head and twists it violently.

THE SOUND OF A LOUD CRACK

Jimmy's body slumps to the floor.

JEFF (V.O.)
I left immediately.

INT. COURTHOUSE - DAY (BACK TO PRESENT)

Greg snags another file off his table.

GREG
So, what did you do next?

JEFF
I got some other officer's and
went back to Kaine's office.

GREG
Was Kaine there?

JEFF
No.

GREG
Was Jimmy's body there?

JEFF
No.

GREG
Where was Jimmy Russell's body
found?

JEFF
He wasn't found until the next
day; in the freezer.

INT. PRISON KITCHEN - DAY (FLASHBACK)

The freezer door opens and inside is Jimmy Russel's frozen corpse. Ezekiel 7:3 carved into his chest.

INT. COURTROOM - DAY (PRESENT)

GREG

Is there anything else that should be noted?

JEFF

He also had Ezekiel 7:3 carved into his chest.

Greg turns to the jury and opens the file.

GREG

Jimmy Russell was found dead on March 6 of 2000. He was serving time for raping and sodomizing teenage boys. It was suspected he killed one young man by snapping his neck, but there was a lack of evidence to prove it.

The jury looks back and forth at one another.

GREG

(continuing)

Jeff, did you tell anyone about what you saw? I mean the police, anyone?

JEFF

I just told the other correction officers.

GREG

Anyone else?

JEFF

No, I couldn't prove a thing.

GREG

Then what was Jimmy Russell's death attributed to?

JEFF

I believe it was attributed to gang violence.

GREG

To your knowledge was Kaine ever
a suspect in Jimmy Russell's death?

JEFF

Not to my knowledge.

GREG

So, you're saying that Kaine
basically got away with murder by
using gang violence as a scapegoat?

Walter bolts out of his chair.

WALTER

Objection! It's obvious that Mr.
Presly is leading the witness.
Also, I object due to the fact
that Mr. Kaine was never a suspect
in Jimmy Russell's death.

JUDGE KNOX

Hold on there Walter, your getting
a little ahead of yourself. I'll
sustain your first objection.

(to Jeff)

Mr. Kelley, do not answer that
last question.

(to court recorder)

I want Mr. Presly's last question
to be stricken from the record. At
this time I'm going to call for a
recess. We'll reconvene in two
hours.

Judge Knox slams down his gavel.

INT. JUDGE'S CHAMBER - DAY

Judge Knox sitting behind his desk enjoying a nice BLT
sandwich.

A KNOCK AT THE DOOR

JUDGE KNOX

Come in.

Greg and Walter barge into the room.

JUDGE KNOX
(continuing)
Jesus, I can't even enjoy lunch anymore. What do you guys want?

WALTER
I'm sorry to bother you but, I have some concerns about the way this trial is proceeding.

JUDGE KNOX
Walter, can't we just keep this in the courtroom? Whatever it is I'm sure it can wait.

WALTER
No, it can't.

JUDGE KNOX
Well, while you talk I'm going to finish my lunch, so why don't both of you take a seat.

Walter and Greg pull up a chair.

JUDGE KNOX
(continuing; in
between bites)
So, what are these concerns of yours Walter?

WALTER
I don't appreciate Mr. Presly's comments about my client.

JUDGE KNOX
Presly?
(a beat between
swallows)
I've been meaning to ask. Are you related to Elvis?

GREG
No sir, no relation.

JUDGE KNOX
Go on Walter.

WALTER
As I was saying, I believe Greg's comments are out of line and degrading to my client.

JUDGE KNOX

Walter, this is to be expected. Your client is on trial for murder. When a problem like this presents itself, it can be taken care of. Like today, in court.

WALTER

I just don't want the facts of the case twisted. Mr. Presly didn't have any proof that my client had anything to do with the murder of Jimmy Russell or that he is a homosexual.

JUDGE KNOX

What do you want me to do Walter?

WALTER

I don't know, you're the Judge.

JUDGE KNOX

Mr. Presly, I would appreciate it if in the future you would keep your comments addressed to the case at hand. Do you understand?

GREG

Yes sir. I was simply trying to elaborate on the character of Mr. Kaine. As you pointed out, he is on trial.

JUDGE KNOX

Great, I'm glad we understand one another. You happy now Walter?

WALTER

Yes.

JUDGE KNOX

Okay, now get the hell out of my chambers so I can finish my lunch.

INT. COURTHOUSE - DAY

Jeff is back on the stand. Greg wanders around in the spotlight.

GREG

Jeff, can you tell the court about Elliot Price?

JEFF

Yes, Elliot Price was serving time for murdering his wife.

GREG

What fashion did he commit the murder?

JEFF

With a Bowie knife.

Greg moves towards a table set to the side of the courtroom. He grabs a plastic bag that contains a Bowie knife. He holds it up high.

