

THE STALL

CROP OUT:

MAIN GATE.DISTRICT COURT, MORANG-AFTENOON-SUNNY

A LOUD CHATTERING ENVIRONMENT, TYPICAL A-TIER CITY VIBES

JUDGE

AFTER THREE MONTHS OF TRIAL, DUE TO A LACK OF EVIDENCE. THE COURT HAS DECIDED JIM TO BE NOT GUILTY OF THE MURDER OF SWITZ GALLAND AND SETS HIM FREE

SPIKE COMES OUT OF THE COURT WEARING A LAWYER'S ROBE. HE IS TENSE AND SAD BECAUSE HE HAS JUST LOST A CASE FOR THE MURDER OF MR.SWITZ

JIM IS ALSO EXITING THE BUILDING SMILING AFTER PLEADING NOT GUILTY. THEY BOTH TAKE DIFFERENT ROUTES

SPIKE HEADS TOWARDS HIS MOTORCYCLE IN THE PARKING LOT

JIM HEADS TOWARDS THE MAIN EXIT.

SPIKE GETS ON HIS MOTORCYCLE AND IS STILL IN DISBELIEF THAT HE HAD LOST THE CASE. HE THINKS THAT JIM HAD COMMITTED THAT MURDER

SPIKE RIDES OFF ON HIS MOTORCYCLE TOWARDS HIS FAVORITE TEA STALL

CUT TO:

SPIKE REACHES THE TEA STALL AND GOES TOWARDS THE SHOP OWNER TO ASK FOR A TEA AND A CIGARETTE.

WHILE PAYING, HE GLANCES TO HIS RIGHT. HE IS STUNNED. HE SEES JIM SITTING AMONG THE CUSTOMERS JUST CASUALLY SIPPING HIS TEA

SPIKE JUST STARES AT JIM FOR A LONG TIME. AFTER MAKING UP HIS MIND, HE SITS IN THE CHAIR RIGHT IN FRONT OF JIM.

JIM RECOGNIZES HIM BUT HE PRETENDS NOT TO.

SPIKE

(BLOWING SMOKE OUT OF HIS MOUTH)

SO, NOT GUILTY HUH?

JIM

(SIPPING HIS TEA)

(TRYING TO IGNORE HIM)

IT IS WHAT THE JUDGE SAID, AM I RIGHT?

SPIKE

(WITH SLIGHT GRUDGE IN HIS TONE)

I DON'T CARE WHAT THE JUDGE OR THE JURY THINKS

JIM

(SLIGHTLY SMIRKING-SIPPING HIS TEA)

WHY, YOU THINK I DID IT?

SPIKE

(BLOWING OUT A SMOKE)

YES, A MATTER OF FACT, I DO THINK YOU DID IT.

JIM

(SMIRKING- PLACES HIS CUP ON THE TABLE)

AND WHAT MAKES YOU THINK THAT?

SPIKE

(NOW CURIOUS-BLOWING OUT ANOTHER SMOKE)

I DON'T HAVE ANY PROOF TO COME TO THAT CONCLUSION. IF I DID,
THEN YOU WOULDN'T BE SIPPING YOUR MILK TEA HERE. BUT I HAVE A
FEELING.

JIM

(A LITTLE SERIOUS- PICKING HIS CUP)

THE JUDICIARY SYSTEM DOESN'T WORK ON PEOPLE'S FEELINGS,
MR. ADVOCATE

SPIKE

(NODDING SLIGHTLY-INHAILING SMOKE)

I KNOW THAT BUT I FEEL THE PROOF THAT THEY FOUND ARE TOO PERFECT
TO PROVE THAT YOU ARE NOT THE KILLER

JIM

(SMILING- PLACES HIS TEA)

SO YOU ARE SUSPICIOUS BECAUSE I'M NOT EVEN REMOTELY RELATED TO
HIS DEATH?

SPIKE

(NODS-PLACES HIS TEA)

YES, ACTUALLY.

ALL OF THAT IS TOO PERFECT TO HAVE HAPPENED

JIM

(NOW CURIOUS)

OK CAN YOU ELABORATE ON THAT?

