

INT. DALLAS POLICE STATION - LONDON'S DESK - DAY

Detective Richmond stands next to London.

LONDON

Get a list of all local
entertainment reporters, film
critics or whatever else they may
be called. We need to talk with
them without making too much noise.

CAPTAIN JONATHAN CARTWRIGHT, 55, steps out his office
door.

CAPTAIN CARTWRIGHT

LONDON. Richmond. In my office,
NOW.

Captain Cartwright ducks back into his office. London and
Detective Richmond go toward the Captain's office.

DETECTIVE MOBLEY

Oooo, being called out to Captain
Cartwright's Ponderosa!

The other Detectives join in the joke humming the theme
to television show "Bonanza."

DETECTIVES

(Combined)

DUM-DEE-DEE-DUM, DUM-DEE-DEE-DUM,
DUM-DEE-DEE-DUM-DUM, DUM-DEE-DEE-
DUM, DUM-DUM-DAH.

London blows them off shaking his head rolling to the
Captain's office.

INT. DALLAS POLICE STATION - CAPTAIN CARTWRIGHT'S OFFICE
- CONT.

London rolls up next to the chair in front of the
Captain's desk. Captain lifts his head from the paperwork
on his desk.

DETECTIVE RICHMOND

Captain, what can we do for you?

CAPTAIN CARTWRIGHT

You can start by taking a seat.

Detective Richmond sits down next to London.

CAPTAIN CARTWRIGHT

This whole mess is already getting
out of hand. The media is calling
this a serial killer and I've got
the Chief of Police and the Mayor
on my ass every five minutes

(more)

CAPTAIN CARTWRIGHT (cont'd)
looking for information. I really need you guys to keep this tight and do whatever it takes. What do you have so far?

LONDON
I'm not sure but it looks like a contract killing. We have a good lead we're following up on.

CAPTAIN CARTWRIGHT
Contract killing? Is it a coincidence that they were both entertainment reporters?

LONDON
I don't know right now. We'll know soon.

CAPTAIN CARTWRIGHT
I know, but this isn't London time. It isn't even on my time. The Chief and Mayor want immediate results.

LONDON
Captain, with all due respect, we cannot chase all the leads as soon as they come in by ourselves and this department is losing officers every month because we cannot afford them. What do they expect?

CAPTAIN CARTWRIGHT
I have no control over the fiscal budget. We have to just make due with what we have.

LONDON
Budgets constraints, that's bullshit. This great Mayor is spending more and more money on civilian projects and expensive lab equipment for the overrated CSI superstars. Before long there won't be a Robbery, Homicide department. We'll all be lab rats.

Captain Cartwright briefly pauses and calms things down.

CAPTAIN CARTWRIGHT
London, I like you. You're a very good cop and I trust you. Just get who ever is responsible. And give me something to tell the Chief and Mayor as soon as possible. But do not tell the media anything, especially your opinion of them, understand?

London looks at Detective Richmond with a smile.

LONDON

Okay.

Detective Richmond stands up and heads for the door.
London turns to follow.

CAPTAIN CARTWRIGHT

Time is a factor. We'll have panic
in the streets if another reporter
is murdered.

London and Detective Richmond nod their heads in
agreement.

CAPTAIN CARTWRIGHT

Oh, and London, one more thing.

London turns back around as Detective Richmond leaves.

CAPTAIN CARTWRIGHT

The Chief and Mayor are just
looking for a reason to make you
the next budget cut. With your
absences taking up all of your
vacation days, the missed psyche
evaluations, telling the media off
and going public with your
thoughts of the civilian forensic
department gives them all they
need to fire you without fear of
a discrimination lawsuit.

LONDON

I know, Captain. Don't worry.

CAPTAIN CARTWRIGHT

They have a whole file on you and
I need you here. Can you start by
being nice to and by being a team
player with the crime scene
investigators?

Marci pops in the door. London turns to look and smiles.
He turns back to Captain Cartwright.

LONDON

For you, Captain, I'll do my best!

Marci smiles, moves outside the doorway and London exits.