GREG

(cynical)

Look at this, a Bowie knife. In fact this is the same Bowie knife that Elliot Price used to murder his wife. DNA testing showed that there was two blood types on this knife. One was Elliot's wife and one was his own. This was the evidence that was used to put Elliot Price in prison.

(to Jeff)

Do you recall how Elliot Price was murdered?

JEFF

As I recall, the coroner's report stated multiple lacerations across the torso and abdomen, and multiple stab wounds.

Walter jumps out of his chair.

WALTER

This is a very nice story your honor, but what exactly does this have to do with my client?

GREG

I was just getting to that your honor.

JUDGE KNOX

(to Greg)

Please, continue.

GREG

Jeff, did you witness the murder
of Elliot Price?

JEFF

Yes, I did.

GREG

Please tell the court what you saw?

JEFF

I was performing my normal duties.
You know, watching some of the
inmates clean. One of them
mentioned that he needed some more
cleaning solution, so I went down
to the boiler room, where we keep
all the supplies.

INT. PRISON STORAGE ROOM - DAY - (FLASHBACK)

Jeff quickly opens a door that leads down some stairs.

THE SOUND OF MUFFLED VOICES

Jeff stops for a moment then slowly proceeds down. As he gets
closer to the storage room the voices get louder.

KAINE (O.S.)

I think you have it too easy. It's
my job to see to it that you don't
just have a free ride. After all,
here I'm your judge, jury, and
executioner.

THE SOUND OF SCREAMS

JEFF (V.O.)

I positioned myself to try and get
a clear view of what was going on.

Jeff silently opens the storage room door a crack.

Kaine is standing with his back towards Elliot Price, who is
handcuffed to an overhead, exposed pipe. Elliot is a bloody
mess. Multiple small lacerations all over his naked body.
Kaine holds a Bowie knife.

JEFF (V.O.)

(continuing)

I couldn't believe what I saw.

Kaine faces Elliot and slowly draws the knife down Elliott's arm from his wrist to his shoulder. Blood flows like a river.

ELLIOT

Fuck...fuck...you sick fuck.

KAINE

Harsh words coming from someone
who murdered his wife.

Kaine turns his back again towards Elliot and then suddenly, in one quick fluid motion, he takes the knife and slices Elliot from his crotch to his collar bone and back down from the collar bone to his stomach and then shoves the knife straight through Elliot's heart.

JEFF AUDIBLY GASPS.

Kaine quickly turns around and looks towards the door. Jeff quietly and quickly retreats back upstairs.

INT. COURTROOM - DAY (PRESENT)

Greg faces the jury box file in hand.

GREG

Ezekiel 7:3 was also carved into
Elliot Price's chest. Just like
all the other victims.

(a beat)

Very interesting. All these
victims, all different people from
different backgrounds, with
different crimes. Yet, these
murders were blamed on other
inmates. The only thing in common
with all the victims is that they
had Ezekiel 7:3 carved into their
chests. Ladies and gentleman of
the jury, these people are not
victims of random violence. It is
the act of one person.

Greg turns and goes to the evidence bench and grabs the video which is sealed in a plastic bag.

GREG

(continuing)

This video will show who that
person is.

(more)

GREG (cont'd)
(to Jeff)
Jeff, how did you come by this
tape?

JEFF
I taped it myself.

GREG
Why would you do that?

JEFF
Because I needed evidence against
Captain Kaine.

GREG
Your honor, with your permission,
may I show the court this video
marked people's exhibit A?

JUDGE KNOX
Proceed counselor.

Greg hands the video to a baliff. The bailiff inserts the
tape into a VCR/ TV. The TV comes alive.

KAINE (V.O.)
Let me tell you the reason I've
brought you here Daryl.

THE SOUND OF FOOTSTEPS WALKING FROM THE TV

KAINE (V.O.)
(continuing)
I've been here for twenty-five
years working my ass off. Day in
and day out I see fuckers like you
go free. While you're here you get
free room and board, cable
television, and three square meals
a day. Hell, I don't even have
cable television, but I do eat
better than you, thanks to my
wife. You know if someone like you
were in Russia and were convicted,
you'd be shot on the spot.

The jury watches the tape intently.

KAINE (V.O.)
 (continuing)
 So, when do you get out Daryl?
 This week isn't it?
 (instantly angry)
 You wife beating son of a bitch.
 She's dead and you're alive.
 What's wrong with this picture? No
 justice, no punishment. I say an
 eye for an eye. What do you think?

THE SOUND OR DUCT TAPE QUICKLY RIPPED AWAY

Daryl screams.

Kaine covers his eyes and shakes his head. Walter leans over
 and whispers in Kaine's ear.

DARYL (V.O.)
 Fuck you, man.

KAINE (V.O.)
 Fuck me!? That's it? That's all
 you have to say for yourself? I
 say, fuck you!

THE SOUND OF DARYL BEING BEATEN BY A NIGHTSTICK.

