



Scripts.com

Spotlight

By Tom McCarthy

1 INT. POLICE STATION, BOSTON - NIGHT, 1976 1

A quiet, cold winter night. An OLDER COP emerges from an INTERVIEW ROOM, walks down a long hall.

Boston, MA - December, 1976

He reaches the front desk. A YOUNG COP looks to him, curious, as he lights a cigarette.

YOUNG COP:

How's that going?

OLDER COP:

The mother's bawling and the uncle's pissed off.

YOUNG COP:

She's not married?

OLDER COP:

Divorced with four kids. I guess
Father was helping out.

YOUNG COP:

Helping out?

The Older Cop shrugs. The front door opens and BURKE, FRESH FACED, 32, walks in. He wears a dark overcoat.

OLDER COP:

Hey, Mr. Burke. They're in the back
talking to the Bishop.

BURKE:

And Father?

The Older Cop nods in the other direction.

OLDER COP:

We put him in the break room.

BURKE:

Any press?

OLDER COP:

Some guy from the Citizen, but we
sent him away. None of the big
papers.

BURKE:

Let's keep it that way.

Burke walks toward the interview room.

YOUNG COP:

(off Burke)

Who's that?

OLDER COP:

Assistant DA.

YOUNG COP:

Gonna be hard to keep the papers
away from the arraignment.

OLDER COP:

What arraignment?

He's matter of fact. The young cop reacts, looks towards the
PRIEST (GEOGHAN) sitting in the break room.

OLDER COP (O.C.) (CONT'D)

You can tell Father Geoghan it won't
be much longer.

2 OMITTED 2

3 INT. POLICE STATION, INTERVIEW ROOM - MOMENTS LATER 3

A BISHOP, 50s, talks in hushed tones with SHEILA, 33. TWO
BOYS, 7 and 9, sit coloring.

BISHOP:

Sheila, you know what good work the
church does in the community. I
give you my personal guarantee that
I'm going to take Father out of the
parish and this will never happen
again.

Burke enters, eyes Sheila nervously fingering ROSARY BEADS.

BISHOP (CONT'D)

We'll just be another moment, Paul.

BURKE:

Of course, Father.

The Bishop turns back to Sheila. Burke eyes the kids.

BISHOP (O.C.)

Now Sheila, I'm going to give you my

personal card...

11/26/14 2.

4 EXT. POLICE STATION - LATER 4

The Young Cop stands outside smoking. He watches as the Bishop and Father Geoghan exit the police station and get into a TOWN CAR, a DRIVER behind the wheel. As they drive away, we HOLD ON the cop. PROCESSING.

FADE TO BLACK.

SPOTLIGHT:

FADE IN:

6 INT. BOSTON GLOBE, NEWSROOM - DAY, 2001 6

A large newsroom. REPORTERS and EDITORS gathered.

Boston, MA - July, 2001

DEPUTY MANAGING EDITOR BEN BRADLEE JR., 50s, gruff, stands in front with an older reporter, STEWART, 60s. And a cake.

BEN:

Losing good reporters, it's tough.

And losing one of our best... well

to put it as eloquently as I can,

it's a real kick in the ass.

A few polite chuckles from those in the crowd.

BEN (CONT'D)

But Robby's known Stewart longer

than most of you have been alive so

I'm gonna turn it over to him.

Robby?

Ben looks to WALTER 'ROBBY' ROBINSON, 55, Boston Everyman.

ROBBY:

Thanks, Ben. I think. And although

I take issue with the reference to

my seniority, I will say Stewart's

departure is especially painful for

me. You see, for... what? 20 years

now, Stewart's been more than

willing to part with his money at

the poker table...

(Laughter)

And I got a kid in college.

More laughter.

STEWART:

Yeah, but I'm gonna keep playing.

11/26/14 3.

ROBBY:

Problem solved. Godspeed, buddy.

Everyone's laughing now. Robby connects in a warm, easy way.

ROBBY (CONT'D)

Now, Stewart, I find the timing of your departure a bit disconcerting.

The corner office sits empty, the new editor arrives on Monday, so

forgive me, buddy, but I gotta

ask... what the hell do you know?

The room hoots and laughs. Stewart covers his mouth. Speak no evil. More laughter takes us to...

7 INT. GLOBE, HALL/STAIRWELL - LATER 7

SACHA PFEIFFER, 28, wholesome, no bullshit, and MATT CARROLL, mid 40s, mustache, family man, walk down the hall, into a stairwell and down a set of stairs, both carrying cake.

7A INT. GLOBE, HALL OUTSIDE SPOTLIGHT - MOMENTS LATER 7A

They emerge on the floor below, Sacha eating her cake.

MATT:

How's the cake?

SACHA:

It's really good. Saving yours?

MATT:

Nah, it's for Mike. I can never eat at those things. They kind of depress me.

SACHA:

I know.

(taking a bite)

You see the numbers from Washington?

MATT:

Yeah. Very interesting.

SACHA:

I think so too.

They walk into --

8 INT. GLOBE, SPOTLIGHT OFFICE - CONTINUOUS 8

CRAMPED OFFICE. Small windows. MIKE REZENDES, late 30s, good looks, so-so haircut, sits at his UNHOLY MESS of a desk.
11/26/14 4.

MIKE (INTO PHONE)

Uh huh. Uh huh. Uh huh. Dan, I talked to my guy at Justice, I know you guys have been dropping cases...
(then)

Look, Dan, I'm not asking if the PD's lying, I know they are. All I'm asking is who's behind it?

Matt sets the cake by Mike, sits at a desk full of FAMILY PHOTOS. Sacha checks messages at a tidy desk, full of books.

MIKE (INTO PHONE) (CONT'D)

I get it. You don't want to talk.
(listens)

I'm not mad, Dan, I'm hungry. We've been talking so long, I missed lunch. So I'm going to go eat, which gives you an hour to decide if you want to be on the right side of this or read about it in the paper like everyone else.

Mike hangs up the phone, digs into the cake.

SACHA:

You think Cahill's got something?

MIKE:

Maybe, I just don't think this story's for us.

MATT:

Ben likes it.

MIKE:

Yeah, it's not bad, it's just not Spotlight.
Robby enters.

ROBBY:

What's just not Spotlight?

SACHA *

The PD numbers. *

MIKE:

The numbers story. It feels
thin.

ROBBY (CONT'D)

Oh. You got Cahill to talk?

MIKE:

(busted)

No. But I will.

11/26/14 5.

ROBBY:

Good. Then we'll know if it's thin.

Robby goes into his office, bit of an edge to him.

MIKE:

How'd it go upstairs?

MATT:

Okay. Robby gave a good speech.

SACHA:

I heard Lubin and Connor are going
to the Times.

MATTY:

Come on, really?

MIKE:

Yeah, I heard the same thing.

MATT:

They're leeching us.

MIKE:

At least they're sending us a guy
from Miami to run things. That
should help.

MATT:

Has Baron even spent time in Boston?

MIKE:

I don't think he's ever been here before. Maybe we should buy him a map.

SACHA:

I have a friend down at the Herald, said Baron cut 15% of the staff.

MATT:

Great.

Mike rolls his chair back, calls out to Robby in his office.

MIKE:

Hey Robby, the new boss coming in to make cuts?

ROBBY:

I have no idea.

MIKE:

Aren't you sitting down with him?

Robby looks up, fucking Rezendes, always snooping.

11/26/14 6.

ROBBY:

Yes, I am.

MIKE:

You think it's about Spotlight?

ROBBY:

I don't know, Mike, but I do know

Ben needs an answer on the crime numbers story.

MIKE:

I'm telling you, I really don't think that story's for us.

ROBBY:

So you did get Cahill to talk then?

Mike, annoyed, wheels back to his desk, picks up his phone...

10 INT. FOUR SEASONS HOTEL, RESTAURANT - LATER 10

Marty sits at a table reading "The Curse of the Bambino," a NOTEPAD beside him.

ROBBY:

Mr. Baron.

Marty looks up and rises to greet Robby.

ROBBY (CONT'D)

Walter Robinson. Robby.

MARTY:

Thanks for taking time out of your weekend, Robby.

ROBBY:

My pleasure.

(they sit)

What are you reading?

Marty holds up a book.

MARTY:

'The Curse of the Bambino.'

ROBBY:

(sitting)

That's a great book. The Globe has season tickets at Fenway, once you settle in.

11/26/14 7.

MARTY:

Thank you. Uh, to be honest, I'm not much of a baseball fan. I'm just trying to get a feel for city. Are you originally from Boston?

ROBBY:

I am, born and raised. A lot of the newsroom is from here. It really feels like a local paper in that way.

MARTY:

And did that change at all after the

paper was sold to the Times?

ROBBY:

No. I don't think that had a big impact.

MARTY:

Good.

(then)

So, you're an editor for, uh, the Spotlight team?

ROBBY:

I prefer to think of myself as more of a player-coach. But yes. Are you familiar with Spotlight?

MARTY:

No. Not particularly.

ROBBY:

Well, we're a four person investigative team. We report to Ben Bradlee Jr. and we keep our work confidential.

MARTY:

What are you working on now?

ROBBY:

We just put out a piece on this shoddy construction outfit and right now we're trolling around for our next story.

MARTY:

How long does that typically take?

ROBBY:

Hard to say. A couple of months.
11/26/14 8.

MARTY:

A couple of months.

ROBBY:

Yeah, we don't like to rush it.

Once we settle on a project, we can spend a year or more investigating it.

Marty jots down some notes. Robby sees he's writing a lot.

ROBBY (CONT'D)

Is that a concern?

MARTY:

Not necessarily. Uh, but from what I understand readership is down, the Internet is cutting into the Classified business and, uh, I think, uh, I'm going to have to take a hard look at things.

ROBBY:

So you anticipate more cuts?

MARTY:

I would assume so, yes, but what I'm more focused on right now is finding a way to make this paper essential to its readers.

ROBBY:

I'd like to think it already is.

MARTY:

Fair enough. I just think we can do better.

Off Robby --

12A EXT. BOSTON GLOBE - DAY 12A

The front of the Globe. Marty gets out of a cab, shuts the door. He walks inside.

13 INT. GLOBE, NEWSROOM - DAY 13

Ben strides across the newsroom. Robby falls in.

ROBBY:

Mr. Bradlee.

11/26/14 9.

BEN:

Hey. Saw the email on the PD numbers. Looks interesting.

ROBBY:

Yeah. There's something there.

BEN:

How much longer you need?

ROBBY:

Another week.

BEN:

(realizing)

Where are you going?

ROBBY:

To the 10:

BEN:

You? Since when?

ROBBY:

Technically, I am an editor.

BEN:

Technically. Your sit-down with Baron go that well?

ROBBY:

I couldn't get a read on him.

BEN:

That's a first.

ROBBY:

How 'bout you?

BEN:

(shrugs)

He's a barrel of laughs.

14 INT. GLOBE, LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM - LATER 14

Editors around a horseshoe table, side seats filled. It's QUIET, nervous eyes on Marty, who reads some notes. Ben and editor HELEN DONOVAN, 50s, to either side. Robby sits off to the side, WATCHING.

HELEN DONOVAN:

Morning everyone. Let's get started.
Do you want to say something, Marty?
11/26/14 10.

MARTY:

Uh, sure.
(to the group)
Hello. As most of you know by now,
my name is Marty Baron, I'm
delighted to be here. If you can
tell me your name as we go around,
that would be helpful.
Marty looks back to his notes.

HELEN DONOVAN:

Okay. Peter?
Ben nods to METRO EDITOR PETER CANELLOS, 40s.

CANELLOS:

Peter Canellos, Metro. We've got a
major Big Dig closure that's just
been scheduled for early August...
Marty makes notes. Off Ben and Robby, trading a look.
15 INT. GLOBE, NEWSROOM - LATER 15
Mike, cuppa coffee, walks over to STEVE KURKJIAN's desk. 60s.

MIKE:

Hey Steve. Crappy game last night.

KURKJIAN:

They can't hit worth a nickle.
Mike looks toward the conference room of editors.

MIKE:

What's Eileen McNamara doing in the

10:

KURKJIAN:

Do you need something, Mike?

MIKE:

No. Just curious.

KURKJIAN:

I got work to do. Go be curious
somewhere else, will you?

16 INT. GLOBE, LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM - LATER 16

The meeting is wrapping up.

11/26/14 11.

SPORTS EDITOR:

...and it looks like Pedro's gonna
be out until September 1st. Jimmy
says he'll be back this year, but
the doc didn't seem so sure.

BEN:

When's the Pats opener?

Laughter. Except Marty.

MARTY:

Is that everyone?

HELEN:

Yes, that's it.

MARTY:

Great, thank you. Uh, did everyone
read Eileen McNamara's column this
weekend?

The room reacts. Huh? Editors look at EILEEN MCNAMARA, 50s.

HELEN:

That's the Geoghan case?

MARTY:

Yes, what's the folo on that?

BEN:

It's a column, what kind of folo
were you thinking?

MARTY:

Well, apparently this priest molested kids in six different parishes over the last thirty years and the attorney for the victims, Mr...

EILEEN:

Garabedian.

MARTY:

Thanks, Eileen. Mr. Garabedian says Cardinal Law found out about it fifteen years ago and did nothing.

CANELLOS:

I think that attorney's a bit of a crank. And the Church dismissed the claim.

11/26/14 12.

EILEEN:

He said, she said.

MARTY:

Whether Mr. Garabedian is a crank or not, he says he has documents that prove the Cardinal knew.

BEN:

As I understand it, those documents are under seal.

Silence. No one knows what to do. Robby watches.

MARTY:

Okay, but the fact remains, we have a Boston priest abused 80 kids, we've got a lawyer who says he has proof Law knew about it, and we've written all of...

(checking his notes)

...two stories on this in the last six months?

(then)

This strikes me as an essential story for a local paper. At the very least, we should be going after those documents.

CANELLOS:

How would you like to do that?

MARTY:

Well, I don't know what the laws are here, but in Florida we would go to court.

Robby raises an eyebrow. In fact, the whole room does.

BEN:

You want to sue the church?

MARTY:

Technically we wouldn't sue the Church. We would file a motion to lift the seal on those documents.

BEN:

The church will read that as us suing them. So will everybody else.

MARTY:

Good to know.

11/26/14 13.

Off Robby, intrigued --

17 INT. GLOBE, BEN'S OFFICE - LATER 17

Ben and Robby walk into Ben's office.

ROBBY:

Gutsy call for the first day.

BEN:

That's one word for it.

ROBBY:

How do you think it's gonna play down front?

BEN:

I think Gilman's gonna shit a brick.
Knock. Knock. Mike's at the door.

MIKE:

Hey.

BEN:

Door.
Mike shuts the door, looks at Robby.

MIKE:

How'd it go?

ROBBY:

Baron wants to sue for the sealed
docs in the Geoghan case.

MIKE:

He wants to sue the church? That's
great.

BEN:

We covered Geoghan when the story
broke three years ago. Baron was
still in Miami.

ROBBY:

(needling Ben)
I think he was at the Times then.

BEN:

He wasn't here.

MIKE:

You think the suit has a chance?
11/26/14 14.

ROBBY:

Depends on the judge.

BEN:

And what parish he belongs to.
Ben's phone RINGS. Ben picks it up.

BEN (CONT'D)

Bradlee. Yeah. Okay.

(hanging up, to Robby)

Baron wants to talk to us.

ROBBY:

Us?

Off Robby, surprised --

18 INT. GLOBE, MARTY'S OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER 18

Ben and Robby enter. Marty's on the phone.

MARTY (INTO PHONE)

Okay, thank you. Yes. Okay, thanks.

Marty hangs up as they sit.

MARTY (CONT'D)

I set up a meeting for tomorrow with
outside counsel...

BEN:

Jon Albano?

MARTY:

Yeah.

BEN:

Who's the Judge on this case?

MARTY:

Uh, Constance Sweeney.

BEN:

Tough.

MARTY:

Why's that?

BEN:

Good Catholic girl.

Marty pushes on.

11/26/14 15.

MARTY:

Judging from what I've read, it
doesn't seem like we've done a
thorough investigation of the

Geoghan case. Is that right?

BEN:

No it's not. We looked hard at Geoghan. David Armstrong for Metro and Michael Paulson for Religion. Marty isn't impressed.

MARTY:

Okay, but, uh, just so I understand, beyond our daily coverage, we haven't committed any long term investigative resources to the question of whether or not Cardinal Law knew about this?

BEN:

No, we haven't.

MARTY:

(to Robby)

And that's the kind of thing your team does?

ROBBY:

Spotlight? Well, yeah, but we're still prospecting the Boston PD story I told you about.

MARTY:

Could you set it aside?

ROBBY:

We could.

BEN:

Marty, in the past, Spotlight has had success in large part because they pick their own projects.

MARTY:

Would you consider picking this one?

19 INT. GLOBE, SPOTLIGHT OFFICE - LATER 19

Mike, Sacha, Matt all working. Sacha on the phone.

11/26/14 16.

SACHA (INTO PHONE)

I don't know if he's writing about you but I will let him know you called. Okay. Bye.

Sacha hangs up as Robby enters.

MIKE:

Hey, how'd it go?

ROBBY:

Okay. Baron wants us to scrub the Geoghan case.

MIKE:

That's great. MATTY

Didn't we cover Geoghan?

ROBBY (CONT'D)

There's a lawyer alleging Cardinal Law knew about it.

SACHA:

Mitch Garabedian, right? I covered him at the courthouse.

ROBBY:

Can you get to him?

SACHA:

I only interviewed him once. He's kind of a character.

MIKE:

I like characters. I'll take him.

ROBBY:

He's yours. Also, we should talk to the lawyer who repped the victims in the Porter case. Eric MacLeish.

MATT:

That guy was always on TV.

SACHA:

The Porter case? Remind me?

MIKE:

Father Porter, similar story,
molested dozens of kids in Fall
River about ten years ago.

MATT:

So we're dropping the Boston PD?
11/26/14 17.

MIKE:

I vote yes.

ROBBY:

No, we're just setting it aside for
now. I don't need to tell you guys,
we need to be more discreet than
usual. Everybody's gonna be
interested in this, not just the
Herald. I don't want the Chancery
getting wind of this before we know
what we have.

MATT:

Good luck with that.

They reach for phones and computers, Robby leaves them to it.

20 EXT. SACHA'S GRANDMOTHER'S HOUSE, SOUTHIE - NIGHT 20

The quiet street dips down, disappearing into the harbour.

Sacha and Hansi get out of their car, cross the street.

21 INT. SACHA'S GRANDMOTHER'S HOUSE, DINING ROOM - NIGHT 21

A cozy dining room. Sacha, her GRANDMOTHER and her husband
HANSI finish dinner. Sacha's grandmother wears a gold cross.

SACHA:

When are you leaving, Nana?

NANA:

The bus is picking us up in the
church parking lot at nine o'clock.
We have forty people going.

SACHA:

Is Father Dominic going?

NANA:

No. He said, he's very unlucky. But luck has nothing to do with it. Hansi can't help but smile.

SACHA:

Nana won a hundred and sixty dollars last time.

HANSI:

Wow.

11/26/14 18.

22 INT. SACHA'S GRANDMOTHER'S HOUSE, KITCHEN - NIGHT 22

Hansi and Sacha wash dishes. They talk quietly.

HANSI:

You gonna tell her?

SACHA:

We don't even know if there's a story yet.

HANSI:

"Globe sues church?" There's gonna be a story.

Sacha continues rinsing, glances at the small, porcelain Virgin Mary on the window sill above the sink.

23 INT. GLOBE, LARGE PUBLISHER'S FOYER - DAY 23

Marty ascends a large, open air staircase in the upscale business side of the building. He steps off, heads down the hall then stops, looks around. Lost in his own building. A YOUNG EMPLOYEE walks past.

MARTY:

Excuse me, do you know where the Publisher's office is?

The employee points. Marty heads that direction.

24 INT. GLOBE, PUBLISHER'S OFFICE - DAY 24

RICHARD GILMAN, 50s, Brooks Brothers suit, finishes a call.

Marty is sitting on a couch in large, plush office opposite.

GILMAN (INTO PHONE)

Thanks, Tom. Will do.

(hangs up, to Marty)

How are you, Marty? Settling in?

MARTY:

Yes, I think so.

