

Ninety Degrees South

SEASON TWO
EPISODE THIRTEEN: SHAMUS

DRAFT 1: MAY 3, 2022

by
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SONG INTRO

DESKPHONE RINGING. TWO RINGS AND PICKUP TONE FOR SPEAKER

BASS

Deputy Marshal Marlow Speaking.

GEETA

Good morning Deputy Marshal! You asked me to contact you again if Keck made any more predictions. I wasn't around at the time, but this report says it spoke something 15 minutes ago.

BASS

Very greatly appreciated Doctor Pataini. What is it saying this time.

GEETA

Lars!

BASS

Lars? The station cargo loader?

GEETA

Correct, L.A.R.S. Repeated three times as usual than stopped. The confidence translation level is ninety-seven point four percent. It's the first translated word we've seen in months!

BASS

Three minutes ago, so. . .half past 11?

GEETA

Precisely.

BASS

Well, seems the connection on this one isn't too overly complicated then. I'll reach out to Zeke to see if we can't locate Mister Lars! Thanks for letting me know so quickly Doctor.

GEETA

You're very welcome, Deputy. Please let me know once you confirm it was indeed Lars!

BASS

Absolutely, goodbye Doctor

DESKPHONE HANGUP.

DESKPHONE RING TONE. 5 DIGIT DIALING. RINGING. PHONE ANSWERED

ZEKE

What's up Lawman?

BASS

Morning Zeke. Is Lars currently on shift?

ZEKE

Yep, He and Annie are doing routine maintenance in the Ice Tunnels this week.

BASS

Do me a favor. Radio Annie, ask her just to confirm that Lars is alright, that nothing is wrong.

ZEKE

[Slight Concern]

Something I should know about? Something happen?

BASS

Not sure. Might not be anything. I just got a call for the Dark Sector Lab. Keck just translated his name.

ZEKE

Keck? That the computer that predicted your crash? One that reads light from outer space or something?

BASS

That's the one. It's been right with each prediction. That's why. . .I just want to make sure everything is okay.

ZEKE

Alright. Sit tight a second.

OVER THE SPEAKER PHONE WE HEAR THE RADIO PUSH BUTTON SOUND AND RADIO SQUELCH AS THE TWO CONVERSE.

PTT TONE

ZEKE

Come in Annie.

SQUELCH

ANNIE

Go ahead chief.

PTT TONE

ZEKE

Just checking in. Wanted to make sure you and Lars are okay down there.

SQUELCH

ANNIE

[Confused]

Everything is fine Chief. I'm working on the exhaust duct that was blocked last week, just about done with that. Lars is. . . standby chief.

THREE BEAT
SQUELCH

ANNIE

Uhhh chief. . .he's gone.

PTT TONE

ZEKE

The hell you mean 'he gone?'

SQUELCH
SOUND OF WALKING ICE AS SHE IS TALKING

ANNIE

He was just down here with me. Working on the heating station around the corner from where I was in Tunnel B, section G. I saw him 15 minutes ago when he. . .motioned for me to hold a flashlight for him. When I just looked around the corner to section E just now, He was gone! The heating station looks to be working again. No sign of him inside. I'm checking down deeper into the tunnel. . .hold up. . .Chief! The surface hatch on emergency ladder exit seven. It's open. He must have exited through there, near building 58.

PTT TONE

ZEKE

Come on out Annie. Tag-out with Keenan once you're clear of the tunnels. [TWO BEAT] Lawman, you catch all that?

BASS

Yeah, I'll put a BOLO out on Lars with Station ops. Have Mister Kelley send out a Be on the lookout message. Inform all staff he's missing and report if they see him. Don't approach.

ZEKE

Bass, something seriously ain't right here! Nobody. . .and I mean no-damn-body overlooks tag-in / tag-out. Its rule number one of going into anyplace hazardous. The Ice Caves, the Pump Room, the power arch. . .all them places! I know my boy can't talk. . .but would have let Annie know if he had to bolt so she would call it in.

