

**Boston Legal**  
**Dances With Wolves**  
**Season 5, Episode 3**  
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**Denny Crane and Jerry Espenson are having drinks in a bar.**

**Denny Crane:** Let me tell you something, and you heard it here first...

**Jerry Espenson:** 'Kay.

**Denny Crane:** Obama's trouble with women is nothing to do with the Hillarys, most of whom are lesbians by the way, and you can quote me on that.

**Jerry Espenson:** I think I won't.

**Denny Crane:** Comes from Bill.

**Jerry Espenson:** Bill?

**Denny Crane:** He's been with a lot of women! Left most of them with a bad taste in their mouth. **He looks knowingly at Jerry and waits for Jerry to laugh. Which he does, Denny laughs along with him. Jerry stops and turns serious. Denny looks at him for a moment.** So, uh, Jerry? **Jerry nods.** You and I are having a drink. What's

the deal? Cause I think you're weird.

**Jerry Espenson:** Okay. I come up for partner this fall, Mr. Crane.

**Denny Crane:** Call me Denny. No, don't.

**Jerry Espenson:** And when I do, I expect your full support.

**Denny Crane:** Why would I want a weird guy for a partner?

**Jerry Espenson:** Because I've earned it, and to get it I'm going to need your support.

**Denny and Jerry are out in the parking lot now.**

**Denny Crane:** Here's my question to you, "Do you really want it?"

**Jerry Espenson:** Yes, I do.

**Denny Crane:** Because being a partner in a law firm isn't all it's cracked up to be.

**Dan:** **He comes out from behind a car.** But the money's good. **He is standing in front of Denny and Jerry. He is African-American.** Right?

**A beat.**

**Denny Crane:** Who are you?

**Dan:** I'm part of the Neighborhood Crime Watch. The way this works is you watch... **He pulls out a gun and points it at Denny.** I commit the crime.

**Jerry Espenson:** Oh my God.

**Denny Crane:** Now, now...

**Dan:** No, no. There's no talking. You just give me your watch and wallet. Now.

**Denny Crane:** **He looks at Jerry who starts removing his watch.** Here's my problem, you're black.

**Jerry Espenson:** **He gulps/gasps.** Mr. Crane!

**Dan:** What?

**Denny Crane:** I'm Denny Crane. I'm a big shot.

**Dan:** So am I. **He lifts his gun higher and points it again.**

**Denny Crane:** If you kill me, the headline is gonna be, "Black Guy Kills White Big Shot." And that's the last thing we need when we're trying to elect an African-American as president.

**Jerry Espenson:** Dear God!



Dan: How 'bout if I just blow your brains out right now?

Denny Crane: That doesn't work for me. **To Jerry.** Work for you?

Jerry Espenson: Denny, please!

Dan: Hey. **He cocks his gun.**

Denny Crane: All right, all right. all right. **He takes off his watch.** Watch. **He takes out his wallet.** Wallet. **He hands them to Dan who takes them and starts putting them away.** Gun! **Denny has his gun out.** Kneecap! **He shoots.** Right foot! **He shoots again.** Left foot! **And again.** **Dan falls down screaming in agony.** Thank God for guns! Huh Jerry? Only in America. Sweet land of Liberty Valence.

**Denny is in his office with Alan Shore and Shirley Schmidt.**

Shirley Schmidt: Are you all right?

Denny Crane: Of course I am! Why wouldn't I by all right? It was just an attempted mugging! And no...

Alan Shore: And you absolutely had to shoot him?

Denny Crane: I shoot people all the time!

Alan Shore: And you had to shoot him three times?

Denny Crane: If you say so.

Alan Shore: In both feet?

Officer Kent Stone: **He comes in, another officer right behind him.** Mr. Crane?

Denny Crane: I told you everything last night!

Officer Kent Stone: Yes, and we appreciate that, sir, but unfortunately we haven't been sent to get your statement.

Denny Crane: What is it then? **He reaches for a pen.** Autograph?

Officer Kent Stone: No, sir. I apologize but we're here to arrest you.

Denny Crane: Arrest me?

Shirley Schmidt: What's going on?

Officer Kent Stone: Look, if it was up to me Mr. Crane...

Alan Shore: What are the charges?

Officer Kent Stone: Possession of a concealed firearm.

Denny Crane: Oh please!

Shirley Schmidt: You can't be serious! This man was mugged!

Officer Kent Stone: I realize that. I also realize that his having a gun helped us catch a gun we've been looking for, but the law is the law and Mr. Crane broke it. **He looks to the second officer and motions him forward to handcuff Denny Crane.** Please put your hands behind your back, sir.

Denny Crane: This is unbelievable.

Officer Kent Stone: You have the right to remain silent...

Denny Crane: I know my rights. Well, let me tell you, I'm never silent. Everything about me makes noise. **He assumes the position and farts. He turns toward the second officer who removes two guns from Denny's inside jacket pockets, then two more, then one more from the back of Denny's waistband.** I want those back when we're done.



**Shirley Schmidt is in her office with Alan and Carl Sack.**

Shirley Schmidt: The arraignment is at ten-thirty.

Alan Shore: I'm on my way.

Shirley Schmidt: He doesn't want you, Alan.

Alan Shore: Excuse me?

Shirley Schmidt: He thinks you're too anti-gun.

Alan Shore: **A beat.** Oh! Did he say who he did want?

Shirley Schmidt: Angelina Jolie! But, that's not going to happen. Carl? Do you think you can go?

