STUDIO SCRIPT/1b

GF Newman's The Corrupted

LEAH:

TONY WEDNESDAY:
I'm sorry, I shouldn't have said that.

LEAH:
It's all right. Really. Would you like some tea? I've got some green -

TONY WEDNESDAY:
Green tea?

LEAH:
You said you liked it. You don't like milk.

TONY WEDNESDAY:
Oh yes, that's right. Green tea. Nice.

LEAH:
(Goes to the kitchen.) I don't have anything stronger. I threw out all the booze along with the pills when I cleaned the flat.

TONY WEDNESDAY:
(Following her.) Wow, this looks great. Before it looked a bit soapy.

LEAH:
Soapy?

TONY WEDNESDAY:
Unwashed. Unclean. P

TONY WEDNESDAY:
I'm not very experienced, but you were pretty responsive.

LEAH:
I hated sex with him. It was like rape every time. I hated it. I hated him. I can't tell you how many times I've wished him dead, how many times I wanted to kill him.

TONY WEDNESDAY:
No one would have blamed you.

LEAH:
I didn't have the courage.

TONY WEDNESDAY:
Were you afraid to leave him?

LEAH:
I did once before. When he got out of prison he found me and dragged me back.

TONY WEDNESDAY:
You should have gone to the police, Leah no, scratch that. They wouldn't have done much. Braden pays too many of them. Sad.

LEAH:
I know. Some came here to collect money. One particularly unpleasant

TONY WEDNESDAY:
What? Who did he kill?

LEAH:
I was in a pretty bad way. I heard him beating one of the robbers he employed, saying he betrayed him. I think he was called Jones. Denny Jones.

TONY WEDNESDAY:
Did you actually see this, Leah?

LEAH:
I was in the bedroom when it started. I couldn't bear it and went into the sitting room. Jack kept hitting this Denny Jones until Brian stopped him. He said there was no point going on. He was dead.

TONY WEDNESDAY:
Is that Brian Oldman? What did they do with the body.

LEAH:
I think they Tm[(n)-47h/hey Tm[(n)-211( )8(th)-5(e)6(rob)-6(b)6(e)-3(u3(sitt)-3t)-3(>BDC BT8)-3(Hig10

LEAH:E BT1 0 0 1 56.64 539.59 Tm5[(He)-3(w)12(a)-3(s d)-5(4 d) 48>BDCSBT1 0 0 1 56.64 539.59 Tm5[(I)-3(th

TONY WEDNESDAY:
I'll talk to my governor about getting you protection after, getting a new identity.

LEAH:
If it helps convict Jack it won't be necessary.

TONY WEDNESDAY:
We'll do it anyway, Leah. To make sure you're safe.

LEAH:
I feel safe now. (She kisses him.) Thank you. (She kisses him again.) Thank you.

TONY WEDNESDAY:
Here, let me show how much I appreciate you.

He kisses her back and starts to make love to her.

3/ INT TINTAGEL HOUSE

Tony Wednesday comes along catching George Fenwick.

TONY WEDNESDAY:
George! You got a moment? Have I got a blinding witness.

GEORGE FENWICK:
Who's that, Tony? - Ken Drury!

TONY WEDNESDAY:
This one could put a few nails in his coffin too.

We can't risk being compromised. There should have been two officers present at this interview.

TONY WEDNESDAY:
To be perfectly honest, guv, I don't think she'd have opened up with a second detective present. There will be two for her statement.

JOHN REDVERS:
Are you sure she's stable? She seem that way when we raided Braden's flat.

TONY WEDNESDAY:
Free of Jack Braden different now, guv.

JOHN REDVERS:
sure she's not just trying to get even with him.

TONY WEDNESDAY:
I expect there's a bit of that, guv.

GEORGE FENWICK:
If we found this pig farm with human remains, guv that would help.

JOHN REDVERS:
How disgusting. I can't say I ever liked bacon.

