

Tim Unger

28:

CAROL

Shoes.

INT. CAROL'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Carol ducks back into the house. Dennis, clad in boxers, is sanding behind the door, holding her shoes. She sheepishly takes them. He gives her a mock salute, which she returns. She leaves to join Molly.

Dennis glances at the wall clock and yawns. Too damn early.

INT. COURTHOUSE - COURTROOM - DAY

Ed makes his argument before JUDGE. Mr. LaMere sits with TIM UNGER, his charismatic young lawyer.

ED

START :

Mister Ross asked my client for fifty thousand dollars to help pay for his kids' college. Then he went and bought a Winnebago with it instead. He lied to my client with the express purpose of committing fraud.

UNGER

Let's be clear: the money Mr. Ross received wasn't a charitable donation - it was a gift. Legally, he could spend it on whatever he wanted.

ED

That's a purely technical distinction.

UNGER

It's a legal distinction.

ED

Well maybe this time we should let common decency be the rule of the day, huh? Your client's blatant greed flies in the face of the spirit in which this money was given. Mister Ross's scam will cripple the Prescott Foundation and ruin a lot more than Christmas for the children who depend on it. That's wrong and we all know it.

29.

UNGER

I don't believe that, and you know what, neither do you, Mister Stevens.

ED

Of course I do.

UNGER

Really? Let me ask you, how much does your watch cost? Two hundred, three hundred dollars?

ED

Closer to two.

UNGER

You know you could save the life of a child in the Third World for two hundred dollars. Surely you've seen the ads.

ED

Well, I didn't steal the money from a charity in order to pay for it.

UNGER

But still, you've clearly decided a fancy watch is more important than saving a child's life. Because you're selfish, and so is my client.

UNGER

But at least he's not a hypocrite.

Ed and Unger pack up to go.

ED

Okay, okay, then tell me this.
With all the starving children in
the world, how do you justify that
Seven Series Beemer parked outside?

UNGER

(spins his keys)
It's a sweet ride.

#End

INT. DENNIS' OFFICE - DAY

Dennis enters his office. On his desk is an apple with a card attached. He picks it up, glances at the card. "Thinking of you." It's signed with a little smiley face. Dennis considers the note. Whatever emotion he's feeling right now, it's certainly not joy.

INT. BURTON KITCHEN - EVENING

Mike and Nancy eat dinner with Sarah. Mike wolfs his food.

NANCY

Mike. You've got to chew your food.

Mike looks up from devouring his chicken.

MIKE

I am chewing.

NANCY

Chewing? You're not even breathing. Sarah's watching and I think we need to be a little more careful about the example we're setting. We're building a person and I want one that chews and breathes.

Mike self-consciously chews for Sarah's benefit. Chews, breathes, chews, breathes...

INT. STUCKEYBOWL - DAY

Phil is behind the counter. A cute girl enters. She's dressed Texas chic. Phil smiles at Kenny.