



DRAGNET

CHESTERFIELD #19 NEC #187 RELEASE DATE: SUNDAY, JANUARY 18, 1953

DIRECTOR: JACK WEBB SPONSOR: CHESTERFIELD CIGARETTES
WRITER: JOHN ROBINSON AGENCY: CUNNINGHAM-WALSH
MUSIC: WALTER SCHOMANN COMMERCIAL-SUPERVISOR: PETE PETERSON
SCRIPT: JEAN MILES TECHNICAL ADVISORS:
SOUND: BUD TOLLEFSON & WAYNE KENWORTHY SGT. MARTY WYNN: L.A.P.D.
ENGINEER: RAOUL MURPHY SGT. VANCE BRASHER: L.A.P.D.
ANNCR. #1 GEORGE FENNEMAN CAPT. JOHN DONOHUE: L.A.P.D.
ANNCR. #2 HAL GIBNEY, NBC
CASE: "THE BIG STRING"
REHEARSAL SCHEDULE:
RECORDING: SATURDAY, JANUARY 3, 1953
CAST AND SOUND: 10:30 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.
EDITING: T.B.A.
SCORING: FRIDAY, JANUARY 9, 1953
ORCHESTRA: 11:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.
ANNCRS: T.B.A. (COMMERCIAL) T.B.A.
BROADCAST: 6:30 - 7:00 P.M. - STUDIO J - BY T.R.

"THE BIG STRING"

CAST

SGT. JOE FRIDAY JACK WEBB
OFFICER FRANK SMITH BEN ALEXANDER
HENRY WAGNER.
MYRA WAGNER
THOMAS HARPER
ALICE HARPER

"DRAGNET"
SUNDAY, JANUARY 18, 1953

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- 1 MUSIC: SOUND OFF FOR CHESTERFIELD
- 2 GIBNEY: Sound off for Chesterfield.
- 3 MUSIC: SOUND OFF FOR CHESTERFIELD ... DRUM ROLL
- 4 GIBNEY: Chesterfield, the only cigarette in America to give you
- 5 premium quality in both regular and king size.....
- 6 MUSIC: DRUM ROLL CONTINUES
- 7 GIBNEY: brings you Dragnet.
- 8 MUSIC: DRAGNET SIGNATURE
- 9 FENN: (EASILY) Ladies and Gentlemen, the story you are about
- 10 to hear is true. The names have been changed to protect
- 11 the innocent.
- 12 MUSIC: UP AND FADE FOR:
- 13 FENN: (EASILY) You're a detective sergeant. You're assigned
- 14 to Homicide Detail. A man walks into your office and
- 15 tells you that he returned to his home to find that his
- 16 wife was gone. She left no indication where she was
- 17 going. Foul play is suspected. Your job.....find her.
- 18 MUSIC: UP AND FADE FOR:

(COMMERCIAL INSERT)

DRAGNET RADIO
JANUARY 18, 1953

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FIRST COMMERCIAL

1 FENN: The modern way to sell cigarettes is the Chesterfield 60
2 way ... premium quality in both regular and king-size...
3 and we're the only one that does it.

4 GIBNEY: Premium quality in a cigarette means the world's best
5 tobaccos - the best ingredients - the best cigarette
6 paper ... only Chesterfield gives you this premium
7 quality in both popular sizes. 1:15

8 FENN: King-size Chesterfield contains tobaccos of better
9 quality and higher price than any other king-size
10 cigarette. That's certainly important to every
11 king-size smoker. Of course, it's the same fine tobacco 1:30
12 as in regular Chesterfield. There is absolutely no
13 difference except that king-size Chesterfield gives you
14 more than a fifth longer smoke.

15 GIBNEY: Yes ... the modern way to sell cigarettes is the 1:45
16 Chesterfield way - premium quality - both regular and
17 king-size.

18 FENN: Chesterfield is much milder. Chesterfield is best for
19 you. 1:55

1 MUSIC: THEME

2 GIBNEY: Dragnet, the documented drama of an actual crime. For
3 the next thirty minutes, in cooperation with the Los
4 Angeles Police Department, you will travel step by step
5 on the side of the law through an actual case
6 transcribed from official files. From beginning to end
7 from crime to punishment....Dragnet is the story of
8 your police force in action.

9 MUSIC: UP TO SEMI BUTTON AND FADE ON SUSTAINED CHORD.

10 SOUND: JOE'S STEPS DOWN CORRIDOR. SLIGHT ECHO. CORRIDOR B.G.

11 JOE: It was Tuesday, July 7th. It was hot in Los Angeles.
12 We were working the night watch out of Homicide Detail.
13 My partner's Frank Smith. The boss is Thad Brown,
14 Chief of Detectives. My name's Friday. I was on my way
15 in to work, and it was 4:58 P.M. when I got to Room 42..
16 (SOUND: DOOR OPEN.).... Homicide.

