



# DRAGNET

CHESTERFIELD #52 NBC #220 RELEASE DATE: TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1953

DIRECTOR: JACK WEBB SPONSOR: CHESTERFIELD CIGARETTES  
WRITER: JOHN ROBINSON AGENCY: CUNNINGHAM-WALSH  
MUSIC: WALTER SCHUMANN COMMERCIAL-SUPERVISOR: PETE PETERSON  
SCRIPT: JEAN MILES TECHNICAL ADVISORS:  
SOUND: BUD TOLLEFSON & WAYNE KENWORTHY SGT.: MARY WYNN: L.A.P.D.  
ENGINEER: RAOUL MURPHY SGT.: VANCE BRASHER: L.A.P.D.  
ANNCR. #1: GEORGE FENNEMAN CAPT.: JACK DONOHUE: L.A.P.D.  
ANNCR. #2: HAL GIBNEY, NBC  
CASE: "THE BIG RAIN"

REHEARSAL SCHEDULE:

RECORDING: SATURDAY, OCTOBER 17, 1953

CAST AND SOUND: 2:30 - 5:00 P.M.

EDITING: T.B.A.

SCORING: T.B.A.

ORCHESTRA: T.B.A.

ANNOUNCERS: T.B.A. (COMMERCIAL)

BROADCAST: 9:00 - 9:30 P.M. -- STUDIO J - BY T.R.

*Agnes  
Carter*

"THE BIG RAIN"

C A S T

SGT. JOE FRIDAY.....JACK WEBB  
OFF. FRANK SMITH.....BEN ALEXANDER  
CECIL JOHNSON.....JACK KRUSCHEN  
EMIL.....PETER LEEDS  
HERMAN DILLON.....HARRY BARTELL  
GRACE DILLON.....VIVI JANISS

DRAGNET - RADIO

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"THE BIG RAIN"

N.B.C. # 52 CHESTERFIELD #220

FOR BROADCAST: NOVEMBER 3, 1953

1 MUSIC: DRAGNET SIGNATURE

2 FENN: (EASILY) Ladies and gentlemen, the story you are about  
3 to hear is true. The names have changed to protect the  
4 innocent.

5 MUSIC: DRUM ROLL

6 GIBNEY: Dragnet is brought to you by Chesterfield...made by  
7 Liggett and Myers...first major tobacco company to give  
8 you complete line of quality cigarettes. 23

9 MUSIC: UP AND FADE FOR:

10 FENN: (EASILY) You're a detective sergeant. You're assigned to  
11 Homicide detail. You get a call that a woman has been  
12 badly beaten. The circumstances indicate foul play. Your  
13 job ... check it out. 32

14 MUSIC: UP AND FADE FOR

(COMMERCIAL INSERT)

DRAGNET RADIO  
Nov. 3, 1955

FIRST COMMERCIAL

50

1 FENN: The nation's top golfers and sports writers have named  
2 Ben Hogan "Professional Golfer of the year. Ben, of  
3 course, smokes Chesterfields. But, let's hear what he  
4 has to say about them himself.  
5 HOGAN I'm a Chesterfield smoker and have been for seven years.  
(TAPE): The reason's simple. Chesterfield is best for you...  
6 They're milder and they taste great. Try them yourself. 115  
7  
8 FENN: Take that suggestion from Ben Hogan today. Try  
9 Chesterfield ... regular or king-size. They're low in  
10 nicotine .. highest in quality ... really mild ....  
11 really satisfying. Chesterfield - Best for you.

1130

137

1 MUSIC:

2 FENN: ~~Dragnet~~, the documented drama of an acutal 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 transcribed  
6 from official police files. From beginning to end...from  
7 crime to punishment...Dragnet is the story of your police  
8 force in action.

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

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

11 JOE: ~~It~~ was Tuesday, November 17th. It was Raining in Los  
12 Angeles. We were working the night watch out of Homicide  
13 <sup>2/100</sup> Detainl My partner's Frank Smith. The boss is Captain  
14 Lohrman. My name's Friday. We were on our way back from  
15 the main jail and it was 11:27 P.M. when we got to Room  
16 42... (SOUND: DOOR OPEN) ... Homicide.

17 SOUND: THE TWO OFFICERS WALK INTO THE ROOM. THE DOOR CLOSES  
18 BEHIND THEM. B.G. CHANGE.

19 FRANK: We gotta get that radio fixed. Gettin worse all the time.  
20 Yeah. we can take it over in the morning.

21 FRANK: Thing almost knocked me right out of the seat when I  
22 called in tonight. Soon's you press the button you get a  
23 shock.

24 JOE: I was out with Lople yesterday. He picked the mike up and  
25 I thought he was going to climb right out of the window.

2/30

1 FRANK: Pretty funny as long as you don't have to use the thing.  
2 JOE: Must be a short someplace.  
3 FRANK: Don't make any difference what it is as long as we can  
4 get it fixed.  
5 I must have used a dollars worth of dimes calling in  
6 today. This keeps up and I'm gonna have to give up  
7 lunches.  
8 JOE: That wouldn't hurt you any either.  
9 FRANK: That's not kind Joe. I've lost 7 pounds in the last two  
10 weeks.  
11 JOE: ~~You haven't lost it...you just misplaced it.~~ *where?*  
12 FRANK: I'm gonna see about a transfer.  
13 JOE: Let's finish up these reports and we can get out of here.  
14 FRANK: I'm with you.  
15 SOUND: THEY TAKE A COUPLE OF STEPS AND WE HEAR THE HOT SHOT  
16 PHONE RING.  
17 JOE: Hot shot. *I'll get it.*  
18 SOUND: HE WALKS TO THE PHONE AND PICKS IT UP. PAUSE THEN HANGUP.  
19 JOE: Robbery call. Bar out on Olympic. *3/00*  
20 FRANK: ~~Thought~~ for a minute we were gonna have to go out. All  
21 I wanna do is get home and get some dry socks on. My feet  
22 are killin' me. ~~Someday somebody's gonna invent some kind~~  
23 ~~of sock that when it get's wet doesn't creep up. Feels~~  
24 ~~like I got a tourniquet around my ankle.~~

