

RUMORS

87

SIDE#7 pgs. 87 - 90 - CHRIS, KEN, CLAIRE, LENNY, ERNIE, COOKIE, GLENN,

DESCRIPTION OF SCENE: Glenn, in panic mode, rushes in the front door and announces the Police are outside. Everyone now starts to panic. They simultaneous peek out the window and discuss how and what to say to the cops.

WHAT DIRECTOR IS LOOKING FOR: Panic, confusion, sarcasm, accusations, desperation. These characters are now at their wits end, everything thing that has happened previously is used against each other.

START SCENE 7



(The front door opens quickly and GLENN rushes in holding a bloody hanky to his nose.)

GLENN. We got trouble. Oh, God, have we got trouble.

KEN. What is it?

GLENN. The police. It's a police car.

LENNY. (*Loudly, pointing at Ken.*) Okay! I warned you! I *told* you we should have called the police. Now look what's happened. The police came.

KEN. Who could have called the police?

CLAIRE. Maybe it was Myra.

CHRIS. Maybe it was Charley.

LENNY. Maybe it was Cassie. (*To Glenn.*) You were fighting with her, weren't you? Did she use the phone in my car?

GLENN. Not to call. She hit me with it.

LENNY. She broke my phone? My new phone in my new car?

ERNIE. Will everybody calm down. We've got to figure out what to say when they come in.

COOKIE. (*Looking out the window.*) They're trying to talk to Cassie. She won't roll down the windows.

LENNY. My windows? They're going to bust my windows? I'm going to take my car home in an envelope.

ERNIE. (*To Glenn.*) Why did you leave her out there in the car? She's in no condition to answer police questions.

GLENN. She's in good enough condition to smash my nose ... Goddam, I got blood on my shirt.

LENNY. And you're running for the State Senate? I wouldn't let you run for Chinese food.

CHRIS. What's wrong with you people? I've got a six-year-old child at home who behaves better than we do.

LENNY. Fine! Then get him over here and tell *him* to talk to the police.

KEN. Take it easy, Len. She's been doing her share. She's the one who called Dr. Dudley.

LENNY. EVERYBODY CALLED DR. DUDLEY. HE'S IN THE YELLOW PAGES IN CHINA!!

CLAIRE. Maybe Dudley called the police.

(The TELEPHONE rings.)

ERNIE. It's the phone again.

LENNY. He's right. He guessed it was the phone twice in a row. This genius is going to save our lives.

ERNIE. *(Picking up the phone.)* Hello? ... Yes? ... Just a minute, please. *(To Glenn.)* Glenn, it's for you. *(Announcing to the Group.)* It's the same woman who called before.

GLENN. *(Crossing to the phone.)* What same woman?

CLAIRE. She wouldn't say. Maybe it was Myra, maybe it was Meryl Streep.

GLENN. Meryl Streep?

CLAIRE. You know how she sounds in the movies? Like she always does the character perfectly, but it's not really her? That's how this person sounded.

LENNY. *(At the front door, looking out.)* We've got two policemen coming in, she's giving us a resume of the party.

COOKIE. *(Looking out the window.)* Oh, oh. They're walking over here.

GLENN. *(Into phone.)* Hello?

COOKIE. *(Hobbling away from the window.)* They're on the way over.

GLENN. *(Into phone.)* Oh, hi. How are you? ... No, it's not a cold, it's a telephone injury.

KEN. Now listen. The thing we can't do is let them see Charley. We can't let him downstairs or them upstairs.

GLENN. *(Into phone.)* I tried talking to Cassie, but she's very upset.

ERNIE. (*Gesturing importantly.*) Above all, no false statements. We must keep within the law. This above all, agreed?

LENNY. (*Mocking Ernie's gestures.*) Yea! To thine own self be true. Wherein the hearts of better men -- are you fucking crazy? They're outside the door.

GLENN. (*Into phone.*) Of course I think you should talk to her, but I can't get her out of the car.

KEN. They're going to ask about the gunshots. What do we tell them about the gunshots?

GLENN. (*Into phone.*) All right, I'll call you back in fifteen minutes. Are you at the nine-one-four number?

LENNY. Kill him! Somebody kill him! Choke him with the telephone wire.

(*The DOORBELL chimes.*)



END SCENE 7

CHRIS. I'm very serious about this, but I'm not going to be able to hold my bladder.

ERNIE. All right, I've got it. We tell them we never heard the gunshots.

CLAIRE. You mean lie to them?

LENNY. What happened to "this above all?"

ERNIE. It won't work tonight. Maybe some other time.

CHRIS. If you let me go to the bathroom, I promise I'll come back.

GLENN. (*Still on the phone.*) Listen, I know you're a good friend. And I thank you for all your wonderful support.

LENNY. Leave him here. Let's run for our lives and leave that schmuck for the cops.