The jury watches in horror. Some cover their mouths, others
 avert their eyes.

KAINE (V.O.)
 (continuing)
 Had enough, asshole?

THE SOUND OF DARYL MUMBLING

KAINE (V.O.)
 (continuing)
 What did you say?

DARYL (V.O.)
 (whispering labored)
 Go fuck yourself.

THE SOUND OF ONE FINAL HIT OF THE NIGHTSTICK

JUDGE KNOX
 (disgusted)
 Baliff...

The Baliff quickly stops the VCR.

WALTER

Objection! The video does show my client beating Daryl Wilcox, but it did not show that he killed him.

GREG

Your honor, I would like to point out that the coroner's report clearly states that the victim died from being hit with a blunt instrument, repeatedly.

JUDGE KNOX

Overruled.

GREG

As Mr. Strauss pointed out the video does show Mr. Kaine beating Daryl Wilcox. In conjunction with the video, the coroner's report states the cause of death. If that isn't enough for you, the next piece of evidence should leave no doubt in your minds that Mr. Kaine is guilty.

Greg goes to the evidence table and grabs a plastic bag containing a mini cassette player.

GREG

(continuing)

Your honor, peoples exhibit B.

JUDGE KNOX

Proceed.

Greg removes the recorder from the bag and brings it close to his own bench where he places it next to the microphone. He pushes play.

JEFF (V.O.)

Daryl Wilcox was no accident was it? The inmates didn't kill him, did they? How long did you think you'd get away with it? I know exactly what you're doing.

KAINE (V.O.)

Listen to me you little fuck! I was running this place before your dad shot a wad into your mom! I run it how I see fit! If you still want your job you better keep your mouth shut and mind your own fucking business! Got it?!

THE SOUND OF WHISPERING THROUGHOUT THE COURTROOM

GREG

Jeff, do you hold any animosity towards Mr. Kaine?

JEFF

Well, yes.

GREG

Why?

JEFF

The man hates everybody and everything. Not to mention the fact that he's a murderer.

WALTER

Objection! That is still in question and is only an opinion of the witness.

JUDGE KNOX

Sustained. The jury will consider Mr. Kelley's statement as such.

GREG

No further questions, your honor.

JUDGE KNOX

Mr. Strauss.

Walter quickly rises to his feet with a handful of documents.

WALTER

Mr. Kelley. You just stated that you hate Mr. Kaine, Is that correct?

JEFF

Yes, it is.

WALTER
On the video it shows my client
beating Daryl Wilcox, nothing more.

Walter turns to the jury.

WALTER
(continuing)
The murders of, Daniel Shapiro,
Jimmy Russel, and ...

Walter looks down at the documents in his hands.

WALTER
(continuing)
Elliot Price never involved
William Kaine, did they?

JEFF
No, that's not true.

WALTER
You put the blame on him because
you hate him, he makes your job
unbearable. So what better way of
getting rid of him than setting
him up for murder, right?

JEFF
No, that's not correct. Kaine is
a murderer. I watched him kill the
other inmates.

WALTER
Mr. Kelley, I find it hard to
believe that there was never an
investigation into your claims
against Kaine. Could it be that
you cried wolf so many times that
finally no one would believe you?
Or maybe it's just because you're
a liar.

GREG
Objection, your honor. Mr. Kelley
is not the one on trial, Mr Kaine
is.

JUDGE KNOX
Mr. Strauss, keep your questions
confined to the case at hand and
stop calling the witness names.

WALTER

Alright, I apologize your honor.
Mr. Kelley, did you or did you not
provoke Mr. Kaine into making
those statements on the cassette?

JEFF

What do you mean?

WALTER

What I mean is, did you twist the
circumstances around so that you
could get him to confess to
something that he didn't do?

JEFF

Of course not. We were having a
conversation and obviously, his
temper got the best of him.

WALTER

Your honor I have no further
questions for the witness.

Walter walks back to his seat.

JUDGE KNOX

Very well. Mr. Denning, do you
have any questions for the witness?

CARL

Yes, I do.

Walter sits and Carl stands. Kaine leans over to Walter.

KAINE

What the fuck was that? You didn't
do much in the way of defense for
me.

WALTER

Relax, I got it taken care of.

KAINE

Mind telling me?

Carl approaches Jeff.

CARL

Can you tell me about the relationship between Isaac Dansk and William Kaine?

JEFF

Well, I've only been at the prison for a short while, but everyone knows that Dansk is Kaine's little puppet.

CARL

So, what you're saying is that Mr. Dansk would do anything Mr. Kaine asked, correct?

JEFF

Yes, that's correct.

CARL

So, Mr. Kelley, is it a safe assumption that Mr. Dansk helped move the unconscious form of Daryl Wilcox, not necessarily his dead body?

JEFF

But he was dead.

CARL

Are you sure that Daryl Wilcox had passed away, Mr. Kelley?