1 JOE: Yeah...well, if you'll stop yakkin' and pick up a pencil,  
2 we can get out of here.

3 SOUND: HOT SHOT AGAIN

4 JOE: There it goes again.

5 FRANK: I'll get it.

6 SOUND: FRANK WALKS TO THE PHONE AND PICKS IT UP. PAUSE THEN

7 HANG UP.

8 FRANK: Get your hat. Beating out in Hollywood.

9 JOE: Man or woman?

10 FRANK: Woman. Found her laying in a gutter. 3/30

11 JOE: She still alive?

12 FRANK: She was when they got the call...but we better step on it.

13 JOE: Yeah.

14 FRANK: They don't know how long she's gonna last.

END SCENE 1

1 JOE: When we got to the address we'd been given by the  
2 complaint board, two radio cars from Hollywood Division  
3 were already there. An ambulance had arrived and the  
4 crew was doing what they could for the victim. She was  
5 still alive but the attendants said that she appeared to  
6 have a skull fracture in addition to possible internal  
7 injuries. From one of the officers who answered the call,  
8 we found that the victim had been sprawled across the  
9 sidewalk, her head in the gutter. Because of the heavy  
10 rain, a stream of water was running down the gutter and  
11 into a storm drain. The fact that the drain was above  
12 the victims head appeared to be the only thing that saved  
13 her from drowning. The crime lab had been called and the  
14 men from Hollywood Division were doing what they could  
15 to keep the crowd back in order to preserve any physical  
16 evidence that might have been left. The victim appeared  
17 to be a woman in her early forties. The clothes she wore  
18 looked expensive but were badly torn. Her face was cut  
19 and the men in the ambulance crew removed her immediately  
20 to Hollywood emergency hospital for treatment. When she  
21 was found, her left shoe was missing and there was no  
22 sign of any purse or wallet. None of the people who'd  
23 gathered in the crowd could give us an identification of  
24 her. The homes in the vicinity were big large lots and  
25 the area was sparsely populated. The nearest house to the  
26 place where the victim was found was at least 300 feet  
27 down the street.

4/100

4/30

(MORE)



1 JOE We talked to the people in the crowd and found that the  
(CONT'D) 2 man who'd made the original call was still supposed to be  
3 there. We checked with the officers in the radio unit  
4 but they said they hadn't seen him. From them however,  
5 we found that the call had been from the home of a Mr.  
6 and Mrs. Roger Hefflin. We contacted them and they came 5/00  
7 back to the scene and pointed out the man. Frank and I  
8 took him to our car for questioning.

9 SOUND: INT CAR, HEAVY RAIN OUTSIDE.

10 FRANK: Alright, Johnson...you wanna tell us what happened?

11 CECIL: I don't know.

12 JOE: You called the police didn't you?

13 CECIL: Yeah...I called 'em.

14 JOE: You found her?

15 CECIL: Yeah...she was alyin' in the street like that. I got  
16 scared and called the police. I thought maybe she was  
17 dead.

18 FRANK: What were you doing up here this time of night?

19 CECIL: Just walkin' around.

20 JOE: You live up here?

21 CECIL: No.

22 JOE: Where do you live?

23 CECIL: I got a room down on Fountain.

24 JOE: Empty your pockets.

25 CECIL: What?

26 JOE: C'mon...your pockets...empty them out.

1 CECIL: Ain't nothin' in there you want. I haven't got any money.  
2 FRANK: Alright mister...take the stuff out of your pockets.  
3 CECIL: Okay...here...My comb...handkerchief...pack of  
4 cigarettes...matches, and a quarter. That's all.  
5 JOE: ~~How 'bout the back.~~  
6 CECIL: Huh?  
7 JOE: The back pockets. Let's see what's in them.  
8 CECIL: Oh yeah ... here's my wallet..  
9 JOE: Any money in it?  
10 CECIL: No.  
11 JOE: Lemme have it, 5/30  
12 CECIL: Yeah.  
13 JOE: This your true name? Cecil August Johnson?  
14 CECIL: Yeah.  
15 JOE: Who's Mary Johnson?  
16 CECIL: What?  
17 JOE: Mary Johnson? Who is she?  
18 CECIL: My sister.  
19 JOE: This her address here on the card?  
20 CECIL: Yeah....you aren't gonna call her are you? You aren't  
21 gonna call her?  
22 JOE: Why?  
23 CECIL: She'd be pretty sore about it if you did. She don't like  
24 for me to get mixed up with the cops. She don't like it  
25 at all.

