

LARRY WILHOITE

LIFE EP. 208 "BLACK FRIDAY" - STUDIO DRAFT 8/18/2008 4.

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REESE

Fell from up there someplace.

CREWS

Yeah but fell slipped? Fell pushed?
Or fell jumped?

They look down at the body. Reese bends to it.

REESE

Neck snapped. Died instantly.

(to body)

What do you say? You the first
jumper of the holiday season?

As Crews and Reese look at the body, they hear a belch behind
them. They turn to see OFFICER BOBBY STARK.

BOBBY STARK

Sorry, sorry... I got me a solid
column of my wife's stuffing and
gravy that starts at my neck and
runs straight down to my-- well,
straight on down.

(looks at body)

First jumper of the season?

CREWS

It seems a little early but you
never know. You get an ID on him?

Stark points to a man nearby; LARRY WILHOITE, 30s. Beige
"official" uniform. Stark beckons him over.

BOBBY STARK

(to Larry)

Larry, these are Detectives Crews
and Reese.

LARRY

Wilhoite, Larry. Head of Security.
Crime scene's all battened down.

REESE

Glad to know that, Larry. You know
this man?

LARRY

Sure. It's Mitchell Marks. He
worked up there on level two.
Doesn't seem that far to fall.

These sides are for auditioning purposes only and may not reflect the final shooting script.

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LARRY WILHOITE I

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[REDACTED]

REESE

How well did you know Mr. Marks?

LARRY

Saw him around. I try to familiarize myself with all of the employees... for security reasons.

CREWS

Did he seem depressed?

LARRY

That... I wouldn't know. You think he killed himself? Oh I hope he didn't kill himself.

REESE

Well, if he didn't kill himself, Larry, someone probably pushed him.

LARRY

You mean... killed him?

AS THIS SINKS in... everyone hears THREE VERY LOUD AMPLIFIED
END OF THE WORLD TRUMPET BLASTS... ONE AFTER THE OTHER.

CREWS

(re: trumpet blasts)

World coming to an end?

LARRY

Kind of. Six A.M. Mall's opening.

THREE MORE TRUMPET BLASTS...

REESE

The mall's opening?

CREWS

I thought you said you secured the crime scene.

LARRY

Yeah, I put this yellow tape out.

THREE MORE TRUMPET... Crews and Reese look at each other.

LARRY (CONT'D)

You think I closed the mall? I can't close the mall. I just work here. Anyway, it's Black Friday.

END

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LARRY WILHOITE II

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TIDWELL (CONT'D)

I wish I could do that. Leave it
there like that. I bring it home
and let it run around my head all
night long. I mean if I were you...
and you did that to me... I
wouldn't be able to leave it at
work. I'd be pissed...

Tidwell stops talking... sees Reese is staring at him.

TIDWELL (CONT'D)

What?

REESE

You know what? I am pissed.

And she smiles at him, gets up and walks away. Tidwell sits
by himself for a moment, runs back in his head what just
happened. Then he looks at the door and sees Reese.

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INT. POLICE STATION - INTERROGATION ROOM - DAY

Crews and Reese with a cuffed Larry.

START
→

CREWS

How did Mitchell get into the cedar
chips?

LARRY

I don't know.

CREWS

(to Larry)

You kill a guy, you drag him...

LARRY

I didn't kill him!

CREWS

...across the floor and get him
into a vat like that. You've got
to get a good grip.

LARRY

But I didn't...

REESE

Then why steal the body?

Larry collects himself.

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LARRY WILHOITE II

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LARRY

Okay, this is how it went.
Mitchell was running those kids.
Told those kids what to take and
when. All I had to do was look the
other way. So that was fine, a
little supplemental battle pay.

REESE

And you wanted to up your pay
grade.

LARRY

No, that wasn't me, that was
Jeremy.

Crews and Reese wait.

LARRY (CONT'D)

He said he was as smart as
Mitchell, and they were into it
over that girl, Erika. So that
night, you know, right over the
railing.

CREWS

You saw this?

LARRY

No, but what else could it be?
Jeremy had a grudge, he's the
enforcer...

REESE

That's good, Larry, roll on some
kid. If Jeremy killed Mitchell,
why did you steal the body?

LARRY

I told you. Mitchell ran those
kids. If he was dead, game over.
So I said the cops had Mitchell,
and if anybody talked, they'd all
go to jail. If they all kept quiet,
he'd get out and come back to them.

REESE

And nobody talked.

LARRY

Jeremy kept them in line. Except
Zak, the one in the basement.
Jeremy said he would take care of
him. Maybe he did already.

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LARRY WILHOITE II

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Crews and Reese are about to leave but Crews turns back to Larry and says...

CREWS

How'd you get that body across the floor without anyone seeing?

LARRY

I put his arm around my shoulder and walked him. Everyone was rushing by, looking for the sales... no one noticed...

END

Crews and Reese come out of interrogation to find Tidwell waiting, pleased as can be with himself.

TIDWELL

I found the aunt.

Reese stops as Crews goes to his desk.

TIDWELL (CONT'D)

The kids' aunt. In Phoenix. She got married and changed her name.

Reese is at her desk, reaching for the phone. Dials.

TIDWELL (CONT'D)

See that? Happy ending.

CREWS

You found the kids' aunt? That's great.

Tidwell doesn't answer Crews. His eyes are on Reese.

REESE

(into phone)

This is Detective Reese. You have a Carol Sutter, she came in with her older brother, Zak... I'll wait....

She and Tidwell exchange happy looks. Then:

REESE (CONT'D)

(into phone)

Yeah... OK... got it...

She hangs up. Tidwell and Crews look at her as...

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