Carl Sack: Me? I'm not pro-gun.

Shirley Schmidt: Please.  
 Joanna Monroe: **She knocks.** Alan.  
 Alan Shore: **He turns.** Joanna? Hello!  
 Joanna Monroe: Sorry to disturb. I have a bit of an emergency.

**Alan is leading Joanne into his office.**

Joanna Monroe: My ex-husband. He's trying to take my daughter. He says my being a sex-surrogate makes me an unfit mother.  
 Alan Shore: How old is she?  
 Joanna Monroe: Ten. And I've only worked part-time since she was born. I've been pretty much stay-at-home.  
 Alan Shore: Have you had sole custody?  
 Joanna Monroe: No, split. But he's going for sole. I wouldn't get to have her at all.  
 Alan Shore: Okay, look, let me set a meeting with his attorney.  
 Joanna Monroe: He can't win this, can he?  
 Alan Shore: Let me just talk...  
 Joanna Monroe: She's my little girl.  
 Alan Shore: Joanna, you're not gonna lose her.



**The clerk leads Denny into Judge Clark Brown's courtroom.**

Clerk: Three-two-eight-eight-eight. The Commonwealth versus Denny Crane on the charge of possession of a concealed wea...  
 Carl Sack: Your Honor, Carl Sack for the defendant. We'll waive the reading.  
 Judge Clark Brown: For God's sake! What has he done now?  
**Denny raises his hands and shakes his head helplessly.**  
 Carl Sack: What's he done, Your Honor, was to have the temerity to defend himself against an armed assailant.  
 A.D.A Christopher Palmer: The charge is for possession of a concealed firearm, not shooting.  
 Denny Crane: I have a constitutional right to bear arms. Ask the Supreme Court.  
 A.D.A Christopher Palmer: The Supreme Court did not give him the right to conceal the firearm without a carry permit.  
 Denny Crane: I got a note from Dick Cheney.  
 Judge Clark Brown: Mr. Crane! You've been accused of breaking the law! You will stand trial! Is that clear?  
 Denny Crane: Your Honor, shouldn't you recuse yourself? After all, I did tell you to bite me that time.  
 Judge Clark Brown: When?  
 Denny Crane: It was ah... oh, come to think if it now, actually. Bite me.  
**The Judge pounds his gavel.**



**Denny and Carl are walking in corridor at Crane, Poole and Schmidt,.**

Carl Sack: You cannot, cannot, cannot, cannot antagonize the Judge.  
 Denny Crane: Oh, please.  
 Carl Sack: You know the jury will take its cues from him.  
 Shirley Schmidt: **She meets up with them.** What's going on?  
 Carl Sack: We go to trial.  
 Denny Crane: Uh, Jerry! **Denny hails Jerry who is walking by. Jerry stops.** You'll be second-chairing.  
 Jerry Espenson: Won't I be a witness?

Denny Crane: I want you as co-counsel. Who better to close than somebody who stared down the barrel of the gun?  
 Carl Sack: You... want him... to close?



Denny Crane: Why not?

Shirley Schmidt: Denny, do you want to get off or not?

Denny Crane: My place or yours? **Shirley turns and walks away in disgust.** Bring the outfit.

Jerry Espenson: Denny. I'm not really comfortable arguing this one.

Denny Crane: **Firmly.** Jerry, do you wanna make partner? **A beat as Jerry doesn't answer.** You gotta take one for the team. **A beat. Then Denny smiles and walks off.**

**Alan, Joanna, Attorney Emma Path and Martin Monrow are in the CP&S conference room.**

Attorney Emma Path: It's an unstable environment. She's a perv, and we're not budging.

Alan Shore: Okay, first...

Attorney Emma Path: And don't try any of your disgusting strategies to unsettle me.

Alan Shore: Well, who's to say what's disgusting? I could offer to close my eyes and suck on you as if you were a giant love peach.

Attorney Emma Path: I'm giving you thirty seconds to state your case and then I'm out the door.

Alan Shore: Emma...

Attorney Emma Path: And don't call me by my first name.

Alan Shore: Daniella is doing very well with the current custody arrangement. She's healthy, happy, very active, she gets straight A's in school...

Attorney Emma Path: Her mother sells her body as a sex worker.

Alan Shore: She's not a sex worker! She's a certified health professional who offers sex surrogacy as one of many therapeutic approaches to help people suffering with a dysfunction.

Attorney Emma Path: I understand you were one of her clients.

Alan Shore: Yes! She taught me several things I'd love to pass on to you. Shall we just get a room?

Attorney Emma Path: Disgusting.

Martin Monrow: Look, we're talking about a ten-year-old girl here. I can't have you around her.

Joanna Monroe: Martin, the shared custody...

Martin Monrow: You and I don't see eye-to-eye. We can't make decisions together. I'm afraid of your influence. Of the impact you might make on her. I, I just can't have it.

Attorney Emma Path: We'll see you in court, Stud Muffin. **She gets up to leave.**

Denny Crane: Whoa! **Denny comes in and Emma walks right into his arms, which Denny puts around her. All the way around! Grabbing her ass as he does so.** Tenderloin. **Emma hauls off and slaps Denny.** Tease!



**Alan is in the lounge area of his office with Joanna.**

Alan Shore: Your ex-husband will testify first. Then you.

Joanna Monroe: Okay.

Alan Shore: We'll try to avoid having to call Daniella. But she'll likely at least have to talk to a Judge. In chambers.

