

DR. RIDGWAY Sg. 3

SIDES FOR DR. TINA RIDGWAY (TINA)

1 INT. CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

ATTY MITCH TOMPKINS deposes Tina. Her own attorney, HARPER, is present.

START

"CHELSEA GENERAL"

TOMPKINS

You say no surgery is without risks. So then of course, before the operation, you told Mary Cash about the risks?

TINA

Yes.

TOMPKINS

You, personally told her.

TINA

All our patients sign a consent form.

TOMPKINS

Not my question. Did you personally tell her?

TINA

Usually, that's the responsibility of the resident, to go over the risks with the patient and have the patient sign the consent form.

TOMPKINS

So for all you know, Mary Cash wasn't told.

TINA

I'm sure she was told.

TOMPKINS

But you didn't witness this.
(then)

For the record: You are telling me you have no idea what risks -- if any -- Mary Cash was told of before this surgery.

TINA

We could ask the resident.

6/10

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

TOMPKINS

Yes or no. Do you have any direct personal knowledge of what risks Mary Cash was aware of before her surgery?

TINA

No. I did not personally hear what Mary Cash was told before her surgery.

TOMPKINS

Thank you. Now, Dr. Ridgeway, walk me through this procedure, could you please.

TINA

After the patient's head was immobilized, an incision was made on the the scalp and the skull was exposed. Then a burr hole was perforated behind Ms. Cash's right eye.

TOMPKINS

Why?

TINA

The hole allowed us to see the larger hole in the young woman's skull, which allowed us access to the brain. From there, it was a matter of gently cutting away the outer layers of the brain and then resecting the tumor. It was because a meningioma can set so close to the olfactory nerve that there is always the danger it can be damaged as the growth is removed.

TOMPKINS

You described it so well. I almost feel as though I can do the surgery myself.

(a beat)

Now, when you say "A burr hole was made." Or "the tumor was resected." Who was doing the cutting and resecting on Mary Cash? I'm assuming it was you.

A beat.

Handwritten initials

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED: (2)

TINA
No.

TOMPKINS
No? Who was operating?

TINA
Dr. Robidaux.

TOMPKINS
Dr. Robidaux?

TINA
Yes, Michelle Robidaux. A resident
in the Department of Neurosurgery.

A beat.

TOMPKINS
You mean, you allowed a doctor in
training, a student if you will, to
operate on the brain of this young
woman?

TINA
This is a teaching hospital, Mr.
Tompkins.

TOMPKINS
So what you're telling me is Mary
Cash was cannon fodder. Someone
for Dr. Robidaux to practice on.
My client was a guinea pig, if you
will.

TINA
Dr. Robidaux is a competent doctor.

TOMPKINS
How was it that Dr. Robidaux was
chosen to operate on my client?

TINA
That was my decision.

TOMPKINS
Ah.

TINA
A decision I made because she was
perfectly capable of handling a
meningioma.

8/10

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

TOMPKINS

I see. You'd seen her do this before?

A beat.

TOMPKINS (CONT'D)

Well, how many of these procedures had she performed, before she cut on my client?

TINA

I'd have to check.

TOMPKINS

More than, say... any? Had she ever done this procedure before?

TINA

Perhaps not.

TOMPKINS

Perhaps not.

(a beat)

But hey, you let her try her hand on my client.

TINA

(flaring)

That's what a teaching hospital is, Mr. Tompkins. We have the best doctors in the world because we have teaching hospitals. No one hatches from an egg as a polished surgeon. One patient may suffer, but Dr. Robidaux is a better doctor, a better surgeon for the scores of others she'll treat in the years to come.

TOMPKINS

(with a smile)

I see.

TINA

(under her breath)

Arrogant piece of--

HARPER

(sotto)

Tina.

9/10

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

TOMPKINS

I'm sorry? Do you have more to
add, Dr. Ridgeway?

TINA

(sighing)

No.

~~END~~ CUT TO:

10/10