17 SOUND: JOE WALKS INTO ROOM. DOOR CLOSE BEHIND AND B.G. CHANGE
18 TO SQUADROOM B.G.

19 FRANK: (OFF) Joe? That you?

20 JOE: Yeah. You been here long?

21 FRANK: No...just got in. Sure a beautiful day, isn't it?

22 JOE: Yeah.... summer's sure here.

23 FRANK: This daylight time makes a difference. Y'got a lot
24 more time, seems like. Made me think about my vacation.

25 JOE: You're due in a couple of weeks, aren't you?

26 FRANK: Yeah. First part of August.

27 JOE: Figured where you're goin'?

28 FRANK: Yeah. Fay and I talked it out. Y'know, Joe?

1 JOE: What's that?
2 FRANK: I think maybe I had Armand figured wrong.
3 JOE: Yeah?
4 FRANK: Yeah. This year Fay and I get to talking of where
5 we're going to spend the vacation. Fay wants to go up
6 to Big Bear. I'm sayin' Mexico.
7 JOE: Uh huh.
8 FRANK: Y'know....I figure a little fishin'.....I hear the
9 yellows are hittin' good. Well, Fay can't see it.
10 Darned if old Armand doesn't chime in and say that he
11 thinks Mexico is a good idea. Tells Fay all about the
12 beaches down there... how good the food is... all about
13 the air... healthy.... y'know. Really sells her.
14 JOE: That's where you're goin', huh?
15 FRANK: No. Fay didn't buy it. The mountains.
16 JOE: Fishin's supposed to be pretty good up there, too.
17 FRANK: Suppose so. But old Armand. Sure surprised me....old
18 Armand.
19 SOUND: PHONE RINGS OFF
20 JOE: I'll get it.
21 SOUND: JOE MOVES TO PHONE AND PICKS IT UP
22 JOE: Homicide, Friday. Yes sir, it is. Beg pardon... yes,
23 sir. Uh huh. Well, don't worry, sir...we'll be right
24 out. That's right. Don't worry, sir....we'll be right
25 there. Right....g'bye.
26 SOUND: JOE HANGS UP PHONE
27 JOE: C'mon.... let's go. Kidnapping out in Hollywood.
28 END SCENE 1

DRAGNET
THE BIG STRING

(REVISED) -4-

1 JOE: The man on the phone gave his name as Henry Wagner. He
2 said that he'd come home from work and found that his
3 wife was gone. He said on the phone that he'd found a
4 note demanding ransom and cautioning him against calling
5 the police. 5:22P.M. Frank and I arrived at the house on
6 Templehill Avenue. We parked the car down the street from
7 the house and I went up to the front door. Frank would
8 remain in the car for a few minutes and then follow. In
9 that way, if the kidnapers were watching the house, they
10 wouldn't be as likely to know that we were working on the
11 case. I rang the bell and waited.

1 JOE: The man on the phone gave his name as Henry Wagner. He
2 said that he'd come home from work and found that his
3 wife was gone. He told me that he'd found a note
4 demanding ransom and cautioning him against calling the
5 police. 5:22 P.M. Frank and I arrived at the house on
6 Templehill Avenue. It was a large two-story colonial
7 place. We rang the bell and waited. Mr. Wagner
8 opened the door.

9 HENRY: Yes... you the police?

10 JOE: Yes, sir.... My name's Friday.... This is my partner,
11 Frank Smith.

12 HENRY : Hello.... come in... please. Quickly.... I don't want
13 them to see you.

14 SOUND: JOE AND FRANK MOVE INTO THE HOUSE AND CLOSE THE DOOR.

15 JOE: Them?

16 HENRY: Yes... the kidnappers. They might be watching. I
17 don't know what I'm going to do. Terrible thing to
18 have happen. Just doesn't make sense.

19 JOE: All right, sir.... If you'd just calm down and tell us
20 what's happened. Right from the beginning.

21 HENRY: All right. I got home from school about 4:30. Myra
22 wasn't here. I looked through the house for her.
23 Figured like you said on the phone that she might have
24 gone to the store. When I couldn't find her, I started
25 looking for a note. That's when I found the ransom
26 demand...right there...on the coffee table.

27 FRANK: You said you got home from school, sir?

28 HENRY: Yes.... I teach Political Science at the University.

1 JOE: When did you last see your wife, sir?
2 HENRY: When I left this morning... about 7:30. I have a class
3 at 8.
4 JOE: Have you talked to her since?
5 HENRY: Yes... I called her about 1:15.
6 JOE: Did everything seem all right then? Did she seem to
7 be upset?
8 HENRY: No. Everything seemed to be normal.
9 JOE: Did she say if there was anyone with her when you
10 talked to her?
11 HENRY: No. If there was, she didn't give any indication of it.
12 JOE: Uh huh.
13 HENRY: I know that this isn't a hoax, if that's what you're
14 thinking. I know that Myra wouldn't do a thing like
15 this. She's a serious woman. I guess you might say
16 that she had a rather dull sense of humor. No...I know
17 that she wouldn't do a thing like this as a joke.
18 JOE: It's not that, sir. We're just trying to get all of
19 the facts.
20 FRANK: Wonder if we could see the note, sir?
21 HENRY: Yes. I left it over here on the desk.
22 SOUND: COUPLE OF STEPS TO DESK.....STOP.
23 HENRY: Here.
24 JOE: Rather you wouldn't handle it any more, sir.
25 HENRY: Oh... all right. You going to try to get some
26 fingerprints from it.... that right?
27 JOE: Yes, sir.
28 FRANK: You read it, Joe?

1 JOE: Yeah... made up of newsprint. Been cut out of the
2 paper. Looks like one of the morning papers.

3 FRANK: Yeah.

4 JOE: (READING) Put 10 thousand dollars in fives..tens...and
5 twentys in a shoebox. Make sure the bills are unmarked.
6 On July 8th....drive up Deer Canyon Drive at 10:30 P.M.
7 Five miles past the turnoff.... you will see a white
8 string across the road. Drop the shoe box out of the
9 car and go back home. Your wife will be returned.
10 Don't tell the cops. If you tell anybody, we'll kill
11 your wife.

12 FRANK: Deer Canyon Drive....

13 JOE: Yeah. It's up above Laurel.

14 FRANK: 10 thousand dollars.... that's a lot of money.

15 HENRY: Yes. I don't know how I'm going to raise it... I have
16 to. But I don't know how I'm going to do it.

17 JOE: We'll take care of that, sir. Have you noticed anyone
18 lately that's been in the neighborhood? Anybody
19 loitering around without any reason to be here?

20 HENRY: No. I haven't. Of course, you must understand, I'm
21 not home a great deal. But Myra didn't say anything
22 about it. I'm sure she would have if she's seen
23 anybody like that.

