# THE PRACTICE "Duty Bound"

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## THE PRACTICE

"Duty Bound"

## CAST LIST

BOBBY DONNELL ELLENOR FRUTT LINDSAY DOLE EUGENE YOUNG REBECCA WASHINGTON JIMMY BERLUTI A.D.A. HELEN GAMBLE

> A.D.A. Dick Flood Judge Joseph Camp Dr. Fred Spivak Detective McGuire Father John Ryan Barry Wall Donald Lawson (deceased; non-speaking) Judge Frankel Paramedic #1 Paramedic #2 Paramedic #3 Doctor #1 Doctor #2 Doctor Roberts Clerk Nurse Police Officer Orderly #1

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## THE PRACTICE

"Duty Bound"

## SET LIST

## INTERIORS:

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FATHER RYAN'S OFFICE - NIGHT & DAY OUTER OFFICE - NIGHT

OFFICE COMPLEX - DAY & NIGHT CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY BOBBY'S OFFICE - DAY & NIGHT HALLWAY - NIGHT

MCCALL'S BAR - DAY

BOSTON MUNICIPAL COURT - MORNING CORRIDOR - DAY

JAIL:

CELL - DAY VISITING AREA - DAY CORRIDOR - DAY

HELEN GAMBLE'S OFFICE - DAY

ST. ELIZABETH'S HOSPITAL: EMERGENCY - NIGHT EMERGENCY WAITING ROOM - NIGHT & MORNING ICU HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY & NIGHT ICU CORRIDOR - DAY & NIGHT

ELLENOR'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

## EXTERIORS :

CHURCH - NIGHT PARKING LOT - NIGHT

BOSTON - NIGHT

ST. ELIZABETH'S HOSPITAL - SUNRISE

## THE PRACTICE

## "Duty Bound"

## <u>Act I</u>

FADE IN:

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1 EXT. CHURCH - NIGHT

Police cars. Crime scene. BERLUTI gets out of his car, begins to head for the church. Spots GAMBLE.

> BERLUTI Helen.

GAMBLE Jimmy. What are you doing here?

BERLUTI That's my priest in there.

GAMBLE Your priest?

BERLUTI And my <u>client</u>, I guess from what little the detective said. What's going on?

GAMBLE The detective didn't tell you?

BERLUTI He just said Father Ryan asked him to call me.

GAMBLE Well, your priest is in a little trouble. (off Berluti's look) He killed somebody.

2 INT. FATHER RYAN'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Police at work. FATHER JOHN RYAN in custody. Berluti and Gamble enter. DETECTIVE MCGUIRE is present.

BERLUTI

Father.

FATHER RYAN (upset) Jimmy. Thanks for coming. I didn't do this. 1.

2 CONTINUED:

BERLUTI Calm down. They read you your rights and stuff?

FATHER RYAN Yes, <u>I</u> <u>didn't</u> <u>do it</u>.

BERLUTI Okay. Don't say another word to nobody.

ANGLE Gamble. We don't see what <u>she</u> sees but... she's a little horrified.

GAMBLE How old?

DET. MCGUIRE Fifteen. Sixteen, maybe. Coroner thinks he's been dead about a day. Cause of death, fractured skull.

Upon which Berluti steps up. If Gamble is a little horrified,.. Berluti is extremely so. He stares a beat.

> BERLUTI He's innocent, Helen. (Gamble looks at him) He never coulda done somethin' like that. Swear to God.

ANGLE A CLOSET

A fifteen-year-old Naked Boy hangs there. Dead. OFF Gamble and Berluti, we:

SMASH CUT

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MAIN TITLES

3 INT. OFFICE COMPLEX - DAY

The walls have been painted white. Painters are putting on finishing touches, tarps still lay about. BOBBY, LINDSAY, REBECCA, ELLENOR are present.

BOBBY I don't like it.

LINDSAY

You will. When a client walks through the front door, Bobby, he comes in with hope. This place shouldn't look dark and gloomy.

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BOBBY (to Rebecca) Anything new on the priest?

REBECCA Jimmy's already gone down for the arraignment, do we think he can handle this?

BOBBY He can do it. How old was the victim?

REBECCA Fifteen.

LINDSAY (O.S.) (suddenly) Spivak!!

ANGLE THE MONITOR. Sure enough. As Rebecca runs out --

REBECCA (to Ellenor) You gotta keep him away from here!!

And the door opens. A beat. DR. FRED SPIVAK enters.

ELLENOR Fred? Hey.

DR. SPIVAK Can I steal a second, Ellenor?

ELLENOR

Sure. (then) Let's go in the conference room.

And Dr. Spivak goes.

ELLENOR (CONT'D) (to Bobby) That fucking camera better not be on.

BOBBY It isn't. But Ellenor,--

ELLENOR

I know.

WHIP PAN TO:

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GAMBLE --Yes, as a firm that skirts ethical--

#### LINDSAY

It's a <u>favorable</u> column. We are growing, you should see what I'm doing with the offices, all we need is a press release saying we've landed a juicy plum, you're it. The town will take notice, you have a profile.

#### GAMBLE

Yes, well even if I <u>were</u> gonna jump to private, <u>your</u> firm, you're in love with a guy I used to sleep with, do you really want me there as the juicy plum?

LINDSAY You can take Bobby, he's much more fun wanting than having. (then) Helen. How many places are there where you can have fun and basically be your own boss?

GAMBLE And make money?

LINDSAY We're making money.

WHIP PAN TO:

7 INT. JAIL CELL - DAY

Berluti and Father Ryan.

BERLUTI They said he'd been hangin' there the whole day.

Father Ryan just stares down in silence.

BERLUTI (cont'd) Did you know this kid?

FATHER RYAN

No.

(CONTINUED)

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4 INT. BOSTON MUNICIPAL COURT - MORNING

A CLERK is present. JUDGE JOSEPH CAMP presides. As Father Ryan is led in--

CLERK Case number three-two-six-two-two. Commonwealth versus John Ryan, murder in the first degree.

## BERLUTI

James Berluti for the defendant, Your Honor, we'll waive reading, enter a plea of not guilty, and I'd ask he be released on his own recognizance.

GAMBLE Commonwealth opposes bail.

BERLUTI On what grounds?

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GAMBLE On what grounds? He has a lot of closet space, on what grounds.

JUDGE CAMP Alright. No bail. We can conference on Wednesday, ten o'clock to set schedules. Next.

BERLUTI (sotto to Gamble) That was sarcastic rude.

GAMBLE Jimmy. First degree murder you ask me what grounds?

BERLUTI Even so. I'm working with your office on a sting thing, I deserve better than sarcastic rude.

WHIP PAN TO:

5 INT. OFFICE COMPLEX - CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY Ellenor and Dr. Spivak.

> DR. SPIVAK It's just that... we were doing so well. And then suddenly...