Joanna Monroe: Okay.

Alan Shore: Joanna, it would take a lot for a Judge to deny a mother custody of any kind.

Joanna Monroe: Most mothers don't do what I do.

Alan Shore: There's that. **He gets up to walk to his desk.**

Joanna Monroe: Alan? How are you doing?

Alan Shore: **He chuckles.** Me? Fine! Why?

Joanna Monroe: Just asking.

Alan Shore: Joanna, you never just ask. What are you getting at?

Joanna Monroe: Well, your dialog with opposing counsel was especially aggressive. Sexually aggressive.

Alan Shore: That was just lawyer's gamesmanship.

Joanna Monroe: The language I heard was not simply for another lawyer. It was for a woman.

Alan Shore: Say what's on your mind, Joanna.

**Joanna Monroe:** Okay. Well, I've never said it before, but there's a part of you that's always been sexist. But now you seem to be losing the ability, even the inclination, to connect with a woman in a non-sexual way. What used to be a part is becoming the whole.

**Alan Shore:** *He takes a moment to let this sink in.* Now, given that your life with your daughter is about to be decided. I would think that the last thing you want to do right now is to distract me.

**Joanna Monroe:** Well, you're right. I apologize.

**Alan Shore:** *A beat.* Let's go.

*In Judge Clark Brown's courtroom.*

*A.D.A Christopher Palmer has Officer Kent Stone on direct.*

**Officer Kent Stone:** We pulled three guns off him at the scene. When we went to arrest him the next day he had five more guns on him. He also had a little propane thing that wasn't legal.

**A.D.A Christopher Palmer:** A propane thing?

**Officer Kent Stone:** It was a device strapped to his buttocks. Basically he could break wind and turn his ass into a blow torch.

**A.D.A Christopher Palmer:** And did he have any carry permits for these weapons?

**Officer Kent Stone:** No, sir. He did not.

**Carl Sack:** *He is now up.* What would have happened had Mr. Crane not been armed?

**A.D.A Christopher Palmer:** Objection! Calls for speculation!

**Carl Sack:** Your Honor, this officer has fifteen years experience with criminals and their conduct. He has foundation to speculate.

**Judge Clark Brown:** I'll allow it.

**Carl Sack:** How do you think it would have gone down?

**Officer Kent Stone:** I'm sure he would have been mugged.

**Carl Sack:** Possibly killed?

**Officer Kent Stone:** Possibly. But it's also possible...

**Carl Sack:** Thank you, officer. You've answered my question. Oh! One more thing, officer, honestly, when you arrested Mr. Crane, did you want to?

**A.D.A Christopher Palmer:** Objection!

**Judge Clark Brown:** That one's sustained.

**Denny Crane:** No, Your Honor... *He gets up.* If I may.

**Judge Clark Brown:** What?

**Denny Crane:** By sustaining the objection the jury will never learn that the officer really didn't wanna arrest me.

*He turns to the jury.* Which he really didn't wanna do.

*The Judge pounds his gavel.*

*In Judge Paula Stern's courtroom Attorney Emma Path has Martin Monrow on direct.*

**Martin Monrow:** I'm sorry, but her sex job makes her an inappropriate parent.

**Alan Shore:** Objection to the term "sex job". It's inaccurate and makes me giggle.

**Judge Paula Stern:** Mr. Shore, you turn this courtroom into a playground and I'm gonna come down there and beat the crap outta you. Ms. Path? Please.

**Attorney Emma Path:** And while this would be a call to action at any point in Daniella's life, it is of even more pronounced concern at her current age. Yes?

**Martin Monrow:** Yes! Girls are entering puberty earlier and earlier. This is a very formative time for her.

**Attorney Emma Path:** A time when her moral and behavioral foundations are put into place about so many things. About sex.

**Martin Monrow:** Kids learn from what their parents say. From what their parent do. Even from their unsaid attitudes.



**Attorney Emma Path:** And in fact sixty percent of eight to eleven-year-olds say that their mothers are their number one resource for issues like sex. HIV and AIDS. Alcohol. Drugs.

**Alan Shore:** Aren't you a little encyclopedic ball of fire?



**Judge Paula Stern:** Mr. Shore, do I have to come down there?

**Alan Shore:** Judge, I'm actually a fan of corporal punishment. Especially when it comes from the rugged hands... **The Judge stands up menacingly.** But that's just me.

**Judge Paula Stern:** **She sighs.** Ms. Path, please continue.

**Attorney Emma Path:** What's your main issue, Martin?

**Martin Monrow:** My ex-wife, in doing what she does, is giving Daniella an excessively permissive take on sex. She's saying to my daughter it's okay to be sexual with people you don't love, for money.

**Alan Shore:** **He is now up.** Studies show that the more often parents discuss sex with their kids in an open and comfortable manner, the less likely the kids are to have sex early and casually.

**Martin Monrow:** This goes way beyond discussion.

**Alan Shore:** It's also been found that the parent needs to initiate these exchanges as seventy-seven percent of teenagers simply don't know how to bring it up. Shouldn't you count yourself lucky that you have a trained professional in the family? Someone skilled...

**Martin Monrow:** A little too skilled!

**A beat.**

**Alan Shore:** You were aware that Joanna was a sex-surrogate when you married her?

**Martin Monrow:** Yes, but...

**Alan Shore:** Did it turn you on?

**Attorney Emma Path:** Objection!

**Judge Paula Stern:** Overruled.

**Alan Shore:** Did it turn you on?

**Martin Monrow:** Once you become a parent you look at things differently.

**Alan Shore:** That's a yes, it turned you on?

**Martin Monrow:** I told her I wanted her to quit. We wanted to start a family which we did. And she quit for a while. But then she went back to work.

**Alan Shore:** Ah. So! Women should only work until they become wives and mothers because that's their real calling, and a career is just something to do until their real lives start which is mothering.

**Martin Monrow:** I didn't ask her to quit curing cancer! Or quit teaching kids to become concert violinists. I asked her to give up the orgasm workshops.

**Alan Shore:** Move to strike.

**Judge Paula Stern:** Overruled.

**Alan looks to the Judge as if to give her argument about this.**

**Judge Paula Stern:** **She stands up and looms over the bench.** Something bothering you, Mr. Shore?

**He becomes contrite and goes back to the table.**



**Alan and Denny are having a glass of wine in a restaurant.**

**Denny Crane:** She threatened to beat you up?

**Alan Shore:** Yes.

**The waiter comes over and hands them menus.**

**Denny Crane:** The Judge?

**Alan Shore:** Yes. And the lawyer, she'd beat me up if she could.

**Denny Crane:** The little one who slapped me around?



Alan Shore: Yes.

Denny Crane: Oh, she's a fiery number. She'd wear you out at night, I'll bet.

Alan Shore: Denny, do you think you and I are sexist?

Denny Crane: Us?

Alan Shore: We do tend to objectify women.

Denny Crane: They love that, Alan! They'd be mad if you didn't.

Alan Shore: Do you think you treat women as your equal?

Denny Crane: I'm Denny Crane. There's no man my equal! Much less a woman.

Alan Shore: Ah.

Denny Crane: You know who the real sexists are in this country, Alan? It's the women! It's women media who tore up Hillary. Women who criticized her pantsuits. That she wasn't pretty enough. She should be softer. Sexier! Me? Hell, just give me the word and I'll throw her across my desk!

Alan Shore: You're such a libertarian.

Denny Crane: Alan, you and I are the last people who could be called sexist. We love women! All women! Even the fat ones! Hell, sometimes I even prefer the fat ones. **Alan just looks at him.** What?

**In Judge Paula Stern's courtroom, Alan has Joanna on direct.**

Joanna Monroe: Talking is the predominate element of surrogate therapy. Sharing information; providing emotional support; devising coping skills. There are non-erotic body awareness exercises, sensory explorations, and relaxation techniques.

Alan Shore: And yet these folks depict you as a strumpet with a plaque on the wall.

Joanna Monroe: Less than fifty percent of my time with clients is spent engaging in sexual activities. The goal is to reorient, reeducate. So that intimacy is possible, comfortable, healthy.

Alan Shore: But is it primarily about sexual technique?

Joanna Monroe: It's primarily about intimacy. Which often goes way deeper than sex. Some women are self-loathing and use sex as an affirmation which of course completely backfires. I have many men who love their wives, but nevertheless hate women, on some level. **A beat. Alan doesn't respond for a moment, then shakes his head and grapples for words.** And you went back to work after your divorce because...?

Joanna Monroe: I was eager to be an example to my daughter of an independent, self-sufficient woman.

**Alan and Joanna enter the witness room.**

Alan Shore: For the most part that went pretty well. Would you like to explain that little personal shot at me?

Joanna Monroe: Excuse me?

Alan Shore: That comment about men hating women. That comment wasn't somewhat directed at me?

Joanna Monroe: Nooo! I have many male clients who are repulsed by feminism! It had nothing to do with you, Alan. But the fact that it hit a nerve...

Alan Shore: Of course it hit a nerve!! You've got my antenna up!

Joanna Monroe: Ask yourself why?

Alan Shore: Joanna! I am not one of those men who hates women! Or is repulsed by... feminism?

Joanna Monroe: I knew that.

Alan Shore: I'm not! I'm... **He gives Joanna a look and starts pacing.** Look, do you wanna win your daughter back?

Joanna Monroe: I do.

Alan Shore: Then don't unsettle me with... **He gestures wildly with hands, then braces himself on the back of a chair. He shakes his head wordlessly.**

Joanna Monroe: You know, Alan, you once told me when you meet a woman the first question you ask yourself is, "Would I?", "Wouldn't I?" And, "How would it be?"



Alan Shore: That's the first question every male heterosexual asks himself! We're built that way. **A beat and Joanne just looks at him wordlessly.** And for your information, it's now more like the third or fourth question I ask myself. It doesn't mean I hate women!

Joanna Monroe: When I walked in your door the other day you said, "Hello." And mentally undressed me in a heartbeat

Alan Shore: No! I do that with all... people. **She gives him a doubtful look.** You looked fantastic!

**In Judge Clark Brown's courtroom, Carl has Denny on the stand.**

Denny Crane: Guy pulled a gun on me! I pulled mine on him.

Carl Sack: Yes. But the issue here isn't self-defense.

Denny Crane: But it was self-defense.

**In rapid-fire speed.**

Carl Sack: Absolutely.

Denny Crane: I mean, if I didn't have my gun...

Carl Sack: You'd be dead.

Denny Crane: Gone.

Carl Sack: Fini!

Denny Crane: I had to shoot.

Carl Sack: Boom!

Denny Crane: Saved my life.

Carl Sack: And Jerry's.

Denny Crane: Didn't shoot to kill.

Carl Sack: Just to wound.

Denny Crane: Took a knee.

Carl Sack: And two feet.

Denny Crane: Boom.

Carl Sack: Boom!

Denny Crane: And boom!

A.D.A Christopher Palmer: Objection! **He rises.** You think this is funny?

Carl Sack: Funny? Ah, did you have a chuckle the last time somebody pulled a gun on you?

A.D.A Christopher Palmer: This case is about concealing a handgun on the person. Not about self-defense.

Carl Sack: It doesn't mean we can ignore the reality that if Mr. Crane didn't have his concealed weapon...

Denny Crane: Dead!

Carl Sack: Gone!

Denny Crane: Fini!

Carl Sack: Boom!

Denny Crane: Boom!

Carl Sack: And boom!

A.D.A Christopher Palmer: Objection!

Judge Clark Brown: Stop it!!!! **He seems surprised when everybody does so.**

A.D.A Christopher Palmer: You seem to think you have a constitutional right to conceal a weapon without a carry permit.

Denny Crane: I have a right to keep a gun at home. The court says so.

A.D.A Christopher Palmer: You were on the street.

Denny Crane: A man's home is where his heart is, in my case, the penis.

A.D.A Christopher Palmer: Do you have any idea how many people die from gun violence in this country?

Denny Crane: Yeah, yeah. Let's make a law, no carrying guns, I'm sure the criminals will obey it.

A.D.A Christopher Palmer: Show me where in the Constitution it says you can walk the streets armed without a carry permit!

Denny Crane: The Constitution says whatever the Supreme Court says it says. As for what the Supreme Court says, that all depends on who's president.

A.D.A Christopher Palmer: Move to strike!





**Denny Crane:** You don't have to be a legal genius to know that if you have a president in office who likes guns, and a vice president who likes to hunt lawyers and quail and a Supreme Court Justice who hunts with him, you're going to have a Constitutional right to shoot bad guys in the knee!

**A.D.A. Christopher Palmer and Judge Clark Brown both stare open-mouthed.**

**Shirley is in her office with Carl.**

**Carl Sack:** I swear to you, he doesn't have Alzheimer's. He uses the Mad Cow as an excuse to do whatever the hell he wants, whether it's dropping his pants or shooting people.

**Shirley Schmidt:** He had a PET scan, it showed he had plaque on his brain.

**Carl Sack:** Says who? He's Denny Crane, you don't think he can rig a PET scan? I tell you, the man knows what he's doing.

**Shirley Schmidt:** Is he going to win here?

**Carl Sack:** That I don't know. We really don't have a defense.

**Shirley Schmidt:** Can you explain the wisdom in letting Jerry close?

**Carl Sack:** Denny's wisdom. Since Jerry was also a victim, he's most able to put the jury in Denny's shoes that night.

**Alan Shore:** **He comes in.** Shirley. Carl. **He walks up to her desk.** Shirley, uh, **He leans in.** Do you find me terribly sexist? **Shirley laughs.** This isn't funny. **Shirley is still laughing.** Answer the question.

**Shirley Schmidt:** Before I respond, could you answer a question for me? Are you finished fiddling with my cheerleader outfit?

**Alan Shore:** **He laughs embarrassedly.** That's just... a textile fetish.

**Shirley Schmidt:** Alan! **She laughs.**



**Alan Shore:** I respect women. Every part of a woman...

**Shirley Schmidt:** I'd say especially the parts.

**Alan Shore:** That's right! So... that isn't true, Shirley. Is it?

**Shirley Schmidt:** Alan, you know you are an iconic leech. If it will make you feel any better sometimes even I like being ogled by you.

**Carl Sack:** Ah. So do I.

**Shirley Schmidt:** I think the problem you're having is you feel reduced by the label. You're not a simple man, you're extremely complicated, brilliant, funny, profoundly layered, but fundamentally you are an incorrigible, irrepressible... dog. **Alan leaves.** With a textile fetish!

**Carl Sack:** I love this place.

**Denny walks past the window of Jerry's office. Denny stops, stares mouth agape and then walks up close to the window to get a better view. He goes into Jerry's office. Jerry is standing atop his desk, wooden cigarette in hand.**

**Denny Crane:** Jerry?

**Jerry Espenson:** Denny.

**Denny Crane:** What are you doing?

**Jerry Espenson:** Standing on my desk.

**Denny Crane:** For any particular reason?

**Jerry Espenson:** I'm having an out of body experience. I'm looking down on myself as I deliver my compelling closing.

**Denny Crane:** **A beat.** Come on off the desk there, big fella. **Jerry comes down, Denny reaches out to help Jerry down.** Here. Come to Papa. **Denny chuckles. Jerry gives himself a shake.** You wanna do well here, don't you?

**Jerry Espenson:** I do!

**Denny Crane:** Cause lawyers who get me off tend to make partner. Especially women lawyers. **Jerry laughs heartily.** Stop laughing Jerry. **Jerry stops.** I notice you twiddling the wooden cigarette. Makes you feel confident, doesn't it?

**Jerry Espenson:** It helps!

**Denny Crane:** **He reaches into his pocket.** Look what I got here. A wooden cigar. It's yours. **He hands it over, Jerry reaches for it, then Denny pulls it away.** If you do a good job. By doing a good job, Jerry, you personally can ensure that every American has the right, the privilege of carrying a gun! How many lawyers have that opportunity? Truly, Jerry.

**Judge Paula Stern is in her chambers with Alan, Emma Path and Daniella Monroe.**

**Judge Paula Stern:** Does your mom ever bring any of her clients home?

**Daniella Monroe:** No.

**Judge Paula Stern:** Daniella, what exactly do you know about your mother's job?

**Daniella Monroe:** I know she is a sexual surrogate.

**Judge Paula Stern:** And you know what a sexual surrogate does?

**Daniella Monroe:** She treats people with like, sex problems... problems trusting and stuff.

**Judge Paula Stern:** And you know the nature of that treatment?

**Daniella Monroe:** She talks to them, sometimes she has sex with them.

**Judge Paula Stern:** **She sighs.** How do you feel about that?

**Daniella Monroe:** I don't know. Okay, I guess. I mean... it's a little weird but it's her job.

**Judge Paula Stern:** Daniella, can you tell me a little about what life is like at home with your mother?

**Daniella Monroe:** It's... I don't know, normal I guess! And, it's home.

**Judge Paula Stern:** And what do you and your mom do together?

**Daniella Monroe:** Lots of stuff. We like to hike. We like to play a lot of games, you know, Hearts, Monopoly. She's one of the coaches on my soccer team. But mostly she kinda nags me to do my homework, and stop playing Guitar Hero.

**Judge Paula Stern:** Do you ever talk about your mother's job with her?

**Daniella Monroe:** Sometimes.

**Judge Paula Stern:** Daniella, I know this is an unfair question but I am gonna ask it. Do you have a feeling about either living mostly with your mom, or your dad?



**In Judge Clark Brown's courtroom, A.D.A. Christopher Palmer is giving his closing.**

**A.D.A. Christopher Palmer:** We are a nation of laws and Mr. Crane broke the law. He carried a concealed weapon. Eight of them, actually. He has no defense, nor has he offered one. His only ploy would be to challenge the existing law. He no doubt thinks the recent Supreme Court ruling empowered him. It does not! The ruling says that an individual has the right to bear arms. It does not say he has the right to conceal them, nor does it hold that the State can't impose reasonable restrictions on that right. And this restriction is very reasonable. Thirty thousand Americans are killed by guns every year! To put that into perspective, we have lost close to four thousand soldiers in Iraq during the war. Kids are killed on the street walking to school, people are shot dead in their houses, their places of work. Do we really need another Virginia Tech to realize that this country has a problem which is epidemic? There are now more firearms in homes than pets! Does the defense really mean to suggest that folks be allowed to walk around concealing their firearms? Or is it just that Denny Crane is above the law? Or maybe, as his testimony suggests, it's all in good fun. Why be so concerned with something as trivial as human life?

**He sits down. Denny looks to Jerry, so does Carl. Jerry is sitting stone-faced looking straight ahead. A beat.**

**Carl Sack:** Jerry. You... have... to... get... up... now.

**Another beat.**

**Jerry Espenson:** **He gets up violently, his chair slides and bangs against the short wall. Wooden cigarette in hand, he oozes confidence.** Human life. Human life. Can we just please dispense with the human life jingle? It's so boring. Of course we're all pro-human life! Show of hands. **Christopher Palmer starts to get up, the Judge waves him down.** How many in favor of people not being dead? **He raises his hand, so do most of the jurors.** Let's face it, we love guns! Go to the movies, for Pete's sake, turn on your TV. We're a pistol-totin', gun-lovin' people. Remember we started this country with the shot heard around the world. Not legislation, am I right? **He laughs.** Look, Denny Crane is a lawyer himself, a scholar. In fact if there are two legal minds that were ever in perfect sync in this country it would be those of Antonin Scalia and Denny Crane. **Denny looks on beaming.** Check their DNA, twins separated at birth, I tell ya'. Denny and Tony. Tony and Denny. Can you imagine? Denny Crane on the Supreme Court? **Carl leans forward, a concerned look on his face, Denny is still beaming.** Wow. Scalia, Roberts, Thomas, Alito and Crane! Talk about birds of a feather!

**Carl Sack:** Jerry? What are you doing?

**Jerry Espenson:** What am I doing? I'm celebrating the actions of my client! I'm acknowledging that he, along with the Supreme Court, not all, but the big five, are smarter than any other Supreme Court we've ever had. I mean, no other Supreme Court in our two hundred year history could find a right to bear arms for non-military purposes. But suddenly! Presto! Thank God for the big five! I tell ya! **He bends over to pick up a sign and reads from it.** "A well regulated militia being necessary to the security of a free State, the right of the people to keep and bear arms shall not be infringed." It turns out that the trick is to just ignore the first thirteen words! **He uses a black marker to X them out.** Home free! See, Big Tony calls this the prefatory clause. Prefatory, I guess that means worthless. And this is... **He circles the rest of the words.** ...the operative clause. Of course! All this nonsense about the right being necessary for a well-regulated militia, they put that in for fun. Those founding father jokesters. **He fakes a hearty laugh.** We weren't supposed to actually take this part seriously. How could all those stupid Supreme Courts over the last two hundred years have fallen for that?

**Carl Sack:** **He rises.** May I have a word with co-counsel?

**Jerry Espenson:** No you may not! Sit down, Happy Sack! And enough with this, "We're a nation of laws" crap all over the place! We're a nation of politics! Am I right? Am I right? The laws are simply devices to serve our ideologies. For example, this court, which is the smartest in the history of the world, trumpeted the individual liberties to protect guns. Trump-ta-ta-da! But as for individual liberties for criminal defendants? **He laughs.** Who needs them? And then, in the Guantanamo case Big Tony said, "Individual liberties be damned" when it means more human lives might be lost. But in the gun's case it's, "Hail, hail individual liberties!" even though more human lives might be lost. That's consistent. See Big Tony knows the score. Look to your politics, that'll tell you what the law is.

**Carl Sack:** **In a stage whisper.** Jerry.

**Jerry Espenson:** Pipe down, Sacky Boy! These are smart judges, these Supremies. And boy! Once we got the newbies, Roberts and Alito, the premies? The possibilities are just boundless. They don't have to be bound by the Constitution or the Founding Fathers since they're not even bound by their own principles!





**Carl Sack:** *Firmly.* Jerry.

**Jerry Espenson:** Consider. They always say political questions should be decided by elected officials! But as for guns--nuh uh! They say we need to pay close attention to the precise words in the Constitution, but for guns--nuh uh! They say they loathe judicial activism but when it comes to guns--nuh, uh! Don't you just love these premies? McCain does. He wants to go out and find more judges exactly like them. He's a smarty pants too, that McCain, he knows how to become a president. He once co-sponsored a bill closing the gun show loophole, but now? Nuh, uh! He now believes the second amendment means no gun control. That might make him even smarter than Big Tony! Even the premies. And Obama! He's no dummy! He once took a stand on no fire arms, but in his blueprint for change, nada, nothing on gun control. I guess we don't need that much change. **The Judge pounds his gavel.** Ladies and gentlemen of the jury you cannot convict Denny Crane. If anything this man should be canonized! Oh, don't you just love that word 'canonized'? Sounds like a big gun. Show of hands, how many here are titillated? Denny Crane, like Big Tony, like the premies, he doesn't look at the meaning of the Constitution and say, "Why? He sees meanings that never were and says, "Why not?" My client is a real American. Flag on his lapel, gun in his pants, he shoots bad guys. Boom! Boom! Boom! Boom! There is nothing more red, white and blue than him! A man who knows, as does our president, as do the big five--human life is simply no match for a gun! **He sits down. Denny is beaming. Carl is concerned.**

**Jerry, Carl and Denny are in a witness room.**

**Carl Sack:** What the hell was that!!

**Jerry Espenson:** Was I not compelling?

**Carl Sack:** You just sent him to jail! What could possibly possess you?

**Jerry Espenson:** You did, for starters. You said to give Denny what he needs! He needed to lose.

**Carl Sack:** He needed to lose? And you made that decision?

**Jerry Espenson:** Denny did!

**They both look to Denny.**

**Denny Crane:** Carl my friend, the trick to changing a law is not to beat it, but to get beat. Then you can appeal to a court that can change it.

**Carl Sack:** What are you talking about?

**Denny Crane:** The Massachusetts legislature is never gonna let us pack a pistol. You gotta get it to the Supreme Court. They'll take care of it.

**Carl Sack:** You can't be serious. You want to lose so you can appeal to the Supreme Court?

**Denny Crane:** **He chuckles as he reaches into his pocket.** Jerry my boy, let me present you a wooden cigar. You earned it my friend.

**Jerry Espenson:** Thank you.

**In Judge Paula Stern's courtroom, Attorney Emma Path is doing her closing.**

**Attorney Emma Path:** I'm a professional woman, I have kids, they understand what I do. They ask me about my work. They're proud to have me come to their school for Career Day. And when I get this paycheck they can feel confident that it doesn't represent one minute of me engaging in a sex act. Will this be the case for Daniella? What's in her best interests? Daniella's best interests lie with her father. Let's not be out-foxed by the fancy talk and therapy jargonized argument of Ms. Monroe and her sleazy lawyer and allow Daniella to be exposed to a woman who employs questionable philosophies and unfit moral practices in her chosen career. The



general laws of Massachusetts state that custody of a child includes the right and responsibility to see to the child's welfare and make major decisions about his or her education and medical care and emotional, moral and religious development. Give Daniella's father sole custody!

**She sits down. Alan gets up.**

**Judge Paula Stern:** Don't make me hit you. **Alan smiles.**

**Alan Shore:** There was an incident in a shopping mall recently that incited a storm of protest and was well-covered by the media. Apparently a woman was thrown out of a lingerie store because while she was sitting next to a mannequin that was wearing only a thong and a peek-a-boo bra, the woman started to breast-feed her baby. Meanwhile, back in the Capitol, Attorney General John Ashcroft had mammoth drapes purchased to obscure two statues in the Great Hall in the Department of Justice because the female statue, Spirit of Justice, has one breast uncovered, and the male statue, Majesty of Law, is bare-chested and wears a loin cloth...

**Judge Paula Stern:** What is your point?

**Alan Shore:** My point is this country has a profoundly paradoxical relationship with sex. We damn infidelity, but our presidents have had extra marital affairs in and out of the White House. The mistress-keeping and rendezvousing of FDR, LBJ, Billy Bob Clinton and grand champ JFK are legendary. And other than the politically motivated impeaching of Billy Bob we went with it. We didn't say, "You've engaged in inappropriate sexual behavior our culture finds inexcusable, so give up your children!" And, by the way, when it comes to our children we've entirely lost our heads! When parents were surveyed about what they found most offensive in their kid's video games, a man and a woman having sex came in first as most offensive! Beating out graphically severed human head, which came in third. And yet we have more and more women proudly declaring to their friends over coffee, I'm a MILF at my kid's high school. M-I-L-F, Mother-I'd-like-to-fff... forgive me for speaking this way in court. Evidently we've decided instead of our traditional de-sexing of mothers we now need to sex them up a bit.

**Judge Paula Stern:** Just talk about the fitness of this mother.

**Alan Shore:** Joanna is a wonderful mother. And part of her job is to help people find some semblance of order in this paralyzing mess. To help people find some clarity. In today's world we should all be assigned someone to help us navigate the waters of sex and sexism because it's so easy to get lost. So woefully, woefully lost. We need to bring sex out of the dark shadows where it can get twisted and torqued. We think nothing of using sex to sell products, or movies, television shows, magazines. But when someone is addressing sex in a real, true, honest way, that's immoral? That's inappropriate? That's unfit?

**Judge Paula Stern:** All right, you win! I am maintaining dual custody.

**Alan Shore:** Well, if you don't mind, I'd still like to finish what I have to say.

**Judge Paula Stern:** No! Mr. Monroe, what she does is clearly unconventional, but there's no sign that it's an unstable environment, and there's no evidence that your ex-wife is unfit. Therefore, we are adjourned.

**Joanna Monroe:** Thank you, Your Honor.

**Judge Paula Stern:** Yes.

**Joanna Monroe:** Thank you, Alan.

**In Judge Clark Brown's courtroom, the jury is filing in. The clerk hands a piece of paper to the Judge who waves it away.**



**Denny Crane:** *Under his breath.* Will it go straight to the Supreme Court?

**Carl Sack:** Well, no. You've got to elicit the Appeals Court. You have to lose again with the SJC. But, not to worry, Jerry's closing will get the job done.

**Judge Clark Brown:** Mr. Foreman, you have reached a unanimous verdict?

**Foreman:** We have, Your Honor.

**Judge Clark Brown:** What say you?

**Foreman:** In the matter of The Commonwealth of Massachusetts versus Denny Crane on the charge of carrying a concealed firearm without a permit, we the jury, find the defendant, Denny Crane, not guilty.

**Carl is all smiles.**

**Denny Crane:** *He is disappointed.* We won?

**Judge Clark Brown:** What?

**Denny Crane:** Your Honor, we appeal.

**Judge Clark Brown:** You can't appeal an acquittal! You're the defendant!

**Denny Crane:** This isn't right! What happened?

**Carl Sack:** Sorry, Denny. Guess you can't lose them all.

**Denny Crane:** I can't lose any!

**On the balcony, Alan and Denny are having drinks and a cigar.**

Alan Shore: You really had your hopes up.

Denny Crane: Well, it's one thing to be an icon, but to be a cause celebre. I'm larger even. The idea of famous Hollywood people wearing a button, "Free Denny."

Alan Shore: I don't think Hollywood types wear buttons for gun nuts.

Denny Crane: You actually think I'm a nut to carry a gun?

Alan Shore: To carry five all at once? Yes, Denny, that raises you to lunatic status.

Denny Crane: Oh. And you would never own one?

Alan Shore: I didn't say that.

Denny Crane: You're afraid to even hold one, you girl you.

Alan Shore: I have one. In a safe, at home. **A beat.** Thirty-eight.

Denny Crane: You have a thirty-eight?

Alan Shore: Yes. I see nothing wrong with that. I see a lot wrong with assault weapons. And people walkin' around like you with guns.

Denny Crane: Have you ever shot it?

Alan Shore: Just target practice.

Denny Crane: I can't fathom a Liberal like you owning a gun.

Alan Shore: That's one of the problems in this country. We have two camps, those who like guns and those who don't. Why can't there be a middle? Why can't we say okay to guns and okay to gun legislation? Why does it make someone a Pinko-Liberal-Girl if he supports background checks and bans on assault weapons?

Denny Crane: That's a sexist remark, you realize that?

Alan Shore: What?

Denny Crane: That Pinko-Liberal-Girl. Girls can like guns!

Alan Shore: **He gives a look.** Never mind. Just let me drink.

Denny Crane: Fine.

**A beat.**

Alan Shore: I am sexist. When I see a woman my first thoughts are sexual. It's not that I don't respect her intelligence. It's not that I wouldn't want a woman to be president, I'll even admit to the possibility that women are emotionally and intellectually superior to men. But I cannot deny there's a part of me that sees a woman as this big human mitten perfectly designed to keep my cockles warm on a cold winter's night.

**Denny bursts out laughing.**

Denny Crane: Oh Alan. It's cultural. It's biological. And... it's fun. There are many ways men go dead as they age. One way they start incorporating all the learned, the politically correct behavior and thoughts

into who they are, and in the process, deny what they are.

Alan Shore: What are we?

Denny Crane: Animals! Today's evolved men talk to each other about politics, and kids and education. They talk about anything and everything and yet are profoundly lonely. Why? Because they're ashamed to share their most base instinct. You and I are not like that. When we're ninety we'll be sitting on a park bench, a pretty girl will go by, we'll say, "Look at the rack on that one!" You and I will never, ever be lonely.

Alan Shore: And if the girl has a boyfriend who comes to confiscate our walkers?

Denny Crane: I've got my gun.

Alan Shore: Oh, I feel better.

Denny Crane: You should. Alan, embrace your inner wolf. You listen to Denny now.

Alan Shore: Yes.