TONY WEDNESDAY:
I'm thinking of becoming vegetarian.

JOHN REDVERS:
You'll be a social outcast. Check and double check what this woman tells us. Her evidence must be bullet-proof.

TONY WEDNESDAY:
There is something else, guv. (A beat) She said Commander Drury went to the flat to collect money.

JOHN REDVERS:
We're not charging Braden with corrupting policemen.

GEORGE FENWICK:
Might be worthwhile adding it.

JOHN REDVERS:
The Commissioner wants a clean kill on the murder charge. I agree. et's muddy the waters and risk the jury letting him get away with 6 months for corruption.

TONY WEDNESDAY:
Good thinking: murder or nothing. The woman's testimony will show Braden to be a casual and sadistic killer.

JOEY OLDMAN:
That's what I like about you, Tony. You keep an open mind.

TONY WEDNESDAY:
Why do I feel you're testing me every time we have a conversation?

JOEY OLDMAN:
I feel the same about you. I think

you're saying this just to be rid of him.

LEAH:
If you think so, Tony. Whatever you think is best.

SONIA HOPE:
and then get you to sign it. Okay?

LEAH:
Is that what happens, Tony?

TONY WEDNESDAY:
You're doing fine, Leah. Really good.

Sonia Hope's (the Page from 1988 by Leah Segers (T) 101 (c) 2016 56 64 580-99 Tm [S)-2(o)-4

It's as plain as a pikestaff *he's* in love with you Dewy Eyed Redvers! Of course being John, I don't suppose he ever get your knickers off so probably you're not screwing.
SONIA HOPE:
You, on the other hand have all the moves to screw Leah Cohen.

TONY WEDNESDAY:
Do take me for a fool, Son'. You know what could happen if I did.

SONIA HOPE:
Yes. She b discredited as a witness and you'd be sacked.

TONY WEDNESDAY:
Have no fear, silly ballocks result. We'll put Braden and the iron away for a long while.

SONIA HOPE:
prayed for that day.

TONY WEDNESDAY:
Now his prayers are going to be answered. You see.

10/ INT COURT WITNESS ROOM

The door opens and Tony Wednesday comes in and approaches Leah.

TONY WEDNESDAY:
Leah, how you doing?

LEAH:
I

TONY WEDNESDAY:
The prosecution is just going through the evidence in chief with my boss. I'd best get back before the defence starts to rip him apart.

LEAH:
Will they do that to me, Tony?

TONY WEDNESDAY:
They'll try. I'll see you later.

LEAH:
Tony..?

TONY WEDNESDAY:
You'll be fine. I promise you.

He goes. The Four Tops are singing, *It's All In The Game*.

11/ INT COURT NO 2 OLD BAILEY

The door creaks open and Tony Wednesday slips in on the benches next to Sonia Hope.

TONY WEDNESDAY:
(Whispers) Are we winning, Sonia?

SONIA HOPE:
(Whispers) The easy bit. Defence counsel hasn't started yet.

TONY WEDNESDAY:

have been opened and resealed. As the sealed exhibits have been in police custody the entire time, the conclusion to be drawn is that the police have interfered with this evidence
That's not possible.

DEFENCE:
Do you know of Professor Lake, superintendent?

JOHN REDVERS:
Yes, he does a lot of work for the police.

DEFENCE:
So you might agree that he'd have no reason to fabricate his conclusion?

JUDGE MELFORD STEVENSON:
Do you intend calling this witness, Mr Carmen?

DEFENCE:
The witness is available to the court, my Lord.

JUDGE MELFORD STEVENSON:
I think it right the prosecution has an opportunity to forensically examine him.

DEFENCE:
Let us move on. Superintendent, is it possible this evidence might have been tampered with.

JOHN REDVERS:
(Rattled) I just can't see how.

DEFENCE:
Then we should explore, who might have an interest in changing this evidence. Can you tell the jury what your relationship is with the defendants?