BASS

Keep track of Annie. Once she's clear ask her if she saw anything that looked like there was a struggle, like anything had happened.

ZEKE

Lars is just as big as I am. Ain't no way somebody could have knocked him out, let alone knock him out and carry his ass up an emergency ladder!

BASS

It's not making sense to me either. Lets just make sure that Annie gets safe. I'll head down there as soon as I can and you and I can check it out. I need to contact Mister Kelley now to get the word passed around.

ZEKE

See you when I see you.

***SPEAKERPHONE HANGUP. CHAIR SLIDES BACK, DRAWER OPENS,
CHAMBER A ROUND, HOLSTER GUN***

PTT TONE

BASS

Mister Kelley?

SQUELCH

THOMAS

Go ahead Deputy Marshal

PTT TONE

BASS

I need to get notice out to all station staff to be on the lookout for Lars. He was in the ice tunnels but disappeared. His duty status is whereabouts unknown.

SQUELCH

THOMAS

Gosh! That's terrible! Do you think it was foul play?

PTT TONE

BASS

Easy with that talk Mister Kelley. Lots not jump to any unnecessary conclusions. I just need people to keep their eyes open for him. Report in if they see him.

SQUELCH

THOMAS

I understand. I'll have Cheryl-Lynn get an announcement out now. I'll let you know if anybody reports seeing him!

PTT TONE

BASS

I'm heading down to Ops right now. I'll chat with you shortly!

**OFFICE DOOR OPEN. FOOTSTEPS HEADING DOWN HALLWAY. MOPPING
IN THE DISTANCE BECOMES LOUDER AS BASS APPROACHES.**

MIKHAIL

Careful Tovarisch! Floor is wet from mappings. Somebody
spills coffee and does not call right away Now. . . Spill dried up
and now looks like caffeine crime scene.

BASS

Thanks Mikhail. Hey, don't suppose you've seen Lars have
you?

MIKHAIL

Tovarisch, you know Mikhail is no good with the names.
Which Smarty pants is this one?

BASS

German guy. DeWalt. Cargo loader. Big. . . .BIG guy. Six Fiv,
He's Bald. . .

MIKHAIL

Ahhhhhhhhh! You speak of Bull! Reminds me of tall shiny
head man who was Bailiff on TV sitcom show. With Harry
judge and Dan Lawyer.

BASS

Um. . .o.k. this one I don't know. But yeah, that's him. You see
him in the last hour by chance?

MIKHAIL

Prosti moy drug! I have not seen Bull since evening last.

BASS

Okay. If you do happen to see him, Please let Mister Kelley
know!

Pros-Tee muh-oi –
Droog
*I'm sorry my
friend*

MAKHAIL

Stho?

BASS

[Sighs] Terry!

MIKHAIL

Oh Timmy! Da! Not a problem. [TWO BEAT] Oh, Tovarisch, I forget my manners. How is things with you and little church mouse doctor? You seem to be happy like Edith & Archie.

BASS

We're doing just fine Mikhail. The past few months have been some of the happie. .. [BEAT] All in the Family? Really?

MIKHAIL

Da, I know neither you nor Church mouse are exactly like that. They are older. Struggle to understand world they live in now. He is grumpy older man who is angry at world. She is a sweet, shy and socially awkward woman. That is no you and Church mouse?

BASS

Alright. .that is pretty accurate when you put it that way.

MIKHAIL

Ah, it makes my heart warm to know you and her are still doing well. Just walk softly Tovarich. New loves can be exciting; but is also very delicate. Must be cared for very very gentle like.

BASS

Trust me Mikhail. I have absolutely no intention of ruining this. We're going slowly and taking things one day at a time. We're both of this same opinion.

