#106 "Talking Heads" STUDIO Draft 8/27/10

14.

INT. M.E.'S OFFICE - HALLWAY - DAY

Sc۱

Peter and Curtis find Megan heading to autopsy.

MEGAN

You track down that serial number?

PETER

That particular ball and joint went into one Callum Shane McKinney, widowed, age fifty-nine.

He hands Megan the file to peruse. Megan smiles.

MEGAN

We have a name.

PETER

We have a name.

MEGAN

(frowning)

But no address? How can he have major knee surgery and not leave an address?

CURTIS

The answer's on the billing page. The procedure was paid by a Mr. Drew Avery. Who's he?

PETER

Son-in-law. Married to Cal's daughter Jenny.

MEGAN

They local?

PETER

Waiting in the conference room.

START

INT. M.E.'S OFFICE - CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

Megan, Peter and Sam sit across from Cal's grief-stricken daughter JENNY AVERY, 20's, and her less-than-grief-stricken husband DREW AVERY, 25. Jenny, a lovely woman with striking BLUE EYES, cries openly over PHOTOS of her father's remains.

JENNY

That's him.

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MEGAN

I know this is difficult. But are you sure?

JENNY

These welt marks? From the renn Edison Building. A bucket of red hot rivets fell in his lab. His broken toes? The Rouse Tower. A cement mixer fell on his foot.

MEGAN

It sounds like he had a hard life.

JENNY

Not so. He loyed it. He loved building things. He loved sitting on a steel carder a thousand feet in the air eating his Funch over the city he loved. He used to take me up there with him. He violated a hundred safety rules to do it. I loved it too.

(pushes the photos away)
Why would someone do this to him?

PETER

When was the last time you saw him?

Jenny hesttates. Looks to her husband, who just looks away.

JENNY

I haven't seen him in over a year. We spoke on the phone every once in a while... He and Drew didn't get along very well.

MAR

That right, Mr. Avery?

DREW

He was a mooch. Ever since he went on disability.

JENNY

He needed us, and we weren't there!

Jenny tears up. Megan observes a marriage that should never have been.

SAM

Your father won big at Canyon Casino last week.
(MORE)

CONTINUED: (2)

SAM (CONT'D)

He was last seen with a man driving a black sports car. Ring any bells?

DREW

Hold on a second. How much are we talking about?

PETER

Twenty-five grand.

DREW

(glares at Jenny) That's just great.

MEGAN

There a problem?

DREW

He comes around last year saying his insurance wouldn't pay for his knee surgery so could we foot the bill? I told him to mortgage his home. That's when I found out he didn't even own the place. He's been there for thirty years on rent control, and I'm paying for his new knee?

(a thought)

Hey, we get that money now, don't we?

Sam hands Jenny a pen and pad.

SAM

Can you give me that address?

INT. M.E.'S OFFICE - KATE'S OFFICE - DAY

STOP

POV LACEY'S CAMERA -- we see Lacey's head for a second as she adjusts the camera angle, to put Kate fully in frame. Kate has a copy of Megan's "Lacey Questions" in front of her.

KATE

Your mom said to answer all of your questions, so fire away.

LACEY (O.S.)

Okay. Tell me your name and what you do here.

Drew

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3°.

MEGAN

Curtis?

CURTIS

(he knows) Yeah, I got it.

INT. POLICE STATION - OBSERVATION ROOM - AFTERNOON

Peter and Sam watch through the window as Jenny Avery sits alone in interrogation.

SAM

I'm going to have a crack at her. Got the husband down the hall.

PETER

Mind if I have a crack at him?

INT. POLICE STATION - INTERROGATION ROOM - AFTERNOON

First up, Sam with Jenny Avery, who sits across from her tearful, scared.

JENNY

Yes, I saw my Dad last week. I couldn't let Drew know I'd been to see him.

INT. POLICE STATION - INTERROGATION ROOM #2 - INTERCUT

Peter talks to Drew.

DREW

Hell no, I didn't know she'd been to see him. I told her to make a choice. Her crazy old man, or me.

On Jenny and Sam --

JENNY

My dad called to tell we he had some money he wanted to give me. I thought it was money to pay us back for his knee surgery but when I got there... it was twenty-five grand.

SAM

He just gave you the money?

On Peter and Drew --

COM NEF PAGE

CONT

DREW

Cal never gave us a dime.

PETER

What about the five hundred bucks a week?

DREW

What five hundred bucks a week? I never saw five hundred bucks from him period. If I'd known he was stashing it away, I woulda --

Drew stops himself. Seething.

PETER

You woulds what?

On Sam and Jenny --

JENNY

Drew Inn't the easiest man to live with. There were some things I had to give up when I married him.

Like what

JENNY

Art school. That's what the money was for.

On Peter and Drew --

DREW

She wanted to spend money learning how to draw flowers and fruit bowls. I told her no way.

On Sam and Jenny --

JENNY

I draw buildings. Cityscapes. I see them in my mind. Just like my dad.

(putting it together)
Those drawings in your dad's
apartment. You did them?

Jenny nods

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

JENNY

Dad always wanted me to go to drafting school. I knew it would end things with Drew. That's what I was wreatling with when you called and aid Dad was dead. I didn't knew what to do. Then Drew found the money

MAR

Do you think your husband could have killed your father.

On Peter and Drew --

DREW

Why would I kill Cal? I didn't know about that money until that cop told me about it.

INT. POLICE STATION - OBSERVATION ROOM - AFTERNOON

STOP

Peter and Sam, back together, watch as Jenny sobs, very sympathetic and sincere.

SAM

So she has opportunity but no motive.

PETER

And he has motive, but says he didn't know about the money until after Cal was dead.

SAM

We've got her DNA in the house. Not his.

PETER

He's the one with the Tarzan temper. Not her.

SAM

(sighs)

Either way, they alibi each other out.

PETER

Or they're both lying.