GILMAN:

Good. What can I do for you?

MARTY:

I'd like to challenge the protective order in the Geoghan case.

GILMAN:

You want to sue the Catholic Church?
11/26/14 19.

MARTY:

We're just filing a motion. But yes.

GILMAN:

You think it's that important?

MARTY:

Yes. I do.

GILMAN:

Because, obviously, the Church will fight us very hard on this. Which won't go unnoticed by our subscriber base. 53% of them are Catholic.

MARTY:

Uh, I think they'll be interested.
Gilman considers for a long moment, looks unsettled.

GILMAN:

Okay.

Marty nods, gets up to go.

GILMAN (CONT'D)

Marty? Lake Street will probably contact you about a face to face with the Cardinal. It's customary.

MARTY:

They already have. It's set up for next week.

GILMAN:

I wouldn't mention this.

24A INT. GLOBE - DAY 24A

Matt walks down a row of cubicles, disappears down a spiral staircase.

24B INT. BOSTON GLOBE LIBRARY - CONTINUOUS 24B

Matt descends the staircase and arrives at the front desk.

MATT:

Hey Lisa. Could you pull all the relevant clips on that for me?

He hands her a sheet of paper. She looks at it. Reacts.

LISA:

Yeah. This is for Spotlight?

11/26/14 20.

MATT:

Just drop them off when they're ready, thanks.

Matt walks off.

25 INT. MITCHELL GARABEDIAN'S OFFICE - DAY 25

Mike steps off an elevator and into a DUMP of an office. He eyes a small reception desk covered with FILE BOXES.

MIKE:

Hello. Hello?

Mike peeks through an open door... a small office, crammed FLOOR TO CEILING with BOXES, each with GEOGHAN written on it.

PARALEGAL:

Can I help you?

Mike turns. A PARALEGAL pokes her head out of a cubicle.

MIKE:

Oh. Hi. I'm Mike Rezendes from the Boston Globe. I'm here to see Mitchell Garabedian.

PARALEGAL:

He's on a call. Please have a seat.

Mike grabs a seat, checks his watch. He hears YELLING coming from behind a closed door. Garabedian?

26 INT. ONE INTERNATIONAL PLACE, LOBBY - DAY 26

Robby and Sacha stride across an enormous, marble and stone lobby, a STARK CONTRAST to Garabedian's digs.

27 OMITTED 27

28 INT. GREENBERG TRAUIG, CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY 28

ERIC MACLEISH, 40s, good looks, quick with a story and a smile, walks into the posh room, finds Sacha and Robby.

ERIC MACLEISH:

The famous Walter Robinson in my conference room.

MacLeish and Robby shake hands.

11/26/14 21.

ROBBY:

Good to see you again, Eric. Sacha Pfeiffer, Eric MacLeish.

ERIC MACLEISH:

Nice to meet you. Do you play golf?

SACHA:

(caught off guard)

Uh, no.

ERIC MACLEISH:

Good. Your colleague took some money off me at a charity event last year.

ROBBY:

Lucky putt. I actually had my eyes closed.

MacLeish smiles. Chummy.

ERIC MACLEISH:

So, how can I help you?

ROBBY:

You're familiar with the Geoghan case?

ERIC MACLEISH:

Sure. Eighty plaintiffs. All individual cases, Garabedian must be swimming.

ROBBY:

And the allegations against Cardinal Law?

MacLeish considers the question.

ERIC MACLEISH:

Look, it's tricky. You need to understand these are shitty cases. The statute of limitations is only 3 years and most of these victims don't come forward until long after that.

SACHA:

Why is that?

11/26/14 22.

ERIC MACLEISH:

They're kids. Shame. Guilt. And they come from tough neighborhoods, nobody wants to admit this kind of thing. So you're screwed on the time limit and even if you argue your way around that, the charitable immunity statute caps damages at twenty grand.

SACHA:

Twenty grand for molesting a child?

ERIC MACLEISH:

That's the way the system works. The Church is tough. So your best shot is to try these cases in the press like I did on Porter. But most victims want nothing to do with being on TV. And Mitch isn't exactly a people person.

ROBBY:

So if Garabedian can't get these victims to talk to the press...

ERIC MACLEISH:

Then he has a long road ahead of him. My guess? He doesn't have anything on Law.

SACHA:

You think he's bluffing?

ERIC MACLEISH:

I think he's grandstanding to cut a better deal.

ROBBY:

Seems a bit reckless.

ERIC MACLEISH:

Have you met Mitch Garabedian?

29 INT. GARABEDIAN'S OFFICE - LATER 29

Mike, still waiting, checks his watch. He hears more YELLING behind the door. Suddenly the door opens. A SHORT MAN exits. Mike looks at the paralegal, points: "Is that him?" She shakes her head, walks off screen. Mike watches her go. Then, impatient, he stands, walks into --
11/26/14 23.

30 INT. GARABEDIAN'S OFFICE, CONFERENCE ROOM - CONTINUOUS 30
A small boardroom. MITCHELL GARABEDIAN, thin, 50s, sits at a table buried in paperwork. He's abrasive, to say the least.

MIKE:

Hi.

GARABEDIAN:

Who are you?

MIKE:

Mike Rezendes from the Boston Globe.
I had an appointment with you about an hour ago.

GARABEDIAN:

I can't talk to you, I'm very busy.

(calling to reception)
Sharon?!

MIKE:

Sharon went out for coffee, she said
she'd be right back, I'm following
up on an article...

GARABEDIAN:

The one in the Phoenix?

MIKE:

No. In the Globe.

GARABEDIAN:

Did you see the one in the Phoenix?

MIKE:

No, I didn't.

GARABEDIAN:

I thought it was very good. I have a
copy here somewhere.
He starts to dig through the heap of papers.

MIKE:

That's okay. I'll track it down. I'm
actually following up on a column
that Eileen McNamara wrote for the
Globe about your suit.

GARABEDIAN:

Suits. There are eighty-four of
them, it's not a class action. You
should get your facts straight.
11/26/14 24.
True to word. Garabedian is a bit of crank.

MIKE:

You're right. I should. I'm just
trying to get some background
information on the Geoghan case...

GARABEDIAN:

You're not recording this are you?

MIKE:

No, I wouldn't do that without asking.

GARABEDIAN:

(brusque)

I can't show you the Church documents if that's what you're after, they're under seal.

MIKE:

I know that.

GARABEDIAN:

Do you know they've tried to bring me before the Massachusetts Board of Bar Overseers three times? They're watching me very closely.

MIKE:

The Church?

GARABEDIAN:

Yes, the Church. They'd like to get me disbarred. In fact, put that away.

(off Mike's pad)

Put it away! I don't want you recording this in any way, shape or form. Not on paper, not on tape, nothing. In fact, I probably shouldn't even be speaking to you.

MIKE:

Look, Mr. Garabedian, I know there are things you can't tell me. But I also know that there's a story here. And I think it's an important story.

GARABEDIAN:

I already talked to the Phoenix.
11/26/14 25.

MIKE:

Yeah, and there's a reason I didn't see it, nobody reads the Phoenix anymore. They're broke, they don't have any power. The Globe does. And if we cover this story, everybody will hear about it.

GARABEDIAN:

The Church thinks in centuries, Mr. Rezendes. You think your paper has the resources to take that on?

MIKE:

Yeah, I do. But if you don't mind me asking, do you?

Mike's question is non-threatening, but Garabedian reacts. He stands, walking Mike to the door...

GARABEDIAN:

I don't have the time to talk to you, Mr. Rezendes, I'm very busy.
(calling out)
Sharon!

But before he can push Mike out the door, Mike turns back --

MIKE:

Can I at least talk to some of your clients? The victims? I'd like to do that.

GARABEDIAN:

Call me tomorrow. I need to think about it.

31 INT. GLOBE, LIBRARY - DAY 31

A Button is pushed, CONTROL PANEL lights up.

A rotating library clip file comes to stop.

A few old newspaper clips are pulled.

A folder from the LARGE PHOTO clip file is pulled.

A Nexis search on a computer screen.

A Micro Fiche search on another screen.

A PRINTER spits out the Micro Fiche article.

11/26/14 26.

The PRINT OUT out is added to a STACK OF ARTICLES and dropped into a file marked Porter.

32 INT. GLOBE, HALLWAY - LATER 32

CLOSE ON the same file. Moving.

REVEAL the folder is now one of many on a METAL CART that an intern (WANDA) wheels down the hall.

33 INT. GLOBE, SPOTLIGHT OFFICE - LATER 33

A desk covered with old newspaper clips, Matt and Sacha read. A knock... Wanda in the door. With the metal cart.

WANDA:

I got more clips from the library.

MATT:

Leave 'em right there.

Wanda the intern unloads them beside Matt's desk.

WANDA:

You guys doing a story on the Church?

MATT:

No. We are not doing a story on the Church.

Wanda blanches, leaves. Robby pours some coffee.

SACHA:

Matt, you find anything on this guy Phil Saviano?

MATT:

No. Who is he?

SACHA:

He's part of a victims' organization. Kurkjian ran a story on him just after the Porter case.

ROBBY:

There's a victims' organization?

SACHA:

Yeah, it's called SNAP, Survivors Network of those Abused by Priests.

MATT:

Crummy acronym.

11/26/14 27.

SACHA:

You want me to track him down?

ROBBY:

Yeah. Bring him in. How much longer do you need to get through the clips?

SACHA:

A few days. There's a lot and Lisa's still sending stuff up. Most of it is on Porter.

MATT:

Hey guys... I think I got another priest.

Robby and Sacha turn. Matt stares down at a clip.

MATT (CONT'D)

Liam Barrett. Molested some kids in Philly then was moved to Boston, did the same thing then was moved again.

SACHA:

Really? Sounds like Geoghan.

ROBBY:

Is that one of our clips?

MATT:

Yeah. Byline's Diego Ribadeneira, 1997. Must've been back when he was working religion.

ROBBY:

Was there any folo?

MATT:

Not much. One short piece. Looks like the Church settled the case.

(then)

Don't you know Jim Sullivan?

ROBBY:

Yeah, why?

MATT:

Looks like the Church brought him in to help out.

Matt shows Robby the clip. Robby reads, surprised.

11/26/14 28.

34 EXT. FENWAY PARK - NIGHT 34

Establishing. From up above, a game in progress.

34A INT. FENWAY PARK - NIGHT 34A

Mike and Matt sit with Ben and Steve Kurkjian at the game. A called third strike and the crowd groans.

BEN:

Jesus. Has anybody but Manny gotten the ball out of the infield?

Matt, who's been scoring the game, checks.

MATT:

Nope.

MIKE:

I don't know why you bother with that thing.

MATT:

It distracts me from the game.

KURKJIAN:

Know what else is good for that?

Kurkjian holds up an empty beer cup. Matt stands.

MATT:

Good idea. My round. I'll be back.

Anybody want food?

MIKE:

Hot dog.

Matt heads off. Ben grabs some peanuts, turns to Mike.

BEN:

You guys making any progress?

MIKE:

Absolutely. It's a good story.

BEN:

Why? Cause you're another lapsed
Catholic pissed off at the Church?

MIKE:

We've got some good stuff.

BEN:

Like what?

11/26/14 29.

Mike glances over at Kurkjian.

KURKJIAN:

I'm just watching the game. Omerta.

MIKE:

We got another priest, Liam Barrett.

KURKJIAN:

We reported on him.

(off Mike's look)

We did, I'm just saying.

MIKE:

Okay, but the guy was shuffled from
parish to parish every few years,
just like Geoghan and Porter. I
think there's a pattern.
Ben looks at Kurkjian, who's not impressed.

BEN:

Sounds thin. What else you got?

MIKE:

Sacha found this guy from a victims'
organization, Phil Saviano.

KURKJIAN:

From SNAP? Oh boy. We reported on him too.

MIKE:

I thought you were watching the game, Steve?

KURKJIAN:

That guy's pretty banged up, Mike.

BEN:

We ran a couple stories on him, the guy would not stop writing letters.

KURKJIAN:

He wants a holy war.

MIKE:

So he's not worth taking to?

BEN:

Where are you on Garabedian?

MIKE:

I'm working on it.
11/26/14 30.

BEN:

Robby said MacLeish thinks he's bluffing.

MIKE:

I think there's something there, Ben.

BEN:

Get me something solid or I'm taking you off it. I don't want us chasing our tails on this.
Off Mike --

37 EXT. WOLLASTON GOLF CLUB, 8TH TEE, MILTON, MA - DAY 37
JIM SULLIVAN, 50s, lines up a tee shot. Smacks it. ROBBY and TWO OTHER GOLFERS watch as Jim talks to his ball...

JIM:

Stay away from that trap.

ROBBY:

You couldn't reach that trap in a million years, partner.

One of the other golfers (PAUL) tees up his ball.

JIM:

I've reached that trap before.

ROBBY:

Yeah. Now Paul, maybe.

The group laughs.

38 EXT. WOLLASTON GOLF CLUB, 8TH HOLE FAIRWAY - DAY 38

Robby and Jim walk down the fairway. Robby checks the card.

JIM:

How we doing?

ROBBY:

We're good. We're two up.

JIM:

Good.

(then)

How's the new editor working out?

11/26/14 31.

ROBBY:

Well, he doesn't like baseball. But he seems like a smart guy.

JIM:

Yeah, I just read an article about him. Said he's the first Jewish editor at the Globe.

ROBBY:

Must have been a slow news day.

JIM:

He got a family?

ROBBY:

No, he's not married.

JIM:

Divorced?

ROBBY:

Don't think so.

JIM:

So the new editor of the Boston
Globe is an unmarried man of the
Jewish faith who hates baseball?
Robby half smiles, shrugs.

JIM (CONT'D)

They should have given it to Ben.
He's a Bradlee for crying out loud.

ROBBY:

He didn't raise his hand fast
enough.

(then)

By the way, I was reading about this
priest, Father Barrett. Said you
were involved in the case.
Jim reacts, surprised.

JIM:

Barrett, yeah. Bad egg. Lake
Street asked for help, I pitched in.

ROBBY:

The victim said Cardinal Law knew
about Barrett when he came from
Philly.
11/26/14 32.

JIM:

You know I can't talk about the
case, Robby.

ROBBY:

Off the record?

JIM:

Off the record, I can't talk about it. Is this related to the lawsuit? Now Robby hides his surprise. He stops.

ROBBY:

You heard about that?

JIM:

Look, I don't know this guy Baron or what his agenda is and frankly I don't care, I just don't want you taking a bullet for him.

Jim heads off toward his ball. Off Robby, processing.

39 INT. BARBARA'S CAR, WOLLASTON PARKING LOT - LATER 39 Robby gets in. She pulls off.

BARBARA:

How'd you play?

ROBBY:

Not too bad. Shoulda left my putter at home.

BARBARA:

How's Jimmy?

ROBBY:

Good. He brought up the suit.

BARBARA:

Really? What'd he say?

ROBBY:

He was thrilled about it.

BARBARA:

It's not a surprise, Robby. The Church does a lot a good in this town.

Robby nods, but something about that doesn't sit right.

11/26/14 33.

40 EXT. MATT CARROLL'S HOUSE, WEST ROXBURY - SUNDAY MORNING 40

Matt, in coat and tie, shepherds his family out the door and

into a minivan. His wife and daughter wear DRESSES, his sons are in BLUE BLAZERS and KHAKIS -- clearly en route to church.

PRIEST (PRELAP)

The other day I was on the world wide web. Anything you want to know. It's right there.

41 INT. CHURCH, SOUTHWEST - DAY 41

Sunday mass. Full house. A PRIEST mid homily. In back, FIND Sacha, her husband, HANSI, and her GRANDMOTHER.

PRIEST:

Now as a priest, I admit, this makes me a little nervous. Should I be worried about job security?

Sacha watches her grandmother laugh with the congregation.

42 EXT. CHURCH/INT. DINER, SOUTH BOSTON - DAY 42

CONGREGANTS milling outside a church.

PRIEST (O.C.)

I don't think so. You see knowledge is one thing. But faith is another.

FIND Marty, sitting in a diner across the street, eating breakfast and reading. He glances at the church.

42A EXT. OLD HARBOR, DORCHESTER - DAY 42A

Mike, in running gear, runs along the water.

43 OMITTED 43

44 INT. GLOBE, NEWSROOM - LATER 44

Mike walks through the mostly empty newsroom.

45 INT. GLOBE, SPOTLIGHT OFFICE - DAY 45

Mike walks in, grabs a gym bag by his desk, pulls out a towel when he spots... Robby. Sitting in his office. Working.

46 INT. GLOBE, ROBBY'S OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER 46

Robby's looking over some of the clips Matt pulled.

11/26/14 34.

MIKE:

Hey. Shouldn't you be golfing?

Robby looks up. Mike's in the door, towel around his neck.

ROBBY:

Golfing's not a verb. And I couldn't get a tee time today.

MIKE:

Is that what they call it? A tee

time?

ROBBY:

They also call it a leisure activity. You should try it, Mike.

MIKE:

I run.

ROBBY:

You run to work.

Mike shrugs, true. He eyes the clips on Robby's desk.

MIKE:

So what are you doing here today?

ROBBY:

Looking at clips. On Saviano.

MIKE:

Ben and Steve think he's a dead end.

They gave me a bunch of crap about it at the game.

ROBBY:

Yeah, Ben emailed me.

MIKE:

He did?

ROBBY:

Yeah. He said we should let it go.

MIKE:

What do you wanna do?

ROBBY:

Bring Saviano in.

MIKE:

So just ignore those guys?

11/26/14 35.

ROBBY:

I think we have to start ignoring everybody on this one.

MIKE:

I'm good with that.

(then)

You think Baron has any idea what's coming down the Pike?

ROBBY:

No. I don't think he cares either.

MIKE:

That's refreshing.

ROBBY:

Yeah. Unless he's wrong.

Mike registers this.

47 EXT. LAKE STREET, CARDINAL'S RESIDENCE - DAY 47

An Audi A4 pulls up in a large parking lot. Marty gets out, looks up at the Cardinal's MASSIVE LAKE STREET MANSION.

CARDINAL LAW (PRELAP)

I've always been fascinated with the newspaper business.

48 INT. LAKE STREET, CARDINAL LAW'S PRIVATE STUDY - DAY 48

Mahogany bookshelves, leather furniture. CARDINAL LAW, large, 50s, wears a collar and sits across from Marty.

CARDINAL LAW:

I used to sit in on lectures with the Nieman fellows when I was at Harvard.

MARTY:

I, uh, read you were an editor once.
Law chuckles.

CARDINAL LAW:

Yes. A very long time ago. The Mississippi Register. Small, diocesan newspaper, but for a 30-year-old pastor it was a big responsibility. Too much at times.

MARTY:

How so?

11/26/14 36.

CARDINAL LAW:

I was close with the Evers brothers,
we took a stand on civil rights.
Our readership was not pleased.
They saw me as a meddling outsider.

MARTY:

I can imagine.

CARDINAL LAW:

Tough seat to sit in, especially in
a small town. I think you'll find
Boston's a small town too, Marty, in
many ways. But if I can be of any
help, don't hesitate to ask. I find
that this city flourishes when its
great institutions work together.

MARTY:

Uh, thank you. Personally I'm of
the opinion that for the paper to
best perform its function it needs
to, uh, stand alone.
Law reacts, surprised -- the rebuff almost feels unwarranted.

CARDINAL LAW:

Of course, but my offer stands.
A KNOCK on the door.
CARDINAL LAW (CONT'D)
Come in.

A SECRETARY slips in with a WRAPPED GIFT.

CARDINAL LAW (CONT'D)

Oh. Thank you, Maureen. A little
gift, Marty. Think of it as A
Cardinal's guide to Boston.

Law hands the gift to Marty. Who looks at it. Bemused.

49 INT. MARTY'S CAR (PARKED), LAKE STREET - LATER 49

Marty gets into to his car. He sits, unwraps the gift. A
thick book, THE CATECHISM OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH. Off Marty--

49A INT. GLOBE, LOBBY - DAY 49A

A MAN (SAVIANO) carrying a LARGE BOX walks up to reception.

SAVIANO:

I'm here to see Sacha Pfeiffer?

11/26/14 37.

GUARD:

Name?

SAVIANO:

Phil Saviano.