JEFF

Pretty sure.

CARL

Pretty sure? Pretty sure leaves room for doubt Mr. Kelley.

JEFF

Okay, then I'm one hundred percent sure that Daryl Wilcox was dead.

CARL

How do you know that Daryl didn't pass away at another location? Are you a doctor Mr. Kelley?

Greg looks up from some documents.

GREG

Objection. Counsellor knows that Mr. Kelley is not a doctor, that's totally uncalled for.

JUDGE KNOX

Sustained.

CARL

I have one last question Mr. Kelley. Was Isaac Dansk at any of the other murders you witnessed?

JEFF

No, he wasn't.

CARL

Thank you. I have no further questions your honor.

JUDGE KNOX

Okay. We will adjourn for today and pick back up tomorrow morning.

Judge Knox strikes the gavel.

INT. JEFF'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Jeff and Andrea on the couch watching the evening news.

Jeff rubs Andrea's pregnant stomach.

JEFF

How are you feeling?

ANDREA

Very uncomfortable. I can't wait until this is over. You know, we haven't even decided on a name.

JEFF

Well, that's easy, name him after me.

ANDREA

Are you sure you feel comfortable with that?

JEFF

Andrea, you know I'll love him as if he were my own.

DORTHY CUMMINGS (V.O.)
Thanks for joining us tonight. I'm
Dorothy Cummings.

SAGE CROMWELL (V.O.)
And I'm Sage Cromwell.

Jeff and Andrea's full attention focuses on the TV screen.

SAGE CROMWELL
Our top story tonight is an
advance in the "Murder Behind
Bars" case.

DORTHY CUMMINGS
Today the evidence was brought out
on Captain William Kaine.

A sketch artist picture is flashed on the screen of Jeff.

DORTHY CUMMINGS
(continuing)
This man, Jeff Kelley, a co-worker
of William Kaine, testified
against him.

JEFF
That picture doesn't even look
like me.

Andrea chuckles.

ANDREA
Sure it does.

DORTHY CUMMINGS
Mr. Kelley brought forth the
possibility that William Kaine
could have been involved in other
murders within the prison.

INT. COURTHOUSE - DAY

Dansk is on the stand, a nervous wreck. Greg is pacing in
front of the jury.

GREG
Mr. Dansk, how long have you
worked at the prison?

DANSK
Nine years.

GREG

Tell the court about your relationship with William Kaine.

DANSK

He's my supervisor at work.

GREG

No, no ,no, start from the beginning. Did you and Kaine hit it right off so to speak?

DANSK

No, it took about a year of taking his shit...

JUDGE KNOX

Mr. Dansk please refrain from using profanity in this courtroom.

DANSK

Sorry. It took about a year until he finally had a full conversation with me.

GREG

Mr. Denning asked the question of Mr. Kelley if he thought you would do anything for William Kaine. Would you?

DANSK

Yes.

GREG

Are you afraid of him?

DANSK

I'm not afraid of him, but I am afraid of what he will do.

Greg chuckles a bit.

Kaine shakes his head in disbelief.

GREG

I find that hard to believe. What are you? Three hundred pounds maybe more? Six foot three? Why would you be afraid of William Kaine's temper?

CARL
Objection your honor, please
instruct Mr. Presly to let my
client answer the questions that
have been posed to him.

JUDGE KNOX
Sustained. Mr. Presly, please slow
down and allow Mr. Dansk to answer
each question.

GREG
I'm sorry your honor. Mr. Dansk,
has Mr. Kaine ever abused you
physically?

Dansk rubs his hands together nervously.

DANSK
Yes, sometimes.

Kaine shoots up.

KAINE
(yelling)
You fucking liar!

The Judge slams down his gavel.

Walter tries to restrain Kaine by pulling him down to his
seat.

JUDGE KNOX
Mr Kaine, I'm warning you, another
outburst like that and I'll have
you removed from here.

WALTER
I'm sorry your honor.

JUDGE KNOX
Please, continue Mr. Presly.

GREG
Thank you your honor. So would you
say that you're so afraid of him,
that you would cover up a murder
for him?

DANSK
Yes.

GREG
Isaac Dansk, did William Kaine
murder Daryl Wilcox?

Dansk flashes a nervous glance at Kaine. Sweat instantly dots his forehead.

DANSK
Yes, he did.

THE SOUND OF WHISPERING THROUGHOUT THE COURTROOM

Kaine jumps the bench and dashes straight for Dansk.

KAINE
You fucking nigger!

The bailiffs tackle Kaine and put him in handcuffs. They raise Kaine to his feet.

KAINE
(continuing)
You're a fucking liar! What the
fuck are you trying to do?

JUDGE KNOX
Bailiffs, remove Mr. Kaine from
the courtroom.

The bailiffs comply. Kaine does not go willingly.

