

Hicks: (interrupt) Rubbish! Take responsibility.

(Hicks shoots Sean. Sean falls down dead and the men calmly walk out of his office)

(Secretary rushes in frighteningly, screams and runs for help.)

LUGHT DIMS

Scene Two: Waiting Room

Angel Gabrielle enters with a pile of paper, counting numbers on the registration forms. Then she sits down on the chair.

Old Man: (comes on stage with a piece of newspaper) I need a 5 letter work, it' s a name, the king of the rock' n roll. Do you have any ideas?

Gabrielle: I don' t know, go and ask Elvis. He' s good at those kinds of things.

Old Man: Elvis, all right them. (off stage)

Gabrielle: Glad to be of service. Ah..(sigh) 1,2,3...

Sean: Hey! Who are you?

Gabrielle: Hey! Why are you here so fast? Here: register first. (take out registration form)

Sean: (running to phone on his desk) Linda, Linda ...

Gabrielle: Excuse me. What are you doing? You 're in the waiting room.

Sean: No, you' re in my office.

Gabrielle: No, You' re n the waiting room. You know, the place where all the dead people go after they die to wait for their final judgement.

Sean: (interrupting) Who' s dead?

Gabrielle: (oblivious of Sean' s question) you know, Pearl Gates, long white tunnel, life flashing before your eyes, you know DEATH, after life.

Sean: (interrupting) Who' s DEAD?

Gabrielle: (comfortingly) Well, you are ...

Sean: No, no, no. it can' t be. I' m not dead.

Gabrielle: Yes, you are. I' m sorry, sit down and take a look at yourself. Have a nice
lifer after life.

Old Man: (inters from Stage Left) Oh, I can' t find Elvis.

Gabrielle: Oh, I' m sorry.

Sean: (picks up a copy of the newspaper next to him on the sofa.) (reading out)
“Barrister Sean Cage shot by Hit Men” Oh no, I' m dead. I' m really dead.

(Sean leaves the sofa)

Old Man: (reading the paper) Sean, Sean...That boy was...

Sean: Who' re you? why do you know my name?

Old Man: Do you remember me? You were in my class years ago, Professor Ching.

(Sean seems to realize)

Old Man: You graduated with an honours degree. You nearly got me fired on many
occasions. How come you are here? You must still be so young.

Sean: 31.

Old Man: Poor boy. How did it happen?

Sean: (looks at the bloodstain on hid shirt) Shot.

Old Man: (takes up the paper and starts reading to himself)

Sean: (almost to himself) It' s so unfair! I was preparing the finest material for the

appeal. It would have been marvelous. I was doing my job perfectly. Why are those people blaming me? They killed me for that? I still have tones of unachieved goals and unfulfilled wishes. I am planning to merge my partnership with the Blitz' s, My business..I have to get back. Henry can' t run it! (stands up and tries to leave)

Old Man: (pulls him back onto the bench) Young man. Now you are already up here, accept the truth. (carries on reading)

Sean: I need some time to calm down. This is all so sudden. In the end I failed to defend Mr. Fish. and now I can' t defend myself.

Sean: Yah..I ...

Old Man: Do you know how notorious this man is? Everyone knows he is unscrupulous! You know? 3 years before my retirement, Fish got into trial and got to me. I refused his offer and he sent his men to sack me up! I' m sure you know how treacherous he is . why do you still represent him?

Sean: (hesitating) Oh well..yeah..he has offered me 20 million dollars..I wanted the money for my wife. You know Jessy? She has heart disease...

Old Man: But that shouldn' t be an excuse. You can make money in may ways. Remember what ji taught you in the University? Try your best to fight for justice. Fish is not a good man, and you know it. You are fighting for money, aren' t you?

Sean: ..Maybe..(Firmly) but that' s for my wife.

Old Man: 20 million! That sum can grant your wife 10 artificial hears! (Sign) Fight for justice is to fight according to conscience, the voice deep down in your heart..(Sigh) ..boy, your degree seemed to be reciting work and achievement alone. You are like any other conscienceless, worldly lawyer now...

Sean: I ...

Old Man: You used to fight for those innocent, those poor ones. Money ..ha ...

(Smiling bitterly) You weren' t the pure-minded boy I knew!

Sean: Man changes...

Old Man: (Firmly) it all depends.

Voice: Professor Ching, this is your judgement call ...

LIGHT DIMS

Sean: Justice, conscience...

Scene Three: Flashback to Sean' s office

Reporter: RTHK News Update. The Millionaire Cadbury Fish was suspected of kidnapping and murdering George Williams, the son of Richard Williams, the President of CBC International Cooperation. Fish was arrested in his home this morning ...

Jessy: (coming in with Secretary) Sean, see what I have for you.

Sean: Darling, anything you make is definitely good. (pause) So what did the doctor say today?

Jessy: (hands over the food to Sean) Nothing special. HE just told me to take more rest and take the pills regularly.

Sean: So, don' t forget it. (opens the box) Oh, dear, it' s my favourite home-made cookie. (tries one) Ah. it' s even better than last time.

Jessy: (smiling) I' ve changed one of the ingredients. I' ve used Cadbury' s chocolate this time. Isn' t it more tasty? Talking about Cadbury, I' ve heard from the radio about the case of George Williams.

Sean: Oh yes, me too.

Jessy: What do you think about the case? Do you think Cadbury Fish really killed George Williams?

Sean: Mm. I do. A man like him can do anything to get money.

(Secretary phone in)

Secretary: Mr. Cage, there's a call for you from the Justice Department.

Sean: Thank you. (Pause) This is Sean Cage speaking. you want me to take up George Williams's case? No problem. OK. you're welcome. see you at 3

Jessy: What's the matter, honey?

Sean: It's a call from the Justice Department. They are asking me to be the prosecutor for George Williams's case.

Jessy: Oh dear, you should take up the case. I feel really sorry for Mr. Williams' son...

Sean: Anyway, I'll see how it goes after the meeting this afternoon. (continue eating his cookie)

(Secretary comes in)

Secretary: Mr. Cage, Mr. Kan from Kan and Johnson solicitors and notaries just called. He would like you to represent Mr. Cadbury Fish in the trial.

Sean: The Fish! (with a joking tone) I have just been considering to speak against him.

Secretary: Mr. Kan said that Mrs. Fish will double your normal rate if defend her husband, and she wishes to see you in person this afternoon.

Sean: Ah ha . is he kidding? If Mrs. Fish agrees to triple my rate, I'll consider her offer. Anyway, I don't think she will. Get back to me. (hang up) ha ha ha ...

Jessy: Oh..(laugh gently) Doesn't he know that you are considering Mr. Williams, his rival? Williams and Fish, you surely won't choose Fish, will you?

Sean: Probably not.. all the evidence was against Fish.

Secretary: (coming in excitedly) I' ve called back Mr. Kan. He said if you defend Mr. Fish, Mr. Fish will pay you a million of 15 million. You really should consider that! It could finance your new partnership with the Blitz' s.

Sean: (to himself) wow, 15 Million! (throws a quick glance at Fessy) But ...

Secretary: Mr. Cage! (convincing Sean to speak for Fish) If you can defend Mr. Fish out of the trial , this also do good to your reputation!

Sean: (hesitate for a second then says firmly) All right. Contact Mr. Kan. Tell him Mrs. Fish can see me any time this afternoon. Please cancel my appointment with the Justice Department .er. anything else?

Secretary: Do I need to inform Mr. Haron of the changes?

Sean: Oh yes! I almost forgot about Henry! Thanks Linda!

Jessy: (worry) Sean? Are you taking Mrs. Fish' s offer?

Sean: (shrug his shoulder) Maybe, I' ll see.

Jessy: Don' t take his offer, Sean. He' s not a good man. He bribes jury when he goes to trial. He even smuggles drugs for goodness sake!

Sean: The law believes that everyone is innocent until proven guilty. Those articles about Mr. Fish are castles in the clouds. You shouldn' t believe those gossip magazines. I thought you were an intelligent woman.

Jessy: But...(continue)

Sean: It' s okay, but don' t stereotype Mr. Fish. Shouldn' t we be open about all people? What about his charity work?

Jessy: He does it to gain publicity...

Sean: sh. (puts his finger on her lips) Jessy dear. I have been saving up for more than half a year. (moves hand) In my plan I still have to work like a dog for

one more year in order to have enough for your surgery in London. If I take this offer I can talk to the doctors right away. You won't have to suffer anymore.

Jessy: I'm okay with my treatment here. I can wait. Don't you know that doctors here are some of the best in the world. I don't want you to sell your soul for money.

Sean: Stop arguing. I don't want you to suffer any more and now you don't have to. (Jessy still seems worried) (stands Up) Mr. Fish offers 15 million. This money is even big enough to expand my business! By then I can even be the best lawyer in Hong Kong! I have to get back to work now. Why don't you go home and have a good rest.

Jessy: I don't want to go yet! (reluctant to go)

Sean: No dear, you'd better go and take some rest, and don't forget your pills. (insisting that Jessy leave) Don't worry, I can handle it. (kiss her)

(Jessy leaves his office looking worried, looking back as if to say something)

Sean: Linda. I want all the documents that Mrs. Fish has submitted.

Secretary: They're all here. (hands a pile of papers to Sean) Mrs. Fish will arrive at 3p.m. (sounds of high Heels. Mrs. Fish enters with two thugs with her)

Mrs. Fish: No need to wait until 3. I'm already here Mr. Cage. It's so nice to meet you. I hope I didn't interfere with your schedule. (sits down in front of his desk, men stand behind her.)

Sean: Nice to meet you Mrs. Fish. I feel sorry about Mr. Fish. I'll do my best to help you both out of this problem.

Mrs. Fish: I'm sure you know about the case. (worried) the police found the dead body in our summer house and they also have the blade with finger prints of someone dear to us on it. I have no idea how they also go the recording of my husbands conversation with Richard Williams..Oh..(weep)

Sean: You are really in a very tough situation. (flipping through the documents)

Evidence and witnesses are mostly against your husband. Representing your husband is really...

Mrs. Fish: Mr. Cage, I'm sure this is what you want (Thug chaos a case of cash)

Sean: (stands up and look at the money) But...

Mrs. Fish: Ha, this is just the deposit. I'll give you a sub-total of 20 million if you accept my offer.

Sean: (quickly grabs the case) Don't worry. That's why I am here to help you. I need to work out things with my assistance Henry. We need to find the loopholes in these documents. (pause) Shall we have our next meeting some days later? Maybe I need some time to do some investigation.

Mrs. Fish: Thank you, I'll see you tomorrow then.

Sean: (to secretary) Linda, please lead Mrs. Fish her way out. (Mrs. Fish gradually stands and is escorted out by her men, leaving Sean on the stage.)

(Jessy comes in when Sean is hugging the case of money.)

Jessy: (enters) You aren't the Sean I lived when we got married. You told me that you want to be a lawyer who fought for justice and help people in need. You help people who need you, even in law school. What have you become?

Sean: I .I just want to send you to London for your treatment. (convincing and justifying himself) You know how much I love you.

Jessy: You can still get money even if you don't represent him.

Sean: But then you have to suffer another year.

Jessy: I don't mind! What I care more is you! I can't imagine what Cadbury Fish will do to you if you lose in his trial. (getting nervous)

Sean: (in a joking tone) I won't lose. I won't.

Jessy: No Sean! I 'm serious. HE .he might even sent his men to kill you!

Sean: This won't happen in a modern society...

Jessy: No, no, please! I'm so worried! Don't take his offer! He is unscrupulous.

Sean: What are you talking about? You are opposing Mr. Fish for such ridiculous reasons? Why can't you think for yourself? Don't you want to recover! Don't you want to get well?

Jessy: Of course I want to recover! What I want more is the man I love back. Not this money slave!

Sean: I'm not a slave of money! Did you ever care about my dreams? My dreams! I have been dreaming of becoming the Best Lawyer for years! After all, Who am I working so hard for? For you! Why can't you appreciate? (pause)
Maybe I'm not the right man for you. (throws his ring onto the floor)

Jessy: Sean..please don't...ah..(her face turns pale but she tries to grab the ring.
She has pain in her heart and faints.)

Sean: Jessy..Jessy..Linda..Jessy...

(secretary hears the scream, runs in)

(secretary exits with Jessy, who lays dying in the wheelchair.)

Scene Four: back to the waiting room

Sean: (suddenly awake) Jessy? Jessy..just a dream..two years..two years

Old Woman Sean Cage! So the headline guy has arrived huh?

Sean: Excuse me. (annoyed)

Old Woman : Would you mind if I sat down and talked to you? (sits down
immediately next to Sean) I'm so eager to talk to newcomers to the
waiting room. Would you like me to show you around?

Sean: (rubbing his face trying to refresh his mind, picks up his paper) No, thank you.
I m waiting for someone.

(Two little girls rush in and gather around Old Woman)

Zoe: Mrs. Kidman! Mrs. Kidman! You haven' t finished with the story of Little John!

Gammy: Yes! Yes! Please continue! (Pleading)

Old Woman: Okay! Where were we up to?

Gammy: The giant cursed Little John and shut him into a bottle.

Old Woman: Oh! That' s already the end of the story!

Zoe: You said you haven' t finish with it!

Old Woman: But that' s really the end of the story!

Gammy: Then why did the giant shut Little John into the bottle? HE was only using
the magic cloth to get money for his sick father!

Zoe: Is it that the giant was angry with Little John? Was Little John a naughty boy?

Gammy: (start arguing with Zoe) He' s a good boy! He was trying to save his father!

Zoe: No! He is naughty!

Old Woman: Girls, stop arguing! Let me ask you! Do you remember the use of the
magic cloth?

Zoe: I remember! He can turn everything into silver by rubbing the things the things
with the magic cloth!

Gammy: The giant gave it to him!

Old Woman: Why did the giant gave him the cloth then?

Gammy: Rewarding him. for letting him out of the bottle.

Zoe: No! It's because Little John's father is ill. The giant was helping Little John to make some money to heal his father. Am I right, Mrs. Kidman?

Old Woman: Yes, Zoe. You have a very good memory.

Cammy: (a little angry) But why did the giant shut Little John into the bottle in the end? Why? Why? (shaking Old Woman's arms)

Old Woman: Slow down, Cammy! (a short pause) Don't you remember? Even though Little John made a lot of money, his father was so seriously ill. HE died before Little John could hire a doctor to heal him. After his father's death, Little John spent the money and led a luxurious life.

Zoe: How come he is so greedy? Didn't he grieve for the death of his father?

Old Woman: Little John forgot all the good intentions he originally had for using the magic cloth. That was to earn enough for hiring a doctor to heal his father. His father has died, but he still used the magic cloth to make a lot of money. His mind was fed up by the luxuries in the materialistic world. He didn't realize that he's wrong, so the giant shut him up in the bottle as his punishment.

(Sean's attention was drawn by Old Woman's story and he starts thinking deeply)

Zoe: (to Cammy) You see? Little John is a bad boy!

Cammy: But he was only wanting to save his father!

Zoe: Didn't you pay any attention? He's using the money on luxuries! Mama said we

Cammy: He's not greedy! He's making good use of the magic cloth!

Old Woman : Girls, stop arguing! (but the girls aren't listening)

(Gabrielle is back from his tea break with 2 cups of ice-cream and interrupts the girls' quarrel.)

Gabrielle: (Brings in two ice-cream cones) Hey girls! See what I have brought you?
Z&C: Wow! Thank you Gabrielle! (start eating the ice-cream and giggles)

Old Woman: Haha. (pleased to see the girls stop arguing and become happy again)
(turns to Sean) They are cute, aren't they? They both died in a car accident at the age of 7. Poor child. (bitterly sighs) (takes out her knitting kit and starts knitting) I've got to have this done as soon as possible.

Sean: You seem to know a lot of people here.

Old Woman: I can proudly say I have been her for quite some time. Even before you were born, 1956 in fact. I'm allowed to go but I'm just not ready yet.

Sean: Do you know a Jessy then? She died of heart attack two years ago.

Old Woman: (knowingly) Jessy.

Sean: Yes, My wife.

Old Woman: (sarcastically) Oh really? (softer) Yes, poor girl. You'll see your Jessy. She knows you're here. She's not ready to see you. You hurt her.

Sean: Where is she? I need to see her. I need to be with her! Don't you understand how much I need her right now! She needs to make this okay for me. Why isn't she here?

Old Woman: I can't tell you. Work it out. I need to welcome my grandson. Do you think this will fit him? (holds up the vest she has been knitting)

Sean: Listen. Do what I am telling you. Make this okay for me. I can't be dead and I can't be dead without her. Where? Answer me! (He yells at her as she walks to try the vest on an invisible person. Sean grabs her shoulders and starts shaking her.)

(Victim enters, looking around and noticing Sean)

Victim: (ironically and loudly) Oh! See who we' ve got here! The great barrister Sean Cage! I thought you were still making up stories for the Fish down there . .h a

Sean: (annoyed by the man and frees the old woman) Who are you?

Victim: You cold blooded creature! No wonder you forget so easily. Look at my face.

Sean: It' s you! You' re the son of Richard Williams ...

Victim: Welcome here. Mr. Barrister Sean Cage. It' s so nice to meet you! You twisted the facts to make 20 million dollars. 20 millions. And now you have no way to enjoy your money. You must have spent them all on you coffin! Did you plate god all over it? It must have been extremely comfortable to lay in a 20-*million-coffin. Am I right? (Sean is sniffing with anger) Why didn' t you take my dad' s offer? You have a chance. (extremely sarcastically and he punches Sean)

Jessy: (inters) George, please! Could I have a private moment with this man?

(George leaves unwillingly)

Sean: Jessy (tries to get close to Jessy)

Jessy: Stay away from me.

Sean: What! He is the one who is punching me.

Jessy: (interrupts) What? Wasn' t he telling the truth? Didn' t you work for Cadbury Fish just for his money?

Sean: You think I was worg to work for his money! Don' t you ever forget the money was for your treatment?

Jessy: I have died before the trial! So why do you need his money anymore? You' re like the Little John in the parable!

Sean: I ...

Jessy: (soften) Why are you so stubborn? You still believe that you have done nothing wrong in representing Fish?

Sean: (trying to say something and fail to say something which makes a little sense) There should be some body to speak for the guilty as well as the innocent..(almost to himself) I' m just...

Jessy: Was that your intention? It is only money that you want. You want the money for your dream, your business! You are giving yourself excuses to act against your conscience. You have the choice..you can defend Williams, the

Sean: No Jessy! I ...

Jessy: I am waiting for you to tell the truth and repent..but...

Sean: Oh no. (others fade back as Sean is left to deal with what he has done.) All my life I believed I was doing the right thing. I spoke for righteousness I fought for justice. (Light dims) (leaving Jessy behind him) All along I thought I was the person who was justice. I only go against my conscience for just a single time ..once and only once...

Jessy: Learn my husband. Repent..before everything is too late...

Voice: Sean Cage, this is your judgment call...

~The End~