GUARD:

Okay, just a minute.

The guard picks up the phone, calls upstairs.

50 INT. GLOBE, ROBBY'S OFFICE - DAY 50

The entire team sits in Robby's small sitting area facing PHIL SAVIANO. Phil is mid-40s, thin and twitchy. He's got a medium sized BOX in front of him. He rifles through some papers on his lap.

SAVIANO:

So am I the first survivor you've talked to?

ROBBY:

Yes, Phil. You are.

SAVIANO:

Okay, well, first of all, let me say thank you for having me in today. I want you to know that you have the full cooperation of my organization, SNAP.

SACHA:

How many members are there in your organization, Phil?

SAVIANO:

We had eleven at our last chapter meeting. No ten. Karen just moved.

ROBBY:

There was a woman in your group?

SAVIANO:

Of course there was a woman. They don't discriminate, not when it comes to abuse. And this has nothing to do with being gay. What this is, is priests using the collar to rape kids. Kids. Boys and girls. He reaches into a file, pulls a PHOTO of himself as a kid.
11/26/14 38.

SAVIANO (CONT'D)

I was eleven. I was preyed upon by Father David Holley in Worcester. And I don't mean prayed for. I mean preyed upon. Are any of you Catholic?
The whole team looks at each other. Good question.

MATT:

I was raised Catholic but now I go to my wife's Presbyterian church.

SACHA:

I'm lapsed but I go to church with my grandmother sometimes.

ROBBY:

It's safe to say we were all raised Catholic but now...

MIKE:

Not so much.

SAVIANO:

Okay. Well, let me tell you, when you're a poor kid from a poor family, religion counts for a lot. And when a priest pays attention to you it's a big deal. He asks you to collect the hymnals or take out the trash, you feel special. It's like God asking for help. And maybe it's a little weird when he tells you a

dirty joke but now you got a secret together so you go along. Then he shows you a porno mag, and you go along. And you go along, and you go along, until one day he asks you to jerk him off or give him a blow job. And so you go along with that too. Because you feel trapped. Because he has groomed you. How do you say no to God, right?

This lands.

SAVIANO (CONT'D)

See, it's important to understand that this is not just physical abuse, it's spiritual abuse too. When priest does this to you, he robs you of your faith.

11/26/14 39.

(MORE)

So you reach for the bottle or the needle or if those don't work, you jump off a bridge. That's why we call ourselves survivors.

The team stares, gobsmacked. Phil pulls a book from the box.

SAVIANO (CONT'D)

Have you read Jason Berry's book? He wrote about the Gauthe case in Louisiana?

ROBBY:

We're not familiar.

SACHA:

That's G-U...

SAVIANO (CONT'D)

G-A-U-T-H-E. And talk to Richard Sipe. He worked in one of the Church's 'treatment' centers, he's an ex-priest, married a nun.

(pulling out a file)

Here, this is his testimony from the Kos case.

SACHA:

Phil, what's a treatment center?

SAVIANO:

It's where they send priests when they get caught. This is all right here in the box, I sent it all to you guys five years ago.

ROBBY:

To the Globe? Who'd you send it to?

SAVIANO:

I don't wanna say who, but they said they weren't interested.

MATT:

But Phil, we did run a couple of stories on you. I saw them in the clips.

SAVIANO:

Yeah but to be completely frank, it wasn't enough!

Robby and Mike trade a look as Phil takes a PACKET out of the box overflowing with tattered clips, articles and data CDs.

11/26/14 40.

SAVIANO (CONT'D)

SAVIANO (CONT'D)

You guys gotta understand, this is big. It's not just Boston, it's the whole country, the whole world. And it goes right up to the Vatican.

MIKE:

Do you have any proof of that, Phil?

SAVIANO:

No, not yet, but think about it, there are so many of them, how else could they have hidden it for so long?

MIKE:

So many what?

SAVIANO:

Priests! I know of thirteen right here in Boston.

ROBBY:

You know of thirteen priests who have molested children in Boston?

SAVIANO:

Yeah. Why do you keep repeating everything I say?

ROBBY:

I just like to clarify things.

SAVIANO:

Maybe you should have clarified it five years ago when I sent you all this stuff! It's all right here.

Phil's sudden anger catches the room off guard. He stares at the box, tries to pull himself together.

SAVIANO (CONT'D)

May I use your bathroom?

MATT:

Yeah. Sure, Phil. Come on.

Matt leads Phil out. A beat. Mike quickly starts shuffling through the packet.

SACHA:

What do you think?

11/26/14 41.

ROBBY:

He's got an agenda, that's for sure.

MIKE:

You think?

SACHA:

He's obviously been through a lot.

SACHA:

But he's smart and if he's right
about thirteen priests...

ROBBY:

Might be a big 'if' with this guy.
(then to Sacha)

Run background on him and follow up
with some of the other survivors in
his group.

MIKE:

I'll track down this ex-priest Sipe.

ROBBY:

Okay. But stay on Garabedian,
that's more important.

MIKE:

Garabedian's a pain in the ass.

ROBBY:

You can be a pain in the ass,
Michael.

52 EXT. STATE STREET, BOSTON - DAY 52

Garabedian walks down State Street. Mike falls in with him.

MIKE:

Mitch, what a surprise. How are you?

GARABEDIAN:

I'm fine, Mr. Rezendes.

The light changes and Garabedian walks. Mike tags along.

MIKE:

Good. You know, I never heard back
from you. I left you a couple
messages.

GARABEDIAN:

I've been very busy. I don't have
time for calls.

11/26/14 42.

MIKE:

Jeez, I'm sure you don't. Listen, Mitch, lemme talk to a couple of your victims... You can sit in on the interview, if you're not happy you can kill it.

GARABEDIAN:

I spoke to my clients, they don't want to be in the press. I'm sorry.

Garabedian walks into --

53 INT. GARABEDIAN'S BUILDING, LOBBY - CONTINUOUS 53

A shitty lobby, Mike follows Mitch in, continues --

MIKE:

I get that but I don't need to name names, Mitch.

GARABEDIAN:

I don't believe you, Mr. Rezendes.

Mitch walks to the elevator, presses the button.

MIKE:

Yeah, I'm sure you don't.

GARABEDIAN:

I don't.

The elevator opens. Mitch walks on. Mike follows him into --

54 INT. GARABEDIAN'S BUILDING, ELEVATOR - CONTINUOUS 54

The doors close. It's cramped, but Mike keeps going.

MIKE:

Listen, Mitch, I'm not writing a profile here. I'm working on something bigger.

GARABEDIAN:

Bigger, what does that mean?

MIKE:

I'm not supposed to tell you this, but I'm digging around for Spotlight.

This registers with Mitch.

11/26/14 43.

GARABEDIAN:

Spotlight's on this?

MIKE:

Yeah, we're looking into it. But I need some help, Mitch. You gotta let me talk to some of these victims. Please.

GARABEDIAN:

(beat, then)

Come back tomorrow. 9:30am.

MIKE:

Thank you.

Doors open. Garabedian walks out. Mike smiles. Got him.

55A EXT. CAFE FRANCESCA, SOUTH END - DAY 55A

Sacha walks up to a small cafe in the South end.

56 INT. CAFE FRANCESCA, SOUTH END - DAY 56

A small, bohemian cafe, mostly men. JOE CROWLEY, 42, heavy, boyish face, sits alone WATCHING the door. NERVOUS as shit. The door opens. Sacha walks in, pauses, looking around...

JOE CROWLEY:

Ms. Pfeiffer?

SACHA:

Joe?

He stands, almost knocking over his coffee. He starts to straighten the messy table, clean the crumbs all over it.

JOE CROWLEY:

Shoot. Sorry.

SACHA:

No, that's okay, no problem.

JOE CROWLEY:

Uh... please sit. Is this table okay? I had a muffin while I was waiting. Two actually. I eat when I'm nervous.

SACHA:

I do that too.

(then)

I hope I'm not late. Phil said one.

JOE CROWLEY:

No, you're fine. I got here early.

About an hour.

11/26/14 44.

SACHA:

Would you mind if I took some of
notes? Would that be alright?

57 INT. GARABEDIAN'S OFFICE, CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY 57

Mike and Garabedian sit with 25-year-old PATRICK MCSORLEY.
McSorley is good looking but ragged. Not outwardly nervous,
but he's got a high-pitched voice and an ADDICT'S ITCH.

MIKE:

You don't mind if I take some notes,
do you?

PATRICK MCSORELY

You gonna use my name?

GARABEDIAN:

No.

MIKE:

Not if you don't want me to.

PATRICK MCSORLEY

I just had a kid. He's only one but
I'm not sure I want him to know
about this.

MIKE:

Yeah. I get it.

GARABEDIAN:

You can stop this interview any time
you want, Patrick.

PATRICK MCSORLEY

Okay. Go 'head with your notes.

MIKE:

Where did you live when it first happened?

PATRICK MCSORLEY

In the projects, over in Hyde Park.

MIKE:

Over by the Stop & Shop?

PATRICK MCSORLEY

Yeah, you know it?

MIKE:

Yeah, I drove a cab for years. Opens early, bad coffee, right?

11/26/14 45.

PATRICK MCSORLEY

Yeah, I guess.

McSorley isn't having it.

MIKE:

How old were you? When it happened.

PATRICK MCSORLEY

I was twelve. My dad had just killed himself.

MIKE:

Jeez.

PATRICK MCSORLEY

He was a real piece of shit. And my mom, she wasn't so stable to begin with.

MIKE:

What do mean?

PATRICK MCSORLEY

I mean she was nuts. GARABEDIAN

She was schizophrenic.

PATRICK MCSORLEY

Same shit.

MIKE:

So how did you meet Geoghan?

PATRICK MCSORLEY

My sister saw him in the Dunkin'

Donuts. She tells him about my old man and he rushed right over. Patrick nervously itches at his arm as we CUT TO --
58 INT. CAFE FRANCESCA, SOUTH END - DAY 58
Joe talks very fast. He takes a big gulp of water.

JOE CROWLEY:

...and there was this nun, Sister Barbara, she ran this group for kids from troubled families.

SACHA:

Where was that?
11/26/14 46.

JOE CROWLEY:

St. Ambrose in Dorchester. She's the one who introduced me to Father Shanley. He was a street priest, long hair, very hip. He invited me to his apartment in Back Bay.

SACHA:

Where in Back Bay?

JOE CROWLEY:

Beacon Street. Are you from here?

SACHA:

I grew up in Ohio but my mom's from Southie.

JOE CROWLEY:

So you get it. I'd never even been to Back Bay.

SACHA:

What happened on that first visit?

JOE CROWLEY:

Well, he was very nice at first, very casual, very funny. And I think he could tell I was gay because he showed me this mobile he

had, like over a baby's crib? But with different words. Homosexual, bisexual, transsexual...

SACHA:

Did you know you were gay at the time, Joe?

JOE CROWLEY:

Yes, but that wasn't information I was sharing with anybody. Not in Dorchester.

SACHA:

Right. So, what happened when he showed you the mobile?

JOE CROWLEY:

Well, I was a little freaked out and I guess he could tell so he said, you know what will help is if we play strip poker. Of course I lost. And things went on from there.
11/26/14 47.

SACHA:

What happened specifically?

JOE CROWLEY:

Specifically, he molested me.

SASHA:

Joe, I think the language here is going to be very important. We can't sanitize this, just saying molest isn't enough. People need to know what actually happened.
Joe sits back, getting it as the waiter serves two coffees.

JOE CROWLEY:

Maybe we should get these to go.
59 INT. GARABEDIAN'S OFFICE, CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY 59
Mike sits with McSorley and Garabedian.
PATRICK MCSORLEY

Geoghan shows up and my mom, she's thrilled. I mean this was like God showing up, you know?

MIKE:

Sure. So what happened then?

PATRICK MCSORLEY

You really want to hear this shit?

MIKE:

Yeah, Patrick. I do.

Patrick is struggling a bit. But he continues.

PATRICK MCSORLEY

He offers to take me to get ice cream. He's a priest, I'm a kid, so I go.

MIKE:

Sure.

PATRICK MCSORLEY

So we're driving home and he starts patting my leg and then... his hand just slides up and he grabs my dick. I just froze up, I was fucking petrified. I couldn't move. I didn't know what to do, I was just a little kid.

11/26/14 48.

(MORE)

(then)

I never even touched my freakin' ice cream, it just melted down my arm.

MIKE:

Did you see him again after that?

PATRICK MCSORLEY

Yeah.

GARABEDIAN:

Alright, it's good. Let's stop there for now...

McSorley stares down at his hands. Trembling. Then he itches his arm. This time, Mike notes the HEROIN TRACKS.

60 EXT. TITUS SPARROW PARK, SOUTH END - DAY 60

Sacha and Crowley walk through Peter's Park. We can see the Cathedral in the distance. Crowley's a little less nervous.

JOE CROWLEY:

He said it was a way to make me more comfortable with my body.

SACHA:

And what happened next.

JOE CROWLEY:

...he took off his clothes and said I've been depressed, maybe you can cheer me up and give me a blow job. Classy guy.

SACHA:

And did you?

JOE CROWLEY:

Yeah. I know what you must be thinking, why I would ever do that with some creepy guy thirty years older than me. But you have to understand, this was the first time in my life that someone told me it was okay to be gay. And he was a priest.

SACHA:

So you had oral sex. Did you have intercourse as well?

11/26/14 49.

PATRICK MCSORLEY (CONT'D)

JOE CROWLEY:

Yes. Not then, but later. It really messed me up. I'm sober now but that was the beginning of it all. It's very confusing, you know, to be introduced to sex like that and then to be attracted to men... Joe tears up a bit. He stops, wipes his eyes.

JOE CROWLEY (CONT'D)

I'm sorry, I knew I was gonna do this. I'm sorry.

SACHA:

Don't be sorry. It's okay,
Joe. It's okay.

Joe notices the kids on the church playground.

JOE CROWLEY (CONT'D)

And of course there's a church right
here. And a playground.

Joe laughs nervously.

SACHA:

Joe, did you ever tell anyone?

JOE CROWLEY:

Like who, a priest?

61 INT. GARABEDIAN'S OFFICE, CONFERENCE ROOM - NIGHT 61

It's dark now. Mike's writing up some notes as McSorley puts
on his coat. Mike stands as McSorley heads for the door.

PATRICK MCSORLEY

Can I use your phone?

GARABEDIAN:

Yeah, you know where it is.

McSorley nods in thanks. Then turns to Mike.

PATRICK MCSORLEY

You can use my name if you want.

MIKE:

Thanks, Patrick.

PATRICK MCSORLEY

Don't thank me, just get that
asshole, will you?

He exits. Mike lets out a breath. It's a lot, even for him.

11/26/14 50.

GARABEDIAN:

He's one of the lucky ones.

(off Mike's look)

He's still alive.

61A INT. KITCHEN, SACHA'S GRANDMOTHER'S APARTMENT - DAY 61A

Sacha sits at the table looking through her notes. Her
grandmother is at the stove cooking.

Sacha notices something in her notes, stands and takes out her cell. She walks out while she dials.

SACHA'S GRANDMOTHER

Would you like a cup of tea, Sacha?

SACHA:

I'm fine, Nana. Thanks.

Sacha walks into --

61B INT. DINING ROOM, SACHA'S GRANDMOTHER'S APARTMENT - CONTINU601UBS

Sacha on her phone, looking over her notes.

JOE CROWLEY (OVER THE PHONE)

Hello?

SACHA (INTO PHONE)

Hi Joe, it's Sacha Pfeiffer.

JOE CROWLEY (OVER THE PHONE)

Hi Sacha. How are you?

SACHA (INTO PHONE)

I'm good, thanks. Listen, Joe, there's one thing that I wanted to follow up on. You talked to Phil Saviano about all this, right?

JOE CROWLEY (OVER THE PHONE)

Yeah. I went to a couple SNAP meetings.

SACHA (INTO PHONE)

Right. And did Phil ever suggest doing anything about it?

JOE CROWLEY (OVER THE PHONE)

No. The meetings weren't really about that. I mean, a couple of them had gone to a lawyer but I didn't think it was worth it.

11/26/14 51.

SACHA (INTO PHONE)

Why not?

JOE CROWLEY (OVER THE PHONE)

There were so many forms to fill out, it was overwhelming. And he said he could get only get me a small settlement.

SACHA (INTO PHONE)

Who said that?

JOE CROWLEY (OVER THE PHONE)

The lawyer.

SACHA (INTO PHONE)

So you did go to see a lawyer?

Sacha takes out her pen, starts taking notes.

JOE CROWLEY (OVER THE PHONE)

Yeah, but I didn't end up using him,

so I didn't think it was important.

I'm sorry. I'm not trying to hide anything.

SACHA (INTO PHONE)

No, I know, Joe. Do you remember his name? The lawyer?

JOE CROWLEY (OVER THE PHONE)

No. But maybe Phil would know. The guy was on TV a lot during the Porter case. He was handsome.

SACHA (INTO PHONE)

Was it Eric MacLeish?

JOE CROWLEY (OVER THE PHONE)

Yeah, that's it. MacLeish. I thought he was very handsome.

Off Sacha --

62AA INT. GLOBE, CANTEEN - NIGHT 62AA

Robby getting a coffee, paying. Matt enters.

MATT:

Hey.

ROBBY:

Hey.

11/26/14 52.

Matt heads for the Peanut M&Ms as Robby pays.

MATT:

I was just in the newsroom, Judge Sweeney set a date for the hearing.

ROBBY:

When?

MATT:

Two weeks. Canellos started a pool. Ten bucks to get in.

ROBBY:

Anyone picking the Globe?

MATT:

He's only taking bets on how fast
Sweeney rules against us.
Robby's phone rings.

ROBBY:

Huh.

He heads into the hall --

62A INT. GLOBE - LATER 62A

Robby picks up.

ROBBY (INTO PHONE)

Robby.

SACHA (OVER THE PHONE)

Hi, it's me. Did you get my message?

ROBBY (INTO PHONE)

I did. Looks like Father Shanley
could be our fourth priest.

SACHA (OVER THE PHONE)

I think he is.

ROBBY (INTO PHONE)

Did you follow up on MacLeish?

SACHA (OVER THE PHONE)

I just talked to Phil. He said
MacLeish dealt with a number of
these cases.

11/26/14 53.

62B INT. NANA'S HOUSE - LATER 62B

Sacha is alone at the dining room table.

ROBBY (INTO PHONE)

Guess he forgot to mention that.

SACHA (INTO PHONE)

I'm gonna go to the courthouse
tomorrow to see if I can find any
cases he settled against the church.

ROBBY (OVER THE PHONE)

Call me after you do. Good work.

Robby hangs up. Sacha sits there, spent, the day and the
story LANDING on her. Hard.

63 INT. GLOBE, BEN'S OFFICE - NIGHT 63

Ben packs up. A KNOCK. He turns, finds Robby with his bag.

ROBBY:

You wanted to chat?

BEN:

I'm late for a dinner. Walk me out.

64 INT. GLOBE, NEWSROOM - CONTINUOUS 64

Ben and Robby walk. Robby sees Marty in his office, working.

ROBBY:

Does he ever go home?

BEN:

Apparently not. I got guys who won't leave 'til he does, he's wearing out the goddamn newsroom.

Robby smiles.

BEN (CONT'D)

Where are we on Geoghan?

ROBBY:

Following up with more victims. I want to expand the investigation.

BEN:

Why?

11/26/14 54.

ROBBY:

We got a fourth priest. There might be as many as thirteen.

BEN:

Thirteen? Who's your source?

ROBBY:

Phil Saviano.

Ben stops.

BEN:

Christ, Robby, I told Mike --

ROBBY:

I know. I think Saviano might be legit, Ben.

BEN:

You wanna elaborate on that?

ROBBY:

No. Not yet. Just feels like this

is stacking up. That's my gut.

Robby doesn't embellish. The case is turning.

BEN:

Okay.

ROBBY:

Good. Thanks.

Robby walks off. Ben watches him go... then heads out --

65 INT. MIKE'S APARTMENT, EAST BOSTON - NIGHT 65

Mike opens the fridge when his phone RINGS. He picks up.

MIKE (INTO PHONE)

Hello.

SIPE (OVER THE PHONE)

Mr. Rezendes?