JUDGE KNOX
(continuing; to the
court)
Everyone settle down.

The judge slams his gavel. Silence falls on the courtroom.

JUDGE KNOX
(continuing)
You may continue Mr. Presly.

GREG
Mr. Dansk, is William Kaine a
religious man?

DANSK
I know he's always reading the
bible. He occasionally quotes from
it.

GREG

On these occasions, when he does quote from the bible, has he ever used a scripture from the book of Ezekiel?

DANSK

I think his favorite scripture comes from that book.

GREG

Would you recognize the scripture if you heard it.

DANSK

I think so.

Greg grabs the bible off the bench and rapidly flips the pages.

GREG

It's been a while and I don't have these things memorized so let me just find it here.

(he finds the proper passage with his finger)

Here we go, "Now is the end come upon thee, and I will send mine anger upon thee, and will judge thee according to thy ways, and will recompense upon thee all thine abominations."

(he looks up at Dansk)
Does that sound familiar?

DANSK

Yes, that's the one he quotes to the prisoners all the time.

Greg turns to the jury box.

GREG

Ezekiel 7:3, the same scripture that the killer carves into his victim's chests. I have no more questions your honor.

JUDGE KNOX

Mr. Strauss, would you like to cross-exam?

WALTER
Yes, your honor.

JUDGE KNOX
Your witness then counselor.

WALTER
Mr. Dansk, what did you and Mr. Kaine do with Daryl Wilcox after the alleged beating?

DANSK
We moved him to the showers.

WALTER
Was he dead?

DANSK
I don't think so?

WALTER
You don't think so? I asked if Mr. Wilcox was dead, he either was or he wasn't, which is it?

DANSK
I'm no fucking doctor...

Judge Knox strikes the gavel fast and furious.

JUDGE KNOX
Mr. Dansk, if I have to ask you one more time concerning the use of profanity in my courtroom I will find you in contempt, do I make myself clear?

DANSK
Yes sir.

JUDGE KNOX
Now continue.

WALTER
Was Daryl Wilcox dead or alive when you and Mr. Kaine moved him to the showers?

DANSK
He was alive.

Walter turns to the jury victoriously.

WALTER
He was alive.
(he turns back to
Dansk)
Did you see William Kaine carve
Ezekiel 7:3 into the victim's
chest?

DANSK
No.

Walter turns to the jury mock-serious.

DANSK
(continuing)
Well, he could have done it
later...

WALTER
No further questions.

JUDGE KNOX
Mr. Denning your witness.

Carl makes his way to the witness stand.

CARL
Did you ever beat Daryl Wilcox?

DANSK
Never.

CARL
Did you ever participate in the
course of Kaine beating Daryl
Wilcox?

DANSK
I just helped move him to the
shower.

CARL
You knew this was wrong, why did
you do it?

DANSK
I was afraid if I didn't that I
would lose my job.

CARL
Did Kaine ever threaten you with
that?

DANSK
All the time.

CARL
So, you were forced by William
Kaine to do this or he threatened
to have you fired?

DANSK
Yes.

CARL
No further questions your honor.

INT. COURTHOUSE - DAY

Warden Miller sits on the stand. Greg stands by his bench.

GREG
Warden Miller, how long have you
known William Kaine?

WARDEN MILLER
For as long as he has worked at
the prison, which is about twenty-
five years.

GREG
Has Mr.Kaine always had a bad
temper?

WARDEN MILLER
Not always, but working in the
prison system for so long tends to
change people.

GREG
How so?

WARDEN MILLER
Day in and day out you deal with
the dregs of society, perhaps some
of it starts to rub off on a
person. What I mean is, that you
see these people come in and out
of the prison system quite often.
It could make a person quite
angry, make them feel like they
weren't accomplishing anything.

GREG

You stated that Mr. Kaine did not always exhibit this angry behavior, so when did you start to notice it?

WARDEN MILLER

I think it all began soon after his daughter passed away.

GREG

So you think that the death of his daughter had some kind of effect on his behavior?

WARDEN MILLER

Yes, I believe so.

GREG

I have no further questions your honor.

EXT. COURTHOUSE - DAY

Warden Miller is mobbed by media moguls like a swarm of bees.

A black reporter sticks a microphone in the warden's face.

REPORTER

Warden Miller, there are rumors going around that you are dropping out of the election, is this true?

WARDEN MILLER

That's absolutely false. I think this trial will improve my chances because the people see how honest I am.

REPORTER

Yes Warden, but William Kaine was the captain of your prison, don't you think that people will question your judgement in the future?

The warden is a little befuddled.

WARDEN MILLER

I'm sorry, you'll have to excuse me.

He parts the crowd before him. The mob follows Warden Miller all the way to his 1998 Lincoln hurling questions.

INT. COURTHOUSE - DAY

A full court room waits on every word. Kaine is on the stand and Greg is throwing him the questions.

