

**Start**

INT. DETECTIVE SEDAN - DAY

CAMPBELL IS SPLAYED OUT IN THE PASSENGER SEAT OF THE SEDAN.

It is morning, and his body is awkwardly positioned, head contorted back, tongue hanging out. A fly BUZZES inside the sedan. Is he dead?

KNOCK KNOCK KNOCK GAH!

Campbell JERKS to life with a start, startled by Palmer's knock on the window. He looks up to see her standing, mirthless, outside the window.

He wipes a trail of drool off his face, straightens his uniform, before sheepishly opening the door.

CAMPBELL

I - I was waiting for the ID results on the body.

PALMER

You could take the call from your house, you know?

CAMPBELL

(fumbling for his phone)  
Did they call?

Palmer holds up an evidence folder and smiles.

PALMER

And I slept in my bed last night.

INT. DETECTIVE SEDAN - MOMENTS LATER

THE DECOMPOSED REMAINS OF ELLIE HOLT LIE ON DIRT AT NIGHT.

It's horrific, but this is only a photo, and we gradually PULL OUT to see the 8x10 enlargements Campbell is leafing through in the passenger seat. Palmer sits in the driver's.

PALMER

Decomposition is consistent with eight to twelve months submerged underwater. Ellie's body seems to have been weighted down intentionally and, embedded in the mud, the body breaks down slower.

Campbell, rubbing his eyes, examines the photos, grimacing. Various shots of DUMBELLS, ROPE, and the REMAINS, bound.

CAMPBELL  
 (still groggy)  
 Cause of death?

PALMER  
 Difficult to say, given most soft  
 tissue is gone. Drowning obviously  
 a possibility.

CAMPBELL  
 Dax had signs of drowning, right?

PALMER  
 Sure. But one body was at the  
 bottom of a river, and one was...  
 not, so there's no consistent MO.  
 And then there's this.

Palmer hands over an evidence bag containing a waterlogged  
 cell phone.

CAMPBELL  
 Why would the killer leave a cell  
 phone with the body for us to find?

PALMER  
 Well, I'm gonna guess the killer  
 didn't want us to find the body.

Fair, Campbell gestures.

CAMPBELL  
 What can we get from this?

PALMER  
 A year at the bottom of a river?  
 (shakes her head)  
 - we'll drop it by tech to dry it  
 out but...

CAMPBELL  
 Bag of rice or something?

Palmer rolls her eyes and STARTS THE CAR. Campbell returns to  
 the photos, placing the phone in the center console.

CAMPBELL (CONT'D)  
 Where to now?

PALMER  
 We've still got Gabe Hargrove, the  
 bitter, hot-headed lover.

CAMPBELL  
 (pulling himself together)  
 Right. Right.

PALMER  
 This could be big, I need your head  
 in the game here.

Campbell SLAPS himself, one, two, three times. Okay. He's...

CAMPBELL  
 Yeah. Yeah. I -  
 (blinks)  
 Coffee?

Palmer puts the car in gear. We're CU on the EVIDENCE BAG with the phone in the console. As Campbell looks over the photos, the phone POWERS ON. The detectives don't notice.

End

EXT. GABE'S APARTMENT - DAY

DING DONG. Palmer rings the doorbell.

Campbell DRINKS DEEPLY from a large gas station coffee cup.

Gabe opens the door, squinting in the light.

GABE  
 You weren't kidding when you said  
 "first thing".

PALMER  
 No. We weren't.

Gabe opens the door and invites the detectives in.

FLASHBACK:

INT. GABE'S APARTMENT - BEDROOM - NIGHT

Dax and Gabe stumble into the bedroom, making out, tearing off clothes.

PALMER (V.O.)  
 I understand you were hooking up  
 with Dax?

Dax throws Gabe onto the bed. Gabe's head SLAMS against the headboard. He winces, but Dax doesn't notice, more focused on disrobing as quickly as possible.