

ROB DOW I

LIFE EP. 205 "CRUSHED" - STUDIO DRAFT
CONTINUED:

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CREWS

In trouble? Do we have to go back outside and look in the trunk of that car?

BARCO

It's about Bethany.

REESE

And who is Bethany?

FLEER

Rob's girlfriend. Ex-girlfriend.

BARCO

Mike stole Bethany away from Rob.

CREWS

How did Rob take it?

FLEER

B.A.D. Put a potato in Mike's tail pipe. Sent him a box full of crap.

REESE

Crap... like human crap?

BARCO

First time it was fake, then yeah, real human crap. His... I think.

FLEER

Then, last night, we hear Rob up here screaming at Mike. Full on.

BARCO

Rob was saying he was going to kill Mike causa' Bethany. Rob was saying he was going to kill both Mike and Bethany.

Crews and Reese look at each other.

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EXT. ROB DOW'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Crews and Reese at the door. Reese knocks. After a moment the door opens and there stands ROB DOW.

FORTY YEARS OLD, 350 POUNDS OF SWEATING MAN in a SCOUT UNIFORM. Regulation shorts, regulation short sleeve shirt. He has a large bowl of candy in his hand.

REESE

Rob Dow?

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LIFE 205 - Rob Dow

FYI
ONLY

FYI
ONLY

START
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ROB DOW
When I heard the knock I thought
you were kids, you're not kids.

CREWS
We're not kids. We're the police.

REESE
You alone in there, Rob?

ROB DOW
What exactly can I do for you?

CREWS
Death over at the tow yard. Mike
Brody turned up in the crusher.

ROB DOW
Oh no, that's terrible. And I'm
always giving safety lectures.

CREWS
You mind if we come in?

ROB DOW
Yeah, I do. News like you just gave
me, I'd like to be alone now.

Rob starts to close the door, Crews puts a hand on it. Crews
looks past Rob. In the apartment, flowing out from the
bathroom onto the floor: RED STAINED WATER, BLOODY WATER.

Reese sees it too. They both draw their guns.

CREWS
We're coming in now, Rob.

INT. ROB DOW'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

Crews keeps a gun on Rob as Reese opens the bathroom door.
The toilet is overflowing, a rag has been jammed into it...

REESE
Looks like you got a bloody rag
jammed down there.

Rob looks from Reese to Crews who says...

CREWS
Trick or treat.

END OF TEASER

LIFE 205 - Rob Dow
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END

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ROB DOW II

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ACT ONE

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INT. POLICE STATION - INTERROGATION ROOM - NIGHT

7

Rob Dow, still in scout uniform, sits at the table. Crews and Reese enter. Reese has that bloody rag in an evidence bag. She drops it on the table.

START
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REESE

You want to talk about this?

Rob has a low, slow voice... a little guttural drawl there.

ROB DOW

I'd rather not.

CREWS

Maybe you should anyway.

ROB DOW

Man my size kinda bleeds sometimes when he's on the hopper. I was just cleaning it up when you knocked.

CREWS

We'll send the blood to our lab. Maybe help you clear that up.

ROB DOW

That's very kind of you.

~~RESE~~

~~On maybe we find out the blood's~~
~~from your car, Rob?~~

CREWS

You know a girl named Bethany, Rob?

ROB DOW

Hmmm, no, can't say that I do. Real pretty name though... Beth-a-ny.

REESE

Couple of guys where you work say she used to be your girlfriend.

ROB DOW

I look like the kind of guy has himself a girlfriend, Detective?

CREWS

Couple of guys where you work say Mike Brody stole her away from you.

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ROB DOW II

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ROB DOW

Barco and Fleer? Those boys had a little too much gasoline fumes over the years. Not mostly all there.

REESE

Weren't arguing with Mike last night? Angry because he stole Bethany away from you?

And this makes Rob Dow laugh, long, low and slow.

ROB DOW

Mike Brody was a handsome man.

CREWS

Not so handsome when we found him.

