

I plead the fifth

written by

-----

INT. POLICE STATION. 2:13.AM.

We are in a police interrogation room. In it is a man, with a blanket covering him. He is emaciated and his face bony, sunken. He however does not display any sort of irritation. On his face is the look of a docile little dog, that simply doesn't know what is happening around it. He is almost confused more that traumatized. Two police officers enter the room and sit opposite to the man

OFFICER 1

Mr. Briggs, you understand that Dolores kept you hostage in that basement right? She broke the law, it was a case of kidnapping.

BRIGGS

I don't know officer, I'm telling you there is just no way she is a bad person, she was just the most delightful human I myself have ever talked to. She treated me like family.

OFFICER 2

(Reading from a document)  
She apparently failed to feed you on multiple occasions which led to you losing just over 30 kilos. Your family's description of you as a fairly heavy man seems to coincide with the fact that your malnutrition and overall loss of weight was caused by her.

BRIGGS

Honest mistake honestly, she meant nothing by it

OFFICER 2

Mr. Briggs, you have scars all over your body, with some of these being fresh, as if cause as recent as yesterday.

BRIGGS

Well that's an awfully long time ago don't you think

OFFICER 1

It's two in the morning, they arrested her at eleven. Yesterday was hours ago Mr. Briggs.

BRIGGS

Well I believe a woman is allowed some fun in this day and age don't you think officers.

OFFICER 2

She has a history of assault with each of the partners we managed to contact. Some of them filed restraining orders which she managed to violate within days after which they were issued.

BRIGGS

Well that seems to be their problem now doesn't it

The officers seem to be getting frustrated

OFFICER 2

(Rubbing the bridge of his nose)

On the night of her arrest she beat up one of the officers sent to apprehend her and the officer had to be hospitalized.

BRIGGS

Well maybe he shouldn't have joined the force if he was going to be a lil bitch

OFFICER 2

She also has a well documented history of infidelity

The room goes silent after that remark. Briggs looks down at the table, refusing to meet the eyes of the officers. That remark specifically has caused a noticeable reaction from him.

BRIGGS

I plead the fifth

OFFICER 1

You're not the one we arrested, you're not going on trial Mr. Briggs, you were the victim

BRIGGS

I think you should kill yourselves

The two officers are visibly exhausted and decide to leave the room. Briggs still has his eyes firmly at the table. He is visibly insulted. The officers talk outside the room.

OFFICER 1  
Fuck is his problem?

OFFICER 2  
You think it's Stockholm syndrome?

OFFICER 1  
That's not a real thing

OFFICER 2  
Really?

OFFICER 1  
Yeah, they made it up so they could discredit this lady who grew sympathetic to the bank robbers or something -- nevermind that, what are we going to do about him.

OFFICER 2  
Well we can't do anything to him, he wasn't really a part of the crimes she committed, he was quite literally locked up and detained for weeks without food or anything.

OFFICER 1  
What's up with him though why is he like that.

They stand there silent, thinking of an explanation for the mans behavior.

OFFICER 2  
Maybe he's just kinky

OFFICER 1  
Y'know what, that just might be it