

PSYCH

"Gus, Don't Be a Serial Killer"

Written by

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TEASER

INT. GUS' APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

All is quiet and dark in Gus' apartment.

The front door opens, and the light switches on, revealing Gus, coming in and closing the door. He wears a business suit, and carries his briefcase. He locks the door and walks toward the back of the apartment.

INT. GUS' APARTMENT - BEDROOM

Gus opens his closet and grabs a pair of pajamas. He closes the closet.

He turns, but then stops. He turns back and opens the closet.

He frowns, and looks through the clothes, pushing some of them aside.

GUS

What the...?

He shakes his head and closes the closet door.

INT. GUS' APARTMENT - BATHROOM

Gus walks into his bathroom (in his pajamas now) and switches on the light. He grabs his toothbrush and the toothpaste, but does a double take at the cup that holds his toothbrush.

Another toothbrush is in the cup.

Gus frowns.

A faint CLICKING is heard, the sound of somebody unlocking the door.

Gus spins around, dropping the toothbrush and toothpaste.

Nervously, he grabs the TOILET PLUNGER and walks out of the bathroom.

INT. GUS' APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM

A man steps inside and closes the door, but the only part of him that is visible is his back.

Gus creeps through the hall, not able to see the man yet.

The man turns and walks to the kitchen, but only his lower half is visible.

Gus slowly follows, wielding his toilet plunger like a sword.

INT. GUS' APARTMENT - KITCHEN

The man walks into the kitchen and turns on the light. He opens the refrigerator and bends inside, looking around.

Gus sneaks around the corner and rushes the intruder, girlishly screaming and waving the plunger.

The man turns around calmly, revealing himself to be Shawn. On seeing the plunger, he screams and grabs a plate of leftover meatloaf and holds it in front of him to defend himself from the plunger. The meatloaf falls off and drops onto the floor.

While Shawn was grabbing the meatloaf, Gus had stopped and stared at him. Upon seeing the meatloaf fall onto the floor, he sets the plunger down and glares at Shawn.

GUS

Shawn, you ruined a perfectly good serving of meatloaf!

SHAWN

Well, it's better that an innocent meatloaf is ruined in its prime instead of me being attacked by a toilet plunger. Not only might it hurt, but it's disgusting. I'd have to take at least three showers afterward. It'd be criminal.

Gus glares at him, and grabs some paper towels.

GUS

So is breaking into my apartment.

SHAWN

I didn't break in; I have a key.

Gus bends over and cleans the meatloaf up off the floor.

Shawn turns around and opens the refrigerator again.

GUS

What are you doing here, Shawn? And why is half of your wardrobe in my closet, and your toothbrush making itself at home next to mine?

SHAWN

Well, I took advantage of the fact that the apartment I'm currently living in used to be a diner, and I tried to make roasted pineapple. Who knew that it would smell so bad? Not only did the pizza place next door complain, but a cute family of rats invaded. So an exterminator is going to come in tomorrow, followed by a cleaning lady the day after. That makes me temporarily homeless, so I need a place to crash for a few days.

Gus has finished cleaning up the meatloaf, and is now continuing to glare at Shawn.

GUS

No way, Shawn. I like my apartment clean and undisturbed.

SHAWN

And it'll stay that way, I promise.

GUS

Nope.

SHAWN

Please?

GUS

Nope.

Shawn starts to talk, but his phone rings. He pulls it out of his pocket.

SHAWN

Hold that thought; it's Juliet.

GUS

You can't say, 'Hold that thought' when it's your turn to speak, Shawn.

SHAWN

Who are you to decide? I'm the one who was speaking, that makes whatever I say perfectly normal.

GUS

No, it doesn't, Shawn. It's improper grammar.

SHAWN

Fine, whatever. Just let me move in for a few days.

GUS

Answer the phone, Shawn!

SHAWN

Not until you give me an answer.

GUS

Shawn!

Shawn refuses to look at Gus.

GUS (CONT'D)

Somebody could be dying!

SHAWN

Based on previous cases, he or she probably is already dead.

GUS

Whatever, just answer the phone.

Shawn shakes his head.

Gus glares at Shawn.

Shawn's phone continues to ring.

GUS (CONT'D)

Fine, you can move in with me. Now answer the phone!

Shawn pumps his fist.

SHAWN

Thanks, buddy. I knew you wouldn't let me down.

GUS

Answer it!

SHAWN

Oh, yeah.

Shawn answers his phone.

SHAWN (CONT'D)

Hey, Jules. What's up?

INT. SANTA BARBARA POLICE DEPARTMENT - LATER

Shawn and Gus walk into the police department, and they are greeted by Juliet.

JULIET

Come on; the chief is waiting for you guys.

SHAWN

What's so important that it can't wait until tomorrow morning?

JULIET

Because I'm guessing that by the time you wake up, it will be too late.

(pauses)

Gus would probably be awake for it, though.

GUS

You know that's right.

SHAWN

Awake for what?

Juliet doesn't answer.

INT. SANTA BARBARA POLICE DEPARTMENT - CONFERENCE ROOM -  
CONTINUOUS

Shawn, Gus, and Juliet walk into the conference room, where Lassiter and the Chief are waiting.

Shawn opens his mouth, but the Chief holds up a finger.

CHIEF VICK

No jokes, Spencer; we need to get to work right away.

SHAWN

I was just going to say that--

The Chief holds up her finger again.

SHAWN (CONT'D)

I can't even--

The Chief glares at him.

Lassiter picks up an evidence bag from the table, a YELLOW POST-IT NOTE inside.

LASSITER

This was found stuck to a females' dead body on the front steps when Dobson and a couple of other uniforms came back from the robbery down at Wal-Mart. We checked the security cameras, but the person who left it was covered head to toe.