ROB DOW

Well, that may be the case. But in life, he was fine looking. He could get himself any girl he wanted. Even if I had myself a girlfriend, you think she'd be fit for a man like Mike Brody... Detectives?

Crews and Reese look at the mass that is Rob Dow.

END

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INT POLICE STATION - CONFERENCE ROOM - NIGHT

Crews, Reese and TIDWELL. On the monitor the live feed of Rob Dow all by himself in the interrogation room.

REESE

We sent a couple of uniforms around to the victim's place. No one there. No sign of violence.

They look at the monitor, Rob Dow purses HIS LIPS AND BEGINS TO WHISTLE A LITTLE TUNE.

CAPTAIN TIDWELL

That scout uniform he's wearing, that's his Halloween costume?

REESE

Nope... he's a scout.

CAPTAIN TIDWELL

Because his kids are scouts?

REESE

He's got no kids. No wife. No family. Lives alone.

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ROB DOW III

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PULL BACK FROM CREWS AND WE SEE WE ARE IN...

49 INT. POLICE STATION - INTERROGATION ROOM - SHORT TIME LATER 49

Crews, no Reese, but now it is Rob Dow and his lawyer at the table.

CREWS

It's not but I'm going to make it
real for you. So hold on, Rob.

The door opens and Reese escorts Bethany into the room. And
before he can stop himself... Rob Dow says...

ROB DOW

...Bethany...

BETHANY

They said you wanted to talk to me?

ROB DOW

No.. I didn't. I... no...

ROB DOW'S LAWYER

Don't say another word.

CREWS

This is it, Rob. She's here, in
this room. Breathing the same air
you are. It's real. Anything you
want to say, now is your chance.

ROB DOW'S LAWYER

This is absurd.

Rob doesn't speak now and then...

REESE

OK... let's go.

Reese starts to take Bethany from the room and...

ROB DOW

Just say it and I'll go away.

ROB DOW'S LAWYER

Stop talking.

ROB DOW

Please, just say the words and I
will go away forever.

BETHANY

What words?

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LIFE 205 - Rob Dow

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ROB DOW III

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Bethany and Rob... TWO LOST SOULS FROM DIFFERENT WORLDS.

ROB DOW
What you wrote to me, all those
times.

BETHANY
That wasn't me.

ROB DOW
Yes. It was. Just say it, out loud
once, let me hear it in your own
voice, once... and they can lock me
up forever. I won't care.

BETHANY
I'm sorry, I don't know you.

ROB DOW
I know you. How you broke your leg
falling out of the tree in your
backyard. About the first time you
picked up a racquet... You knew
just how to hold it.

BETHANY
I don't know you...

ROB DOW
YES YOU DO! Just tell me what you
told me on-line all those times and
I'll never say what I saw.

Crews and Reese exchange looks. Bethany looks to them now.

~~BETHANY~~
~~Once I saw you in the hallway~~
~~never heard of you being there~~

CREWS
What did you see, Rob?

ROB DOW
(whispers)
Just say it, please?

BETHANY
(whispers)
I don't know you.

Bethany turns away from Rob and...

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LIFE 205 - Rob Dow

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(CONTINUED)

ROB DOW III

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CONTINUED: (2)

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ROB DOW

But I saw you! I was there! You called Mike Tuesday night. You met him in the parking lot at the tow yard. I was at the window, I saw you and him get in a big fight and Bethany, just say it and I'll stop.

BETHANY

(crying)

I don't know what to say...

Bethany turns back and stares at Rob.

ROB DOW

I saw you hit him with the tennis racquet. You hit him so hard it broke...I tried to clean it all up.

Bethany shakes her head: *no, no, no...*

ROB DOW (CONT'D)

All you have to do is say you love me and I'll take it all back...

Crews and Reese turn to Bethany. Tears stream down her face.

CREWS

Bethany, when we go to your house, will we find a broken tennis racquet?

She buries her face in her hands and sobs.

CREWS (CONT'D)

I think only a death will give my life back to me...

And Bethany looks up, right at Crews.

END OF ACT FOUR

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