

JUSTIN THORN I

LIFE EP. 209 "BADGE BUNNY" - 1ST WRITER'S DRAFT 9/3/2008 5.

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CONTINUED:

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CREWS

Heidi, Kendall was on drugs when she died. I understand you want to protect her reputation but you need to tell us the truth if you want to help us find who killed her.

HEIDI

Kendall did not do drugs.

~~Heidi walks away. Crews and Reese look at each other.~~

4

INT. HOME OF JUSTIN THORN - DAY

4

Mid Century Modern. Crews and Reese stand and watch JUSTIN THORN (45, UPPER LEVEL DRUG DEALER) pace while on his phone.

Also present, young muscle in t-shirts. Girls in mini's.

START
→

JUSTIN (INTO PHONE)

I know she is a cat, but Fluffy is dear to my heart. If she needs an operation, get her the operation. I don't care what it costs.

Justin hangs up.

CREWS

Gotta sick cat?

JUSTIN

Bad liver.

CREWS

Maybe she should lay off the booze.

JUSTIN

That's what I tell her but you know cats, they can be so willful.

REESE

Felix Bana was one of your dealers?

JUSTIN

One of my dealers?

CREWS

Don't repeat what she says. Makes her mad. I did once and... Anyway, we're homicide, not narcotics.

REESE

But we know Felix sold for you.

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(CONTINUED)

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CREWS

Now Felix is dead. So maybe you can tell us who might want Felix dead.

JUSTIN

OK, we all know what I do. Then we all know how Felix died is an occupational hazard. I'm just surprised law enforcement cares.

REESE

About a dead drug dealer? We don't.

Justin smiles at Reese as Crews puts down a photo of Kendall.

CREWS

Dead school teacher. Found shot with Felix. We care about her.

JUSTIN

Don't know her. But if teachers looked that when I went to school, maybe I wouldn't have dropped out. I wish I could help you, Detectives. I do. I want you to find who killed my Felix. But I don't know anything about it.

CREWS

Just think another minute. This is a nice house, those are nice girls, that's a nice suit, so you must have a nice business. A dead school teacher? That's the kind of thing that really hurts a nice business.

REESE

So maybe there's something else you'd like to say before we go.

JUSTIN

There is....
(to Reese)
I just got my three year chip. Maybe me and you can take in a meeting sometime. Seems to me you dig coffee and boring stories.

Justin just smiles at Crews and Reese.

END

~~5~~

~~INT. POLICE STATION - CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY~~

~~5~~

~~Crews, Reese, TIDWELL, photos of Kendall, Felix and crime scene on the board. Crews dumps a back pack onto the table.~~

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JUSTIN THORN II FYI

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CONTINUED:

29

CREWS

Did you two drive here together?

REESE

No. We just happened to show up at the same time as that... glitter on your face?

BOBBY STARK

I told Casey over and over no man likes that glitter stuff.

REESE

Who is Casey?

CREWS

His sister.

EVERYONE LOOKS AT EACH OTHER. A beat of silence then...

TIDWELL

Call came over the tip line. The gun that shot Kendall and that drug dealer is in that house.

CREWS

Vests?

REESE

Vests.

30

EXT. HOME OF JUSTIN THORN - NIGHT

30

Crews, Reese, Tidwell and Stark in vests. Tidwell knocks.

TIDWELL

Justin Thorn! We have a warrant to search these premises.

One of Thorn's muscle boys opens the door. Crews, Reese, Tidwell and Stark push their way past him into...

31

INT. HOME OF JUSTIN THORN - NIGHT

31

The four cops enter but stop short because they are confronted by a FULLY GROWN TIGER.

CREWS

You must be fluffy.

It roars in agreement and...

END OF ACT TWO

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JUSTIN THORN II

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ACT THREE

32 INT. HOME OF JUSTIN THORN - NIGHT

32

UNIFORMS SEARCH the place. The tiger in a cage. Crews, Reese, Tidwell and Justin Thorn at the dining room table... waiting.

START
→

REESE

Fluffy?

JUSTIN THORN

What should I name it? Kimba?

CREWS

Kimba was a lion.

TIDWELL

That was Simba.

~~CREWS~~

~~Kimba was Simba.~~

JUSTIN THORN

Why do you have glitter on?

Now Bobby Stark comes up, he holds a pistol with a pen through the trigger guard, holds it as evidence.

BOBBY STARK

Found this in the garage.

JUSTIN THORN

And welcome to the frame job.

REESE

(examines gun)

Looks like the same caliber that did in your dealer and the teacher.

JUSTIN THORN

That is not my gun. I don't like guns. Guns kill people.

~~CREWS~~

~~Kimba was Simba.~~

REESE

Got some burnt skin and fabric here on the muzzle. Which makes me think this was the gun pushed up against Felix's shirt when he was shot.

JUSTIN THORN

Why would I shoot my own man?

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JUSTIN THORN II

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32 CONTINUED:

32

CREWS

Maybe he was stealing... Maybe he was unhappy with his health plan...

JUSTIN THORN

And maybe there is a dead badge bunny and all you cops just want someone to pay for it. I hope that piece of cotton tail was worth it.

TIDWELL

Officer Stark, why don't you cuff up Mr. Thorn here.

JUSTIN THORN

I know the drill. Cops want you to go away, you go away. Sometimes they plant a gun...

(to Crews)

Sometimes they plant a knife. Ain't that right, Detective?

CREWS

Take him on out, Bobby.

Stark leads Justin out. As he goes Justin calls to his men...

JUSTIN THORN

You make sure Fluffy stays off the fatty foods... you understand?

END

~~Stark has Justin at the door, but he stops. He sees something out there that worries him. Stark calls back to Crews...~~

BOBBY STARK

Charlie? Maybe you want to come over here and take a look at this.

33 EXT. HOME OF JUSTIN THORN - CONTINUOUS

33

~~Stark with a handcuffed Thorn stands in the doorway. Crews and Reese come up behind him. They all look out to see... Sean, Alex, Steve and a half dozen other cops from the Lucky 7 stand at the curb looking a lot like a lynching party.~~

CREWS

You think they brought a rope?

~~Sean moves up the walk to the house. Crews heads to meet him.~~

SEAN

Why don't you let us take him in?

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