MIKE (INTO PHONE)

Yeah. Who's this?

SIPE (OVER THE PHONE)

It's Richard Sipe.

11/26/14 55.

MIKE (INTO PHONE)

Oh, hey Richard, thanks for calling.

Phil Saviano gave me your name, can

I ask you a few questions?

SIPE (OVER THE PHONE)

Of course.

Mike reaches for his bag, pulls out his pad and a pen.

MIKE (INTO PHONE)

Great. So Phil said you worked at

one of the church's treatment

centers in Baltimore...

SIPE (OVER THE PHONE)

Yes, that's right. The Seton

Psychiatric Institute. It was run

by the Daughters of Charity.

MIKE:

And when was that, Richard?

SIPE (OVER THE PHONE)

Well, I started my psychotherapy fellowship there in 1965 and I was there for five years, but I spent the next thirty studying abusive priests and their victims.

MIKE:

Really? That's been your sole focus?

SIPE:

Look, Mike, the church wants us to believe that it's just a few bad apples, but it's a much bigger problem than that.

MIKE:

How much bigger?

SIPE:

Well, based on the research, I would classify it as a recognizable psychiatric phenomenon.
As Mike starts scribbling, sucked back in...

MIKE:

That's big.

11/26/14 56.

66 INT. GLOBE, CAFETERIA - LATE MORNING 66

Eileen reads the paper, drinks a diet coke. Kurkjian sits nearby, working on a story and some eggs. Matt joins.

MATT:

Hey Mac, if I needed historical data on a priest, parishes he'd been assigned to, where would I find it?

EILEEN:

For Geoghan? It's all in the clips.
Lisa has the source material.

MATT:

Yeah, what if it was another priest?
One that hadn't been in the papers.

EILEEN:

You're looking at another priest?

KURKJIAN:

Who're you looking at?

Kurkjian looks over. Matt tries to focus on Eileen.

MATT:

Any ideas?

EILEEN:

Come on Matt, you're not going to tell me?

Matt stares at her. Then pulls back.

MATT:

I gotta get to a meeting. Thanks

Mac.

Matt beats a hasty retreat. Eileen and Kurkjian trade a look. Huh.

67 INT. GLOBE, LIBRARY - LATER 67

A HAND pulls a BOOK off a reference shelf. FIND LISA TUIITE, handing Matt the 2001 CATHOLIC CHURCH DIRECTORY.

LISA TUIITE:

The Archdiocese puts out an annual directory, every priest and parish.

MATT:

This is great. Do these go back any further than '98?

11/26/14 57.

LISA TUIITE:

Oh yeah. They go back to the 80's in the Mez. Beyond that, you gotta go to the BPL.

MATT:

In the Mez. Thanks, Lisa.

68 INT. GLOBE, LONG HALLWAY - DAY 68

Robby and Mike walk down the hall. Mike debriefs him, a little manic, not unaffected by what he's picked up.

MIKE:

He said they all target the same
kinda kid. Low income family,
absentee father, broken home...

They walk into --

69 INT. GLOBE, PRESSES - CONTINUOUS 69

It's early. The presses are relatively quiet.

MIKE:

And guys like Geoghan go after boys
not cause they prefer them, but
cause they're more ashamed, less
likely to talk. These guys are
predators, Robby. Sipe says he saw
dozens of them at Seton in the 60's.
He called it a "a phenomenon."

ROBBY:

Why didn't he go public?

MIKE:

He did, but the church has made a
huge effort to discredit him. Smear
campaigns, public statements by
prominent bishops. It's just like
Saviano said. And Garabedian.

ROBBY:

You getting anywhere with him?

MIKE:

More victims.

ROBBY:

You can't empty his pockets?

11/26/14 58.

MIKE:

I'll get him. I just need more
time.

ROBBY:

Come on, Mike, you gotta get him.

MIKE:

I'll get him, I'll get him.

They open a door, walk into --

70 INT. GLOBE, BASEMENT - CONTINUOUS 70

A dank basement, low fluorescents and rows of old books on cheap tin bookshelves. Robby and Mike react to the smell.

MIKE:

Jeez, what the hell is that smell?

MATT (O.C.)

There's a dead rat in the corner.

Mike and Robby find Matt beside a HUGE STACK OF BOOKS.

ROBBY:

What do we got?

MATT:

Church directories. It's every priest in Massachusetts, what parish they're assigned to...

MIKE:

These are official?

Mike and Robby grab directories, flipping through.

MATT:

Yeah. I figured they could help us track down the priests Saviano mentioned, maybe find more victims.

ROBBY:

(reads, squinting)

Can we turn on some more lights?

MATT:

I couldn't find the switch. You wanna borrow my glasses?

ROBBY:

No, I'm good.

11/26/14 59.

MIKE:

(off a directory)

1983, John Geoghan... St. Brendan's
in Dorchester. So we can see where
any priest was in any given year.

MATT:

(flips through another)

Exactly. I got him here at... huh.

ROBBY:

What?

MATT:

1980, the year he was pulled from
JP. It says he's on sick leave.

MIKE:

Come on. It actually says that?

Matt shows Mike. Robby urgently searches the directories.

ROBBY:

Where's 1991?

Robby finds the 1991 Directory and opens it. He searches...

ROBBY (CONT'D)

Barrett... Barrett... Liam Barrett..

I can't read this. Can you look up

Liam Barrett?

(handing it to Mike)

1991's the year they pulled him out
of Charlestown.

MIKE:

(reading)

Barrett, Liam. Sick leave.

He shows them. We see the designation. SICK LEAVE.

MIKE (CONT'D)

It's an official designation.

ROBBY:

Let's get these upstairs. And Matt,
let's check the priests Saviano gave
us.

They start to collect the directories. Robby's cell RINGS.

ROBBY (INTO THE PHONE) (CONT'D)

Robby.

11/26/14 60.

SACHA (OVER THE PHONE)

Hey, I'm down at the courthouse.

71 INT. SUFFOLK COUNTY COURTHOUSE, RECORDS ROOM - DAY 71

Sacha makes notes on a pad, a couple of files to one side.

SACHA (INTO PHONE)

Something's not right here.

A COURT CLERK (MARK) walks over.

COURT CLERK (MARK)

There's nothing on Shanley either,

Sacha.

SACHA:

Okay, thanks.

(into phone)

We need to talk to MacLeish again.

ROBBY (OVER THE PHONE)

Really. Why?

SACHA (INTO PHONE)

There's nothing here. There aren't
any records...

72 INT. GREENBERG TRAURIG, CONFERENCE ROOM - MORNING 72

Robby and Sacha have been waiting. Macleish enters.

ERIC MACLEISH:

Thanks for waiting, so sorry guys, I
got stuck on a call. What's up?

SACHA:

Mr. MacLeish, are you familiar with
a priest named Paul Shanley?

MacLeish looks at her. Surprised. He sits back.

ERIC MACLEISH:

Yes, I'm familiar with him.

SACHA:

Have you settled cases against
Father Shanley?

ERIC MACLEISH:

As I'm sure you can understand, I
can't discuss that.

11/26/14 61.

ROBBY:

What about Father Ronald Paquin?

ERIC MACLEISH:

I can't discuss that either. Come on, guys.

SACHA:

We understand you've settled several cases against each of them.

ERIC MACLEISH:

Even if I'd been involved in those cases, the settlements would be confidential. I could be disbarred for acknowledging their existence. Robby's not backing down. MacLeish shakes his head.

ERIC MACLEISH (CONT'D)

Look, I told you, these are tough cases. Most of these folks just want some acknowledgement of what happened. We got them a sit-down with the bishop and a little dough. It was the best they could hope for.

ROBBY:

It was certainly the best the priest could hope for.

ERIC MACLEISH:

No, the Church promised to take the priests out of circulation.

ROBBY:

And did you follow up on that?

ERIC MACLEISH:

(done with this)

You guys need anything else?

SACHA:

Yes. Why aren't there any records?

I was just down at the courthouse,
why aren't there any records of
these settlements?
MacLeish pauses. Hesitant, now not so sure of himself.

ERIC MACLEISH:

We dealt directly with the Church.
We'd draw up a demand letter and
we'd send it to the chancery.
11/26/14 62.

SACHA:

You never filed anything in court?

ERIC MACLEISH:

It was a private mediation.
So that's a no. Jesus. Sacha and Robby react.

ROBBY:

So this is just you and the
archdiocese's lawyers in a room?

ERIC MACLEISH:

Correct.

SACHA:

Anyone else?

ERIC MACLEISH:

Occasionally, the Church would bring
in another defense attorney to help
out.

ROBBY:

You have any names?

ERIC MACLEISH:

(stonewalling him)
No. No I don't.

73 INT. GLOBE, SPOTLIGHT - LATE AFTERNOON 73
Ben sits with the gang.

BEN:

So this was all under the table?

SACHA:

There's no paper trail at all. The victim has to sign a confidentiality agreement to get the settlement. The lawyer takes his third and the Church sweeps it under the rug.

MIKE:

Jeez. It's a freakin' racket.

BEN:

It's more complicated than that. MacLeish has got a duty to his clients to get the best deal he can.
11/26/14 63.

SACHA:

Sure, but how many victims do you represent and profit from before you say something?

MIKE:

Garabedian would say none. That's why he's taking these cases to court. Because he wants people to know about this.

SACHA:

I agree. And, legal ethics aside, Ben, operating the way MacLeish has all but guarantees the abuse stays under wraps.

BEN:

Yeah.

(then)

Did MacLeish confirm all of Saviano's priests?

ROBBY:

No. He's limited by the confidentiality agreement.

SACHA:

But he's clearly settled cases
against a number of them. Phil's
put me in touch with some of the
other victims, I'm pretty confident
all of his priests are going to
check out.

BEN:

So it's thirteen priests?

SACHA:

Yeah.

ROBBY:

Looks that way.

BEN (CONT'D)

Holy Shit. Okay. Keep going.

Off Ben --

75 INT. COPLEY SQUARE BALLROOM, ATRIUM - NIGHT 75

CLOSE ON a woman scanning a list of names on clipboard.

WOMAN:

I'm sorry, what was it again?

11/26/14 64.

REVEAL Marty standing next to her at the base of wide
staircase. Several such women are checking off attendees.

MARTY:

Uh, Baron? B-A-R-O-N.

WOMAN:

I'm sorry, I don't see you here.

PETE CONLEY (O.C.)

It's okay, Kim, I can vouch for him.

Marty turns, finds PETE CONLEY, 60s, Irish wealth and power.

He extends a hand.

PETE CONLEY (CONT'D)

Pete Conley, I'm on the board of

Catholic Charities. Welcome to

Boston, Mr. Baron.

MARTY:

Uh, thank you.

PETE CONLEY:

I appreciate you joining us. We're very proud of the work we do here in Boston.

(then)

The Cardinal said you had a nice visit.

MARTY:

Uh, yes. We did.

PETER CONLEY:

He's an extraordinary man. I'm glad you had a chance to chat.

75A INT. COPLEY SQUARE BALLROOM - MOMENTS LATER 75A

Marty walks into the party, not knowing a soul. He stands alone, taking it in.

ROBBY:

Enjoying yourself?

Marty turns. Robby's there. Slacks and a blazer.

MARTY:

Uh, to be honest, these events aren't really my strong suit.

(then)

Are you involved with the charity?

11/26/14 65.

ROBBY:

Not directly. Several of my friends are. We all went to BC High together. That's the school across the street from the Globe.

MARTY:

It's hard to miss.

ROBBY:

Yeah. Hard to get away from too, apparently.

Marty smiles.

ROBBY (CONT'D)

The Cardinal's in the corner if
you're so inclined.

Robby nods. Indeed, there's the Cardinal and he's talking to
Pete Conley and few others.

MARTY:

We've met.

ROBBY:

Did he mention the suit?

MARTY:

No, but he did give me a copy of the
Catechism.

ROBBY:

(laughs)

Yeah, the Cardinal's not known for
his subtlety. During the Porter
investigation, he literally called
down the power of God on the Globe.

MARTY:

How did that play out?

ROBBY:

A week later our editor broke his
leg skiing.

Marty reacts to Robby's line.

WAITER:

Shrimp toast, gentlemen?

Robby takes a shrimp.

11/26/14 66.

76 INT. ARMENIAN DINER, DOWNTOWN BOSTON - NIGHT 76

CLOSE ON a bowl of soup. HANDS reach for it... REVEAL

Garabedian and Mike having dinner. Mike's going over notes.

MIKE:

You said there was a victim who
filed a criminal complaint?

GARABEDIAN:

There were a few, but the judge

sealed the case records after
friends of the Church stepped in.
The Church has a lot of friends.

MIKE:

Like Eric MacLeish?
Garabedian sees he understands. Garabedian's impressed.

GARABEDIAN:

Let's just say, he's not part of the
solution. You follow what I'm
saying?

MIKE:

Sure.
Mike jots down some notes. Garabedian watches him.

GARABEDIAN:

You work hard, Mr. Rezendes. Are
you married?

MIKE:

Yeah.

GARABEDIAN:

And your wife doesn't mind you
working all the time?

MIKE:

Yeah, she does.

GARABEDIAN:

See. That's why I never got
married. I'm too busy, what I do is
too important.

Garabedian salts his soup.

GARABEDIAN (CONT'D)

Your new editor, he's a Jew right?

11/26/14 67.

MIKE:

Uh, that's right.

GARABEDIAN:

He comes in, suddenly everybody is interested in the Church. You know why? Because it takes an outsider. Like me. I'm Armenian. How many Armenians do you know in Boston?

MIKE:

Steve Kurkjian, works at the Globe.

GARABEDIAN:

That's two! You should get a prize or something. What are you, Italian?

MIKE:

Portuguese.

GARABEDIAN:

From where?

MIKE:

East Boston.

GARABEDIAN:

You don't sound like it.

Mike shrugs. Garabedian shakes his head, chuckles.

GARABEDIAN (CONT'D)

This city, these people, making the rest of us feel like we don't belong. But they're no better than us. Look how they treat their children.

(wiping his mouth)

Mark my words, Mr. Rezendes, if it takes a village to raise a child, it takes a village to abuse one.

Garabedian eats. Mike ponders. Oddly moved.

77 INT. COPLEY SQUARE BALLROOM, ATRIUM - NIGHT 77

Robby crosses the room, joins Jim Sullivan at the bar.

JIM:

There he is.

They two men shake.

11/26/14 68.

JIM (CONT'D)

Wanna beer?

ROBBY:

Love one.

Jim nods to the bartender.

JIM:

You here with Barbara?

ROBBY:

No. She hates these things.

JIM:

Karen too. Smart ladies.

The bartender sets down two beers. Robby hands one to Jim.

ROBBY:

Sl.inte.

JIM:

I just met your new editor, seems
like a decent fella.

ROBBY:

I think he is.

(then)

I had an interesting conversation
with Eric MacLeish yesterday. Turns
out he's been settling abuse cases
with the archdiocese for years.

JIM:

You really wanna talk about this
here?

ROBBY:

You said you helped out on Father
Barrett as a favor, that was a oneoff?
Jim doesn't say anything. Robby DARKENS.
ROBBY (CONT'D)

How many of these cases have you
been involved with, Jim?

JIM:

You know I can't answer that, Robby.
It's unethical.
11/26/14 69.

ROBBY:

Is that all it is?
Jim stares Robby down. He drinks.

JIM:

So this is the Robby Robinson I've
always heard about but never met.

ROBBY:

Listen to me, Jimmy. You want to be
on the right side of this.

JIM:

You're talking about the Church,
Robby. Look around. These are good
people who've done a lot of good for
this city.

(then)

Enjoy the party.

Jim smiles, heads into the party, leaving Robby alone at the
bar. Robby glances over at Marty, still on the edge of the
party. So this is what it feels like to be on the outside...

78 INT. GLOBE, ROBBY'S OFFICE - DAY 78

Matt, Sacha and Mike are crammed in Robby's office, Matt
downloading the team on the directories.

MATT:

I've been through a lot of these.
'Sick leave' isn't the only
designation they use when they take
one of these priests out of
circulation. They use a slew of
terms - 'absent on leave,'
'unassigned,' 'emergency response.'

MIKE:

They got a name for everything,
these guys.

SACHA:

Except rape.

A phone rings in the Spotlight office. Mike exits to get it.

MATT:

And they move parishes way more frequently than other priests. When I was a kid, a priest moved after seven or eight years. These guys, it's two to three tops.

11/26/14 70.

SACHA:

Did they use these designations for all of Saviano's priests?

MATT:

Yeah. It's a pretty clear pattern.

As Robby considers this, Mike calls from Spotlight --

MIKE:

Guys, I've got Sipe.

79 INT. GLOBE, SPOTLIGHT OFFICE - CONTINUOUS 79

The team is HUDDLED around a SPEAKERPHONE.

SIPE (ON SPEAKERPHONE)

I think if you want to understand the crisis, you need to start with the celibacy requirement. That was my first major finding: only 50% of the clergy are celibate.

They share a look. 50%? Can that be true?

SIPE (ON SPEAKERPHONE) (CONT'D)

Now, most of them are having sex with other adults. But this creates a culture of secrecy, that tolerates and even protects pedophiles.

SACHA:

So you believe the church is aware of the extent of this 'crisis?'

SIPE (ON SPEAKERPHONE)

Absolutely. After the first major scandal in Louisiana, Tom Doyle, the Secretary Canonist for the Papal Nuncio, coauthored a report warning

pedophile priests were a billiondollar liability. That was in 1985.

MIKE:

1985?

SIPE (ON SPEAKERPHONE)

That's right.

MIKE:

Who saw this document? Anyone in the Catholic hierarchy?

11/26/14 71.

SIPE (ON SPEAKERPHONE)

Sure. Doyle tried to introduce the report at the National Conference of Catholic Bishops. In fact, Cardinal Law initially helped to fund the report, but then he backed out and they shelved it.

REZENDEZ:

(to Sacha and Matt)

Are you kidding me?

ROBBY:

Richard, Robby here. We think we have thirteen priests in Boston that fit this pattern, which would be a very big story. Does that sound right to you? In terms of scale?

SIPE (ON SPEAKERPHONE)

No. Not really. It sounds low. My estimates suggest six percent act out sexually with minors.

MIKE:

Six percent of what?

SIPE (ON SPEAKERPHONE)

Six percent of all priests.

Holy shit. Robby turns to the team.

ROBBY:

How many priests do we have in Boston?

MATT:

About fifteen hundred. One percent is fifteen... six percent is ninety.

ROBBY:

Ninety priests?

SACHA:

Is that possible?

SIPE (ON SPEAKERPHONE)

From a metric standpoint, that would be in line with my findings.

The team looks at each other. FLOORED. A beat, then --

SIPE (ON SPEAKERPHONE) (CONT'D)

Hello?

11/26/14 72.

80 INT. GLOBE, BEN'S OFFICE - DAY 80

Ben eats lunch, Robby and Mike download him. Ben's shocked.

BEN:

Ninety fucking priests? In Boston?

ROBBY:

That's what he said.

BEN:

If there were ninety of these bastards people would know.

MIKE:

Maybe they do.

BEN:

And no one said a thing?

MIKE:

Good Germans?

BEN:

I don't think that's a comparison you want to make publicly.

ROBBY:

MacLeish knew and said nothing.

BEN:

That's thirteen priests, big difference between thirteen and ninety. Where's this guy Sipe getting his numbers?

MIKE:

He's studied this for thirty years, he's a trained psychotherapist --

BEN:

Okay, but we need something more than a metric from some hippy expriest who's shacking up with a nun.

MIKE:

So we'll track down more victims, we'll get more priests. Then we can check them against the directories.

BEN:

That's a shitload of victims.
11/26/14 73.

MIKE:

We'll get them.

BEN:

How long's it gonna take?
Mike shrugs. Robby considers. Then...

ROBBY:

Too long.
Robby gets up, moves for the door. Maybe with an idea.

BEN:

Meeting over?

ROBBY:

For now.
81 INT. GLOBE, NEWSROOM - MOMENTS LATER 81
Robby walks through the newsroom. Mike catches up to him.

MIKE:

What do you got?

ROBBY:

What if we work backwards?

MIKE:

What do you mean? From what?

ROBBY:

The directories. We've been using them to confirm bad priests. What if we do it the other way around?