24 JOE: You have any household help, sir?

25 HENRY: Beg pardon?

26 JOE: Household help. Anyone who comes in to help your
27 wife with the housework?

1 HENRY: Well, there's Betty Jo. She comes in once a week to
2 clean up the house.
3 JOE: When was she last here?
4 HENRY: Let's see... Saturday... that's her usual day...
5 Saturday. I guess it was then.
6 JOE: Didn't you see her last week?
7 HENRY: No. You see I had to go out by Pomona this last weekend
8 Series of lectures I wanted to catch. I left early
9 Saturday morning and didn't get back until late that
10 night.
11 JOE: Did your wife go with you?
12 HENRY: No. She stayed at home. She had a little touch of the
13 virus and figured that she'd better stay home and take
14 care of it.
15 JOE: Uh huh. I wonder if you could give us a description
16 of your wife, Mr. Wagner. Like to get a broadcast out
17 on her.
18 HENRY: Isn't that a little dangerous?
19 FRANK: Sir?
20 HENRY: Well, it seems that if you broadcast that Myra was
21 missing, the kidnappers would hear it, and know that
22 you've been called in.
23 JOE: We have to get it out, sir. There's always the
24 possibility that we can pick her up before the
25 kidnappers have had a chance to get her out of the area.
26 HENRY: Oh... well, I guess you men know what you're doing.
27 JOE: Now, if you'd give us the description.

1 HENRY: Myra is about 5 feet three... I'd guess she weighs
2 about a hundred and thirty pounds.
3 JOE: How old is she, sir?
4 HENRY: 42. Just turned 42... Birthday last month...June 14.
5 JOE: How 'bout the color of her hair?
6 HENRY: Sort of an auburn, I guess you'd call it. A little
7 grey up in here (INDICATES) Here..... along the sides.
8 JOE: Uh huh. Would you know what she was wearing.
9 HENRY: No. I wouldn't have the slightest idea. I don't know
10 her clothes well enough to be able to look at what's
11 in her closet and tell you what she had on.
12 JOE: Uh huh. How about marks....?
13 HENRY: I don't think I understand.
14 JOE: Any visible birth marks or scars...? Anything that
15 might make it easier to identify her?
16 HENRY: No... I don't think so. Wait a minute. There's a very
17 small scar just under her ear. .. right here. :
18 (INDICATES) Couple of years ago, Myra and I went
19 fishing up in the Sierras. Myra got a trout fly caught
20 there. When they took it out... it left just a very
21 small scar. But I don't think you'd be able to see it
22 unless you were really looking for it.
23 FRANK: I wonder if you could give us the address of this
24 Betty Joe?
25 HENRY: Surely... I think Myra kept it in the phone book.
26 I'll look for you.
27 SOUND: HENRY GOES OVER TO DESK AND LOOKS THROUGH PHONE BOOK

1 HENRY: (OFF) Do you think they'll really do it, officer? Kill
2 Myra?
3 JOE: We're gonna try and stop 'em, sir.
4 HENRY: How about the money? Should I get it together? Not a
5 lot of time if I have to meet them tomorrow night.
6 JOE: We'll take care of that, sir.
7 HENRY: (FADING IN) Here's the address.
8 FRANK: Thanks.
9 HENRY: I don't know what I'll do if they hurt Myra... Just
10 don't know. It's odd, isn't it, Sergeant?
11 JOE: What's that, sir?
12 HENRY: Myra and I have been married for 22 years. I guess I
13 always just took her for granted. Haven't been separated
14 at all during that time. Just took her for granted.
15 JOE: Yes sir.
16 HENRY: I guess you have to lose something before you know what
17 it's worth.
18 END SCENE 2

1 JOE: 5:43P.M. We asked Mr. Wagner not to touch anything in the
2 house. We told him that after his wife had been returned
3 and our men could move safely about the neighborhood. The
4 house would be gone over for physical evidence. Two men
5 came out from the office and a stakeout was placed on the
6 house. The note was taken downtown and photographed. Dean
7 Bergman lifted several clean prints from it. However,
8 comparison with those taken from Mr. Wagner eliminated
9 them. The maid, Betty Jo, was contacted, but she could tell
10 us nothing. In the meantime, Sergeant Jay Allen of the
11 Crime Lab prepared a shoe box as directed by the abductors
12 note. Dummy packages of money were placed in the box, and
13 the container was wiped clean of all fingerprints. The
14 area where the meet was to take place was staked out.
15 The following morning, Wednesday, July 8th, Henry Wagner
16 went to teach his classes at the University as usual.
17 Late in the afternoon, he returned home, and at 9:45P.M.,
18 he got into his car and left the house. I had gotten into
19 the back seat of the car earlier, and kept out of sight.
20 In an undercover unit behind us, Frank, Lieutenant Gorham
21 and Gil Encinas kept us under observation, in the event
22 that we missed contact with the kidnappers. 10:26P.M.
23 We turned off Benedict Canyon onto Deer Canyon Drive.
24 SOUND: CAR IN B.G. NOT TOO FAST

1 HENRY: (OFF, AS IN FRONT SEAT) I hope I'm doing the right thing,
2 I can't help thinkin' of what they might do to Myra.
3 JOE: Take it easy, Mr. Wagner. I know how you feel.
4 Everything that can be done has been taken care of.
5 HENRY: That's what you've been telling me for the past hour.
6 It doesn't make me feel any better about what's happening.
7 JOE: Can you still see the car behind us?
8 HENRY: (LOOKING) No. I think they dropped back when we
9 turned off Benedict.
10 JOE: Uh huh. How's it look up ahead?
11 HENRY: Can't see much. Dark.
12 JOE: How far off the canyon have we come?
13 HENRY: About 4 and a half miles.
14 JOE: You have the shoe box there?
15 HENRY: Yeah. Right here on the seat.
16 JOE: Remember, when you toss it out...try to lift it by the
17 strings.
18 HENRY: Right. I'll remember. I just hope we're doing the right
19 thing. I'll never forgive myself if anything happens to
20 Myra. Ten thousand dollars just isn't worth it. (BEAT)
21 Wait a minute....
22 SOUND: CAR SLOWS A LITTLE
23 HENRY: There it is... the string across the road.
24 JOE: You see anybody around it?
25 HENRY: No. So dark.... I can't see anything but what's in front
26 of the car.
27 JOE: How close are we to the place?
28 HENRY: About 50 or sixty feet,