JOHN REDVERS:
I arrested them, sir.

DEFENCE:

JOHN REDVERS:
- my mother's brother.

DEFENCE:
And Mr Oldman, the second defendant?

JOHN REDVERS:
(A beat) My cousin.

DEFENCE:
So, merely desc

JUDGE MELFORD STEVENSON:
Where are you going with this line, Mr Carmen?

DEFENCE:
If the court will indulge me, my Lord, I'm exploring possible motivation for tampering with evidence.

JUDGE MELFORD STEVENSON:
As long as we don't cast random aspersions against the police.

DEFENCE:

Braden and Brian Oldman away by any means, fair or foul. They deserve to

JOHN REDVERS:
As a trained lawyer I would take that line.

DEFENCE:

He switches on the tape machine. It whirrs, and then John Redvers' voice is heard.

JOHN REDVERS:
(Recorded) I can't tell you how these two have blighted my life. I want to put them away for a very long while by any means possible, fair or foul.

TONY WEDNESDAY:
(Recorded) As long as we don't break the rules, guv.

JOHN REDVERS:
(Recorded) No, but I'm sorely tempted. They deserve to be in prison.

DEFENCE:

JUDGE MELFORD STEVENSON:
Superintendent Redvers? Can you do as Mr Carmen requested?

JOHN REDVERS:
(Choked) In order to secure a swift conviction of Jack Braden and Brian Oldman you should exclude any evidence that might favour their defence.

DEFENCE:
Is that how senior police officers behave generally, Superintendent Redvers?

JOHN REDVERS:
(Waspish) We spend a lot of taxpayer's money. We have a job to do, putting criminals away.

DEFENCE:
If you hide evidence favourable to the defence, innocent men might go to prison, thus costing the taxpayers even more money in subsequent appeals.

JOHN REDVERS:
I don't believe innocent men do go to prison.

DEFENCE:
Just as you don't believe your 'life blighting' uncle and cousin should be put away by any means.

JUDGE MELFORD STEVENSON:
Are you rehearsing your closing argument, Mr Carmen?

DEFENCE:
My Lord. I'll move on. Do the practices you seem to espouse extend to planting evidence where none exists?

JOHN REDVERS:
(Emphatic) No, of course not.

DEFENCE:
Then would you examine the exhibit list supplied by the prosecution. Can you see items 17 and 18 there? Jack Braden's hair found in the getaway car and fibres from Brian Oldman's jacket in the same car?

JOHN REDVERS:
They were found in the car after it was abandoned.

DEFENCE:
Were these items not added to the list at a later date?

JOHN REDVERS:
Judge, this is not fair.

JUDGE MELFORD STEVENSON:

I'm appalled at these inferences, superintendent, but defence counsel is entitled to make them. Your not answering will leave the jury to draw their own conclusions.

JOHN REDVERS:
They were not added after the list was closed.

DEFENCE:
Then perhaps you

LEAH:
You showed me there are other kinds of men, who aren t violent and exploitative.

LEAH:
Tony...

14/ INT NO 2 COURT

Leah is in the witness box.

PROSECUTOR:
Miss Cohen, how many times would you say the defendant hit the deceased person, Denny Jones as he was known?

LEAH:
sure, he just kept hitting the poor man, all the while shouting that Mr Jones had betrayed him.

PROSECUTOR:
Ten, twenty? More would you say?

LEAH:
More. His face was all bloody. I couldn't look any more. Mr Braden told me to get back in the bedroom

PROSECUTOR:
The jury might be curious, Miss Cohen, as to why you didn't summon the police?

LEAH:
I could . In one of his murderous moods when he accused me of all sorts of things, Jack ripped out the phone.

PROSECUTOR:
You didn't think to summon a neighbour?

LEAH:
Neighbours wouldn't come. Some of them had seen Jack's rages and were scared of him.