MIKE:

(getting it)
Use the directories to identify bad priests?

ROBBY:

Yeah, exactly. We search by designation, we look for any priest on 'sick leave' or 'unnassigned' --

MIKE:

Or for priests who moved around a lot...

ROBBY:

Yeah.
11/26/14 74.

MIKE:

That's gonna take a load of time.

ROBBY:

Not if we're all on it.

MIKE:

You too?

ROBBY:

Generally, that's what all means.

MIKE:

Yeah, generally.

That's the plan. Robby looks set. Off Mike, we --

82 INT. GLOBE, SPOTLIGHT - LATER 82

CLOSE ON a ruler moving down a directory. It stops at a

designation:

MAHAN. A pen circles it and we --

CUT TO another ruler scanning a directory. It stops.

Unassigned. PAN TO the name of another priest. KEANE. The name is circled and we --

CUT TO another ruler scanning. Sick Leave. PAQUIN.

REVEAL Sacha, moving a ruler down a directory. CUT TO --

ABOVE Mike, scanning a directory with a ruler. CUT TO --

CLOSE ON Robby. Squinting at a directory. CUT TO --

Matt, hunched over a computer, entering data. CUT TO --

CLOSE ON an excel spreadsheet. A date, a priest's name, then the designation are typed into a column. CUT TO --

More names and designations, logged year by year, into the spreadsheet. CUT TO --

82A INT. SACHA'S HOUSE - NIGHT 82A

Sacha at her desk at home, scanning a directory. It's late.

84 INT. SANTARPIO'S, EAST BOSTON - NIGHT 84

Mike sits in the pizza joint, marking up a directory, two others beside him. A waiter delivers a pizza and a beer.

Without looking up, Mike reaches for the beer, keeps working.
11/26/14 75.

84A EXT. PORTER SQUARE T-STOP, CAMBRIDGE, MA - MORNING 84A

Sacha waits for the T, working on a directory.

84B INT. GLOBE, LIBRARY - DAY 84B

From the crow's nest above, we see Mike and Matt at the table in the library, stacks of directories between them.

84BB INT. GLOBE, CAFETERIA - DAY 84BB

Robby sits alone in cafeteria, working on a directory.

84C EXT. BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY, DOWNTOWN BOSTON - DAY 84C

Sacha walks up the grand steps, enters the massive library.

84D INT. GLOBE, SPOTLIGHT - DAY 84D

CLOSE ON the spreadsheet. More names are entered. We scan down the growing list of priests...

84F INT. GLOBE, LIBRARY - NIGHT 84F

Mike in a back aisle, works on the directories.

85A INT. BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY, READING ROOM - EARLY EVENING 85A

A beautiful, mostly empty reading room, green banker's lamps

everywhere. Sacha works late, directories all around her.
86 INT. MATT CARROLL'S HOUSE, WEST ROXBURY - NIGHT 86
Matt sits at a desk at home, hunched over a directory,
scanning it with a ruler. He pauses... leans in further.
CLOSE ON a directory entry. O'Sullivan. Treatment Center,
276 Pelton Street, West Roxbury.

MATT:

Holy shit.

Matt PALES, then takes off his glasses and leaves the house.

87 EXT. MATT CARROLL'S HOUSE, WEST ROXBURY - CONTINUOUS 87

Matt heads across the lawn, down the sidewalk. He crosses
the street, rounds the corner, turning onto Pelton Street.
He picks up his pace, checking house numbers. Finally, he
stops at A CLASSIC, TWO STORY VICTORIAN HOUSE. Number 276.

MATT:

No freakin' way.

11/26/14 76.

88 INT. MATT CARROLL'S HOUSE, KITCHEN - LATER 88

Matt sits on the kitchen floor in front of the refrigerator,
taping a note to the door. We push in over his shoulder...

"Kids. Stay away from this house at 276 Pelton Street. And
stay away from the men who live inside it."

Beside the note is a B&W photo of the house down the street.

90 INT. GLOBE, SPOTLIGHT OFFICE - DAY 90

CLOSE ON a COMPUTER SCREEN. We're scrolling through the
EXCEL SPREADSHEET. Dozens of problematic priests.

REVEAL Mike, Sacha and Matt huddled around the computer.

Sacha reads from a large printout. Matt checks it against a
short list on a computer screen.

SACHA:

Talbot. MATT

Yep.

SACHA:

Tivnan. MATT

Yep.

SACHA:

Toma. MATT

Yep.

SACHA:

Turnbull. MATT

Yep.

SACHA:

Walsh. MATT

Yep.

SACHA:

Welsh. MATT

Yep.

MIKE:

Is that it?

SACHA:

That's it. MATT

That's it.

Mike looks at the screen.

MIKE (CONT'D)

Holy Shit.

11/26/14 77.

MATT:

Robby?

Robby looks up from his desk. He walks over to join them.

SACHA:

Three off Sipe's estimate. That's
incredible.

ROBBY:

How many?

MATT:

Eighty-seven.

MIKE:

Eighty-seven priests. In Boston.

ROBBY:

Call MacLeish. I wanna talk to him.

Robby takes the PRINTOUT, walks into --

91 INT. GLOBE, ROBBY'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS 91

Robby shuts his door, picks up his phone and dials. It rings. A secretary picks up.

SECRETARY (OVER THE PHONE)

Jim Sullivan's office.

ROBBY (INTO PHONE)

Walter Robinson for Jim Sullivan.

Tell him it's important.

A beat, then we hear --

JIM (OVER THE PHONE)

Hey Robby. Everything okay?

ROBBY (INTO PHONE)

I need you to tell me something,

Jim. Could it be ninety priests?

JIM (OVER THE PHONE)

What?

ROBBY (INTO PHONE)

Could it be as high as ninety?

JIM (OVER THE PHONE)

Jesus, Robby.

11/26/14 78.

ROBBY (INTO PHONE)

I need to know, Jim. I wouldn't be asking if it wasn't important.

Silence.

JIM (OVER THE PHONE)

You gotta stop this, Robby.

Click. Robby darkens. Then sees Sacha in the doorway.

SACHA:

MacLeish's assistant said he's all booked up, he can't see us.

ROBBY:

The hell he can't.

Robby exits. Sacha quickly follows. Off Mike and Matt --

92 INT. ONE INTERNATIONAL PLACE, LOBBY - EARLY EVENING 92

Eric MacLeish and a colleague get off an elevator, head out. MacLeish sees Robby and Sacha sitting in the lobby, waiting for him. As they stand, MacLeish turns to his colleague.

MACLEISH:

You know what, I'll catch up with you, okay?

The colleague heads off.

MACLEISH (CONT'D)

Hey guys, I'm really sorry, I am, I don't have any time to talk right now, but if you call my assistant --

SACHA:

Mr. MacLeish, we have reason to believe that there have been allegations against as many as 87 priests in Boston.

ERIC MACLEISH:

I can't talk about that.

SACHA:

Does that number sound right to you?

ERIC MACLEISH:

You gotta be... I don't have time for this crap.

11/26/14 79.

He starts to move but Robby steps in his way, angrier than Sacha's ever seen.

ROBBY:

Eric, how many priests did you settle?

ERIC MACLEISH:

You know I can't tell you, Robby.

ROBBY:

You're gonna give me their names. And the names of their victims.

ERIC MACLEISH:

Are you threatening me?

A beat. Robby controls himself, turns calm. Professional.

ROBBY:

We've got two stories here. We've got a story about degenerate clergy and we've got a story about a bunch of lawyers turning child abuse into

a cottage industry. Now, which story do you want us to write? Cause we're writing one of them. MacLeish recedes. Robby's got him.

ERIC MACLEISH:

I already sent you a list of names.

ROBBY:

What are you talking about? To whom?

ERIC MACLEISH:

The Globe. Years ago. After the Porter case, I got plenty of calls. I had 20 priests in Boston but I couldn't go after them without press. So I sent you guys a list of names and you buried it.

ROBBY:

I want those names tomorrow.

ERIC MACLEISH:

Check your goddamn clips, Robby. Robby turns and leaves. Sacha follows. They walk a bit.
11/26/14 80.

SACHA:

We didn't find anything in the clips.

ROBBY:

Yeah. Big surprise.
93 INT. MIKE'S APARTMENT, EAST BOSTON - NIGHT 93
Mike boils hot dogs on the stove.

MIKE:

Richard, do you still go to mass?
SIPE (ON SPEAKERPHONE)
No, I haven't been to church for some time now. But I still consider myself a Catholic.

MIKE:

How does that work?

SIPE (ON SPEAKERPHONE)

The Church is an institution, Mike,
made of men. It's passing. My
faith is in the eternal. I try to
separate the two.

MIKE:

Sounds tricky.

Mike's shakes his pen, out of ink. He crosses to his backpack
by the front door. He reaches in, digs around.

SIPE (ON SPEAKERPHONE)

It is. Especially since the Church
continues to go after me. It takes
a toll, Mike.

SIPE (CONT'D)

They'll try to silence anyone who
speaks out. I'm sure they'll come
after you and your team soon enough.

MIKE:

And how do you think they'll do
that? Hello? ...Richard?

Mike checks his phone. Disconnected. Huh. Suddenly,
there's a loud KNOCK on the door. Mike JUMPS.

MIKE (CONT'D)

Who is it?

11/26/14 81.

BEN (O.C.)

The Archbishop of Canterbury.

Mike opens the door. Ben's there with a PIZZA BOX.

BEN (CONT'D)

I had dinner at Santarpio's, had
some leftovers.

He hands Mike the pizza.

MIKE:

Ah, you're the freakin' best. You
want a beer?

BEN:

Yeah.

Ben enters, takes in Mike's apartment. Mike grabs two beers.

Jesus. How much longer you gonna be in this shithole?

MIKE:

Working on it.

BEN:

She's a good girl, Mike.

MIKE:

Yeah, she is. We'll figure it out. I haven't had a lot of time lately.

(then)

I was just on the phone with Sipe actually.

BEN:

Have you met this guy in person yet?

MIKE:

No, but his knowledge of this is on a whole other level.

Ben frowns, skeptical. Mike hands him a beer. They sit. Mike opens the pizza box, digs in.

MIKE (CONT'D)

Oh man, I'm starving.

BEN:

So, where are we on the ninety?

MIKE:

Close.

11/26/14 82.

BEN:

How close?

MIKE:

We're close.

BEN:

Just answer the question, will you? Mike clocks this.

MIKE:

We got 87 names. We're trying to get confirmation. I think we will.

(then, off Ben)

Something bugging you?

BEN:

Just surprising, that's all.

MIKE:

Yeah, it is. For everyone.

93A EXT. MIKE'S APARTMENT BUILDING, HALLWAY - NIGHT 93A

Ben walks out of Mike's apartment, heads up the stairs when Mike opens his door, calls after him.

MIKE:

Hey. Ben, I forgot to ask, Phil Saviano said he sent a bunch of info to the Globe years ago. You have any idea to who?

BEN:

(irked)

No. Why?

MIKE:

Just curious. I wanted to see if there were any other leads you guys didn't run out?

BEN:

(pissed off)

Saviano was a fucking train wreck five years ago, Mike. We didn't miss anything. This story needed Spotlight.
Mike's taken aback.

MIKE:

Yeah. I know. Just following up.

11/26/14 83.

Nothing more to say.

BEN:

Good night.

Ben walks off. Mike watches him go.

94 INT. GLOBE, MARTY'S OFFICE - DAY 94

CLOSE ON an EMAILED LIST of Priests and victims.

BEN (O.C.)

This is unbelievable.

MARTY:

When did you get this?

ROBBY:

MacLeish emailed the list this morning. He settled cases against forty-five priests.

REVEAL Marty and Ben across the table from Robby and the rest of the Spotlight team. Marty pages through the printout.

MARTY:

Where are we on Law? Anything that shows he had knowledge of this?

BEN:

We're still working Garabedian. But nothing concrete.

Marty considers this. Then he turns to Robby.

MARTY:

I keep thinking about that conversation we had the other night. You said Law called down the power of God when we reported on Porter.

BEN:

That's just Law being Law.

MARTY:

Okay, but I checked the clips, Porter wasn't even in the Boston Archdiocese. He was in Fall River. So, why the extreme reaction?

ROBBY:

(realizing)

Law had to know.

11/26/14 84.

(MORE)

That's why he had the reaction. He knew there were others.

MARTY:

I think that's the bigger story. The team reacts. Robby watches.

MIKE:

Bigger than fifty priests?

MARTY:

If it came from the top down, yes.

SACHA:

But the numbers clearly indicate senior clergy were involved.

MARTY:

That's all they do, indicate.

MIKE:

You're telling me we run a story about fifty pedophile priests in Boston --

ROBBY:

(stepping in)

Mike--

MARTY (CONT'D)

We'll get into the same cat fight you got into on Porter, which made a lot of noise but changed things not one bit. We need to focus on the institution not the individual priests. Practice and policy. Show me the Church manipulated the system so that these guys wouldn't have to face charges. Show me they put those same priests back into parishes, time and time again. Show me this was systemic, that it came from the top down.

Beat. Pretty fucking clear.

BEN:

Sounds like we're going after Law?

MARTY:

We're going after the system.

94B INT. GLOBE, SPOTLIGHT - LATER 94B

The team enters together, heads for their desks. Robby talks to Sacha.

11/26/14 85.

ROBBY (CONT'D)

ROBBY:

Make a list of all the victims we have and start reaching out. Pull Matt in if you need help.

SACHA:

Okay.

ROBBY:

(to Mike)

When you are going to Springfield?

MIKE:

Hearing is Monday.

Robby nods, heads into --

94C INT. GLOBE, ROBBY'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS 94C

Robby settles in. Starts to check e-mails.

MATT:

Robby? You got a second?

Robby looks up, Matt's in the door.

ROBBY:

Yeah.

MATT:

I, uh, got one of those treatment centers a block from my house.

(then)

We got neighbors with kids. I know our work is confidential but I feel

like I should tell 'em.

ROBBY:

We'll tell 'em soon.

Matt hesitates. Then nods and exits.

95-99 SUMMER VICTIM MONTAGE 95-99

In a series of quick cuts, we see --

-- Sacha (and Matt) out and about in JP, Dorchester, Mission Hill, trying to find victims. They knock on some doors and get no answer, they knock on others to find that victims have moved, it's tough to track folks down.

-- Sacha (and Matt) manage to track victims down, but face obstacles. Obstructionist family members, reticent victims...

11/26/14 86.

-- Finally, Sacha (and Matt) actually are let in. We see shot after shot of them entering houses, some new, some where they were previously denied. They're getting the story...

100 INT. RUNDOWN HOUSE, DORCHESTER - DAY 100

Sacha sits with the middle-aged-man.

MIDDLE-AGED-MAN

The Bishop came over the house. He said nothing like this had ever happened before, they asked us not to press charges.

SACHA:

And what did your mother do?

MIDDLE-AGED-MAN

My mother? She put out freakin' cookies.

Sacha blinks.

103A INT. DUSSOURD APARTMENT, JAMAICA PLAIN - DAY (FORMERLY 1021)03A
A small apartment. MARYETTA DUSSOURD, 57, wears a gold cross.

DUSSOURD:

There was a lot of pressure to keep quiet.

She struggles. Matt across from her, prods...

MATT:

From the Church?

DUSSOURD:

Yeah, from the Church... but not
just the Church. From my friends,
from the other parishioners...

101 INT. GLOBE, SPOTLIGHT OFFICE - EARLY EVENING 101
CLOSE ON a spreadsheet, going up on the wall. Names of
priests, dates, reports...

SIPE (OVER THE PHONE)

Well, many of the priests I treated
were psychosexually stunted....

REVEAL Sacha putting up the list of 15 priests on the
corkboard as Matt walks over 3x5 CARDS with VICTIM'S STORIES.

In the foreground, Mike talks on the phone to Sipe.

11/26/14 87.

SIPE (OVER THE PHONE) (CONT'D)

...on the emotional level of a
twelve or thirteen year old.

MIKE:

Jeez.

103 INT. COFFEE SHOP, HINGHAM - DAY 103

Sacha sits with the a COP, 40s, African-American.

COP:

Sure, the chief knew, everybody
knew. But nobody wants to cuff a
priest.

SACHA:

What about the prosecutor?

COP:

I shouldn't talk about this shit.

SACHA:

I think you should actually.

Sacha waits, stares him down.

103a EXT. JAMAICA PLAIN - DAY 103a

Sacha talks to a painter on a ladder.

SACHA:

Do you know a Father Hurley or a
Father Gale?

MAN:

I do.

103aa EXT. TWO DECKER, DORCHESTER - DAY 103aa

A man yells at Matt from his porch.

MAN:

You get out of here before I
kick the shit out of you,
alright?

MATT:

Sorry to bother you. Sorry
to bother you....

MAN:

You leave me alone, leave my brother
alone, you hear me goddammit?
11/26/14 88.

104 EXT. TWO FAMILY HOUSE - MALDEN, MA - LATE AFTERNOON 104
Sacha walks up to a door. The knock. A kindly looking OLDER
MAN (RONALD PAQUIN) in a checkered shirt answers the door.

SACHA:

Hi, I'm looking for Ronald Paquin.

RONALD PAQUIN:

Yes?

Sacha blinks, surprised.

SACHA:

You're... Father Paquin?

FATHER PAQUIN:

Yes, that's right.

SACHA:

(rapid, tense)

My name is Sacha Pfeiffer, I, I'm a
reporter with the Boston Globe.

FATHER PAQUIN:

Okay.

Sacha, awkward, reaches for her pad.

SACHA:

Could I ask you a few questions?

FATHER PAQUIN:

Go ahead, dear.

Sacha starts recording.

SACHA:

We've talked to several men who knew you when they were boys at St. John the Baptist in Haverhill? They told us you molested them? Is that true?

FATHER PAQUIN:

...Sure. I fooled around. But I never felt gratified myself.
Sacha almost hides her shock.

SACHA:

Right, uh, but you admit that you molested boys at St. John the Baptist?
11/26/14 89.

FATHER PAQUIN:

Yes, yes, but as I said, I never got any pleasure from it. That's important to understand.

SACHA:

Right. Can you tell me where and how you, uh, fooled around with these boys.

FATHER PAQUIN:

I want to be clear, I never raped anyone. There's a difference. I should know.

SACHA:

How would you know?

FATHER PAQUIN:

I was raped.

SACHA:

...I'm sorry... who raped you?

JANE PAQUIN (O.C.)

Ronny? Who're you talking to? FATHER PAQUIN

It's okay, Jane.

SACHA (CONT'D)

Father Paquin, who raped you?

Paquin's sister, JANE PAQUIN, 50s, comes to the door.

JANE PAQUIN:

Who are you? SACHA

Sacha Pfeiffer, I'm with the

Globe--

JANE PAQUIN:

Please get off my porch. FATHER PAQUIN

I can speak for myself, Jane.

JANE PAQUIN:

Get inside the house, Ronald. SACHA

I just have a few more--

JANE PAQUIN:

Get inside, Ronnie. SACHA

I'm sorry, who are you?

JANE PAQUIN:

I'm his sister, and I don't

want you coming back here.

SACHA:

Ms. Paquin --

11/26/14 90.

But Jane SLAMS the door. Sacha stands there for a moment, STUNNED. Then she turns, quickly heads down the walkway, scribbling notes. She pauses as she reaches the sidewalk, finishing up. Two CHILDREN ride past on bikes. She's VISIBLY SHAKEN by the encounter.

105 INT. HAMPDEN SUPERIOR COURT, COURTROOM, SPRINGFIELD, MA - D1A0Y5

Mike watching the Globe's lawyer, JON ALBANO, 50s, white beard and moustache, present to JUDGE CONSTANCE SWEENEY, 40s.

JUDGE SWEENEY:

Could you please clarify the Globe's position for me, Mr. Albano?

The courtroom's empty, Garabedian at one desk, WILSON D. ROGERS JR., 60s, the Church's lawyer, at another.

ALBANO:

Yes, Judge Sweeney. Our argument to make these documents public rests mainly on 1st amendment grounds. We also have a number of other relevant arguments. After all, your honor, this was a discretionary order...

JUDGE SWEENEY:

Yes, Mr. Albano, it was made at the Judge's discretion...

Mike FIGHTS TEDIUM... until a REPORTER slides in next to him.