> > (CONTINUED)

A beat.

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ELLENOR Things are just piled up here, Fred, I... DR. SPIVAK Don't feed me that. Listen, if you've lost interest say so, but don't string me along. (admitting) I've fallen in love with you. (a beat) Maybe that's what's making you pull back, I don't know, but talk to me 'cause I've been hurt before and I'm not... (a beat) just tell me. ELLENOR Okay. (a beat) I uh... I ran into somebody who uh... she said she was treated by you and she wasn't really hurt and you... you told her how to fool insurance companies. DR. SPIVAK Oh. ELLENOR Yeah. Oh. Are you a crook, Fred? DR. SPIVAK I'm not gonna lie. I barely make ends meet, I got school to pay for with my kids and ... yeah, sometimes I help people collect more from their insurance. Though she knows it was true it hurts to hear him confirm it. ELLENOR You can go to jail for that. DR. SPIVAK I know.

(then) I'm just... till I turn the corner... y'know when it's just yourself it's easy to go without. When it's your kids...

(CONTINUED)

5 CONTINUED: (2)

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ELLENOR I think more than anything else, kids want a father they can be proud of.

DR. SPIVAK (angered) Yeah. Very well said. (then) So. This ends us?

ELLENOR It might.

DR. SPIVAK Then I guess it couldn'a been much to begin with. My mistake.

ELLENOR It <u>is</u> your mistake. Don't kid yourself about that.

And he leaves. OFF Ellenor, we:

CUT TO:

6 INT. MCCALL'S BAR - DAY

Lindsay and Gamble.

GAMBLE Hanging there like a pendulum. Ugh.

LINDSAY

Helen.

GAMBLE (anticipating) Here we go.

LINDSAY That's right.

GAMBLE Every time I have to look at something dead you say it's time to move on.

LINDSAY Let me just tell you something. We have been on a big winning streak, we're about to get featured in the <u>National Law Journal</u>.

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BERLUTI He coulda looked different with his head all purple, when's the last time you checked your closet?

Father Ryan holds a look.

FATHER RYAN Jimmy. You <u>do</u> believe I'm innocent.

BERLUTI Of course I do. This isn't a question with me.

It isn't.

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FATHER RYAN

CUT TO:

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8 INT. OFFICE COMPLEX - DAY

Ellenor and Rebecca.

ELLENOR I didn't tell him it was <u>you</u>.

REBECCA

Even <u>so</u>.

ELLENOR I didn't tell him anything about anything and so what if I did, you already got what you need, there's nothing--

REBECCA No we didn't, I gotta go <u>back</u>.

ELLENOR What? Why?

REBECCA 'Cause Dickie Flood thinks I was too ambiguous, one thing I have never been is "ambiguous", he wants it more clear that we're conspiring to commit fraud.

ELLENOR I saw that tape, it looked pretty definite.

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REBECCA He says it's possible to interpret that I <u>am</u> hurt and he's just showing me how to convince the doctor. I gotta make it more clear that I'm <u>not</u> really hurt.

ELLENOR Well, I didn't give you away.

WHIP PAN TO:

9 INT. COURT CORRIDOR - DAY

Berluti and Gamble.

BERLUTI You got the wrong guy, Helen. I'm tellin' you. It's prejudice.

GAMBLE

Prejudice?

BERLUTI Yes prejudice. Anytime a young kid gets sexually molested, everybody says check out the priest, it's bigotry.

GAMBLE Jimmy, our prejudice aside, the victim was found in your client's closet.

BERLUTI I know Father Ryan. I'd vouch for him like I'd vouch for you.

Berluti clearly is genuine and she sees it.

GAMBLE Will he at least give us a statement? Right now we have no other leads.

BERLUTI We'll do it. I promise Helen, I'm not just a lawyer here talking to a D.A.

GAMBLE

Okay.

WHIP PAN TO:



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# 10 INT. BOBBY'S OFFICE - DAY

Rebecca and A.D.A. DICK FLOOD.

FLOOD I'm not looking for a lot more. We just have to make it a little more explicit.

## REBECCA

Like how?

FLOOD I want you to act a little nervous. Say, "Doctor I'm scared, I'm faking injuries, if I get caught I'll go to jail, how can I be sure I won't get caught?" Something like that.

Upon which Berluti enters.

BERLUTI Sorry I'm late.

FLOOD It's okay. When are you set with Mapp?

BERLUTI Wednesday. You get the money?

Berluti left the door ajar. The CAMERA CLOSES ON the cracked opening, under--

FLOOD (O.S.) We got an insurance company cutting a phony check.

BERLUTI (O.S.) He wants cash.

REVEAL

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Ellenor at the door. Listening.

FLOOD (O.S.) He might also want to see a copy of the check, we want you to have both.

BERLUTI (O.S.)

Okay.

11 INT. OFFICE COMPLEX - CONTINUOUS

Lindsay passing Ellenor, under --

(CONTINUED)

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11 CONTINUED:

LINDSAY

Ellenor, startled, lets out a muted shriek.

LINDSAY (CONT'D)

You okay?

Sorry.

Hey.

ELLENOR Yeah. You just scared me.

Lindsay glances at the door, back at Ellenor.

LINDSAY

And she continues into the conference room. OFF Ellenor, we:

CUT TO:

12 INT. JAIL CELL - DAY

Det. McGuire, Gamble and Berluti and Father Ryan.

DET. MCGUIRE You knew this boy?

FATHER RYAN No I didn't.

DET. MCGUIRE Never seen him before?

FATHER RYAN

Never.

GAMBLE Let me just throw out a general softball. Anything you can say to give us some clue, some hint of who could've done it, why he was hanging in your closet?

FATHER RYAN I don't know. I really don't know.

It seems like he's hiding something.

GAMBLE Father. You go on the Internet at your office?

FATHER RYAN All the time, I'm actually a little addicted to it.

(CONTINUED)

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GAMBLE What kind of websites do you frequent?

FATHER RYAN News, research, chatlines, I use it for almost everything.

GAMBLE Do you visit any child pornography websites?

FATHER RYAN I most certainly do not.

GAMBLE Do you visit any pedophile websites that--

FATHER RYAN

No.

BERLUTI This is over.

GAMBLE I'm just--

BERLUTI <u>This is over</u>. (to Father Ryan) I'll talk to you in a few minutes, I need to speak with Ms. Gamble. (to Det. McGuire) Alone.

DET. MCGUIRE Let's go, Father.

A Guard meets Father Ryan and Det. McGuire at the door, they exit.

BERLUTI What the hell is that?

GAMBLE Jimmy, your client was <u>hardly</u> forthcoming here, did he strike you as cooperative?