GREG

Mr. Kaine, do you think that you have a bad temper?

KAINE

A little bit, but everyone does.

GREG

Yes, that's true, but not everyone has as violent a temper as you, correct?

KAINE

I don't have a violent temper.

GREG

Oh, really?

Greg picks up a stack of folders on his table and thrusts them into the air.

GREG

(continuing)

Do you know what these are Mr. Kaine?

KAINE

No.

GREG

Well, you should. These are complaints that have been filed by different inmates over the years that attest to you beating them. Shall we read one?

Greg randomly picks a file and opens it and reads.

GREG

(continuing)

This complaint was filed June 16, 1983. I won't read the inmate's name, but this is what the report reads. "Captain William Kaine beat me several times with his nightstick..."

Kaine breaks in.

KAINE

Alright, I'll take your fucking word for it. Yes, I have a temper, okay?

Judge Knox slams his gavel.

JUDGE KNOX

If another person says that goddamn word in my court room again there's going to be hell to pay.

Kaine breathes in heavily and shoots a dark glare towards Greg.

JUDGE KNOX

(continuing)

Continue counselor.

GREG

Thank you, your honor.

(to Kaine)

Are you still bitter about your daughter's death, Mr. Kaine?

KAINE

(darkly)

Fuck you.

GREG

I'll take that as a yes.

Judge Knox slams his gavel again.

JUDGE KNOX

That's it Mr. Kaine, I'm finding you in contempt. One more outburst like that and I'll triple the charge.

Judge Knox stares severely at Kaine.

JUDGE KNOX
(continuing)
Continue Mr. Presly.

GREG
So, you are still bitter.

KAINE
You never let something like that go. It stays with you forever and ever, it haunts your every waking thought.

GREG
That's very understandable Mr. Kaine, and I am sorry that that happened. I know this isn't nice to do, but will you tell the court how your daughter passed away?

KAINE
(with deep anger
seeping)
She was raped and murdered.

GREG
How was she murdered?

KAINE
She was stabbed to death.

Murmurs throughout the courtroom.

GREG
Mr. Kaine, are you a religious man?

KAINE
Yes.

GREG
Are you familiar with Ezekiel 7:3?

KAINE
Yes.

GREG
What would you say your interpretation of that scripture is?

Kaine thinks for a moment.

KAINE
God-granted-revenge.

GREG
Revenge for the death of his
daughter... No further questions.

The courtroom is all a flutter.

JUDGE KNOX
Mr. Strauss, you may proceed.

Walter stands straightening out his suit.

WALTER
Thank you, your honor.

Walter strides closer to Kaine.

WALTER
(continuing)
William, did you kill Daryl Wilcox
or any of the other aforementioned
inmates?

KAINE
Absolutely not.

WALTER
What about Daryl Shapiro? Did you
suffocate him.

KAINE
It's true that I beat him, but
there is no way on God's green
earth that you can get into the
infirmary without signing the log.
Even the warden has to sign the
log to get in.

Walter goes to his table and grabs a few sheets of paper, and
displays them to the jury.

WALTER
On the day that Daniel Shapiro
died, William Kaine's name never
appeared on this log.

Walter lays the papers back on his table.

WALTER
(continuing)
William, this is a sensitive
question, but are you a homosexual?

Some chuckles float through the audience.

KAINE
Definitely not.

WALTER
Can you please explain then why
Jimmy Russell was going to your
office on a regular basis?

Kaine squirms around in his seat a little uneasy.

KAINE
I was selling him pain killers
from the infirmary. He became
angry with me when I wouldn't sell
them to him anymore.

WALTER
How come you stopped selling them?

KAINE
I was afraid of getting caught. I
have a family to support and I
can't lose my job over something
that stupid.

WALTER
No further questions.

Walter sits at his bench.

JUDGE KNOX
If there are no more witnesses,
we'll take a short recess and then
we'll have your closing statements.

Judge Knox slams the gavel.

INT. COURTHOUSE - DAY (LATER)

Greg addresses the jury.

GREG

Ladies and Gentleman of the jury.
As you witnessed in this trial the
video clearly shows William Kaine
(he points to the
accused)
beating the life out of Daryl
Wilcox. You also heard an audio
tape that further confirms that
action. You've heard testimony
from Isaac Dansk, Kaine's right-
hand-man, admitting to this crime,
to which he is an accessory.
You've heard straight from William
Kaine's mouth that he "is" bitter
about the rape and subsequent
death of his daughter, hence the
motive, revenge. Now, it is up to
you, the jury, to decide if in
fact that William Kaine is the
Ezekiel killer. I know whatever
you decide will be correct and
justice will be served, thank you.

Greg sits.

JUDGE KNOX

Mr. Strauss, your closing
statement please.

Walter casually stands and walks towards the jury.

