**\* THE COURTROOM**

**KAFFEE** : And that's why it had to be, poison, right, Commander? 'Cause Lord knows, if you put a man with a serious coronary condition back on duty with a clean bill of health, and that man died from a heart related incident, you'd have a lot to answer for, wouldn't you, doctor?

**ROSS** : Object. Move to strike.

**RANDOLPH** : Sustained. Strike it.

**KAFFEE** : No more questions, judge.

**ROSS** : Dr. Stone, you've held a license to practice medicine for 21 years, you are Board Certified in Internal Medicine, you are the Chief of Internal Medicine at a hospital which serves over 8000 men. In your professional opinion, was Willy Santiago poisoned?

**JO** : Your Honor, we re-new our objection to Commander Stone's testimony, and ask that it be stricken from the record. And we further ask that the Court instruct the jury to lend no weight to this witness's testimony.

**RANDOLPH** : The objection's overruled, counsel.

**JO** : Your honor, the defense strenuously objects and requests a meeting in chambers so that his honor might have an opportunity to hear discussion before ruling on the objection.

**RANDOLPH** : The objection of the defense has been heard and overruled.

**- The verdict day-**

**KAFFEE** : If Kendrick told his men that Santiago wasn't to be touched, then why did he have to be transferred?

**KAFFEE** : (continuing)Colonel?

Kendrick ordered the code red, didn't he? Because that's what you told Kendrick to do.

**ROSS :** Object!

**RANDOLPH** : Counsel.

**KAFFEE** : And when it went bad, you cut these guys loose.

**ROSS** : Your Honor ?

**RANDOLPH** : That'll be all, counsel.

**KAFFEE** : You had Markinson sign a phony transfer order ?

**ROSS** : Judge ?

**KAFFEE** : You doctored the log books.

**ROSS** : Damnit Kaffee!!

**KAFFEE** : I'll ask for the forth time. You ordered ?

**JESSEP** : You want answers?

**KAFFEE** : I think I'm entitled to them.

**JESSEP** : You want answers?!

**KAFFEE** : I want the truth.

**JESSEP** : You can't handle the truth!

Son, we live in a world that has walls. And those walls have to be guarded by men with guns. Who's gonna do it? You? You, Lt. Weinberg? I have a greater responsibility than you can possibly fathom. You weep for Santiago and you curse the marines. You have that luxury. You have the

luxury of not knowing what I know: That Santiago's death, while tragic, probably saved lives. And my existence, while grotesque and incomprehensible to you, saves lives.

You don't want the truth. Because deep down, in places you don't talk about at parties, you want me on that wall. You me there.

We use words like honor, code, loyalty...we use these words as the backbone to a life spent defending something. You use 'em as a punchline.

I have neither the time nor the inclination to explain myself to a man who rises and sleeps under the blanket of the very freedom I provide, then questions the manner in which I provide it. I'd prefer you just said thank you and went on your way. Otherwise, I suggest you pick up a weapon and stand a post. Either way, I don't give a damn what you think you're entitled to.

**KAFFEE** : (quietly)Did you order the code red?

**JESSEP** : I did the job you sent me to do.

**KAFFEE** : Did you order the code red?

**JESSEP** : You're goddamn right I did.

**KAFFEE** : Please the court, I suggest the jury be dismissed so that we can move to an immediate Article 39a Session. The witness has rights.

**RANDOLPH** : Lt. Ross?

**KAFFEE** : (as a friend)Jack.

**RANDOLPH** : The Sergeant at Arms will take the jury to an ante-room where you'll wait until further instruction.

**JESSEP** : What the hell's going on?

Captain, what the hell's going on? I did my job. I'd do it again. Now I'm getting on a plane and going back to my base.

**RANDOLPH** : You’re not going anywhere colonel. M.P.'s, guard the prisoner.

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**RANDOLPH** : Have the jurors reached a verdict?

**JURY FOREMAN** : We have, sir.

**RANDOLPH** : (reading)On the charge of Murder, the Members find the defendants Not Guilty.

On the charge of Conspiracy to Commit Murder, the Members find the defendants Not Guilty.

On the charge of Conduct Unbecoming a United States Marine, the members find the defendants Guilty as Charged. The defendants are hereby sentenced by this court to time already served, ... And are ordered to be dishonorably discharged from the marine corps.

This Court-Martial is adjourned.