HAVE STATION ANNOUNCEMENT MADE IN THE BACKGROUND . CHERYL-LYNN ADVISING PEOPLE TO KEEP AN EYE OPEN FOR LARS AND REPORT IF THEY SHOULD SEE HIM.

MIKHAIL

Meh! Is no just words Tovarisch. Your loves Is new. . .da, but can also be overwhelming. Look at Bunkers! They are opposites. Get onto nerves of one another for decades. . .but, no matter what the situation, their loves is always winning over disagreements. You would do good to be remembering this. What Archie and Edith teach us about lasting relationships!

BASS

As always. . .I'll keep your unique brand of folksy wisdom in mind as we move forward.

MIKHAIL

Sound good . . .meathead!

WALKING DOWN HALLWAY CONTINUES. WE HEAR THE DOOR OPEN TO OPS, THE CHATTER OF THE RADIO AND COMMS, BUT NO PEOPLE.

BASS

Hello? Mister Kelley?

TWO BEAT

BASS

Anybody here?

WALKING DOWN THE HALLWAY TO THOMAS' OFFICE. KNOCKING

BASS

Mister Kelley?

**DOOR OPENS, CLOSSES AGAIN. WALKING DOWN HALLWAY, FROM INSIDE
THE VISITOR OFFICE**

RICHARD

It's Lunch-time G-Man. The brass here all strap on the feed
back at quarter to noon. Been that way for years in the winter.

BASS

[Shocked]

LARS! YOU'RE. . . TALKING!!! What happened? Why'd you
leave the tunnels without letting Annie know?

RICHARD

Needed to hit the bricks for a bit while I got clear headed.
Needed to rest until it stopped feeling like I had been slipped a
mickey! Happens every time I find a new host.

BASS

What are you talking about Lars? Why are you sitting in the
dark?

SOUND OF A LIGHT CHAIN BEING PULLED

RICHARD

That should make it easier! We haven't been formally
introduced. The name is Johnson. . . Richard Johnson. I took
control of the galoot here when he picked me up in the ice
Caves. Yes, I know I'm a puppet. . . that's a case I'm still
working. Now, you mind not staring and get me a pack of
luckys and a bottle of rotgut! I have time to make up for!

PTT TONE

BASS

[Confused]

All staff. Lars has been located. He's . . .safe. He's with me in the visitors office, administration floor 2 elevated station. Zeke. . .please come to the office. Marlow out.

FADE OUT

ELECTRONIC: DIGITAL BOOP

BASS

Alright. . .Interview of. . . AHEM. . .Detective Richard Johnson. Private Investigator. Amundsen-Scott Station. Today is. . .
.[UNDER BREATH] *ironically not the weirdest day of mine down here*,[NORMAL TONE] um. . .Friday, July 29th and the time . . .
.well there is no wall clock in this office so let's call it noon!
Also in the room is. . .Lars, station cargo lifter. Chief of Engineering Ezekiel Bustamante to join shortly.

RICHARD

Damn! Back in my day those things were the size of a bread box and weighed about four bricks worth! Reel to reel not around anymore huh?

BASS

Before we get started, so I am respectful. . .should I be addressing Lars or, you standing on the desk?

RICHARD

The moose in the chair is just my ride. He's helping me get from here to there. As far as the yakkety-yank, talk to me G-Man.

BASS

Okay then. How about we start with how did you get here?

RICHARD

Walked through the door, same as you. You sure you're a fed?
You have some credentials I might get a gander at?

BASS

I'm a US Deputy Marshal, Sworn and accredited. My badge and
ID.

REMOVED CREDENTIALS FROM POCKET

RICHARD

Alright. The tin looks square. So, you're this new house dick
everybody is flapping their gums about? Western Marshal
from all the dime store novels?

BASS

Guess you could say that. What I'm more interested to know. .

RICHARD

Is what is a two-bit sock with clothes and googly eyes doing
with a prize-fighter style fist up his caboose, am I on the trolley
or on a trip for biscuits?