WALTER

Ladies and gentlemen, the bottom
line is that there is not enough
evidence to argue that my client,
William Kaine, committed these
murders. Yes, we all saw the video
tape and heard the audio tape, but
neither one of these show that
William Kaine killed Daryl Wilcox.
May I also remind you that William
Kaine's fingerprints were not
found on the Bowie knife used to
kill Elliot Price. All of this
evidence is circumstantial. The
only thing William Kaine is guilty
of is the remorse he feels for his
daughter's death and the violent
temper which sprang from it. Keep
all these things in mind when you
make your decision, thank you.

Walter sits.

JUDGE KNOX
Mr. Denning, please conclude with
your closing statement.

Carl readies himself and stands slowly.

CARL
Thank you, your honor.

Carl makes his way to the jury box.

CARL
(continuing)
My client Isaac Dansk was never
once shown on the tape. Even Mr.
Kelley testified that Isaac was
never at the scene of any of the
other murders. Although Mr. Dansk
has admitted to helping William
Kaine move Daryl Wilcox's body, he
in no way contributed to Daryl
Wilcox's harm. When you're
deciding this man's fate be sure
you make the right decision. Thank
You.

Carl walks back to his bench and sits. Dansk leans over to
Carl's ear.

DANSK
(whispering)
That was fucking brilliant?

CARL
Thanks.

Judge Knox sits upright.

JUDGE KNOX
We will take a recess for the jury
to deliberate.

The judge taps with the gavel.

INT. COURTHOUSE - DAY

A filled court room. Everyone stands whispering and mumbling.

TWO BAILIFFS escort Kaine and Dansk into the room making
their way toward Carl and Walter.

Greg looks over at Dansk and Kaine, with a wry smile.

Kaine catches Greg's grin and he mouths the words FUCK YOU.

Judge Knox enters the room.

BALIFF

All rise, the honorable Judge Alec
Knox presiding.

The room is silent, and on their feet.

JUDGE KNOX

Please sit. Jury, have you
reached a verdict?

From the jury box a short middle-aged WOMAN stands.

JURY WOMAN

Yes we have, your honor.

JUDGE KNOX

Baliff, would you please.

The baliff retrieves a piece of paper from the woman and hands it to the judge. Judge Knox opens it momentarily and hands it back to the baliff. He returns the note to the woman.

JUDGE KNOX

(continuing)

Will you please read the verdict.

JURY WOMAN

We the jury, find the defendant,
William Kaine, guilty of murder in
the first degree on all counts...

The room fills with sighs of relief, continued with whispering.

KAINE

(to himself)

Christ!

Judge Knox repeatedly taps his gavel.

JUDGE KNOX

Order, silence please.

Only a slight noise can be heard.

JUDGE KNOX
(continuing; to jury
woman)
Please continue.

JURY WOMAN
We find the defendant Isaac Dansk
guilty of accessory to murder in
the first degree on one count.

Again the room fills with noise.

Dansk's eyes roll back as if he is going to faint.

DANSK
Oh shit!

Judge Knox slams the gavel.

JUDGE KNOX
Order! I will have order in the
court!

The room softens slightly.

Two bailiffs approach Kaine and Dansk ready to take them away.

JUDGE KNOX
(continuing)
William Kaine, you are hereby
sentenced to life imprisonment
with out the possibility of parole
for the murder of Daryl Wilcox.
Isaac Dansk you are hereby
sentenced to five years
imprisonment with possibility of
parole after two.

Judge Knox slams the gavel.

One of the bailiffs handcuffs a crying Dansk while the other
attempts to handcuff Kaine.

KAINE
Fuck you! I didn't do it! I didn't
do a goddamn thing!

Walter tries to calm Kaine down.

WALTER

William, please... we'll appeal
this... you're only making it
worse.

Kaine snarls at Walter and decks him square on the jaw.
Walter crumples to the floor.

KAINE

You piece of shit! Some fucking
hot shit you are, you sonofabitch.

The two bailiffs tackle Kaine to the floor. Every tendon
attempts to break out of Kaine's body. Kaine breaks free
kicking one baliff in the gut on the floor. He hops the rail
separating the audience from the court and runs right into a
baliff levying a nightstick.

The baliff recovers and brings the nightstick down on Kaine's
head. Kaine falls to the floor like a ton of bricks,
unconscious.

EXT. COURTHOUSE - DAY

On the steps of the court house the media waits, like a pack
of vultures smelling something dying.

The door swings open and Warden Miller exits.

WARDEN MILLER

Get out of my way.

Warden Miller pushes defiantly through the press.

REPORTER

Warden Miller, is it true that the
governor has withdrawn his support
for your election?

Warden Miller turns around and faces the reporter.

WARDEN MILLER

I wasn't aware of that.

Warden Miller slowly makes headway through the crowd and
disappears.

Next, Jeff exits the courtroom. The media forms a circle
around Jeff.

REPORTER

Mr. Kelley! Mr. Kelley, your testimony brought down the Ezekiel killer. How do you feel about that?