HERALD REPORTER (JOE QUIMBY)

Hey Mike.

MIKE:

Hey Joe.

HERALD REPORTER:

What's a Spotlight reporter doing in Springfield?

Mike doesn't answer.

HERALD REPORTER (CONT'D)

Your man Albano's sledding uphill.

You really think you have a shot at winning this thing?

MIKE:

You want me to comment for the Herald?

11/26/14 91.

QUIMBY:

(writing on his pad)

"Globe reporter would not comment but did not seem hopeful."

Mike settles in. Gonna be a long day.

106 INT. GLOBE, SPOTLIGHT OFFICE/ROBBY'S OFFICE - DAY 106

Sacha downloads Robby. We see a large map of Boston on a

desk, neighborhoods circled, writing and Post-its noting priests and victims.

SACHA:

He didn't try to hide it at all, he had this odd rationalization for it. Like it was normal to fool around with little boys.

Nearby, we see Matt adding 3x5 victim cards to the wall. On the wall, 19 OF ROUGHLY 50 PRIESTS have cards. [N.B.: The priests (and victims) should be grouped by neighborhood].

SACHA (CONT'D)

I'd really like to go back. I think he'd talk to us.

ROBBY:

We will. Just not yet... Let's stay focused on victims right now.

MATT:

Sacha, where'd they send Father Talbot again?

SACHA:

I think it was Cheverus? MATT
Yeah, that's right.

ROBBY:

Father Talbot? From BC High?

SACHA:

Yeah. You know him?

ROBBY:

He was there when I was. We have a victim?

MATT:

Yeah. He lives in Providence.
Matt hands him the card. Robby stares down at the name.
11/26/14 92.

108 INT. HAMPDEN SUPERIOR COURT, COURTROOM - DAY 108
Mike is still listing.

ALBANO:

There's nothing personal in these documents, your honor, they concern how the Cardinal is handling--

JUDGE SWEENEY:

Say the Archdiocese.

ALBANO:

Er, excuse me?

JUDGE SWEENEY:

You don't get to tag the Cardinal with everything, Mr. Albano. Say the Archdiocese.

Albano looks flustered.

WILSON D. ROGERS JR.

Judge Sweeney, the Globe isn't a party to this case, they just want to sell papers. If Mr. Garabedian hadn't smeared the Cardinal's good name, we wouldn't even be here.

GARABEDIAN:

Your honor, I object to the use of the word smear.

JUDGE SWEENEY:

Duly noted, Mr. Garabedian.

Garabedian, angry, mutters under his breath. Mike catches it.

109 EXT. HAMPDEN SUPERIOR COURT, SPRINGFIELD, MA - LATER 109

Garabedian sits on the courthouse steps, eating a packed lunch out of tupperware. Simmering.

MIKE:

How you doing, Mitch?

Mike walks up, sits down.

GARABEDIAN:

I'm fine.

MIKE:

(pushing him)

He's tough, that Wilson Rogers.

11/26/14 93.

GARABEDIAN:

He's smug. And he's sloppy.

MIKE:

He doesn't seem sloppy.

GARABEDIAN:

You don't know the half of it.

Trust me.

MIKE:

What's the half of it?

(then)

Tell me the half of it, Mitch.

Garabedian looks at him, wrestling with something.

GARABEDIAN:

Off the record.

MIKE:

Off the record.

GARABEDIAN:

Three years ago, I get a call from an ex-Priest. Anthony Benzevich. He was at Blessed Sacrament back in '62 and he saw Geoghan taking little boys up to the Rectory bedroom. Benzevich was appalled, he told the Bishop. And the Bishop threatened to reassign him. To South America.

MIKE:

Jeez.

GARABEDIAN:

Yeah. So, fast-forward 35 years, Benzevich reads Geoghan's been charged with molesting more than a hundred kids. Benzevich feels guilty, he calls me.

MIKE:

You have testimony from a priest telling his superiors about Geoghan in 62'?

GARABEDIAN:

No, I do not. Because when I call Benzevich in to give a deposition, he shows up with a lawyer.
11/26/14 94.

MIKE:

Wilson Rogers.

GARABEDIAN:

Suddenly, Father Benzevich has a foggy memory. Can't remember anything. He's useless. So I go back to work, I forget about it, whatever. Until about a year ago. I find an article about a priest who warned church officials about Geoghan.

MIKE:

(stunned)
Benzevich went to the press.

GARABEDIAN:

Local paper, Patriot Ledger, nobody saw it. But now I got Benzevich on record, so I file a motion to depose him a second time. And Wilson Rogers, that smug son of a bitch, he files a motion opposing my motion. And that's when I have him!

MIKE:

Have him how?

GARABEDIAN:

Rogers opposes my motion. So I gotta make an argument as to why I'm allowed to depose Father Benzevich a

second time. But now, I'm allowed to attach exhibits. You follow what I'm saying?

MIKE:

The sealed documents...

GARABEDIAN:

Yes, I can use the sealed documents I've gotten in discovery, Mr. Rezendes, the same documents your paper is currently suing for.

MIKE:

You're shitting me.

GARABEDIAN:

No, I am not shitting you. So I pull out the 14 most damning docs and I attach them to my motion. And they prove everything.

11/26/14 95.

(MORE)

About the Church, about the bishops, about Law...

MIKE:

And it's all public? Because your motion to oppose Rogers' motion...

GARABEDIAN:

...is public. That's correct. Now you're paying attention.

MIKE:

(head spinning)

So I can just walk into the courthouse right now and get those documents?

GARABEDIAN:

No. You cannot. Because the documents are not there.

MIKE:

But you just said they're public.

GARABEDIAN:

I know I did. But this is Boston.
And the Church doesn't want them to
be found. So they are not there.

MIKE:

Mitch, are you telling me that the
Catholic Church had legal documents
removed from the courthouse?
Mitch collects his things, turns to Mike. With clarity.

GARABEDIAN:

Look, I'm not crazy, I'm not
paranoid, I'm experienced. Check
the docket, you'll see. They control
everything. Everything.
Mitch exits. Mike watches him go, UNNERVED. Is Mitch right?
And was that just the mother of all tips? A beat... then
Mike grabs his stuff and runs towards his car.
110 EXT. SUFFOLK COUNTY COURTHOUSE, DOWNTOWN BOSTON - LATER 110
Mike gets out of his car, runs across same street into the
courthouse.
11/26/14 96.

GARABEDIAN (CONT'D)

111 INT. SUFFOLK COUNTY COURTHOUSE, RECORDS ROOM - DAY 111
A mousy looking CLERK #2 (O'BRIAN) pushes a BINDER across a
help desk to... Mike. Who starts going through the file.
CLERK #2 (O'BRIAN)

Docket entry #49 in the Geoghan
case.
(then)

We're closing in ten minutes.
CLOSE ON DOCKET ENTRY #49: Plaintiff's opposition to
Reverend Anthony Benzevich's Motion for Protective Order.
Dated APR 2, 2001. And a list of 14 exhibits.

Mike, excited, opens the file, finds the motion and a FOLDER,
EXHIBITS A - N. Mike opens it. It's empty. HOLY SHIT.

112 INT. ROBBY'S HOUSE, ROBBY'S HOME OFFICE - EARLY EVENING 112
Robby stands, searching through bookshelves... until he finds
a BC HIGH YEARBOOK. He flips to the faculty page, homing in
on a PHOTO... FATHER JAMES TALBOT. A beat. His phone RINGS.

ROBBY (INTO PHONE)

Robby.

MIKE (OVER THE PHONE)

Hey, it's me. You're not gonna believe it.

113 EXT. SUFFOLK COUNTY COURTHOUSE, DOWNTOWN BOSTON - SAME TIME113

Mike is walking out of the courthouse.

MIKE (INTO PHONE)

Garabedian gave me a tip, some of the sealed docs are already public. They're part of a motion he filed. He said they're the best of the bunch, we don't have to wait for Sweeney's ruling.

INTERCUT THE TWO SCENES

ROBBY (INTO PHONE)

So we can get them?

MIKE (INTO PHONE)

Yeah, but they're not there! I already talked to Albano, he said all we have to do is file a motion and Sweeney will order Mitch to refile the docs.

11/26/14 97.

ROBBY (INTO PHONE)

And you think these documents are...

MIKE (INTO PHONE)

He said these 14 docs are all we need. They're huge, Robby.

ROBBY:

Okay. I'll call Ben. Good work.

114 EXT. GLOBE, PARKING LOT - EARLY MORNING 114

Marty gets out of his car and walks toward the building. It's a beautiful September morning.

115 INT. GLOBE, NEWSROOM - MOMENTS LATER 115

It's pretty empty. Marty walks in, heads toward his office, but slows when SOMETHING on a TV catches his attention. He walks to the TV, joins A YOUNG REPORTER already watching.

MARTY:

What happened?

YOUNG REPORTER:

They're saying it's a prop plane but
that's not a prop plane.
We glimpse the TV. The World Trade Center. On fire.

MARTY:

Tell Linda to get every reporter we
have in here now.

116 INT. GLOBE, NEWSROOM - DAY 116

CLOSE ON a TV. Cardinal Law addressing a large group of
reporters, citizens in front of the Cathedral.

CARDINAL LAW (REAL FOOTAGE)

You pray for the injured, and those
who survived. You pray, too, for
the nation, that our response might
reflect our best ideals and God's
teaching as it is found in
Christianity and Islam as well.

REVEAL a group watching TV in the corner of the newsroom, Ben
front and center. Robby, Matt, Sacha are off to the side.

BEN:

Not bad. Who's there?
11/26/14 98.

FEMALE EDITOR:

Paulson.
Ben starts to move, an editor at his side.

BEN:

I wanna talk to him when he's back.
(to Robby)
Did Rezendes find a way to get to
Florida?

ROBBY:

They just opened the airport in
Providence, he's on his way there
now.
News to Sacha and Matt.

CANELLOS:

Ben, I'm gonna need more people on
Massport.

BEN:

I'll give you three of my guys.
Robby, put your team on that too.

ROBBY:

Got it.

BEN:

And Robby, everything else stops.

ROBBY:

Understood.
Ben heads off.

MATT:

Why's Mike going to Florida?

ROBBY:

Flight school. It's where they
learned to fly.

SACHA:

Robby, I've got a lot of victim
interviews set up this week.

ROBBY:

You're gonna have to cancel 'em.

SACHA:

That's going to be hard.
11/26/14 99.

MATT:

This is nuts. Two days ago, I told
my wife we gotta be working the
biggest story on the planet....
Robby nods as we PAN to Reception. Linda and several others
taking calls.

LINDA:

Boston Globe. We have no
knowledge of additional
threats.
RECEPTIONIST 1

Boston Globe. One second
please.

RECEPTIONIST 2

Yes, if you have a tip I'll transfer
you to the metro desk.

Off the RINGING PHONES --

117 INT. GARABEDIAN'S OFFICE, CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY 117

Garabedian works at his desk. The phone rings, he picks up.

GARABEDIAN (INTO PHONE)

Mitchell Garabedian.

118 INT. MIKE'S CAR (MOVING), I-95 - DAY 118

Mike speeds frantically down I-95 towards Providence, phone
to his ear. It's ringing.

MIKE (INTO PHONE)

Mitch, it's Mike, I've been trying
to reach you...

GARABEDIAN (OVER THE PHONE)

I don't have time to talk to you,
Mr. Rezendes.

MIKE (INTO PHONE)

Did you refile those documents yet?

GARABEDIAN (OVER THE PHONE)

No, I just got the order, it takes
time.

MIKE (INTO PHONE)

Okay, great. Can you to hold off on
refiling them?

11/26/14 100.

GARABEDIAN:

Hold off?

MIKE:

I have to go to Florida, once
you refile, they're public,
other newspapers will be able
to get a hold of...

GARABEDIAN (INTO PHONE)

Other newspapers are not my concern.
I received a judicial order, I told
you the Church is watching me...

MIKE (INTO PHONE)

Mitch, please, I just need a few
weeks.

GARABEDIAN (INTO PHONE)

I can't make any promises. Goodbye.

Garabedian hangs up.

MIKE (INTO PHONE)

Mitch? Mitch! Shit!

119 EXT. T-STOP, BOSTON - DAY 119

The season has changed. The leaves are all but gone. Sacha emerges from the subway, crosses the street.

120 INT. BAR, JAMAICA PLAIN - SAME TIME 120

A relatively empty bar. ON TV, we see CNN coverage of the US BOMBING IN AFGHANISTAN. Phil Saviano sits in a booth across from Sacha. Phil's on the edge.

SAVIANO:

Look, I get it, no one wants to read about kids getting raped by priests. Especially now. But you asked a lot of people to relive some very painful experiences and then you disappear!

SACHA:

Phil, you know why we were taken off the story.

SAVIANO:

It's been six weeks since 9/11.

SACHA:

I realize that and we're going to get back to it.

SAVIANO:

When? You're doing the same thing you guys did last time--

SACHA:

...no...

11/26/14 101.

SAVIANO:

--you're dropping us! Maybe I should tell the Herald that story!

SACHA:

Okay, Phil. You can do that, it'll undo all the work we've done. But I can't stop you.

Phil looks away, but quiets.

SACHA (CONT'D)

Listen to me. I am here because I care. We are not going away. We are not going away. We are going to tell this story and we're going to tell it right. We just need more time, that's all we're asking for.

PHIL:

Why bother asking? You're gonna do what you want anyway. You always do. He gets up and leaves.

SACHA:

Phil. Phil...

But he's gone. Off Sacha --

121 INT. GLOBE, MARTY'S OFFICE - EVENING 121

Marty's working at his computer. Ben knocks.

BEN:

Marty, you gotta a second?

MARTY:

Sure.

Marty turns as Ben walks in.

BEN:

Robby's itching to get his team back on the church story. At this point, I think we're covered on 9/11.

MARTY:

Okay. Sounds right.

Ben starts to leave when --

11/26/14 102.

MARTY (CONT'D)

Ben.

(then)

I, uh, wanted to say thank you for taking the lead on 9/11. All the politics at Logan and Massport, I wasn't the person to do it. You've done an excellent job over the last six weeks.

Ben is completely caught off guard.

BEN:

Oh. Well... thanks.

(awkward, exiting)

Good night.

MARTY:

Good night.

122 INT. HOLIDAY INN, HOTEL ROOM, MIAMI, FL - LATER 122

A crappy hotel room. ESPN on TV, a suitcase, clothes, papers everywhere. Mike takes a burrito out of the hotel microwave, tries to pick it up when his phone RINGS. He grabs the phone.

MIKE (INTO PHONE)

Hey.

ROBBY (OVER THE PHONE)

How's South Beach?

MIKE (INTO PHONE)

I'm in Boynton Beach. Remarkably different place. What's up?

ROBBY (OVER THE PHONE)

Mitch Garabedian called me today.

MIKE (INTO PHONE)

Why'd he call you?

ROBBY (OVER THE PHONE)

Because he knew you'd yell at him.

He refiled the docs.

MIKE (INTO PHONE)

(yelling)

What? Robby, those docs are public now, we gotta get them before anyone else does...

11/26/14 103.

123 INT. GLOBE, ROBBY'S OFFICE/SPOTLIGHT - SAME TIME 123

Robby sitting in his chair.

ROBBY (INTO PHONE)

I know, wrap up what you're doing and catch the first flight you can.

MIKE (OVER THE PHONE)

I'll book a flight, go straight to
the courthouse tomorrow.

ROBBY (INTO PHONE)

Good. Call me when you get it.

Robby hangs up. Sacha is in his door, putting on her coat.

SACHA:

Robby, I'd like to let Phil Saviano
know that we are back on it.

ROBBY:

Good idea. Go have dinner with
Hansi. Might be the last time for a
while.

SACHA:

Okay.

Sacha hesitates, then grabs a clip off her desk.

SACHA (CONT'D)

Robby, after we saw MacLeish, I
started going back through the
clips... and I had a little time
last week finally, so, uh...

(she hands him the clip)

I found that. It's from '93.

Robby looks down. We see the clip. "LAWYER FOR PORTER
VICTIMS SAYS 20 OTHER PRIESTS IN AREA ARE ACCUSED."

Robby's face CHANGES. Sacha waits, expecting a response.

ROBBY:

That it?

Robby's abrupt tone catches Sacha by surprise.

SACHA:

Yeah. That's it.

ROBBY:

Good night.

11/26/14 104.

SACHA:

Okay. Good night.

Sacha takes a beat, then leaves, a bit confused and hurt.

Robby looks down at the clip. Off Robby --

124 INT. MATT CARROLL'S HOUSE, BEDROOM, WEST ROXBURY, MA - NIGHT 24

Matt sits up in bed. Checks the clock. 4am. Can't sleep.

125 INT. MATT CARROLL'S HOUSE, KITCHEN - LATER 125

Matt walks in, takes two aspirin. He eyes a 9/11 BUMPER STICKER on the fridge. His gaze drifts down to the photo of the house on Pelton Street. Matt frowns... realizing he's back on the church.

126 EXT. MODERN RESTAURANT, PROVIDENCE, RI - DAY 126

A wide shot. A well dressed, good looking MAN checking his blackberry.

Robby walks in, introduces himself to the man. PRELAP --

127 INT. MODERN RESTAURANT, PROVIDENCE, RI - LATER 127

Robby and the man, KEVIN, 40s, sit at a table. We're in a long shot. We see them talking. Kevin is friendly, amiable.

KEVIN:

So, I was probably a few years after you, right?

ROBBY:

More than a few.

KEVIN:

(laughing)

Well after BC High, I came down to Providence, played hockey for the Friars.

ROBBY:

You must've been pretty good.

KEVIN:

No, rode the bench in college. But I loved the city, never left. We just had our third kid. And I still get my Globe, for the record.

ROBBY:

Good to know.

11/26/14 105.

Kevin smiles. Robby nods. Takes a beat. Then dives in.

ROBBY (CONT'D)

Look, Kevin, that's actually why I'm

here. I need ask you some questions
about Father Talbot.

Kevin's face tightens, his eyes intense. Robby waits.

KEVIN:

How'd you find out? I guess that
doesn't matter.

(shakes his head)

I never even told my wife.

129 INT. SUFFOLK COUNTY COURTHOUSE, HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER 129
Mike, still carrying his bags from the plane, emerges from an
elevator, hurries down the hall, nearly knocking people out
of the way. He arrives at the Records Room and slams up
against the glass just as the clerk (O'BRIAN) LOCKS the door.

MIKE:

Hey, hey, I need to get in there.

CLERK O'BRIAN

We're closed.

MIKE:

Come on, let me in, five minutes,
come on.

CLERK O'BRIAN

I'm sorry, we're closed!

MIKE:

Come on, five minutes!

But the clerk leaves. Mike bangs the door in frustration.

130 INT. SUFFOLK COUNTY COURTHOUSE, HALLWAY - MORNING 130
The elevator door opens and Clerk O'Brian walks out with
coffee and a copy of the Globe. He approaches the door and
stops.

Mike sits on the floor, waiting. O'Brian eyes him. A beat,
then he unlocks the door. Mike follows him into --

131 INT. SUFFOLK COUNTY COURTHOUSE, RECORDS ROOM - MORNING 131
O'Brian walks in. Mike fills out a form at the 'application
for records' table. He turns to the desk, hands the form to
Clerk O'Brian, who reads it.

11/26/14 106.

CLERK O'BRIAN

This is the Geoghan case?

MIKE:

Yeah. That's right.

CLERK O'BRIAN

Those records are sealed.

MIKE:

No, that's a public motion, those records are public. Look, I work for the Globe.

Mike shows his credentials.

CLERK O'BRIAN

Good for you.

MIKE:

Can I talk to your supervisor?

CLERK O'BRIAN

He's not in today.

Mike, frustrated, eyes the CROSS the clerk is wearing.

MIKE:

What about a judge? You gotta have a judge who handles these issues.

The clerk eyes Mike.

CLERK O'BRIAN

Sixth floor.

132 INT. SUFFOLK COUNTY COURTHOUSE, JUDGE'S CHAMBERS - LATER 132

Mike walks in. Sees a receptionist.

MIKE:

I'd like to see Judge Volterra please. It's urgent.

RECEPTIONIST:

Judge is in court until 3:30.