1 JOE: All right... Take it slow. Don't give any indication
2 that you aren't doing what they told you to.

3 SOUND: HOLDS FOR A MINUTE.

4 HENRY: We're here.

5 SOUND: CAR COMES TO A STOP. WE HEAR HENRY GRIND THE WINDOW DOWN

6 HENRY: I'm throwing the box out.

7 SOUND: OFF, WE HEAR THE BOX HIT THE ROAD.

8 HENRY: What now?

9 JOE: Go up the road a little, and then turn around and drive
10 back. Act like everything is just the way they told you
11 to handle it.

12 HENRY: All right.

13 SOUND: CAR STARTS UP AND GOES DOWN ROAD AND THEN STOPS

14 HENRY: We can turn around here.

15 JOE: You see anyone move for the money?

16 HENRY: No. Not yet. Maybe when I get turned around. It's
17 pretty dark back there.

18 SOUND: WE HEAR CAR GO INTO REVERSE AND THEN STRAIGHTEN OUT. IT
19 PROCEEDS SLOWLY DOWN THE ROAD.

20 HENRY: Nothing there. I don't see anyone.

21 JOE: Keep driving. If there's anybody to pick up the money,
22 it'll look better if you don't cause any trouble.

23 HENRY: I don't know about all of this, Sergeant. Somehow, I
24 still can't get the idea out of my mind that we've done
25 the wrong thing. That they know all about it, and that
26 they're gonna kill Myra.

1 JOE: There's no reason why they should know that there's
2 anything wrong, Mr. Wagner. From what they can see,
3 you're doing just what they told you. They've got
4 nothing to tell 'em any different.

5 HENRY: But what if they've found out? What if they know that
6 you're working on the case? What if they know about it?
7 They might kill Myra. I'd never forgive myself. I
8 never should have told you about it. I should have taken
9 care of it myself. They'll kill her, I know they will.
10 They'll kill her because you're working on it. Way it
11 is now... she hasn't got a chance.

12 JOE: How much of a chance did she have before?

13 END SCENE 3

DRAGNET
THE BIG STRING

(REVISED) -14-

1 JOE: 10:45P.M. Henry Wagner and I left the meeting place.
2 About a mile down Deer Canyon Drive, Wagner dropped me off,
3 and then he drove down Benedict Canyon Drive and continued
4 home. I met with Frank, Lieutenant Gorham, Sergeant Gil
5 Encinas, and we started back on foot. We cut off the road
6 and waited on the hill overlooking the meeting place.
7 Frank told me that they'd seen no activity on the road
8 while Wagner and I were making the meet. We moved in
9 closer. 11:30P.M. No sign of the kidnapers. The moon came
10 up, and we could see the white string crossing the road.
11 In a patch of Manzanita, we could see the shoe box
12 containing the dummy packages of money. We waited.
13 Midnight...1:30A.M. Still no sign of the kidnapers.
14 2:30...4:00. At 4:45A.M. the sun came up and Frank and
15 I left the area. Lieutenant Gorham and Sergeant Gil
16 Encinas continued to stake the meeting place. If the
17 kidnapers had been in the vicinity, we'd missed them.
18 Our only course now was to wait for them to contact Henry
19 Wagner again. 8:15A.M. Frank and I checked out and went
20 home to take a shower and get something to eat. At 11:12
21 AM., Thursday morning, we checked back into the office.

1 JOE: If the kidnapers had been in the vicinity, we'd missed
(Cont) 2 them. Our only course now was to wait for them to contact
3 Henry Wagner again. 11:30 A.M. Frank and I checked out
4 and went home to take a shower and get something to eat.
5 at 1:15 P.M., Thursday afternoon, we checked back into
6 the office.

7 SOUND: SQUADROOM B.G.

8 FRANK: Rough night.

9 JOE: Yeah. Nothin' to show for it.

10 FRANK: One thing I found out.

11 JOE: What's that?

12 FRANK: I need a heavier coat for nights.

13 JOE: Uh huh.

14 FRANK: Saw an add in a magazine. Advertised those English
15 duffle coats. Look real good.

16 JOE: What?

17 FRANK: Duffle coats. Wore 'em in the North Atlantic during the
18 war. Real heavy. Gotta hood that comes up. Should be
19 real warm.

20 JOE: A hood?

21 FRANK: Yeah.... you know like a monk wears. When you aren't
22 wearing it, it looks just like the collar. When it gets
23 cold...you just raise the thing up, and there you are...
24 warm as anything.

25 JOE: Y'know....somehow I can't see you in that.

26 FRANK: Yeah. Well, I noticed that you weren't any too warm'
27 last night. Next time we got duty like that, I'm
28 gonna be ready for it.

29 SOUND: PHONE RING OFF

1 JOE: I'll get it.
2 SOUND: COUPLE OF STEPS TO PHONE AND RECEIVER UP
3 JOE: Homicide, Friday. Yes. Oh yes, Mr. Wagner. What?
4 When was that? Uh huh. Yes, sir. Right away.
5 SOUND: PHONE HANG UP
6 JOE: That's it.
7 FRANK: Huh?
8 JOE: The Wagner woman.... she just came home.
9 END SCENE 4
10 END ACT I

DRAGNET RADIO
JANUARY 18, 1953

SECOND COMMERCIAL

14/34

1 FENN: Friends, you'll remember some months ago, we read you
2 our first report - the six months report on the effects
3 of smoking. Then more recently, we read you the eight
4 months report. Now, here is the latest one. The full
5 ten months report confirms again... 14/45

6 GIBNEY: No adverse effects on the nose, throat and sinuses of
7 the group from smoking Chesterfields.

8 FENN: This from a medical specialist who is making regular
9 bi-monthly examinations of a group of people from 15/-
10 various walks of life. Forty-five per cent of them have
11 smoked Chesterfield for an average of over ten years.

12 GIBNEY: After ten full months, the specialist reports he
13 observed no adverse effects on the nose, throat and
14 sinuses of the group from smoking Chesterfield. 15/15

15 FENN: That's what the medical specialist says...and to you and
16 me - I'd say that means real mildness. Try Chesterfield
17 and prove Chesterfield is best for you. MUCH MILDER to
18 give you all the pleasure the modern cigarette can give. 16/22

1 JOE: 11:30AM Frank and I drove out to the Wagner home. The
2 officers on the stakeout told us that Mrs. Wagner had
3 walked into the house about 11:00 o'clock that morning.
4 As soon as she'd gotten inside the house, she'd collapsed.
5 The family doctor had been called, and she was treated
6 for shock. Other than some scratches on her arms and
7 around her face, she was unharmed. The officers told us
8 that they'd been unable to interrogate her so far. We
9 talked to the doctor, and he told us that we could talk
10 to her until the sedative took effect.

1 JOE: 1:30 P.M. Frank and I drove out the Wagner home. Henry
2 Wagner told us that his wife had walked into the house
3 about 1 o'clock that afternoon. As soon as she'd gotten
4 inside the house, she'd collapsed. The family doctor had
5 been called, and she was treated for shock. Other than
6 some scratches on her arms and around her face, she was
7 unharmed. Wagner told us that his wife hadn't offered
8 any explanation when she came in. We talked to the
9 doctor, and he told us that we could talk to her until
10 the sedative took effect.

11 HENRY: Honey, these are policemen. They want to ask you a few
12 questions.

13 MYRA: Huh?

14 HENRY: Police officers, honey... This is Mr. Friday, and this is
15 Mr. Smith.

16 MYRA: Oh, yes.

17 HENRY: They want to ask you some questions, dear. About the
18 people who took you.

19 MYRA: Oh... all right.

20 JOE: We won't be long, ma'am.

21 MYRA: That's all right. I want to help you get them.

22 JOE: If you'd tell us how it happened.

23 MYRA: How it happened?

24 JOE: Yes, ma'am.

25 HENRY: (TO JOE) Sergeant.... do you have to do this now? Maybe
26 later, when she's rested.

1 JOE: I'm sorry, Mr. Wagner. We haven't much choice. We'd
2 like to get the people who did this. If we wait until
3 later, we might not be able to get them.
4 HENRY: Yes... I didn't think of that. Well, if the doctor says
5 it's all right.... go ahead.
6 BEAT
7 JOE: Mrs. Wagner?
8 MYRA: Yes?
9 JOE: Do you know the people who did it, ma'am? The people
10 who took you?
11 MYRA: No.
12 JOE: You've never seen them before?
13 MYRA: No. Never.
14 JOE: Could you tell us what happened?
15 MYRA: I guess so. They came to the door about 2:30.
16 FRANK: Who were "they", ma'am?
17 MYRA: I just saw a man. Later, when we got into the car....
18 there was a woman, too.
19 JOE: Go ahead, Mrs. Wagner.
20 MYRA: They told me that Henry had been in an accident. That
21 he'd been hurt. That he was at the hospital. Said that
22 they wanted to take me to him.
23 JOE: Yes, ma'am.
24 MYRA: I didn't know any different. I went with them. I thought
25 that Henry was hurt. I didn't know any different.
26 (STARTS TO BREAK A LITTLE)

1 HENRY: Do you have to do this, officers? She's home... safe.
2 That's all I care about. That's all that's important.
3 Why don't you let her get some rest? Then you can talk
4 to her. Talk as much as you want to. But, please, you
5 can see what this is doing to her.

6 JOE: Yes, sir. It isn't any easier on us... We've got a job
7 to do. Like we had when she was gone. We know how you
8 feel... but we still have to do it.

9 MYRA: It's all right, Henry. I'm all right, dear.

10 FRANK: Where'd they take you, ma'am?

11 MYRA: First, I think they were going to take me to a house near
12 here. I didn't notice the street. But it was near here.
13 I'm sure of that. Then when we got near there... I knew
14 that something was wrong. That they weren't going to
15 take me to Henry like they said. I knew it then.

16 JOE: Yes, ma'am.... Go ahead.

17 MYRA: Could I have a glass of water, please?

18 HENRY: Sure, honey... I'll get it for you.

19 SOUND: UNDER BELOW, WE HEAR HENRY GO TO TABLE AND POUR A GLASS
20 OF WATER. HE COMES BACK ON.

21 MYRA: Henry always said I was so independent. Said I could
22 take care of just about anything. But he was wrong about
23 this. I didn't know what to do. Scared. That's all.
24 I was never so scared in my life.

25 HENRY: (FADING IN) Here you are, dear.

26 MYRA: (TAKING GLASS) Thanks, Henry. (SHE DRINKS) Good. Cold.

27 HENRY: Here, honey, I'll take the glass.

1 JOE: What happened then, ma'am? When you found out that your
2 husband wasn't hurt?

3 MYRA: I told them to let me out of the car. Said that they'd
4 better let me go.

5 FRANK: Uh huh.

6 MYRA: The woman.... She was in the back seat with me, said for
7 me to keep my mouth closed. I tired to get out the
8 door, and she hit me. Then the two of them, got into an
9 argument. The man started to yell at the woman that it
10 wasn't any good. That they'd better forget the whole
11 thing. Then the woman said that they'd gone too far for
12 that now. That they had to go through with it.

13 JOE: Uh huh.

14 MYRA: Well, then they put a blindfold on me. Tied my hands and
15 blindfolded me. Then they started to drive.

16 JOE: At any time, did either of them use a name? Y'know...
17 in talking to each other?

18 MYRA: No. I don't think so. At least if they did, I don't
19 remember it.

20 JOE: Uh huh. Go ahead, Mrs. Wagner.

21 MYRA: Then they started to drive. I couldn't see where they
22 were going, but I know that they headed out the Arroyo
23 Seco. Toward Pasadena. I could tell from the way we
24 went. Then I heard the woman talk about the turnoff, to
25 get on the Seco. Right then, the man told her to shut
26 up.

27 JOE: Yes, ma'am.

1 MYRA: We drove for quite a while, then stopped. They made me
2 get out and took me into a house.

3 FRANK: Did you have any idea of where you were at the time,
4 ma'am?

5 MYRA: No. I didn't.

6 JOE: Uh huh... Go ahead, ma'am.

7 MYRA: Well, they took me into the house, and put me in a room.
8 They locked the door, and I could hear them arguing in
9 the next room. The man was really telling the woman off.
10 Said that she was a fool. That she'd really botched the
11 whole thing up.

12 JOE: Uh huh.

13 MYRA: That night... they brought in a plate of food. Told me
14 it was time to eat. All there was were some prunes.
15 That's what they fed me all the time I was there. Prunes.

16 FRANK: Was there anything at all that would let you know where
17 you were?

18 MYRA: A couple of things... They're probably kinda silly, but
19 maybe you can make something out of them.

20 JOE: What's that, ma'am?

21 MYRA: Well, there was a clock that was in the room where they
22 had me. One of those chime clocks. Told every fifteen
23 minutes. Like Westminster chimes.

24 JOE: Yes, ma'am.

25 MYRA: I don't think it was a very big clock. Chimes sounded
26 small.

27 JOE: Yes, ma'am.

28 MYRA: Then there were the trains.

1 JOE: Trains?

2 MYRA: Yes. Every once in a while, I'd hear trains going past.

3 Sounded like they were near. Maybe a couple of blocks

4 away. Not much more than that.

5 JOE: Uh huh. Did they keep you blindfolded all the time you

6 were there?

7 MYRA: Yes, they did.

8 JOE: Do you think that you can give us a description of the

9 man and woman, Mrs. Wagner?

10 MYRA: Yes.... I think so. At first, I was so upset...with

11 thinking that Henry was hurt that I didn't notice. But

12 I think I can describe them for you.

13 JOE: All right, ma'am.

14 MYRA: There's one thing, though.

15 JOE: What's that, Mrs. Wagner?

16 MYRA: I'd be positive if I saw them.

17 END SCENE 5

1 JOE: 12:00 noon. We continued to talk to the Wagner woman. She
2 gave us a description of the man and woman who had
3 kidnapped her, and a description of the car they'd used.
4 We called the information into the office and a local and
5 an APB were gotten out. We ran the descriptions through
6 R and I, but got no make. 2:45P.M. As one of the
7 possibilities for identifying the locality described by
8 Mrs. Wagner, Frank and I left the house and drove to the
9 office of one of the milk companies in the city. We talked
10 to the driver that handled the area in which Mrs. Wagner
11 said the kidnappers were going to stop. He couldn't
12 identify the man and woman from the description. We
13 checked two more milk companies, and on the third, we got
14 a tentative identification. The driver of the route told
15 us that we could be asking about Mr. and Mrs. Thomas
16 Harper. He gave us their address, and Frank and I drove
17 out there. On the way, we called the names to R and I and
18 had them make a check for us. They said they had a record
19 on a Thomas Harper who answered the description. He'd
20 served time in San Quentin and in Folsom Penitentiaries.
21 He'd been sentenced both times for armed robbery and
22 ADW. There was no record on Mrs. Harper, and no wants at
23 the present time for her husband. 5:57PM. We arrived at
24 the Harper home and rang the doorbell.

1 JOE: 1;45 P.M. We continued to talk to the Wagner woman. She
2 gave us a description of the man and woman who had
3 kidnapped her, and a description of the car they'd used.
4 We called the information into the office and a local and
5 an A.P.B. was gotten out. We ran the descriptions
6 through R. and I., but got no make. 3:46 P.M. Frank and
7 I left the house and drove to the office of one of the
8 milk companies in the city. We talked to the driver that
9 handled the area in which Mrs. Wagner said the kidnapers
10 were going to stop. He couldn't identify the man and
11 woman from the description. We checked two more milk
12 companies, and on the third, we got a tentative
13 identification. The driver of the route told us that we
14 could be asking about Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Harper. He
15 gave us the address, and Frank and I drove out there. On
16 the way, we called the names to R. and I. and had them
17 make a check for us. They said that they had a record on
18 a Thomas Harper who answered the description, who'd
19 served time in San Quentin and in Folsom Penitentiaries.
20 He'd been sentenced both times for armed robbery and
21 A.D.W. There was no record on Mrs. Harper, and no wants
22 at the present time for her husband. 5:57 P.M. We
23 arrived at the Harper home and rang the doorbell.

24 SOUND: OUTDOOR B.G. - DOOR BELL RING OFF

25 JOE: Wanna get it again?

26 FRANK: Yeah....

27 SOUND: OFF WE HEAR THE BELL RING AGAIN

28 FRANK: Probably aren't in.

1 JOE: Uh. Car parked down the street there could be theirs.
2 Checks the description we got from the Wagner woman.
3 FRANK: I think somebody's comin'.
4 SOUND: DOOR OPEN
5 THOMAS: Yeah? Whaddiya want?
6 JOE: You Thomas Harper?
7 TOM: Yeah.... that's right.
8 JOE: Police officers....like to talk to you.
9 TOM: What about?
10 JOE: Just like to talk to you....
11 TOM: You gotta search warrant?
12 JOE: You figure we gotta have one to talk to you?
13 TOM: You got one?
14 JOE: No... but we can get one, if we have to.
15 BEAT
16 TOM: All right.... common in
17 ALICE: (OFF) Who is it, Tom?
18 TOM: (UP) Cops.
19 ALICE: (FADING IN) What do they want?
20 TOM: Say they wanna talk. I don't know what about.
21 JOE: Just a routine investigation.
22 TOM: Who you tryin' to kid?
23 JOE: What do you mean by that, Harper?
24 TOM: Somebody's done something, and you need a pigeon. I got
25 a record, so I'm ripe for you guys to lean on.
26 JOE: What's the matter... you got something to worry about?
27 TOM: Not a thing in the world. But I know you guys. You're
28 gonna try.

1 ALICE: What do you want anyway?
2 JOE: You people tell us where you were on Tuesday afternoon
3 and evening?
4 ALICE: What for?
5 JOE: Routine.
6 TOM: Routine, my foot. You got an angle or you wouldn't be
7 here. You're trying to pin something on us, and you
8 know it.
9 JOE: You tell us where you were Tuesday night.
10 ALICE: Right here. Didn't leave the house.
11 JOE: You prove that?
12 ALICE: Prove it to who? You? You got no right to come in here
13 and ask a lot of questions.
14 TOM: She's right. You haven't got any right to do that. Now,
15 either you pull us in or get outta here. Next time you
16 come back, have a warrant.
17 FRANK: (LITTLE OFF) You own any other property besides this
18 house?
19 TOM: No. If we did, it wouldn't be any of your business. Now,
20 get outta here.
21 JOE: Okay....Harper. You called it.
22 TOM: Bet your life, cop! One nice thing about doing time is
23 that you know how far a cop can push you. I know, and I
24 don't want you in my house.
25 SOUND: TOM OPENS THE DOOR
26 TOM: Now get out!
27 BEAT

1 JOE: Let's go, Frank.

2 FRANK: Right.

3 SOUND: THEY WALK OUT OF HOUSE...DOWN A COUPLE OF STAIRS AND
4 ONTO SIDEWALK. STEPS CARRY FOR A WHILE.

5 JOE: Better call the office and have the house staked. Soon
6 as Mrs. Wagner feels better, we'll have her see if she
7 can make an identification.

8 FRANK: I don't think that'll be too hard, Joe.

9 JOE: Huh?

10 FRANK: Found this bill from the Gas Company on a table in there.

11 JOE: Yeah?

12 FRANK: House in Pasadena.

13 END SCENE 6

1 JOE: Harper's mugg shot had been pulled and sent to the Wagner
2 home for identification. Mrs. Wagner was still under
3 sedatives. 7:15P.M. Frank and I drove out to Pasadena.
4 We got in touch with the Police Department there, and
5 two officers were assigned to accompany us to the address
6 on the gas bill. The house was unoccupied, and there were
7 advertising papers strewn about on the lawn. With the
8 officers, we entered the house and went through it. In
9 some of the rooms, there were pieces of furniture, and in
10 the living room of the house, we found a mantel clock
11 that chimed the quarter hour. On an end table, we found
12 a ball of white string that looked like the same type that
13 had been used to mark the meeting place on Deer Canyon
14 Drive. In one of the back bedrooms, we found prune seeds
15 scattered around on the floor. A stake out was arranged
16 on the house. We contacted the men watching the Harper
17 residence and found that the suspect was still there.
18 9:56P.M. Frank and I arrived back at the Harper home in
19 Hollywood. The lights were out, and the house was dark.
20 Frank went around to the back of the house, and I rang
21 the doorbell.

1 JOE: 7:15 P.M. Frank and I drove out to Pasadena. We got in
2 touch with the Police Department there, and two officers
3 were assigned to accompany us to the Harper home. The
4 house was unoccupied, and there were advertising papers
5 strewn about on the lawn. With the officers, we checked
6 the house through the windows. Then we forced a back
7 door and went through it. In some of the rooms, there
8 were pieces of furniture, and in the living room of the
9 house, we found a mantel clock that tolled the quarter
10 hour. On an end table, we found a ball of white string
11 that looked like the same string that had been used to
12 mark the meeting place on Deer Canyon Drive. In one of
13 the back bedrooms, we found prune seeds scattered around
14 on the floor. A stake out was arranged on the house, and
15 at 9:56 P.M., Frank and I arrived back at the Harper house
16 in Hollywood. The lights were out, and the house was
17 dark. Frank went around to the back of the house, and I
18 rang the doorbell.

19 SOUND: OUTDOOR NIGHT B.G. DOOR OPEN

20 TOM: Yeah....? What do you want at this time of night? Oh,
21 it's you! Don't you guys ever give up?

22 JOE: C'mon, Harper... get dressed. We wanna talk to you
23 downtown.

24 TOM: You tyin' a pinch to me?

25 JOE: You called it.

26 TOM: For what?

27 JOE: Kidnapping.

28 BEAT

1 TOM: You're outta your mind.
2 JOE: Yeah.... Get dressed.
3 ALICE: (OFF) Who is it, honey?
4 TOM: The cops. Say we kidnapped somebody.
5 SOUND: WE HEAR ALICE FADE ON MIKE
6 ALICE: What?
7 TOM: Fuss has an idea we kidnapped somebody.
8 ALICE: They're kiddin'!
9 JOE: Afraid not, Mrs. Harper. You better get dressed too.
10 SOUND: JOE WALKS INTO HOUSE AND CLOSES DOOR
11 JOE: Anbyody else in the house?
12 TOM: Yeah. We take in boarders.
13 BEAT
14 JOE: Where's that door go to?
15 ALICE: Bedroom.
16 SOUND: JOE WALKS TO DOOR AND OPENS IT...CHECKS ROOM. WALKS BACK
17 ON MIKE.
18 JOE: Just one bedroom?
19 TOM: Yeah... we're roughing it.
20 JOE: This the kitchen?
21 TOM: Yeah.
22 SOUND: JOE WALKS INTO KITCHEN AND CHECKS IT.
23 JOE: How 'bout the bath?
24 TOM: In there.
25 SOUND: JOE WALKS INTO BATHROOM...CHECKS IT.. WE HEAR HIM PULL
26 SHOWER CURTAIN BACK. THEN HE WALKS BACK INTO LIVING ROOM

1 JOE: C'mon...let's go out in the kitchen.
2 SOUND: THE THREE OF THEM MOVE TO THE KITCHEN...JOE MOVES TO DOOR
3 AND OPENS IT.
4 JOE: (UP) Okay, Frank.
5 FRANK: (OFF) All right, Joe.
6 SOUND: JOE, TOM, AND ALICE MOVE BACK INTO LIVING ROOM. UNDER
7 BELOW WE HEAR FRANK COME INTO HOUSE.
8 TOM: You ain't kiddin' about this kidnap thing, are you?
9 JOE: Nope! Let's go.
10 TOM: What makes you figure that it might be us?
11 JOE: You got a house in Pasadena?
12 TOM: Why d'ya ask that?
13 JOE: Have you?
14 TOM: No.
15 JOE: You're lyin'. Property records in Pasadena say you have.
16 We checked the house. Matches one we're lookin' for.
17 TOM: That right?
18 JOE: Yeah. We got the woman you kidnaped. She's identified
19 your picture. You and your wife's.
20 ALICE: She couldn't identify me. I haven't got a record.
21 JOE: Yeah?.... Well, we'll worry about that later. C'mon.
22 BEAT
23 TOM: You ain't takin' me anyplace.
24 SOUND: HE MAKES BREAK AND STARTS FOR BACK DOOR
25 JOE: (UP) Grab him, Frank.
26 TOM: Get outta my way, cop!
27 SOUND: HE HITS FRANK, AND THERE IS A MINOR TYPE FIGHT. JUST
28 ENOUGH FOR FRANK TO HAVE TO COMB HIS HAIR A LITTLE BIT.
29 JOE WALKS OVER.

1 JOE: All right, Harper... On your feet.
2 SOUND: JOE REACHES DOWN AND DRAGS HARPER UP ON HIS FEET.
3 FRANK: I'll shake him.
4 SOUND: FRANK SHAKES HIM DOWN
5 FRANK: He's clean. Get your hands behind you, Harper.
6 SOUND: FRANK SNAPS CUFFS ON HARPER
7 TOM: (UP) I told you what'd happen. I told you we should let
8 her go right away. I told you!
9 ALICE: (A LITTLE OFF) Oh, shut up!
10 TOM: You and your bright ideas. 10 grand.... easy. You and
11 your bright ideas. Well, look what it's got us.
12 ALICE: Look, Buster... You didn't yell when you thought of
13 gettin' your hot little hands on that dough. You were
14 all for it then. So we lost. What do you want me to do
15 about it?.... Break down and bawl?
16 TOM: Shoulda known. Shoulda known from the beginning. Had
17 nothin' but trouble with you from the start. Always
18 wantin' something easy. Always wantin' big money. Never
19 satisfied.
20 ALICE: That's the trouble with kids. Bad losers. Great winners
21 but bad losers. You're a big boy now. You lost. That's
22 all there is to it. Stop whinin'.
23 TOM: Easy for you to say. They get through with me, and I'll
24 be in for life. You got no record.
25 JOE: She has now. Let's go.

1 MUSIC: SIGNATURE

2 FENN: (EASILY) The story you have just heard was true. The
3 names were changed to protect the innocent.

4 GIBNEY: On November 10th, trial was held in Department 98,
5 Superior Court of the State of California, in and for the
6 County of Los Angeles. In a moment, the results of that
7 trial.

DRAGNET RADIO
JANUARY 18, 1953
CLOSING COMMERCIAL

FENNEMAN: And now, here is our star, Jack Webb. 27/15

WEBB: Thank you, George Fenneman. Friends, only the modern cigarette... Chesterfield... gives you this scientific evidence on the effects of smoking. No adverse effects on the nose - throat, and sinuses of the group from smoking Chesterfields. And only the modern cigarette.... Chesterfield.... gives you premium quality in both regular and king-size. I know Chesterfield is best for me... and best for you. Buy 'em regular or king-size. Either way they are much milder to give you all the pleasure the modern cigarette can give. 27/15

1 GIBNEY: Thomas Fenton Harper was tried and found guilty of
2 kidnapping. He was sentenced to life imprisonment in the
3 State Penitentiary, Folsom, California, without
4 possibility of parole. His wife, Alice Mable Harper,
5 received a like sentence and is now in the State Prison
6 for Women, Tehachipi, California.

END PAGE

1 MUSIC: THEME

2 THEME: UNDER

3 GIBNEY: You have just heard Dragnet -- a series of authentic
4 cases from official files. Technical advice comes from
5 the office of Chief of Police, W. H. Parker, Los Angeles
6 Police Department. Technical advisors: Captain Jack
7 Donohoe, Sgt. Marty Wynn, Sgt. Vance Brasher. Heard
8 tonight were Ben Alexander, _____

9

10 Script by John Robinson. Music by Walter Schumann.

11 Hal Gibney speaking.

12 MUSIC: THEME UNDER.....(CONTINUES:)

13 FENN: Sound off for Chesterfields. Either way you like 'em --
14 regular or king size, you will find premium quality
15 Chesterfields much milder.

16 GIBNEY: Chesterfield has brought you Dragnet, transcribed from
17 Los Angeles.