JEFF

How do you think I feel? It feels great to know that justice was served and a maniac like Kaine will be put away for good. Even though Kaine's victim's were hardened criminals it doesn't give him the right to be judge, jury, and executioner.

FADE OUT:

FADE IN:

INT. PRISON CAFETERIA - DAY

TITLE CARD: ONE YEAR LATER

A filled cafeteria with inmates belly-up to all the tables. Kaine, dressed in prison garb, sits alone trying to enjoy his meal of mashed potatoes and corn. Several bruises cover his face, a tribute to the prison system.

INT. PRISON SHOWERS - DAY

Kaine is solo, water running down his face, he tries to smother himself in it.

From behind him enter THREE THUGS, all clothed in prison orange. Kaine is unaware that he is not alone. One of the thugs pulls a shiv from within his garb.

THUG

Hey, Kaine!

Surprised, Kaine turns around and gets the shiv in his inner thigh. Kaine releases a horrific howl of pain. Blood cascades down his leg and into the drain.

INT. PRISON CELL - DAY

A small non-decorated damp cell.

Dansk lies under the covers shivering and crying uncontrollably.

EXT. PRISON EXERCISE YARD - DAY

Several inmates doing their regular exercises trying their best to look buff, while many more play basketball in the background.

Jeff stands far away from it all but watching the activity with a grin on his face.

INT. PRISON CELL - DAY

Dansk marks with chalk on the floor, a circle around the foot of the bed post. He takes hold of the metal framed bed and tips it upright so it stands on end. He unlaces his shoes and takes the two shoestrings and ties them together. He then ties the homemade rope to the top of the bed frame.

Dansk lays on the floor on his back, checking and double-checking that his head is placed in the center of the chalk-drawn circle.

With the end of the rope in hand he breathes heavily. He gives the rope a quick tug and the bed falls a little offset. The foot of the bed falls squarely on his throat with a sickening crunch.

Dansk desperately gasps for air for a few seconds as his right leg spasms uncontrollably before the end comes.

INT. PRISON CELL - DAY

Pictures of Kaine's family plaster the wall, as well as many letters.

Kaine sits on his bed, face buried in the bible to cover all the bruises.

THE SOUND OF FOOT STEPS APPROACHING

Kaine looks up, unsmiling.

KAINE

What the fuck do you want?

Jeff stands outside of the bars.

JEFF

I just wanted to stop by and say thank you.

Jeff starts to pace, strutting his stuff.

KAINE
What are you talking about?

JEFF
Thanks for being my scapegoat.

Kaine slowly puts down the bible and gets up.

KAINE
(suspiciously)
What?

JEFF
You were the perfect scapegoat. I never thought it would work out as well as it did.

KAINE
You mother fucker! You framed me!
It should be you in here!

JEFF
Temper, temper.

KAINE
Sonofabitch! You fucking cock
sucker! You ruined my life!

Jeff straightens his tie.

JEFF
No, you ruined your life. The reputation you had, it was so easy to use you.

KAINE
So, you killed them all?

CUT TO:

INT. INFIRMARY - NIGHT - (FLASHBACK)

Jeff holding the pillow over Daniel Shapiro's face. Daniel's arms flapping madly. Jeff with a maniacal grin pushing harder and harder.

JEFF (V.O.)
Yeah, I killed Daniel Shapiro.

CUT TO:

INT. KAINE'S OFFICE - DAY - (FLASHBACK)

Jeff behind a naked Jimmy Russell. Jeff reaches for Jimmy's head and quickly snaps it.

JEFF (V.O.)
And that faggot, Jimmy Russel.

CUT TO:

INT. PRISON STORAGE ROOM - DAY - (FLASHBACK)

Elliott Price strung up with duct tape over his mouth and hanging from the pipe in the ceiling. Jeff stands motionless in front of him with a wicked Bowie knife. With a swift gesture Jeff cuts him from stem to stern.

JEFF (V.O.)
Elliott Price was just a mercy
kill.

BACK TO PRESENT:

INT. PRISON CELL - DAY

Kaine's hands shoot to his temples as he turns around slowly staggering to his bed where he sits, stooped over.

JEFF
And Daryl Wilcox was the icing on
the cake, you practically did it
all for me. All I had to do was
finish him off and leave my mark.

Kaine struggles with it all.

KAINE
Why!? Why did you do this?

JEFF
I have a son. A son that is not
mine. My wife was brutally raped
by some knife-toting lowlife. So
I thought "hmm" what better way to
help out society and get my
revenge by getting rid of some of
these pieces of shit.
(a beat)
You were just there to clear the
way for me.
(a beat)
Thanks.

Jeff walks off.

INT. PRISON CELL

Kaine's arm extends from his cell with bible in hand. The bible drops from his hand.

Jeff displays a victorious smile.

FADE OUT.

THE END