BERLUTI He's scared. What's the crap about porno, where do--

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12 CONTINUED: (2)

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GAMBLE The FBI has been tracking the pedophile sites as part of a general undercover operation, your client has been on them. Your voucher for the guy isn't holding up.

OFF Berluti, stunned, we:

FADE IN:

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<u>END</u> <u>ACT</u> <u>I</u>

FADE IN:

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13 INT. JAIL CELL - DAY

Berluti and Father Ryan.

BERLUTI Don't lie to me!

FATHER RYAN I'm <u>not</u> lying, I was never surfing--

BERLUTI They got proof!

#### FATHER RYAN

I don't care <u>what</u> they have, I was never on the Internet doing anything like that!

BERLUTI

So how do they get this wrong?

FATHER RYAN They either have the wrong computer or somebody else was on it. Lots of people have access to my office, Jimmy.

Berluti stares back, trying to get a read. Then--

BERLUTI (softening) Look, Father. And don't argue back, I just want you to listen to what I say real careful and then answer, can you do that?

#### FATHER RYAN

Yes.

#### BERLUTI

You don't go to jail for surfing child porn sites on the web. You go away forever if they get you on murder. Now I understand it's embarrassin' to say you talk to boys or girls on the Internet, it could even cost you your parish. But we gotta be concerned with savin' your <u>life</u> here. We can't be caught in a lie. 'Cause if they think you're lyin' on this Internet thing, they'll think you lied about the other.

(CONTINUED)

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13 CONTINUED:

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A beat, as Father Ryan stares back.

BERLUTI (CONT'D) Now you can answer.

FATHER RYAN I did not kill anybody. I did not access any pornography on the Internet, I didn't <u>talk</u> about sordid things with any boys or girls. That's my answer, Jimmy. And it's the truth.

OFF Berluti, we:

WHIP PAN TO:

14 INT. CONFERENCE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Eugene and Ellenor.

ELLENOR (quietly) How can I not tell the guy? I'm sleeping with him.

EUGENE You're <u>still</u> sleeping with him?

ELLENOR Well, I've avoided him the last week or so but...

OFF Eugene's look --

ELLENOR (CONT'D) He's not a bad man, Eugene. Lots of good people leave out a few things filing their tax returns, lots of honest people take home some office pencils. He has kids.

EUGENE Insurance fraud is a billion-dollar--

ELLENOR He's not bilking billions of--

EUGENE It's more than a few pencils.

ELLENOR Jimmy committed a little bank fraud, we didn't just overlook it we <u>hired</u> him, 'cause we knew...

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14 CONTINUED:

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A beat. Let's face the real issue now.

ELLENOR (CONT'D) (simple) I might love him. And he trusts me. (then) How can I not tell him?

EUGENE 'Cause you'd be putting Bec at risk.

> ELLENOR He's not gonna hurt Rebecca.

EUGENE Ellenor. You can't tell him. You know you can't.

Silence. Consent by silence. OFF this, we

CUT TO:

15 INT. FATHER RYAN'S OFFICE - DAY

Berluti enters with BARRY WALL, thirtyish, under--

BERLUTI The office is never locked?

WALL Not during the day. The computer is basically here for everybody.

BERLUTI How many people work here at the church?

WALL Full time about eleven.

BERLUTI And your desk... you'd see anybody who'd go in, right?

WALL During business hours. At night,.. well I'm sure custodians would have access.

BERLUTI Anybody repeatedly come in to use the computer?

(CONTINUED)

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15 CONTINUED:

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WALL Barbara Martin in accounting, but she's seventy-six, I hardly think she's into child porn.

BERLUTI Could you make a list of the people who come in and out of this office?

WALL I already have, I gave it to the police. I guess I can give you a copy.

BERLUTI Mr. Wall. <u>You</u> got any ideas who coulda done this?

WALL Not Father Ryan.

BERLUTI You're sure?

WALL A dead gay fifteen-year-old hanging in a closet. The priest would just be too obvious, wouldn't it?

Berluti just stares back.

WALL (CONT'D) That was a joke.

BERLUTI I didn't find it funny.

WALL My apologies.

Berluti can read this guy, he's withholding something.

BERLUTI (suspicious) You know something, Mr. Wall?

WALL Counsel. You don't wanna know what I know.

OFF Berluti, we:

16 INT. BOBBY'S OFFICE - DAY

Bobby and Lindsay.

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BOBBY (what?) <u>Helen</u> <u>Gamble</u>?

LINDSAY I floated the idea, she might--

BOBBY Working here?

LINDSAY Before you go off--

BOBBY There isn't <u>enough</u> drama without--

## LINDSAY

Look Bobby, if you're over her, then what's the problem and if you're not over her, think of the opportunity, she'll be smelling your musk every day, what chance will she have?

BOBBY Am I suppose to laugh?

## LINDSAY

She's a great lawyer, we all <u>know</u> it, it would be a huge coup. The <u>question</u> goes to all the personal stuff.

BOBBY Yeah, as questions go, it's a good one.

LINDSAY And if you think "no", fine, but let's think first. (then) If <u>I</u> can handle it...

BOBBY And why <u>would</u> you handle it, that strikes me as a little too healthy.

LINDSAY I'll handle it because it makes sense to. (off Bobby) Now that I'm partner.. I'm <u>vested</u> here, Bobby. I'm not stopping at white walls.

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EUGENE (entering) At least you're honest about that.

LINDSAY Excuse me?

EUGENE

First it's partner, now bringing in friends, build your little power nucleus, this --

BOBBY Eugene.

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LINDSAY Excuse me?

EUGENE I like Helen Gamble, Bobby--

LINDSAY So what's the problem, Eugene?

EUGENE The problem is she'd be in your camp, that makes me--

EUGENE (CONT'D) LINDSAY nervous, especially. What makes you so insecure about --

> EUGENE (CONT'D) I'm insecure about you not leaving off with the white walls.

LINDSAY Hold on--

BOBBY Both of you hold on. (then) Eugene. You were in my office supporting Lindsay and her plans for growth.

EUGENE Supporting the idea of growth, yes, I'm not in favor of her taking over.

EUGENE (CONT'D) Put her and Helen Gamble together, they'll is who do I look like, be springing these little is caesar? power plays --

LINDSAY I won't be taking over,

<u>Hey</u>.

BOBBY

16 CONTINUED: (2)

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EUGENE She hates criminals, we know <u>Helen</u> hates criminals, I'm not gonna spend my days reading fine print on stock options.

LINDSAY Who said anything about that?

EUGENE I signed up with <u>you</u>, Bobby.

LINDSAY You chauvinistic pig, no wonder your shirts shrink!

Eugene stares back.

LINDSAY (to Bobby) He deserved that.

CUT TO:

17 INT. GAMBLE'S OFFICE - DAY

Berluti enters.

GAMBLE Jimmy. I think it's "game over".

BERLUTI

What now?