1 JOE: You ever been in an institution?  
2 CECIL: What?  
3 JOE: A state institution. You ever been in one?  
4 CECIL: Yeah...I was in Camarillo once.  
5 JOE: How long ago did you get out?  
6 CECIL: A ~~long~~ time ago...three days.....a long time ago. I haven't  
7 been there for a long time.  
8 FRANK: What were you there for?  
9 CECIL: Molesting people.  
10 FRANK: Who?  
11 CECIL: I was in Camarillo.  
12 JOE: Why'd they send you there?  
13 CECIL: To get well.  
14 JOE: From what?  
15 CECIL: Just well.  
16 JOE: Yeah I know...but what did they want you to get well from?  
17 CECIL: I was never in Camarillo.  
18 BEAT  
19 JOE: You been drinkin' tonight?  
20 CECIL: What?  
21 JOE: You been drinking' tonight?  
22 CECIL: Yeah a little bit.  
23 FRANK: Where?  
24 CECIL: Bar down on Hollywood boulevard.  
25 JOE: When they sent you to the hospital...what was the reason?

6/00

1 CECIL: I never been in no hospital.  
2 JOE: You told us that you'd been in Camarillo.  
3 CECIL: That was to get well.  
4 JOE: I asked you before...what for?  
5 CECIL: They thought that I was molesting people.  
6 JOE: Were you?  
7 CECIL: No. I didn't hurt anybody.  
8 FRANK: Did they say you did?  
9 CECIL: Yeah.  
10 JOE: Who?  
11 CECIL: A lady. They said I hit her.  
12 JOE: Did you?  
13 CECIL: What?  
14 JOE: Did you hit the woman?  
15 CECIL: No. I never hurt anybody.  
16 JOE: You know who the woman you found is?  
17 CECIL: You aren't gonna call my sister are you?  
18 JOE: Do you know who the woman is?  
19 CECIL: What woman?  
20 JOE: The one you found tonight?  
21 CECIL: Yeah. I've known her for a long time.  
22 JOE: What's her name?  
23 CECIL: Grace.  
24 FRANK: You know her last name?  
25 CECIL: What?  
26 JOE: You know her last name?

6/30

7/00

1 CECIL: No. Y'know...I never really been in Camarillo. I just  
2 told you that.

3 JOE: Why?

4 CECIL: I dunno. Just sometimes...I like to do things like that.  
5 I don't have any reason. I just like to do that. Like  
6 once I told my sister that I'd killed a man. She almost  
7 fainted. I just like to do that once in a while. Things  
8 get dull and I like to get 'em started.

9 JOE: Where'd you meet Grace?

10 CECIL: Bar down on Hollywood. I go in there all the time. I  
11 met her there.

12 JOE: You meet her tonight? 7/30

13 CECIL: Yeah. She was there. Said she had a fight with her  
14 old man. Said they had a real ~~beer~~. She told me that  
15 he hit her...belted her right in the mouth. What d'ya  
16 think of a guy that'd do a thing like that to a woman.

17 ~~JOE: I dunno.~~

18 CECIL: Any men that'd do a thing like that's no good. No good  
19 at all. They said that I did it. They told my sister  
20 that I hit a woman.

21 JOE: Who said that?

22 CECIL: The other cops. When they arrested me.

23 FRANK: When was this?

24 CECIL: When I was at Camarillo to get well.

25 JOE: Are you under a doctor's care now?

1 CECIL: No....I got real well at Camarillo. Real well. They  
2 let me go.

3 JOE: You just got through telling us that you'd never been  
4 there.

5 CECIL: I'm a liar. You can't believe anything I say. Real <sup>8/00</sup>  
6 liar. My sister's all the time saying ~~that~~ that about me.  
7 That's one of the reasons that she used to get sore at  
8 me....I'm such a liar. I was never there.'

9 JOE: You know where Grace lived?

10 CECIL: No....I think it was up on Ledgewood drive. I think  
11 that's where it was...On Ledgewood drive.

12 JOE: You know where the house is?

13 CECIL: Uh huh. I never saw it. I was going to go up there one  
14 day and punch her old man in the nose...y'know because  
15 he hit Grace. I was plenty sore about it. He gave her  
16 a black eye. I was plenty sore. But I didn't. Y'know  
17 why?

18 JOE: No.

19 CECIL: Because I thought my sister'd get mad at me. She always  
20 gets mad when I get in fights and when I lie. Real sore.  
21 She's got no sense of humor. <sup>8/30</sup>

22 JOE: (GRUNTS)

23 CECIL: There was a guy at the hospital who had a real sense of  
24 humor. Funny. He had a piece of inner tube and he wore  
25 it like a hat. Floppy. Y'know? He had a real great  
26 sense of humor....but my sister. She don't like  
27 anybody to laugh.

1 JOE: How many times have you been arrested?  
2 CECIL: Maybe a couple.  
3 JOE: Here in Los Angeles?  
4 CECIL: Yeah...all the time in L.A. The cops here don't like  
5 me. They got no sense of humor. None. Never saw such  
6 dull cops.  
7 JOE: Alright Johnson. You wait here. We got a few things to  
8 check out and then we wanna take you downtown. 9/10  
9 CECIL: You aren't gonna arrest me are you?  
10 JOE: We'll see.  
11 CECIL: Hope not...my sister'd be real sore.  
12 BEAT  
13 JOE: Johnson?  
14 CECIL: Yeah?  
15 JOE: Did you hit her?  
16 CECIL: Y'mean did I hit Grace? Is that what you mean?  
17 JOE: Yeah.  
18 BEAT  
19 CECIL: No. I met her tonight and she asked me to take a walk  
20 with her. Take a walk, that's all. Then all of a  
21 sudden, she was lyin on the ground. I was pretty drunk...  
22 I don't know what happened...Just all of a sudden she  
23 was there. And I got scared so I called the cops. But  
24 I didn't hit her. I wouldn't do a thing like that to  
25 Grace. Not me. 9/30  
26 BEAT

