

Aaron: Hello Mrs. Draper. My name's Aaron Levinsky. I'm an attorney sent by the court. Mr. Middleton doesn't represent you anymore. *(pause.)* Would you like to discuss your case? *(pause.)* I don't know if you can follow any of this, but do you understand that I'm gonna go to court on your behalf? *(pause.)* And tonight I gotta go home to Brooklyn on the subway and that scares the shit out of me. I'm tired, it's been a long day.

Claudia: You're breaking my heart.

Aaron: Terrific, she can talk.

Claudia: Talk? I can dance. Juggle. Card Tricks. What kind of a show do I have to put on for you?

Aaron: I say something wrong?

Claudia: Well it seems I can't get a fair trial unless I put on a good show for...who now...Aaron Levinsky...legal aid.

Aaron: No. No, it's not like that.

Claudia: No?

Aaron: No.

Claudia: Well how do I get to stand trial?

Aaron: Well first, you don't have—

Claudia: *(yelling.)* How do I get to stand trial, that's what I want to know!

Aaron: *(a guard steps in.)* That's ok. Close the door please, I'm her attorney!

Claudia: Says who?

Aaron: Says the court.

Guard: *If you need me, I'll be right out here.*

Aaron: You think I'm gonna need him?

Claudia: Haven't you heard? I lash out and strike people at random.

Aaron: I know. I was there. I think you broke his nose.

Claudia: So the day's not a total loss.

Aaron: All right, what we've got here is a 730 process. Now, this is a process whereby the state is pursuing—

Claudia: Married?

Aaron: What?

Claudia: You got a missus?

Aaron: Uh huh.

Claudia: She give good head?

Aaron: You wanna talk about your situation here or what? You've been indicted for manslaughter, first degree.

Claudia: I know all that. Tell me why you're here.

Aaron: Huh huh. The truth?

Claudia: No, the bullshit Levinsky. I love listening to bullshit, especially when I'm drowning in it. I know why you're here. You're here to see if I'm crazy, right?

Aaron: No.

Claudia: No, you're here to see just how crazy I am.

Aaron: Well, two psychiatrists already say that you are incompetent.

Claudia: Morrison and Arantes? Frick and Frack? Arantes can barely speak English, and Morrison? He's a very weird guy. You know I flashed, and he didn't even look? *(She flashes Aaron.)* What about you Levinsky? You weird too?

Aaron: I must be ok, I'm looking. Your mother said to tell you that she loves you.

Claudia: Fuck my mother! Why didn't you tell me you were working for them in the first place?

Aaron: I'm not working for them, just hold your horses—

Claudia: Why didn't you tell me that?—

Aaron: Hold it, listen lady! I came here to do my job in good faith—

Claudia: You talked to my mother?

Aaron: Will you listen to me? You know you've got a choice—

Claudia: What did she tell you?

Aaron: You can either cooperate with me, and maybe it goes your way, or you can yell at me, and I'll sign that motion to commit, and that'll be that!

Claudia: You creep lawyers, you're all alike. As long as you get your fee, you don't give a shit who goes where for how long.

Aaron: Hey lady, I'm not taking any money from you!

Claudia: And now this one comes in here, and tells me if I don't kiss ass he's gonna walk out on me? Well walk!

Aaron: And be held in contempt of court? No thank you! It doesn't work that way, I'm stuck with you! Oh, man oh man. Oh boy. Alright, the first thing is we gotta get a shrink in here to take a look at you, and then you—

Claudia: Wrong. No more shrinks.

Aaron: I'm giving you some very good legal advice here.

Claudia: Thank you, very much, you know what I said about lawyers, goes double for shrinks.

Aaron: Mrs. Draper, there are two psychiatrists who already say that you're crazy. You gotta have at least one psychiatrist who says you're not crazy or you don't have a case.

Claudia: Sure I do, I'm my case. I get up there, I say my piece, I prove I'm competent. Look, I don't know if you believe this or not, but I'm a perfectly sane woman, and I don't bother anyone who doesn't bother me first, you got that? And I don't want anymore quacks running around in my head talking about my toilet training!

Aaron: There's only one thing that scares me – a stupid client, and you terrify me. Have you ever testified in court?

Claudia: No.

Aaron: So you've never been cross examined, you have no idea what it's like?

Claudia: No.

Aaron: How long have you been hooking?

Claudia: Three years.

Aaron: Three years, and you've never been busted?

Claudia: Never. Now tell me I'm incompetent.

Aaron: (*laughs.*) Well look, Mrs. Draper, it just doesn't look good for you to beat the shit out of one of the top attorneys in the city.

Claudia: Well it might not have looked good, but it sure felt good. What was I supposed to do, sit there like a good little girl and listen to my own lawyer say I wasn't competent to stand trial?

Aaron: Are you?

Claudia: Well how competent do you have to be for Christ's sake?

Aaron: Good point. Let's say for the moment that you are not entirely incompetent.

Claudia: Yeah! Let's say that.

Aaron: And let's say for the moment that the doctors here are all wrong.

Claudia: Yeah, let's say that too.

Aaron: Then why is all this happening to you? (*Pause.*) Mrs. Draper, do you want me to represent you in this competency hearing?

Claudia: I don't know, are you any good?

Aaron: You had good, now you got me.

Claudia: I could do worse.

Aaron: Don't be so sure. If you win at the hearing we can go to trial, but if you lose the trial, you can go to jail for twenty-five years.

Claudia: I'll take the risk, 'cause if I don't, I could end up wearing this bathrobe 'till I collect social security.

Aaron: MacMillan's gonna eat me alive. Alright, let's start at the beginning.

Claudia: Fine.

Aaron: Give me some background details.

Claudia: Alright. Now you talk to me and pretend I'm sane, ok?

Aaron: Ok.

Claudia: And I'll do the same for you, ok?

Aaron: Thank you.