GAMBLE The victim had a one-room studio in Brighton, police searched it. Turned up e-mail correspondence from your client. We also lifted prints which match Father Ryan's.

Berluti stares a beat. Then drops into his chair.

GAMBLE (CONT'D) Telephone records also show the Father called the boy from his residence. (a beat) Here's the deal. If he cooperates and confesses, we'll go murder two. Otherwise it's murder one all the way.

18 INT. BOBBY'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Bobby and Berluti.

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BOBBY If they could make murder one she wouldn't offer murder two. Agree to <u>nothing</u>. (then) But Jimmy... this Father... doesn't sound like he's gonna "art in heaven."

BERLUTI Bobby. It can't be. I know this guy like I know my own mother.

BOBBY She turned out to be gay too. (off Berluti's look) Sorry.

BERLUTI That was a prejudiced remark. Just 'cause of Joey Heric... not all gays kill people, y'know?

BOBBY Yes, I actually <u>did</u> know that.

BERLUTI He couldn'a done this. (obsessing) I <u>know</u> Father Ryan. However things look... he couldn'a done this.

OFF Bobby, we:

DISSOLVE TO:

19 EXT. BOSTON - NIGHT

20 INT. OFFICE COMPLEX - NIGHT

Ellenor, working late. Work is the best distraction. The door opens. It's Dr. Spivak. He approaches. They hold a look. Then--

DR. SPIVAK Not everything is so cut and dry, Ellenor. I hope you never have to be in my shoes.

ELLENOR You came back here to lecture me?

(CONTINUED)

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DR. SPIVAK (escalating) You fight in here for people who commit <u>homicides</u>. But--

ELLENOR Those people are called clients. I don't sleep with them, I--

DR. SPIVAK The fact that you <u>did</u> sleep with me, it should <u>count</u> for something. Look by my faults and try--

ELLENOR It's a <u>crime</u>, not a fault,--

DR. SPIVAK (exploding) Yes, it's a crime, damnit. A crime against an insurance company, it's not as if--

ELLENOR (now she goes) If you came in here to paint yourself as Robin Hood--

DR. SPIVAK I came in--

ELLENOR (overrides) People <u>do</u> get hurt, people <u>do</u> die, your colleagues stage accidents, innocent people get killed, and--

DR. SPIVAK I've never been involved with--

ELLENOR You could be!! You know it happens, Fred, don't stand there pretending what you do isn't despicable. It's criminal, it's immoral, it's despicable!

A beat. The fight is out of him.

DR. SPIVAK (softly) I'm getting out of it. I swear. I'm getting out.

ELLENOR It's a little too late.

20 CONTINUED: (2)

He holds her look.

DR. SPIVAK (weakly) Well then consider me punished. 'Cause I really do love you.

And he starts to go.

ELLENOR I don't mean it's too late just because of that.

He turns.

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ELLENOR (CONT'D) That friend of mine you treated? Rebecca Washington, she's coming in tomorrow. She'll be wearing a camera.

# DR. SPIVAK

What?

ELLENOR She's working with the D.A., Fred. She's already got you on camera once, she's planning to come in again to get more footage tomorrow. Only I'll be calling her and telling her not to go.

Dr. Spivak holds a look.

WHIP PAN TO:

21 INT. FATHER RYAN'S OUTER OFFICE - NIGHT

Wall is working at his desk as Berluti enters.

BERLUTI You work late.

WALL Well, things happen here, it can be fun.

BERLUTI I wanna know what you know.

WALL You don't, Jimmy. You and Father Ryan are close, trust me you don't wanna-~ 21

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BERLUTI

<u>Tell me</u>.

A beat. Wall motions him to sit.

WALL

Here's a dollar, I've retained you as my lawyer, the rest of this is all privileged. I'm a terrible typist.

BERLUTI Excuse me?

WALL I don't sit here for my office skills, the Father and I are lovers, or <u>used</u> to be, this new wrinkle could test us. I had an affair with the Lawson kid. <u>I'm</u> the one who likes young boys, it was me on the Internet, me sending the e-mails. Father Ryan found

Berluti stares back.

WALL Told you you wouldn't like it.

BERLUTI I don't believe it.

out, <u>he</u> killed the boy.

WALL Well. Believe what you want then.

BERLUTI So why sit on this?

WALL Why sit on it? I want him to get away with it. I still love your client. I may be more twisted than him.

OFF Berluti, we:

FADE OUT.

END ACT II

21

<u>ACT</u> III

FADE IN:

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22 INT. OFFICE COMPLEX - DAY

Early morning. Rebecca and Ellenor, Rebecca is dogging her, both are upset. As they head for the conference room--

REBECCA What the hell am I suppose to do now?

ELLENOR I'm sorry. I--

REBECCA (livid) Sorry, you're <u>sorry</u>?

ELLENOR That's what I said!

23 INT. CONFERENCE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

REBECCA We've been working on this sting for two months, we're almost there, you ruin it and tell me you're sorry.

ELLENOR I'm <u>very</u> sorry!

REBECCA You could be arrested for this, obstruction--

And Ellenor SLAMS the DOOR with a BANG. A beat.

ELLENOR Come on, Rebecca. How could I not? I'm standing before him, eye to eye, how moral... (a beat) I don't <u>want</u> to love him but I do a little, he loves <u>me</u>... and he <u>trusts</u> me. And I'm about to let him be set up for... (a beat) there's betrayal and there's betrayal.

(CONTINUED)

	THE PRACTICE "Duty Bound" - 3/18/98 - First Draft	26.
23	CONTINUED:	23
	A beat.	23
	WHIP PAN TO:	
24	INT. GAMBLE'S OFFICE - DAY	24
	Flood, Bobby, Gamble, Rebecca and Ellenor.	2 #
12	FLOOD I don't know that I <u>won't</u> arrest you.	
	ELLENOR Then do it, Dickie, it'll be like old times.	
	GAMBLE Alright.	
	BOBBY Look I think we can all agree these are pretty extreme circumstances.	
	ELLENOR You've got enough to arrest him anyway, all ambiguity aside.	
	GAMBLE Did you tell him about Jimmy's involvement?	
	ELLENOR No.	
	GAMBLE And he still doesn't know Jimmy works at your firm?	
	ELLENOR No.	
	FLOOD But Spivak knows Berluti and Rebecca are together, if	
	ELLENOR He promised he wouldn't tip off Mapp.	
	FLOOD (dubious) He promised you.	
	(CONTINUED)	

24 CONTINUED:

ELLENOR Yes. And I know he'll keep it.

FLOOD Because he loves you.

A beat.

12

FLOOD (CONT'D) Okay. I'm gonna pick him up, arrest both of them <u>now</u>. (to Ellenor) <u>You</u>?

Flood looks to Gamble. She discreetly shakes her head "no".

FLOOD (CONT'D) You luck out.

And Flood exits.

ELLENOR (to Gamble) Thank you.

And Ellenor rises, leaves. Bobby indicates to Rebecca to make sure she's okay. Rebecca exits.

BOBBY Thank you.

GAMBLE Some people put their relationships before their work, it's been known to happen.

A beat. He doesn't touch that.

Yeah.

BOBBY Listen. Something possessed Lindsay to actually <u>share</u> with me that she's running around making job offers.

GAMBLE I know it's crazy, that's what I told her.

BOBBY

(then) Crazy aside, is it something you'd consider?

GAMBLE Is it something <u>you'd</u> consider?

(CONTINUED)

THE PRACTICE "Duty Bound" - 3/18/98 - First Draft 28. 24 CONTINUED: (2) 24 OFF Bobby, we: WHIP PAN TO: 25 INT. JAIL CELL - DAY 25 FATHER RYAN It's all a lie! BERLUTI 12 Why would he say it? FATHER RYAN I don't know!! BERLUTI You don't know! You're gonna go to your grave sayin' "I don't know"?! FATHER RYAN I didn't kill that boy! BERLUTI What were you doin' in his apartment? FATHER RYAN I was never there! BERLUTI They found your prints there! FATHER RYAN (stunned) What?! BERLUTI Your fingerprints, they lifted them from inside the kid's place. Father Ryan stares back incredulous. FATHER RYAN It... it can't be. BERLUTI Father. Truth time. And Father Ryan paces. He's clearly hiding something. BERLUTI (CONT'D)

What the hell is going on? (a beat) Your phone records show you called this kid.

(CONTINUED)

12

FATHER RYAN I don't understand. I... (then) Oh...

BERLUTI What?

FATHER RYAN I can't tell you.

BERLUTI <u>You can't tell me</u>?

FATHER RYAN No. I can't.

BERLUTI I need to know what you know.

FATHER RYAN I can't reveal things I learned during a confession.

BERLUTI I don't care where you learned them, your life is--

FATHER RYAN I can't break the confessional seal, Jimmy.

BERLUTI Even if--

FATHER RYAN

<u>No</u>.

A beat. Berluti's trying to process all of this.

BERLUTI So. You never went to this kid's place, you never met him, you never called him.

FATHER RYAN That's right.

BERLUTI And what about you and your assistant, did--

FATHER RYAN He's lying.

(CONTINUED)

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25 CONTINUED: (2)

12

BERLUTI Were you two lovers?

FATHER RYAN

<u>No</u>!

BERLUTI Why would he say--

FATHER RYAN (erupting) I don't know, he's lying, they're all lying, everybody's lying, I'm not a homosexual! I'm not a homosexual! It's a sin against God! I'm not a homosexual!

Berluti stares at him. For the first time,.. Berluti considers that maybe he <u>doesn't</u> know this guy. OFF this, we:

CUT TO:

26 INT. BOBBY'S OFFICE - DAY

Bobby and Berluti.

BERLUTI It's like he was protesting too much almost. I mean,.. he couldn't have a big thing for <u>girls</u>, otherwise, y'know, he wouldn'a become a priest.

BOBBY Jimmy. We like to think we know people. But sometimes...

BERLUTI He's not a killer. I know him twenty years, he's not... What I saw in that closet... he couldn'a done that.

Bobby just stares back.

BERLUTI (CONT'D) I'd like permission to hire our own investigator.

BOBBY That would be very expensive, if--

BERLUTI (adamant) I want to do it.

26 CONTINUED:

Bobby sees his commitment.

BOBBY Okay. Do it.

CUT TO:

27 INT. CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

Eugene at work. Lindsay enters.

LINDSAY

You really think I'm trying to take over?

EUGENE It isn't that.

LINDSAY

Then what?

EUGENE I like this place, Lindsay.

LINDSAY So do <u>I</u>. That's why--

EUGENE But you want it to <u>change</u>. You keep using the word "grow", but you really mean "<u>change</u>". I like being a criminal defense lawyer. And your plan, whether you know it or not is to phase out the criminal

defense work and --LINDSAY

Eugene, I'd only be looking for balance.

#### EUGENE

Yeah, that sounds good. But if we're representing some airline and there's this sudden TRO needing all of us to respond, and I got some kid who's looking to avoid a parole violation, it's not gonna be the airline who gets kicked aside.

LINDSAY That won't happen.

(CONTINUED)

12

EUGENE Lindsay. If a lawyer wants to be rich, if a law firm wants to be flush, you gotta dedicate yourselves to corporate clients.

LINDSAY Listen to me. I've had ten offers to cross the street. I want to stay here because I like what we are. <u>Who</u> we are. (off his look) I want growth. I don't want change. (then) I love this place.

OFF Eugene, we:

CUT TO:

28 INT. BOSTON MUNICIPAL COURT - DAY

Dr. Fred Spivak is being led in from custody, Gamble is at the D.A.'s table. A CLERK is present. JUDGE FRANKEL presides.

CLERK Case number three-six-nine-ninenine, Commonwealth versus Fred Spivak, racketeering, grand larceny by false pretenses--

Suddenly--

ELLENOR Ellenor Frutt for the defendant, waive reading, plead not guilty.

Gamble shoots a look of surprise at Ellenor.

JUDGE FRANKEL Question of bail.

GAMBLE Hundred thousand Your Honor.

ELLENOR That seems excessive, this is a first offense.

GAMBLE The defendant is being charged with serious racketeering offenses, there <u>is</u> the risk of his fleeing the jurisdiction--

(CONTINUED)

28

12

ELLENOR My client has children in the Commonwealth, he has established--

GAMBLE We're looking at the possibility of substantial jail time.

JUDGE FRANKEL Fifty thousand bond, five cash.

GAMBLE I think that's low, Your Honor.

JUDGE FRANKEL Shoot me. The clerk will notify on scheduling. Next.

As Dr. Spivak is lead away, Gamble beelines for Ellenor.

GAMBLE Are you crazy?

ELLENOR I'm just helping him till we find another lawyer.

GAMBLE

<u>We</u>?

ELLENOR It's just an arraignment, Helen.

GAMBLE Ellenor, you're too smart for this, you shouldn't be representing him.

ELLENOR It's just for the arraignment.

OFF Gamble, we:

WHIP PAN TO:

## 29 INT. FATHER RYAN'S OUTER OFFICE - NIGHT

Wall is there working. Berluti enters.

WALL Again. You moving in while your client's in jail, Counsel?

(CONTINUED)

29
12

## BERLUTI

I don't find you funny. I don't like you. And even if Father Ryan were gay I can't see <u>him</u> liking you. I <u>can</u> see him feeling sorry for you.

## WALL

Given I'm the guy holding the motive card, a card the police are hunting for... I would think you'd pretend to like me.

