



DRAGNET

CHESTERFIELD #42

NBC #210

RELEASE DATE: SUNDAY, JUNE 28, 1953

DIRECTOR:

JACK WEBB

SPONSOR:

CHESTERFIELD CIGARETTES

WRITER:

JOHN ROBINSON
BEN ALEXANDER

AGENCY

CUNNINGHAM-WALSH

MUSIC:

WALTER SCHUMANN

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.

ANNCR. #2

HAL GIBNEY, NBC

CASE:

"THE BIG HAM"

REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

RECORDING: SATURDAY, JUNE 13, 1953

CAST AND SOUND: 11:30 - 1:30

EDITING: T.B.A.

SCORING: T.B.A.

ORCHESTRA:

ANNOUNCERS: (COMMERCIAL)

BROADCAST: 6:30 - 7:00 PM - STUDIO J - BY T.R.

Agency Copy
Carl & Trench

THE BIG HAM

CAST

SGT. JOE FRIDAY JACK WEBB

OFFICER FRANK SMITH BEN ALEXANDER

ROBERT PAUL

THELMA KEENE

PEGGY ROCKWELL

ROSS MITCHELL

RAY GEISE

1 MUSIC: "SOUND OFF FOR CHESTERFIELD"

2 GIBNEY: Sound off for Chesterfield.

3 MUSIC: "SOUND OFF FOR CHESTERFIELD"...DRUM ROLL

4 GIBNEY: Chesterfield is best for you. First cigarette with premium quality in both regular
5 and king size. Chesterfield brings you Dragnet.

6 MUSIC: DRAGNET SIGNATURE

7 FENN: (EASILY) Ladies and gentlemen, the story you are about to hear is true. The
8 names have been changed to protect the innocent. 20

9 MUSIC: UP AND FADE FOR

10 FENN: You're a detective sergeant. You're assigned to Homicide Detail. A young girl
11 has been shot with a 22 calibre rifle. It was reported a suicide. Your job...
12 Investigate.

13 MUSIC: UP AND FADE FOR

(COMMERCIAL INSERT)

DRAGNET - RADIO

(REVISED)

~~5-31-53~~
6-14-53

FIRST COMMERCIAL

59

- 1 FENNEMAN: Here is Chesterfield's record with smokers and
2 important to you.
- 3 GIBNEY: No adverse effects to the nose, throat and sinuses
4 from smoking Chesterfield.
- 5 FENNEMAN: That's the report of a doctor who has been examining
6 a group of Chesterfield smokers for a full year and
7 two months as a part of a program supervised by a
8 responsible independent research laboratory. Don't
9 you want to try a cigarette with a record like this?
10 Chesterfield ... first with premium quality.
11 Chesterfield ... first choice of young America. And
12 that's from a survey made in 274 colleges and
13 universities. Try Chesterfields today. Chesterfield
14 ... regular or king-size. They're much milder ...
15 and best for you.

1/15

1/30

1/43

MUSIC: THEME

GIBNEY: Dragnet, the documented drama of an actual crime. For the next thirty minutes, in cooperation with the Los Angeles Police Department, you will travel step by step on the side of the law through an actual case transcribed from official police files. From beginning to end...from crime to punishment.....Dragnet is the story of your police force in action. 2/10

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

JOE: It was Monday, June 8th. It was warm in Los Angeles. We were working the day watch out of Homicide Detail. My partner's Frank Smith. The boss is Captain Lohrman. My name's Friday. I was on my way into the office and it was 8:03 A.M. when I checked into room 42...

(SOUND: DOOR OPEN).....Homicide.

SOUND: JOE WALKS IN, B.G. CHANGES.

FRANK: Joe?

JOE: Yeah. 2/30

FRANK: Back here. Skipper's office.

SOUND: JOE WALKS TO LOHRMAN'S OFFICE.

GEISE: 'Morning, Joe.

JOE: Hi, Ray. What've you got?

GEISE: Suicide.

JOE: Anything on it.

GEISE: Here's the report. Team from the business office went out last night. Get on it right away, will ya.

JOE: Right. Let's go, Frank.

SOUND: JOE AND FRANK WALK INTO SQUADROOM, SIT DOWN AT TABLE.

JOE: Wanna check this stuff before we get started?

FRANK: Yeah...give us an idea what we got to do. What's the report say?

JOE: According to this...the business office got a call at ... 2:30 this morning. Landlady out in the Westlake park district called and said this young girl committed suicide.

FRANK: They got an identification on her?

JOE: No. Got her listed as Jane Doe number ~~17~~. Description here.

FRANK: Better check it with Missing Persons.

JOE: Uh huh.

FRANK: How'd the landlady happen to find the body?

JOE: Cording to the report she heard the water running in the apartment. Finally went up to see what it was. When she didn't get an answer to the knock, she opened the door and went in. Found the body.

FRANK: Girl didn't live in the apartment then?

JOE: No. Place is rented to Ross Mitchell.

FRANK: Anything on him?

JOE: No. Report says he wasn't home. He was checked through R & I. No make on him.

FRANK: How 'bout prints on the victim?

JOE: No go. Checked 'em out. Nothin' on her here. We can send 'em on to Washington.

FRANK: Yeah.

JOE: Found a suicide note. Got a copy of it.

1 FRANK: What's it say?

2 SOUND: JOE UNFOLDS COPY OF THE NOTE.

3 JOE: (READS) Ross...I've tried to make you understand. Nothing seems to do
4 any good...I've told you that I won't stand in the way of your career.
5 But you don't want to try to make a go of it. I know this doesn't solve
6 anything but it's the only way I can think of.

7 FRANK: Any signature?

8 JOE: No. Report says the originals at the Crime Lab for processing.

9 FRANK: Guess we better start with the landlady huh?

10 JOE: Best lead we've got. Galindo and Bates are out there now. Place was
11 stacked right away.

12 GEISE: (OFF) Friday...you wanna take it on 2? 4/02

13 JOE: Yeah.

14 SOUND: HE REACHES OVER TO PHONE...PULLS IT TO HIM AND PUNCHES BUTTON.

15 JOE: (INTO PHONE) Homicide, Friday. Yeah. Uh huh...just got it. Yeah...
16 Okay Max, have him wait there will you? We'll be right over.

17 SOUND: JOE HANGS UP PHONE.

18 JOE: Got a break. Max Koontz over at the Coroner's office says they got an I.D.
19 on the girl.

20 FRANK: Yeah.

21 JOE: Her father's there now. 4/15

22 SOUND: THEY GET UP AND MOVE TO THE DOOR OF THE SQUADROOM.

23 END SCENE 1

5.
4/3

1 JOE: 8:14 A.M. We left the city hall and went over to the Hall of Justice.
2 We met the victim's father, a Mr. Robert Paul. He told us that there could
3 be no mistake, the body was that of his daughter, Gloria. The attendant
4 had given him some smelling salts and after introducing us, he'd left to close
5 off the viewing room.
6 ROBERT: I don't understand why she'd do it. None of it makes sense.
7 JOE: When'd you see your daughter last, Mr. Paul?
8 ROBERT: Saturday afternoon. That was the last time. Never saw her again.
9 JOE: She was gone Saturday night and all day yesterday?
10 ROBERT: Yeah.
11 JOE: You hear from her at all?
12 ROBERT: No.
13 FRANK: Weren't you worried about her?
14 ROBERT: No. Sometimes she doesn't come home, stays with a girl friend, but when I
15 didn't hear from her last night, I got worried, started calling around.
16 FRANK: She say where she was going when she left?
17 ROBERT: Told me she was going over to see Peggy. Said the two of them were going to a
18 show. And that she'd be home for dinner sure.
19 JOE: Who's this Peggy?
20 ROBERT: Peggy Rockwell. Friend of Gloria's.
21 JOE: Have you talked to her?
22 ROBERT: Huh?
23 JOE: Have you talked to this Peggy since your daughter disappeared?
24 ROBERT: Yes...I called her last night. Talked to her then. I was most out of my mind.
25 Didn't know what to do. Talked to her last night. She didn't know.
26 FRANK: Do you know if your daughter knows anybody named Ross Mitchell?

5/00

5/30

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1 ROBERT: Ross Mitchell? No...I don't think I've ever heard the name. Why do you
2 ask that?
3 FRANK: Just wondered.
4 ROBERT: You know something about this that you're not telling me? Is that it?
5 JOE: No sir.
6 ROBERT: Must be something like that. You don't just come up with a name like that
7 outta thin air. You gotta have a reason. I'm her father...I got a right to
8 know. All night sitting there waiting for the phone to ring...calling her
9 friends. Thinking she's been in an accident. Imagining all kinds of things.
10 If you know something you should tell me. I've got to know...How am I gonna
11 tell her mother. Poor woman's almost dead with worry. She doesn't know about
12 this. All she knows is that the baby's gone. That's all...the baby's gone. 6
13 (STARTS TO BREAK) Gloria's dead...I don't know what to do.
14 JOE: Alright Mr. Paul...take it easy.
15 SOUND: ROBERT TAKES HIS HANDKERCHIEF OUT AND BLOWS HIS NOSE A COUPLE
16 OF TIMES.
17 ROBERT: I'm sorry. Have you got a cigarette?
18 JOE: Yeah...Here you go.
19 SOUND: JOE TAKES PACKAGE OF CIGARETTES OUT OF HIS POCKET AND OFFERS
20 IT TO ROBERT, LIGHTS IT.
21 ROBERT: (EXHALING) I'm sorry about that.
22 JOE: Alright sir. We understand. Can you give us an address where we can talk
23 to this Peggy Rockwell?
24 ROBERT: Yes...she works at a restaurant over on Seventh. I've got her home address
25 too if you want it.
26 JOE: Yes sir. I hope you'll understand this, Mr. Paul, we don't mean any offence.

6/31

1 ROBERT: What's that?

2 JOE: Did your daughter have any steady boy friends you knew?

3 ROBERT: No, I don't think so. No one that she went with steady.

4 FRANK: Was there one man she liked more than the others?

5 ROBERT: I think there was. I don't know who. Her mother asked her about it a couple

6 of times...wanted to know who the fella was but Gloria'd never say.

7 Just said that it wasn't serious and that it didn't matter.

8 JOE: How'd she seem to get along with this man?

9 ROBERT: Alright I guess. I told you that I never saw him...didn't know who he was.

10 But whenever Gloria had a date with him, she acted like it was something

11 special.

12 JOE: Did your daughter have a job?

13 ROBERT: Not regular...she used to model once in a while. And then maybe she'd pick

14 up a day's work in pictures. Not much.

15 JOE: Uh huh. Can you think of any reason why she'd want to take her own life?

16 ROBERT: No. She seemed pretty happy. Never gave any indication that there was

17 anything wrong.

18 JOE: Has she been ill lately? Under a doctor's care?

19 ROBERT: No...not that I know about.

20 FRANK: Possible that she might have been seeing a doctor and you wouldn't know it?

21 ROBERT: No...her mother would have known and she'da told me. No...I'm pretty

22 sure she was ~~feeling~~ alright.

23 JOE: Anything about her job that bothered her?

24 ROBERT: What do you mean?

25 JOE: Was she happy with what she was doing?

26 ROBERT: Oh yeah. Gloria didn't want a career. She was looking for a husband. Wanted

27 to settle down and raise a family.

1 JOE: Uh huh. Well, can you think of anything at all that might make her want
2 to take her own life?

3 ROBERT: No. I can't understand it. None of it makes any sense to me. Where she
4 was found...She didn't know anybody in that part of town. I don't know
5 what she'd be doing over there.

6 JOE: Did she drink?

7 ROBERT: I don't think I understand.

8 JOE: Did she drink much, sir...at bars...cocktail lounges?

9 ROBERT: No...She didn't. ~~Gloria~~ was a good girl. She didn't drink or smoke. She
10 was a good girl. I don't understand all this. First this thing with Ross...
11 now you want to know if she drinks. I don't know what you're trying to get
12 at but I don't like it. You're trying to make Gloria something she isn't.
13 She's a good girl. Always has been. Just a home and family, that's all
14 she wanted. Nothing more. (STARTS TO BREAK) I don't know why
15 you're asking me all these questions. I'm her father. You're the police...
16 it's up to you to find the reasons. That's your job. Not to come around
17 and say things about my girl.

18 JOE: We're not saying anything, Mr. ~~Paul~~.

19 ROBERT: You are too. You're trying to make me believe that Gloria wasn't a nice
20 girl. I know different. I raised her since she was a baby. Gave her all the
21 care I could. I don't know why she'd do a thing like this.

22 JOE: You don't?

23 ROBERT: No. Why ask me these questions?

24 JOE: You said it yourself.

25 ROBERT: Huh?

26 JOE: You're her father.

(END SCENE 2)

1 JOE: We continued to talk to the father of the victim. From him, we got a
2 list of the girls friends, the address and names of the people she worked
3 for. ~~While~~ we were talking to him, he was unable to give us any idea
4 as to why Gloria Paul might want to take her own life. He insisted
5 that he didn't know anyone of his daughter's acquaintances named Ross
6 Mitchell. A telephone call was put through to his wife, but she was
7 unable to tell us who the man was. 8:20 A.M. Mr. Paul recovered
8 from the initial shock and went home. 8:39 A.M. We drove over to
9 the rooming house where Gloria Paul had been found. On the way we
10 stopped to call the Crime Lab to see if they'd been able to come up
11 with anything in the dead girl's effects to help us. Lt. Lee Jones at
12 the lab ~~told~~ us that they hadn't finished their investigation yet.
13 8:50 A.M. We arrived at the house, and talked with the landlady,
14 Thelma Keene.

15 THELMA: It's terrible. Poor little thing.

16 JOE: You haven't seen Ross Mitchell yet?

17 THELMA: No, he hasn't come in. I told the officers last night that I didn't expect
18 him until noon today.

19 JOE: Have you seen the girl before?

20 THELMA: Once in a while. She'd come in with Ross. Wait for him and then they'd
21 go right out.

22 FRANK: Did you see her last night?

23 THELMA: I told the officers that were here last night that I didn't. Didn't you talk
24 to them at all?

25 JOE: We have the report ~~they~~ filed, Mrs. Keene, but we'd like to get some
26 facts from you.

1 THELMA: Seems like a waste of time, but I suppose you have to.

2 JOE: Do you have any idea when she might have come in?

3 THELMA: No. Not the slightest.

4 FRANK: When was the last time you saw Mitchell?

5 THELMA: Saturday around noon. He came in and told me that he'd be out of town

6 over the weekend. Said for me to keep an eye on the place.

7 JOE: He tell you where he was going?

8 THELMA: Said he was going to visit an assistant director friend of his over in

9 La Canada.

10 FRANK: He say what this friend's name was?

11 THELMA: No...they're working on a picture together. ~~Ross~~ just met him the other

12 day. Asked him out for the weekend. Ross is very good at making friends.

13 JOE: Uh huh. You know where he's working?

14 THELMA: No, Ross just said it was a sea adventure. Doin' it in full color. 3 D

15 too. Guess it's gonna be quite a spectacle. Didn't have all the gimmicks

16 in my day.

17 FRANK: Ma'am?

18 THELMA: Didn't have 3-D or the other things. In my day we acted. We knew how

19 to act...from the heart. These youngsters. A good flack can make a

20 star out of anybody. Things have changed. Here....

21 SOUND: SHE WALKS OVER TO A TABLE AND PICKS UP A PICTURE.

22 THELMA: This one. That's me with ~~the~~ pith helmet. This was made over on

23 Catalina Island. We were shooting a jungle picture. We acted. No

24 doubles for us. Real actors.

25 FRANK: When was this, ma'am?

1 THELMA: A few years ago. Now, why are you asking all these questions about
2 Ross?

3 JOE: The note the girl left was addressed to him.

4 THELMA: That doesn't mean anything. Just some love sick girl. Doesn't mean
5 Ross had anything to do with it.

6 JOE: We've got to be sure, Mrs. Keene.

7 THELMA: You just believe me. I know the boy. He wouldn't get mixed up in a
8 thing like this. Just some love sick autograph hunter. Same thing used
9 to happen to me all the time.

10 JOE: That right?

11 THELMA: Sure. I used to get a couple hundred letters a week from men askin' me
12 to marry them. Said if I didn't, they just couldn't go on. They did
13 though. But I guess it made them feel better. That's all it was though.
14 Adolescence.

15 JOE: How long has Ross lived here?

16 THELMA: Since he came to California.

17 FRANK How long's that been?

18 THELMA: Guess it's been about 3 and a half years. He came out here from the
19 midwest. Wanted to be an actor. Moved out and started pounding on
20 doors. He's done pretty well. He'll do better. Gonna be a big star
21 someday. Handle him right and he'll be a big man.

22 JOE: This girl ever come to see anybody else in the building?

23 THELMA: No, not that I know of. Never saw her.

24 JOE: Uh huh. How'd you happen to find the body?

11/30

1 THELMA: I went to bed about 10-thirty. They were running one of my old movies
2 on TV and I stayed up to see it. You happen to catch it? Thing called
3 "The Floods Will Come." Made it over at Catalina. Starred Nick
4 Benton. Real movie idol. Here's one of the stills from the picture.

5 SOUND: SHE PICKS UP ANOTHER PICTURE.

6 THELMA: Here's the whole company. That's me and that's Nick with the puttees.
7 He'd put on a little weight. I remember he had to do road work while
8 we were there to trim down. Held the company up for a week. Grand
9 picture. They didn't do it right on television though. Looked a little
10 corny. I guess the way they ran it through the machines. Y'know we
11 all looked pasty. Even Nick.

12 JOE: Yes, ma'am. Would you go on please?

13 THELMA: Well, after I saw the rest of the picture I went out to the kitchen, got
14 a bowl of Shredded Wheat to eat in bed. Came back into the bedroom
15 and I heard this noise.

16 JOE: What noise is that, ma'am?

17 THELMA: Like somebody was running water in one of the taps. Went on and on.
18 Pretty soon it started to bother me. Couldn't understand it.

19 FRANK: Uh huh.

20 THELMA: Finally I went up to see who it was. Noise came from Ross's apartment.
21 I knocked but there wasn't any answer. So I unlocked the door and
22 went in. I thought something was wrong. That's when I saw her.

23 JOE: Yes, ma'am.

24 THELMA: She was lyin' on the bed. Right away I called the police.

12/15

12/30

1. JOE: Before you went up did you hear any other noises. Any sound of a
2 struggle...anything like that?
- 3 THELMA: No...just the water running.
- 4 FRANK: How about the shot...you hear that?
- 5 THELMA: No...no...I didn't. Lot of shooting in the picture I was watching. 13/30
- 6 JOE: Did you touch anything in the room?
- 7 THELMA: No. I turned the lights, but that's all. Room was ~~dark~~ when I went in.
8 Just turned on the lights and then I called you.
- 9 JOE: According to the report, there wasn't any purse found with the body.
10 Did you see one when you went in?
- 11 THELMA: I didn't. If I had you'd have gotten it. What're you tryin' to say...
12 that I stole her purse. Is that what you're tryin' to say?
- 13 JOE: No, ma'am.
- 14 THELMA: You'd better not. I've got a reputation in this town. I know a lot of
15 big people. I'm not going to have you come in here and call me a
16 thief.
- 17 FRANK: We didn't mean to offend you, ma'am.
- 18 THELMA: Uh huh.
- 19 JOE: Who has a key to Mitchell's place besides him?
- 20 THELMA: No one. He's got the only one. I don't like a ~~lot~~ of keys to the room out. 13/30
21 I tell all the tenants that.
- 22 JOE: Have you got any idea how the girl might have gotten into the room?
- 23 THELMA: No.
- 24 FRANK: Do you know who the gun belonged to?
- 25 THELMA: Yes...it was Ross's.

1. JOE: You pretty sure about that?

2 THELMA: Yes...I saw it when he moved in. Commented on it then. He said that

3 he'd had it since he was a kid. Kept it out of sentiment.

4 JOE: Uh huh.

5 THELMA: What's all this about anyway. You seem to think that there's something

6 wrong. Is that it?

7 JOE: No, am'am. It's just that in things like this we have to make a complete

8 investigation.

9 THELMA: Oh. Well, I want to do all I can to help you but I do have an appointment.

10 If there's nothing more you want, I'd like to be going. /ADD

11 JOE: Alright, Mrs. Keene. If we want to talk to you...we'll be able to

12 reach you here?

13 THELMA: Yes. Right here.

14 JOE: We'll give you a call to tell you about the inquest.

15 THELMA: Am I gonna have to be there?

16 JOE: Yes, ma'am. You and Mitchell.

17 THELMA: Why him?

18 JOE: It was his apartment.

19 THELMA: But he didn't have anything to do with it.

20 JOE: Maybe so, ma'am, but he'll still have to be there.

21 THELMA: It's not fair. A thing like this can ruin him. By the time the papers get

22 through with it, he'll be finished. It can ruin his career. He doesn't

23 know anything about it. He won't be able to tell you anything.

24 JOE: You're wrong there, ma'am,

25 THELMA: Huh?

14/30

1. JOE: He's got a lot to explain.

2 (END SCENE 3)

1 JOE: We went upstairs and met the officers staked out in the room and looked
2 at the apartment where the girl had been found. 9:20 A.M. We gave
3 our card to Thelma Keene and asked her to call us in the event she
4 thought of anything else. We also asked her to notify us immediately
5 in the event she heard from Mitchell. The stake-out in the room
6 continued. 9:52 A.M. We drove over to the coffee shop on West
7 Seventh to talk to the girl's friend, Peggy Rockwell. We found her
8 in the back of the place typing out the day's menus.

-9 SOUND: RESTAURANT BACKGROUND GIRL TYPING SLOWLY

10 PEGGY: What about Gloria? Somethin' wrong?

11 JOE: When was the last time you saw her?

12 PEGGY: Let's see...Saturday night. She stayed at my house. Left about noon
13 on Sunday. I had the day off. Figured that maybe we'd do something,
14 but Gloria said she had something to do. Last I saw her was on Sunday
15 morning.

16 JOE: You know a man named Ross Mitchell?

17 PEGGY: That bum.

18 FRANK: Why do you say that Miss Rockwell?

19 PEGGY: Because he is. Real no good.

20 JOE: He pretty friendly with Miss Paul?

-21 PEGGY: Gloria thought so. Turned out he was just using her.

22 JOE: How d'ya mean?

23 PEGGY: Thought at first she could get him some jobs. Turned out when he could
24 do better he dropped her. They were goin' to get married. Then he
25 thought he could do better so he dropped her.

1. FRANK: When was this?
- 2 PEGGY: Couple of weeks ago. Almost broke Gloria up altogether. She was in
3 love with the bum. Thought there wasn't anybody else like him. I
4 tried to tell her but you know how it is. A person makes up their minds
5 to take the step and there ain't nothin' that can make 'em change their
6 minds. I could see it. Tried to tell her but she wouldn't listen.
- 7 JOE: How long has Mitchell known her?
- 8 PEGGY: Since he came out here. He showed up at an audition. Gloria was there.
9 She had the part. Just had to go through the business to make it look
10 good, but she already had the part. Y'know what I mean?
- 11 FRANK : I think so.
- 12 PEGGY: Well, y'see, they have these auditions. They already know who's gonna
13 play the part, but to make it look good they have these auditions.
14 That's how they met. He really gave the rush when he found out she
15 knew the right people around town. Gloria's a doll. Real cute. She
16 could have had a lot more work if she'd wanted it.
- 17 JOE: Uh huh.
- 18 PEGGY: Say...you mind if I go ahead with these menus? The boss'll be sore if
19 I don't get through with 'em.
- 20 JOE: No...go right ahead.
- 21 PEGGY: We can talk while I'm doing it. I took a course once. Touch typing.
22 Didn't think I'd ever use it. Boy, was I fooled.
- 23 JOE: Go right ahead, Miss.
- 23 SOUND: UNDER HER SPEECHES, PEGGY USES ONE FINGER TO TYPE OUT THE
MENU CARD.

1 PEGGY Well, this Ross really gave her the rush. Had her take him around...
2 introduce him to her friends. Got him a couple of jobs. She's the one
3 who introduced him to Mike.
4 JOE: Mike?
5 PEGGY: Yeah...Mike Cowel...that's Ross's agent. Peggy set it up. She's done
6 just about everything for him. Then the bum acts like this.
7 FRANK: What'd'ya mean?
8 PEGGY: Treated her so bad. Say...how do you spell Croquettes?
9 FRANK I think it's C-r-o-q-u-e-t-t-e-s.
10 PEGGY: (TYPING) e-t-t-e-s. Turkey. Had roast turkey last night. Don't
11 understnad how people can eat 'em but we sure sell a lot of 'em.
12 JOE: Did Miss Paul say she was going to see Ross over the weekend?
13 PEGGY Yeah. Said she had an appointment with him Sunday. Said she'd called
14 him and set it up.
15 FRANK : You know what time?
16 PEGGY: No...just said that she wasn't going on like they had been. That it had
17 to be straightened out.
18 JOE: Uh huh.
19 PEGGY: I don't blame her. She'd told her friends they were going to get married.
20 And then at the last minute Ross'd back out.
21 FRANK: Her family know about Ross?
22 PEGGY: No. Her father didn't mind her doing a little work in show business, but
23 he didn't want her to marry anyone in it. She thought that if they just
24 got married, then her family would get to understand.

1. FRANK: Joe?
2. JOE: Yeah?
3 FRANK: I'll call the Crime Lab. See if they've finished.
4 JOE: Right.
5 SOUND: FRANK EXITS SCENE.
6 JOE: How'd Miss Paul and Mitchell seem to get along?
7 PEGGY: What d'ya mean?
8 JOE: Did they have any arguments...disagreements?
9 PEGGY: Not often. Most of the trouble they had was about gettin' married. Ross
10 kept sayin' that it wouldn't do him any good to be married now. He
11 thought that it might hurt his career. That's all he thought about.
12 JOE: Were you ever present at any of these arguments?
13 PEGGY: Once. We'd gone out on a double date. Went to a place down at the
14 beach. Had dinner and then stopped on the way back for a couple of
15 drinks.
16 JOE: Uh huh.
17 PEGGY: Ross got pretty drunk. Got into a big thing about his career.
18 JOE: Yeah.
19 PEGGY: He went on and on about how hard he'd worked. How much the theatre
20 meant to him. All kinda bunk like that.
21 JOE: Uh huh.
22 PEGGY: Finally, he said right out...that he'd kill anyone who tried to stop him.
23 Just like that...he'd kill anyone who tried to stoop him.
24 FRANK Joe.
25 JOE: Yeah.

17/30

1 FRANK: See you a minute?
2 JOE: Yeah. (TO PEGGY) Excuse me.
3 PEGGY: Sure.
4 SOUND: JOE WALKS OVER TO FRANK.
5 JOE: Yeah?
6 FRANK: Just talked to Lee Jones.
7 JOE: Yeah. He finish up?
8 FRANK: Yeah, something wrong.
9 JOE: What's ~~that~~?
10 FRANK: He thinks the girl was murdered.
11 (END SCENE 4)
12 (END ACT ONE)
13 (COMMERICAL INSERT)

18/50

DRAGNET RADIO
MAY 31, 1953

SECOND COMMERCIAL

- 1 GIBNEY: (ECHO) Years ahead of them all.
- 2 FENNEMAN: Chesterfield is years ahead of all cigarettes.
- 3 GIBNEY: Chesterfield quality is highest. Here's the proof...
- 4 FENNEMAN: Recent chemical analyses give an index of good quality
5 for the country's six leading cigarette brands. The 18/30
6 index of good quality table - which is a ratio of high
7 sugar to low nicotine - shows Chesterfield Quality
8 highest ...
- 9 GIBNEY: (FILTER) Chesterfield quality highest ...
- 10 FENNEMAN: Fifteen per cent higher than it's nearest competitor.
- 11 GIBNEY: (FILTER) Chesterfield quality highest. 18/45
- 12 FENNEMAN: Thirty-one per cent higher than the average of the
13 five other leading brands. Don't you want to try a
14 cigarette with a record like this?
- 15 GIBNEY: Chesterfield ... first with premium quality ... and
16 best for you.
- 17 FENNEMAN: Try Chesterfield today ... regular or king-size. 19/06

1 JOE: 10:37 A.M. We drove to the crime lab and talked with Sergeant Jay Allen.
 2 He told us that when they checked for powder burns on the body they hadn't
 3 found any. They measured the reach of the dead girl, and found that it
 4 would have been almost impossible for her to have pulled the trigger on the
 5 rifle, leaving the finger prints they found on the gun. Blotter test failed 19/30
 6 to show any traces of nitrate powder on her hands. They checked the
 7 handwriting on the suicide note found in the room against samples of Gloria
 8 Paul's writing and found that they didn't match. From their findings, they
 9 said that it was their opinion that the girl had not killed herself, that she'd
 10 been murdered. We went back to the city hall and got out a local and an
 11 A.P.B. on Ross Mitchell. We called the landlady of his rooming house.
 12 She hadn't heard from him. 12:30 P.M. We went back to the rooming
 13 house and relieved the stake-out. We asked the landlady not to say anything
 14 to Mitchell about our being there. 12:45 P.M. Still no sign of the suspect...
 15 1:00... 1:30.

16 SOUND: KEY TURNS IN LOCK. DOOR OPENS.

17 ROSS: Who're you? What're you doin' in my place?

18 JOE: C'mon in.

19 ROSS: Who are you?

20 JOE: Police officers. C'mon in...close the door.

21 SOUND: ROSS CLOSES DOOR AND SETS BAG DOWN.

22 ROSS: What's this all about anyway. What've you guys been doing here? The
 23 place is all torn up.

24 FRANK: You Ross Mitchell?

25 ROSS: Yeah. Why?

26 JOE: You know a girl named Gloria Paul?

1 ROSS: What's she got to do with this?

2 FRANK: You know her?

3 ROSS: Yeah...I know her.

4 FRANK: When's the last time you saw her?

5 ROSS: Say...what's this all about? What's all these questions?

6 JOE: When was the last time you saw Gloria Paul?

7 ROSS: Friday night I guess.

8 JOE: Don't you know for sure?

9 ROSS: Alright...Friday night.

10 FRANK: You haven't seen her since?

11 ROSS: I told you...the last time was Friday night.

12 JOE: You didn't see her Sunday?

13 ROSS: No.

14 FRANK: Where were you Saturday and Sunday?

15 ROSS: Out of town.

16 JOE: Where?

17 ROSS: La Canada.

18 JOE: You prove you were there?

19 ROSS: Why?

20 JOE: Can you prove you were there?

21 ROSS: I don't like all this. You guys comin' in here...askin' a lot of questions.

22 What're you tryin' to prove?

23 JOE: Who were you staying with?

24 ROSS: A friend of mine.

25 JOE: What's his name?

26 ROSS: I'm not gonna have him dragged into this.

20/30

1 FRANK: You haven't got much choice.

2 ROSS: That's what you say. You haven't told me what this is all about, I'm not
3 tellin' you anything about who I was with until you tell me a few things.

4 JOE: Look Mitchell...maybe you'd better get a few things straight. We aren't
5 out here to play games. You better come up with some straight answers.
6 Now who were you with?

7 ROSS: Friend of mine...guy named Sid Austin.

8 FRANK: What's his phone number?

9 ROSS: You gonna call him? 21/00

10 JOE: Wanna check your alibi.

11 ROSS: You gotta cigarette?

12 JOE: Yeah...here y'go.

13 ROSS: (TAKING CIGARETTE AND LIGHTING IT) Thanks.

14 FRANK: What's Austin's number?

15 ROSS: Won't do any good to call him.

16 JOE: Thought you said you were there.

17 ROSS: I was.

18 FRANK: Then we gotta call him.

19 ROSS: He won't be able to tell you anything. He wasn't there. He just let me use
20 his place. Wasn't anybody there.

21 JOE: Who's got a key to this place besides you?

22 ROSS: Y'mean here?

23 JOE: Yeah.

24 ROSS: Nobody.

25 JOE: You got the only key, huh?

26 ROSS: That's right. The landlady's got one. Just the two of 'em.

1 JOE You got any idea how somebody else could get in here?
2 ROSS: No. Why?
3 JOE: How well do you know Gloria Paul?
4 ROSS: What's she got to do with this?
5 FRANK: How well do you know her?
6 ROSS: We used to go together.
7 JOE: Anything serious between you?
8 ROSS: She thought we might get married.
9 JOE: How'd you feel about it?
10 ROSS: I don't think that's any of your business.
11 JOE: Maybe it is...how'd you feel about her?
12 ROSS: I liked her...she was a nice kid.
13 JOE: Nothin' more?
14 ROSS: No. Now look...I think it's about time you told me what this is all about.
15 Something to do with Gloria...that is...Something happen to her?
16 JOE: Yes.
17 ROSS: What?
18 JOE: She's dead.
19 (PAUSE)
20 ROSS: How'd it happen?
21 JOE: Thought maybe you could tell us.
22 ROSS: Why'd you figure that?
23 FRANK: Where'd you see her last?
24 ROSS: Up here.
25 JOE: This room?
26 ROSS: Yeah.

21/30

22/00

1 FRANK: When was that?
2 ROSS: I told you...Friday night.
3 JOE: You have any trouble with her?
4 ROSS: No.
5 FRANK: No arguments?
6 ROSS: I told you no. How'd it happen...can't you tell me?
7 JOE: You own a 22 rifle?
8 ROSS: Yeah.
9 FRANK: You got any bullets for it?
10 ROSS: Yeah. Why?
11 JOE: Where do you keep it?
12 ROSS: (INDICATING) Closet over there.
13 JOE: You keep it loaded?
14 ROSS: No. The bullets are on the shelf in the closet.
15 JOE: When's the last time you used it?
16 ROSS: Been a long time. Not since I came out here.
17 FRANK: You ever been arrested?
18 ROSS: No.
19 JOE: Never been in jail?
20 ROSS: I told you no. What'd you guys do to my room? Why'd you mess it up like this?
21 JOE: C'mon Ross...we better go downtown.
22 ROSS: What for?
23 JOE: Wanna talk to you.
24 ROSS: What for. You gotta tell me before I have to go. You gotta tell me what
25 you're holding me for.
26 JOE: Suspicion of murder...let's go.

22/30

1 SOUND: THE THREE OF THEM WALK TO THE DOOR DOWNSTAIRS. AS THEY REACH
2 THE BOTTOM OF THE STAIRS, WE HEAR THELMA.
3 THELMA: Where you takin' him?
4 JOE: Downtown.
5 THELMA: Why?
6 JOE: We wanna talk to him.
7 THELMA: You didn't have anything to do with it, did you Ross?
8 SOUND: STEPS STOP.
9 ROSS: I don't even know what this is all about. All I know is that Gloria's dead.
10 THELMA: She killed herself in your room.
11 ROSS: What?
12 THELMA: In your room, Ross. It was suicide.
13 ROSS: They're arresting me for murder.
14 THELMA: You can't do that. He didn't have anything to do with it. It was suicide.
15 JOE: C'mon Mitchell.
16 SOUND: THEY START TO MOVE TO THE DOOR. 23/00
17 THELMA: But you can't do ~~that~~...It'll ruin his career. He'll be through...that's not
18 the way I planned it...it's suicide. Suicide.
19 SOUND: THEY STOP.
20 JOE: You wanna take him out to the car.
21 FRANK: Yeah. C'mon...
22 SOUND: FRANK AND ROSS EXIT THROUGH FRONT DOOR. JOE TURNS AND COMES
23 BACK.
24 THELMA: You can see that you're makin' a mistake. He didn't have anything to do with
25 it. He's gonna have enough trouble with that young snip killin' herself in his
26 apartment. You can't arrest him for murder.

1 JOE: What'd you mean when you said it wasn't the way you planned it?

2 THELMA: Huh?

3 JOE: What'd you mean?

4 THELMA: I didn't say that...didn't say anything of the kind. You're makin' things up.

5 JOE: You didn't say it?

6 THELMA: No...go ahead, take him...go ahead. He wants to be a star...let him.

7 Go ahead, take him. Serve him right...way he treats people. I tried to

8 help him. Tried. Got him to meet a lot of important people. Lotta

9 contacts. You think he was interested? You bet he was. And how's he

10 show it...I ask you...how's he show it?

11 JOE: Go ahead ma'am.

12 THELMA: I'll tell you. He thanks me for all I've done for him by running around.

13 Chasing after that young snip of a Gloria. I tried to reason with her.

14 Tried to talk some sense into her. Told her that she couldn't do anything

15 for him. Told her that I could make him a star. Bigger than anybody.

16 Talk about how she loved him. She doesn't know what the word means.

17 But I told her...I told her good.

18 JOE: When was this?

19 THELMA: When I saw her...She came up here snivelin' around...Beggin' Ross to

20 marry her. I told her to get out of his life and stay out. To leave him alone.

21 JOE: What day was this?

22 THELMA: Sunday evening...she came in here...All dressed up. They think that just

23 because they're young they know everything...I'm one of the biggest stars

24 this town ever had. She's a nobody. I guess I know what's good for the boy.

25 JOE: You told us that you didn't see the girl Sunday. Isn't that right?

26 THELMA: Maybe I made a mistake.

1 JOE: Did you see her on Sunday?

2 THELMA: Yes...

3 JOE: You had an argument?

4 THELMA: Yes...she wanted me to let her into Ross's apartment. I told her he wasn't
5 there. She said it didn't make any difference. Said she'd wait for him.

6 JOE: That's when you quarreled?

7 THELMA: Yes...I told her to leave him alone.

8 JOE: Is that when you killed her?

9 THELMA: She didn't understand him. She didn't know how to take care of him. I knew
10 the right people. I could have made him the biggest star there ever was.

11 JOE: You wanna get a coat ma'am?

12 THELMA: Yes...it doesn't make any difference. I did it for him. I did it to help him.

13 That's all that counts...what happens to him. I thought you'd think it was
14 suicide. I didn't think you'd figure anything else.

15 JOE: You wrote the note?

16 THELMA: I did it for him...that's what you've got to understand. For him. That was
17 all that counted. He'd married her and he'd been through. I had to stop it.

18 I didn't want to kill her. But you can see I had to stop it.

19 JOE: Alright...let's go.

20 THELMA: He'll understand, won't he...he'll know why I did it. He'll understand,
21 won't he?

22 JOE: I don't know ma'am.

23 THELMA: Huh?

24 JOE: We'll let you ask him.

25 MUSIC: SIGNATURE.

26

1 GIBNEY:

2 On October 14th, the trial was held in Department 89, Superior Court of
3 California in and for the County of Los Angeles. In a moment, the
results of that trial.

26/12/6

TRIAL PAGE

1 **GIBNEY:** **Thelma Alice Keene was tried and convicted of murder in the first degree.**
2 **She was sentenced to life imprisonment in the California Institute for**
3 **women, Carona, California.**

27/5

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: For a million laughs, tune in Chesterfields "Martin and
14 Lewis Show" Tuesday on this same N.B.C. Station, and
15 Sound Off for Chesterfields. Either regular or king size,
16 you will find premium quality Chesterfields much milder.
17 Chesterfield is best for you.

18 GIBNEY: Chesterfield has brought you "Dragnet", transcribed from
19 Los Angeles.

DRAGNET RADIO
June 28, 1953

FENNEMAN CLOSE:

28/11
1 FENN: Tonight, ladies and gentlemen, Dragnet leaves radio for the
2 rest of the summer. We will be back early in September.
3 Watch then for our return -- check the radio listings of
4 your newspaper for the day and time. Please note, however,
5 that if Dragnet is seen on TV in your community, it will
6 be on all summer long.

129

DRAGNET
HITCH-HIKE

28/36

1 BRYAN: Have you tried new cork tipped Fatima? It's the smooth
2 smoke....here's why.....New Fatima tips of perfect cork...
3 king-size for longer filtering....And Fatima quality for
4 a much better flavor and aroma. Remember - Fatima has the
5 tip for your lips. Try new Fatima.....see how smooth it
6 is. Fatima is made by the makers of Chesterfield --
7 Liggett & Myers - one of tobacco's most respected names.

29/07