PROSECUTOR:
You were scared of this man you were living with?

LEAH:
Yes. Once I tried to leave him, but he found me and dragged me back.

PROSECUTOR:
But you found the courage now to stand up to his bullying ways?

LEAH:

Did someone not challenge these hateful people and rescue you?

LEAH:
(Sotto voce) Yes, Jack did.

DEFENCE:
I didn't hear that. I'm sure the jury didn't. Who was your rescuer?

LEAH:
Jack Braden.

DEFENCE:
Is it true that he fought this gang single-handed and sent them packing?

LEAH:
(Quietly) Yes. I was very grateful to him.

DEFENCE:
So much so that you will now look to send him to gaol if you can?

LEAH:
(Fiery) I was grateful to him, then he turned into a monster just the same as the Krays. He wanted to own me, keep me locked up in a cage.

LEAH:
(Alarm) No -

DEFENCE:
No, Miss Cohen, you don't want out of this relationship?

LEAH:
Yes, I do. I'm not saying it just to do that.

DEFENCE:
But you did recognise this golden opportunity when the police raided your flat?

LEAH:
No, I was talking to Tony Inspector Wednesday, and told him what Jack had done.

DEFENCE:
Just dropped into casual conversation oh, by the way Jack murdered someone in our flat?

LEAH:
No, it wasn't like that.

DEFENCE:
Then perhaps you'll tell us what it was like, Miss Cohen. Isn't it true you were taking a lot of medication at the time of this alleged murder and when the police raided your flat when you had a cosy chat with Tony Inspector Wednesday?

LEAH:
I was on medication from the doctor - to blot out the terrible existence -

DEFENCE:
In your gilded Mayfair cage?

LEAH:
I did see him beat Denny Jones to death.

DEFENCE:
Did you indeed? I put it to you, Miss Cohen, this murder is a fiction, something conjured by your drug-disturbed mind. Encouraged by the police, you saw a perfect opportunity of getting out of a relationship with a man who had in fact saved you from an exploitative life of prostitution.

LEAH:
That's not the way it is. It's not. It's not.

DEFENCE:
You still maintain that Jack Braden, in your presence and in the presence of the second defendant, Brian Oldman, beat and killed one Dennis Jones and had his body conveyed to a pig farm for disposal?

LEAH:
Yes. Yes, it's true.

(Quietly) I think we're about to get

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The police will keep you safe with a new identity.

LEAH:
It won't do any good. He'll find me. He always does.

TONY WEDNESDAY:
You have to trust the police on this, Leah.

LEAH:
I didn't think it would come to this. I'll kill myself.

SONIA HOPE:
No, Braden won't find you. Come on, I'll help you pack what you need.

She guides Leah towards the bedroom. She turns back.

LEAH:
Tony, what should I do? I don't know.

TONY WEDNESDAY:
Like Sonia says, we won't give up on this maniac. Meanwhile we will make sure you're safe. Go on.

Leah goes.

SONIA HOPE:
Thanks, Tony.

She goes out after Leah.

17/ INT JOEY OLDMAN'S OFFICE

The intercom buzzes and Joey Oldman opens it.

JOEY OLDMAN:
Yes, Rita.

RITA:
(Via intercom) Inspector Wednesday is here, Mr Oldman.

JOEY OLDMAN:
Send him in please.

He switches off the box and gets up as Tony Wednesday comes in and shuts the door.

JOEY OLDMAN:
If ever I doubted your ability, Tony, I never will again. That was a master stroke you pulled off in court, having the barrister produce the man the prosecution claimed Jack and Brian had killed. Amazing.

TONY WEDNESDAY:
Denny Jones took some finding, especially as we couldn't alert my boss of his existence.

JOEY OLDMAN:
Or Jack. He would certainly have given the game away.

TONY WEDNESDAY:
It took me enough bringing him back from Spain.

JOEY OLDMAN:
The recording from Tintagel House showing your boss up to be a corrupt and vindictive policeman was wonderful.