CHIEF VICK

Forensics are trying to identify the dead body right now, but that's the least of our concerns.

(to Lassiter)

Lassiter, if you would.

Lassiter clears his throat.

LASSITER

We are the Brothers Marx--Groucho, Chico, Harpo, and Zeppo, your new best friends. It is a pleasure. You know by Zeppo's present that this no prank; everything is on the up and up.

Shawn interrupts.

SHAWN

All that on a Post-It note? Wow, that guy could write a book on an unfolded napkin.

CHIEF VICK

(very sternly)

Spencer!

SHAWN

(surprised)

Sorry, Chief.

Lassiter turns the note over.

LASSITER

Tomorrow morning when the clock strikes eight, on the corner of Ortega and Anacapa, someone will die at the hands of Harpo--X marks the spot.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

INT. SANTA BARBARA POLICE DEPARTMENT - CONFERENCE ROOM -  
LATER

Shawn, Gus, Lassiter, and Juliet sit at the table, all of them staring at the Post-It note in the middle of the table.

The Chief walks in, putting her phone in her pocket.

CHIEF VICK

I sent officers to camp out overnight, guard the area, and report anything suspicious. They just called back and reported a large X marked on the street corner, made with duct tape. We're guarding it and not letting anybody near it, but these guys seems really confident. I have a feeling we're not doing enough.

LASSITER

Maybe their names are a clue. Maybe there's a clue in the old films.

SHAWN

Really, Lassie? That's the best you've got?

CHIEF VICK

It's a start, Spencer, and unless you can offer anything better, I'd suggest you keep your mouth shut and your mind open.

GUS

I'm wondering what the killer means by the clock strikes eight. Does he mean by eight exactly, or the eighth chime after it turns eight?

Everyone ponders this.

JULIET

What really bothers me is the "up and up". Why are the words in capital letters?

SHAWN

Well, at first I thought that maybe the murder would take place on the top floor of a building, but then the Chief got her call, so...

Lassiter's eyes widen.

LASSITER

Up and up! He's telling us to look up! He's going to drop the body onto the X from the roof!

Chief Vick points at Lassiter.

CHIEF VICK

That's good, Carlton. I'll get an air cushion down there right away, and I'll have some of the officers patrolling in the buildings nearest the X.

The Chief walks out of the room, pulling her phone out again.

SHAWN

I don't know, Lassie. I think this guy would find a more sure way to kill somebody exactly on the X. There's a good chance of missing if you drop a guy from that height.

LASSITER

Think about it, Spencer. This guy is trying to show off. He challenged us directly, telling us exactly when and where a person would die. He's going to try to murder his victim in the flashiest way possible.

Shawn shakes his head.

SHAWN

I think the idea of this kind of challenge is enough flashiness for this guy. Besides, he wouldn't dare step foot in the building. He knows that we would have officers in there.

Lassiter stands up.

LASSITER

We'll see. I'm going to bed; we have a rough morning ahead.

Lassiter leaves, and Juliet stands up.

JULIET

Good night, guys.

SHAWN  
Jules... He's wrong...

Juliet shrugs apologetically and leaves.

Shawn sighs.

GUS  
I think he's wrong, too, Shawn. We need to be there early tomorrow so we can do some investigating.

SHAWN  
If by early you mean seven fifty-nine, then yes, I can do that.

GUS  
Shawn, a guy's life can hang in the balance.

SHAWN  
All right, fine. Seven fifty-eight.

GUS  
(sternly)  
Shawn.

SHAWN  
(exasperated)  
All right! Wake me up when you want to leave, but if it's before seven, I'll invite my rat friends over to your apartment.

GUS  
Deal.

EXT. CORNER OF ORTEGA AND ANACAPA - THE NEXT DAY

Several policemen stand around a large X on the street corner, marked by duct tape.

Shawn and Gus walk over and duck under the police tape.

Buzz comes to greet them.

BUZZ  
Hey, guys.

SHAWN  
Hey, Buzz. Anything exciting happen while we were gone?

Buzz shakes his head.

BUZZ

Did you find anything nearby?

SHAWN

Nope. We spent almost an hour looking through nearby buildings and alleys, but we found zip. What time is it?

BUZZ

Take a look for yourself.

Buzz points past Shawn.

Shawn turns to a CLOCK TOWER, which is a block away, but the face of the clock is clearly visible.

BUZZ (CONT'D)

We're pretty sure that's the time the killer is going by.

SHAWN

Seven fifty-seven. At least we got back in time.

Shawn looks around, not really expecting to see anything.

CLOSE IN on the stop light pole. There is a small black chip stuck to the surface of the pole.

SHAWN (CONT'D)

(shouting)

Lassie!

Unknown to Shawn, Lassiter and Juliet had been walking up behind him and was about to greet him, so when Shawn shouts, Lassiter lets out a small grunt of pain and holds a hand to his ear.

LASSITER

(growling)

What?

Shawn turns around, surprised to see him.

SHAWN

There you are.

Shawn walks toward the stop light, motioning for Gus, Lassiter, and Juliet to follow.

Shawn stops at the pole, looking closely at the chip.

LASSITER  
What are you looking at.

Shawn points at the chip.

SHAWN  
Look closely.

Lassiter winces.

LASSITER  
It's a bug! They're listening in.

SHAWN  
No, it's not a bug.

Juliet, with gloved hands, peels the chip off and holds it in her palm.

Shawn holds his fingers to his head and closes his eyes.

SHAWN (CONT'D)  
That's a GPS transmitter.

LASSITER  
How could you know that?

SHAWN  
Psychic, remember?