MIKE:

There's no other judge on duty?

RECEPTIONIST:

Would you like to have a seat?

Her look says it all.

11/26/14 107.

MIKE:

Yeah. Sure. I'll take a seat.

Mike sits. Frustrated and anxious. We PRELAP --

JACK DUNN (PRELAP)

We understand the nature of the
allegations against Father Talbot.

133 INT. BC HIGH, PRESIDENT KEMEZA'S OFFICE, DORCHESTER - DAY 133

Robby, Sacha sit with PRESIDENT BILL KEMEZA, 50s, SPOKESMAN

JACK DUNN, 40, and Pete Conley, the swell we met earlier.

JACK DUNN:

I'm just not sure what you want from
President Kemeza. Talbot taught
here long before Bill took over.

SACHA:

Of course. We just want to know if
it's possible that the faculty, the
President, the Board, that no one
knew what was going on at the time.

JACK DUNN:

I graduated in 1979 and I had no
idea about any of this, so if you're
suggesting that Father Gibbons and
Father Callahan --

ROBBY:

Gibbons and Callahan ran this place
like the navy, Jack, you really
think they didn't know?

JACK DUNN:

It's a big school, Robby, you know
that. You're talking about seven
alleged victims over eight years.

ROBBY:

Seven that we know about.

JACK DUNN:

This is ridiculous. You're
reaching for a story here, we
can't possibly know if...

PRESIDENT KEMEZA

Jack. Jack --

PRESIDENT KAMEZA

Jack. If I had been President back then, I would have known.
Conley looks at him, sharp.
11/26/14 108.

JACK DUNN:

Bill, I'm not sure that's *
relevant -- *

PRESIDENT KAMEZA

Why do you think they sent Talbot up to Cheverus? You know they wanted him out of town.

PETER CONLEY:

(to Robby, direct)

Robby, as well-intentioned as Bill's remarks are, I'm hoping maybe we can keep this between us until we all get on the same page.

ROBBY:

Is that why we're here, to get on the same page?

PETER CONLEY:

No, we're here because you're an important alumnus, Robby, and a friend.

JACK DUNN:

Exactly. We know you care about this school as much as we do.
Robby contains his anger.

ROBBY:

Did you play a sport here, Jack?

JACK DUNN:

(confused)
Yeah. Football. Why?

ROBBY:

I ran track.

(then)

I went to Providence yesterday, to talk to one of Talbot's victims, he played hockey here. He's one of the better ones, has a wife, kids, good job. Ten minutes into the conversation guy breaks down, couldn't stop crying. Said he could never figure out why Father Talbot picked him.

(beat, to Jack)

Father Talbot coached the hockey team. So, I guess we just got lucky, you and me.

Off Sacha, watching him.

11/26/14 109.

134 EXT. BC HIGH, DORCHESTER, MA - DAY 134

Robby and Sacha walk from BC High back to the Globe.

SACHA:

Does Jack Dunn work for the school?

ROBBY:

No. He's PR for Boston College. They call him when they need help.

SACHA:

And Pete Conley? Why was he there?

ROBBY:

Good question. Pete's a big alum. But I called Bill directly and I asked for a sit-down, I never mentioned anybody else.

SACHA:

It's like everybody already knows the story.

This hits Robby. He pauses, looks back at BC High.

ROBBY:

Yeah, except us. And we work right there.

135 INT. SUFFOLK COUNTY COURTHOUSE, JUDGE'S CHAMBERS - LATER 135
Mike is still waiting. A JUDGE enters. Mike stands.

MIKE:

Judge Volterra?

JUDGE VOLTERRA:

Yes?

MIKE:

Hi, I'm Mike Rezendes from the
Boston Globe. I'm having some
trouble accessing some public
records down in the records room. I
was wondering if I could have a word
with you?

136 INT. SUFFOLK COUNTY COURTHOUSE, JUDGE'S CHAMBERS - LATER 136
JUDGE VIERI VOLTERRA stares down at Mike's request.
11/26/14 110.

JUDGE VOLTERRA:

These exhibits you're after, Mr.
Rezendes, they're very sensitive
records.

MIKE:

All due respect, your honor, that's
not the question here. The records
are public.

JUDGE VOLTERRA:

Maybe so, but tell me, where is the
editorial responsibility in
publishing records of this nature?

MIKE:

Where's the editorial responsibility
in not publishing them?

137 INT. SUFFOLK COUNTY COURTHOUSE, RECORDS ROOM - DAY 137
Clerk O'Brian drops the file in front of Mike, who dives in.
His face says it all. HOLY SHIT. A beat, then Mike grabs
the files, starts to rush out.

CLERK O'BRIAN

You can't take those. You need to

make copies.

MIKE:

Yeah, I'm going to the copy room.

CLERK O'BRIAN

It closed at four.

Mike stops, fucked. He digs into his pocket, counts bills.

MIKE:

I'll give you 83 bucks to use yours.

138 EXT. SUFFOLK COUNTY COURTHOUSE, DOWNTOWN BOSTON - TWILIGHT 138

Mike, already on his cell phone, hurries across the street toward and catches a cab.

MIKE:

Hey, Cabbie! Hey, hey, hey!

Mike gets in cab.

MIKE (CONT'D)

I'm going to the Boston Globe on
Morrisey Boulevard. Don't take 93.

Take Dorchester Avenue.

11/26/14 111.

(MORE)

(into phone)

Robby, it's incredible!

138A EXT. STATE STREET, BOSTON - MOMENTS LATER 138A

Mike's cab moves up State Street.

MIKE (V.O.)

Law knew about Geoghan for years, no
question! There's a letter to Law
from a woman, Margaret Gallant, who
lived in Jamaica Plain in the early
80's when Geoghan was there. Listen
to this...

139 EXT. KING'S CHAPEL, TREMONT STREET, BOSTON - MOMENTS LATER 139

Mike's cab whisks past the old King's Chapel.

MIKE (V.O.)

(reading)

"Our family is rooted in the Church,
our desire is to protect the Holy
Orders..."

140B EXT. MONSIGNOR REYNOLD'S WAY, SOUTH END - MOMENTS LATER 140B

Mike's cab passes the Cathedral of the Holy Cross.

MIKE (V.O.)

"...even in the midst of our agony
over the seven boys in our family...

140C EXT. PLAYGROUND BY THE CATHEDRAL - MOMENTS LATER 140C

Patrick McSorley plays with his kid on the playground.

MIKE (V.O.)

...who have been violated." Seven,
Robby! Seven boys!

141 EXT. WEST 4TH STREET BRIDGE, BOSTON - LATER 141

The cab crosses over the bridge into Dorchester.

MIKE (V.O.)

"It was suggested we keep silent. We
did not question the Authority of
the Church two years ago...

142 EXT. OLD COLONY ROAD, DORCHESTER - LATER 142

The cab is stuck on Old Colony Road. It turns into a TRAFFIC
CIRCLE, past St. Monica's church and onto Columbia Road.

11/26/14 112.

MIKE (CONT'D)

MIKE (V.O.)

...but since Father Geoghan is still
in his parish..." She sent it to
Law and Law did shit!

142A EXT. COLUMBIA STREET, DORCHESTER - SAME TIME 142A

The cab drives down by the water.

MIKE (V.O.)

Here's another one to Law, same
year. Listen to this...

(reading)

"A word on the recent assignment of
Father John Geoghan..."

144 EXT. BOSTON GLOBE - EVENING 144

The cab pulls up. Mike jumps out, pays the driver, hustles
inside.

MIKE (V.O.)

"...as an associate at Saint Julia's
in Weston. Father Geoghan..."

145 INT. GLOBE, LOBBY - LATER 145

Mike races in through the glass doors, then hustles up the
escalator...

MIKE (V.O.)

"...has a history of homosexual
involvement with young boys. I
understand his recent departure from
Saint Brendan's may be related to

this problem..."

147 INT. GLOBE, SPOTLIGHT OFFICE - NIGHT 147

The whole team sits around as Mike finishes reading.

MIKE:

"I wonder if Father Geoghan should not be reduced to weekend work while receiving therapy. You know how grateful I am to you for your constant concern, sincerely yours in our Lord, Most Reverend John M. D'Arcy, Auxiliary Bishop of Boston. December 7, 1984."

MATT:

An auxiliary bishop wrote that?

11/26/14 113.

We see the letters, both addressed to Law. The team reels.

SACHA:

It's incredible. He broke ranks.

When did Gallant write her letter?

MIKE:

1984.

SACHA:

And Law just ignored her.

MATT:

How do you ignore that freakin' letter?!

MIKE:

We've got him. You can't read those letters and think anything else. It's proof.

ROBBY:

Yeah. It is. This is good work.

MIKE:

Should we take it up to Ben?

ROBBY:

No, not yet.

MIKE:

Why not? We got Law. This is it.

ROBBY:

No, this is Law covering for one priest. There's another 90 out there.

MIKE:

Yeah, and we can print that story when we get it but we gotta go with this now.

ROBBY:

I'm not gonna rush the story, Mike.

MIKE:

We don't have a choice, if we don't run to press, somebody else is gonna find those letters and butcher the story! Joe Quimby from the Herald was at the freakin' courthouse! 11/26/14 114.

ROBBY:

So we'll write a holding story and we'll keep an eye on the Herald.

MIKE:

(losing it)

Keep our eye on the Herald? They run this and they get it wrong, the Church will bury it! We gotta do this now!

MATTY:

Mike --

MIKE:

What? Why are we hesitating! Baron told us to get Law!

ROBBY:

Baron told us to get the system. We need the full scope, that's the only thing that will put an end to this.

MIKE:

Then let's take it up to Ben, let him decide!

ROBBY:

We'll take it to Ben when I say it's time.

MIKE:

It's time, Robby. They knew and they let it happen! To kids! This coulda been you, it coulda been me, it could have been any one of us. We gotta nail these scumbags, show people that no one can get away with this! Not a priest or a Cardinal or a fricking Pope!

Robby, Sacha, and Matt are still. Mike looks around the room, out of breath, adrenaline draining. Robby is pissed.

ROBBY:

You finished?

MIKE:

Yeah. I am. This is bullshit.

Mike leaves, slamming the door behind him.

149 INT. SACHA'S HOUSE, KITCHEN - NIGHT 149

Sacha and Hansi have just finished dinner. Hansi's cleaning off the table as Sacha loads the dishwasher.

11/26/14 115.

She tries to slide the upper rack into the dishwasher. It's jammed. She tries again. It won't go. She jiggles the rack, tries a third time... she SNAPS, slamming the rack hard, sending the dirty glasses crashing into each other. She looks up... Hansi is just staring at her. Whoa.

HANSI:

You okay?

Before she can answer, there's a KNOCK on the door. Hansi walks over, opens the door. It's Mike.

MIKE:

Hey, Hansi.

HANSI:

Hard day at work, Mike?

150 EXT. SACHA'S HOUSE, BACK PORCH - LATER 150

Sacha walks onto the porch with two beers, hands one to Mike.

MIKE:

Thanks. I dunno why I got so pissed off. I mean I think Robby's wrong but...

SACHA:

You care about the story, Mike. We all do.

Mike takes a drink.

SACHA (CONT'D)

I stopped going to church with my Nana. It was just too hard. I'd be sitting there and I would start thinking about Joe Crowley or someone else and I'd just get so angry.

MIKE:

Did you tell her why?

SACHA:

She goes to church three times a week, Mike.

Mike considers this. Shakes his head.

MIKE:

Really pisses me off.

(then)

11/26/14 116.

(MORE)

You know, I actually liked going to mass when I was a kid.

SACHA:

Why'd you stop?

MIKE:

Typical shit.

(then)

But the weird thing is, I think
there was a part of me that figured
one day, maybe I'd go back. I was
holding on to that.

Sacha watches him, not expecting this.

MIKE (CONT'D)

And when I read those letters,
something just cracked.

SACHA:

That's a shitty feeling.

MIKE:

Yeah. It's a shitty feeling.

Off the two of them, a little lost...

151 INT. FAIRMONT HOTEL, OAK ROOM, DOWNTOWN BOSTON - NIGHT 151
The posh bar of one of Boston's oldest hotels. Robby is at
the bar, a glass of red wine in front of him.

PETER CONLEY:

Looks like a long day.

ROBBY:

Hey Pete.

PETER CONLEY:

I'm sorry to make it longer. Brian?

Peter Conley sits, nods to the barman: 'the usual.'

ROBBY:

Anyone ever said no to a drink with
you, Pete?

PETER CONLEY:

Sure. The trick is to keep asking.

(raising his glass)

For Boston.

11/26/14 117.

MIKE (CONT'D)

ROBBY:

For Boston.

(drinks, then)

So, you here for the Cardinal?

PETER CONLEY:

No, no, I wouldn't presume to speak for the Cardinal.

(then)

You gotta a lot of people here who respect you, Robby, respect your work.

ROBBY:

Good to know.

PETER CONLEY:

It's 'cause you care about this place. It's why you do what you do, it's who you are. But people need the Church more than ever right now. You can feel it. And the Cardinal may not be perfect but we can't throw out all the good he's doing over a few bad apples.

Robby lets this sink in. Nods as if in agreement.

PETER CONLEY (CONT'D)

I'm bringing this up with you because I know this is Baron's idea. His agenda. And I gotta tell you, honest to God, I don't think he cares about this city the way we do. How could he?
Robby looks at Conley. A long beat.

ROBBY:

This is how it happens, isn't it, Pete?

PETER CONLEY:

What's that?

ROBBY:

A guy leans on a guy and suddenly the whole town just looks the other way.

Stung. Pete downs his drink. Gets up.

11/26/14 118.

PETER CONLEY:

Robby, look. Marty Baron is just trying to make his mark. He'll be here for a couple years and he's gonna move on. Just like he did in New York and Miami. Where you gonna go?

He starts to go.

ROBBY:

Pete?

(Pete turns)

When we do run the story, I'm gonna need a comment from the Cardinal.

Conley takes it. Then smiles.

PETER CONLEY:

We'll talk again later. Good night, Robby.

153 INT. GLOBE, ROBBY'S OFFICE/SPOTLIGHT OFFICE - DAY 153
Robby, Mike, Sacha and Matt sit working. It's dark, quiet, serious. A beat, then Robby's phone RINGS. He answers.

ROBBY (INTO PHONE)

Robby. What? No shit, when? Okay.

(hangs up, calls out)

Hey.

The team looks towards Robby's office as he walks in.

MIKE:

What's up?

ROBBY:

Sweeney ruled in our favor. She ruled to unseal the documents.

MIKE:

Jeez...

The group sits stunned.

154 INT. GLOBE, MARTY'S OFFICE - EARLY EVENING 154

Marty, Ben, Robby, and Canellos (the Metro editor we met earlier) sit with the Globe lawyer, Albano.

11/26/14 119.

ALBANO:

The Church already filed an appeal.
But the trial court's ruling is
generally upheld in these matters.

MARTY:

And when would we get the documents?

ALBANO:

Probably takes Cohen a few weeks to
rule, then there'll be a redaction
process... I'd say they'll be made
public mid-January.

MARTY:

Okay. Thanks, John. And nice work.
Albano exits.

CANELLOS:

Metro should run something, Marty.

ROBBY:

We can't run this big.

CANELLOS:

Why wouldn't we? It's a major First
Amendment victory. Not to mention,
an Irish Catholic judge rules
against the church? That's a hell
of a precedent.

ROBBY:

(to Ben)

We don't want the Herald going too
deep on this.

MARTY:

Why's that?

ROBBY:

You're gonna have to step out,
Peter.

CANELLOS:

I'm not stepping out.

Robby picks up a FOLDER OF DOCUMENTS on the table beside him.
He places it in front of Marty. Marty picks it up.

BEN:

Peter.

Marching orders. Canellos exits, not happy.

11/26/14 120.

155 INT. GLOBE, MARTY'S OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER 155

CLOSE ON the letters. Reveal Marty and Ben reading, STUNNED.

MARTY:

When did you --

ROBBY:

A couple of weeks ago.

BEN:

A couple of weeks?

ROBBY:

Yeah.

BEN:

And you're telling us now?

MARTY:

These are substantial. They clearly
show that Law was negligent.

Ben and Marty stare at Robby. A beat, then --

ROBBY:

I need more time. I want to keep
digging.

BEN:

For what? This is the goddamn story.

ROBBY:

It's not the whole story.

BEN:

(dismissive)

Tough shit. We're on a clock now.
Even if we don't run Sweeney's
ruling, another paper could find
these letters and fuck the story.

ROBBY:

Agreed. But we run the letters
alone, Law apologizes, says it's a
one time thing, he can bury it.

MARTY:

How? These clearly show he knew and
did nothing.

ROBBY:

Look, I'm close to stories on 70
priests.

11/26/14 121.

(MORE)

We nail that along with those
letters, it's proof that this is
bigger than Law. It's the whole
system.

Marty considers.

MARTY:

You have multiple sources confirming
the 70 priests?

ROBBY:

On some. I can get more.

BEN:

Too risky. If we're not buttoned up
on every single one of them, the
Church'll pick us apart.
Robby's up against it. He plays his hand.

ROBBY:

I think I can get someone from the other side of the aisle.

BEN:

Someone inside the Church?

ROBBY:

Yeah, a lawyer.

MARTY:

Will he go on the record?

ROBBY:

Deep background. But he's a solid source.

Marty considers. A beat, then Ben steps in.

BEN:

Rezendes needs time to write up the story. We don't want to drop this at Christmas, not after 9/11. We could run it just after New Year's, before the rest of the documents are released.

MARTY:

Okay. Tell Canellos to bury the ruling in Metro.

(then, to Robby)

You've got six weeks.

11/26/14 122.

ROBBY (CONT'D)

Robby nods, gets up and leaves. Ben follows him into --

156 INT. GLOBE, NEWSROOM OUTSIDE MARTY'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS 156
Ben and Robby walk out.

BEN:

Tell Mike I want a draft before Christmas. And we need a response from Lake Street. Who does PR for the Cardinal? Still John Walsh?

ROBBY:

No, somebody new, Donna Morrissey,

she came from TV, she's young.

BEN:

Good, get a quote, we need something from Law to appear even-handed.

ROBBY:

Got it.

BEN:

And Robby? Next time give me a goddamn heads up?

Ben exits. Robby takes it on the chin then walks off. As he does, we hear a child's voice start into SILENT NIGHT...

157 INVESTIGATION/WRITING MONTAGE 157

As a second child joins in, we see a SERIES OF SHOTS...

157A MIKE'S COMPUTER. 41 days until deadline. The very 157A start of the story. FIND Mike in SPOTLIGHT, pecking out the story on his COMPUTER. Matt, coat and briefcase, walks out...

157I Sacha with Phil, Crowley and another guy at a shitty 157I DINER, sad Christmas decor. Sacha doesn't eat, she writes on a pad.

157Fa MIKE'S COMPUTER. 21 days until deadline. The story 157Fa is further along...

157Fb Matt drives down the street in HIS CAR, eyes on an old 157Fb man, putting down salt on the front walk of the TREATMENT CENTER.

157E In BEN'S OFFICE, Mike watches Ben and Robby read the 157E story. Cross outs. He hands it back to Mike. Not there yet.

11/26/14 123.

157F A SMALL HYDE PARK LIVING ROOM. A man in 40s cries, 157F talking to Sacha. A Christmas tree in the background.

157J MIKE'S COMPUTER. 8 days until deadline. More edits on 157J the story. FIND Mike in his APARTMENT. Editing. A beer by the computer...

157Ja An E-MAIL to Robby from Ben: 'Where are we on your 157Ja source? It's time.' Find Robby IN HIS OFFICE, staring at the computer.

157M A night mass at an EAST BOSTON CHURCH. 157M

As the children's choir finishes Silent Night, we FIND Mike, in the doorway, standing there. Watching. Cut to --

161 EXT. SULLIVAN HOUSE, BROOKLINE - NIGHT 161

The door of a pretty colonial, a wreath still up. A hand knocks. The door opens. A pretty woman (JIM'S WIFE) smiles.

JIM'S WIFE

Robby. What a nice surprise.

REVEAL Robby at the door. He walks into --

162 INT. SULLIVAN HOUSE, JIM'S HOME OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER 162

Jim sits at on a leather couch watching golf. Through a door, we see a Christmas tree. His wife and Robby walk in.