TONY WEDNESDAY:
That s very ironic when you think about it. He's a boy scout.

JOEY OLDMAN:
Serves him right. He should never have been going after his cousin like that.

TONY WEDNESDAY:
There'll be a lot of handwringing back at the office.

JOEY OLDMAN:
(Reaches into a drawer.) I suspect now you want this.

TONY WEDNESDAY:
Feels a bit light, Joey. (Checks the money.) It is light. What's the game? Only half.

JOEY OLDMAN:
You agreed that Jack would go away, and free Brian to work with me.

TONY WEDNESDAY:
I said we'd get Brian clear. We've done that. If Jack came too, that's not my problem. What I don't want now, Joey is you cheese-paring us. Others have to be weighed off.

JOEY OLDMAN:
A deal is a deal. I pay only for what I get.

TONY WEDNESDAY:
That's up to you, Joey. You can put the other grand on the table and we'll still be business partners. If I walk out of here without it, again, and then start looking at you.

JOEY OLDMAN:
Are you threatening me, Tony?

TONY WEDNESDAY:
I'd say so, and I'm a man who can make that good. I thought you were smart, Joey. So, what's it to be?

A beat. Joey Oldman opens a drawer in his desk and takes out a cash box.

JOEY OLDMAN:
It's as well I keep some spare cash about me. A thousand pounds.

TONY WEDNESDAY:
This lot I don't have to count. Smart move, Joey. I like you. I want to learn from you.

BRIAN (NARRATOR):
There's an old saying, Bad start, good finish. That bad start to their relationship wasn't how

married. He made me pick up men and take them home. He had a two-way mirror installed in the bedroom. He'd sit behind it and watch. I can't bear it.

JOEY OLDMAN:
He made his young wife do that?

MARGARET COURTNEY:
I tried to please him I thought I had to.

JOEY OLDMAN:
He's a monster. Does he... he doesn't..?

MARGARET COURTNEY:
No, he stopped years ago. He found another interest.

JOEY OLDMAN:
Another woman?

MARGARET COURTNEY:
shameful.

JOEY OLDMAN:
Margaret, you're alarming me. What?

MARGARET COURTNEY:
He goes with young boys.

JOEY OLDMAN:
Well, there are lots of homosexuals. It took me a long while to come to terms with Brian.

MARGARET COURTNEY:
As unpleasant as that is, one can put up with it. I'm afraid I mean young boys, some very young. I once found his secret diary. There s a whole club of senior civil servants, judges, policemen, even cabinet ministers. All pederasts... Ralph uses this knowledge to manipulate them.

JOEY OLDMAN:
Do you still have access to that diary?

MARGARET COURTNEY:
No. I think he might have left it out on purpose as a means of controlling me. I couldn't go to the police or anyone. Who could I tell?

JOEY OLDMAN:
I'm the first person you've told?

MARGARET COURTNEY:
There was no one else I'd trust.

JOEY OLDMAN:

This is dynamite, Margaret. I've got to find the right way to use it and stop this man.

MARGARET COURTNEY:
It would be wonderful if you could, Joseph, but you must be careful.

JOEY OLDMAN:
It's my middle name. We have to get a move on.

MARGARET COURTNEY:
You are coming to the meeting this evening?

JOEY OLDMAN:
Catherine says yo ve a government minister coming.

MARGARET COURTNEY:
Only a junior minister for housing and local government, Margaret Thatcher. But she might be worth meeting, Joseph.

JOEY OLDMAN:
Housing s an important job. We need lots more houses.

He gets up off the bed.

21/ INT JOEY OLDMAN'S H /4MCID 60>BDC BT6O1sI 56.C BT Tm r/F1 1sf(T)15r10(4' lo)6(t) Tm3(r)13

Catherine, Joseph, allow me to introduce our distinguished speaker Margaret Thatcher

CATH: