

Claudia Gaines

FONTANA

Let's cut the bull, here, Mr. Gordon.
You don't have much of a poker face.

GORDON

(hesitantly)

Claudia Gaines might.

GREEN

How's she feel about Maggie Riordan?

GORDON

She happens to be working on a story
about the Riordan administration's
favoritism in handing out state
contracts.

He opens the door to the Editing Room where --

7

INT. EDITING ROOM, METRO TEN STUDIOS - CONTINUOUS

7

-- they interrupt CLAUDIA GAINES, black, early 30s, tall
and stocky, standing over her EDITOR in front an Avid and
several TV screens.

GAINES

Give me two more seconds on the
drawbridge--

FONTANA

Ms. Gaines?

GAINES

Yes.

FONTANA

I'm Detective Fontana, this is
Detective Green. We'd like to ask you
a few questions.

GREEN

(to Gordon)

You mind if we do this alone?

Gordon looks to her.

GAINES

It's okay, Jeff. I got it.

Gordon and the Editor exit.

3pgs

Arzula
Lorings

CONTINUED

GREEN

Where were you last night around nine o'clock, Ms. Gaines?

GAINES

In New York City. At the Democratic Benefactors' Evening.

FONTANA

You and Mrs. Riordan had a few words.

GAINES

I'm an investigative reporter. Words is what I do.

GREEN

How long did you stay?

Gaines realizes where this is heading --

GAINES

I confronted her, okay. But I was in my car driving back to White Plains fifteen minutes later.

FONTANA

Confronted her about what?

GAINES

Maybe you should watch the news.

FONTANA

Heard of the Cubs? The Playoffs?

GAINES

Connecticut awards public works contracts to companies with a significant minority payroll. The list of companies that qualify is certified by the Governor.

GREEN

What's wrong with that?

GAINES

Most of the businesses on Riordan's list are owned in whole or part by David Kaplan.

GREEN

This Kaplan's a player up there?

CONTINUED

GAINES

More like Donald Trump Wanna-be. He's got some projects in the City now, too.

FONTANA

So you're saying there's something in it for the Governor.

GAINES

That's what I'm trying to figure out.

GREEN

(doesn't make sense)
By talking to Mrs. Riordan?

GAINES

I went there to talk to Kaplan. When I saw Maggie Riordan there, I figured I'd take a shot.

FONTANA

Did Kaplan ever show up?

GAINES

He wasn't on the guest list. But I heard he was there. I doubt he'd pass up a chance to schmooze the movers and shakers in the Party. That's his bread and butter.

CUT TO

8 INT. OFFICE OF DAVID KAPLAN ASSOCIATES, STAMFORD, CT. - DAY 8

DAVID KAPLAN, 40s, average looks, receding hairline, sits behind his desk in a huge modern corner office. As Green and Fontana talk to him, at least three GO-FER TYPES move quickly in and out dropping off mail, papers, even refilling Kaplan's coffee.

KAPLAN

I'd known Maggie for ten years. She was wonderful... What a terrible loss for the Governor...

GREEN

(testing him)
How long since you'd seen her?

CONTINUED