JIM'S WIFE

Look who I found outside.

Jim looks up, less than happy to see Robby standing there.

JIM:

Hon, give us a minute, will you?

Jim's wife looks surprised.

JIM'S WIFE

Sure.

ROBBY:

Good to see you, Karen.

She leaves. Jim turns off the TV,

JIM:

What's up?

Robby pulls out a list, hands it to Jim.

11/26/14 124.

ROBBY:

I'm out of time, Jim. We've got cover-up stories on 70 priests, but the boss isn't gonna run it unless I get confirmation from your side.

Jim turns off the TV, looks it over.

JIM:

Are you out of your mind?

ROBBY:

Come on. This is our town, Jimmy. We all knew something was going on and no one did a thing. We gotta put an end to it.

JIM:

Don't tell me what I gotta do!
Yeah, I helped defend these
scumbags, but that's my job, Robby.
I was doing my job!

ROBBY:

Yeah. You and everyone else.
Jim stands, hands Robby the list.

JIM:

Get out of my house.
163 EXT. SULLIVAN HOUSE, BROOKLINE - MOMENTS LATER 163
Robby walks out of the house, toward his car.

JIM:

Hey!
Robby turns, finds Sullivan.
JIM (CONT'D)
You come to my home and lay this
shit on me!
(then)
You're right, Robby, we all knew
something was going to on. So where
were you? What took you so long?!
This lands with Robby. No answer.

ROBBY:

I don't know, Jimmy.
Jim shakes his head, looks like he might slug Robby.
11/26/14 125.

JIM:

Give me the list.
Jim holds out his hand. Robby hands him the list. Jim eyes
the first page, flips to the second. He checks the names...
then flips back. He looks at Robby. Holds out a hand for a
pen. Robby gives him one.
Jim leans on the roof of Robby's car. Marks up the list,
then hands it back to Robby. Nothing more to say, Jim turns
and walks away. Robby looks down at the list. Reacts.
THE ENTIRE first page is CIRCLED. And the second.
163A EXT. GLOBE - DAY (FORMERLY 171A, ALREADY SHOT) 163A
The Globe Building. Snow falls.
MIKE (INTO PHONE, PRELAP)

Larry, we're going to press in six hours.

164 INT. GLOBE, SPOTLIGHT OFFICE - DAY 164

Mike and Matt work the phones.

MATT (INTO PHONE)

Donna Morrissey said she'd call us with a quote from Law hours ago.

MIKE (INTO PHONE)

That's what I thought. Okay, Larry.

MATT (INTO PHONE)

When did you talk to her? *

Yeah. That's good to know. *

Thanks, Pete.

They hang up. Mike walks to the coffee machine.

MIKE:

Anything?

MATT:

Conley said Donna Morrissey should have called, he just left Lake Street.

MIKE:

Yeah. Rasky said the same thing.

MATT:

This is ridiculous. You'd think they want to get out ahead of this.
11/26/14 126.

MIKE:

They'd be idiots not to. I'd love to see their faces when they read this.

Both of them wait.

MATT:

You know, Sunday's the Feast of the Epiphany.

MIKE:

Seems appropriate.

The phone rings. Mike grabs it.

MIKE (INTO PHONE) (CONT'D)

Mike Rezendes. Hi Donna. Thanks for calling. I just had a few questions if you have a minute....

Mike listens. Matt waits.

MIKE (CONT'D)

What? I just hung up with Larry Rasky...

He listens, then grabs a pad and starts writing furiously.

165 INT. GLOBE, MARTY'S OFFICE - DAY 165

Marty sits reading copy. He crosses something out. Ben, Robby and Sacha sit opposite Marty.

BEN:

What?

MARTY:

Another adjective.

Mike and Matt roll in.

ROBBY:

Anything?

MIKE:

Law just turned us down.

BEN:

Jesus Christ.

MIKE:

I just got off the phone with Donna Morrissey. She said, quote:

11/26/14 127.

(MORE)

(off his pad)

"We don't even want to know what the questions are." End quote.

ROBBY:

She really said that?

MIKE:

(slight smile)

Yeah.

BEN:

(to Marty)

That oughta do it.

MARTY:

(writing)

"The Church had no interest in knowing what the Globe's questions would be."

(hands it to Mike)

Work it in somewhere before the jump.

(to the team)

Anything else?

ROBBY:

Matt wants to put the letters online so readers can see it for themselves.

MATT:

We can run the URL at the bottom of the article. It's pretty straightforward.

No one really knows what that means.

MARTY:

Okay.

MATT:

We also put the Spotlight tip line at the end of the story so people can call in. Goes directly to our office.

SACHA:

Matt and I will be in in the morning in case we get any calls.

BEN:

I'm more concerned about the phones at reception.

11/26/14 128.

MIKE (CONT'D)

(MORE)

After we ran the Porter story, the message center was tied up for weeks. It was a real problem.

MATT:

And we had picketers. Lots of them.

MARTY:

I'll talk to Gilman about security and the phones.

(to Robby)

How's it coming on the folo story?

Robby looks to Sacha.

SACHA:

We've nailed down multiple stories on seventy priests.

MARTY:

All seventy?

SACHA:

Yeah. And with the confirmation from Robby's source, we're ready to go. We can have a draft next week.

MARTY:

Robby, that source of yours, is this someone we could revisit?

ROBBY:

Might be tough.

BEN:

But he has no problem helping the church protect dozens of dirty priests. Guy's a scumbag.

Matt glances at Robby. Who's looking at Ben.

MATT:

He's a lawyer, he's doing his job.

MIKE:

He a shill for the Church.

BEN:

He knew and did nothing.

MIKE:

He coulda said something about this
years ago. Maybe saved some lives.

11/26/14 129.

BEN (CONT'D)

ROBBY:

What about us?

BEN:

What's that supposed to mean?

ROBBY:

We had all the pieces. Why didn't
we get it sooner?

BEN:

We didn't have all the pieces.

ROBBY:

We had Saviano, we had Barrett, we
had Geoghan. We had the directories
in the basement.

BEN:

You know what? We got it now.

MIKE:

Robby, this story needed Spotlight.

ROBBY:

Spotlight's been around since 1970.

BEN:

So what? We didn't know the scope
of this. No one did. This started
with one goddamn priest, Robby.

Robby looks at Sacha. A beat.

ROBBY:

MacLeish sent us a letter on 20
priests, years ago. Sacha found the
clip.

MIKE:

Are you freaking kidding me? 20
priests?

BEN:

When?

SACHA:

Just after Porter. December of '93.

ROBBY:

We buried the story in Metro. No
folo. Sacha found the clip.
11/26/14 130.

BEN:

That was you. You were Metro.

ROBBY:

Yeah, that was me. I'd just taken
over. I don't remember it at all.
But yeah.
The room quiets. Gut punch. Ben shakes his head.

MARTY:

Uh, can I say something?

They turn to him.

MARTY (CONT'D)

Sometimes it's easy to forget that
we spend most of our time stumbling
around in the dark. Suddenly a
light gets turned on, and there's
fair share of blame to go around.
(then)

I can't speak to what happened
before I arrived but all of you have
done some very good reporting here,

reporting that I believe is going to have an immediate and considerable impact on our readers.

(then)

For me, this kind of story is why we do this.

The team takes this in.

MARTY (CONT'D)

Having said that, Cardinal Law and the Catholic community are going to have a very strong response to this.

So if you need to take a moment, you've earned it. But I will need you back here Monday morning focused and ready to do your job.

165A EXT. GLOBE - NIGHT (FORMERLY 171A, ALREADY SHOT) 165A

The building is dark, save for the PRESS ROOM. Through the window, we see the presses. Running.

166 INT. GLOBE, BEN'S OFFICE - NIGHT (FORMERLY 166A) 166

Ben, coat on, sits alone in his office.

MARTY (O.C.)

Leaving?

11/26/14 131.

Ben looks up. Marty's in the door. Ben stands.

BEN:

Yeah.

Ben walks out into --

166A EXT. GLOBE NEWSROOM - CONTINUOUS (FORMERLY 166B) 166A

Ben and Marty walk across the quiet press room.

MARTY:

I just got a call from the Cardinal.

BEN:

Really. Why?

MARTY:

He wanted to tell me personally that he had decided not to comment. He said he wanted to, uh, extend me that courtesy.

BEN:

Jesus, the balls on that guy.
What'd you say?

MARTY:

I told him he was making a mistake.
And that we were going to run the
story.

BEN:

Damn right we're gonna run it.
166B INT. GLOBE, PRESSES - NIGHT 166B
The papers run...
167 INT. SACHA'S GRANDMOTHER'S HOUSE, DINING ROOM = NIGHT 167
Old, delicate hands move slowly over copy. Find Sacha's
Grandmother reading an early edition of the paper. Upset.
Sacha, sitting nearby, watches her. But there's no emotion,
no empathy. She's blank, empty. Nothing left to feel...
SACHA'S GRANDMOTHER
Sacha, can I have a drink of water?

SACHA:

Sure, Nana.
Sacha gets up, walks into the kitchen.
11/26/14 132.
167A INT. GLOBE, LOADING DOCKS - NIGHT 167A
Bundles of papers fly down CIRCULAR CHUTES into the trucks.
INSIDE THE TRUCKS, men grab the bundles, and stack them.
168 INT. GARABEDIAN'S OFFICE, CONFERENCE ROOM = NIGHT 168
REVEAL Mitch standing behind his desk, at the window. He
reads another early edition. Then folds it up and hands it
back to Mike... who's standing in front of the desk.

GARABEDIAN:

Can I keep this?

MIKE:

Sure. I thought you should see it
first.

GARABEDIAN:

Thank you for bringing it by. Now I
have some clients I have to attend
to.
Mitch goes back to work. Same old Mitch. Mike walks out.

169 INT. GARABEDIAN OFFICE, HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS. 169
Mike walks back toward the elevator. He presses the button,
waits, hears children laughing. He peers into --
170 INT. GARABEDIAN OFFICE, SMALL WAITING ROOM - CONTINUOUS 170
A MOTHER sits with TWO YOUNG CHILDREN, ten and eight, playing
innocently. The mother, distraught, fingers ROSARY BEADS.
It's reminiscent of our open.

GARABEDIAN:

Both boys were abused. Jamaica
Plain. Two weeks ago.
In the HALLWAY, Garabedian stands behind Mike.
GARABEDIAN (CONT'D)
Keep doing your work, Mr. Rezendes.
He goes in. Mike just stands there, GUTTED. Off Mike, his
reflection playing on the window, CUT TO --

172A EXT. GLOBE - NIGHT 172A
The GREEN AND GOLD TRUCKS roll out from the Globe. We see
headlights, a car waits for the trucks to pass.
PUSH IN... and we see it's Robby behind the wheel. CUT INTO --
11/26/14 133.

172B INT. ROBBY'S CAR - SAME TIME 172B
Robby sits in his car watching the trucks roll out.
A173 EXT. BOSTON - DAWN A173
The SPARKLING BOSTON SKYLINE. The City on the Hill.
173 EXT. WEST ROXBURY, BOSTON - EARLY MORNING 173
A welcome mat. A copy of the Globe is slapped down. We see

the HEADLINE:

Reveal Matt walking away from the door. We see it's the
treatment center near his house.
174 INT. GLOBE, HALLWAY - EARLY MORNING 174
We're behind Sacha as she walks down the hall. She opens the
firehose box, grabs a key. Unlocks the door to Spotlight.
174A INT. GLOBE, SPOTLIGHT - EARLY MORNING 174A
Sacha enters, turns on the lights, takes off her coat. Matt
enters.

MATT:

Hey.

SACHA:

Morning.

MATT:

How'd you sleep?

SACHA:

Not very well. You?

MATT:

I haven't slept well for months.

I've actually started writing.

SACHA:

Writing?

MATT:

Yeah, I'm working on a book. Gives me something else to focus on.

SACHA:

That's great. What kind of book?

MATT:

Horror.

11/26/14 134.

Sacha reacts, the irony not lost on her. The phone RINGS.

The tip line. They both stare. At last, Matt picks up.

MATT (INTO PHONE) (CONT'D)

Spotlight. Yeah. Yeah, of course.

Can I get your name please?

He grabs a pen. As he and Sacha trade a look, CUT TO --

175 EXT. GLOBE, FRONT PARKING LOT - MORNING 175

The small visitor's lot at the Globe entrance is empty, save

for MIKE'S CAR. Idling. Robby's car enters, pulls up next

to Mike's. Robby looks across at Mike. The two men connect.

Mike and Robby get out of their cars.

ROBBY:

You do know it's Sunday, right?

MIKE:

I couldn't get a tee time.

Robby smiles. Mike notes the SECURITY GUARDS at the entrance.

MIKE (CONT'D)

No picketers.

ROBBY:

Probably still at church.

They walk in. Warriors returning home.

177 INT. GLOBE, NEWSROOM - EARLY MORNING 177

Mike and Robby walk into the newsroom. It's QUIET. Mike and Robby share a CONFUSED look as they reach the desk. LINDA, the operator, and two others sit by the phones. BORED.

ROBBY:

Hey Linda.

MIKE:

It's quiet, huh?

LINDA:

Yeah. Easiest overtime I ever made, phone hasn't rung once. Marty sent two of mine down to Spotlight.

Mike and Robby trade a look. Spotlight? They start moving.
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LINDA (CONT'D)

(calls out after them)
Great article guys.

ROBBY:

Thank you.

MIKE:

Thanks.

They hustle through the empty newsroom, heading downstairs. We hold on Marty, in his office. Working. As always.

178 INT. GLOBE, HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS 178

Robby and Mike charge from the stairwell. They quickly walk down the corridor with purpose. As they do, we hear...

A MURMUR. Buzzing. And RINGING PHONES. Mike and Robby trade a look, pick up the pace. As they approach Spotlight, the murmur GROWS. We hear more phones... and VOICES...

Mike and Robby get to the door. We HOLD ON them for a second as they stand in the doorway, looking into --

179 INT. GLOBE, SPOTLIGHT OFFICE - CONTINUOUS 179

Chaos. Sacha and Matt and two INTERNS answering phones. Overwhelmed. An intern cups a phone, turns to Matt --

INTERN:

I got another Shanley victim. SACHA
I'll take it.
(to Robby)
The phones have been ringing
all morning.
Sacha takes the call. Nearby, Matt's on the phone, marking
up the board... it has tons of new names, phone numbers.
MATTY (INTO THE PHONE)
Uh huh, yeah. I know it's
tough to talk about.
SACHA (INTO THE PHONE)
This is Sacha Pfeiffer. Yes,
thank you for calling. Who am
I speaking with?
Mike and Robby stare. Matt spots them.
MATT (INTO PHONE)
Hold one minute please.
(to Mike)
Mike, could you grab that?
Mike moves for his desk, grabs the phone.
MATT (CONT'D)
They're almost all victims, Robby.
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This lands on Robby. A beat. Then he moves to his desk.
Passing Mike, already picking up a phone...
MIKE (INTO PHONE)
This is Spotlight.
Robby moves to his desk. He watches the team answering
phones, working. A beat. Then he grabs a phone.
ROBBY (INTO PHONE)
Spotlight.
FADE TO BLACK.
A CARD APPEARS.
Over the course of 2002, the Spotlight team published
close to 600 stories about the scandal.
The card fades. ANOTHER CARD APPEARS.
249 priests and brothers were publicly accused of
sexual abuse within the Boston Archdiocese.
The number of survivors in Boston is estimated to be
well over 1,000.
The card fades. ANOTHER CARD APPEARS.
In December 2002, Cardinal Law resigned from the
Boston Archdiocese.
He was re-assigned to the Basilica di Santa Maria

Maggiore in Rome, one of the highest ranking Roman Catholic churches in the world.

The card fades. ANOTHER CARD APPEARS.

Major abuse scandals have been uncovered in the following places:

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Anchorage AK, Fairbanks AK, St. Michael AK, Stebbins AK, Mobile AL, Phoenix AZ, Tucson AZ, Yuma AZ, Los Angeles CA, Los Gatos CA, Monterey CA, Oakland CA, Orange CA, Sacramento CA, San Bernardino CA, San Diego CA, Santa Barbara CA, Santa Rosa CA, Stockton CA, Denver CO, Bridgeport CT, Hartford CT, Wilmington DE, Miami FL, Palm Beach FL, Marietta GA, Savannah GA, Honolulu HI, Davenport IA, Dubuque IA, Farmington IA, Grand Mound IA, Chicago IL, Joliet IL, Peoria IL, Indianapolis IN, Conway Springs KS, Kansas City KS, Anchorage KY, Covington KY, Louisville KY, New Orleans LA, Fall River MA, Springfield MA, Wellesley MA, Worcester MA, Baltimore MD, Portland ME, Detroit MI, Grand Rapids MI, Collegeville MN, Greenbush MN, Onamia MN, St.Paul/Minneapolis MN, Cape Girardeau MO, Hannibal MO, Kansas City MO, St. Louis MO, Jackson MS, Billings MT, Helena MT, St. Ignatius MT, Raleigh NC, Fargo ND, Lincoln NE, Omaha NE, Manchester NH, Camden NJ, Mendham NJ, Gallup NM, Santa Fe NM, Albany NY, Brooklyn NY, Goshen NY, New York NY, Rochester NY, Rockville Centre NY, Cincinnati OH, Cleveland OH, Toledo OH, Baker OR, Portland OR, Altoona PA, Philadelphia PA, Pittsburgh PA, Scranton PA, East Greenwich RI, Providence RI, Charleston SC, Marty Indian School SD, Rosebud Reservation SD, Memphis TN, Nashville TN, Dallas TX, El Paso TX, Fort Worth TX, San Antonio TX, Richmond VA, Burlington VT, Briscoe Memorial, WA, Seattle WA, Spokane WA, Yakima WA, Milwaukee WI, St. Francis WI

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Berazategui Argentina, Buenos Aires Argentina, Mor.n Argentina, Paran. Argentina, Pilar Argentina, Quilmes Argentina, Salta Argentina, Adelaide Australia, Ballarat Australia, Bass Hill Australia, Bathurst Australia, Bindoon Australia, Canberra Australia, Dandenong Australia, Goulburn Australia, Hobart Australia, Lancefield Australia, Melbourne Australia, Mildura Australia, Mittagong Australia, Morisset

Australia, Mount Isa Australia, Neerkol Australia,
Newcastle Australia, Perth Australia, Sydney
Australia, Toowoomba Australia, Wagga Wagga
Australia, Wollongong Australia, Hollabrunn Austria,
Bruges Belgium, Flawinne Belgium, Ottr. Belgium,
Arapiraca Brazil, Franca Brazil, Mariana Brazil, Rio
de Janeiro Brazil, Antigonish Canada, Chatham Canada,
Igloolik Canada, Sherbrooke Canada, St. John's
Canada, Wilno Canada, Cottolengo Chile, Maip. Chile,
Melipilla Chile, Quilicura Chile, Santiago Chile,
Medell.n Colombia, Rab Croatia, Santo Domingo
Dominican Republic, London England, Manchester
England, Middlesbrough England, Preston England,
Reading England, Caen France, Saint-Jean-de-Maurienne
France, Berlin Germany, Munich Germany, Riekhofen
Germany, Ollur India, Curracloe Ireland, Dublin
Ireland, Gortahork Ireland, Kilnacrott Ireland,
Letterfrack Ireland, Lota Ireland, Monageer Ireland,
Wexford Ireland, Nairobi Kenya, Ngong Kenya, Ciudad
de M.xico M.xico, Cuacnopalan M.xico, San Luis Potos.
M.xico, Auckland New Zealand, Christchurch New
Zealand, Feilding New Zealand, Hamilton New Zealand,
Masterton New Zealand, Silverstream New Zealand,
Akute Nigeria, Kircubbin Northern Ireland, Trondheim
Norway, Ayacucho Peru, Chimbote Peru, Bontoc
Philippines, Cebu City Philippines, Manila
Philippines, Naval Philippines, Tubay Philippines,
Poznan Poland, Edinburgh Scotland, Rufisque Senegal,
Bo Sierra Leone, Brits South Africa, Cape Town South
Africa, Comillas Spain, Grenada Spain, Soni Tanzania,
M.rida Venezuela

FADE OUT.

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