1 CECIL: You believe that don't you? (BEAT) Don't you? (BEAT)  
2 You gotta buy it. You gotta. It's the truth.  
3 JOE: Yeah?  
4 CECIL: Sure.....it's the truth. Every word.  
5 JOE: You said it yourself.  
6 CECIL: Huh?  
7 JOE: You're an awful liar.  
8 END SCENE 2



1 JOE: 12:52 A.M. While one of the officers from a radio unit  
2 stood by with Cecil Johnson, we talked with Lt. Lee  
3 Jones from the Crime Lab. He told us that what  
4 10/00 footprints they'd found in the immediate vicinity of the  
5 victim, had been destroyed by the rain. He told us that  
6 his crew was unable to find any useful physical evidence.  
7 The area was searched but we failed to find either the  
8 missing left shoe or the woman's purse, if she'd carried  
9 one. We put in a call to Hollywood Receiving hospital.  
10 The doctor in charge there, told us that the victim was  
11 suffering from a fracture of the skull and apparently  
12 several broken ribs. He told us that the woman was in a  
13 deep coma and couldn't be questioned at the time. We 10/30  
14 asked him to contact us through the business office in  
15 the event that she regained consciousness. We questioned  
16 the people in the neighborhood, but they were of no aid.  
17 None of them recalled hearing any automobiles in the  
18 streets and none of them could testify as to people  
19 loitering in the area. 1:10 A.M. We took Cecil Johnson  
20 and had him detained at the city jail pending further  
21 investigation. A check of his record showed that he'd  
22 been sent to Camarillo twice, on charges of molesting  
23 and violation of section 245 P.C. He'd been released into  
24 custody of his sister three weeks previously. Before  
25 he was placed in a cell, we got the name and address of  
26 the bar where he said he'd met the woman he called Grace.

11/50 (MORE)

1 JOE: 1:40 A.M. Frank and I drove out to the place. It was  
(CONT'D)  
2 located on Hollywood boulevard near Las Palmas avenue.  
3 There was only one other customer in the place when we  
4 went in. The bartender was cleaning up for the night.

5 SOUND: JUKE BOX IN THE B.G. VERY LOW. JOE AND FRANK WALK UP  
6 TO THE BAR AND STOP

7 EMIL: Wott'll it be?

8 JOE: Lookin' for Emil.

9 EMIL: I'm him. What d'ya want. It's not about that lousey  
10 Jackie is it?

11 JOE: What?

12 EMIL: You're cops aren't you? Isn't this about Jackie?

13 FRANK: We're police officers, yes.

14 EMIL: You gotta understand...I thought he was an actor...y'know.  
15 I thought he was just hangin around the phone to take  
16 work calls. That's what he told me. I didn't have no  
17 way of knowin' different. It's the truth. 11/30

18 JOE: We don't know anything about Jackie. We'd like to ask  
19 you some questions about a man named Cecil Johnson.

20 EMIL; That crackpot. Y'know....I thought you were after me  
21 because of Jackie.

22 SOUND: PHONE RING

1 EMIL: There it goes again....excuse me.

2 SOUND: HE TAKES A COUPLE OF STEPS AND TAKES THE RECEIVER OFF  
3 OF A WALL PHONE

4 EMIL: Hello...yeah it is....No he ain't here no more. What?  
5 I don't care how the horse did. Jackie ain't here. Now  
6 don't call no more.

7 SOUND: HE SLAMS UP THE PHONE. AND WALKS BACK ON

8 EMIL: Y'see? This guy Jackie's a book. All the time he's usin  
9 my phone and I don't know it. Yesterday a couple of  
10 cops came in and put the arm on him. All day the phone's  
11 been ringin'. 12/80

12 JOE: Yeah.

13 EMIL: From what they say...he's lucky he got arrested. He  
14 must have lost his shirt yesterday. Horse come in that  
15 paid 20 to one. Boy he really musta had it.

16 JOE: Uh huh. What d'ya know about Cecil Johnson?

17 EMIL: Creep...real creep.

18 JOE: You see him tonight?

19 EMIL: Yeah...he was in.

20 JOE: About what time?

21 EMIL: Let's see. It was just before the fight on T.V....  
22 that'd make it about 6:45. Yeah...about then. 6:45.

23 FRANK: He come in alone?

24 EMIL: Oh yeah....always does. He don't have no friends.

25 JOE: What time'd he leave?

12/30

- 17 -

- 1 EMIL: He stayed around and watched the fight. Got into an  
2 argument with a guy....then he left about...let's see...  
3 I guess it musta been about 9:30 ....quarter to ten.
- 4 JOE: You know a woman named Grace? Understand she's in here  
5 quite a bit?
- 6 EMIL: Grace huh? We got a couple of Graces come in here....  
7 what's your's look like?
- 8 JOE: About 42...dark hair. Wearing a tweed coat.
- 9 SOUND: PHONE RING OFF
- 10 EMIL: Excuse me a minute huh?
- 11 JOE: Yeah.
- 12 SOUND: EMIL WALKS TO THE PHONE AND ANSWERS IT
- 13 EMIL: Hello...yeah it is. No he's not here....he won't be  
14 back, so stop callin'. I don't care if it did pay that....  
15 Look Bud I got no part in the action...now forget the  
16 number huh? Jackie's gone...he's in the can. Yeah....  
17 pinched. Now lay off huh?
- 18 SOUND: HE HANGS UP THE PHONE AND WALKS BACK
- 19 EMIL: Let's see....dark hair...tweed coat. Yeah...that'd be  
20 Grace Dillon.
- 21 FRANK: Dillon?
- 22 EMIL: Yeah....she's pretty much of a regular.
- 23 FRANK: (WRITING) D-I-L-L-O-N?
- 24 EMIL: Yeah...I guess so. D-I-L-L-O-N. I guess that's the way  
25 to spell it. What's all the questions? Something wrong?
- 26 JOE: What time was she in here tonight?

13/00

1 EMIL: Who says she was?  
2 JOE: That's what we understand. 13/30  
3 EMIL: Oh....yeah well, there's nothin wrong around here....no  
4 reason not to cooperate. She was here. Came in about 8.  
5 JOE: What time'd she leave?  
6 EMIL: Guess it was about 9:30...45.  
7 JOE: She leave alone?  
8 EMIL: I gotta think about that. Lotta people in here with  
9 the fights. Lemme think..  
10 SOUND: PHONE RING  
11 EMIL: I'm gonna tear that thing right outta the wall.  
12 SOUND: HE WALKS OVER TO THE PHONE AND PICKS UP THE RECEIVER  
13 EMIL: He ain't here...he's been pinched. I don't know when  
14 he'll be back and I don't care.  
15 SOUND: HE SLAMS UP THE RECEIVER. WALKS BACK ON MIKE  
16 EMIL: Come to think about it, I think she left with that Cecil.  
17 FRANK: Johnson?  
18 EMIL: Yeah.  
19 JOE: Did either of them have much to drink?  
20 EMIL: Cecil had a couple of beers. That's all he needs. Don't  
21 take much with him.  
22 FRANK: How 'bout the Dillon woman? 14/00

1 EMIL: She was feelin' no pain when she got here. Really  
2 carryin' a load. I finally told her to take a walk.  
3 Told her I couldn't serve her no more. That's when she  
4 left. Her and Cecil were sittin right there...next to  
5 each other. When I told her I wouldn't pour no more for  
6 her, she got hacked and her and Cecil left.

7 JOE: You know where she lives?

8 EMIL: Not right off...I can look it up. We keep a list of  
9 people who come in. Send 'em announcements about things  
10 ....Like when we get a new piano player...things like  
11 that.

12 JOE: Uh huh.

13 EMIL: I can look it up for you...just a minute.

14 SOUND: EMIL REACHES UNDER THE BAR AND TAKES OUT A FILE DRAWER.

15 HE PULLS OPEN THE DRAWER AND GOES THROUGH THE CARDS 14/30

16 EMIL: (GOING THROUGH THE CARDS) A.....B.....C.....Here it is...  
17 Darby....Dexter...Dibbs....wish he'd come in and pick  
18 up the tab we're carrying.....let's see yeah. Here  
19 it is.....2917 Ledgewood Drive.

20 JOE: Thanks.

21 EMIL: You can take the card if you want. Don't make any  
22 difference to me if she never comes back. Way she  
23 carried on tonight. People just don't understand y'know.

1 JOE: What's that?

2 EMIL: Y'can just serve 'em so much. After that you're pourin  
3 a hundred proof trouble. Y'gotta shut 'em off sometime.

4 JOE: Uh huh. She ever come in here with her husband?

5 EMIL: Dillon?

6 JOE: Yeah.

15/00

7 EMIL: Couple of times. Quite a while ago though. They came  
8 in late one night. Sat back there in the booth. Had  
9 a couple of quick belts. He drinks Irish Whiskey. Likes  
10 it neat. They had a big beef. I finally hadda go back  
11 and ask 'em to get out. He's a real bum. Mean.

12 JOE: Yeah.

13 EMIL: The kinda guy where to know him is to hate him. Y'know  
14 the kind?

15 SOUND: PHONE RING....STEPS TO THE PHONE AND PICK UP

16 EMIL: He ain't here...I don't care how much you lost...he's  
17 in the can and...What? Oh yeah, honey...well I didn't  
18 know it was you. Uh huh. Early. Soon's I close up.....  
19 right. Yeah...Well, I do too. What? Alright honey...  
20 I love you. I do too mean it. Look there are a couple  
21 of men here I gotta talk to...Yeah..as soon as I close  
22 up. Yeah. G'bye....What...Oh Honey...alright. (GIVES  
23 KISS INTO PHONE) There.....Bye.

15/30

24 SOUND: HAND UP, EMIL WALKS BACK ON

1 EMIL: (EMBARRASED) The wife. We just been married a couple  
2 of weeks. She's kinda...y'know. 16/00  
3 FRANK: Yeah.  
4 JOE: Did Dillon ever hit his wife do you know?  
5 EMIL: Yeah he did. She came in here one night with a mouse  
6 that had no end. Said her old man gave it to her.  
7 What's all this about anyway? There something wrong  
8 with Grace? Something happen to her?  
9 JOE: Well, we don't know sir.  
10 EMIL: Well, lemme give you this for free. If there's  
11 anything happened to her, six two and even it was her  
12 old man. Real bum. Mean. Anything wrong and it's him  
13 that caused it. You better talk to him...you'll find  
14 out.  
15 JOE: Alright sir....thank you very much.  
16 FRANK: (WITH JOE) Yes sir...thanks. 16/30  
17 EMIL: Not at all....Glad to help out.  
18 JOE: Alright sir...Good night.  
19 EMIL: Say...you guys goin' downtown?  
20 JOE: Yes sir.  
21 EMIL: To the jail?  
22 JOE: Yes sir.  
23 EMIL: Well if you see Jackie...will you give him a message for  
24 me?  
25 JOE: What's that?



- 1 EMIL: Tell him if he gets out, I don't want him back here no
- 2 more.
- 3 JOE: Okay.
- 4 EMIL: Guy ties up my phone.
- 5 END SCENE 3

1 JOE: 2:26 A.M. We got a description of the victim's husband and  
2 checked the name through R. and I. We were unable to come up  
3 with any criminal record on him. Frank and I drove out to  
4 the address given us by the bartender. It was a large English  
5 Stucco house five blocks from where Grace Dillon had been  
6 found. We rang the bell and waited. An elderly woman  
7 answered the door and told us that Herman Dillon was not in.  
8 She explained that she was a baby sitter and had been called  
9 to take care of the couple's three children. She went on to  
10 say that Mr. Dillon had left the house at approximately 10:15  
11 P.M. and had not returned. We called the office and arranged  
12 for a stakeout to be set up on the house. While we waited  
13 for the officers to arrive, the baby sitter told us that the  
14 Dillons had constant fights. She said that on several  
15 occasions, Mr. Dillon had threatened to kill his wife if she  
16 didn't spend more time at home taking care of the children.  
17 She explained that there had been an argument that evening  
18 and that after a loud fight, the wife had left the house.  
19 After she'd been gone for over an hour, Herman Dillon left  
20 to find her. 3:02 A.M. the officers arrived. We asked them to  
21 wait for the husband to return and then to notify us  
22 immediately. Frank and I drove downtown and checked into the  
23 crime lab. We talked with Lt. Lee Jones regarding his  
24 findings. He told us that he'd gone over the victim's clothing  
25 but was unable to find any physical evidence to help us in  
26 finding her assailant. 3:46 A.M. we checked into the office  
27 and put in a call to the Hospital.

28 SOUND: THERMAL NOISE IN CITY HALL. NO VOICES.

1 JOE: (ON PHONE.) Yes sir..Uh huh. How do you spell that..  
2 (WRITING) uh huh \*A-D-E. Yes sir. Do you have any idea  
3 when that might be? I see. Yes sir..well, if you'll let  
4 us know. Right. The business office here will know how  
5 to reach us. Right. Thanks again. G'night.

6 SOUND: JOE HANGS UP THE PHONE.

7 FRANK: How is she.

8 JOE: Doctor says he's finished his examination. She's got a  
9 frontal bone fracture. Three broken ribs, cuts and  
10 contusions.

11 FRANK: She gonna be all right? 18/30

12 JOE: He thinks so. ~~Says~~ she might come out of it at any time. He  
13 says it looks like she might have been thrown from a car.

14 FRANK: That'd explain the missing shoe and purse.

15 JOE: Yeah.

16 FRANK: He have any idea when we can talk to her?

17 JOE: No....might not do any good anyway.

18 FRANK: What d'ya mean?

19 JOE: This kind of fracture can produce a retrograde amnesia.

20 FRANK: Yeah.

21 JOE: She won't remember anything.

22 END SCENE 4

23 END ACT 1 19/00

24 GIBNEY: You are listening to Dragnet, the authentic story of your  
25 police force in action.

(COMMERCIAL INSERT)

DRAGNET RADIO  
Nov. 3, 1953

SECOND COMMERCIAL

19103

1 GIBNEY: It's taking place at your dealers ... cigarette  
2 dealers coast-to-coast!  
3 FENN: Smokers by the thousands are now changing to  
4 Chesterfield. Join 'em today ... And you'll be smoking  
5 the only cigarette that gives you proof of low nicotine-  
6 highest quality. I want you to know that's a matter of  
7 record. And so's this. As I've been telling you ...  
8 Chesterfield is the only cigarette with this proven  
9 record with smokers ... No adverse effects to the  
10 nose , throat and sinuses from smoking Chesterfields.  
11 Good reasons why you should change to Chesterfield?  
12 You bet. Ask for Chesterfield ... regular or king-size.  
13 Best for you.

19/15

19/30

19/48

20/00 -25-

1 JOE: 4:02 A.M. Frank and I signed out of the office and went  
2 home. At 5:13 A.M. I got a call that the husband of the  
3 victim, Herman Dillon had returned home. The officers  
4 who called said that they were bringing him down to the  
5 city hall. I got in touch with Frank and by the time we  
6 got to the squadroom, Dillon was already there. He  
7 appeared dazed and acted as if he'd been drinking heavily.  
8 We sent out for some black coffee for him. He apparently  
9 didn't know what'd happened to his wife.

10 SOUND: THERMAL NOISES IN CITY HALL.

11 HERMAN: What's all this about anyway. What're you draggin' me out  
12 of my house like this for?

13 JOE: We got a few questions we want to ask you.

14 HERMAN: What've you got that's so important you got to go through  
15 it at 6 in the morning?

20/30

16 JOE: When'd you see your wife last?

17 HERMAN: 'Bout 7:30 last night. Why?

18 FRANK: How do you and your wife get along?

19 HERMAN: We been married for 10 years.

20 JOE: That's not an answer.

21 HERMAN: You're not married. Been married ten years and it's an  
22 answer. Been married ten years and it's all the answer  
23 you need.

1 FRANK: Maybe you better spell it out for me.

2 HERMAN: After that long you have a few disagreements. Bound to.

3 Y'know..being together all that time.

4 JOE: You and your wife have a disagreement last night?

5 HERMAN: Yeah...we had a discussion.

6 FRANK: What about?

7 HERMAN: I don't think that's any of your business.

8 JOE: What'd you argue about?

2/1/50

9 BEAT

10 HERMAN: Her runnin' around. Wasn't a real argument. Just a  
11 discussion.

12 JOE: Way we got it, it was more than that.

13 HERMAN: Then you got it wrong.

14 FRANK: We heard you hit her a couple of times.

15 HERMAN: That's a lie. (BEAT) I mighta shoved her a little. She  
16 had it comin' though. All the time runnin' around. We  
17 got three kids. Three little kids. She doesn't care that  
18 (SNAPS FINGERS) for 'em. Always goin' out. Hangin'  
19 around those cheap bars. Boozin' it up. I came home the  
20 other night and she'd walked out and left the kids all  
21 alone. All by themselves. Didn't even get a sitter for  
22 'em.

23 JOE: Where've you been tonight?

2/1/30

1 HERMAN: The baby's teething. But that don't make any difference  
2 to her. She just lets the poor little kid cry. Let's  
3 her sit up in her room and bawl. Terrible. The cops  
4 were over the other night. One of the neighbors called  
5 'em. Y'know what Grace said? Y'know?

6 JOE: No sir.

7 HERMAN: Said the kid was spoiled...just spoiled. Kid don't cry  
8 like that just because she's spoiled. There's gotta be  
9 somethin' wrong. Grace wasn't ever much of a mother. All  
10 the time she said the kids got on her nerves. Never paid  
11 any attention to 'em. Always gettin' somebody else to  
12 take care of 'em. All the time...somebody else. Said  
13 they tied her down. If she didn't want to be tied down  
14 why'd she get married. Why? D'you know?

15 JOE: No sir.

16 HERMAN: Neither do I. Been tryin' to figure it out for ten years.  
17 Ten of the most miserable years of my life.

18 JOE: Can you tell us where you've been tonight?

19 HERMAN: Huh?

20 JOE: Can you tell us what your movements were tonight. Where  
21 you went?

22 HERMAN: Why? Why do you have to know that?

23 JOE: Can you tell us?

1 HERMAN: Yeah...After Grace and me had the fight, she walked out.  
2 I waited for her to come home then when she didn't I went  
3 out to find her.

4 FRANK: Did you?

5 HERMAN: Huh?

6 JOE: Did you find her?

7 HERMAN: No. Looked all over for her. All the bars along the  
8 boulevard but she wasn't there.

9 JOE: Where've you been since the bars closed?

10 HERMAN: Walkin around.

11 JOE: In this rain?

12 HERMAN: Yes. I been tryin' to figure out what to do. Tryin' to  
13 make up my mind.

14 JOE: About what?

15 HERMAN: What I should do with Grace. Things can't go on like this.

16 They can't. Nobody's happy..Not Grace..Not me..and not the  
17 kids. The baby's teething and Grace just let's her cry.  
18 Says she's spoiled. She isn't spoiled. Her gums hurt.  
19 She's not spoiled.

20 JOE: We've heard from some of your wife's friends that you made  
21 threats on her life?

22/00

22 HERMAN: Who told you that?

23 JOE: We heard it. Is it true?



1 HERMAN: I suppose so. If I'da found her tonight, I'da maybe  
2 killed her. I never been so mad before.  
3 FRANK: You see anybody you knew tonight?  
4 HERMAN: Huh?  
5 FRANK: When you were walking around...did you see anybody you  
6 knew?  
7 HERMAN: No. Why?  
8 JOE: Then you've got no way to prove where you were?  
9 HERMAN: Why do I have to do that?  
10 JOE: Might make things easier on you?  
11 HERMAN: Say what's this all about anyway. Why're you askin' all  
12 these questions about me and Grace. What're you tryin'  
13 to say. Where is Grace...do you know?  
14 JOE: Yes sir.  
15 (BEAT)  
16 HERMAN: Well, where is she? What's happened to her?  
17 JOE: She's in the hospital. She had <sup>an</sup> ~~a~~ bad accident.  
18 HERMAN: What ~~kind~~ of an accident?  
19 JOE: Looks like she was beaten. 22/30  
20 HERMAN: And you think I did it.  
21 JOE: Might have been you.  
22 (BEAT)

1 HERMAN: She alive?

2 JOE: Yes.

3 HERMAN: And you think I beat her up.

4 JOE: Did you?

5 HERMAN: No. I maybe wanted to...knock some sense into her. But  
6 I didn't do it.

7 JOE: You prove where you were between ~~9:30~~ <sup>tonight?</sup> and eleven thirty?

8 HERMAN: ~~Is that when it happened?~~ <sup>Why?</sup>

9 FRANK: Can you prove where you were?

10 (BEAT)

11 HERMAN: No. I don't even know myself. You really think I did  
12 it?

13 JOE: We're tryin' to find out.

14 (BEAT)

15 HERMAN: Y'know, I was pretty drunk tonight. I got real loaded.  
16 That's the terrible part.

17 JOE: Yeah?

18 HERMAN: Maybe I did.

19 (END SCENE 5)

23/00

1 JOE: Herman Dillon was detained pending further investigation.  
2 We'd called the hospital but there was no change in Mrs.  
3 Dillon's condition. Because of the lack of physical  
4 evidence, her testimony was essential in apprehending the  
5 person who'd beaten her. We had two ~~prime~~ suspects. 23/30  
6 Cecil Johnson who was known to have been in her company  
7 when she left the bar. Johnson's record indicated that  
8 he was capable of committing the crime. On the other  
9 hand, the victim's husband had stated that he might kill  
10 her. He was unable to explain his movements at the  
11 time of the attack. The only person who could tell us  
12 the true story was the victim herself and we had the  
13 doctor's statement that she might not remember the  
14 events immediately leading up to the beating. At 10:  
15 10:14 A.M. the following morning, we got a call from the  
16 hospital telling us that Mrs. Dillon had regained 24/100  
17 consciousness and could be questioned. The doctor told us  
18 that she was ~~calling~~ for her husband and asked that we  
19 bring Dillon with us. We went by the city jail and  
20 picked him up and then drove to the hospital. The  
21 doctor told us that Mrs. Dillon was in a weak condition  
22 and that we couldn't talk to her at any length. Frank,  
23 Dillon and I went into her room and waited for her to  
24 open her eyes.

25 GRACE: Is that you Herman?

1 HERMAN: Yes, dear.

2 GRACE: You're not mad are you. You're not still mad at me?

3 HERMAN: No dear. I'm not.

4 (BEAT)

5 GRACE: That's good. I was afraid you still were mad. (BEAT)

6 Y'know Herman...you shouldn't have hit me like you  
7 did. I know you maybe had a reason...but you shouldn't  
8 have hit me. 24/30

9 JOE: Can you tell us what happened Mrs. Dillon?

10 GRACE: Who're you?

11 JOE: Police officers.

12 GRACE: What're you doin' here?

13 JOE: We're trying to find out who did this to you.

14 GRACE: Wasn't anybody did it.

15 JOE: Ma'am?

16 GRACE: Wasn't anybody. I did it myself. Silly. Did it all  
17 by myself.

18 JOE: I don't understand Mrs. Dillon.

19 GRACE: Herman and me had a fight and I walked out. I was gonna  
20 leave him. I went down and had a few drinks. Just a  
21 few and I got to thinkin' about me and Herman. How I 25/100  
22 was such a bad wife. I got to thinkin' about the kids  
23 and how I was a bad mother. You aren't still mad at me  
24 are you Herman. Really in your heart?

1 HERMAN: No Grace, I'm glad you're gonna be alright. That's all  
2 that counts.

3 JOE: You wanna tell us what happened Mrs. Dillon.

4 GRACE: I was on my way home. I was goin back. Cecil was walkin  
5 home with me. It was rainin' pretty hard and we came to  
6 a gutter that was full of water. I stepped up on the  
7 curb to go around it. I didn't want to step in the water  
8 and I fell. Fell down the hill. Rolled all the way to 25/30  
9 the bottom...all the way to the next street. I remember  
10 fallin...I remember layin' in the street down below and  
11 how I couldn't move. I don't know about anything else  
12 after that...until just when you got here. Until then I  
13 don't remember much of anything.

14 JOE: You mean that you fell yourself. Nobody beat you up.

15 GRACE: No. Herman hit me when I was home. He got mad at me and  
16 hit me. But he was right. You were right honey. Real 26/00  
17 right. But it's gonna be different. I promise you. Just  
18 as long as you ain't still mad at me. That's all that  
19 matters...that you ain't mad.

20 HERMAN: Take it easy honey. Everything's gonna be alright. Now  
21 just take it easy and try to get some sleep.

22 GRACE: I love you Herman. I love you very much...and I'm gonna  
23 make it all up to you. All the bad times. I'm gonna  
24 make it all up to you.

25 HERMAN: I love you too Grace. Now you go to sleep. Get some rest.

26 GRACE: Alright honey.

27(BEAT)

- 1 JOE: Let's go.
- 2 SOUND: THE THREE OF THEM WALK TO THE DOOR AND EXIT THE ROOM. AS  
3 THEY DO WE HEAR THE B.G. OF THE HOSPITAL CORRIDOR COME  
4 IN. THEY TAKE A COUPLE OF STEPS AND STOP.
- 5 HERMAN: You gonna want me anymore Sergeant? 26/34
- 6 JOE: No sir...I don't think so.
- 7 HERMAN: I wonder if she means it. If she really does.
- 8 JOE: What's that.
- 9 HERMAN: About makin' it up to the kids. How things are gonna be  
10 different.
- 11 JOE: I dunno. She said she would.
- 12 HERMAN: That's just it.
- 13 JOE: Huh?
- 14 HERMAN: She's said it so many times before.
- 15 MUSIC: SIGNATURE

DRAGNET RADIO  
NOV. 3, 1953

CLOSING COMMERCIAL

27/10

1 FENNEMAN: Now, here is our star - Jack Webb.  
2 WEBB: ~~Thank~~ you, George Fenneman. Friends, we've been  
3 getting letters from people all over the country tell  
4 telling us that they've switched to Chesterfield.  
5 Just as I've been telling you ... thousands of  
6 smokers are changing to Chesterfield because only  
7 Chesterfield gives proof of low nicotine ... highest  
8 quality. That's why I recommend you try them today.  
9 Regular or king-size ... Chesterfields are really mild  
10 ... Really satisfying ... Best for you.

27/30

- 1 FENN: (EASILY) The story you have just heard was true. The names  
2 were changed to protect the innocent.  
3 GIBNEY: On November 18th a meeting was held in the Captain's  
4 office, Homicide Division. In a moment, the results of  
5 that meeting.  
6 FENN: Now here is our star, Jack Webb.  
7 WEBB: COMMERCIAL INSERT

Trial Page

Since no crime had been committed,  
no legal action was taken against  
Mr. and Mrs. Dillon. Cecil August  
Johnson was removed to Room 3  
Georgia Street Receiving Hospital for  
further examination.



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 Script by John Robinson. Music by Walter Schumann. Hal  
10 Gibney speaking.

11 MUSIC: THEME UNDER.....CONTINUES

12 FENN: Watch an entirely new Dragnet case history each week on  
13 your local NBC Television station. Please check your  
14 newspapers for the day and time. (BEAT) Chesterfield  
15 has brought you Dragnet transcribed from Los Angeles.  
16 (FATIMA HITCH HIKE)

*Music to  
27/51*

*28144*