## BERLUTI

Here's now I see it. You and the victim were lovers. You killed him. Then you confessed to Father Ryan, probably told 'im where you left the body too. He can't reveal any of it, 'cause he learned it in a confession, the seal is the seal. His prints at the kids' place. Coffee cups and a coupla books. Things you coulda left on the Father's desk, then planted in the victim's apartment. The phone calls... you probably left messages for Father Ryan to call you there or something.

WALL Sounds like a plan.

BERLUTI Perfect. 'Cause it's all wrapped up inside a confessional seal which a good priest won't break for nothing. And Father Ryan's a good priest.

WALL You would know him.

BERLUTI And I'm getting a beat on you too.

And Berluti exits. OFF Wall, we:

CUT TO:

30 EXT. CHURCH PARKING LOT - NIGHT

Berluti is heading for his car. Walking. Deep in thought. He stops... looks at a statue of the cross in front of the church annex. Holds a look. Continues on.

(CONTINUED)

30

As he walks... coming into focus about five yards behind him... walking casually at the same pace... Wall. His feet make no sound, we only HEAR Berluti's FOOTSTEPS. As he arrives at his car--

> WALL Counsel.

Berluti turns around.

12

WALL (CONT'D) Close enough.

He raises a REVOLVER and SHOOTS THREE TIMES. Berluti drops to the ground. Wall calmly walks away. OFF Berluti, we:

CUT TO:

31 INT. ST. ELIZABETH'S HOSPITAL - EMERGENCY - NIGHT

31

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The door bursts open, Berluti on a gurney, Emergency Teams at work, including PARAMEDIC #1 and PARAMEDIC #2.

PARAMEDIC #1 PARAMEDIC #2 Multiple abdominal, we Get a room ready. need six or seven units.

As ER DOCTOR #1 and DOCTOR #2 converge--

PARAMEDIC #1 (CONT'D)DOCTOR #1I think his spleen couldaGet him tubed, get somebeen hit too, how manyO-neg blood, what's histeams you got?pressure?

DOCTOR #2 PARAMEDIC #2 Get him right to the OR, Sixty over palp. We gotta page Roberts. move.

As they wheel Berluti onward, Bobby charges in.

BOBBY

Jimmy!!

PARAMEDIC #3 grabs him.

PARAMEDIC #3

Hey!!

BOBBY I gotta see him!!

PARAMEDIC #3 He's going into surgery.

(CONTINUED)

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BOBBY Is he gonna make it?

PARAMEDIC #3 I don't know.

OFF Bobby, we:

WHIP PAN TO:

32 INT. ELLENOR'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

She's there with Dr. Spivak, she hangs up the phone ON THE CUT and wheels on him.

ELLENOR Did you tell Mapp?!

DR. SPIVAK What happened?

ELLENOR Jimmy Berluti just got hit, did you tell Roland Mapp?

DR. SPIVAK

<u>No</u>!!

ELLENOR How'd he find out?!

DR. SPIVAK Roland Mapp wouldn't hit anybody, he--

ELLENOR Did you tell him?!!

DR. SPIVAK

No!!

WHIP PAN TO:

33 INT. ST. ELIZABETH'S HOSPITAL - WAITING ROOM - NIGHT 33

Eugene, Lindsay, and Rebecca burst into the room. FIND Bobby. He's been crying. Just seeing his face--

> REBECCA Oh God no. Please no.

> > (CONTINUED)

31

12

BOBBY He's in surgery. They don't know. (trying to hold it together) They don't know.

Rebecca goes to him, holds him. The door then opens. Gamble enters. She can read the severity of it. OFF her, we:

FADE OUT.

END ACT III

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THE PRACTICE "Duty Bound" - 3/18/98 - First Draft 38.

<u>ACT IV</u>

FADE IN:

34 EXT. ST. ELIZABETH'S HOSPITAL - SUNRISE

35 INT. ST. ELIZABETH'S HOSPITAL - WAITING ROOM - CONTINUOUS 35

Bobby, Rebecca, Eugene, Lindsay, Ellenor and Gamble. They've been up all night. They won't leave. Finally DR. ROBERTS \* enters. Bobby goes right for him.

> DR. ROBERTS He's out of surgery but it'll be a while before we know. The injuries were abdominal, nothing hit the heart.

BOBBY Where is he?

DR. ROBERTS

ICU. (then) He's in a coma. We're not sure if his brain was deprived of oxygen.

They all just stare back. Devastation.

BOBBY Can I see him?

DR. ROBERTS Not yet. We'll move him to a bigger room later maybe. But until then...

BOBBY What are the chances?

DR. ROBERTS I'd say fifty-fifty.

36 INT. JAIL VISITING ROOM - DAY

Bobby and Father Ryan.

BOBBY You tell me what you know!

FATHER RYAN I don't know any--

(CONTINUED)

36

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BOBBY He told me there was something that involved a confession. If you--

FATHER RYAN Even if there were, I certainly can't break the seal.

BOBBY It's not just your life anymore!!! What if whoever did this wants to finish the job?

Father Ryan stares back. A beat.

BOBBY (CONT'D) Do you know anything about who could've done this?

FATHER RYAN I cannot break the confessional seal.

Bobby glares at him, he'd like to grab him by the collar. Then--

BOBBY I'm a Catholic, Father. There's nothing Godly in covering up for a murderer. There can't be anything Godly in protecting somebody who might kill again.

FATHER RYAN I can't help you, my son.

A beat, Bobby exits. OFF Father Ryan, we:

WHIP PAN TO:

37 INT. ST. ELIZABETH'S HOSPITAL - ICU CORRIDOR - DAY

Bobby and Gamble.

GAMBLE We don't think Roland Mapp is involved. He's white collar, there's nothing to indicate he would hire a hit or...

BOBBY Jimmy is the witness to put him away.

(CONTINUED)

36

37

> GAMBLE But he would know we know that. It doesn't figure to be him. (then; re Berluti's room) They're letting you in there?

## BOBBY

They're not sure he can't hear us and if he can ... it may be good, according to the doctors. The next twenty-four hours are crucial.

A beat.

12

GAMBLE

You okay?

BOBBY Jimmy said something about ... maybe the priest could be covering for somebody else.

GAMBLE I don't think so.

BOBBY He's the killer?

GAMBLE We're pretty sure. But we're talking to his assistant again today, there could be another piece to the puzzle.

Upon which Dr. Fred Spivak arrives. He holds a look with Gamble.

> GAMBLE (accusatory) You didn't do this, did you?

Dr. Spivak won't even dignify that. Then--

DR. SPIVAK Anything new?

Bobby shakes "no". Then he enters into:

INT. ST. ELIZABETH'S HOSPITAL - ICU ROOM - CONTINUOUS 38

38

Berluti lies there, hooked up to various machines. Eugene, Lindsay, Rebecca and Ellenor surround him, as Bobby approaches.