Lassiter rolls his eyes.

LASSITER  
Well, what is it transmitting to?

Shawn shrugs.

SHAWN  
It could be a missile.

Lassiter flips out.

LASSITER  
A missile? We need to get everybody out of here!

SHAWN  
Relax, Lassie. I seriously doubt this guys is using a missile to kill a single person. It's probably transmitting this location to somebody, telling them where to go.

LASSITER

Like who?

Shawn looks around, and a faint whirring sound is heard in the background. He points up in the air.

SHAWN

Like them.

They all look up.

A helicopter arrives from the distance, high up in the sky.

LASSITER

He's not going to drop the body  
from the roof, he's going to drop  
it from the helicopter! I've got to  
get the guys with the air cushion.

The helicopter stops moving several hundred feet above them, and it just hovers.

GUS

(whispering)

How did you know it was a GPS  
transmitter?

SHAWN

(whispering back)

I worked in an electronics store  
for a few days.

Juliet looks around.

JULIET

He's going to miss by a few yards.

Lassiter and several other men bring the air cushion over.

LASSITER

Not only will nobody die, but the  
idiot will miss the X.

The helicopter still hovers.

JULIET

What is he waiting for?

SHAWN

The clock.

The group turns to the clock. The minute hand moves and hits the twelve. A loud CHIME sounds.

The helicopter just hovers.

SHAWN (CONT'D)  
I guess it is on the eighth chime.

The clock chimes again.

LASSITER  
Get ready, guys!

SHAWN  
I can't believe Lassie was right.

The clock chimes again.

SHAWN (CONT'D)  
He's never right.

The clock chimes again.

Above, the helicopter door opens.

The clock chimes again.

A man comes into view, a gun held to his head, and a hand on his shoulder.

LASSITER  
Steady!

The clock chimes again.

Shawn winces at the helicopter door.

CLOSE IN on the door. The "man" is limp, held up only by the hand on his shoulder.

SHAWN  
That's not a man, that's a mannequin.

GUS  
What?

The clock chimes again, and the "man" in the helicopter is let loose, falling through the air rapidly.

Shawn ignores the falling mass, and looks around wildly.

He looks at the X, where a police officer stands right on top of it, staring up at the helicopter.

Shawn continues to look around.

CLOSE IN on a window of a building nearby. There is a flash, as a metallic object reflects the sun.

Shawn runs toward the police officer and jumps at him just a loud BANG sounds at the same time as the clock chimes again.

The mannequin lands on the air cushion, while Gus runs toward Shawn.

The police officers realize what has happened, and they drop the air cushion to come to Shawn's aid.

Shawn pulls the officer off of the ground, but he has been shot in the chest.

                  SHAWN  
                  (shocked)  
                  He's dead.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

INT. SANTA BARBARA POLICE DEPARTMENT - LATER

Shawn and Gus walk in, both of them somber.

SHAWN

I could have saved him. I wasn't fast enough.

GUS

No, you couldn't have. He made sure of that.

SHAWN

Gus, don't be...

Shawn's voice trails off, and he shakes his head.

GUS

It's gonna be okay, Shawn. We're gonna catch this guy.

Shawn nods, unsure.

INT. SANTA BARBARA POLICE DEPARTMENT - CHIEF VICK'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Shawn and Gus walk into Chief Vick's office, where the Chief, Lassiter, and Juliet are waiting.

SHAWN

What is it?

CHIEF VICK

We got an ID off the first body, a Louise Jacobsen, twenty-two years old. Coroner says she was killed by blunt force trauma to the head. I want you to go with Detectives Lassiter and O'Hara to her house. Immediately after that, I want you to go to Officer Woods' house and talk to his family.

Lassiter hands a file to Shawn, who opens it. He sighs, and then closes it again.

SHAWN

I don't know, Chief. I'm a little shaken.

Lassiter stands up and places a hand on Shawn's shoulder.

LASSITER

You tried, Shawn, and that's what matters. Now we need your help if we're going to catch him.

Shawn slowly nods.

SHAWN

Thanks, Carlton.

Gus, Juliet, and the Chief stare strangely at them, surprised by them acting peacefully around each other.

Lassiter notices them starting to stare, and he takes his hand off Shawn's shoulder.

LASSITER

(gruffly)

Now let's get to work.

INT. SANTA BARBARA POLICE DEPARTMENT - MOMENTS LATER

Shawn, Gus, Lassiter, and Juliet walk into the open area of the police department.

LASSITER

(shouting)

Listen up!

Everyone turns and looks at Lassiter.

LASSITER (CONT'D)

This scum has killed Officer Woods, a cop, and you know what that means. He must be found and brought to justice. I want every cop in this department working on this, even if they're sick or on vacation. Bring them in and fill them in. Let's get to work!

EXT. KATHY'S HOUSE

Lassiter and Juliet are waiting on the sidewalk while Shawn and Gus get out of their car.

SHAWN

(to Gus)

I'm just saying, it's not every day somebody dies in your arms.

LASSITER

Get yourself together, Spencer. We need your A game... if there is such a thing.

SHAWN

Ah, there's the Lassie we know and love.

JULIET

He's right, Shawn. I'm not a psychic, but I'm sure it's hard to focus on premonitions and such while you're thinking about somebody's death.

Shawn nods.

SHAWN

All right, Jules. Although, some ice cream would really help to drive the point home.

GUS

We'll get some when we leave.

SHAWN

Deal.

They knock fists.

LASSITER

And there's the Spencer we've come to know and ignore.

Lassiter turns toward the house.

SHAWN

Oh, come on, Lassie. I know you can do better than that.

INT. KATHY'S HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Lassiter and Juliet are sitting in the living room with KATHY MCBRIDE (early 20's), Juliet with her hand on Kathy's shoulder, who is crying. Shawn and Gus are standing.

KATHY

(between sobs)

We've lived together for two years now; we've been best friends for life. I knew something was wrong when I got home at midnight and she wasn't waiting for me.

JULIET  
When was the last time you saw her?

KATHY  
Yesterday afternoon. She was going  
on a date with her boyfriend Jeff.

Lassiter writes on his pad.

JULIET  
How long has she been dating Jeff?

KATHY  
Just a few weeks. I don't know much  
about him, though. She doesn't talk  
about her boyfriends much. He lives  
just down the road, though. It's  
the house with the green Mustang in  
the driveway.

Shawn makes a face.

SHAWN  
(whispering)  
Green Mustang? No wonder she didn't  
talk about her boyfriends.

GUS  
Shh!

KATHY  
I don't even remember the name of  
her last boyfriend. He was mean,  
though. I offered him cookies, but  
he didn't take them.

Kathy continues sobbing.

Shawn makes quiet snoring noises.

Gus elbows him.

SHAWN  
Ow!

Gus glares at him.

SHAWN (CONT'D)  
(to Kathy)  
I'm a psychic, Kathy. If you tell  
me which room belonged to Louise,  
it could help a lot.

KATHY  
Up the stairs and to the right.

INT. KATHY'S HOUSE - KATHY'S ROOM

Shawn and Gus enter.

GUS  
What are we looking for?

SHAWN  
Anything that can tell us where she  
was last night.

Shawn looks around her bed, while Gus looks around her desk.

GUS  
We can just talk to Jeff, her  
boyfriend.

Shawn spots several pictures of Louise and her current  
boyfriends on her dresser.

SHAWN  
Never trust the boyfriend, Gus.  
Never trust the boyfriend.

Shawn looks under her bed, and pulls out a DIARY.

SHAWN (CONT'D)  
Aha!

GUS  
Shawn, that's a girl's diary. You  
can't read that.

SHAWN  
Gus, don't be a Christmas present  
that got lost in the mail. She's  
dead; she won't mind.

Gus looks around, and then sits on the bed next to Shawn.

Shawn opens the diary and flips through it.

SHAWN (CONT'D)  
Huh...

He keeps searching.

SHAWN (CONT'D)  
(interested)  
Uh huh...

More searching, and then he stops and stares.

SHAWN (CONT'D)  
Now that's just weird.

GUS  
(annoyed)  
Shawn.

Shawn closes the diary and tosses it back underneath the bed.

SHAWN  
Nothing under yesterday, but I didn't know it was possible to have so many boyfriends in the span of one month. There's Philip, David, Mason, another David, Jacob, Ryan, Mark, and now Jeff. And that was only this month. I wouldn't be surprised if I dated her at one point.

Gus' phone rings, and he answers it.

GUS  
Hello?

Gus pauses, and then glares at Shawn.

GUS (CONT'D)  
Hold on just a second.  
(to Shawn)  
Why is there a moving truck in my parking space?

SHAWN  
Oh, yeah... That's just to hold my stuff while the exterminator is working.

GUS  
The parking lot is for tenants only, Shawn. Not to mention the fact that it's my parking space, and I need to park somewhere.

SHAWN  
Park across the street today.

GUS  
At the Hotel Tortuga? That's for customers only.

SHAWN

Park--

GUS

No, Shawn. Get the moving truck out of my parking space before I tell them to drive it into the ocean.

Shawn sighs.

SHAWN

All right, give me the phone.

Juliet enters.

JULIET

Guys, we need to hold off the rest of the trip. We just got another note.

EXT. STATE STREET - EVENING

Shawn, Gus, Lassiter, and Juliet are on the side of the road. Officers are everywhere, and in the middle of the road, there is a large X made with red tape.

LASSITER

I don't see how any murder could be committed here. We've cleaned out all of the buildings overlooking this point, we've thoroughly blocked off the road, and officers are everywhere, ready to fire.

SHAWN

He'll find a way. Read the note again; maybe there's a clue.

LASSITER

(from note)

Harpo had fun. My turn. Yours truly, Chico.

Lassiter puts the note back in his pocket.

LASSITER (CONT'D)

The time and address is on the back, and everything is in large letters as opposed to yesterday's note. We're definitely dealing with more than one killer.

GUS

How much time left?

JULIET  
About seven minutes.

LASSITER  
I think we've beaten him this time.

Shawn shakes his head.

SHAWN  
I don't think so.

A police car drives up to them, its left wheel on top of the X. Buzz gets out.

LASSITER  
What are you doing, McNab? You're on the X!

Buzz looks back.

BUZZ  
Oh, that's okay. We still have four minutes left. I just came to let you guys know what I learned after talking to Jeff, victim number one's boyfriend.

LASSITER  
Well?

BUZZ  
They went to Mike's Italian last night for their date, along with Jeff's sister Marie, and her date. I checked the security cameras, and they left unharmed. Marie and her date confirmed that they dropped off Louise after the date, and then they went out for drinks. Louise didn't go because she didn't drink.

LASSITER  
So you came to tell me that we found Jeff, along with two other people, and none of them did it?

BUZZ  
Well... yeah...

Lassiter holds back his anger.

LASSITER

Get the car out of here, and help  
the other officers with crowd  
control.

BUZZ

Yes, sir.

Buzz gets in his car and tries to start it, but it doesn't start.

Lassiter sighs impatiently.

Buzz tries to start it again, but it just won't start.

Shawn crouches down.

CLOSE IN under the car, where gas is dripping from Buzz's car.

Shawn stands up and looks down the road in the direction that Buzz's car came from. There is a long trail of gas.

SHAWN

Uh, Lassie? Somebody really didn't  
want Buzz going anywhere...

Shawn points to the gas.

Lassiter's eyes widen.

LASSITER

(shouting)

Get out of the car, Buzz!

Buzz leaps out, and Lassiter climbs into the patrol car. He searches the dashboard and under the seats.

SHAWN

Open the trunk, Lassie!

Lassiter presses a button, and the trunk opens.

Shawn runs around toward the back and stares into the trunk.

Gus, Lassiter, and Juliet go to the back of the car and stare along with Shawn.

Inside the trunk is a contraption wired to a timer. The timer reads 5:06, and it counts down closer to zero.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

Shawn, Gus, Lassiter, and Juliet stand and stare at the bomb, which reads 5:06.

LASSITER

It's a bomb.

(to Buzz)

Where's the bomb squad? I know I called them.

BUZZ

Uh... They're busy.

LASSITER

Busy? What on earth could they be busy with?

BUZZ

Defusing a bomb.

LASSITER

Two bombs on the same night? What a coincidence.

BUZZ

Not coincidence. The bomb is in their office.

Lassiter groans.

LASSITER

Of course. "Chico" doesn't want them available to defuse this one.

Lassiter slams his hand down on the car.

SHAWN

Not the best idea with a bomb in the trunk, Lassie.

LASSITER

Shut up, Spencer.

(to Buzz)

Get everyone as far away from here as possible. I'll try to defuse the bomb.

BUZZ

Yes, sir.

Shawn stares at the bomb.

GUS  
(very nervously)  
Come on, Shawn. We need to get out  
of here.

Shawn frowns.

SHAWN  
No...

JULIET  
Now, Shawn!

SHAWN  
No, this was too easy.

LASSITER  
What?

SHAWN  
This is a diversion.

JULIET  
What are you talking about?

SHAWN  
It's like the mannequin in the  
helicopter. This is too easy. It's  
a diversion!

LASSITER  
What if you're wrong?

Shawn pauses, and then shrugs.

SHAWN  
Then I die.

Lassiter shakes his head.

LASSITER  
Get out of here, Spencer.

He grabs Shawn's arm, but Shawn yanks it out of his grasp.

SHAWN  
No, I'm staying. I'm not going to  
leave you to disarm a bomb that  
can't be disarmed.

JULIET  
Shawn, please!

Shawn shakes his head, and then looks around.

SHAWN

No, he wants Lassie or somebody to stick around and try to defuse the bomb. But since it's not a bomb, it's impossible to defuse. Therefore, we would run out of time. Meanwhile, he has the right amount of time to set up and kill somebody. Or maybe, he doesn't need to set up. Maybe he already has. And while he's cutting the gas line, he has the perfect opportunity to set up.

Shawn turns to Lassiter.

SHAWN (CONT'D)

Lassie, where would you put a bomb if you didn't want anybody to find it?

Lassiter shrugs.

LASSITER

In the tire space, I guess.

Shawn drops to the ground and crawls under the car.

SHAWN

How about strapped to the bottom of the car?

Lassiter's eyes widen again.

Attached to the bottom of the car is the real bomb.

SHAWN (CONT'D)

Lassie, can you tell me how to defuse a bomb in two minutes and fifteen seconds?

LASSITER

Spencer, get out of there!

Shawn's phone rings. Caller ID reveals the caller to be Henry.

SHAWN (CONT'D)

Hold on a second!

He answers the phone.

SHAWN (CONT'D)

Hey, Dad, what's up?

HENRY

Shawn, what is a moving truck doing in my driveway? I can't park my car!

SHAWN

Dad, this may not be the best time to be having this discussion.

HENRY

Right, because I'm sure whatever you're doing is a whole lot more important than me parking my car.

SHAWN

Dad, I'm trying to figure out how to defuse a bomb!

HENRY

Shawn, if you don't want to talk to me, just say so.

SHAWN

Dad, I really can't talk right now.

HENRY

Tell you what, I have to go to the hardware store anyway. You have an hour to get that truck out of my driveway, or I'm telling him to put everything in the middle of the road.

SHAWN

Deal!

Shawn hangs up and puts the phone in his pocket.

LASSITER

Get out, Spencer!

SHAWN

No! We won't have time to go anywhere! We'll die anyway.

JULIET

Shawn, please, come out.

SHAWN

No, Jules. I've gotta stop this.

GUS

Shawn, I think this would be a good time to do what Lassiter says.

Shawn sighs

SHAWN  
Okay... but I'm not coming out  
alone...

Shawn carefully removes the bomb from the bottom of the car  
and comes out.

LASSITER  
(almost hysteric)  
You removed it?!

SHAWN  
Relax, it wasn't wired to the car,  
just taped to it.

LASSITER  
Give it to me... carefully...

Shawn slowly hands over the bomb.

SHAWN  
Now what?

GUS  
Cut the red wire!

Lassiter turns to Gus.

LASSITER  
You know how to defuse a bomb?

GUS  
Well, no, but Bruce Willis does.

SHAWN  
And Tom Cruise.

GUS  
And George Clooney.

LASSITER  
Enough!

Lassiter pulls out a pocket knife and holds it to the wires.  
The timer reads thirteen seconds.

LASSITER (CONT'D)  
Which one?

Green!

SHAWN

Red!

GUS

JULIET  
(at the same time as Shawn  
and Gus)  
Blue!

Lassiter, confused and desperate, cuts the black wire.

Nothing happens, and the timer continues to run.

The timer reaches five seconds. Gus winces and whimpers, Lassiter takes a deep breath, and Shawn wraps his arms around Juliet and holds her close.

The timer reaches one, and then zero.

And then... nothing.

Shawn, Gus, Lassiter, and Juliet still stand there.

Lassiter lets his breath out, Gus looks around to see if anybody saw him in his girly pose, and Shawn and Juliet uncomfortably separate themselves.

LASSITER  
It worked?

Lassiter smiles, and then starts laughing nervously.

LASSITER (CONT'D)  
I defused a bomb!

Juliet starts to say something to Shawn, but changes her mind.

Shawn takes a deep breath.

SHAWN  
That was fun.

INT. SANTA BARBARA POLICE DEPARTMENT - CHIEF VICK'S OFFICE

Shawn, Gus, Lassiter, and Juliet stand in Chief Vick's office, and the Chief sits at her desk.

CHIEF VICK  
That was very stupid of you, Shawn.  
You could have died.

SHAWN  
I'm a psychic, Chief. I think you  
could give me more credit.

The Chief glares at him.

SHAWN (CONT'D)  
Just a little more?

The Chief doesn't respond.

SHAWN (CONT'D)  
Okay, fine. The next time I run  
into a bomb, I promise I won't try  
to stay and defuse it. Deal?

The Chief ignores him.

CHIEF VICK  
Head Detective, I'm glad you tried  
to get him out of there, and I'm  
proud of you for defusing the bomb  
and saving the lives of two  
civilians and a fellow detective.

LASSITER  
Thank you, Chief. I was just doing  
my job.

CHIEF VICK  
I think you two owe him your  
thanks.

GUS  
We already thanked him.

SHAWN  
It hurt enough the first time;  
don't make us do it again.

The Chief looks at Shawn, and then back at the rest of the  
group.

CHIEF VICK  
I had a couple of uniforms go to  
Officer Woods' house, but they  
didn't learn anything. Spencer, I  
need you to catch these men before  
they can kill again.

Shawn nods.

SHAWN

Will do, Chief, but I need some sleep first. I am beat.

The Chief looks at him for a moment, and then responds.

CHIEF VICK

Fine. I expect you back here first thing in the morning, however.

Shawn salutes.

SHAWN

Yes, Chief.

INT. GUS' APARTMENT - KITCHEN - LATER

Shawn grabs milk from the refrigerator and fills two glasses.

He puts the milk back and turns around, giving one glass to Gus.

SHAWN

I don't know, Gus. Something about this just doesn't feel right.

GUS

Two grown men living together? You bet something doesn't feel right.

SHAWN

Not that. I was talking about the case. Why are these guys killing people so quickly after the last one was killed? Why aren't they spreading the murders out nice and easy?

GUS

Maybe after "Groucho" tries to kill somebody, they'll take a break, rinse, lather, and repeat.

SHAWN

Hmmm. Maybe. But there's something else that bugs me. Why kill the first victim by hitting her over the head, and then the rest in flashy ways? They didn't even give us a note for the first one.

Shawn finishes off his milk and rinses his glass.

SHAWN (CONT'D)

I'm going to sleep on it, and maybe we can get this case solved before somebody else dies.

GUS

Don't sleep too long; he may decide to kill somebody while you're sleeping.

SHAWN

Serial killers need sleep, too, Gus.

GUS

True.

INT. GUS' APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Shawn collapses on the couch and wraps the blanket over himself.

SHAWN

(shouting into the  
bedroom)

Wake me up if somebody dies!

GUS

(groggily)

Uh huh.

INT. GUS' APARTMENT - LIVING ROOM - THE NEXT DAY

Shawn sleeps on the couch in an awkward position, clutching at his pillow and snoring with his mouth open.

A BUZZING noise is heard, and Shawn is startled awake. He looks around wildly.

The buzzing continues, and Shawn grabs a banana that's on the table and holds it to his ear, still very tired.

SHAWN

(into banana)

Hello?

Quickly, he realizes what he's doing, and he pulls his phone out and answers it.

SHAWN (CONT'D)

Hello?

CHIEF VICK  
(over phone)  
Spencer, get down to the station as  
fast as you can, and don't stop  
anywhere.

SHAWN  
Why? What's up?

INT. SANTA BARBARA POLICE DEPARTMENT - CHIEF VICK'S OFFICE -  
CONTINUOUS

The Chief sits at her desk, talking on the phone and looking  
at a note. Buzz stands in front of the desk, being the one  
who discovered the note.

CHIEF VICK  
We got another note.

Over the Chief's shoulder, the words on the note are visible:  
"No more games. Chico is mad that he missed his turn. Another  
one of your own dies today."

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

INT. SANTA BARBARA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Shawn and Gus run into the seemingly empty police department and directly into the Chief's office.

INT. SANTA BARBARA POLICE DEPARTMENT - CHIEF VICK'S OFFICE

The Chief is pacing back and forth, and Lassiter and Juliet are sitting down in the chairs. Buzz is standing next to the wall, holding a folder.

Shawn and Gus burst in, trying to catch their breaths.

CHIEF VICK

Thank goodness you're here. We've called in everybody, and we're doing a head count in the conference room. We have ten minutes before somebody is supposed to die down on Haley Street. O'Hara, I want you to go double-check the holding cells in case this is an attempt for a prison break, however unlikely that may be.

SHAWN

What do you need us to do?

CHIEF VICK

I need you to psychically figure out how he's planning to take one of us, but more importantly, who.

Buzz clears his throat.

CHIEF VICK (CONT'D)

What do you need, McNab? Why aren't you in the conference room with the others?

BUZZ

I just came to give you Dobson's report from the robbery at the Wal-Mart.

Shawn's ears perk up.

SHAWN

(whispering to Gus)  
Isn't the Wal-Mart right next to Mike's Italian?

GUS

Yeah.

Shawn grabs the report from Buzz before he can hand it to the Chief.

CHIEF VICK

(surprised)

Mr. Spencer!

Shawn opens the report and looks at the section of Investigating Officers. There are three names: Dobson, Carmichael, and Brothers.

FLASHBACK of Shawn and Gus the morning before. One of the several officers has a name tag that reads, "M. Brothers".

FLASHBACK of Kathy saying, "I don't even remember the name of her last boyfriend. He was mean, though."

FLASHBACK of the pictures in Louise's bedroom. In one of them, the police officer M. Brothers was there, with his arm around Louise.

FLASHBACK of Shawn reciting Louise's boyfriends.

SHAWN

(in flashback)

There's Philip, David, Mason,  
another David, Jacob, Ryan, Mark,  
and now Jeff.

Back in the present, the Chief stares at him.

CHIEF VICK

Mr. Spencer, did you have a vision?

Lassiter scoffs.

Shawn points to M. Brothers in the report.

SHAWN

Buzz, is this guy's first name  
Mark?

Buzz nods and smiles.

BUZZ

Yeah, how'd you know that?

SHAWN

What is his middle name?

GUS

How would he know Mark's middle's name?

BUZZ

I actually do know it. It's Samuel.

Shawn is shocked, and it's written all over his face. He sits down.

CHIEF VICK

What is it, Mr. Spencer?

SHAWN

Mark Samuel Brothers. Mark S. Brothers. Marx Brothers!

The Chief's mouth drops open.

CHIEF VICK

Oh, no.

LASSITER

(shocked)

It's one of us.

SHAWN

He was the boyfriend of Louise Jacobsen, but during an investigation at Wal-Mart, he must have seen Louise dating another man. He must have been so mad that he followed her home and killed her. But then, he must have realized that we would eventually identify him as a past boyfriend, so he made it look like a random killing, the work of a serial killer. To further confuse us, he had us looking for a group of serial killers, rather than a single one. Of course, idiot used his own name, which was incredibly stupid. It all makes sense. He could easily sneak into a building after it had been searched to shoot Officer Woods. He had access to Buzz's car to cut the gas line and plant the bomb. And now...

Shawn looks out of the Chief's office.

SHAWN (CONT'D)

He has access to any one of us,  
including anyone who happened to  
double-check the holding cells.

GUS

(horrified)

Juliet should have been back by  
now.

Shawn spins around and runs out of the office.

LASSITER

Spencer!

INT. SANTA BARBARA POLICE DEPARTMENT - HOLDING CELLS

Shawn runs down the stairs and into the area with the holding  
cells.

Lassiter runs up behind him.

Shawn turns to him.

SHAWN

She's gone.

Lassiter clenches his fist and runs back up the stairs.

Shawn looks around the room.

SHAWN (CONT'D)

She's gone.

Gus runs down the stairs.

GUS

Shawn, come on! We're going to  
Haley Street to try to stop  
Brothers!

EXT. SANTA BARBARA POLICE DEPARTMENT - MOMENTS LATER

Shawn, Gus, Lassiter, and Chief Vick run out of the police  
station and to Lassiter's car. They pile in.

Behind them, a good forty or so police officers burst out of  
the police station and run to their cars.

Lassiter's car peels out.

EXT. HALEY STREET - MOMENTS LATER

Juliet hangs by her hands several feet above the ground, high enough that if she were to fall, she would die. Her hands are tied to a hook, which is attached to the cable of a crane, sitting at the edge of a construction site. Her mouth is gagged.

SIRENS are heard faintly, but growing quickly. Juliet hears them and struggles against her bonds, but they hold securely.

Down on the street, Lassiter's car comes to a SCREECHING halt, and Lassiter leaps out. He runs toward the construction site, his gun out.

LASSITER  
(shouting)  
O'Hara!

Juliet screams against her gag and shakes her head wildly.

A voice BLARES from a speaker on the sidewalk. The voice belongs to MARK BROTHERS.

BROTHERS  
Don't come any closer! With a push of a button, I can blow up the crane, releasing the rope and your pretty detective!

Lassiter stops and looks around. Shawn, Gus, and the Chief run up behind him.

BROTHERS (CONT'D)  
I'm not surprised you didn't come earlier. I'd imagine you'd call in all your officers to make sure you had everybody. However, nobody can keep us from accomplishing our goals. I felt it was time for one of us to talk with you, so I set up the speaker for that purpose. A mike is nearby so I can hear you grieve over your dead detective.

Several squad cars pull up behind Lassiter's car, and all of the police men jump out and run up behind Lassiter, Buzz at the lead.

LASSITER  
You can quit with the games,  
Brothers; we know who you really  
are.

BROTHERS

How...?

(pause)

It doesn't matter. It does change my plan, however. If you know who I really am, then I need to disappear. I want to walk away from this place a free man.

Shawn looks at Juliet, and their eyes meet. She slightly motions with her head, and her eyes dart toward a building. He looks at the building, and sees some movement on the roof. He nods at Juliet.

LASSITER

That's not going to happen, Brothers. You killed a cop.

Shawn motions for Gus to follow him, and he runs into the building Juliet nodded toward.

BROTHERS

Yes, but another one will die if I don't get what I want.

Lassiter sighs.

LASSITER

What exactly do you want?

BROTHERS

I want you to walk back to the station and leave your guns and cars here. I set up a camera at the police station a long time ago, and I have the feed in my laptop, which I have with me. That way, I'll know when you get there.

LASSITER

How do we know that you'll let her go?

BROTHERS

You don't. You have to trust me.

LASSITER

That's the last thing I'll ever do.

BROTHERS

Then she'll die.

Lassiter looks at Chief Vick, who talks.

CHIEF VICK  
This is Chief Vick. Tell you  
what...

Her voice trails off as we cut to...

EXT. ROOF OF BUILDING - CONTINUOUS

Shawn slowly opens the door leading to the roof and steps out.

On the opposite side of the roof, overlooking the construction site, is a man, hunched over, with his thumb on a button.

EXT. HALEY STREET - MEANWHILE

Lassiter looks around.

LASSITER  
(to Buzz)  
Where's Spencer?

Buzz points at the building they ran into.

Lassiter looks up and sees the man on the roof.

LASSITER (CONT'D)  
(mumbling)  
Spencer...

EXT. ROOF OF BUILDING

Shawn and Gus slowly walk up behind Brothers.

Gus steps on a candy wrapper, and the cellophane CRINKLES.

Brothers spins around.

SHAWN  
Nice one, Gus.

EXT. HALEY STREET

On the ground below, Chief Vick and the officers hear Shawn on the speaker, and they are confused. They look around.

EXT. ROOF OF BUILDING

Brothers holds his thumb closer to the button.

BROTHERS  
Hello, Spencer. I've seen you  
around the station.

SHAWN  
I can't say the same.

BROTHERS  
Stand back unless you want "Jules"  
to die.

Brothers says "Jules" mockingly.

Shawn and Gus stand still.

SHAWN  
Don't do it, Mark. It's not worth  
it. You're surrounded. Do you  
really think you're going to get  
out of this alive if you hurt her?

Brothers doesn't respond.

SHAWN (CONT'D)  
Just put it down. Take one of us  
hostage. Preferably Gus.

Gus elbows him.

SHAWN (CONT'D)  
I was just joking.

GUS  
Not funny, Shawn.

BROTHERS  
Cut it with the jokes and get back  
down to the street.

SHAWN  
Please, just don't hurt her. Not  
like the others. Not like Louise.

Brothers is visibly moved by this.

BROTHERS  
(sadly)  
I loved her.

SHAWN  
I know.

BROTHERS  
(almost crying)  
She betrayed me.

SHAWN  
I know.

Brothers is starting to break down.

SHAWN (CONT'D)  
It'll all be okay. Just put down  
the button-thingy.

GUS  
(whispering)  
Trigger.

SHAWN  
(whispering back)  
I've heard it both ways.

GUS  
That may be, but it's best to use  
proper grammar when talking to a  
criminal who controls the life of  
someone you care about.

SHAWN  
Just let me do the talking. You  
just stand there and look  
apologetic.

GUS  
Why do I always have to stand  
there?

SHAWN  
Because I'm the psychic.

GUS  
You're not really psychic.

They trail off into whisper-arguing until Shawn finally turns back to Brothers.

SHAWN  
Put the trigger down, and  
everything will be okay.

Brothers slowly nods, and he bends over to put the trigger on the ground.

Suddenly, the door to the roof opens, and Lassiter steps out onto the roof with his gun at the ready.

LASSITER  
Freeze!

Brothers is startled, and he fumbles with the trigger. He accidentally drops it on the ground, and the button presses itself. In the background, the crane blows up.

SHAWN  
(shouting)  
No!

Lassiter is shocked, but he quickly recovers. He grabs Brothers and cuffs him.

Shawn and Gus race to the edge of the roof and look over.

Unknown to them, Juliet steps onto the roof behind Lassiter with a gun ready.

JULIET  
Oh, good. You got him.

Shawn and Gus spin around.

SHAWN  
But... you...

Juliet smiles.

JULIET  
Buzz let me down while you guys  
were talking.

Shawn looks back over the edge at Buzz, who smiles and waves back.

Shawn smiles and waves.

SHAWN  
Good old Buzz.

He looks at Juliet, who smiles back at him.

END OF ACT FOUR

TAG

INT. SANTA BARBARA POLICE DEPARTMENT - LATER

Shawn and Gus walk through the police department.

SHAWN

Remember, Gus. We go in, get our  
check, and get out.

GUS

Why the rush?

The enter the chief's office.

INT. SANTA BARBARA POLICE DEPARTMENT - CHIEF VICK'S OFFICE -  
CONTINUOUS

Shawn and Gus enter. The Chief, Lassiter, and Juliet are  
inside.

SHAWN

Hiya, Chief. We're here for our  
check.

The Chief hands it to Shawn.

CHIEF VICK

Thank you for your part in saving a  
exemplary detective and capturing a  
serial killer, Mr. Spencer.

JULIET

(smiling)

Thank you, Shawn.

Shawn smiles.

GUS

I'd say it was a healthful learning  
experience, and we--

Shawn elbows Gus.

GUS (CONT'D)

What?

SHAWN

(mumbling)

Get in, get out.

GUS

Oh, yeah.

Chief Vick stares, confused.

GUS (CONT'D)

Well, we do have other cases to solve.

CHIEF VICK

What are you guys working on?

GUS

A client called... with... um...

SHAWN

Their elephant was stolen.

CHIEF VICK

(surprised)

An elephant?

SHAWN

Yes, the elephant of one Mr...  
Hazim.

CHIEF VICK

Well, that sounds important.

SHAWN

It is, and we must be going. Thank  
you and goodbye.

Shawn and Gus turn around and leave rather quickly.

EXT. SANTA BARBARA POLICE DEPARTMENT - MOMENTS LATER

Shawn and Gus jog down the steps of the police department.

GUS

Why did we leave in such a hurry?

Gus slows down and stares at a truck in the parking lot.

GUS (CONT'D)

Is that your moving truck?

SHAWN

Yup.

Shawn grabs Gus' arm, and they run off-camera.