

INT. CHARLIE GRAY'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

CHARLIE walks over to the phone and starts DIALING frantically. His wife DANA lays dead on the bed. The phone RINGS and finally he gets an answer from his friend FRANK.

FRANK

Hello?

CHARLIE

Frank? You have to help me. Things got out of hand with Dana and me.

FRANK

Calm down. What happened?

CHARLIE

We were fighting. It got pretty heated. She said some things. And I... I...

FRANK

OK Charlie, OK. What do you need me to do?

Charlie passes around the room constantly looking over at his wife.

CHARLIE

I don't know Frank. I didn't mean to. I really didn't.

FRANK

I know Charlie hold tight I'll be right over.

Long minutes pass. The grandfather clock's TICKING is the only thing heard in the apartment. Finally Charlie hears a KNOCK at the door.

FRANK (CONT'D)

Open up Charlie it's me.

Charlie runs to the door, UNLOCKS the bolts and OPENS the door. He CLOSES it quickly behind Frank. Frank looks around the room and his eyes fall on Dana.

FRANK (CONT'D)

Jesus Charlie what have you done?

Frank walks over to Dana's body and checks her pulse.

CHARLIE

Frank you don't think I checked that? I know she's dead. God, what am I gonna do?

FRANK

Well how do you want to handle this?

CHARLIE

What do you mean?

FRANK

Well I assume you don't want me to just phone the cops. Otherwise why call me.

CHARLIE

I don't know. Everything happened so fast. I just had to talk to someone. I... I...

Frank turns and stand up to look Charlie square in the face.

FRANK

Charlie, what would make you do something like this?

Charlie turns and paces around the room.

CHARLIE

She... I... She came in and we sat down. She seemed nervous. She said she'd been seeing someone behind my back. She started to say something else, but I exploded at her. We fought. She tried to leave, but I couldn't let her go. So I grabbed her and the next thing I know she is dead and my hands are around her neck.

Frank turns his back on Charlie and stands silent for a few minutes.

FRANK

Oh Charlie. You really messed up this time.

Frank begins to silently chuckle to himself.

CHARLIE

How the hell can you laugh at a time like this. What the hell is wrong with you?

Frank turns to face Charlie. Frank is holding a gun and his chuckle has turned into a full laugh.

FRANK

You see Charlie, Dana was cheating on you... with me. She said that she couldn't bear to hurt you anymore. She was going to leave me forever. I couldn't have that. You know me Charlie, the jealous type. I would rather see her dead than leave me. That's what this gun was for. But you took care of that for me now haven't you? Now we can have a nice clean murder suicide.

Frank raises the gun and motions Charlie to sit down on the bed. Charlie moves slowly towards the bed and sits down.

CHARLIE

What's stopping me from just coming at you Frank? You're going to kill me anyways.

FRANK

I know you Charlie. You don't have the guts.

Charlie looks back at his wife.

CHARLIE

I've done a lot of stuff today I never thought I could do.

Suddenly Charlie turns and knocks the gun from Frank's hand. They both dive for it. Charlie gets it first. They struggle, and Charlie powers the muzzle of the gun under Frank's chin. The gun fires and Frank's body goes limp. Charlie gets up.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)

See Frank I knew I needed a scape goat to get away with this. You're so predictable sometimes. You think I didn't know you were seeing Dana? The only thing you did was save me the trouble of using my own gun.

Charlie walks over to the phone and begins to DIAL.

CHARLIE (CONT'D)  
Police? Something terrible has  
happened!