SPIKE

(INHALES AND EXHALES SMOKE AGAIN)

YES, PLEASE

NOW IT WAS FOUND THAT YOUR BUSINESS PARTNER(MR.SWITZ)
DIED AROUND 11PM BUT YOU MIRACULOUSLY LEFT THE OFFICE AT 10?

JIM

(SIPPING HIS TEA)

YEAH.WE HAD TO WORK LATE THAT DAY TO PREPARE SOME DOCUMENTS BUT
I HAD SOME WORK AT HOME TOO SO I HAD TO LEAVE BEFORE MR.SWITZ
DIDN'T YOU SEE THE CCTV CAMERA FOOTAGE THAT WAS PRESENTED?

SPIKE

(THROWS THE CIGARETTE ON THE FLOOR AND STUBS IT)

YES, I SAW THAT FOOTAGE.

THAT WAS YOUR TICKET TO FREEDOM.

JIM

(SMIRKS)

YES OFCOURSE. THAT WAS THE PROOF THAT I WASN'T THERE WHEN HE DIED.

SPIKE

(WAVING TO THE STORE CLERK FOR ANOTHER CIGARETTE)

BUT MR.SWITZ DIED OF POISONING, ANYONE COULD'VE POISONED HIS TEA REGARDLESS OF BEING PRESENT DURING THE TIME OF DEATH OR NOT.

JIM

(STOPS SMIRKING-SIPS HIS TEA)

OFCOURSE BUT AFTER I WENT HOME, MANY PEOPLE ARE SEEN ENTERING THE BUILDING. IT COULD BE ANYONE WHO ENTERED THE BUILDING AFTER ME AND POSISONED HIM, BUT THAT DAY ONLY HE DRANK THE TEA.

SPIKE

(SIPPING HIS TEA)

I SEE YOUR POINT BUT NEITHER THE TEA POT OR THE SUGAR JAR HAD TRACES OF POISON ON THEM.

IT CONCLUDES THAT SOMEONE HAD POISONED HIS TEA CUP.

JIM

(SIPPING HIS TEA)

YES, THAT'S THE THING.

HE ALWAYS MADE HIS TEA BY HIMSELF. HE PREFERRED TO MAKE TEA HIMSELF BECAUSE HE BELIEVED THAT IT WAS THERAPEUTIC. SO, HE MADE IT HIMSELF EVERYDAY.

SPIKE

(INHALING SMOKE)

OH, AND HE SHARED THE TEA WITH EVERYONE IN THE OFFICE?

JIM

(NODDING)

YEAH, HE USED TO MAKE THE TEA BUT BECAUSE HE WAS DIABETIC, WE USED TO ADD SUGAR TO HIS BLAND TEA AND DRINK IT.

SPIKE

(STOPS SIPPING HIS TEA MIDWAY)

WAIT, HE WAS DIABETIC?

THAT WASN'T DISCLOSED IN COURT.

JIM

(SIPPING HIS TEA CASUALLY)

OH, BUT THE TEA THAT POISONED HIM HAD SUGAR.

OLD HABITS DON'T DIE I GUESS, HE SUED TO COMPLAIN HOW BLAND HIS TEA TASTED SO HE ADDED SUGAR ONCE IN A WHILE.

SPIKE

(SHOCKED-PLACES HIS CUP ON THE TABLE AND SMOKES A PUFF OUT OF HIS CIGARETTE)

WAIT, IT WAS NEVER DISCLOSED TO IN COURT THAT HIS TEA CONTAINED SUGAR.

HOW DID YOU KNOW?

JIM

(EYES WIDENED- TURNS PALE- STOPS SIPPING HIS TEA MIDWAY)
HE STARES AT SPIKE. HE IS SHOCKED. HE REALISED HIS MISTAKE. HE
DOESN'T SAY ANYTHING, HE PHYSICALLY CANNOT UTTER WORDS.

SPIKE

(PURE HORROR ON HIS FACE)

STARES BLANDLY AT JIM FOR A LONG TIME.

FADES OUT:

