

T A K E T H I S W O M A N

(IF I SHOULD DIE BEFORE I WAKE)

(*"LADY FROM SHANGHAI"*)

Screenplay by
Orson Welles

FINAL DRAFT
(For Estimating Purposes)
August 17, 1946

It's late August, -- very early morning....The city, fretfully awake, gasps for breath in the stuffy atmosphere of a closet.

In the dizzy heat Spires and tenements seem to sweat like the New Yorkers living in them. It's been a heavy summer and the whole weight of it has been congealed into one oven of a night.

under the TITLE and CREDITS...

We see Manhattan at such an hour in such a season.

In particular: We see a girl walking. We see a man following her. She hears his footsteps, stops, he ducks out of her sight.

In the dark doorway of a building we watch him hiding, -- listening...

She has returned, searching for him, but she halts short of the door, changes her mind, and crosses the street, moving toward the place where hansoms and Victorias are waiting near the park...

The man scuttles away. CAMERA PANNING HIM takes in a luminous vista of the city as....

The CREDITS finish, and we

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. NIGHT CLUB

1 DOODLES....the screen is filled with them... Figures, 1
drafted nervously on a tablecloth. HOT RUMBA MUSIC comes
over the scene. CAMERA PULLS BACK to show the doodler;
an aging playboy (Grisby) - in a most unhappy sweat of
apprehension. He's sitting at a table in a night club,
from the pattern of the upholstery: El Morocco. A waiter
is speaking into his ear.

THE WAITER

-- No sir. I've checked again.

THE PLAYBOY

(his voice shaking
a little)

You're sure?

THE WAITER

That's right, sir. She hasn't called.

The waiter leaves. The Playboy stares straight ahead,
gripping the pencil in his shaking fingers. The pencil
breaks... At this the CAMERA WHIPS OFF THE SCENE. In a
frantic smear of light -

DISSOLVE TO:

2 INSERT: A RADIO AND A PHONE 2
The music of El Morocco is being broadcast, but we hear it
more tinnily now from the speaker. A phone in the f.g. is
ringing. A hand comes into the scene, and lifts the
receiver off the cradle, CAMERA MOVING UP TO SHOW A MAN --
a cripple, with a sharp, intelligent face (this is Bannister).

THE CRIPPLED MAN

Yes -- ?

With his free hand, he completes an action commenced when
the phone rang. He knocks a pill or two out of a bottle,
picks them up in his uncertain fingers, pops them in his
mouth and swallows them with a glass of water. He has
just started his drink when something said on the phone
makes him stop to answer.

THE CRIPPLED MAN

(sharply)

What do you mean -- you lost her?

CUT TO:

INT. PHONE BOOTH

3 GARAGE SEEN IN B.G. A man is at the phone (Broome). 3
 His blank face shows nothing but greed. A loose mouth sports a set of teeth the color of Camembert cheese. About two of these unlovely grinders are missing and this man Broome has a way of nursing a fat reptilian tongue through the gaping space with exactly the grimace of a sick lizard. Indeed, though a big fellow, he's quite probably unwell. Anyway, he looks ill. He also looks like a hoodlum.

BROOME

I tagged her as far as the Plaza.
 Then she took this horse and buggy...
 I had to leave her go or she'd spot
 me...

CUT TO:

4 THE OTHER END OF THE PHONE CONVERSATION: 4

THE CRIPPLED MAN

(furiously)

You read the papers, don't you?
 You know the kind of things that're
 happening in the park nowadays? --
 What's she doing out there --
alone?

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. CENTRAL PARK

5 CLOSEUP A GIRL

5

The girl we saw before....A very beautiful girl. She's riding in a carriage in the park. CAMERA CRANES BACK to show a POLICE SQUAD CAR moving up behind her.

INSERT: THE LITTLE DIAL OF A RADIO
IN SQUAD CAR

Through the speaker and over the rattling of static comes the cop announcer reciting the police calls.

POLICE RADIO VOICE

Car in 52nd Precinct, Signal 30 -
196th & Jerome - cries for help
Car 510 will respond - proceed
cautiously.

INT. SQUAD CAR - NIGHT

6 MEDIUM CLOSE SHOT

6

A couple of cops are listening to the calls.

COP 1

Gettin' a lot of action up in the
Bronx...

COP 2

Yeah, quiet around here, -- for once.

COP 1

Hey! Just a minute --

He jerks his head to indicate something we can't see outside.

COP 1

(continuing)

How about that guy, -- watcha think?

The Voice on the short wave radio drones on with the police calls....

EXT. CENTRAL PARK - NIGHT

7

The radio in the parked squad car can still be heard, faint, 7
but audible. It's quiet out here. And very hot. A man is walking in the park late at night. His footsteps echo on the sidewalk. He's singing under his breath, and with more than a touch of Irish brogue:

7 CONTINUED:

THE MAN

Bold Robert Emmett, the darlin' of Erin
 Bold Robert Emmett, he died with a smile.
 So farewell --

It's dark and the man's face is in shadow. But now a blade of light stabs through the darkness and picks up his face interrupting the song. The flashlight is held by a policeman, one of the two, in the squad car. Nothing is said for a while. The flashlight travels up and down searching the man. The cops looking him over without comment. The short wave radio rattles on with its routine refrain...

8 TRUCKING SHOT

8

The man moves to a pedestrian crossing with traffic lights, the squad car inching after him.

9 CLOSEUP THE MAN

9

He's a big strapping Irishman with a pug nose -- a little wild-eyed maybe, but he doesn't really look dangerous. This is Michael. O.S. the carriage is heard coming up.

10 MEDIUM SHOT MICHAEL

10

Squad car in b.g. The horse-drawn hack approaches -- a Victoria, chauffeured by a broken-down old character in a topper, and containing by way of a passenger, the Girl. With a lonely sounding "click," the traffic light changes and the carriage comes to a halt beside Michael.

MICHAEL

(he grins at
 the cabby)

That horse o' yours, -- does he
 always stop by himself on a red
 light?

THE CABBY

It's a her and she ain't color blind.

MICHAEL

(apparently for the
 benefit of the police)

Sure, it's the middle of the night
 in the middle of the park, an' if
 there's ever a point in a traffic
 light at all, there's no point in
 it here. So why does she stop?

10 CONTINUED:

10

THE CABBY

This here's a law-abiding horse.

MICHAEL

There's nobody obeys a law unless they're afraid of something.

Michael now pretends to talk to the horse, but of course all this is really meant for the cops, and more importantly, for the girl.

MICHAEL

(continuing)

Is it the old man's whip you tremble under, Rosinante?

THE CABBY

(dead pan)

Now, don't be callin' her names.

MICHAEL

(catching the Irish remnant in the old cabby's inflection)

You're a Cork man?

THE CABBY

Limerick. But I left Ireland when I was a kid.

MICHAEL

So did I...

THE CABBY

You're from the North, ain't ya?

MICHAEL

The West. Connemarra.
(to the girl)

Will you have a cigarette, ma'am?

11 CLOSEUP THE GIRL

11

Michael's eyes haven't left hers during all the foregoing and for good reasons, too. She's wearing a simple print frock -- but she fills it with great style. She's young -- nothing fresh or cheap about her -- reserved -- but her eyes meet Michael's with a level twinkle.

12 MEDIUM SHOT IN CENTRAL PARK

12

The Cops in the squad car have been silently watching all of this and listening. Now, one of them speaks:

12 CONTINUED:

12

COP 1

It's a bad time to be out alone,
lady. Been a lotta trouble out
here lately -

COP 2

Yeah, and maybe the Irishman knows
something about it.

COP 1

Maybe we ought to take him in and
find out.

Michael, paying no attention to this, repeats his offer to
the girl.

MICHAEL

Cigarette?

THE GIRL

No, thanks.

MICHAEL

(as though the cops,
who are watching him
still - don't exist)
The brand is ordinary but the
smoke is sweet in the open
night air.

COP 1

(with a grunt)

Aw - he's just showin' off to the
girl.

The squad car starts away..

13

CLOSEUP MICHAEL

The muscle twitches in Michael's jaw, but he goes on offering
the cigarette.

13

MICHAEL

It's me last one. And I been
looking forward to it, so please
don't refuse.

14

TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND THE GIRL

14

THE GIRL

But I don't smoke.

14 CONTINUED:

14

MICHAEL

Experiment with this one. In the dark of the road up there, there'll be nobody to see you. You've the look of a queen about you entirely, ridin' in your solitary luxuriousness, and it's only a queen knows how to be after receivin' a gift.

15 MEDIUM SHOT MICHAEL, THE GIRL AND CARRIAGE 15
The lonely "click" again - the traffic light has changed.

MICHAEL

I want to remember you as the queen of the night-time, the Empress of Central Park, so take the gift, Your Majesty, and don't disappoint me.

THE CABBY

We better get goin', miss, before the light changes again.

With nice gravity, the girl accepts the cigarette, takes a handkerchief out of her bag and wraps Michael's foolish little gift in it.

16 CLOSEUP THE GIRL 16
She looks at Michael for a minute, then:

THE GIRL

Go ahead.

The way she says it - still looking at him - it sounds very much like an invitation....but -

17 MEDIUM SHOT THE CARRIAGE AND MICHAEL 17
But the old Cabby takes it literally, and with a crack of his whip he starts up the carriage. There's a sleepy 'clop-clop' of hooves as they go on off into the darkness leaving Michael all by himself.

18 CRANE SHOT MICHAEL IN THE PARK 18
He starts slowly up the sidewalk in the same direction. Then, after a bit, he whispers his little song again.

MICHAEL

"Sold Robert Emmett, he died with a smile.
So farewell, companions, both brave and loyal,
I laid down my life -- "

Again he's interrupted. Again by the return of the squad car.

19

MEDIUM SHOT SQUAD CAR
The car stops beside Michael.

19

COP 1
Whatayu celebratin', bud?

MICHAEL
(with quiet belligerence)
What do you mean?

COP 1
Whatchu singin' for?

MICHAEL
Sure, there isn't a soul for me
to wake out here save the birds
in the trees. Can't a man whisper
a small song to himself in the night-
time for the companionship of it?
And to keep himself from remembrin'
that the world is full of cops?

A voice on the short wave radio comes over scene.

COP 2
Just a second, Mac.

VOICE (O.S.)
Cars in the 22nd Precinct, Signal 32
at 86th St. Entrance. Cars 442, 464
will respond...

COP 1
That's us.

They drive off.

20

TRUCKING SHOT MICHAEL
He continues on his walk. After a bit, something catches
his eye. He passes it - then returns and picks it up; a
woman's handbag. It looks like the Girl's. Michael glances
around.

20

21

LONG SHOT DESERTED PARK
Nothing but empty silence.

21

22

CLOSE SHOT MICHAEL
He opens the handbag. There is the handkerchief, and
in it, the cigarette.

22

		9
23	MEDIUM SHOT MICHAEL He sees something on the ground.	23
24	INSERT: THE TRACKS OF CARRIAGE WHEELS CUTTING ACROSS THE LAWN.	24
25	TRUCKING SHOT MICHAEL FOLLOWING CARRIAGE TRACKS The carriage tracks lead to a dark place where there's no street lamp, but a thicket of young trees. The horse and carriage stand motionless in front of a grass embankment.	25
26	CLOSE SHOT THE EMPTY CARRIAGE	26
27	CLOSE SHOT CABBIE, Slumped over on one side lying on the ground is the old cabbie. He's been knocked out.	27
28	CLOSE SHOT MICHAEL Looks around.	28
29	LONG SHOT MICHAEL'S POINT OF VIEW He sees three men, their backs to him, surrounding the Girl. One of the men holds a gun. The Girl looks towards Michael. Her face brightens with hope as she sees him.	29
30	DOLLY SHOT MICHAEL He leaves the old cabbie and rushes toward the men.	30
31	MEDIUM SHOT THE THREE MEN AND THE GIRL Michael takes on the man holding the gun -- delivers a well aimed punch at the jaw.	31
32	CLOSE SHOT MICHAEL AND THE MEN HOLDING THE GUN It's a lucky punch and the man drops to the ground un- conscious - the gun falling in the bushes nearby. The second man closes in on Michael.	32
33	CLOSE SHOT MICHAEL Swinging full force, Michael slashes wildly at this man. The man takes off, and, Roughneck, Number Two beats it, too. The girl, pale with shock, looks wonder- ingly up at her rescuer, the big Irishman. Nothing is said, he just looks back. They both like what they see, but her escape from the attackers has been too serious and energetic a business for a mood conducive to flirtation. Michael takes her by the arm and leads her towards the carriage. He pats the horse, calming it.	33

		10
34	MED. SHOT MICHAEL AND THE GIRL	34
	THE GIRL	
	What about the driver?	
	MICHAEL	
	He'll be the first to wake up. He's bound to be....	
35	CLOSE SHOT THE CARRIAGE	35
	Michael takes out the carriage blanket, very carefully throws it over the unconscious cabbie. Michael kisses the horseshoe and places it on top of the blanket.	
36	CLOSE SHOT THE OLD CABBIE	36
	Dreaming peacefully, the blanket over him, the horse- shoe on top.	
37	TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND THE GIRL	37
	MICHAEL	
	The cops'll find him in a minute. They can figure it out for them- selves. Climb aboard now and I'll take you home.	
	She gets in the carriage with him.	
38	MEDIUM SHOT THE CARRIAGE	38
	Michael starts the Victoria and brings it back to the road.	
39	TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND THE GIRL IN THE CARRIAGE (PROCESS)	39
	THE GIRL	
	Well, you can take me to the garage - home's too far away.	
	MICHAEL	
	Nothing's too far away.	
	THE GIRL	
	(looking at him)	
	You mean for you.	

39 CONTINUED:

39

MICHAEL

I mean for me.

THE GIRL

We'll spend the whole night, then --
driving at this rate of speed.

40 CLOSEUP MICHAEL

40

MICHAEL

Sure, and there's nothin' to do
with the night but to spend it.
You can't be saving it. The night
won't keep.

41 CLOSEUP THE GIRL

41

THE GIRL

That sounds like something in a
book.

42 TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND THE GIRL

42

MICHAEL

It will be.

THE GIRL

Are you a writer?

MICHAEL

I will be.

THE GIRL

What kind of stories do you
write?

MICHAEL

I'll decide after I've written
them.

THE GIRL

But how can you write a story
before you think about it?

48 TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND THE GIRL

48

MICHAEL
(giving her a
shrewd glance)
You know, but does he?

The girl doesn't answer. She looks away.

MICHAEL
(continuing)
You're sure it's over.

THE GIRL
It's none of your business.

MICHAEL
That's just why you can trust me
with the secrets of your heart.
I don't even know your name and
you'll never be seein' me again.

THE GIRL
There you go being certain of
something.

A pause.

49 CLOSEUP MICHAEL
We see him changing his mind about several things.

49

MICHAEL
You better give me your name.

THE GIRL
(with a twinkle)
And my phone number?

MICHAEL
Faith, tomorrow I'll be out on
the sea in a boat and it bound
for the dark continent of Africa.

50 TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND THE GIRL

50

THE GIRL
(her eyes laughing
at him)
You've decided that, too?

MICHAEL
(looking at
her - ruefully)
You know something - you're too
logical altogether!

Michael watches her mouth as it decides to smile, then he speaks, thoughtfully.

MICHAEL
(continuing)
I'm going to call you Rosaleen.

THE GIRL
Rosaleen? Why?

MICHAEL
It's a gorgeous romatical name
to be sure -- and nobody called
Rosaleen could ever be logical.

THE GIRL
(ponders this
for a minute)
I think you like to hear yourself
talk.

MICHAEL
I enjoy it immensely.

THE GIRL
What shall I call you?

MICHAEL
-- My true name.

THE GIRL
(at a tinge of sophisticated
irony accents her tone)
Now, don't tease me -- what is it?

MICHAEL
Michael. And you're teasin'.

THE GIRL
(with more warmth)
Yes, Michael, I'm teasing you.
Do you enjoy that?

51 CLOSEUP MICHAEL

51

MICHAEL
I'm enjoyin' the two of us.

52 CLOSEUP THE GIRL

52

THE GIRL
(smiling up at him)
And you're still going off to
the dark continent of Africa?

53 CLOSEUP MICHAEL

53

MICHAEL
(smiling back)
But I'll see you again, I've changed
my mind about that, and it's gifts
I'll be bringing you, combs from
the tusks of the wisest elephants
to put in your hair, Rosaleen. It's
a marvelous fan I'll wheedle away
from the pygmy people, so you'll be
coolin' your cheek from the feathers
of educated peacocks.

54 TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND THE GIRL

54

THE GIRL
Michael, you're a character.

MICHAEL
I'm nothin' more than a sailor-man
and him with the queen of the night
ridin' along at his side.

55 FULL SHOT THE PARK

55

The squad car is glimpsed through the trees, passing
then, but not seeing them, on another road.

56 CLOSE TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND THE GIRL

56

THE GIRL
There's a police car --

MICHAEL
We're just comin' out of the park,
the horse and cart'll make it too
simple for the cops to be findin'
us --

He pulls up to a lamp-post.

57

MEDIUM SHOT THE CARRIAGE

Michael gets out of the carriage and hitches the horse to the lamp.

57

THE GIRL

You don't care for them very much, do you, Michael?

MICHAEL

The cops?

(somberly)

Faith, they can struggle along without our doin' their work for 'em.

He helps the girl down out of the carriage, then bows to the horse.

MICHAEL

(continuing)

Farewell, Rosinante.

THE GIRL

That sounds like my name.
(smiles)

He takes her arm.

58

TRUCKING SHOT MICHAEL AND THE GIRL

They start walking.

58

MICHAEL

Sure, Rosinante's a horse in a book. You're Rossleen.

THE GIRL

Who's she?

MICHAEL

A girl in a book.

THE GIRL

I remember -- Rosinante was the old nag Don Quixote rode when he went out after those windmills. I think you're a lot like Don Quixote, yourself Michael. You haven't heard about the age of chivalry. It's out of business.

MICHAEL

The tough boys that went after you in the park -- they didn't look like windmills to me --

THE GIRL

They weren't. I'm sorry, Michael,
I guess you're really what you think
you are.

MICHAEL

Whatever's that now?

THE GIRL

A knight errant -- A real live knight
errant. When you were a boy, you read
all about them, didn't you, Michael?
And you never got over it.

MICHAEL

(with a quizzical grin)

You mean I never grew up? And what,
can you tell me, does a knight errant
do for his livelihood?

THE GIRL

Oh, he doesn't bother much about
earning a living. He spends most
of his time rescuing maidens in
distress. He always slays the
dragon and saves the princess, and
he makes the prettiest speeches.
But you'd better be careful. Things
have changed, Sir Knight. Nowadays
it's usually the dragon that lives
happily ever after.

MICHAEL

Don't the princess and the knight
ever make it?

THE GIRL

(stopping and turning
to him)

Sometimes she gives him a kiss.

Michael just looks at her, terribly embarrassed. A funny
little spark comes into her eye.

THE GIRL

(continuing)

Michael....You know what's wrong
with being a knight errant?

MICHAEL

No.

THE GIRL

He's brave and bold because his heart
is pure. But he's an awful fool --
He doesn't know anything about women.

She takes his hand and leads him to the street corner.

THE GIRL

(continuing)

If I hadn't seen the way you can
fight, I'd say you spend all your
time reading.

MICHAEL

A sailor has nothin' but time. Faith,
so must a girl ridin' all by herself
in a carriage in the lonesome dark.
You must have time and to spare.

THE GIRL

(quietly)

No, I haven't much time...

(after a minute --

she's been thinking)

You don't like the police, Michael.
Is there some reason why they don't
like you?

MICHAEL

(darkly)

They've never put me in jail --
in America.

By now they've stopped at the street corner.

EXT. STREET CORNER

THE GIRL

My car's a block down that way...

MICHAEL

(lightly)

The nicest jails are in Australia.
The worst are in Spain.

THE GIRL

You must be a naughty boy, Michael.

MICHAEL

I'm careless.

59 CONTINUED:

59

THE GIRL

Now, you're bragging.
 (her smile is at once
 affectionate and derisive)
 Look at you, you're waiting for
 the red light! Come on, Michael.

Leading him, she starts crossing the street against the
 light.

THE GIRL

(continuing)
 What law did you break in Spain?

MICHAEL

I killed a man.

A taxi whizzes by and almost runs them down. They continue
 crossing.

THE GIRL

(laughing)
 You almost killed a girl on
 Sixty-seventh Street.

MICHAEL

Is there a law against that?

They've reached a garage.

EXT. GARAGE

60

60

THE GIRL

Try it. You won't like the
 jails in New York.

She leads him into the garage.

INT. GARAGE

61 The girl gives an attendant a check. She and Michael stand 61
 together waiting for her car.

MICHAEL

(during the foregoing
 business)

There was a woman here killed her
 husband last week. He'd gone to the
 ice-box for a bite of supper. The
 woman said she thought her husband
 was a burglar. She shot him five
 times in the head.

61 CONTINUED:

61

THE GIRL
She had a good lawyer.

62 TIGHT TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND THE GIRL

62

MICHAEL
Evidently. I saw the woman's picture
in the newspaper this morning --
'Vacation-bound for Bermuda,' it said.
Come to think of it, they had the
lawyer-man's picture, as well. A
sorry little cripple fella, he was.
Bainbridge or somethin'. The paper
called him the 'World's Greatest
Criminal Lawyer.' He looked like the
World's greatest criminal.

63 CLOSEUP THE GIRL

63

THE GIRL
(slowly)
Some people think he is. His name
is Bannister. Harry Bannister.

64 CLOSEUP MICHAEL

64

MICHAEL
You seem to know a lot about him.

65 CLOSEUP THE GIRL

65

THE GIRL
I ought to, but I don't.

66 TIGHT TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND THE GIRL

66

MICHAEL
(after a silence)
I don't know what that means, but
I won't apologize, regardless.

THE GIRL
Don't ever.

MICHAEL
I don't ever.

INT. GARAGE

67 MEDIUM SHOT

67

ATTENDANT
(coming into the Scene)
Here's your car, Ma'am.

Another Attendant drives up with a really huge and fiercely-sleek Hispano Suiza.

THE GIRL
Send the bill to my husband.

68 CLOSEUP MICHAEL

68

MICHAEL
Your husband.

69 CLOSEUP THE GIRL REACTION

69

70 CLOSEUP MICHAEL

70

MICHAEL
Did you go ridin' in the carriage
because you wanted loneliness to
be thinkin' of him, or just so
they could fix the plug?

71 FRESH ANGLE OF THE GARAGE
A concrete pillar behind Michael. Broome's face inches
into the picture. He watches the Girl and Michael, careful
not to be seen.

71

72 CLOSEUP THE GIRL

72

THE GIRL
(she looks at him for a
minute)
I don't like driving this thing....
Like to drive it for me?

73 TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND THE GIRL
He doesn't answer. She gets into the car, behind the wheel.

73

74 CLOSEUP THE GIRL

74

THE GIRL
...I'd like it.

75 CLOSEUP MICHAEL

75

MICHAEL
I'm shippin' out tomorrow.

76 TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND THE GIRL

76

THE GIRL
You've been to Africa. I'll bet
you've never seen Long Island.
It'll be a new experience.

Michael's eyes don't leave hers, but he doesn't answer.

THE GIRL
(continuing)
Are you interested in money?

MICHAEL
Not at all.

THE GIRL
(giving him a card)
In case you change your mind --

77 CLOSEUP MICHAEL
He tears the card in two and throws it away.

77

78 CLOSEUP THE GIRL

78

THE GIRL
I'll make it worth your while --

Suddenly, her face changes...her hand is still in her bag.
She misses something. She's frightened.

79 TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND THE GIRL

79

MICHAEL
Is this what you're lookin' for?
(he brings out a gun)
You were smart to carry it, ridin'
alone in the park, but if you knew
you had it in your bag why throw it
away?

THE GIRL
I hoped you'd find it. I don't
know how to shoot.

MICHAEL
It's easy. You just pull the
trigger.

79 CONTINUED:

79

All at once her eyes fill with tears. She's a very scared, very helpless-looking little girl. She starts up the big car with a jerk.

INT. GARAGE

80 MEDIUM SHOT 80
The Girl drives the car, much too quickly, out of the garage. Michael stands looking after her. Broome comes up beside him.

BROOME
Some dame, ain't she?

Michael makes no reply.

A GARAGE ATTENDANT
Yeah -- and some car. Mr. Bannister had it made special for her.

81 CLOSEUP MICHAEL 81

MICHAEL
Bannister?

82 TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND THE ATTENDANT 82

THE ATTENDANT
Harry Bannister himself.
(he sighs in an
ecstasy of admiration)
Some guys have all the luck!

DISSOLVE TO:

83 MOVING SHOT CRIPPLED LEGS OF A MAN LIMPING THROUGH A CROWD CAMERA PULLS BACK to show this man. Quite tragically crippled, he is -- we've seen him before. Small, very balding, sharp faced, with a twisted mouth and very bright beady eyes. CAMERA PULLS FURTHER BACK to show: 83

INT. SEAMAN'S HIRING HALL

84 Hundreds of seamen gathered in groups -- faces representing all the people of the earth. In the center of the room, on a chair, a port steward stands calling off names. 84

PORT STEWARD

S.S. American Trader, four A.B.'s,
two ordinary seamen, one oiler,
one wiper, three cooks, and boatswain,
one quartermaster. She lays at Pier
43. She's feeding ...

The crippled man comes up to one of the sailors.

THE CRIPPLED MAN

Excuse me, could you help me
locate a Mr. O'Hara -- Michael
O'Hara?

THE SAILOR

(his name is GOLDIE)
Black Mike O'Hara ... a big harp
that talks fancy?

THE CRIPPLED MAN

I don't know the man myself.

Another sailor comes up to them, this one's name is Jake.

JAKE

I know him.

THE CRIPPLED MAN

Shipmates?

JAKE

We was in Spain together.

A voice cuts in over the loudspeaker.

VOICE O.S.

Michael O'Hara ... O'Hara ...
Man wants to see you. Please
step to the water cooler.

JAKE

They started callin' him Black Irish in '39, after what he did to them two strikebreakers. There's a lotta blarney in Mike, but he knows how to hurt a man when he gets mad.

THE CRIPPLED MAN

Everything goes black, huh?

JAKE

Black and blue.

VOICE O.S.

(loudspeaker)

I got a tanker needs a cook's assistant. A short run to the Gulf. She's feedin', she's hot.

MICHAEL O.S.

You're looking for me?

THE CAMERA PANS to include Michael. The crippled man sizes him up with shrewd eyes.

THE CRIPPLED MAN

O'Hara?

MICHAEL

O'Hara.

THE CRIPPLED MAN

You're what they call an able-bodied seaman?

MICHAEL

That's what they call it.

THE CRIPPLED MAN

Can you drive a car?

MICHAEL

Yes.

THE CRIPPLED MAN

I presume you can manage a speed boat?

85

CONTINUED:

MICHAEL

I presume so.

THE CRIPPLED MAN

Do you drink?

MICHAEL

(very softly)
I beg your pardon.

THE CRIPPLED MAN

I asked you if you drink.

MICHAEL

Whatever's set in front of me,
mister. It doesn't have to be
wholesome, just so it's strong...

THE CRIPPLED MAN

You drink habitually?

MICHAEL

May I ask, sir, if you're extending
an invitation?

86

CLOSEUP THE CRIPPLED MAN

He chokes down his gall, pulls himself together, forces a
smile.

86

THE CRIPPLED MAN

I guess it might as well be.
(he turns on the charm)
If you'll show me to the nearest
bar, Mr. O'Hara, we'll sit down
together and discuss your going
to work for me. My name is
Bannister.

87

CLOSEUP MICHAEL'S REACTION

87

88

MEDIUM SHOT MICHAEL, THE CRIPPLED MAN AND THE TWO
SAILORS

88

Michael addresses Goldie and Jake (who haven't been able
to make up their minds whether to go away or to stick around
in case their friend's being insulted.)

MICHAEL

Me Boyes, may I present Mr. Harry
Bannister, the criminal lawyer.
He'll get you out of anything --
Mr. Jake Bejornson and Goldie.
(to Goldie)
Right?

GOLDIE

(shakes hands
with Bannister)

Chaim Goldfish is the name.
Glad to know you, Mr. Bannister.

The muscle is working now in Michael's jaw. He's sore as hell, but his voice is soft.

MICHAEL

Mr. Bannister's wife sent him to
get me.

(turning to Bannister)
Didn't she, Mr. Bannister?

The knuckles of Bannister's hands are white as he grips his canes.

MICHAEL (CONT'D)

-- And now Mr. Bannister's going
to buy us all a few drinks while
I entertain myself by refusin' to
go to work for him.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. BAR

89 A juke box is playing. Bannister and Michael face each other across a booth ... Jake beside Bannister and Goldie seated by Michael. Several hours have passed. There's been a lot of drinking and Bannister is very drunk. 89

JAKE

(grinning affectionately at Michael)
... Yeah, Mike's kind of a screwball,
but he's got a great line with the
broad.

BANNISTER

So I hear ... Saved my wife's life,
y'know...Quite a hero. Quite a
tough guy.

JAKE

Mister, there ain't no such thing.

BANNISTER

No such thing as a tough guy?

89 CONTINUED:

89

JAKE

What's a tough guy? He's a guy
with an edge.

A pause. We hear a crooner, Sinatra or Crosby, on the juke
box.

JAKE

(continued)

What makes him sing purtier 'n me?

90 CLOSEUP JAKE
He points to his throat.

90

JAKE

(continued)

Somethin' in here. What makes
it loud? A microphone. That's
his edge. What's an edge? ...
An edge is a gun or a knife or a
nightstick or a razor. Somethin'
the other guy don't have... A
little extra reach on a punch, or
a set of brass knuckles, or a
stripe on your sleeve, or a badge
that says 'Cop' on it, or a piece
of rock in your hand, or a bank-
roll in your pocket. That's an
edge, brother ... Without no edge
they ain't no tough guy.

91 MEDIUM SHOT THE FOURSOME
Bannister, glassy-eyed, focuses balefully on Michael.

91

BANNISTER

You hear that, Black Irish?

92 CLOSEUP MICHAEL

92

MICHAEL

It's true.

93 CLOSEUP BANNISTER

93

BANNISTER

Well, bear it in mind.

Bannister passes out cold.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. MAIN HOUSE OF THE BANNISTER ESTATE - LONG ISLAND - DAY

94 THE FRONT HALLWAY
Elsa goes to the door.

94

ELSA
(as she comes into
scene)
....Where?

She's followed by Bessie, the housekeeper. Bessie is a Negro woman, about fifty, with a lean, strong face and weary, very gentle eyes. Her little frame is stooped after a life-time of hard work, but the spirit in her is erect and quite undaunted. In a word, here is no Aunt Jemima.

BESSIE
....In front, Miz Bannister...
said he wouldn't go away without
he could see you.

ELSA
He didn't give you his name?

BESSIE
Jest said it was personal, ma'am,
that's all he'd say.

EXT. DRIVEWAY: OVERSHOULDER SHOT

95 Elsa opens the door and sees an old battered Chevvy waiting 95
in the drive. Michael sits at the wheel.

EXT. BANNISTER HOUSE

96 Bessie waits on the steps and Elsa moves down to Michael. 96

ELSA
Hello...

MICHAEL
I guess with a car like this, I
should've gone 'round t' the rear.

ELSA
It's yours?

MICHAEL
Goldie's. He's a friend of mine.

97 TWO SHOT ELSA AND MICHAEL

97

ELSA
You didn't go to Africa.

97 CONTINUED:

97

MICHAEL

Goldie took my berth.

ELSA

Does that mean you've changed
your mind about me?

MICHAEL

Sure, I told you before -- I
never decide about anything at
all, till it's done with.

98 CLOSEUP ELSA

98

ELSA

(very quietly, with really
tremendous sincerity)
I'm in trouble, Michael. I don't
know what would have happened if
you hadn't come...
(after a moment she goes on)
You had to come, didn't you, Michael?99 CLOSE SHOT MICHAEL
He looks at her.

99

MICHAEL

I thought I'd better. You misplaced
something.

He gets out of the car.

MICHAEL

I thought you'd like to have it
back.

He opens the rear door.

MICHAEL

I'm returning your husband, Mrs.
Bannister.INT. CAR100 CLOSE SHOT
In the back, a crumpled heap, is Harry Bannister lost in
drunken dreams.

100

101 MEDIUM SHOT MICHAEL AND ELSA AT THE CAR
Bannister is quite a sight - Elsa takes it in, then turns,
calling:

101

101 CONTINUED:

101

ELSA

Bessie!

102 MEDIUM FULL SHOT

102

Bessie comes down the steps to Elsa.

BESSIE

Yes, Miz Bannister --

Bessie sees what's in the car, quickly comes to Elsa's aid.

103 CLOSE SHOT BESSIE

103

The housekeeper struggles with Bannister's arm, trying to pull him out of the car.

BESSIE

(brisk and business-
like - to Michael)

Come on, you. Help me out with this.

104 MEDIUM SHOT THE CAR AND THE HOUSE

104

With a fast, expert movement -- but not roughly -- Michael lifts Bannister out of the auto and carries him up the steps. Elsa picks up the cripple's cane, Bessie holds open the door. Michael steps back, holding the little lawyer like a sleeping child.

MICHAEL

After you, Mrs. Bannister --

Elsa looks at him, then goes into the great, marble-faced mansion.

105. TWO SHOT BESSIE AND MICHAEL

105

The housekeeper stops Michael in the doorway --

BESSIE

(under her breath)

Don't go away, Mr. Man -- She needs
you --

MICHAEL

I'm going to stay.

Michael's hooked now. He carries Bannister over the threshold. Bessie closes the door after them --

FADE OUT:

FADE IN:

INT. BANNISTER HOME - THE SERVANT'S WING

106 Broome, the butler, he of the gap-toothed leer, hurries into the scene, goes to a phone, furtively lifts it off the cradle, and listens -- obviously to a conversation on another phone somewhere in the house. 106

107 CLOSE SHOT BROOME LISTENING TO PHONE 107
This Broome, as earlier noted, is by no manner of means the type of the perfect servant.

108 MEDIUM SHOT BROOME AT PHONE 108
Bessie comes down the hall, and hearing her, Broome slides the phone behind his back. Bessie gives him a suit of clothes on a hanger.

BESSIE

Take these in to the new chauffeur.
Then you can get to work on all the
barbecue stuff. I been after you to
clean it for days.

Bessie goes off down the hall. Broome brings the phone around from behind him and listens again. We see from his expression that the phone's dead now. Broome grunts an inaudible curse, and puts it back on the cradle. Carrying the suit, he moves up the hall, CAMERA FOLLOWING HIM. He stops at a door - listens. Then he opens the door.

109 OVER-SHOULDER SHOT FAVORING MICHAEL 109
Over Broome's shoulder we see into the room. Michael has been standing at the window. As Broome enters, he turns.

INT. MICHAEL'S ROOM

110 A tiny, sparsely furnished apartment at the rear of the house. The low raked ceiling makes Michael look even taller than he is. Broome steps quickly to Michael's side and peers out of the window. Then he grins. 110

FULL SHOT THE GARDEN FROM BROOME'S ANGLE

111 Elsa, dressed for work in a coolie hat, a blouse and a cute little pair of shorts, is seen bending over a bed of dahlias. 111

BROOME'S VOICE

(his voice comes o.s. over
this tableau)

Enjoying the scenery, huh?

INT. MICHAEL'S ROOM

112 MEDIUM SHOT
 Michael turns on Broome, who bares his fangs in an answering leer. 112

BROOME

(continued)

Quite a nature lover, ain't you,
 Mr. O'Hara?

MICHAEL

O'Hara. Didn't I see you last
 night in the garage?

BROOME

I get around -- Take your chauffeur's
 suit, Mr. O'Hara, and try it on for
 size.

He hands the uniform to Michael.

113 TWO SHOT MICHAEL & BROOME 113

BROOME

(continued)

We're glad to see ya. It sure gets
 lonesome out here in the sticks.
 Specially for a dame.

Broome stops a quick movement of Michael's with one of his
 own toward his pocket.

BROOME

(continued)

Hold on a minute, Irish -- Eyes.

Broome brings out a bottle of scotch - good scotch.

BROOME

(continued)

Look what I got -- Bannister's
 best ain't none too good for us,
 huh?

He puts the bottle down on the table.

BROOME

(continued)

Save me a snort or two. I'll be back.

He turns at the door, flashing a parting smirk at Michael.

BROOME

(continued)

S'long, Danny Boy.

113 CONTINUED:

113

Broome goes out. Michael watches the door close, starts toward it, then stops, feeling helpless. In spite of himself, he turns back to the window.

EXT. GARDEN

114 Elsa, her arms full of flowers now, crosses towards the house. 114

EXT. MICHAEL'S WINDOW

115 SHOOTING FROM GARDEN 115

116 CLOSEUP MICHAEL'S FACE IN WINDOW 116
He watches her.

DISSOLVE TO:

117 CLOSE SHOT MICHAEL IN CAR 117
 Now he's dressed in the chauffeur's uniform, and seated at the wheel of the Hispano Suiza. As in the previous shot, he's looking off scene -- much the same expression on his face.

EXT. BANNISTER'S PRIVATE BEACH

118 FULL SHOT FROM MICHAEL'S ANGLE 118
 A big lonely strip of beautiful white sand. Down near the water, Elsa. She's wearing quite some bathing suit, indeed. Littered about her person are sun-tan lotions, magazines, all the usual props.

119 REVERSE ANGLE 119
 Upon on the crest above the beach is the big Hispano Suiza. Michael is waiting at the wheel. CLOSE IN ON MICHAEL, watching the girl. The car radio is playing a soap opera.

ANNOUNCER'S VOICE

(o.s.)
 -- Will Betty turn back to John if the operation is successful? Will John regain his sight? Does Ruth realize what happened in Bridgeport? Tune in --

Michael switches over to some jazz music -- hits the station very much too loud, and this makes Elsa turn -- she looks up at Michael.

120 MEDIUM SHOT ELSA ON THE BEACH 120
 She hopes the loud music is a signal. Michael raises a newspaper, pretends to read it so he can't see her. She turns back. A car comes up next to Michael and stops very close -- as close as a car can get. It's on Michael's left, so that the man sitting at the wheel in the American car is next to Michael.

121 CLOSE SHOT THE MAN IN THE CAR 121
 We've seen him before -- doodling dollar signs on the night club table -- a hearty, silly ass, a racquet-club glamour boy in his late forties, an expensively togged out phoney, with the look about him of always coming fresh from the barber's and the steam bath. A real pillar of cafe society, this out of Groton and Harvard, and darn lucky to be out of jail.

THE MAN

(to Michael)
 Why don't you go swimming?

122 TWO SHOT THE MAN AND MICHAEL

122

MICHAEL
 (turning off
 the radio)
 Excuse me, sir?

THE MAN
 Why don't you go swimming?

MICHAEL
 (grimly)
 I'm on duty.

THE MAN
 This is your first chauffeuring
 job or you wouldn't take it so
 seriously, fella.

MICHAEL
 I didn't bring a swim suit along on
 the job, sir.

THE MAN
 You ought to the next time.

MICHAEL
 There won't be a next time, sir.
 I'm quittin'.

THE MAN
 My trunks should fit you. The green
 ones. You'll find 'em in the locker
 back at the house.

Michael doesn't know what to make of this anymore than we do.

123 CLOSEUP THE MAN
 He answers Michael's puzzled look.

123

THE MAN
 I'm George Grisby -- the Grisby of
 Grisby & Bannister. My partner
 tells me you once killed a man. I
 don't want to seem too inquisitive,
 but when did that happen?

MICHAEL
 (taking his time to
 answer the queer question)
 At Murcia.

123 CONTINUED:

123

GRISBY

How did you do it? Forgive me for asking - or anyway, let me guess -- you killed him with your hands, didn't you?

Michael doesn't answer. There is no sound for a while except the breakers spending themselves on the beach in front of Elsa.

124 TWO SHOT GRISBY AND MICHAEL

124

GRISBY

Does it ever bother you thinking about it?

MICHAEL

No.

GRISBY

What did he do to you?

MICHAEL

Nothing.

GRISBY

(giggles, then changes his tack. Almost lecherously)
Just killed him for the fun of it?

125 CLOSEUP MICHAEL

125

MICHAEL

He was a Franco spy. There was a war on at the time.

126 TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND GRISBY

126

GRISBY

That means it wasn't murder, I suppose.....

The SOUND of the waves again during another pause.

GRISBY

(continuing)
Would you do it again?.....

More waves.

126 CONTINUED:

128

GRISBY
Would you mind killing another man?

MICHAEL
(grimly patient)
I'd kill another Franco spy.

GRISBY
(with a grin)
I was on a pro-Franco Committee,
fella, during the Spanish War. Would
you kill me if I gave you the chance?

PAN FROM CLOSEUP OF MICHAEL TO THE SEA. Michael's eyes go to
the sea. It's as though he were watching something -- not the
girl -- something way out on the horizon.

127 CLOSEUP GRISBY 127
Grisby follows his look, sees nothing, turns back.

GRISBY
I may give you the chance.
Another breaker crashes on the beach.

128 TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND GRISBY 128
Elsa calls up from the beach.

ELSA'S VOICE
(o.s.)
Michael.
They both look.

129 FULL SHOT ELSA ON BEACH 129
She hasn't risen, but she's turned around. We hear her voice
again.

ELSA
Michael.

GRISBY'S VOICE
(o.s.)
She's calling for you.

ELSA
Bring down the lunch, please.

130 MEDIUM SHOT MICHAEL AND GRISBY
Michael gets out of the car.

130

MICHAEL

Yes, ma'am.

He takes a wicker basket from the side of the driver's seat.

GRISBY

(smirking)

Is there enough for two?

Michael stops, not looking at Grisby at his shoulder or at Elsa waiting for him down at the beach.

MICHAEL

(in a tight voice)

I'm sure I don't know, sir. Why don't you ask Mrs. Bannister.

GRISBY

(leaning out of the car window, speaking into Michael's ear)

Why don't you?

MICHAEL

(politely)

Would you like a good paste in the eye, sir?

131 FULL SHOT ELSA ON BEACH TAKING IN GRISBY AND MICHAEL
Elsa has risen. Now she sees Grisby and waves.

131

ELSA

(without much enthusiasm)

Hello, George.

GRISBY

(returns the wave)

Hi!

ELSA

(shading her eyes)

What are you doing out here?

GRISBY

(calling back)

Giving Michael a message.

She stands for a moment looking at him and then runs into the surf.

132 MEDIUM SHOT GRISBY AND MICHAEL

GRISBY

(to Michael)

I wish she'd ask me to go swimming.

Michael turns back to the car and gets out a thermos bottle.

GRISBY

(continuing)

She'll ask you, wait and see.

Michael turns on Grisby, about to answer or do something about it, but Elsa's voice, o.s. stops him.

ELSA'S VOICE

(o.s., calling)

Michael!

133 FULL SHOT BEACH FROM MICHAEL'S ANGLE
Elsa is knee-deep in the water.

133

134 MEDIUM SHOT GRISBY AND MICHAEL

134

MICHAEL

Coming, Mrs. Bannister.

GRISBY

No need to hurry....

Grisby starts up his car.

GRISBY

(continuing)

She'll wait for you.

The car starts to back away.

135 MOVING SHOT MICHAEL

135

Michael, burning, moves slowly down onto the beach with the picnic lunch. CAMERA CRANES WITH HIM as he puts the basket down with the girl's other things. Then we see her legs come into the scene, wet from the sea. CAMERA PANS UP as Michael straightens, and the frame takes in Elsa. She wears a terry cloth beach robe. Her portable radio is squeaking out an extremely unpleasant singing commercial. OVER this, the crash of the breakers.....Then, from the radio, something slow and sultry and South American....

136 TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND ELSA 136
They look at each other.

137 CLOSEUP MICHAEL 137

MICHAEL
Do all rich women play games like
this?

138 TWO SHOT ELSA AND MICHAEL 158
Elsa stands before him without moving and making no answer.

MICHAEL
(continuing)
You're going to have to get yourself
somebody else, Mrs. Bannister.

Elsa very slowly moves right up to Michael until her wet
bathing suit touches his clothes.

ELSA
Call me Rosaleen.

Michael slaps her hard.

139 CLOSEUP ELSA 139
She doesn't flinch. Moistness starts into her eyes. Then she
speaks under her breath.

ELSA
I didn't think you'd do that.

140 TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND ELSA 140

MICHAEL
Neither did I.

141 CLOSEUP ELSA 141

ELSA
(searching his eyes)
You're scared.

142 CLOSEUP MICHAEL 142
We see that he is scared!

MICHAEL
I'm not sorry....

142 CONTINUED:

142

ELSA

I'm scared too....

At this, something changes in Michael's eyes.

143 TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND ELSA

143

ELSA

(speaking very
quickly)

Please don't kiss me!

Then Michael's eyes harden again.

MICHAEL

You think that's the way you're going
to get me to do it -- by telling me
not to?

ELSA

(still very quickly,
and really meaning
what she says)

Please don't kiss me....

MICHAEL

I won't.

144 CLOSEUP ELSA

144

The words break out of her as though she couldn't stop them....
as though something damned up inside of her suddenly can't be
stopped.

ELSA

I was eighteen. My mother was
sick-- really sick. She needed
hospitals and doctors...expensive
ones. He was kind..then....and
he had money.

145 CLOSEUP REACTION SHOT MICHAEL

145

146 CLOSEUP ELSA

146

ELSA

(a desperate whisper)
I never loved Harry -- .

147 TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND ELSA

147

MICHAEL

Did you care for any of the others --
the others beside me you hired to
drive you to the beach and -- console
you?

A tear falls on Elsa's face but she doesn't look away.

ELSA

I wish I could hate you.

MICHAEL

It's easy.

ELSA

(suddenly almost angry)
I'm not what you think I am -- I
just try to be like that -- I just
try.

MICHAEL

Go on trying. But leave me out of it.

Michael wants to turn, to leave, but finds he can't. His lip
trembles. Her whole body is shaking. She speaks now like a
little girl lost in the dark.

ELSA

Michael, what are we scared of?

He crushes her wet body against him, kisses her brutally.
There's the sharp noise of an auto horn. They break and
look up ---.

148 FULL SHOT THE RIDGE ABOVE THE BEACH FROM THEIR ANGLE 148
Grisby's car, moving slowly, circles around in front of
them. He sounds the horn again, derisively, and waves. Then
he drives off.

149 MEDIUM SHOT MICHAEL AND ELSA ON BEACH REACTION

QUICK FADE OUT:

INT. BANNISTER'S STUDY - EVENING

150 Bannister is in his favorite chair by the window. Grisby 150
stands nearby. The door opens and Michael enters.

BANNISTER

I'd like to talk to you, Michael.

MICHAEL

Yes, sir.

BANNISTER

Mr. Grisby has just told me some-
thing I'm very sorry to hear.

Behind Michael, Bessie comes through the open door with a
glass of water and Bannister's bottle of pills.

BESSIE

Time for yo' medicine, sir....
Your coffee's on the way, Mr. Grisby.

GRISBY

Thanks, Bessie.

BANNISTER

Will you please ask Mrs. Bannister to
come in for a moment.

BESSIE

Yes, sir.

She goes out. There follows an uneasy pause. Finally,
Bannister speaks:

BANNISTER

You've met Mr. Grisby, Michael?

GRISBY

We've spoken together.

Another pause...Then Elsa appears in the door.

BANNISTER

Sit down, lover.

She does so.

BANNISTER

(continued)

This really concerns you more
than anybody else. George here
brought me some news about Michael...

151 CLOSEUP ELSA

151

BANNISTER O.S.

(continued)

.....Maybe you can help...

152 CLOSEUP BANNISTER

152

BANNISTER

(continued)

....According to George, Michael
is anxious to leave.

(to Elsa)

Did you know about that?

153 CLOSEUP ELSA

153

ELSA

No, I didn't.

154 MEDIUM SHOT THE FOURSOME

154

BANNISTER

I should have thought Michael
would have talked to you about
it. Perhaps we can make things
easier for him. What's wrong,
Michael? Are the hours too long?

MICHAEL

No, sir.

BANNISTER

How about the money? Suppose we
gave you a raise?

MICHAEL

I don't care about that.

155 CLOSEUP BANNISTER

155

BANNISTER

(rather sharply)

Money doesn't seem to interest
you, Michael. Are you inde-
pendently wealthy?

156 CLOSEUP MICHAEL

156

MICHAEL

I'm independent.

157 CLOSEUP BANNISTER

157

BANNISTER

Of money? Before you start that novel Elsa says you're going to write, you'd better learn something. You've been travelling too much to find out anything about the world.

158 MEDIUM SHOT BANNISTER'S STUDY

158

Bessie comes in with a house-maid, bringing coffee things and brandy. CAMERA DOLLIES IN TO CLOSEUP OF MICHAEL as he speaks.

MICHAEL

Well, sir, I've always found it very sanitary to be broke.

Bessie places coffee before him.

BANNISTER

Thanks, Bessie...

(he takes a sip of coffee)

...Money cannot bring you health and happiness, et cetera, is that it?

(he puts the cup down)

Listen, without money I'd be flat on my back in the ward of a county hospital. Look at this house...

CAMERA DOLLIES IN TO CLOSEUP OF BANNISTER

BANNISTER

(continued)

It once belonged to Jules Bachrach, the great Bachrach, who kept me out of his club because my mother was a Manchester Greek. I got him on perjury. He died bankrupt and here I am. Each man has his own idea of happiness, of course, but money's what all of us have in common.

159 CLOSEUP BESSIE

159

BANNISTER O.S.

(continued)

Bessie here -- she worked for Bachrach...
I pay her more...don't I, Bessie?

BESSIE

Yes, Mr. Bannister

160 CLOSEUP BANNISTER

160

BANNISTER

(continued)

Her salary means the happiness of a
home in Harlem. Three rooms for
two families.....

161 CLOSEUP BESSIE

161

BANNISTER O.S.

(continued)

Bessie's a grandmother and a widow
and only one of the boys is working...

162 MEDIUM SHOT BANNISTER'S STUDY

-162

BANNISTER

(continued)

...So Bessie goes to church every
Sunday she gets off and prays to
God she'll never be too old to earn
one hundred and sixty dollars a month.

(with a long, cold
look at Michael)

You call yourself independent.....
Come around and see me five years
from now.

Bannister rises painfully to his feet. His cane falls to
the floor.

163 TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND BANNISTER

163

Michael picks up the cane, Bannister takes it from him,
white-lipped.

163 CONTINUED:

163

BANNISTER

(continued)

(he catches his breath)

Meanwhile, your two weeks' notice is accepted. And now, Mr. Grisby wants you to take him back to town in the boat.

164 MEDIUM SHOT BANNISTER'S STUDY
Bannister turns to Elsa.

164

BANNISTER

(continued)

But perhaps we ought to have Elsa's permission?

ELSA

Why ask me?

Bannister just looks at her.

ELSA

(continued)

Get the boat ready, Michael.

MICHAEL

Yes, ma'am. I'll be at the dock, Mr. Grisby. Is that all Mrs. Bannister?

ELSA

That's all, Michael...You can go.

Michael leaves. Grisby raises his coffee cup, watching Elsa ---

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. BANNISTER KITCHEN

165 Bessie is at the sink. Michael comes through the pantry 165
door taking the chauffeur's cap off a hook. He crosses the
kitchen on his way out -- then stops, and turns back to the
housekeeper.

165 CONTINUED:

165

MICHAEL
Bessie, why do you stand for that?
I'm quitting, why don't you?

166 CLOSEUP BESSIE

166

BESSIE
(furiously angry)
You heard him, Mr. Post. I need
the money.

167 TWO SHOT BESSIE AND MICHAEL

167

MICHAEL
I'm sorry...
She turns to the sink and makes herself busy there.

MICHAEL
(continued)
Can't you get work anywhere else?

BESSIE
Maybe...

CAMERA FOLLOWS MICHAEL over to the window.

168 CLOSE SHOT MICHAEL

168

MICHAEL
Am I insane? I must be. Or else this
is a crazy house! -- All this talk of
money and murder. The double meanin's
to everythin' that's said...

169 CLOSE SHOT BESSIE

169

BESSIE
(numbly)
I know -- That's why I can't leave.
That poor little child he married...

170 TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND BESSIE

170

Michael turns. The old woman looks up into his face.

BESSIE
(continued)
....I'm scare for her.

DISSOLVE TO:

NEW YORK HARBOR - NIGHT

171 FULL SHOT 171
 A luscious melon of a moon hangs over Manhattan. In the sequin train of its light a swanky speedboat is seen approaching shore.

LOWER NEW YORK BY MOONLIGHT

172 FULL SHOT 172

173 UPSHOT: AN IMPRESSIVE NOCTURNAL PANORAMA OF THE SKYLINE. 173

GRISBY'S VOICE

(o.s.)

Ever think what a job just one atom bomb could do to those buildings?

174 MEDIUM TWO SHOT (PROCESS) GRISBY AND MICHAEL IN THE SPEED-174 BOAT COMING INTO DOCK
 A strange look is in Grisby's face. Feeling Michael's eyes, he turns to him with a smile, forcing a brisk, businesslike tone:

GRISBY

(cont'd.)

I usually stop in at the office for a little night work, -- I like the quiet....Mind walking with me, fella? I want to make you a proposition.

Michael has made the boat fast. He gives Grisby a hand up on to the dock.

GRISBY

(cont'd.)

Thanks.....

He looks up at the black buildings above him again, a little sweat showing on his forehead.

175 MEDIUM TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND GRISBY 175

GRISBY

(cont'd.)

Think the world's coming to an end.

MICHAEL

Well, there was a start to it sometime, so I guess there'll be a stop.

175 CONTINUED:

175

GRISBY
 (glassy-eyed, still
 looking up at the
 spired city above)
 This'll be the first to go.....
 One bomb -- and no more New York.

He looks down at Michael and starts out of the scene. Michael, not knowing what to make of all this, follows.

176

MEDIUM TRUCKING SHOT GRISBY AND MICHAEL
 Their feet sound like drums in the empty street.

176

GRISBY
 (cont'd.)
It's coming -- The bomb....
 It's got to come....

MICHAEL
 (with a wry smile)
 I prefer to be elsewhere when it
 does.

GRISBY
 I will be. I'm making sure I won't
 be around. That's what I need you
 for, Michael: To see to it that I'm
 not around.

He stops, looking up.

GRISBY
 (cont'd.)
 The twenty-third floor....

177

FULL SHOT A TALL BUSINESS BUILDING - FROM THEIR ANGLE -
 LOOKING BLACK AND DISTORTED IN THE NIGHT.

177

GRISBY'S VOICE
 (o.s.)
 That's where he stood.

178

TWO SHOT GRISBY AND MICHAEL

178

MICHAEL
 Who was that, sir?

178 CONTINUED:

178

GRISBY

That suicide. You remember the case. It was in all the papers. Pictures of him standing there on the ledge. My office window's there, just opposite. I sat and watched him that whole night. A hot night it was, like this one now. He was in shirt sleeves. He looked like a white flag....

179 CLOSE UP GRISBY

179

GRISBY

...But he didn't surrender, after all. Eighteen hours he was up there. They had priests and ministers leaning out of the windows and hanging by ropes preaching and pleading. They lowered food to him and champagne....

180 CLOSE UP MICHAEL

180

GRISBY

(o.s.)

They even got a pretty girl where he could see her and hear what she said. I don't know what she promised him if he'd come on back inside.

181 CLOSE UP GRISBY

181

GRISBY

But nothing in this world was enough. They stretched nets over the street.... But he was smart --- He got away from them.

182 TWO SHOT GRISBY AND MICHAEL

182

GRISBY

(cont'd.)

It cost the city more than one hundred thousand dollars to try to persuade that man to stay alive. But he knew better.

(pointing)

That's where he landed, -- there. He was too smart. So am I. How would you like five thousand dollars, Michael?

183 CLOSE UP MICHAEL

183

MICHAEL
 (his tone that of the
 healthy man speaking
 to a sick one)
 I'd like it, sir. What do I have
 to do for it?

184 CLOSE UP GRISBY

184

GRISBY
 I'll give you the details tomorrow.
 Meanwhile, think it over. Five
 thousand dollars, Michael....it's
 yours. All you have to do is kill
 somebody.

185 TWO SHOT GRISBY AND MICHAEL

185

MICHAEL
 Who, Mr. Grisby? I'm particular
 who I murder.

GRISBY
 (with an approving smile)
 Good boy.

MICHAEL
 I wouldn't like to kill just anybody
 -- Is it someone I know?

GRISBY
 (pleased with his
 secret)
 Oh, yes. But you'll never guess...

MICHAEL
 I give up.

186 CLOSE UP GRISBY

186

GRISBY
 It's me.

187 CLOSE UP REACTION MICHAEL
 He can't believe he heard right.

187

188 TWO SHOT GRISBY AND MICHAEL

188

GRISBY

(cont'd.)

I'm perfectly sober, Michael...I'm willing to pay five thousand if the job's well done.

Michael just stares at him.

GRISBY

(cont'd.)

This is a straight-forward business offer: I want you to kill me.

A moment's pause, then Grisby turns and goes into his office building.

GRISBY

(cont'd.) (with a parting smile)

Goodnight, fella....

189 CLOSE UP REACTION MICHAEL
On his reaction to this we:

189

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. PIER - NIGHT190 FULL SHOT BANNISTER'S BEACH 190
Michael makes the boat fast. Then turns to go ashore. He stops, startled.191 MEDIUM CLOSE SHOT ELSA 191
Elsa in a white bathing suit is standing on the ladder on the other side of the landing. She's come up from the water and waited quietly for Michael to pass her.

192 TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND ELSA 192

MICHAEL

A bit late, isn't it, for swimming?

Elsa smiles at him.

ELSA

No, it's nice.

Michael doesn't smile back. She climbs up off the ladder.

196 CONTINUED:

196

ELSA (CONT'D.)

....if I swallowed all of them, if
maybe they wouldn't kill my pain, --
the pain of just being alive.....

197 CLOSE UP MICHAEL

197

MICHAEL

(with angry humor)

Sure, Grisby wants me to do the
job for him! Grisby wants me
to kill Grisby!

He throws the cigarette into the water.

MICHAEL

(cont'd.)

I think he's out of his mind.

198 MEDIUM TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND ELSA

198

ELSA

(still very serious)

He is...He's not really sane,
anyway. Neither's Harry.

MICHAEL

(grim now)

Your husband can take care of
himself.

Suddenly seeing something off screen. Addressing it
sharply: --

MICHAEL

What do you want?

Elsa screams.

199 MEDIUM CLOSE SHOT BROOME STANDING IN THE SHADOW OF THE
LOCKER SHED

199

BROOME

Just taking a stroll. Beautiful
moon...Nice night for it. Ain't
it, Mr. O'Hara?

192 CONTINUED:

192

ELSA
I couldn't sleep --

193 CLOSE SHOT MICHAEL
He turns and starts away. Her voice stops him.

193

ELSA (cont.) O.S.
-- Michael ...

MICHAEL
Yes?

194 TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND ELSA

194

ELSA
Did George say anything about us?

MICHAEL
No, he's very interested in dying....

195 MEDIUM SHOT MICHAEL AND ELSA
With a sigh Michael relaxes against the railing lighting a
cigarette.

195

MICHAEL
He's afraid the world's going to
explode -- He talked about suicide.

He takes a deep breath of smoke, exhales it slowly, looking
past Elsa up at the moon. She's curled up with a towel on
a pile of cushions.

ELSA
I've thought of that myself some-
times...Do you think it's wrong
Michael?

He goes on looking past her at the moon.

ELSA (cont.)
Would you kill yourself if you had to?

MICHAEL
If I had to.

196 CLOSE UP ELSA

196

ELSA
You know I've looked at those pills
of Harry's so many times, -- the ones
he takes to kill the pain, and wondered

200 CLOSE UP MICHAEL 200
Michael glowers at him.

201 CLOSE SHOT BROOME 201

BROOME

(cont'd.)

You didn't answer me, Mr. O'Hara.
You ought to speak when you're
spoken to. I'd hate to hafta
report you to the lady's husband...
I said it's a nice night for it.

202 MEDIUM THREE SHOT MICHAEL, ELSA, BROOME 202
Without any warning movement Michael socks him. And as we've
seen before, Michael can sock hard. With a little whining
grunt Broome plunks down on the wooden pier, and stays there
inert. Clinging to her beach-robe, Elsa runs off scene.

203 MEDIUM SHOT THE ROAD ABOVE BANNISTER'S BEACH - NIGHT 203
Elsa is seen running, a white exclamation point of terror on
the dark road. Then she stops.

204 MEDIUM SHOT ELSA LOOKING TEARFULLY ABOUT HER. 204
She sees the car, its door open. She jumps in. After a
moment Michael enters the scene. He starts to the chauffeur's
seat, but turns in spite of himself and stands at the door.
Looking in! --

MICHAEL

Stop cryin'

From within the car we hear a muffled sob.

MICHEAL (cont'd.)

(furiously)

I can't stand for you to cry --

Another sob.

MICHEAL (cont'd.)

Hear me?.....

Beside himself, Michael jumps into the back.

INT. CAR

205 Elsa is huddled in the corner, her head buried in the 205
cushion of the seat, her little body shaking. He sits at
the edge of the seat for a long minute looking at her quite
helplessly, then lays a well intentioned, clumsy hand on her
shoulder. She turns on him wildly:

205

CONTINUED:

205

ELSA

You fool! Don't you know that only makes everything worse! You can't solve anything by knocking people down!

MICHAEL

(with quiet gravity)

But sure, he's a wicked man entirely.

ELSA

(biting her words out through her sobs)

And I'm the princess in the fairy book... So you hit him and make a pretty speech to me and we ride off together into the sunset....

206

CLOSEUP MICHAEL

206

MICHAEL

(after a second, with a tentative grin)

Well, why don't we?

207

CLOSEUP: ELSA

207

ELSA

(looking into his eyes)

Why don't we what?

208

CLOSE TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND ELSA

208

MICHAEL

Ride off together -- into the sunset? It's been done, you know, by real live people. That's where they get the ideas for the books.

ELSA

Books aren't like people. People try to act like books.

MICHAEL

Oh, no, Rosaleen, people are better than books.

208 CONTINUED:

208

ELSA

Or worse. What about me? You don't know what I'm like. I hope you never find out. You'd better go before you do. Keep your dream, -- ride off into your sunset by yourself and look for windmills. I don't want to hurt you, Michael.

209 CLOSEUP ELSA

209

ELSA (cont'd.)

I'm afraid for you....You don't belong here.

210 CLOSE TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND ELSA

210

ELSA (cont'd.)

We're different than you are, Michael. Horribly different. You're alive. We're dead...All of us are dead already! Please go away, Michael, before it's too late.

BROOME'S VOICE O.S.

Too late for what?

211 MEDIUM CLOSE SHOT BROOME'S HEAD, FRAMED IN THE CAR WINDOW. HE GRINS PHOSPHERESCENTLY 211

212 TIGHT SHOT BROOME, MICHAEL AND ELSA 212
Michael stiffens. She puts out a hand to stop him. He gets up slowly. Quickly Broome backs away as Michael opens the car door.

EXT. CAR

213 MEDIUM SHOT 213
Michael gets out. Looks at Broome. Closes the car door and moves slowly, wordlessly to the wheel. He starts the engine and drives off.

214 CLOSE SHOT BROOME 214
In the moonlight he looks like a gargoyle leering after the departing car.

FADE OUT:

FADE IN:

215 FULL SHOT: NEW YORK HARBOR (NEAR THE BATTERY): DAY. 215
The Bannister speed-boat roars into the scene, then slows down approaching the dock: Michael is piloting the boss to his office.

216 MEDIUM TWO SHOT: MICHAEL & BANNISTER IN THE BOAT (PROCESS) 216
Over the water from the city comes the muttering traffic of lower Wall Street on a business day.

BANNISTER

Got a cigarette?

Michael slows the boat almost to a stop and gets out a package of cigarettes for Bannister.

BANNISTER

Match?

Michael strikes one for him.

BANNISTER (Cont'd.)

(as he gets the light)
You're quite an exceptional fellow, aren't you, Michael -- What are you after? My wife?

217 CLOSE UP MICHAEL 217
Michael looks straight ahead, very chauffeur-like

MICHAEL

Isn't this where you dock, Mr. Bannister?

218 CLOSE UP BANNISTER 218
Bannister goes on after a second:

BANNISTER

You don't want to talk about it, of course, and I respect the delicacy of your feelings, but don't you think you owe me an answer? After all, I'm the husband.

Still no word from Michael.

BANNISTER

(cont)
Would you call yourself an honest man?

219 CLOSE UP MICHAEL

219

MICHAEL

I wouldn't call myself a thief....
You might say I'm not in the market.

220 CLOSE UP BANNISTER

220

BANNISTER

The market -- What's that?
(giving him a sharp
quizzical look)

221 MEDIUM SHOT THE DOCK

221

Grisby is standing by the pilings.

GRISBY

(with a vacant grin)
Morning, Harry.

222 MEDIUM SHOT BANNISTER & MICHAEL IN THE BOAT (PROCESS)

222

BANNISTER

(his cheery tone
equally blank)
What you doing here at the
docks, George?

223 MEDIUM SHOT THE DOCKS

223

Grisby watches the boat as it comes into the scene.

GRISBY

(calling)
I need Michael's help for
something. Can I borrow him
for a few minutes?

BANNISTER

Why not?

224 TWO SHOT MICHAEL & BANNISTER (PROCESS)

224

BANNISTER

(quietly to Michael)
The market? -- You mean
aren't buying anything? Or
are you telling me you aren't
for sale?

224 CONTINUED:

224

MICHAEL

(carefully)

I don't need to make any deals.

225 MEDIUM SHOT THE SPEED-BOAT

225

Michael edges the boat along the side of the dock.

226 TWO SHOT: BANNISTER & MICHAEL

226

BANNISTER

A crust of bread and the open
road and the song of the thrush at
twilight, that's all you want,
isn't it? You'll wake up out of
your dream, Romantic Mike....

227 CLOSE UP BANNISTER

227

BANNISTER

(cont)

You'll want something and you'll
pay for it. You'll go to the
market like any other fat little
pig or hungry farmer and you'll
make your deal.

228 MEDIUM SHOT THE SPEED-BOAT

228

Still holding the wheel, Michael stands up and tosses
a line to the dock attendant.

BANNISTER

(cont; looking up
at him)

But your kind always gets the
worst of it.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. THE BANK (DOWNTOWN) THE SAFETY DEPOSIT VAULT.229 The regulation lay-out. All icy-glistening and very
formidable.

229

Grisby is removing his safety deposit box as Michael
watches. CAMERA TRUCKS with Grisby as he brings the
box to one of the tables in the center of the vault. Grisby
takes in Michael's discomfort with a side-long smirk.

GRISBY

She wants to leave him, you know.

MICHAEL

Who?

GRISBY

Now, don't act dumb, fella.

.... Elsa's never had any kind of life with Harry. That's no secret. He can't hold her any longer.

(counting money)

Three, four, five. Five thousand.

Grisby gives the wad of bills to Michael, locks the safe deposit box, and takes it back to its place.

GRISBY

(Cont; speaking to the Guard)

How you been Pete?

THE GUARD

Fine, thanks. Looks like another hot day.

TWO SHOT GRISBY & MICHAEL
Grisby turns to Michael.

GRISBY

(to Michael)

You've got the money, haven't you, Michael?

MICHAEL

(bewildered)

Yes, sir.

Michael crosses and hands the money to Grisby.

During this:

GRISBY

(loudly, to the guard)

It's got to let up soon. What we need's a good rain.

Puts the money in his pocket, and starts away.

230 CONTINUED:

230

GRISBY

(Cont; quietly to Michael)
 She doesn't love him. If you want
 the truth of it, she hates him.
well, she's not alone in that.
 Come on, fella.

Michael, sore and puzzled, follows.

DISSOLVE:

INT. BANNISTER'S PRIVATE OFFICE

231 Bannister closes the door behind Broome. 231

BANNISTER

(coldly furious)
 I told you not to see
 me here.

BROOME

This is important, Harry.

BANNISTER

I won't be satisfied without
 real evidence.

He limps over to his desk.

232 CLOSE UP BANNISTER 232

BANNISTER

(Cont.)
 What I really want is photo-
 graphs. It's the new chauffeur,
 of course....

233 OVER SHOULDER SHOT -- FAVORING BROOME 233
 Broome crosses to the desk.

BROOME

(urgently)
 You can stop worryin' about
 your wife findin' herself a
 boy friend, Harry. I got
 something real for you to
 fret over. This is hot.

- 234 CLOSE UP BROOME 234
He finds it hard to say this next:
- BROOME
(Cont)
---The way I figure it's worth
a little extra dough.
- 235 TIGHT TWO SHOT BROOME AND BANNISTER 235
Bannister takes this in; finally speaks with an icily
sweet smile:
- BANNISTER
The old shakedown--?
Why, Sid, you ought to know I
wouldn't go for a shakedown!
- 236 CLOSE UP BROOME 236
He covers up by trying belligerence.
- BROOME
When you hear what I got for
ya, you'll say you bought it
cheap.
- 237 TIGHT TWO SHOT: BROOME AND BANNISTER 237
- BANNISTER
(sighing)
You've worked a lot of cases for
me, Sid. I'll be sorry if we
have to make this one the last.
- BROOME
(now completely on the
defensive)
But, Mr. Bannister, this is hot!
- 238 CLOSE UP BANNISTER
- BANNISTER
There's a plot against my
life -- Correct? I'm going
to be murdered...Isn't that
the information you're ped-
dling?
- 239 CLOSE UP BROOME - REACTION 239
His jaw is hanging foolishly by now --

240 CLOSE UP BANNISTER

240

BANNISTER

(Cont)

I'm going to be killed ---

241 TWO SHOT: BANNISTER & BROOME
Bannister tilts back in his swivel chair.

241

BANNISTER

(Cont)

Why, Sid, don't you think I
know about it? All about it?

Still leaning back in his chair:

BANNISTER

(Cont; his voice quiet
but the tone threatening and
really dangerous)
Go on now, beat it! And don't
let me see you anywhere except
where you belong... Unless you've
got some news.

242 CLOSE UP BROOME
On his goggle-eyed reaction we --

242

FADE OUT:

FADE IN:

EXT. BANNISTER'S PRIVATE BEACH - NIGHT

- 243 FULL SHOT 243
 Portable barbecue wagons are in full blaze. Bessie is supervising with Broome; a house-man and a first maid helping. In evidence are all the gadgets ever sold by Abercrombie & Fitch. Near the water, a camp-fire, on which Elsa is doing some secondary cooking. Beside her Bannister, propped against one of those portable backrests used generally on the beaches for sunbathing. He's been doing some more serious drinking. Across from him is Grisby, surrounded by neat little buckets of ice, elaborate fitted cases of the best leather with silver flasks and cups, horn-handled corkscrews and every costly thing conceivable for the manufacture of cocktails.
- 244 THREE SHOT GRISBY, BANNISTER, ELSA 244
 Grisby right now is busy with a shaker, his flushed face announcing the effects of his own bartending. In spite of Elsa's remonstrances, Grisby is careful at all times to see that his partner's glass is kept filled. Nor is Bannister unaware of this. He knows that Grisby likes to get him drunk, but he finds in this some private brand of his own black and bitter pleasure. Maybe Bannister is so very fond of disaster; that even when it involves himself he enjoys it.
- GRISBY (cont)
 Time for another, Harry?
- BANNISTER
 (holding out his glass)
 Time for another.
- 245 CLOSE SHOT ELSA 245
 She fiddles with the radio and gets some music. Cocktail lounge jazz. Torchy but unobtrusive. She tunes it down so it's just loud enough for her to listen. She doesn't look at either of the men.
- 246 CLOSE UP BANNISTER 246
 BANNISTER
 Funny,-----
 He takes a long drink.
- 247 THREE SHOT BANNISTER, GRISBY, ELSA (cont) 247
 ELSA
 (no tone in her voice)
 What's funny?

247 CONTINUED:

247

BANNISTER
 (lowering his glass)
 Michael seems to think you're
 the one who persuaded me to hire
 him. Actually it was George.

GRISBY
 That's right, Harry.

248 CLOSEUP ELSA
 With a sharp look at Grisby:

248

ELSA
 You don't usually take George's
 advice.

249 CLOSEUP BANNISTER

249

BANNISTER
 Nobody takes George's advice --
 But I wanted to see your doughty
 rescuer for myself, Elsa. I didn't
 really mean to give the Irish Superman
 a job, but he went and got me drunk.
 That's what George wants to do now.
 But George is only a broken-down playboy.

He finishes the drink with satisfaction.

BANNISTER (cont)
 I can outdrink George.

250 CLOSEUP GRISBY

250

GRISBY
 Yes, Michael told me he was quitting.
 Try to make him change his mind, Harry.

251 CLOSEUP ELSA

251

ELSA
 Why? Why shouldn't he go if he
 wants to?

252 THREE SHOT BANNISTER, GRISBY, ELSA

252

BANNISTER
 George likes to have him around,
 lover. Michael is so big and
 strong. He makes a good bodyguard
 for you. Isn't that what you said, George?

252 CONTINUED:

252

GRISBY

Right, Harry.

ELSA

I don't need a bodyguard.

253 CLOSE UP BANNISTER

253

BANNISTER

Not even a big, strong bodyguard,
lover, with an Irish brogue?

254 TWO SHOT BANNISTER & ELSA

254

ELSA

Please, Harry --

BANNISTER

And when you feel like cruising around
the park again, you wouldn't have to
be alone ----

255 THREE SHOT GRISBY, BANNISTER, ELSA

255

ELSA

(to Grisby)

Don't make another drink, Harry's
had enough.

(tight-voiced)

I'm getting a new chauffeur, that
settles it. Now let's talk about
something else...

BANNISTER

George thinks Michael's fallen
for you. And that makes me unhappy --
George hopes.

256 CLOSEUP GRISBY

256

BANNISTER (cont) O.S.

But George is wrong again.

GRISBY

(with blank-eyed innocence)

Harry, I didn't say anything about
Michael and Elsa.

257 THREE SHOT GRISBY, BANNISTER, ELSA

257

BANNISTER

George is always wrong. Make us
another cocktail, George.

257 CONTINUED:

257

GRISBY
 (with mechanical charm,
 repeating an old party
 wheeze of his)
 Another Grisby Special -- coming
 up!

ELSA
 Please --

258 CLOSEUP BANNISTER

258

BANNISTER
 You're a stupid fool, George, but
 you ought to realize that I don't
 mind a bit if my chauffeur's in
 love with my wife. He's young.
 She's young. He's strong. She's
 beautiful.

259 CLOSEUP ELSA
 She rises to her feet.

259

BANNISTER O.S.
 Sit down, darling.

260 CLOSEUP BANNISTER
 He goes on looking up at her, his little beads of eyes agleam
 in the firelight.

260

BANNISTER
 Where's your sense of humor?

261 CLOSE SHOT ELSA

261

ELSA
 I don't have to sit there and
 hear you talk like that, Harry --

BANNISTER O.S.
 (without much emphasis,
 but with lots of authority)
 Oh, yes, you do, lover.

Presently Elsa sits down.

262 THREE SHOT GRISBY, BANNISTER, ELSA

262

GRISBY
 Here's your drink, Harry. Now
 you leave Elsa alone.

263 CLOSEUP BANNISTER
Not looking away from Elsa, he takes the fresh cocktail
from Grisby.

BANNISTER
Queer....come to think of it, it's
very queer.....

264 CLOSEUP GRISBY

GRISBY
What's queer, Harry?

265 THREE SHOT GRISBY, BANNISTER, ELSA

BANNISTER
Why doesn't Michael want to work here?

ELSA
(staring into the fire)
Why would anybody want to work here?
Why would anybody want to live
around us?

BANNISTER
(his voice thickening now
with drink)
Where's his sense of adventure?

266 MEDIUM SHOT THE BEACH

BANNISTER (cont)
(calling)
Broome! -- Broome!

Broome appears out of the darkness.

BROOME
Yes, Mr. Bannister.

BANNISTER
Is Michael waiting in the car?

BROOME
Yes, sir.

BANNISTER
Ask him to step over here for a
moment, will you, Broome?

BROOME
Yes, sir.

Broome walks up the beach to the car, CAMERA FOLLOWING.
Michael sits at the wheel.

267 TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND BROOME

267

BROOME

They want to see you.

Without answering, Michael gets out of the car. In silence he goes down to the campfire, CAMERA FOLLOWING.

268 MEDIUM SHOT BANNISTER, GRISBY, ELSA

268

The girl still stares into the fire. The men are watching the chauffeur as he comes into the scene. Michael stands by them for a time before anything is said.

BANNISTER

Well, Michael?

MICHAEL

Well, Mr. Bannister.

BANNISTER

My wife's lost her sense of humor, Michael, and you've lost your sense of adventure. She says you're quitting.

269 CLOSE UP MICHAEL

269

MICHAEL

That's right, sir.

270 CLOSE UP BANNISTER

270

BANNISTER

Sit down and have a drink, Michael. I'll go on calling you Michael, if I may? You call me Harry.

271 MEDIUM SHOT THE FOURSOME

271

There is an embarrassed pause....

BANNISTER (cont)

Make him a cocktail, George, and don't look so shocked. Michael may not be in the Social Register, but then, neither are you -- anymore. If he isn't working for us, it's quite proper for Michael to join the family circle. And since I've invited him, it would be quite incorrect for Michael to refuse...Take off your coat, Michael, and be comfortable.

271 CONTINUED:

271

And sure enough, Michael takes off his coat, with very deliberate gestures. Grisby hands him up a glass.

GRISBY

Here's your drink, fella.

Slowly and easily Michael sits down by the fire. Then he takes the cocktail.

MICHAEL

Thank you, Mr. Grisby.

BANNISTER

You can call him George.

MICHAEL

I'd rather not.

BANNISTER

Call him what you like. He won't do anything about it. George used to be some sort of athlete -- you know, polo and rhumba...But George is too fat nowadays to object to anything. At the Stork Club I hear even the busboys insult him.

Michael looks from one to the other.

MICHAEL

Is this what you folks do for amusement in the evenin's -- Sit around toastin' marshmallows and callin' each other names?

Nobody answers.

.272 CLOSE UP MICHAEL

272

MICHAEL (cont)

Sure, if you're anxious for me to join the game, I'll be glad to. I can think of a few names I'd like to be callin' you myself.

273 MEDIUM SHOT THE FOURSOME

273

BANNISTER

Oh, but Michael, that isn't fair.

MICHAEL

It isn't fair -- and why not?

74
273 CONTINUED: 273

BANNISTER
You're bound to lose the contest. We'll
have to give you a handicap, Michael.
You don't know enough about us.

274 CLOSEUP MICHAEL 274

MICHAEL
I know enough.

275 CLOSE SHOT BANNISTER 275

BANNISTER
I doubt it. You ought to know what
George knows about me, for instance,
if you really want to call me names. Of
course, my partner's very considerate of
my feelings....

276 CLOSEUP GRISBY'S REACTION 276

BANNISTER O.S.
He likes the way his name looks in gold
letters on the door in that big office
of mine down in Wall Street. And I let
him keep it there because I appreciate
his consideration.

277 CLOSEUP BANNISTER 277

BANNISTER (cont)
Now if you wanted to call George a nasty
name you'd need some facts, and all the
facts are going to die with the respected
firm of Bannister & Grisby, Attorneys-at-Law.

278 CLOSEUP GRISBY 278

BANNISTER O.S. (cont)
Blackmailer, now there's a real nice
nasty name for you, but as it is, you'll
have to be satisfied with "partner."

279 CLOSE SHOT BANNISTER

279

BANNISTER (cont)

That's not much of an insult: "partner,"
 -- but you know, from my point of view
I sometimes think it is

And Michael, if the story of how George
 got to be my partner is interesting, you
 ought to hear the one about how Elsa got
 to be my wife.

280 TWO SHOT ELSA & BANNISTER

280

ELSA

(her eyes still fixed on the
 flames)

Want me to tell him what you've got on
 me, Harry?

BANNISTER

(with demoniac smugness)

Please, lover. I have my pride....

There is a silence....then Michael speaks:

281 CLOSEUP MICHAEL

281

MICHAEL

(very slowly, as though to
 himself)

Once, off the hump of Brazil, I saw
 the ocean so darkened with blood it was
 black, with the sun faintin' away over
 the lip of the sky. We'd put in at Fortaleza,
 and a few of us had lines out for a bit of
 idle fishin'. It was me had the first strike...

282 CLOSEUP REACTION SHOT ELSA

282

MICHAEL O.S.(cont)

...A shark it was, and then there
 was another, and another shark
 again, -- till all about the sea was
 made of sharks, and more sharks still,
 and no salt water at all....

283 CLOSEUP REACTION SHOT BANNISTER 283

MICHAEL O.S. (cont)

....Mine had torn himself from the hook,
and the smell or maybe the stain
it was, -- and him bleedin' his life
away -- drove the rest of 'em mad...

284 CLOSEUP REACTION SHOT GRISBY 284

MICHAEL O.S. (cont)

....Then the sharks all took to eatin'
each other....in their frenzy they ate
at themselves...

285 CLOSEUP MICHAEL 285

MICHAEL (cont)

...You could feel the lust of murder
like a wind stingin' your eyes, and you
could smell the death reekin' up out
of the sea. I never saw anythin' worse
until this little picnic tonight.

(he looks around from face to
face)

And d'y' know -- there wasn't one of
thim sharks in the whole crazy pack that
survived....

286 MEDIUM SHOT THE FOURSOME 286

Michael gets up.

MICHAEL

(looking down at the others)
I'll be leavin' you now.

He turns and goes off into the darkness.

BANNISTER

(after a moment to Grisby)
You should've thanked him,
George, that's the first time
anybody ever thought enough of you
to call you a shark. If you were a good
lawyer you'd be flattered.

GRISBY

(ignoring this last)
I think Elsa ought to try to persuade
him to stay.

293 CONTINUED:

BANNISTER (cont)

Everybody wants to kill me, but it won't be easy. I know what everybody's up to. That's my edge. That makes me a tough guy, George -- (the grin hardens) too tough to kill.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. GARAGE BANNISTER'S ESTATE

294 Michael is throwing some of his gear into the back of the 294 little Chevvy, which, by the way, looks mighty pathetic in the expensive company of the Bannister motor fleet. He sees Elsa's reflection in the glass and turns to her.

295 CLOSEUP MICHAEL 295

MICHAEL

I'm going to take you with me.

296 CLOSEUP ELSA 296

ELSA

Now?

297 TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND ELSA 297

MICHAEL

Now.

ELSA

(trying to talk sense)
George wants to go to the city.
He wants you to drive him in.

MICHAEL

You're goin' with me.....

Before his sad looking little auto, Michael stands staring at her, trying to understand. She goes to an open wing of the garage door, CAMERA FOLLOWING, and closes it.

298 CLOSEUP ELSA 298

ELSA

Michael! Michael, listen to me!
Don't you know what Broome was
doing last night?

299 TIGHT TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND ELSA 299

MICHAEL

(crossing to her)
Spyin' on you. I'm goin' to take
you where there aren't any spies.

ELSA

Oh, darling, you're such a foolish knight errant. Will you ever grow up and find out how to defend yourself? Your fists aren't enough, Michael. No matter how good your heart may be, you can't get along with what you call 'wicked men,' until you learn something about wickedness.

MICHAEL

But I don't want to get along with them.

300 CLOSEUP ELSA

300

ELSA

Then where will you live? Is there a place in the world where everybody's good? I don't know where it is.

(she looks at him out
of mother's eyes)

You're big and strong but you just don't know how to take care of yourself.

301 TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND ELSA

301

ELSA

(continued)

So how could you take care of me?

Michael opens the door and starts out of the garage, Elsa following.

EXT. GROUNDS OF THE BANNISTER ESTATE - NIGHT

302 TRUCKING SHOT

302

Michael moves distractedly across the lawn. Elsa calls him back, the sharpness of her tone partly fire.

ELSA

Michael!

(then, almost
whispering)

...That Broome is a detective.

302 CONTINUED:

302

He doesn't take her eye.

ELSA

(continuing)

Can't you understand that? My husband hires him to try and get something on me. He wants to fix it so I'll never divorce him.

MICHAEL

Why?

ELSA

(simply)

He needs me. I help him prove something to the world, and himself, too, maybe.

303 CLOSEUP MICHAEL

303

MICHAEL

He's not your husband. He's a jailer!

304 CLOSEUP ELSA

304

ELSA

(with a queer kind of tenderness)

That's what he needs to be.....
You see, dearest, what I say is true!
You don't know anything about wickedness. How can you fight for the things you believe in and the woman you love, until you do?

305 TIGHT TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND ELSA

305

MICHAEL

(wryly)

Well, I been roundin' out my education of late.

He stops, grasping her arms savagely.

306 CLOSEUP MICHAEL OVER ELSA'S SHOULDER

306

MICHAEL

You think I can't take care of you--
don't you? You think I'd be after
takin' you to a desert island to eat
berries and goat's milk. Somewhere
east of the sun and west of the moon,
where you'd have to take in washing
to support me?

307 REVERSE ANGLE CLOSEUP ELSA

307

ELSA

(with a little smile)

Well.....

She looks off scene.

ELSA

(continuing)

There comes George! He mustn't
see me here with you --

She starts away, is halted by Michael's tone.

308 CLOSEUP MICHAEL

308

Michael is beside himself -- a new Michael now -- almost mad
in his desperate need of her.

MICHAEL

What would you say to five thousand
dollars to get us started?

309 CLOSEUP ELSA

309

She stares at him. Then Grisby's voice is heard off scene.

GRISBY'S VOICE

Hello, kiddies!

310 MEDIUM SHOT GRISBY

310

He's dressed for the city. CAMERA MOVES WITH HIM to Michael
and Elsa.

GRISBY

Ready to go, fella?

Michael shoots a last look at Elsa.

310 CONTINUED:

310

MICHAEL

Yes, sir. Ready to go.

He leaves, bound for the car in the garage.

311 TWO SHOT GRISBY AND ELSA

311

GRISBY

(looking at Elsa)

Harry's asking for you -- He wondered where you'd gone.

(Then -- the sudden
silly smile)

I won't tell him.

With a kind of giggle, Grisby walks out of the scene. Elsa stands looking after him.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. GRISBY'S OFFICE NIGHT

312 A lonely desk lamp lights the scene. Michael sits in the shadows twisting his cap, listening as Grisby reads: 312

GRISBY

"I, Michael O'Hara, in order to live at peace with my conscience and my God, do freely make the following confessions: On the evening of August ninth" -- that's tomorrow night, fella -- "I shot and killed Mr. George Grisby, placing his dead corpse in Long Island Sound." --

313 OVER SHOULDER SHOT FAVORING MICHAEL

313

MICHAEL

Just a minute.

Grisby looks up at him.

MICHAEL (CONT.)

What you're readin' there... I'm supposed to have written it?

GRISBY

Forgive me if I fail to catch your literary style, fella. But it's the thought that matters.

MICHAEL

Go on.

GRISBY

(continuing reading again)

"It happened this way: Mr. Grisby had come out by cab to the Bannister estate to get some papers he'd forgotten. He asked me to drive him to the station. We arrived too late for the ten-fifteen. The next train doesn't leave for three-quarters of an hour, and since it was a hot night, Mr. Grisby suggested that we fill the time by driving to the beach -- "

GRISBY

(continuing: to Michael again)

We'll hold that conversation right in front of the ticket window, Michael, so the station attendant won't be able to miss a word ... You see I've got the whole thing very carefully planned.

Adjusting his glasses, he goes back to the typewritten sheet in his hand.

GRISBY

(continuing; reading aloud)

We arrived at the seaside at approximately ten-twenty, a fairly deserted area just below the Bannister private beach. As I pulled up Mr. Grisby said he heard a sound. Something suspicious. He said he was frightened of a holdup and asked me to get the gun out of the side pocket of the car just in case. I reached in and got it. But I had hardly taken the gun when it went off in my hand. And I saw that Mr. Grisby was all covered with blood."

315 TWO SHOT GRISBY AND MICHAEL

315

GRISBY

(continuing)

"Then I saw that he was dead. --

Michael rises.

GRISBY (CONT.)

(quickly)

Take it easy, Michael. I want you to get this straight. It's your story and you're going to have to stick to it.

Michael stares down at him. Grisby goes back to the paper. Reading: --

GRISBY (CONT.)

---"I saw that he was dead. I was too startled by this to think clearly and I remember that I dragged his body out of the car into a clump of bushes. Then some people, who were picnicking on the beach" ---

(looking up)

They do every night. I checked for a whole week. There're always two or three bonfires --

(going back to the paper; reading:)

"...people who were picnicking on the beach came up to see about the gun-shot. I told them I'd just been doing some target practice, and when they went away I threw Mr. Grisby's body into the Sound. I then drove back to the Bannister estate, where this is being written now --"

316 CLOSEUP MICHAEL

316

GRISBY (O.S.)

(continuing)

"I can't say why I'm signing my name to this, but I think it is to ease my mind and perhaps also force myself to tell the truth when the police make inquiries about this horrible accident."

317 TWO SHOT GRISBY AND MICHAEL

317

Grisby lowers the paper, takes off his glasses and slides them delicately into their leather case.

317 CONTINUED:

317

GRISBY

(continuing)

That's the easiest five thousand dollars you're ever going to earn, fella.

A long silence... Then -

MICHAEL

Why don't you do it yourself?

GRISBY

Commit suicide? Don't be silly.

318

MOVING SHOT

318

CAMERA FOLLOWS GRISBY. He rises, moves into the darkness the other end of the room, and twiddles with the wall safe.

GRISBY

(at the safe)

I want to live, but I want to vanish. That isn't easy nowadays. If they're looking for you, they find you. Even on the smallest island in the South Seas... That's where I'll be, Michael, on that smallest island. But I want to live there in peace and that won't be possible unless the world is satisfied I'm dead.

He opens the safe and brings out a packet of money.

GRISBY

(continuing)

You know, the law is a funny thing, fella... The people of the state of New York will say I'm dead if somebody will say they murdered me. That's what I'm paying you to say.

319

MEDIUM SHOT

319

He tosses the money on the desk in front of Michael and comes around into the light, looking down at him.

GRISBY

(continuing)

And here's the real joker -- here's what makes it such a pipe for you. You can confess to murder all you want to, but according to the law they can't get you for it. Look it up for yourself. In this state, there's no such thing as murder without finding the body and they'll make it hot for you while they search for mine.

319 CONTINUED:

319

GRISBY (CONT.)

But they know it's a rough tide out there on that part of the Sound. They'll have to give up pretty quick. And then, they'll have to let you go.... Cigar?

He opens a humidor with his flashing smile of hospitality.

MICHAEL

No, thanks.

320 CLOSE TWO SHOT GRISBY AND MICHAEL

320

GRISBY

(removing long blond Havana and crinkling it by his ear)

I know, fella, you're wondering what's behind it all. None of your business, actually, but since we're what you might call --

(with a pleasant laugh)

-- partners in crime -- I might as well tell you that this firm's insured. I have a wife that nags me, and I don't want to be within a thousand miles of this city when they drop that bomb...

He rests his cigar lovingly on a Morocco leather box and unsheaths a fountain pen from an elaborate onyx desk set. Then, putting down the pen near Michael's hands --

GRISBY

(continuing)

Sounds crazy, I know, but then -- we all have our little eccentricities. Sign this....

321 CLOSEUP MICHAEL

321

Michael picks up the pen, looks at it for a steady minute in silence. Then scratches his name with a single gesture on the bottom of the paper.

322 TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND GRISBY

322

Grisby pulls the paper back toward him across the glass top of the desk. He folds the paper in two tidy creases, and files it away in his pocket with a satisfied sound of exhaled breath.

322 CONTINUED:

322

GRISBY

(continuing during the
above procedure)I hate to make it all so formal,
but you know the legal mind.

(patting his pocket)

This is just in case you change your
story after the "murder." I wouldn't
like that. And just in case you should
decide not to go through with it, I'll
keep the other half of the five thousand
'til tomorrow night. You'll get the rest
before I climb into the speedboat. You
might call this a retainer.

MICHAEL

What about the shot?

GRISBY

That's a silly question, fella. You
fire into the sand, of course.

323 CLOSEUP MICHAEL

323

MICHAEL

Keep your money. I'll take it if I
do the job.324 TIGHT TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND GRISBY
Michael has risen. Grisby looks up at him, his eyes
narrowing in the glare of the desk lamp.

324

GRISBY

You'll do it... five thousand dollars
ought to take a little girl and a
sailor on quite a nice little trip.
Maybe we'll all meet together somewhere.
Shall we make a date in Pango Pango?

MICHAEL

(tonelessly)

I'll see you at the house tomorrow
night.

GRISBY

(with a pleasant grin)

Goodbye 'til then, you bloodthirsty
killer, you.He laughs ... Michael moves away into the darkness and
we hear the office door close -- good and hard.325 CLOSEUP GRISBY
...laughing his silly laugh all by himself.

325

FADE OUT:

FADE IN:

INT. KITCHEN BANNISTER HOME - THE NEXT NIGHT

326 Michael sits in his shirtsleeves smoking, a half empty cup of coffee and an open book before him on the kitchen table. Bessie, dressed for her night out, stops by for a word.

BESSIE

What's eatin' you, Mr. Man?...
I know, you were all set to quit last night, an' here you is... I know -- That gal can talk a body into anything she wants... I'm glad she kin. She needs you. -- Say, where is she now?

MICHAEL

Where you're goin' --, to the films?

BESSIE

(cheerfully)
Not the same theatre, Mr. Man, I'd better hurry. Where I'm goin' it's bank night.

MICHAEL

Feel lucky?

BESSIE

No, jest hopeful.

She starts out the door.

QUICK DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. BANNISTER ESTATE BEHIND THE GARAGE - NIGHT

327 A man is standing in the shadows. Grisby enters the Scene. 327

GRISBY

Is that you, Broome?

It is, but he doesn't answer. Grisby looks about him nervously.

GRISBY

Well, here I am.

327 CONTINUED:

327

BROOME

(quietly)

Yes, sir, here you are.

328 TIGHT TWO SHOT GRISBY AND BROOME

328

GRISBY

(trying to keep
his voice down)Look, Broome, I've got to get into
the city. I'm late and Michael's
going to have to take me --

He looks sharply at Broome's face.

GRISBY

(continued)

What are you laughing at?

BROOME

The way you say it, it sounds phony!
Like you practiced it too many times!

GRISBY

(shrilly)

I don't get what you're driving at.

BROOME

Sure you do.

329 CLOSEUP GRISBY

329

Grisby looks at him for a silent, breathless minute, then
speaks:

GRISBY

What do you want?

330 CLOSEUP BROOME

330

BROOME

I'll settle for five thousand dollars.

Grisby gulps the air in a couple of times as though he'd
been running heavily.

331 TIGHT TWO SHOT GRISBY AND BROOME

331

Grisby tries to go, but finds he can't.

GRISBY

I'll talk to you tomorrow.

331 CONTINUED:

331

BROOME

Tomorrow? When you'll be playin'
 dead an' somebody else we both know's
really dead? No, thanks, Mr. Grisby,
 we'll settle our account right now.

GRISBY

(his tone suddenly
 quite cool)

All right, Broome, if you insist --

He reaches in his pocket and takes out a gun --

332 CLOSEUP BROOME

332

BROOME

(sharply)

No!

CUT TO:

INT. KITCHEN

333 Michael is reading his book. From outside comes the SOUND 333
 of a shot! Michael looks up, puzzled. CAMERA PANS him to
 the door. He goes out.

EXT. KITCHEN ENTRANCE BANNISTER HOME - NIGHT

334 As Michael comes out on the porch we can see he's trying 334
 to place the direction of the gunshot.

CUT TO:

EXT. BACK YARD BEHIND THE GARAGE - NIGHT

335 CLOSE SHOT BROOME 335
 lying with his face in the earth. CAMERA TILTS UP to HOLD ON
 Grisby, the smoking revolver, still in his hand. CAMERA MOVES
 with Grisby around to the side door of the garage. He opens
 it and starts in.

INT. BANNISTER GARAGE - NIGHT

336 Grisby comes in the side door, takes a flashlight out of his left pocket and makes his way to the Hispano, CAMERA FOLLOWING. Moving quickly, Grisby wipes the gun with a big linen handkerchief, and holding it in the handkerchief, opens the car door. He reaches into the flap pocket of the door and takes out another gun. (The same gun Elsa carried in her bag in Central Park). Still pinching the revolver he used to shoot Broome in the delicate folds of his handkerchief, he drops it in the car pocket. 336

MICHAEL'S VOICE (O.S.)

What was that shot?

Grisby starts and straightens! The overhead floodlights in the garage flash on as Michael turns the switch

337 MEDIUM SHOT MICHAEL 337
at the garage door. His hand on the switch. He looks suspiciously off screen. CAMERA FOLLOWING, he crosses to Grisby, who manages to jam the gun he took from the car into his coat pocket before Michael comes up to him.

338 TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND GRISBY 338

GRISBY

I was just doing a little target practice...

Michael's eyes squint down at him. Grisby giggles nervously.

GRISBY

(continued)

That's your line, isn't it?
Remember, that's what you're
supposed to say.

Michael is watchful and silent. With another of his childish spasms of laughter, Grisby climbs into the car.

GRISBY

Come on, time to start...

Very low thunder mumbles in the air outside. Slowly Michael gets in beside him, starts the car and drives it out of the garage

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. COUNTRY ROAD - NIGHT

339 An overcast sky. Lightning, and the far-away threat of 339
thunder. The car races down the road.

EXT. DOORWAY OF THE BANNISTER KITCHEN - NIGHT

340 For a while nothing moves on the screen. Then over the 340
SOUND TRACK we hear the rasping static-like sounds of tortured
breathing -- the breathing of a dying man. Up from the bottom
of the Frame -- up to the steps, crawls Broome. Moving on his
belly, an inch at a time, he tries to get the door open with
his fingers, tries to raise himself to the knob...fails...
finally makes it.

CUT TO:

341 MEDIUM SHOT (PROCESS) 341
Michael is driving; Grisby slumped in the back clenches an
unlit cigar between his teeth.

342 CLOSE SHOT MICHAEL 342
His hands grip the wheel, nervously....

343 CLOSE SHOT GRISBY 343
in the back seat.

344 CLOSE SHOT MICHAEL 344
at the wheel. He stares into the rear view mirror of the car.

345 CLOSE SHOT REAR VIEW MIRROR (SPECIAL EFFECTS) 345
Grisby, his forehead dripping...

346 CLOSE SHOT MICHAEL 346
at the wheel. Impatiently, he steps on the gas. The car
gathers still more speed.

EXT. COUNTRY ROAD - NIGHT

347 In the distance ahead is seen the red light on the tail of 347
a truck. Michael's car rockets toward the truck.

INT. CAR WINDSHIELD SHOT FROM MICHAEL'S POINT OF VIEW

- 348 The tail light comes closer -- and still closer... 348
- 349 CLOSE SHOT MICHAEL 349
He quickly jerks back the emergency brake, swings the wheel around, jams on the footbrake --
- 350 CLOSE SHOT GRISBY 350
- 351 WINDSHIELD SHOT (SPECIAL EFFECTS) FROM MICHAEL'S POINT OF VIEW
The CAMERA ZOOMS UP 'til the glare of the tail light fills 351 the whole of the screen. A sudden jolt of CAMERA as the red blaze is broken by the shattering of glass in front of CAMERA Lens, splintering the entire picture...

CUT TO:

EXT. ROAD - NIGHT

- 352 REVERSE CLOSE SHOT ON MICHAEL 352
through broken windshield glass. Michael, stunned, hunches over the wheel, his face bleeding. Grisby, b.g. Michael comes to and with effort starts to leave the car.

EXT. COUNTRY ROAD

- 353 MEDIUM SHOT 353
Michael's car has smashed into a truck. A man, the truck-driver runs toward Michael.

- 354 MEDIUM SHOT MICHAEL AND TRUCK DRIVER 354

TRUCK DRIVER

Anybody hurt?

MICHAEL

I don't know.

(he looks in back)

Mr. Grisby --

Grisby slides out of the car, blood on his white linen suit, holding his hand to his wrist.

GRISBY

That was close, wasn't it? Not hurt, are you fella?

354 CONTINUED:

354

MICHAEL

I'm all right.

TRUCK DRIVER

You're lucky, flyin' glass can take
your head off.

355 MEDIUM SHOT MICHAEL, GRISBY AND TRUCK DRIVER 355
Followed by Grisby, Michael and the truck driver move into
the blaze of the twisted headlights. The whole front of the
car is jammed against the back of the truck.

356 CLOSE SHOT RED TAIL LIGHT OF THE TRUCK 356
smashed.

357 CLOSE SHOT MICHAEL 357
He looks toward Grisby.

358 CLOSE SHOT GRISBY 358
holding his bleeding wrist. He notices Michael looking at
him and smiles back.

GRISBY

It's okay, fella.

359 CLOSE SHOT TRUCK DRIVER 359

TRUCK DRIVER

You're cut bad.

360 CLOSE SHOT GRISBY 360
He wraps a handkerchief around his wrist.

GRISBY

It's okay, really it is.

361 MEDIUM SHOT CAR AND TRUCK 361
Michael gets inside the car and starts the motor. Grisby
stands outside and turns to the truck driver.

GRISBY

What's your name?

TRUCK DRIVER

Hey, you ain't goin' to try an' say
I did it?

361 CONTINUED:

361

GRISBY

Don't be silly. We just want to be sure you're compensated for any damage we may have caused your truck.

TRUCK DRIVER

That's different. Here's the driver's license...

He starts getting it out.

CUT TO:

INT. BANNISTER OFFICE - NIGHT

362 Pitch blackness and the empty atmosphere of lower Wall Street by night... Nobody around for a million miles... 362
A phone is ringing... An insistent jangle... almost as though the phone itself were complaining of loneliness...

CUT TO:

EXT. ROAD

363 Grisby is just giving the truck driver one of his cards. 363

GRISBY

(as he climbs back into the partly wrecked Hispano)

All right, now, you've got my name and address. Be sure and let me know the damage.

Michael starts the car. It roars up the road and out of sight. The truck driver, holding Grisby's card between a couple of grimy fingers, stands watching it go.....

QUICK DISSOLVE TO:

INT. BANNISTER'S OFFICE

364 As before. The phone still rings -- seems to echo through 364
the empty building... Then the ringing stops abruptly --

CUT TO:

INT. BANNISTER KITCHEN - NIGHT

365 EXTREME CLOSE SHOT PHONE 365
The receiver hangs down on the cord as though it had been
dropped. It swings and dangles aimlessly as the CAMERA
MOVES QUICKLY IN and the Frame is filled with the per-
forated membrane of the receiver. Over the SOUND TRACK
the very tiny, very tiny voice of an operator is heard.

OPERATOR'S VOICE

(filter)

Operator... Operator...
Operator!... Operator...!

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. FRONT CAR

366 LOW ANGLE SHOT SHOWING DASHBOARD AND RIGHT GLOVE COMPART- 366
MENT CAMERA ON FLOOR OF CAR SHOOTING UP.
Grisby's arm, a handkerchief tied around it, is at screen
left (suspended over the Camera.) As his other hand removes
the handkerchief, drops of blood fall over the Camera lens.
As the first drop of blood spatters the lens, the left hand
of the screen becomes slightly blurred.

MICHEAL O.S.

What are you doing?

GRISBY O.S.

Getting blood all over the floor
of the car. My blood. It's per-
fect. If you shot me there'd be
blood, fella -- see?

While Grisby's voice is heard over scene, more drops of blood
fall on the Camera lens, and the left half of the screen
becomes progressively more blurred.

GRISBY O.S.

Get out the gun!

The left half of the frame is now completely blurred, a fuzzy
line of demarcation between the left and right halves of the
screen. Michael's arm shoots out from this blurred dividing
line into the right half of the screen and raises the lid of
the glove compartment. He takes out a gun. We now see in
the right half of the screen, Michael's arm holding a gun.

INT. CAR

367 TWO SHOT 367
Grisby, in the back, leaning over the front seat as he ties
his handkerchief around his wrist. He is directly behind
Michael who holds the gun in his hand. Michael closes the
glove compartment and opens the car door. He and Grisby
get out.

EXT. CAR - NIGHT

368 The top of a little hill sloping down to the sand and 368
the sea.

EXT. BEACH

369 LONG SHOT 369
 Many little fires are burning up and down the beach. By fit-
 ful heat lightning people can be seen moving about and sitting
 in groups. A voice is heard singing, and an amateurish gui-
 tar. Far in the distance is Bannister's pier and his speed
 boat.

370 TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND GRISBY 370
 on the hill overlooking the beach.

GRISBY

It's all working out perfectly.
 That truckdriver's going to make
 a Grade "A" witness. Now, make
 sure somebody sees you go back
 when you leave here. When you
 get back to the garage, start
 washing out the blood stains.
 You're trying to wipe out the
 evidence, see. But be careful
 not to do such a good job that
 they can't analyze the stains.

Grisby pauses, smiles at Michael.

GRISBY (Cont'd.)

To save your own neck, they've
 got to make sure I'm dead.

Grisby walks closer to Michael and suddenly, pulling the
 handkerchief off his wrist, wipes some of the blood on
 Michael's clothes.

371 CLOSE SHOT MICHAEL 371
 as he draws back.

372 CLOSE SHOT GRISBY 372
 laughing.

GRISBY

Just try to wash that off!

EXT. BEACH - NIGHT

373 TWO SHOT GRISBY AND MICHAEL 373
 Grisby reties the handkerchief around his wrist.

GRISBY (Cont'd.)

Well, that's about all, fella.
 Soon as you hear the speedboat
 get away! - fire the gun.

373 CONTINUED:

373

He shakes Michael's hand.

GRISBY (Cont'd.)

Well, this is goodbye.

He quickly walks down the hill to the pier.

374 OVER SHOULDER SHOT MICHAEL IN F.G. 374
Lightning shows Grisby walking towards the pier. We see the many little fires and the people on the beach. Michael stands watching, the gun in his hand.

375 CLOSE SHOT MICHAEL 375
He wets his lips, looks nervously about and starts to lift his gun. The beach is quiet save for desultory laughter from the picnic groups and the distant song. Suddenly!

VOICE O.S.

WAIT! WAIT!

It's Grisby. Michael swings around.

376 TWO SHOT 376
Grisby runs up to Michael, out of breath.

GRISBY

A little thing like this and I forget it! Quick, give me your cap.

Michael hands Grisby his cap, and without another word, Grisby starts off again.

377 OVER SHOULDER SHOT 377
Michael watching Grisby as he goes to the speedboat at the pier.

378 CLOSEUP MICHAEL'S FACE 378
The noise of the speedboat fills the air - then slowly dies away.

379 CLOSE SHOT MICHAEL 379
He points the gun toward the sand and fires it.

380 LONG SHOT BEACH MICHAEL IN F.G. 380
The singing and the laughter suddenly stop. Michael stands there, the smoking gun in his hand ... Silence.

381 TRUCKING SHOT 381
 Michael runs down to the pier, turns and starts along the beach. A fat man in a bathrobe grabs him by the arm and swings him around.

382 MEDIUM SHOT FAT MAN 382
 The fat man grabs the gun from Michael's hand.

FAT MAN

Here! Here, what are you doing?

Other people dressed in beach robes, men and women, run into scene.

PEOPLE - AD LIBS

What happened?

What was the shooting for?

What does he want?

Who is he?

Michael tries to laugh, - motions to the gun.

MICHAEL

I just felt like hearing it go off. Anything wrong with that?

FAT MAN

Oh ... Just did it for a whim, I s'pose?

MICHAEL

That's right. Just a whim.

He abruptly swings around and starts towards the top of the hill.

383 MEDIUM SHOT THE PEOPLE ON THE BEACH 383
 They watch him go.

384 MEDIUM SHOT TOP OF THE HILL 384
 Michael, putting the gun in his pocket, jumps into the car and starts the motor.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. CAR (PROCESS)

385 Michael at the wheel driving ... He jams his foot on the 385
 brake, getting all possible speed he can. Suddenly the car
 lights go out.

386 CLOSE SHOT MICHAEL
as he reacts.

386

387 MEDIUM SHOT CAR
Pitch black ... Michael slows. The horn on the car jams.
The irritating long steady drone of the horn cuts the night
to ribbons ...

387

SLOW DISSOLVE TO:

INT. BANNISTER'S OFFICE

388 As before.

388

The visual action of the DISSOLVE is synchronized with a cross
fade of sound: From the maddening whine of the auto horn to
the maddening whine of the phone.

CUT TO:

INT. BANNISTER KITCHEN

389 Broome has somehow pulled himself up from the floor long
enough to dial the number again. He's hanging on to the
receiver now listening to the buzz...Gasping out his life...

389

CUT TO:

INT. BANNISTER'S OFFICE

390 The phone still yammers in the darkness. But now THE
CAMERA MOVES UP FROM THE DESK AND APPROACHES THE WINDOW.

390

391 HIGH ANGLE SHOT - SHOOTING DOWN INTO THE STREET
Far below the tiny figure of a man can just be made out on
the black pavement...Suddenly, with the sound perspective
matching this distance, there is heard a faint but sharp
textured gunshot! The noise ricochets off the granite
faces of the empty buildings echoing remotely. This during
a silent phrase of one of the measured pauses between the
exclamations of the phone buzzer...Precisely on the instant
of the gunshot, the moving CAMERA had pulled up and locked

391

391 CONTINUED:

391

its focus in a fixed stare at the street below....The miniscule shape of the man is seen to fall....The phone bell clatters....The man lies motionless.

SLOW DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. ROAD - NIGHT

392 As before.

392

The action of the dissolve matches the movement of a cross fade of sound effects. The phone bell merging into the cry of the jammed auto horn and melting away under it...His road lights short-circuited, Michael sits at the wheel undecided what to do...With the shock of a sudden shout, a hot, bright light is beamed on his face.

393 CLOSEUP - MICHAEL

393

He swings around and squints into the glare.

394 MEDIUM SHOT OVER SHOULDER MICHAEL

394

A motorcycle cop comes opposite the car.

THE COP

Having trouble?

MICHAEL

The lights went out on me and the horn jammed.

The cop dismounts and walks round the car -- notices the wrecked front.

THE COP

Looks like you had a little accident.

MICHAEL

Yeah...A truck.

For a minute the cop studies Michael. Then with his flashlight looks into the car.

395 CLOSE SHOT - MICHAEL
He holds his breath.

395

396 TWO SHOT - COP AND MICHAEL

396

THE COP
I'll get ya a tow car.
He rides away on the motorcycle.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. NIGHT - HIGH ANGLE - STREET BELOW - SHOOTING

397 FROM WINDOW OF BANNISTER'S OFFICE 397
 As before the CAMERA peers down the giddy distance of twenty stories to the murky street. Several figures are seen to gather, circling the place where the man fell. Police whistles are heard, and then from blocks away! The banshee yelling of police sirens....The phone has stopped ringing...

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. NIGHT - WALL STREET

398 THE CAMERA IS ANGLED IN A DOWN-SHOT precisely as before. 398
 But now the lens is a mere fifteen feet above the pavement. The police...squad cars...an ambulance...The heart of this tableau is the darkest object in the composition. The figure of the fallen man, an obvious corpse.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. BANNISTER GARAGE

399 With a desperate striving and a feverish haste Michael 399
 is washing away at the blood stains in the car. A voice is heard.

THE VOICE
 O'Hara!.....O'Hara!!

Michael looks toward the door.

THE VOICE (CONT.)
 It's Broome!.....

Michael doesn't move -- scarcely breathes. Then Broome's voice scatters the silence again, an agonized creak.

BROOME'S VOICE (CONT)
 I know you're there, O'Hara...let me in....

Michael doesn't speak. For a moment all we can hear is the liquid spattering from the cloth in his hand on to the moist concrete....Then the door of the garage swings sharply in with a shriek of hinges and Broome falls into the scene.

TIGHT TWO SHOT - MICHAEL AND BROOME

400 Michael catches him with his wet hands.

400

BROOME
(his eyes glazed)
Blood...Blood...
(wonderingly)
It ain't all mine...

MICHAEL
(abruptly)
I had an accident.

BROOME
(still clinging to him)
And Bannister? When did he die?

MICHAEL
(barking at him)
You're drunk, Broome, Mr. Bannister
isn't dead.

Broome sinks on to the running board of the car, rolling his eyes up at Michael.

401 CLOSE UP BROOME

401

BROOME
Where's Grisby?

We can tell from the leer of blanked out teeth that Broome is trying to smile.

402 CLOSE UP BROOME

402

BROOME (CONT.)
Did he give you the dough? Don't
stall, I need a doctor. I got
something....

His hand goes to his breast, we think to his wound, then we realize to his pocket.

BROOME (CONT.)
-- to sell. Cost you five grand...

403 CLOSE UP MICHAEL

403

MICHAEL
(without expression)
What are you talking about?

404 CLOSE UP BROOME

404

BROOME

(with an angry sneer)
Everybody dummies up on me!....
You're all wastin' your time....
And I ain't got no time. I bet
you don't know why Grisby stuck
you on that murder frame-up?....

405 CLOSE UP MICHAEL

405

Michael still holds him in a blank stare.

BROOME (CONT.) O.S.

Sure he's a lammeester -- but while
he's beatin' it, he's takin' the
gimp with him.

MICHAEL

What do you mean?

406 CLOSE UP BROOME

406

He gets for answer Broome's empty leer.

407 CLOSE TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND BROOME

407

MICHAEL (CONT.)

Do you mean Bannister and Grisby
are running off together?

BROOME

Bannister's dead, he's gonna be
when Grisby gets to Wall Street...
That's why Grisby wants it to look
like you croaked him. That way he's
clean, see? Without nobody goin'
after him. It's his alibi, see?--

408 CLOSE UP BROOME

408

BROOME (CONT.)

All the time he's supposed to be
murdered, he's really murderin'
Bannister --

Then sharply, a fresh note of fright in his voice.

BROOME (CONT.)

Where you goin'?

409 MEDIUM CLOSE SHOT MICHAEL

108

409

MICHAEL

Wall Street --

Michael has started into the car.

410 MEDIUM SHOT

410

BROOME

If you wanta save Bannister, you
better stop on it...But first --
first -- gimme that five grand.

Michael looks back at him.

BROOME (CONT.)

It's on you now. It's gotta be!

He's trying to sound vicious, but by now the effect is only
pathetic.

BROOME (CONT.)

Gimme that five grand!

MICHAEL

What for?

411 CLOSEUP BROOME

411

BROOME

A little piece of paper, that's
what for. A paper with your
name signed to it. A confession...
I lifted it offa Grisby when he
wasn't lockin'.

412 CLOSE UP MICHAEL

412

MICHAEL

Show it to me.

413 TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND BROOME

413

BROOME

Show me that five grand...

Michael gets out the money. Broome seizes it in greedy
fingers sticky with blood.

413 CONTINUED:

413

BROOME (CONT.)
 (creeching in a kind of dying
 ecstasy)
 ...Five G's...I worked hard for this.--

414 CLOSE UP BROOME 414
 He slumps to the concrete floor -- falls dead in a blood
 morass of paper money.

415 MEDIUM CLOSE SHOT MICHAEL 415
 After a minute, Michael forces himself into a search for the
 confession. Finds it in Broome's pocket. Puts it away in
 his own. Michael would get into the car, but he can't. --
 Five thousand dollars cry out to him from the ground.

416 CLOSE SHOT MICHAEL 416
 As one in a trance, he stoops and gathers up the precious
 garbage. Shovels the moist and dripping stuff into the car.
 He follows it in himself with a slam of the door. He yanks
 the car into speed and his face set and rigid as a sleep-
 walker's, he jelts out of the scene...We hear stripping gears
 and screeching rubber -- as we ...

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. WALL STREET - NIGHT

417 The same shot as before -- but still closer. Now the 417
 shadowed corpse is ringed with a sizeable crowd. THE CAMERA
 HASN'T MOVED, but other elements in the picture have shifted
 enough to indicate a passage of time. One of the cops, a
 lieutenant, turns and looks off-scene.

THE COP LT.

Hey! Who's that?
 (to attending subordinates)
 Be sure he stops.

CAMERA TILTS UP THE STREET to show the approach of Michael
 in his car. The crowd swallows and stalls the little Chevy,
 and the cops descend on Michael like an eager swarm of flies.

418 MEDIUM CLOSE SHOT MICHAEL AND THE COP CLOSEST TO HIM

418

MICHAEL

(to him)

Am I too late?

THE COP

Too late for what, buddy?

MICHAEL

To save him! Is he alive?

THE COP

Is who alive?

MICHAEL

Bannister -- Harry Bannister.

THE COP

What was that name again?

THE COP LT.

(moving majestically into
the scene)What's his name? That's what I
want to know. What's he doing here?

During the whole of this scene, CAMERA DOLLIES IN TOWARD
MICHAEL'S FACE...The cops get to be voices only. As we train
our sights on Michael's mounting terror. ---

A COP'S VOICE O.S.

Hey, look! That's blood, ain't it?

ANOTHER COP O.S.

Blood?

MANY VOICES OF THE POLICE O.S.

Sure it's blood! All over his clothes!
Come on! Out!

THE FRAME CLOSES IN ON THE LIMITS OF MICHAEL'S FACE as the
cops drag him out of the car. The voices press on.

THE VOICES

Same thing all over the seat!
Money! Hundred dollar bills!
Blood all over him! Come on!
Who are you?

MICHAEL

He was killed wasn't he? Or
you wouldn't be here.

Somobody slams him across the face.

418 CONTINUED:

418

A HORASE VOICE O.S.

Shut up!

THE LT. O.S.

Search him! See if he's armed.

MICHAEL

I'm Michael O'Hara. I just want
to know about Bannister, that's
all! I just --

THE COP O.S.

(speaking in careful tones)
O'Hara...O - H - A -

ANOTHER COP O.S.

(shouting)
What's this?!

Exactly on this cry, CAMERA YANKS BACK to show a uniformed
arm dragging from Michael's coat the crumpled, stained
confession.

MICHAEL

If somebody doesn't tell me about Mr.
Bannister, I'll go out of my mind!

A COP O.S.

Listen to this!

(reading)

"I, Michael O'Hara, in order to live
at peace with my conscience and my
God --"

A second of silence greets this phrase.

419 CLOSE UP BANNISTER 419
He smiles sweetly at Michael, the brilliant eyes aglow. Off
scene the cop continues reading the confession.

THE COP O.S.

"--do freely make the following
confession. On the evening of
August ninth I shot and killed
George Grisby --"...

420 CLOSE UP MICHAEL 420

MICHAEL

Grisby!

420 CONTINUED:

420

BANNISTER O.S.
That's right, Michael.

421 CLOSE UP BANNISTER

421

BANNISTER (CONT)
--That's what you say there in
your confession.

422 CLOSEUP MICHAEL

422

MICHAEL
(the sky falling on his head)
Grisby! Grisby was killed....

423 TIGHT TWO SHOT BANNISTER AND MICHAEL

423

BANNISTER
Yes, Michael, with your cap in
his hand. It's lucky I'm here...

424 CLOSEUP MICHAEL

424

425 CLOSEUP BANNISTER

425

BANNISTER
You're going to need a good lawyer.

The flames fairly crackle in his tiny dark eyes as Bannister
digs into Michael with a long deep look....

FADE OUT:

FADE IN:

INT. JAIL MICHAEL'S CELL- DAY

426 Bannister limps up to Michael, who sits stonily on his cot. 426
In the b.g. the guard closes the cell door, locks it and
moves away.

BANNISTER

I brought you the papers.

Michael refuses to acknowledge this and Bannister tosses
some gaudy looking tabloids onto the cot beside the prisoner.

BANNISTER

(continued)

They're giving the case a good
play. You're quite a sensation,
Michael ...

427 CLOSEUP MICHAEL

427

BANNISTER O.S.

(continued)

.... The papers are all saying your
confession's a phoney. They want
to know how you could kill Grisby
out on my beach in Long Island,
throw his body into the Sound, and
have his body turn up dry at the
foot of Wall Street? --

428 CLOSEUP BANNISTER

428

BANNISTER

(continued)

... They think you did it, but
they don't know how ... The D.A.'s
going to say you took him down
there -- in the speed-boat.

429 CLOSEUP MICHAEL

429

MICHAEL

I couldn't have.

430 TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND BANNISTER

430

BANNISTER

Unless you got Mrs. Bannister
to lie about the time ... He
couldn't have taken himself.

430 CONTINUED:

430

MICHAEL

Why not?

431 CLOSEUP BANNISTER

431

BANNISTER

Because there wasn't any other way for him to go. He didn't take the train, we checked. He didn't drive or we would've found the car. He didn't take the speed-boat because how could he have got it back?

432 TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND BANNISTER

432

MICHAEL

Back where?

BANNISTER

Back at the beach. That boat couldn't have driven itself home. Maybe it was Grisby's ghost. Maybe he took himself down and the boat just drifted back. Or maybe you had someone working with you. --

433 CLOSEUP BANNISTER

433

BANNISTER

Michael, you must see what an odd position this puts me in -- defending a man for killing my own law partner. I'm going to have a job persuading the judge to let me do it. Now then -- What really happened? Why'd you shoot him?

434 CLOSEUP MICHAEL

434

MICHAEL

I didn't shoot him.

435 TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND BANNISTER

435

BANNISTER

Then why did you say you did...to get out of another crime -- the murder of Broome?

435 CONTINUED:

435

MICHAEL

(quickly)

No --

BANNISTER

Well, if you didn't shoot Grisby,
why that confession?

436 CLOSEUP MICHAEL

436

MICHAEL

He made me write it.

BANNISTER

Who?

MICHAEL

Grisby. I didn't know he was
going to get killed.

437 CLOSEUP BANNISTER

437

BANNISTER

Are you trying to make me think
you're crazy? Is that your game?

438 CLOSEUP MICHAEL

438

MICHAEL

It was supposed to be a fake murder.

439 CLOSEUP BANNISTER

439

BANNISTER

What?

440 CLOSEUP MICHAEL

440

MICHAEL

Grisby wanted to get away from
his wife -- she wouldn't give
him a divorce. So he hired me
to pretend to kill him accidentally.

441 TWO SHOT BANNISTER AND MICHAEL

441

BANNISTER

If you think I'm going into a court with a story like that, you are crazy! -- No, we'll say Grisby took the boat to Wall Street of his own accord and died there from your shot.

442 CLOSEUP BANNISTER

442

BANNISTER

Excusable homicide -- accident. That's going to have to be the plea. It's our only bet..

443 TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND BANNISTER

443

MICHAEL

But we can prove I didn't do it with that gun I had.

BANNISTER

Maybe you had another gun ... we can't prove you didn't.

444 CLOSEUP MICHAEL

444

MICHAEL

(slowly)
..... So I'm going on trail for my life, claiming to have killed a man I didn't kill.

BANNISTER O.S.

And hoping they'll believe you, but not to the extent where they'll send you to the chair.

445 CLOSEUP BANNISTER
He's almost smiling.

445

FADE OUT.

FADE IN:

INT. COURTROOM

446 THE TOP OF THE JUDGE'S BENCH 446
His books and papers impressively arrayed. But the most prominent thing in the picture:

INSERT: A RACING FORM

447 CLOSEUP TOP OF DESK 447
On scratch paper His Honor is calculating the odds on something good for the Fifth. o.s. the District Attorney Galloway is examining a witness.

D.A.'S VOICE

Now, then, Officer Peters, you say you heard no shot. Yet from the condition of the blood, which you testified was still wet when you discovered the body, we know the death must have come on Wall Street, but, not as it would appear, from a shot fired on Wall Street or you would have heard it. Isn't that right?

448 MEDIUM SHOT THE COURTROOM 448
A burly policeman named Peters is testifying.

BANNISTER

(rising)

Objection! The shot might have been fired before the Officer came within hearing distance. No definite conclusion can be drawn from the fact that the Officer heard no shot.

JUDGE

Sustained. Strike the District Attorney's remarks from the record.

GALLOWAY

But, Your Honor, the fact no shot was heard, simply bears out the defendant's written confession -- But we'll return to that later. Right now we'll continue with the Officer's testimony as I'm sure he's anxious to get home to his wife and family before returning to duty.

449 TWO SHOT PETERS AND GALLOWAY 449
 Peters looks at him and starts to say something, but Galloway
 rushes on:

GALLOWAY

An important point, Mr. Peters:
 Will you tell the jury the condition
 of Mr. Grisby's clothes the moment
 you came upon the body?

PETERS

They seemed to be in good condition,
 except for the blood, of course.

GALLOWAY

The clothes were wet or dry?

450 CLOSEUP PETERS 450

PETERS

They were dry.

451 CLOSEUP GALLOWAY 451

GALLOWAY

Dry! Yet the defendant said in
 his confession that he'd thrown the
 body into the Sound.

452 CLOSEUP BANNISTER 452

BANNISTER

I object.

GALLOWAY'S VOICE

Grounds?

BANNISTER

My client has withdrawn the state-
 ment that the body was thrown into
 the Sound. The District Attorney
 is taking unfair advantage of a
 situation which he knows has been
 rectified.

453 MEDIUM SHOT COURTROOM 453

JUDGE

Objection sustained. The District
 Attorney's last remarks will be
 stricken from the record.

453 CONTINUED:

453

Galloway shrugs and looks at the jury to make sure they got it anyway.

454 MEDIUM SHOT JURY'S FACES
They get the point.

454

GALLOWAY'S VOICE

The fact remains that the clothes were dry. Now, Mr. Peters, was there anything else that struck you at the time of the discovery of the body?

455 MEDIUM SHOT GALLOWAY AND PETERS

455

PETERS

Yes, sir. There was something. Mr. Grisby was lying face down with his arm thrown out. His hat had rolled to one side but in his right hand he had a cap. He was holding it so tight the Homicide man had a hard time getting it loose.

GALLOWAY

What kind of cap?

Peters wets his lips and looks across the courtroom to Michael.

PETERS

A chauffeur's cap.

456 CLOSE REACTION SHOT MICHAEL

456

457 MEDIUM SHOT COURTROOM

457

Galloway crosses to the table, snatches up a cap, holds it over his head.

GALLOWAY

Is this the cap?

PETERS

It looks like it.

Galloway turns to the jury waving the cap.

457 CONTINUED:

457

GALLOWAY

Here is a lawyer mortally wounded,
struck down in the prime of life,
yet with the quickness and brilliance
of thought that characterized his
whole career at the bar, he snatched
the evidence that would send his
murderer to the chair! --

458 MEDIUM CLOSE SHOT JURY

458

GALLOWAY

So that a competent jury sitting in
trial upon that murderer might avenge
his death without the slightest fear
of error or possible miscarriage of
justice...

459 CLOSE SHOT GALLOWAY

459

GALLOWAY

Watch!

460 CLOSE THREE SHOT GALLOWAY, MICHAEL AND BANNISTER
Galloway has crossed to Michael's side. He slaps the cap
on his head tight.

460

BANNISTER

(rising; shouting)

Objection!

He gets to his feet so quickly he wrenches his leg.

461 CLOSEUP BANNISTER
Pain shoots through his face. He grabs the table to hold on.

461

462 THREE SHOT GALLOWAY, MICHAEL AND BANNISTER

462

GALLOWAY

Of course the Defense Counsel objects.
The cap fits!

463 CLOSEUP BANNISTER

463

BANNISTER

The District Attorney is supposed to
be conducting a direct examination.
Such dramatics are entirely unnecessary.
The cap would fit ten million others as
easily.

464 MEDIUM SHOT COURT

464

BANNISTER'S VOICE

I ask the District Attorney's conclusions be stricken from the record as being ill-timed, unfounded and immaterial.

465 CLOSEUP JUDGE

465

JUDGE

Sustained. I'd say the evidence is material, but I must caution the District Attorney to confine himself to the direct examination until he's ready for summation.

466 MEDIUM SHOT GALLOWAY

466

GALLOWAY

(yanking cap
off Michael)

It is not only highly material, but I shall attempt to show it is positive evidence. We haven't here a mere case of accidental shooting, as the defense would like us to believe, and as attested in the defendant's so-called confession, but an out and out case of first degree murder.

Michael jumps to his feet.

467 CLOSE SHOT MICHAEL

467

MICHAEL

That's not true. I --

468 TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND BANNISTER

468

The Judge pounds his gavel. Bannister puts a hand on Michael's arm to keep him down.

BANNISTER

Let him finish. Our turn will come later.

MICHAEL

Will you put me on the stand?

468 CONTINUED:

468

BANNISTER

That would give him just the chance
he wants to cross examine you.

469 MEDIUM SHOT GALLOWAY
Galloway turns to Peters.

469

GALLOWAY

That's all. Your witness, Mr.
Bannister.

Bannister stands up slowly, thinking.

BANNISTER

No questions -- except, yes, one.

He looks at Peters, who is half way out of his chair.

BANNISTER

Of course, I don't want to keep you
from your wife and children any more
than the District Attorney who was
so concerned about them a moment ago.
But I would like to ask one question.

470 CLOSEUP PETERS

470

BANNISTER'S VOICE

Mr. Peters, have you a wife and
children?

PETERS

Well --

Peters looks at Galloway and starts to smile.

PETERS

No.

471 MEDIUM SHOT COURTR OM
A laugh goes up over the courtroom, The Judge bangs
his gavel. Galloway reddens, but tries to shrug it off.

471

BANNISTER

(to Peters)

Thank you, you may step down.

Bannister looks at Galloway, smiling. Laughter is still
heard in spite of the gavel.

471 CONTINUED:

471

GALLOWAY

Our next witness is a man of un-
 impeachable integrity -- honest,
 fearless and public-spirited in the
 extreme. Although he may be somewhat
 surprised at the request, I'm sure
 he will not hesitate to testify.
 I call Harry Bannister.

472 CLOSE SHOT BANNISTER REACTION

472

473 MEDIUM SHOT COURTROOM

473

BAILIFF

Harry Bannister...

A murmur starts up in the courtroom, as the Judge's gavel
 hits the bench.

474 CLOSEUP MICHAEL
Michael looks at Elsa.

474

475 CLOSEUP ELSA
She tries to smile encouragement. But we can see that
she's plenty worried.

475

476 CLOSEUP BANNISTER
He is furious.

476

BANNISTER

All right. I'll take the stand.

477 CLOSE SHOT THE JUDGE

477

JUDGE

One minute. I think the defendant
 has something to say about that...

478 OVER SHOULDER SHOT FAVORING JUDGE

478

JUDGE

(continuing; he
 looks at Michael)

It is within your discretion to refuse
 to allow Defense Counsel to place your
 case in jeopardy by exposing himself to
 the Prosecution's questioning.

479 REVERSE SHOT FAVORING MICHAEL 479

MICHAEL

(he has risen)

No, Your Honor, I don't want any other lawyer, if that's what you mean. I'm not afraid of having Mr. Galloway asking him any questions. Because's there's nothing to be afraid of. I haven't done anything.

480 FULL SHOT COURTROOM excitement. 480

481 QUICK SERIES OF REACTION SHOTS: 481

to REACTION: ELSA to

485 REACTION: MICHAEL 485

REACTION: SPECTATORS

REACTION: JURY

REACTION: REPORTERS

486 MEDIUM SHOT REPORTERS 486

1ST REPORTER

Hey! Galloway can't make Bannister testify against his own client, can he?

2ND REPORTER

This whole trial gets screwier every minute.

3RD REPORTER

He's going to be under oath, and I always thought he was smart.

1ST REPORTER

He's got something up his sleeve.

3RD REPORTER

Don't forget the kid was his chauffeur.

2ND REPORTER

This is a new one, all right. A lawyer testifying in his own case against his own client.

Over this last we hear the Bailiff swearing Bannister in.

486 CONTINUED:

486

BAILIFF'S VOICE

(softly o.s.)

Doyousweartotellthetruththewhole
truthandnothingbutthetruth,sohelp
youGod?

487 CLOSE SHOT BANNISTER

487

BANNISTER

I do.

He sits down, his face dark, angered, his jaw set. He tries to cover up his twisted leg so he wouldn't look awkward -- fails. It seems to hang loosely disconnected...There isn't a sound in the whole courtroom.

488 MEDIUM SHOT COURTROOM

488

GALLOWAY

Your name?

BANNISTER

Harry Bannister.

GALLOWAY

Your profession?

BANNISTER

I'm a lawyer.

GALLOWAY

Your address?

BANNISTER

120 Wall Street.

GALLOWAY

That's the address of your office?

BANNISTER

It is.

489 TWO SHOT BANNISTER AND GALLOWAY

489

GALLOWAY

Now, Mr. Bannister, on the night of
August twelfth you were in that office?

BANNISTER

Yes.

489 CONTINUED:

489

GALLOWAY

-- waiting for your partner, George Grisby, who'd gone out to your home to get some papers. At what time did you realize that Mr. Grisby wasn't coming back?

BANNISTER

At eleven thirty-five, when the night watchman came to tell me that George was lying dead out in the street. I immediately accompanied him downstairs and identified the body.

490 CLOSEUP GALLOWAY

490

GALLOWAY

You noticed the cap in Mr. Grisby's hand?

491 CLOSE SHOT BANNISTER

491

BANNISTER

I did.

492 CLOSEUP GALLOWAY

492

GALLOWAY

Didn't you say that your chauffeur must have killed him?

493 CLOSEUP BANNISTER

493

BANNISTER

I said it looked that way.

494 TWO SHOT BANNISTER AND GALLOWAY

494

GALLOWAY

Did you or did you not suggest that a search for the chauffeur be made at once?

BANNISTER

Naturally, if my chauffeur were guilty I wanted him apprehended.

GALLOWAY

Naturally. You wanted to avenge George Grisby's death. That was your duty just as it is my duty. I should imagine you also felt a certain sense of responsibility, having hired and trusted the defendant Michael O'Hara, who later showed his gratitude by killing your own partner.

Bannister just looks at him.

495 CLOSEUP MICHAEL REACTION 495

496 OVER SHOULDER FAVORING BANNISTER 496

GALLOWAY

How long was Michael O'Hara in your employ before the shooting?

BANNISTER

A little less than a week.

GALLOWAY

He wasn't very content with his job, was he?

BANNISTER

No, I don't think he was.

GALLOWAY

As a matter of fact, he was preparing to leave the country -- Go back to sea. I wonder if you can enlighten us on that, Mr. Bannister? Why did he want to leave?

Bannister turns to the Judge.

497 MEDIUM THREE SHOT JUDGE, GALLOWAY AND BANNISTER 497

BANNISTER

As Defense Counsel I object to the District Attorney's line of questioning. By indirection he is attempting to establish premeditation which does not exist.

JUDGE

Objection sustained.

GALLOWAY

Very well, then, to return to the night of the crime. What did you say about the five thousand dollars discovered by the police on O'Hara's person?

498 CLOSEUP BANNISTER 498

BANNISTER

I didn't say anything.

499

TWO SHOT GALLOWAY AND BANNISTER

499

GALLOWAY

You weren't surprised?

BANNISTER

In our profession, Mr. Galloway,
one ceases to be surprised at
anything.

GALLOWAY

For the same reason that one
ceases to put much trust in his
fellow men.

BANNISTER

Possibly.

GALLOWAY

But yet you trusted Michael O'Hara --
without knowing any more about him
than that he had been a sailor?

BANNISTER

I trusted him.

500

CLOSEUP GALLOWAY

500

Galloway lashes a sharp finger at him.

GALLOWAY

Then why did you hire the detective
Broome?

501

CLOSEUP BANNISTER

501

BANNISTER

We live in a rather deserted
section--

502

TWO SHOT GALLOWAY AND BANNISTER

502

GALLOWAY

One minute, please. You live there
how long?

BANNISTER

Eight years.

503

CLOSEUP GALLOWAY

503

GALLOWAY

Eight years! You've lived in a rather
deserted section of Long Island for
eight years and then suddenly you feel
called on to keep a detective on the
premises!

504 CLOSE SHOT BANNISTER

504

BANNISTER

Your Honor, I fail to see what possible connection the District Attorney's present line of questioning can have on the case. If I hadn't trusted my chauffeur, I would have dismissed him. Certainly I would not have gone to the expense of hiring a detective to watch him.

505 THREE SHOT JUDGE, BANNISTER AND GALLOWAY

505

JUDGE

Can the District Attorney justify his present line of questioning?

GALLOWAY

I propose to show, Your Honor, that the hiring of detective Broome has a direct bearing on this case.

JUDGE

Very well.

GALLOWAY

I propose to show that the defendant was hired because of his youth and general physique and because he could not be trusted!

506 CLOSEUP MICHAEL
Reaction.

506

507 MED. SHOT COURTROOM

507

JUDGE

Proceed.

GALLOWAY

Isn't it true, Mr. Bannister, that you'd used the detective Broome in several of your cases having to do with divorce actions?

BANNISTER

I'm not in the habit of accepting such cases.

GALLOWAY

No, but you've handled a number, have you not?

507 CONTINUED:

507

BANNISTER

Yes.

GALLOWAY

You found it expedient to hire Broome for these cases because you knew his whole reputation and training had been in the procuring of such evidence?

BANNISTER

Yes.

508 CLOSEUP GALLOWAY

508

GALLOWAY

Do you mean to tell us you would hire a man trained in divorce actions, merely to watch your house?!

509 CLOSEUP BANNISTER

509

BANNISTER

Partly, yes.

510 CLOSEUP GALLOWAY

510

GALLOWAY

What do you mean, partly?

511 CLOSEUP BANNISTER

511

BANNISTER

(looking at the Judge)

I refuse to answer on the ground --!

512 CLOSEUP GALLOWAY

512

GALLOWAY

(breaking in)

Exactly as I thought. You didn't hire him to watch your house at all. You hired him to watch your wife. You didn't trust her with your new chauffeur. You didn't fire him either. You wanted to leave them together. You wanted to gather evidence.

- 513 CLOSEUP ELSA 513
reaction
- 514 CLOSEUP MICHAEL 514
reaction
- 515 CLOSEUP BANNISTER 515
- BANNISTER
I never had any thought of
having Michael watched.
- 516 TWO SHOT BANNISTER AND GALLOWAY 516
- GALLOWAY
Whom did you want watched?
Bannister doesn't answer. He just scowls angrily.
- 517 MED. THREE SHOT JUDGE, GALLOWAY, BANNISTER 517
- JUDGE
(breaking in)
I fail to see the connection
between that and the case at hand.
- GALLOWAY
The connection would be quite
apparent if the questions were
answered truthfully.
- 518 CLOSEUP JUDGE 518
- JUDGE
I think then that since Mr. Bannister
has declined to answer on legal
grounds, that the present line of
questioning should be dropped.
- 519 MED. SHOT COURTROOM 519
- GALLOWAY
That's all then. Your witness,
Mr. Bannister.
- Bannister climbs down off the stand and confronts the
Jury.

520 MED. SHOT BANNISTER AND JURY

520

BANNISTER

As defense counsel, I should like to ask the witness, -- myself, that is, -- a question. Why did I say on seeing the cap in George Grisby's hand that my chauffeur must have killed him? Because at the moment that seemed to be the logical explanation.

CAMERA DOLLIES IN to CLOSEUP BANNISTER

BANNISTER

Michael O'Hara did shoot George Grisby, but after his voluntary surrender he convinced me that he had no premeditated ideas of murder -- that it had been an accident.

521 OVER SHOULDER SHOT OF BANNISTER FAVORING JURY

521

BANNISTER (cont'd)

He told me he decided that the most honorable course was to put trust in the police and you, the Jury.

CAMERA PANS the Jury.

BANNISTER O.S. (cont'd.)

He thereupon surrendered out of his own innate sense of honor. That is all.

522 MED. SHOT BANNISTER
Bannister goes back to his chair. Galloway smiles up at him.

522

GALLOWAY

A very pretty speech.

Bannister doesn't look at him. He sits down.

GALLOWAY

(still smiling, on his feet)

Call Mrs. Bannister.

Excitement in the courtroom!

523 CLOSEUP ELSA STARTLED
She rises. CAMERA TRUCKS WITH HER as she goes to the stand.

523

BAILIFF
 (the routine unintelligible sprawl of sounds)
 Doyousweartotellthetruth, the
 wholetruthand nothingbutthe
 truth, sohellyouGod?

ELSA

I do.

524 CLOSE SHOT OF MICHAEL 524
 watching her.

525 CLOSE SHOT ELSA 525
 on the stand. She looks at Michael, tries to smile.

526 TIGHT TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND BANNISTER 526
 Bannister takes out his medicine bottle. Pours out a
 couple of pills into a shaking hand and swallows them.

GALLOWAY'S VOICE (O.S.)
 Your name and occupation?

ELSA'S VOICE O.S.
 Elsa Bannister ... Housewife.

527 TWO SHOT ELSA AND GALLOWAY 527

GALLOWAY
 Mrs. Bannister, is it true that
 you asked your husband to employ
 Michael O'Hara as your chauffuer?

ELSA
 Mr. Grisby suggested --

GALLOWAY
 Answer the question, yes or no.

ELSA
 No.

GALLOWAY
 Is it true you were personally
 acquainted with the defendant Michael
 O'Hara before he entered your employ?

528 CLOSEUP ELSA . 528

ELSA
 One evening in Central Park, I

		135
536	CLOSE SHOT ELSA She hesitates, then looks toward Bannister.	536
	ELSA Yes, it's true.	
537	CLOSE REACTION SHOT BANNISTER	537
538	CLOSE REACTION SHOT MICHAEL	538
539	CLOSE REACTION SHOT JURY	539
540	REACTION SHOT SPECTATORS	540
541	REACTION SHOT REPORTERS	541
542	CLOSE SHOT GALLOWAY	542
	GALLOWAY Mrs. Bannister, while the defendant was in your employ as a chauffeur -- what exactly were his duties?	
543	CLOSE SHOT ELSA	543
	ELSA To drive either Mr. Bannister or or myself, of course.	
544	TWO SHOT GALLOWAY AND ELSA	
	GALLOWAY Is that all?	
	She looks at him.	
	GALLOWAY (Cont'd) Sorry, Mrs. Bannister, my fault. Let me clarify the question.	
546	CLOSEUP ELSA	546
	GALLOWAY'S VOICE O.S. (Cont'd) Did Michael O'Hara in the performance of his duties make love to you?	

136

547 MEDIUM SHOT COURTROOM 547
A wave of sound rises, and then, -- suddenly there isn't
a whisper. Bannister swings to his feet.

548 CLOSEUP BANNISTER 548

BANNISTER
(shouting)
Objection!

549 CLOSEUP GALLOWAY 549

GALLOWAY
I should think the defense
counsel would object!

550 MEDIUM SHOT COURTROOM 550
Laughter is heard and the Judge's gavel!!

GALLOWAY (Cont'd)
The witness will please answer.

Elsa looks at the Judge appealingly.

JUDGE
Is the question pertinent?

551 MEDIUM THREE SHOT ELSA, GALLOWAY, JUDGE. 551

GALLOWAY
Your Honor, it is very pertinent!
I want to know exactly why Mrs.
Bannister is protecting this man.

JUDGE
How do you mean - protecting him?

GALLOWAY
By saying he was back at her
husband's house by eleven o'clock
on the night of the murder.

552 CLOSE SHOT ELSA 552
She looks wildly at Bannister - sees no hope there ...

553 CLOSE SHOT BANNISTER 553
He says nothing.

554 THREE SHOT GALLOWAY, JUDGE, ELSA 554

JUDGE

The witness may answer.

GALLOWAY

Let me put the question this way,
Mrs. Bannister - The defendant
while working as your chauffeur
has on more than one occasion
kissed you?

555 CLOSEUP ELSA 555

ELSA

(almost eagerly)

Yes!

556 CLOSE SHOT BANNISTER REACTION 556
He sags in his chair.

557 CLOSE SHOT MICHAEL REACTION 557

558 REACTION SHOT COURTROOM 558

559 TWO SHOT ELSA AND GALLOWAY 559

GALLOWAY

And that's why Michael didn't
leave as he at first intended,
isn't it?

ELSA

I don't know.

GALLOWAY

Well, I would have stayed!

560 FULL SHOT COURTROOM 560
A laugh goes up from the gallery, but Galloway isn't laugh-
ing himself. He plunges on. CAMERA DOLLIES IN to MEDIUM
SHOT GALLOWAY.

GALLOWAY (Cont'd)

That's why you lied to the police
about the time he got back to the
house? You wanted to cover up for
your lover!

561 CLOSEUP ELSA

561

ELSA
 (scarcely breathing)
 He was back before eleven. I know --
 I looked at the clock.

562 TWO SHOT GALLOWAY AND ELSA

562

GALLOWAY
 Remember you're under oath!

ELSA
 He was back before eleven ...

563 CLOSEUP ELSA

563

ELSA (Cont'd)
 .. You don't like the truth because
 it means he couldn't have been down
 at Wall Street the night Grisby was
 murdered -- And he wasn't!

564 TIGHT TWO SHOT GALLOWAY AND ELSA

564

GALLOWAY
 (coming close to her)
 Mrs. Bannister, do you know the
 laws in this state against perjury?

565 CLOSE SHOT MICHAEL
 He grips his chair with both hands.

565

566 CLOSEUP ELSA

566

ELSA
 (flaring)
 Yes!

567 CLOSEUP GALLOWAY

567

GALLOWAY
 But you admit he kissed you --
 several times? --

568 MEDIUM SHOT COURTROOM

568

GALLOWAY (Cont'd)
 Thank you, Mrs. Bannister. Your
 witness, Mr. Bamister.

568 CONTINUED:

568

Bannister rises painfully and limps over to the witness stand.

569 CLOSEUP BANNISTER

569

He starts to speak to Elsa, then changes his mind. He looks at her for a while. Then:

BANNISTER

No questions.

570 ON JUDGE'S GAVEL

570

IT COMES DOWN ON THE LENS, BLACKING OUT THE SCREEN ...

FADE OUT.

FADE IN:

INT. JAIL - THE VISITOR'S GALLERY - DAY

571 Elsa and Michael are looking at each other through the heavy wire screen. She's veiled. 571

ELSA

I shouldn't come here. It would be awful for you if I'm recognized.

MICHAEL

Your husband doesn't think I have much of a chance, does he?

ELSA

Whatever else he is, Harry's a wonderful lawyer. You ought to trust him, Michael. He says you told him a wild story ---

MICHAEL

About Grisby paying me five thousand dollars to make believe I'd killed him? Well, he did.

572 OVER SHOULDER OF MICHAEL FAVORING ELSA

572

ELSA

But he said you did it to help Grisby get away from his wife.

572 CONTINUED:

572

MICHAEL
That's what Grisby told me.

ELSA
But he wasn't married.

573 REVERSE ANGLE FAVORING MICHAEL

573

MICHAEL
What? - But Grisby told me --

ELSA
George had no wife.

MICHAEL
Elsa, d'ya know the truth of it?
Grisby wanted to make it look like
he was dead, because he wanted to
kill somebody else. He knew they'd
never suspect him if I could prove
I'd killed him -- accidentally, of
course, that he was already murdered
when he himself was actually committing
a murder.

574 CLOSEUP ELSA

574

ELSA
George Grisby?

575 CLOSEUP MICHAEL

575

MICHAEL
That's right, Grisby.

576 CLOSEUP ELSA

576

ELSA
Michael, what are you trying to
tell me?

MICHAEL
The truth.

ELSA
Did you kill Broome, Michael?

577 CLOSEUP MICHAEL
He stares at her.

577

577 CONTINUED:

577

ELSA O.S. (Cont'd)

Please don't be afraid to tell me.
I don't care. I just want to know.

578 CLOSEUP MICHAEL

578

MICHAEL

(slowly)

I never should have let you lie
about the time I got to the garage.
You shouldn't have lied about being
in the house. I shouldn't have
let you. Now you think everything's
a lie.

ELSA

I love you, Michael, no matter what's
happened ...

MICHAEL

Grisby killed Broome. He was going
to kill your husband.

579 CLOSEUP ELSA

579

ELSA

Harry! That's impossible! What
could he possibly gain from it?

580 CLOSEUP MICHAEL

580

MICHAEL

There's something called partnership
insurance....Never mind, if you don't
believe it, the jury never will.

581 TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND ELSA

581

ELSA

But where was George going to go?
Where could he hide?

MICHAEL

He said he was going to the South Seas.

582 CLOSEUP ELSA

582

ELSA

The South Seas! Why the whole thing's fantastic. Michael, you haven't told this to anyone else, have you?

583 TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND ELSA

583

ELSA (Cont'd)

You mustn't. It's the worst possible thing you could say.

584 CLOSEUP MICHAEL

584

MICHAEL

But it's my only chance. Sure and all I was supposed to do was to fire a shot into the sand. That's all I did. And now they're trying to send me to the chair for it. For a shot in the sand!

585 CLOSEUP ELSA

585

She looks at him not believing a word he says....

DISSOLVE

INT. COURTROOM - DAY

586 MEDIUM SHOT THE JURY BOX 586
It is empty.

587 LONG SHOT THE COURTROOM 587
A tense silence waits over the room.

588 TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND BANNISTER 588
Bannister flanks the defendant on one side and a Guard is on the other. Bannister's pill bottle is on the table with a glass of water.

MICHAEL
How long do they take usually?

BANNISTER
You can't ever tell about a jury.

589 MEDIUM SHOT SPECTATORS 589
Sewing, reading papers and eating sandwiches.....Some heads are turned toward the jury room.

590 CLOSE SHOT MICHAEL 590

591 CLOSEUP BANNISTER 591
His fingers drum on the table...

592 CLOSE SHOT ELSA 592
She's crying.

593 MEDIUM SHOT BANNISTER AND MICHAEL 593

BANNISTER
By the way, what did Elsa have to say for herself?...

Michael looks at him quickly.

BANNISTER (cont.)
Or did you imagine I wouldn't find out that she came to see you?

MICHAEL
She asked me to trust you.

594 CLOSEUP BANNISTER 594

BANNISTER
(looking at him closely)
But you don't. Why not?

595 CLOSEUP MICHAEL 595

MICHAEL
Because I knew you wanted me to
be convicted.

596 TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND BANNISTER 596

BANNISTER
(very suave, almost
tenderly)
Michael, you forget my reputation.
Do you imagine that I like having my
record spoiled? This is the first
case of its kind I ever lost....

3:

INT. THE COURTROOM

597 A series of shots. The idle gestures of the gallery grow
to more subdued. The pressure of waiting hangs heavy over the
602 room...

603 MEDIUM SHOT THE DOOR TO THE JURY ROOM 603
The Jury files in. CAMERA FOLLOWS THE JURY as they take
their places in the box. (The above is inter-cut with the
following:)

604 TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND BANNISTER 604

BANNISTER (CONT)
However -- now that it's too late
for you to do anything about it, I'll
be frank with you. This is one case
I've enjoyed losing.

MICHAEL
Sure, and that's why you defended me,
isn't it? You wanted to be sure I'd lose.

BANNISTER
You could be right, but there's nothing
you could do about it now. You're going
to burn.....

605 CLOSEUP BANNISTER

605

BANNISTER (CONT)

I'm going to come to see you in the
death-house, Michael, every day.
Our little visits will be fun---

606 CLOSEUP MICHAEL

606

BANNISTER (CONT) O.S.

I'm going to ask for a stay of execution.
And I really hope it will be granted.
I want you to live as long as possible --
before you die -- You know why I want that,
don't you, Michael?

607 TIGHT TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND BANNISTER

607

MICHAEL

I know.. Because you're the
killer ---

608 MEDIUM SHOT THE COURTROOM
The clerk steps forward.

608

THE CLERK

(to the Jury)

Have you agreed upon a verdict?

609 CLOSE SHOT THE JURY

609

The Foreman rises, very puffed up with his own importance.

THE FOREMAN

We have.

610 VERY TIGHT TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND BANNISTER
Michael is staring into the lawyer's eyes.

610

MICHAEL

(with very quiet,
but terrible
intensity)

You killed Grishby!

THE CLERK O.S.

The prisoner will rise!

Michael stands up.

- 611 CLOSE SHOT MICHAEL 611
- CLERK O.S.
The jury will lock upon the prisoner.
The prisoner will look upon the jury.
- 612 CLOSE SHOT JURY 612
- CLERK
How say you, guilty or not guilty?

The foreman clears his throat again.
- 613 CLOSE SHOT MICHAEL 613
He stands tense as the foreman pronounces him:
- FOREMAN O.S.
Guilty....
- 614 CLOSE SHOT REACTION: BANNISTER 614
- 615 CLOSE SHOT REACTION: GALLOWAY (D.A.)
- 616 CLOSE SHOT REACTION: ELSA 616
- 617 CLOSE SHOT REACTION: GOLDIE AND JAKE (Michael's old
shipmates)
- 618 MEDIUM SHOT REACTION: SPECTATORS AND REPORTERS IN COURT 616
- 619 CLOSE SHOT ELSA 619
Her eyes, swimming with tears, are signalling to Michael.
- 620 CLOSE SHOT MICHAEL 620
He follows her look to the bottle on the table before him.
Then, as her meaning sinks into his brain, he looks back at
her, quite a new expression in his eyes.
- 621 CLOSE UP ELSA 621
Almost imperceptibly she nods.

- 622 CLOSE SHOT MICHAEL 622
 He looks back at the bottle. Then with a quick movement he
 seizes it, dumps out the pills. Before he can be stopped he
 swallows most of them.
- 623 MEDIUM SHOT COURTROOM 623
- 624 THEN: A SERIES OF SHOTS 624
 to All hell breaks loose. to
 628 628
- SPECTATORS (ad lib)
- He's taken poison.
 Tried to beat the death rap.
 That proves he's guilty.
 He's committed suicide.
 etc.
- Reporters make a mad dash for their phones. Turmoil. The
 judge bangs on the bench for order. Guards rush towards
 Michael.
- 629 CLOSE SHOT ELSA 629
 She rises.
- 630 MEDIUM SHOT MICHAEL AND BANNISTER 630
 Michael sits dazed in his chair, Bannister and guards stand
 over him.
- 631 MEDIUM SHOT COURTROOM 631
 Spectators strain to see what's happening.
- JUDGE
- Clear the court! Court is in
 recess! Take the prisoner to
 my chambers.
- The guards lift Michael out of the chair, into the judge's
 chambers.
- 632 MEDIUM SHOT ELSA 632
 She moves weakly out the door.
- 633 MEDIUM SHOT COURTROOM 633
 Confusion.

634 INT. PRESS ROOM 634
 to A quick series of reaction shots as reporters call their to
 638 papers announcing that Michael on hearing the death 638
 verdict committed suicide.

INT. JUDGE'S CHAMBERS

639 Michael lies on the couch in the judge's chambers. A 639
 guard is beside him. Another guard enters.

SECOND GUARD

Just spoke to the doctor. He says
 keep him on his feet - keep him
 moving till he gets here. Once the
 guy falls asleep he's through.

The second guard exits. The first guard is left with Michael.
 He studies him for a moment, then helps him to his feet.

FIRST GUARD

C'mon -- Doc says you've got to
 keep moving.

640 CLOSE SHOT MICHAEL 640
 Dazed, he stands on his feet and walks up and down in the
 small anteroom. As he moves his head seems to clear.

641 TWO SHOT GUARD AND MICHAEL 641
 Without warning Michael suddenly swings around and hits the
 guard, who crumples and falls unconscious to the floor.
 CAMERA PANS MICHAEL, to a side door of the judge's chambers.
 He exits.

INT. CORRIDOR IN THE COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS

642 TRUCKING SHOT 642
 Quickly Michael closes the door behind him and starts down
 the corridor. The front entrance to the court is heavily
 guarded so there's no possible way for him to get out.

INT. THE CORRIDOR FRESH ANGLE

643 Goldie and Jake, seeing Michael, set up a diversion for the
 benefit of the cops at the other end of the hall.

GOLDIE

There he goes.

JAKE

This way! Hurry up! You can
 still catch him.

- 644 MEDIUM SHOT MICHAEL IN THE CORRIDOR 644
He notices across the way another courtroom where another trial is in progress -- He steps outside the door.
- 645 CLOSE SHOT JURY ROOM 645
Michael stands undecided, sees a guard, his back turned, opening a door marked "Jury Room."
- 646 MEDIUM SHOT MICHAEL AND MEMBERS OF THE JURY OF THE GRAND LARCENY TRIAL. 646
Twelve men and women jurors file out of the room and Michael finds himself in their midst. The guard addresses them.
- GUARD
(mechanically)
Stay together now while I escort you to dinner. Please do not talk about the case outside the jury room. The judge hopes you arrive at a verdict as soon as possible.
- 647 TRUCKING SHOT MEN AND WOMEN OF THE JURY AND MICHAEL 647
The guard leads them down the corridor. Michael follows next to a little old lady.
- THE OLD LADY
(whispers to Michael)
He's too nice looking to have stolen all that jewelry. It's such a responsibility knowing what to do, don't you think?
- Michael merely nods.
- 648 CLOSE SHOT GUARD 648
The guard turns around and looks towards Michael.
- GUARD
Hey, you!
- 649 CLOSE SHOT MICHAEL 649
He stops abruptly, stands frozen, as the guard walks towards him.
- 650 TWO SHOT GUARD AND MICHAEL 650
The guard reaches Michael and solemnly studies him for a second.

650 CONTINUED:

650

GUARD

You were told not to talk about the case. Now, don't let it happen again. All right, now keep moving!

Michael manages a smile of apology as the guard continues to lead them down the corridor and out the front entrance.

EXT. COURT OF GENERAL SESSIONS

651 Led by the guard, the jury start down the steps on their way to dinner. Michael slips away during the confusion, Elsa is on the other side of the street. She sees Michael. 651

652 TRUCKING SHOT MICHAEL 652
Michael is walking -- turning back to see if he's followed. He is -- by Elsa. She hurries trying to catch up with him. Dazed by the drug, scarcely knowing what he's doing, Michael moves faster trying to elude her.

653 MEDIUM SHOT SUBWAY 653
A crowd of people are coming out. Michael slips among them and walks down to the trains.

INT. SUBWAY PLATFORM

654 Michael slips through the turnstile and enters the platform. The train is just leaving the station. The crowds elbow into the train, pushing fellow passengers and Michael in with them. 654

INT. SUBWAY PLATFORM FRESH ANGLE

655 Elsa comes out of the crowd, sees Michael, runs after him.....The subway doors close in her face and the train pulls away. 655

INT. SUBWAY TRAIN

656 The jampacked train leaves the station gathering speed for the long run to 125th St. Passengers settle down into their own small private worlds. 656

657 CLOSE SHOT MICHAEL 657
He tightens his clutch on an overhead strap -- sways back and forth -- sweats

INT. CAR

- 658 MEDIUM SHOT 658
 Passengers building up their worlds behind newspapers, magazines, behind closed eyes, or staring at the various colored show cards that border the car.
- 659 CLOSE SHOT MICHAEL 659
 Fighting desperately to keep from falling asleep, he tries to focus on the ads --
- 660 CLOSE SHOT ADS IN THE CAR SERIES OF SHOTS 660
 to Through Michael's eyes, the posters seem to change. A to
 665 girl in a bathing suit suddenly becomes Elsa, the man 665
 next to her advertising the razor becomes Bannister. The man in a speedboat becomes Grisby. Each ad becomes some incident in Michael's mind, leading up to the murder. A subway sign streaks over the scene with a roar, then stops, vibrating queerly.

CONDUCTOR'S VOICE O.S.
 205th Street. You'll have to get
 out buddy. This is the end of the line.

Bannister's face bolts into the aperture. (Distortion ensues)

BANNISTER
 (echoing the Conductor's words)
 The end of the line....This is the
 end of the line, Michael.

His face is replaced by the floor of the garage....The pile of money swirls in a crazy wind.....

ELSA'S VOICE O.S.--(normal quality)
 Oh, Michael, I found you! I took the
 next train just on the chance you'd ride
 this far --

GRISBY'S VOICE (echo chamber)
 (repeating the words)
The end of the line.....

BROOME'S VOICE
 (filter and echo --very far away)
 The end of the line.

Over the above we also hear the perfectly literal sound of a nickel being dropped into a pay telephone and a number being dialed. At the same moment the whirling money changes to a whirling phone dial.....

ELSA'S VOICE
 Hello -- Hello, this is Mrs. Bannister --
 Mrs. Harry Bannister ---

Her voice FADES as the SCREEN goes black.

FADE OUT:

FADE IN:

INT. CRAZY HOUSE - NIGHT

666 Michael wakes up to find himself alone in one of the 666
queerest rooms ever built by man ... The floor is raked
at an angle of the sheerest vertigo, the walls and ceiling
are pure "Cabinet of Dr. Caligari"... He rises from the
little pallet that's been fixed for him, blinks his eyes,
shakes his head and wonders -- as we do -- where in hell
he is. For a fact, Hell itself couldn't be a stranger place
to look at. He staggers over to a cock-eyed door, and
stumbles out.

INT. HALLWAY CRAZY HOUSE - NIGHT

667 A corridor like the corridors in dreams; a sloped tunnel 667
diabolically gimmiked to bump and trip the visitor without
mercy. Down this terrifying alley Michael makes his painful,
bewildered way....

A spring under his foot snaps a panel open with a sudden
squeak as shocking as a scream in the night -- a staring
corpse falls out at him. |

The head of the corpse falls off the shoulders and bobbles
hideously on a grotesque coil of wire.... A second look
shows Michael the dust on the wax figure, and, as he approaches
it, his weight sets off a further mechanism: the dummy bolts
back into the wall with an echoing bang of timber, there is
a rattle of counterweights and the deafening complaint of
tortured, rusty metal as the floor itself tilts slowly down
and down and down.

Michael loses his footing and plummets into the blackness
toward the chomping jaws of a dragon. The apparatus is very
nicely calculated and the gore-stained teeth grind and crash
shut a tight second after Michael has rocketed through the
Hell-mouth into the wooden gullet of the mad Leviathan.

INT. ANOTHER ROOM IN THE CRAZY HOUSE

668 Distortion mirrors, a whole hall of them... A monstrous 668
portrait gallery out of bedlam. Michael sees himself (in-
sanelly multiplied) as a scurrying humunculi, a spider, all
legs and eyes -- sees himself dwarfish, distended... thin
as death and fat as sin. He chooses one of several doors
and finds the open air.

EXT. CRAZY HOUSE - NIGHT

669 We realize now, if Michael doesn't that he's found his way 669
somehow into the bleak acreage of a deserted amusement park.

669 CONTINUED:

669

Rides and concessions are boarded up for the winter. Lacking the sounds and music and people, with the color and smell of carnival suspended until spring, a dreary gloom hangs over "The Palisades," -- a spooky calm worse than a morgue's. It's colder than the grave out here, lonelier than the emptiest valley on the moon ... a voice breaks the stillness:

THE VOICE

(o.s.)

Michael! Michael!

He turns and sees:

670 MEDIUM SHOT ELSA
It was she who called.

670

671 MEDIUM SHOT BASE OF ROLLER COASTER
It's Elsa -- she calls out in a sharp whisper:

671

ELSA

Don't stand out there, Michael.
You'll be seen. Go back.

672 MEDIUM SHOT MICHAEL
Michael dazed, holds his place in the center of the deserted mid-way.

672

MICHAEL

Go back -- ?

ELSA

There. Where you came from.

Michael looks behind him -- sees the mammoth, grinning masks, -- the sign:

-- "THE CRAZY HOUSE" --

ELSA

(continuing)

Through the rear -- this way,
I'll show you. Hurry.

He moves over to her, slowly.

ELSA

(continuing)

Bessie says a car's just come into
the park.

BESSIE'S VOICE O.S.

It may be the police.

672 CONTINUED:

672

Bessie steps into the scene behind Elsa.

BESSIE

One o' mah boys works hyah as a night watchman. It's a fine place to hide since it's closed up. So when Miz Bannister phoned me, we come and got yuh in his car and brung yuh out while yuh was sleepin'.

CAMERA DOLLIES with Bessie as during the above she leads Michael and Elsa under the Roller Coaster and around behind the Crazy House.

BESSIE (CONT.)

Better get inside now till we see who's comin'.

Bessie goes. Elsa and Michael pass a brick building and we read a sign b.g.

"BUSINESS OFFICE

PALISADES AMUSEMENT-PARK"

They go through the back entrance into the Crazy House.

INT. CRAZY HOUSE

673 MAZE OF MIRRORS

673

(No distortion mirrors here, this is the regular Carnival maze, gaffed so the sucker's bound to lose his way). Michael comes in to find a hundred Elsas waiting for him. He sees himself, reflected as many times... moving up to her. When he speaks it is with an odd, new note of coldness.

MICHAEL

Why are you here?

ELSA

Bessie brought me. She told me where they'd hidden you. Oh, Michael, -- I want to be with you no matter where you are. Put your arms around me, please Michael, -- I want your love.

674 REVERSE ANGLE

674

The door. Bessie rushes in....

BESSIE

It's him. It's Mr. Bannister! Hide Mizz Elsa! -- both of you!... Hide where he can't find you, or he'll kill ya sure!

(to Elsa breathlessly)

He must'a followed me when I brought you from the house.

EXT. AMUSEMENT PARK

675 FULL DOWN SHOT ANGLING THROUGH ROLLER COASTER 675
A shadow, long, black and misshapen announces the arrival of Bannister. He limps into scene CAMERA PANNING him toward Crazy House.

676 MED. CLOSE SHOT THE DOORWAY 676
Michael appears and stands waiting for Bannister.

MICHAEL

I think it's me you're lookin' for.

677 REVERSE ANGLE BANNISTER (AMUSEMENT PARK B.G.) 677
The little lawyer stops, leans on his cane, gasping painfully from the exertion of his walk.

BANNISTER

No, I'm not looking for you.

678 TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND BANNISTER 678

BANNISTER (CONT.)

But since I'm here---

(he grins ironically at the Crazy House behind Michael)

---May I come in?

Michael doesn't speak or move.

BANNISTER (CONTD.)

You're not very hospitable,-- or can it be you're afraid? ... There's no need to be. I have no firearms, I'm alone, and I'm a harmless cripple...

Michael steps aside, -- Bannister enters.

INT. CRAZY HOUSE - PALISADES AMUSEMENT PARK

679 TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND BANNISTER 679

BANNISTER

Now -- Where's my wife?... I'm not going to turn you in, Michael.

680 CLOSEUP MICHAEL REACTION 680

681 CLOSEUP BANNISTER 681

BANNISTER (CONTD)

I told you, Michael, I want to keep you alive - Just as long as possible. Winter's coming - It's going to be nice and cold out here. I'll stop by in the evenings after work and watch you shiver.

682 CLOSE SHOT MICHAEL

682

MICHAEL
 (finally answering)
 You framed me, why aren't you
 satisfied with that?

683 TWO SHOT

683

BANNISTER
 I'm never satisfied -- I'm what they
 call the jealous husband.
 (His voice is raised above
 its normal level; Bannister
 knows Elsa's hiding somewhere
 near, and what he says now is
 for her to hear:)
 If my wife couldn't love me, I wanted
 to be sure she wasn't capable of love.
 That isn't much, but I'm not very well,
 you know, and I simply had to have that.
 You took it away from me. Not her love -
 there wasn't any - just my poor little
 hope that Elsa could never truly love
 anything -- except money. I think she
 loves you, Black Irish. I think she really
 does... But I know Elsa - she'll always
 be true to my money. Some day, of course,
 she'll kill me for it, I know she will---
 And yet I can't protect myself. There
 are women who do that to men. Look what
 she did to Grisby, -- he didn't have a chance.

MICHAEL
 (a bomb bursting in his brain)
 Is that another way you're tryin' to
 torture me -- Tellin' me that?

BANNISTER
 Torture? Torture you? How do you think
 I felt when I learned she'd persuaded
 George to murder me -- My God, how do
 you think he felt?... What was it like
 for George when he found her there in
 Wall Street waiting for him with a gun??

684 CLOSE SHOT ELSA

684

ELSA
 What's it like for you, Harry?
 She's standing in the door. A gun in her hand, pointed
 at Bannister. He looks at her --

684 CONTINUED:

684

BANNISTER

Hello, lover.

(a long silence)

You're going to kill me, too?

We can see him finding the answer.

BANNISTER (cont'd)

Because I know about you - Lover?
I won't tell anybody - and Michael
doesn't count.

685 CLOSE SHOT ELSA
She shoots.

685

686 MED. SHOT BANNISTER
AND, IN THE HALL OF MIRRORS MANY OF HIS REFLECTIONS
Mirrors shatter and crash, destroying many images. The
rest of the Bannisters - (we can't tell which is the real
one) stand facing Elsa, - calmly facing her, with a curious
relaxed kind of dauntlessness.

686

687 CLOSE SHOT ELSA
Madness in her eyes. Unable to decide where Bannister
is, she looks from image to image, then shoots again,
twice, and very quickly.

687

688 THE MAZE OF MIRRORS
More of Bannister's images smash to pieces -- but he
still stands.

688

BANNISTER

There's only one bullet left.

689 CLOSE SHOT ELSA

689

BANNISTER'S VOICE

Why don't you save it, lover?

690 CLOSE SHOT ELSA
She fires. There is no answering crash of glass. We hear
the sound of a cane falling to the floor, then a body--

690

691 MED. SHOT BANNISTER
He lies dead.

691

692 CLOSE SHOT ELSA 692
 She stares for a long silence, seeing a great deal of
 Bannister or seeing nothing of him--it's impossible to
 say which. Then she looks quickly to Michael.

693 CLOSE SHOT MICHAEL 693
 His face is a mask.

694 TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND ELSA 694

ELSA
 I couldn't help it.

Michael grabs her--tears the gun out of her fingers,--and
 throws her away from him... She stumbles and falls,--lies
 on the floor weeping.

ELSA (cont'd)
 I couldn't help it, Michael....

Michael says nothing, shows nothing.

ELSA (cont'd)
 (with great pathos)
 I couldn't let him say those
 things in front of you.

MICHAEL
 (very quietly)
 There wouldn't be much point
 in killing him if he was
 lying.

695 CLOSEUP ELSA 695
 A wretched figure huddled against the tin wall.

ELSA
 Oh, Michael!---Michael!

696 MED. SHOT 696
 Michael turns away to the dead Bannister. Her looks follows
 his.

ELSA O.S.
 (shouting)
 You've got the gun!

697 MED. CLOSE SHOT ELSA 697

ELSA (cont'd)

Shoot me if you think it's true,
what he told you!--I don't want
to live!

698 CLOSEUP MICHAEL 698
Michael picks up the gun. Looks at it thoughtfully.

699 OVER SHOULDER MICHAEL - FAVORING ELSA 699

MICHAEL

Do you really want to die?

She turns the tearful face of martyrdom toward the muzzle
of the gun.

700 REVERSE ANGLE FAVORING MICHAEL 700

MICHAEL (cont'd)

There is another bullet, you know --

701 CLOSEUP ELSA 701
Elsa jumps to her feet; with a yell like a fishwife's.

ELSA

No! He said --

702 CLOSEUP MICHAEL 702

MICHAEL

(gently)

He was lyin' about that. If you
missed the fourth shot, he might
have saved himself. He gambled
on your losing count. Sure, it
was one of his tricks. He did
it with mirrors.

703 TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND ELSA 703
Elsa wears quite a different face again. She's thinking
furiously about that bullet...

MICHAEL (cont'd)

(repeating the question,
the words sharp as razors)

Are you sure you want to die?

Now she's very frightened....

703 CONTINUED:

703

MICHAEL (cont'd)

I was, you know -- In the courtroom --
I was sure -- when I saw you lookin'
at his pills, askin' me with your
eyes to kill myself. That moment I
was on you. I knew the truth, then --

704 CLOSEUP MICHAEL

704

MICHAEL (cont'd)

---And I didn't care to live,
knowin' it. You told me
must learn a bit of wicked-
ness to defend myself. Well,
I've learnt more than a bit.

705 TWO SHOT

705

The gun is now more aimed at her than merely pointing....

ELSA

(quick and brittle)
If you kill me they'll get you
for both murders --

MICHAEL

They got me for one, already.

He sounds very dangerous and the gun looks dangerous.
Elsa is sure now that she hasn't long to live.

706 TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND ELSA

706

MICHAEL

I can't hide in an empty crazy
house forever, and you're hidin'
in one of your own. Sure, I
don't blame you for wantin' to
die.

707 CLOSEUP ELSA

707

ELSA

Don't talk like that! We'll
get away. I've got money.

708 MICHAEL

708

MICHAEL

Money? Sure, it won't get you away from yourself, Mrs. Bannister! And if I were you, ma'm, it's myself I'd be runnin' from. Not from the cops, or from a little bit of a gun, or all the devils in the black pit of hell.

709 TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND ELSA

709

He's quite close to her now pointing, with the muzzle of the pistol to her heart.

MICHAEL (cont'd)

Y'know, there's a girl inside here--would run if she could
...Poor Rosaleen. She never had a chance.

710 TWO SHOT (CONT'D)

710

Michael is looking at Elsa now as though he saw something behind her face that makes the gun unnecessary.

711 CLOSEUP ELSA

711

ELSA

(her voice reaching for a hold on his sympathy)
What about Rosaleen?

712 TIGHT TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND ELSA

712

MICHAEL

Against you she never had a chance...Rosaleen couldn't defend herself,

(suddenly)

Here, I'll give her somethin'!

He hands the gun to Elsa.

MICHAEL (cont'd)

I have a friend calls that an edge.

- 713 CLOSEUP ELSA 713
 Amazed, she holds the pistol, staring down at it.
- MICHAEL (o.s.)
 Now, Rosaleen has an edge. She's
 a tough guy.
- Like a snake striking, the gun is pointed at Michael.
- ELSA
 You fool!
- 714 CLOSEUP MICHAEL 714
- MICHAEL
 (with a long look at her)
 Maybe...
- 715 TWO SHOT MICHAEL AND ELSA 715
- ELSA
 You killed Harry! I'll prove
 you killed him! They'll be-
 lieve me. Now call the cops! --
 (no answer)
 Go on, call the cops!
- 716 MED. SHOT 716
 In another entrance of the maze, Bessie appears.
- 717 CLOSE SHOT - BESSIE 717
- BESSIE
 (expressionless; to Elsa)
 I already did.
- 718 MEDIUM SHOT 718
- MICHAEL
 (briskly)
 Be sure they know where to come --
 and who to get.
- BESSIE
 I'll tell 'em.
- MICHAEL (cont'd)
 (to Elsa)
 You forgot about Bessie.

.719 CLOSEUP - MICHAEL

719

MICHAEL

She heard you -- didn't you Bessie?

BESSIE

I heard everything.

Bessie exits quietly and quickly.

MICHAEL (cont'd)

Your husband would have called her a "Grade A" witness.

720 CLOSEUP - ELSA

720

721 CLOSEUP - MICHAEL

721

MICHAEL (cont'd)

You really shouldn't have killed him. You murdered the wrong man today, Mrs. Bannister. You're goin' to need a good lawyer.

722 TWO SHOT - MICHAEL AND ELSA

722

MICHAEL (cont'd.)

...Remember now, it wasn't you I gave the gun to.

He looks at her.

MICHAEL (cont'd)

The gun's for Rosaleen. She knows what to do with it.

He turns away from her and CAMERA FOLLOWS HIM as he walks down the hallway of mirrors, his reflections echoing his exit. He stops for a moment at Bannister's corpse.

MICHAEL (cont'd)

(almost to himself)

Like the sharks eatin' each other -- There isn't one of you left....

723 MEDIUM SHOT

723

Very deliberately and very carefully she raises the gun, taking aim at his back. Then, all at once, her arm drops. He turns...She has lowered the gun before he turns!

- 724 CLOSEUP - MICHAEL 724
He doesn't realize what nearly happened. She manages a kind of smile.
- 725 CLOSEUP - ELSA 725
ELSA
Good-bye, knight errant....Give my love to the sunset....
- 726 MEDIUM SHOT 726
He looks at her for one more second and then leaves.

EXT. CRAZY HOUSE

- 727 CAMERA follows Michael as he crosses the mid-way. The dawn is coming up over the Hudson. It shows grayly in his face. Michael takes out a cigarette and strikes a match. 727
- 728 CLOSE SHOT - MICHAEL 728
The sound of a shot! Michael hears it, his eyes shadowed in pain...He drops the match and throws away the cigarette.
- 729 FULL SHOT - THE PALISADES - NEW YORK B.G. - EARLY DAWN 729
The old Hudson pales under the advancing day...From the sea-reaches beyond come the clangor and complaint of shipping in impatient anchorage, iron boats straining for voyages, eager for the conquest of oceans....Under Manhattan to the East the sun bestirs itself, and the spired city, waking with a moan, prepares for its people the burden of another days work. A siren speaks for the approaching police. Michael waits for them, guarding the dead.

FADE OUT: