

She removes the old picture and hangs Casey's painting. She sits down at her desk and stares at it, a book of Michelangelo's art on the bookshelf nearby.

45 INT. BOSTON CAFE -- AFTERNOON

45

Debbie and Tasha sit at a table outdoors. Tasha drinks quietly while Debbie reads a printed page.

Debbie finishes, sets the pages aside.

DEBBIE

Brilliant. As always. I'll have Jason get it to the printers this afternoon.

(checks her watch)

We should make tomorrow's deadline. Poor poor Leroy...

TASHA

He should know.

DEBBIE

And fast as lightning. The show opened two days ago and you've unearthed every mystery already.

TASHA

No offense - I know you like Duncan - but it's far from complex.

DEBBIE

And that's why you're so fast, darling! What's your longest-going article? Three days?

TASHA

Two.

46 EXT. DOWNTOWN BOSTON STREET CORNER -- LATER

46

Tasha and Debbie walk.

DEBBIE

So about your next thing.... Doug and I were hoping...

TASHA

(overlapping)

Yes, I have a...

DEBBIE

You have something?

TASHA

Yes.

DEBBIE

We had hoped you'd work on Wesley Watson next. He is quite the craze in New York right now.

TASHA

I've seen it. He's another mystic boasting the quick and painful demise of romanticism. Give it to Rebecca. She loves that red steel nonsense.

DEBBIE

Tell me about what you've got.

TASHA

His name's Casey Myers. He's new.

DEBBIE

Where's he showing?

TASHA

Nowhere, that I know of.

DEBBIE

Nowhere? Well where *has* he shown?

TASHA

I don't believe he's had an exhibition.

DEBBIE

So he's a nobody.

TASHA

His work is unlike anything I've seen before.

They've reached the entrance to the T. They stop.

DEBBIE

Tasha, you're our best writer. I want you on something important.

TASHA

Quality is quality, regardless of the museum where it hangs.

DEBBIE

Oh Christ, Tasha... You and your idealism.

TASHA

In two years, Debbie, how many times have I come to you with something?

DEBBIE

Oh, hell, who knows? Once? No...

Tasha raises her eyebrows.

DEBBIE

Very well then. Turn it around fast, though. And I want to see this fellow's work. What's his name again?

TASHA

Casey Myers.

DEBBIE

Shoot me his website.

Debbie waves and goes down the stairs to the T.

47 INT. ATKINS' LAW OFFICE -- AFTERNOON

47

MIKE ATKINS, late sixties, wears the trademark lawyer combo: blue shirt, white collar, neat tie. He sits behind a huge cherry-stained desk.

Ed sits across from him.

ATKINS

Has Tasha ever been arrested?

ED

God, Mike, you've known Tasha for twenty y...

ATKINS

I have, but I also know how principled and bloody stubborn she is - a combination that gets people into trouble in the world outside your school.

ED

Twice.

ATKINS

Arrested? Twice?!?

ED

Protests, both times. Environmental stuff, late 90s. Just held for a few hours. Nothing on her record.

ATKINS

Maybe not, but they'll dig that up for sure. How old was she?