(CONTINUED)

12

LINDSAY (to Berluti) And if we get the loan which I know we will, we'll be able to break through the walls and <u>maybe</u> we can each get our own private offices. Eugene is so excited.

Eugene shoots her a look.

BOBBY Ellenor. Spivak's out there. (then; to Berluti) I'm back, Jimmy. If you can hear me, doctors think you're gonna be okay. Just don't give up, you'll come out of this fine.

ANGLE Gamble at the door, observing this vigil.

39 INT. ST. ELIZABETH'S HOSPITAL - ICU CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS 39

ELLENOR If Mapp <u>did</u> find out...

DR. SPIVAK He couldn't be connected to something like this. (then) You're okay?

ELLENOR Look, Fred, I'll call you, okay? We got a meeting set up with the D.A. tomorrow, I'll call.

DR. SPIVAK

Sure.

And Ellenor goes back into:

40 INT. ST. ELIZABETH'S HOSPITAL - ICU ROOM - CONTINUOUS

40

BOBBY If you can hear me... the doctors think it would be good if you'd try to wake up.

EUGENE Jimmy. It's Eugene. You're gonna be okay. We're all here.

(CONTINUED)

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LINDSAY

It's me Lindsay, I'm here too. I called your mother, told her... (shrugs to the others) told her you'd be okay. She says she's coming back from Florida to see you.

ELLENOR

Hey, Jimmy, know what? Rebecca wants to cut her hair again.

REBECCA I do not. She's just saying that 'cause you're lying here in a hospital bed, she's trying to make you laugh.

BOBBY Try to wake up, Jimmy. If you can.

ANGLE Gamble, watching all this.

41 INT. GAMBLE'S OFFICE - DAY

Gamble, Det. McGuire and Wall.

DET. MCGUIRE You and the boy?

WALL And Father Ryan found out.

GAMBLE Why didn't you tell us this?

WALL I told Mr. Berluti.

GAMBLE Why didn't you tell <u>us</u>?

WALL I was trying to protect Father Ryan.

OFF Gamble and McGuire, we:

CUT TO:

42 EXT. BOSTON - NIGHT

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43 INT. ST. ELIZABETH'S HOSPITAL - ICU ROOM - NIGHT

They're all still there, except for Gamble. All sleeping except for Bobby, who holds Berluti's hand. Staring at him. After a long beat, Dr. Roberts enters.

DR. ROBERTS

Nothing?

BOBBY He moves his feet sometimes. Is that good?

DR. ROBERTS (not really) Just neurological.

A beat. Roberts shines a pen light into Berluti vacant eyes.

DR. ROBERTS (CONT'D) I'll be back a little later.

And he exits.

12

BOBBY Jimmy. If you can hear me... if you can try to wake up, Jimmy. (softly; fighting tears) If you could try to wake up, it would be best.

Rebecca wakes up. She moves over.

BOBBY (CONT'D) All your reflexes and things are good, there aren't any spinal injuries. We just need you to wake up. If you can hear me. Try blinking your eyes.

Nothing.

BOBBY (CONT'D) Try Jimmy.

REBECCA Maybe we shouldn't push him.

BOBBY The doctor says... the longer he stays...

And suddenly Bobby's head jerks back to Berluti.

REBECCA

What?

(CONTINUED)

BOBBY He just squeezed my hand.

REBECCA Coulda been a reflex.

A beat.

12

BOBBY Jimmy. If you can hear me... squeeze my hand again.

A beat. And Berluti squeezes his hand. Rebecca sees it too. Before Bobby surrenders to hope, however--

> BOBBY (CONT'D) One more time. If you hear me... squeeze.

And Berluti squeezes.

BOBBY (CONT'D) REBECCA He's squeezing my hand!! Oh God!

Bobby goes dashing for the doctors as the others wake.

BOBBY (CONT'D) (screaming) He's squeezing my hand!! He can hear me!! (O.S.) He's squeezing my hand!!

EUGENE

Jimmy.

ELLENOR Is he awake?

REBECCA Everybody calm down. He's not awake yet, let's all calm down.

44 CLOSE ON BOBBY

BOBBY It's a good sign, right?

REVEAL

INT. ST. ELIZABETH'S HOSPITAL - ICU ROOM - MINUTES LATER Dr. Roberts is there, examining.

(CONTINUED)

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DR. ROBERTS It's a great sign. (then) Okay, I think we should let him relax a little. (to Berluti) Jimmy. That you can hear us, this is great. We've been asking you to try to wake up. Now... I just want you to rest, you'll wake up when you wake up. Just rest and sleep. (to the others) I think you should <u>all</u> go get some rest.

BOBBY I'm staying.

DR. ROBERTS Sometimes this kind of vigil can have a stressful effect on the patient.

BOBBY Okay. Everybody let's go. Out. (back to the doctor) But I'm staying.

WHIP PAN TO:

45 INT. GAMBLE'S OFFICE - DAY

Gamble, Flood, Ellenor, and Dr. Spivak.

FLOOD You turn state on Mapp, we agree to consider that in sentencing.

ELLENOR We need something more formal than consideration.

FLOOD I can't give it to you, Ellenor.

ELLENOR Your case isn't that tight.

FLOOD It's tight enough and I'd rather lose him than make a promise--

(CONTINUED)

GAMBLE We're not completely sure he or Mapp aren't connected to Jimmy being shot.

DR. SPIVAK

I'm <u>not</u>.

FLOOD Fine. Turn state against--

ELLENOR We're done, here.

DR. SPIVAK No, we're not. (then) I don't care what the terms, I'll plead guilty to everything I--

ELLENOR (shut your mouth) C'mon, Fred.

DR. SPIVAK (to Ellenor) You're fired. (back to Gamble) Whatever you want.

ELLENOR You got kids. What if--

DR. SPIVAK Who at some point need a reason to feel proud of their father. Or at least less ashamed. (back to Gamble) Draw up the deal.

CUT TO:

46 INT. ST. ELIZABETH'S HOSPITAL - ICU ROOM - DAY Bobby still sits there with Berluti, holding his hand.

> OFFICER (O.S.) Mr. Donnell.

Bobby turns to see a POLICE OFFICER there with Barry Wall.

OFFICER (re Wall) Is he okay?

(CONTINUED)

46

WALL I'm Barry Wall. He'd just come to see me before... (then) He's gonna be alright?

BOBBY We hope. But he can't take visitors.

WALL Actually, I thought I might talk to you.

Bobby rises.

WALL (CONT'D)

I uh... I didn't tell the <u>police</u> this but... and I don't know how up to speed you are with everything...

BOBBY I've been told everything the police know, what <u>didn't</u> you tell them?

WALL Well... Father Ryan was kind of a connected guy. And I'm afraid... once Jimmy knew the truth, even though he was the Father's <u>lawyer</u>... he might have considered him a liability.

BOBBY (incredulous) You saying the Father might have had Jimmy <u>hit</u>?

WALL All I'll say... this isn't a model priest.

BOBBY Jimmy thought he was. He was sure of it.

WALL (re Berluti) He'll really be okay?

BOBBY

We hope.

Bobby turns to look back at Berluti, Bobby's face freezes.

(CONTINUED)



12

46 CONTINUED: (2)

HIS POV

Berluti's hand... he's pointing a finger.

ANGLE BOBBY

ANGLE BERLUTI'S HAND

ANGLE BOBBY

ANGLE THE HAND

Then... Berluti's thumb comes up. His hand makes the shape of a gun now.

RESUME

12

Bobby as he looks back at Wall.

BOBBY When's the last time you saw Jimmy?

WALL At the church.

And suddenly Bobby lunges, he has Wall by the throat, throws him to the ground, punches him to the face. A passing NURSE sees, SCREAMS. Bobby has Wall up on his feet, he drives him straight for the window and <u>through</u> the window as the Officer charges in.

OFFICER

Let go!!

BOBBY (to anybody behind him) Stay away or I drop him!!

He has a shaken, bleeding Wall half out the window, if Bobby lets go the guy is dead.

OFFICER Let Go!! I have a gun pointed right at you!

BOBBY You'll be killing us both. (to Wall) Did you shoot him?

Wall just stares back.

BOBBY (CONT'D) (screaming) Did you shoot him?!!! (nothing) You don't think I'll drop you?!

(CONTINUED)



46 CONTINUED: (3)

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Wall, scared, bleeding, just stares back. Bobby lets him drop a little, Wall screams.

BOBBY (CONT'D) Answer me or you're out the window, do I not look crazy enough?! <u>Did</u> you shoot him?!

WALL

Yes.

BOBBY Where's the gun? (then) Where's the gun?!

WALL I mailed it!!

BOBBY To where?!

WALL My family home!

And Bobby pulls him in, drives him into another wall, and resumes punching. The Officer jumps on his back as Eugene and Rebecca enter. Eugene joins in, helping the Officer to finally restrain Bobby. Orderlies also enter, including ORDERLY #1.

> EUGENE (to the Officer; re Bobby) I got him. (re Wall) You take him.

The Officer goes to Wall, handcuffs him.

ORDERLY #1 (re Wall) We better take him downstairs first, stitch him up.

The Officer and an Orderly hoist up Wall, as Nurses and Technicians check Berluti.

OFFICER

Let's go.

EUGENE (to the Nurse; re Berluti) How's he?

NURSE Okay. Nothing disconnected.

(CONTINUED)

46

46 CONTINUED: (4)

12

OFFICER (to Bobby) I'll be back for <u>you</u>, Mr. Donnell.

And they escort Wall out. Bobby gulps some air.

BOBBY He shot Jimmy.

REBECCA

What?

BOBBY He can hear. Jimmy. He made his hand into a gun.

REBECCA Your hand's bleeding a little.

EUGENE That kid? He...?

BOBBY Jimmy must've tumbled to it, he probably was confronting him at the church.

REBECCA Are you okay?

BOBBY I'm okay. I'm fine.

EUGENE And hopefully not under arrest.

BERLUTI (O.S.) It's normal size.

They wheel to see Berluti ... eyes open. They go to him.

BOBBY

Jimmy?

Berluti is half out of it, but his eyes are open.

BERLUTI They all call me big head. It's normal size. (focusing) I know it's a regular head.

BOBBY Yeah it is, Jimmy. It's normal.

Berluti is becoming aware of his surroundings.

(CONTINUED)

46

THE PRACTICE "Duty Bound" - 3/18/98 - First Draft

46 CONTINUED: (5)

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BERLUTI I'm in a hospital.

BOBBY Yeah. Can you see me?

BERLUTI You look awful, Bobby.

BOBBY

Yeah. (fighting tears) I feel good though. I...

BERLUTI I feel terrible. He shot me.

BOBBY I know. You're gonna be fine.

BERLUTI (sees Eugene) Eugene.

EUGENE Hey, buddy.

BERLUTI Why's Bobby crying?

EUGENE He cut his hand.

Bobby gives in to his emotion. Drops his head onto Berluti. Rebecca's crying.

BERLUTI His head is on me. Get his head offa me. Mine's normal size.

CUT TO:

47 INT. JAIL CORRIDOR - DAY

Gamble walks with a Guard, arriving at Father Ryan's cell. The Guard opens the door. A beat.

GAMBLE Barry Wall just confessed to killing Donald Lawson and hanging him in your closet. He also confessed to shooting Jimmy Berluti.

(CONTINUED)

47

THE PRACTICE "Duty Bound" - 3/18/98 - First Draft

47 CONTINUED:

FATHER RYAN (weakly) Thank God.

GAMBLE Thank God?

She stares daggers at him.

GAMBLE He went to the hospital probably to make sure Jimmy wouldn't wake up.

FATHER RYAN The seal is sacred, Ms. Gamble.

GAMBLE So's human life, Father. (then) You're free to go.

They hold a look. Father Ryan exits.

48 EXT. BOSTON - NIGHT

49 INT. ST. ELIZABETH'S HOSPITAL - ICU CORRIDOR - NIGHT

Gamble and McGuire walks toward Berluti's room. The same Police Officer is guarding the door.

DET. MCGUIRE (to the Officer) You can go now, the threat's gone.

50 INT. ST. ELIZABETH'S HOSPITAL - ICU ROOM - NIGHT

Bobby, Eugene, Lindsay, Rebecca, Ellenor,.. all playing a game of hearts, Berluti's body serves as the table.

LINDSAY Drop that Queen of Spades on me again, you're dead.

EUGENE Stop tryin' to win the Jack, maybe you won't bite the Queen.

ELLENOR Don't look at my hand, Jimmy.

(CONTINUED)

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BERLUTI I wasn't looking, you were flashing it. (to Rebecca) Don't lead with that.

REBECCA Stop tellin' me how to play.

BERLUTI I <u>will</u> tell you, you're playin' for <u>me</u>.

ELLENOR They're shooting the moon, (to Rebecca) you don't fool me.

REBECCA If I wanted to fool you, I'd be ambiguous.

BOBBY Just play.

EUGENE (drops the Queen) Kiss the lady.

Lindsay groans, as we ANGLE Gamble and McGuire at the door, spying all the above. Who says they don't have personal lives? As the banter continues--

> DET. MCGUIRE That's quite a group.

GAMBLE Oh yeah. That's some group.

A group she can't help but consider joining. OVER HER SHOULDER, watching them continue to banter, bait and play cards we eventually:

FADE OUT.

THE END