BASS

Yes, let's start there! What are you? How'd you get here?

RICHARD

Well, just like the Saturday matinees say, it all started with a
roscoe being pushed in my mug by a dropper who wanted me
and my partner in a Chicago overcoat!

[TWO BEAT]

BASS

[Confused]

What? In English, please!

RICHARD

We doing the Tijuana tango here Charlie? You a drummer? A Cylde? [SIGH] Fine. . .like I would to my brother's jingle-brained kid. Somebody hired a killer to take out my detective partner and me.

BASS

[Gets it]

Okay! Thank you! Please, go on.

RICHARD

Well, neither of us are keen for a third nostril, so we take out the hired killer and start looking for the high pillow. . .for the crime boss who wanted to murder us. Word on the street was he had gone on the lamb while we were after him. Was holed up in the Meatpacking district. So, Louie an me. . .Louie was the other Shamus, grabbed a hack and went from our offices in Midtown on West 48th and 6th down to tenth Ave where we heard he was.

Well, didn't take but two shakes for his goons to make us. We were behind the eight-ball in nothing flat. . .Man, Louie took one in the chest., got cut down almost as soon as we walked in the door. Somebody behind me gave me a wood shampoo and it was lights out.

[TWO BEAT]

I come too, In a chair and trussed like tom turkey. Heavy chains and cinder blocks keeping me company. Wasn't sure if this was them tightening the screws, but with the number of trouble boys around, and on the edge of a pier over the Hudson, I didn't think they were there to bake me a cake.

So, as the big goon with the broken nose tips the edge of the chair with his foot, and I start sinking like a rummy after his

fourth tipping, I thought it was curtains. I started sinking into the black, when I see this. . .swirling, purplish inking light below me. The chair slid right through it and suddenly, I'm on my back in this place. Some skirt with thick goggles sewing me up.

Thought it was the Nightingales patching me up, but I couldn't move. It was only when one of them. . .[AHEM] put me on that I could take control. From there, it's old News.

[THREE BEAT]

BASS

[Confused]

Ahhhh[pause] so you [pause] I honestly got nothing here. This, makes Absolutely zero. . .

DOOR OPENS

ZEKE

[ANGRY]

LARS! I don't care if you can't speak, you best start telling me. .

RICHARD

[Showing off]

Afternoon. . .chief!

ZEKE

OH SHIT! EVIL KERMIT! HELP ME OUT HERE LAWMAN!!

ZEKE RUSHES RICHARD BUT LARS OTHERHAND SHOOTS OUT, GRABBING ZEKE BY THE THROAT. PICKS HIM OFF HIS FEET WITH ALMOST NO EFFORT. BASS THROWS THREE PUNCHES WITH NO EFFECT. STEPS BACK AND PULLS HIS FIREARM.

BASS

DROP HIM JOHNSON, OR I DROP YOU, NOW!

RICHARD

Gonna put you down Zeke, but let's not go trying to separate me and the gooney moose here, we savvy?

ZEKE GETS PUT DOWN AND GASPS FOR BREATH

ZEKE

Told ya! [wheezing] Evil! [Wheezing] shoot him Bass!

RICHARD

[Nervous]

Easy with that heater now G-Man. I know Zeke told you I take livers, leave marks in a bathtub of ice and am all off the tracks; but that ain't the skinny. I'm hitting on all eight here and that's no grift! Now, I don't want to give it to anybody on the chin, I don't have no kick with any of you. I just need to get back to where I came from, and until one of these Charlies with a degree can put the finger on how I got here, I'm going to cool my heals!

BASS

Zeke. . .you okay over there?

ZEKE

[Insistent]

Shoot him!

BASS

[adamant]

I can't just. . .shoot a person Zeke. He let you go when I told him. He's. . .not . . .

ZEKE

He ain't even no person, he's a sock! A plushie!

BASS

Being held by Lars! I. . . .Look, I'm putting my. . .heater away.
I have your word, no more violence if I do?

RICHARD

I didn't start that little dust-up Marshal. Just defended myself
against Chief Crescent Wrench here. But if it makes you
unclench the keister. . .okay. You have my word as a fellow
flattie, as a man of the law. . .no rough stuff.

GUN REHOLSTERED

ZEKE

[ANGRY]

THE HELL LAWMAN?

BASS

[Trying to defuse]

Zeke. . .Just. . .work with me please. Just step outside real
quick, I'll be out in a two second to chat.

STARTS WALKING AROUND ANGRILY

ZEKE

Oh you damned right we going to be talking about this one
lawman! Ain't no way that Pinocchio going to be walkin' round
MY station while I'm still takin in air.

DOOR SLAMS SHUT

BASS

Normally a man has to earn my trust and respect. A man who
wears or has worn a badge. . .automatically get it until he
shows me he's not worth to have worn it in the first place. I
don't fully get. . .all this! But don't make me regret this
decision Johnson. . .Lars. . .whoever!

JOHNSON

You know. . .you're an okay Joe for a G-man Marlow! Wound up tighter than a pocket watch. . .but for a Bull; you seem a straight shooter. Now, about those luckys and a 5th of jack. . .

BASS

Just. . .do us both a favor and sit tight for five minutes. I'll be right back. Then we'll what we can do about cigarettes and booze.

FOOTSTEPS TO THE DOOR. IT OPENS AND CLOSSES.

ZEKE

Have you lost your damn fool mind? You wasn't here the last time that voodoo doll was lose. You didn't see the damage he caused!

BASS

Zeke, seriously. . .this isn't the puppet doing all this. Lars obviously found him in the tunnels, and he's. . .found some way to finally express himself. Think he needs time with Sydney more than a bullet.

TWO BEAT

ZEKE

You **HAVE** lost your damned mind lawman? After all the shit you see going on down here. . .demons, time doors, monster Ice spiders, dimension travelers, future stations from 2045, machines that predict event. . .here, you draw the line here?

BASS

Zeke, I don't know if he is. . .what he says he is or if this is Lars. What I do know is that he was holding you by the neck a foot off the ground and didn't even strain. I gut punched his three times. Not proud, but I kidney punched him twice. I've seen that take down guys your size jacked up on steroids and LSD. It didn't even phase him, phase. . .Lars! Zeke, my gun notwithstanding, I get the impression that even both of us together couldn't take him down. For now, and until I'm positive as to EXACTLY what . . .this situation is. . .I want him calm!

ZEKE

[Slight cough] Bass. . .[cough, spit] Bass. . .you remember when we in the ice tunnels. You saw him the first time?

BASS

Yeah?

ZEKE

Remember when I said he'd knock you out, cut out your liver and you'd wake up in a bathtub of ice?

BASS

Yeah, you were worked up, said it was bad HooDoo and called him a two-bit Raggedy Ann Doll.

ZEKE.

Richard Johnson just repeated to you my exact words in there. Wasn't no one in the caves with us when we was in there! God Damned lawman. . .Lars wasn't even on the continent then? How'd he know that? [Under his breath] *Sorry lord. I'm worked up here.*

BASS

[Realizes Zeke has a point]

Huh.

ZEKE

Damned right huh! You want to play this your way lawman, okay! I'll back ya. But trust me when I say. . . don't turn you're back on Chucky in there. He got control of Lars. Now you get the most twisted puppet controlling the strongman in this three-ring circus, and I ain't going to be a clown in that show.

BASS

We'll keep an eye on him and make sure he stays tame. In the meantime. . . it's Friday, the station's store is open today yeah? [Sigh] I need to get a bottle and a pack of smokes.

BEGIN FADE OUT

FADE IN. WE'RE IN BASS' OFFICE. INTERVIEW IN PROCESS.

BASS

So in addition to working with Zeke's team as an electrician, you head up the greenhouse and botanical growing operations?

PATRICK

Yep dudder! Been doing the electrician gig for Three years now. Running the greenhouse for two. I keep the power flowin' and the good times goin'!

BASS

Sure you do Mr. Dobber.

PATRICK

Nah, dudder, just Pat. . .or Patrick if you're being serious with me. Mister Dobber is like. . .my dad.

BASS

I need to maintain a sense of Formality, so I'm going to stay with 'Mister' for now. Oh, and it's 'Deputy' or 'Deputy Marshal'.

PATRICK

Right, right! Formal!

BASS

Okay, so back to the day the station learned that flight 0492 had disappeared. You mentioned in our last interview. . .

PAGES FLIP

BASS

ummmmmm, here. . .you mentioned that you saw Deacon McTaggart in a very agitated state.

PATRICK

Oh yeah man! He was all broken up. Dude was stressing out and THEN some. Needed some calm-down medicine! Pacing back and forth, forehead sweat was almost drowning him. I thought dude was going to have a stroke he was so worked up!

BASS

[Considering]

Alright. Anything. . .else stand out. Anything odd, or off or. . .wrong?

PATRICK

Um. . .ermmm. Only If you count the fancy-lad. What's his nose? Chaz. . .Wilford Brimley the third or whatever. The entitled dude.

BASS

[Confused]

Mister Wilford? The Logistics worker?

PATRICK

Mister numbers and spreadsheets! That's the dudder.

BASS

What was off with him?

PATRICK

Okay. . .so you know those dudes who are like. . .lazy? Only do like the minimum amount they need to? Won't go above and beyond for ANYTHING?

BASS

Sure

PATRICK

Well, Dudder got a call to step in for some techy work needed on that plane you were on. Saw him head out without bitchin about it. Had his tech gear already to go. Almost looked happy about having to pitch in more than normal!

WRITING IN NOTEPAD

BASS

Got it. And you were. . .Double checking the Emon sensors?

PATRICK

You know it Deputy Dudder! Wanted to make sure those babies were in place in case we got another flicker tickle. Was working on relay panel twenty-one. BLACK-JACK right! Lucky twenty one man!

BASS

Fair. . . enough. [TWO BEAT] How long has Mr. Wilford been on station again?

PATRICK

Showed up the week after you did. This is his first Winter with us down here.

BASS

Alright.

WRITING IN NOTEBOOK

BASS

I think I'm good here. Thank you for coming in again Mr. Dobber, and on short notice.

PATRICK

Whatever you need Deputy Marshal-Man! Happy to show up to answer whatever you need. For deliveries, just to hang, whatever's clever!

BASS

Thanks again!

CHAIR SLIDES BACK, QUICK WALK TO DOOR WHICH OPENS AND CLOSES. WALK BACK TO CHAIR, SIT DOWN. DRAWER OPENS AND LAPTOP COMES OUT.

BASS

Okay Diane. It's 29th of July. It's Friday and we're closing in on. . . Seventeen hundred hours here. Have just concluded all my planned interviews for the week, plus a few unexpected ones.

I swear, the more time I spend down here, the more. . .I begin to wonder what. . .well, let's not get into that now. The elimination process of viable suspects is just about complete. I have three top potential candidates. One: The alleged patsy, McTaggart. I'm not convinced about this meek-miley persona he portrays.

He's a new arrival at the station so not that many people have interacted with him in order to confirm if this is really how he is, or if this is all some act. He's already confessed to being involved with the smuggling operation, but this story of family members being put in jeopardy could very easily be a ruse. It wouldn't be the first time I heard it in the past. I'm continuing to look into his background.

Two: Chaz Wilford. By his own admission he was in the plane the morning the sabotage systems were impacted. He says he was in a backup role and only filling in for the primary diagnostic specialist who fell ill the evening before. More than one person . . .

KNOCK ON THE DOOR

BASS

Hold up Diane. . .we have company. COME IN!

DOOR OPENS.

BASS

Sydney! Have a seat!

SYDNEY

[Grunt as he sits]

Okay . . I sat with the big guy. . .and the little guy too! Had a good chat.

BASS

So what's the story?

SYDNEY

Well, I can't go into specific or details due to the four-P principal.

BASS

.what's that?

SYDNEY

4-P principal? Patient puppet psychologist privilege!

BASS

Cute Sydney. So . .is this anything to be overly concerned about?

SYDNEY

Well, absent the whole ventriloquist puppet who can take control of the puppeteer aspect. . .

BASS

[Cuts him off]

Whoa whoa whoa. You're saying. . .Zeke was right, this. .
.Richard Johnson is a. . .

SYDNEY

Well, I don't know that I could call him a flesh & blood person.
. but there is a distinct personality and consciousness there.

BASS

Sydney, you'll have to forgive me. . . .

SYDNEY

No, I do understand. Even WITH all you've seen on station, this is indeed . . .how you'd just put it?. . .Next level shit!

BASS

So. . .

SYDNEY

No, I honestly don't believe we are in any danger from either of them. Puppet or person. The person honestly wants to help and the puppet is more focused on getting back to. . .well wherever it is that he's from vs. anything malicious here.

BASS

I know but. . .Zeke

SYDNEY

Well, with that you have to understand that your pal Zeke. . .he's a very cautious person. Very much in the here in now. He accepts the weird and oddities that are around . . .

BASS

Hold up. [TWO BEAT] I haven't. . .said any of that. I only thought it! It never had a chance to be said aloud.

SYDNEY

Which is partly why I'm asked to continue to return here every Winter season. The NSF thinks it's just my track record of being able to keep a semblance of balance and order within the mental health of the winter overs. Which in all honestly. . .it is! I just have, an added bonus to my doctorate. I can hear thoughts.

[THREE BEAT]

SYDNEY

No, I'm actually very serious Bass.

[TWO BEAT]

No, I can't control people, just read thoughts. I'm a psychiatrist Bass, not a Jedi!

BASS

STOP THAT! So. . .the entire time we've been chatting. You've read my mind.

SYDNEY

[Sincere]

No. Just the thoughts that were loudest in your head. Those I couldn't tune out.

BASS

[In slight shock]

You're. . .you're being serious!

SYDNEY

Well, if it makes you feel any better, the doctor / patient privilege still applies, and I'm still bound by it. I can't discuss anything we talk about or that. . .I pick up in sessions. Also, and not sure why, but I only seem to have this. . .ability when I'm down here. When I'm back in Brooklyn in my private practice. . .nothing!

[THREE BEAT]

SYDNEY

You're about to ask me what you're thinking of. The answer is a bottle of Knob Creek and a Padron twenty six, number six Robusto Cigar. Bass, I'm on the level here, and will always be!

BASS

HOW THE HELL AM I SUPPOSED TO CHAT WITH YOU IF. . .

SYDNEY

Bass, I'm not the bad guy here. Yes . . I have this, thing but I have to believe it's for the greater good. It's certainly what I'm using it for while down here. I'm a psychiatrist yes, but also a doctor and bound by the hypocritic oath.

BASS

. . .do no harm.

SYDNEY

Look. . .it's late on a Friday. It's been a long week. This. . . .here is a lot to take in. Why don't you go, spend down time with Kendra and just unwind. We can pick this back up Monday if you'd like.

CHAIR SLIDES OUT, DOOR OPENS.

SYDNEY

I will leave you with this. Not necessarily as a psychiatrist, but as. . . .well I hope a budding friend. Bass, If things between you and Kendra are ever going to work, you have to reconcile yourself with your past before you can commit to a shared future. Otherwise, you'll be reliving all the torment and the nightmares. . .for the rest of your days.

FADE OUT AND OUTRO