



DRAGNET

CHESTERFIELD #55 NBC #223 RELEASE DATE: TUESDAY NOVEMBER 24, 1953

DIRECTOR: JACK WEBB
WRITER: JOHN ROBINSON
MUSIC: WALTER SCHUMANN
SCRIPT: JEAN MILES
SOUND: BUD TOLLEFSON &
WAYNE KENWORTHY
ENGINEER: RAOUL MURPHY
ANNCR: #1 GEORGE FENNEMAN
ANNCR: #2 HAL GIBNEY, NBC

SPONSOR: CHESTERFIELD CIGARETTES
AGENCY: CUNNINGHAM-WALSH
COMMERCIAL-SUPERVISOR:
PETE PETERSON
TECHNICAL ADVISORS:
SGT. MARTY WYNN: L.A.P.D.
SGT. VANCE BRASHER: L.A.P.D.
CAPT. JACK DONOHUE: L.A.P.D.

CASE: "THE BIG PRESENT"

REHEARSAL SCHEDULE:

RECORDING: SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7, 1953

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

EDITING: T.B.A.

SCORING: T.B.A.

ORCHESTRA:

ANNCRS: (COMMERCIAL)

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

*Agency
C. J. Donohue*

RACINGS - RADIO
"THE BIG PRESENT"
SC - CHESTERFIELD
OR - NOVEMBER 24, 1942

2 "THE BIG PRESENT"
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C A S T

9 SGT. JOE FRIDAY JACK WEBB
10 OFF. FRANK SMITH. BEN ALEXANDER
11 SGT. LINDSEY SIMMONS. JACK KRUSCHEN
12 RAY PINKER. OLAN SOULE
13 ELROY GRAHAM. SAMMY OGG
14 LT. HARTGROVE. HARRY BARTELL
15 LT. EARLE GINDER (DBL). JACK KRUSCHEN

DRAGNET - RADIO
"THE BIG PRESENT"
NBC # CHESTERFIELD
FOR BROADCAST: NOVEMBER 24, 1953

-1-

1 MUSIC: DRAGNET SIGNATURE

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

5 MUSIC: DRUM ROLL UNDER:

6 GIPNEY: Dragnet is brought to you by Chesterfield, made by Liggett
7 and Myers....first major cigarette company to give you a
8 complete line of quality cigarettes.

9 MUSIC: UP AND FADE FOR:

10 FENN: (EASILY) You're a detective sergeant. You're assigned
11 to Burglary Detail. In the past two months, a thief has
12 broken into 18 markets. There's no lead to his
13 whereabouts. No clue to his identity. You're job.....get
14 him.

15 MUSIC: UP AND FADE FOR:

(COMMERCIAL INSERT)

DRAGNET RADIO
NOV. 24, 1953

FIRST COMMERCIAL

47

1 FENN: Friends, stage and screen star Paul Douglas is featured
2 on the Chesterfield poster-of-the-month that's up all
3 over town. Here's what Paul Douglas says about
4 Chesterfields. Quote I've been smoking Chesterfield for
5 twenty-two years They're best for me. If you try them
6 you'll find they're best for you. Unquote. You know 115
7 why Chesterfields are best for you?.. Because they're
8 low in nicotine..highest in quality. And, of course,
9 Chesterfields are really mild...really satisfying. Try
10 them yourself today...Smoke America's most popular
11 two-way cigarette ... Chesterfield ... regular and
12 king-size. Best for you!

1129

1 MUSIC: THEME

2 GIBNEY: Dragnet the documented drama of an actual crime. For the
3 next thirty minutes, in cooperation with the Los Angeles
4 Police Department, you will travel step by step on the
5 side of the law through an actual case transcribed from
6 police files. From beginning to end.....from crime to
7 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 IN CORRIDOR. SLIGHT ECHO

11 CORRIDOR B.G. 2/100

12 JOE: It was Monday, December 14th. It was cold in Los Angeles.
13 We were working the day watch out of Burglary Detail.
14 My partner's Frank Smith. The boss is Captain Barnard.
15 My name's Friday. We were on our way out from the office
16 and it was 8:05 A.M. when we got to Georgia Street
17 Juvenile Bureau.....(SOUND: DOOR OPEN).....Sergeant
18 Lindsey Simon's office.

19 SOUND: DOOR CLOSE....CHANGE IN B.G. JOE AND FRANK ENTER THE

20 OFFICE AND TAKE A COUPLE OF STEPS. STOP

21 LIND: (ON PHONE AS THE OFFICERS ENTER) Yeah....did you give it
22 to him? Uh huh.....Yeah. What'd he say? Yeah. When'd
23 he come back? Uh huh. He have it for you? Yeah. 2/30
24 (PAUSE) Well, that'll teach you not to go that route
25 anymore. (LAUGHS) Alright Patrick. Tell the sergeant
26 to call me when he gets back. Right.

27 SOUND: LINDSEY HANGS UP THE PHONE

1 LIND: Hi, Friday, Smith.
2 JOE & FRANK SAY HELLO TO THE LT. Hello....Hi.....etc.
3 LIND: Just talking to Gene Patrick over at Highland Park,
4 Y'know him?
5 JOE: Yeah...met him a couple of times.
6 LIND: They picked up a youngster a couple of days ago, on
7 suspicion of burglary. Brought him into the office.
8 Patrick talked to him.
9 JOE: Yeah.
10 LIND: He finally bought it that the kid didn't have anything to
11 do with the thefts. Told him to go home.
12 FRANK: Uh huh. 3100
13 LIND: Kid told Gene that he didn't have the money to get home.
14 So Gene gave him twenty cents. Kid swore that he'd come
15 in and pay it back.
16 JOE: Did he?
17 LIND: Yeah. Came in this morning. Gave Patrick two dimes.
18 Told him thanks for believing the story.
19 JOE: Uh huh.
20 LIND: Then Patrick got the kicker. Kid really did break into
21 a house last night to get the money.
22 JOE: What's Patrick got to say about it?
23 LIND: Says the kid's honest in a sort of a way....he did pay
24 him back.
25 FRANK: Where's the youngster now?
26 LIND: Got him over at Highland Park. Juvenile.

1 FRANK: I'll call Gene....maybe I can give him a hand. I gotta
2 couple of street car tokens I won't be using. He might
3 like to have 'em.

4 LIND: If I was you....I don't think I'd bring it up to 3/30
5 him for a couple of days. (TURNS TO JOE) What can I do
6 for you two??

7 JOE: We've been workin' on a string of burglaries.....you maybe
8 got the word?

9 LIND: Don't think so....what's the story?

10 JOE: Bunch of store burglaries. Paper's have tagged 'em the
11 milk bottle jobs.

12 LIND: Oh yeah....seems Hartgrove was saying something about
13 'em the other day. Where do we come in?

14 FRANK: Way the jobs look, we've been thinkin' that maybe it
15 belongs in your department instead of ours.

16 LIND: How'd d'ya figure that?

17 FRANK: First off the milk thing.

18 LIND: What d'ya mean?

19 FRANK: Every job he's pulled, we've found an empty milk bottle
20 on the counter.

21 LIND: Yeah. Whats that prove?

22 FRANK: Milk and kids go together.

23 LIND: So do milk and ulcers. Maybe your thief's got the bull
24 horrors when he gets into the store.

1 JOE: There's another thing.....Way he prowles the places,
2 All he takes is petty cash....couple bucks outside. 4/00
3 Candy, cigarettes. Nothin' big. Some of the places he's
4 gone into you could open the safe with a pocket knife
5 and he hasn't made a move toward 'em.

6 LIND: Maybe he's a kleptomaniac. Gotta lot of 'em on the books,
7 Maybe that's the way he gets his kicks.

8 JOE: Nice try, Lindsey.....if you know anybody that can climb
9 through a 14 by ten inch hole you trot 'em up and we'll
10 talk to 'em.

11 LIND: I haven't got the names on my desk, but you take a trip
12 to Santa Anita and you'll meet a lot of 'em.....jockeys.
13 You guys know we'll go along with you on this thing.
14 Anything we can do but until we're sure that there's a
15 juvenile involved there's nothing we can do. Anything
16 turns up and we'll be sure to turn it over to you.

17 JOE: We're not tryin' to palm this thing off on you Lindsay. 4/30
18 We've had Staats office make so many runs on small adults
19 that the cards are wearin' out. Just seems that none of
20 the leads we been chasing come out anywhere. Figured
21 that maybe you could come up with some answers.

22 LIND: New one on me Joe.....this milk bit. I've heard of a
23 couple of thieves that went for it...but I can't name
24 you a juvenile off hand. I'll pass the word around the
25 day watch....see what they can come up with. I'll leave
26 a note for Hartgrove. He can pass it on to the night
27 watch.

1 JOE: Appreciate what you can do.

2 LIND: No trouble. Been runnin' you ragged on this huh?

3 JOE: Pretty ^{rough} ragged just that we never seem to be able to come
4 up with anything that adds.

5 SOUND: PHONE RINGS

6 LIND: Excuse me.

7 JOE: Yeah.

5/100

8 SOUND: LINDSEY PICKS UP THE PHONE

9 LIND: Georgia Street Juvenile.....Sergeant Simmons. Yeah.....
10 yeah they're here....which one. Okay...hang on. (TO
11 JOE) For you Joe....your office.

12 JOE: (TAKING THE PHONE) Thanks. (INTO PHONE) Friday
13 talking. Yeah.....Right away...what's the address?
14 Uh huh....Yeah. I got it. We'll leave right away.
15 Who?Yeah...call 'em. Thanks.

16 SOUND: JOE HANGS UP THE PHONE

17 JOE: He's hit again.....let's go.

Chum
The milk bottle kid. He
hit again.

END SCENE 1

5/30

1 JOE: The call had come from Lt. Ginder in Burglary. He told
2 us that he'd just gotten a call from a storekeeper named
3 Monte Deroburtes (DERO-BURTUS). The man had called to
4 report a burglary at his store at the corner of Jackson
5 and Broadway Streets. Lt. Ginder told us that the crime
6 lab had been notified and had dispatched a crew to
7 investigate the premises for physical evidence. Frank
8 and I left Georgia Street Juvenile and drove over to
9 Figuaroa and turned over onto Broadway. The store that
10 had been broken into was a small Italian Delicatessen
11 on the South East corner. By the time we got there, the
12 Crime lab crew had already arrived and was winding up
13 their investigation. We walked into the place and met
14 Ray Pinker.

6/00

15 SOUND: JOE AND FRANK WALK INTO THE STORE

16 RAY: (FADING IN) Hi, Joe....Frank.

17 JOE: Ray...how's it goin'?

18 RAY: Usual thing. Bottle of milk on the counter. Wanna check
19 it over?

20 JOE: Yeah.

21 RAY: C'mon....back here.

22 SOUND: THEY WALK TO THE REAR OF THE STORE.

23 RAY: Thief made his entrance back here...rear of the store

24 SOUND: - THEY WALK A BIT THEN STOP.

25 RAY: There it is. He broke out the window pane in the window.

1 FRANK: Not very big.

2 RAY: Measures 9 and one-half by 12 and three-quarters.

3 JOE: No alarm on the window huh?

4 RAY: Yeah....you can see the wires here....take a look.

5 SOUND: THEY MOVE TO THE WINDOW

6 JOE: (AS HE LOOKS) Oh yeah.....how come the alarm didn't go
7 off

8 RAY: I talked to the owner. He said that he's had trouble 6/30
9 with the alarm system last couple of weeks. Called the
10 company and asked them to fix it.

11 JOE: Yeah.

12 RAY: He thought it was okay. Guess there was something wrong
13 someplace. It didn't work last night.

14 FRANK: What kind of an alarm was it Ray?

15 RAY: Outside on the building. Y'know the kind.

16 FRANK: Yeah.

17 JOE: What'd he take this time?

1 RAY: Usual run of stuff. According to the owner, there are
2 about four cartons of cigarettes missing and several
3 boxes of candy. Can't be absolutely sure. He says
4 he's gotta check his stock. Be better if you talked to
5 him on that.

6 JOE: Yeah...we'll yeah...we'll catch him later.

7 RAY: Wanna wait a minute...I'll check and see how the boys
8 are doing on the prints. I had 'em check the counter
9 and the milk bottle.

10 JOE: ~~Okay~~ Ray. 7/00

11 RAY: Be right back.

12 FRANK: Right.

13 SOUND: RAY WALKS OFF

14 JOE: Wonder when we're gonna blow the whistle on this guy?

15 FRANK: Can't do it fast enough for me.

16 JOE: I'm ^{with you} ~~on your side~~.

BEAT

17 FRANK: He....Joe...look at this.

18 JOE: Huh?

19 FRANK: I'd like to pick up a couple of those before we leave.

20 JOE: What're you talking about?

21 FRANK: Those Salami's Joe...the hard Italian kind. See....right
22 there.

23 JOE: Yeah.

24 FRANK: I remember last summer I was up north....San Francisco.

25 JOE: Yeah....I remember.

"PRESENT"

1 FRANK: Went up there to pick up a prisoner....you were collectin'
2 days off.

3 JOE: I recall...I had a hundred of 'em comin'. 7/30

4 FRANK: Anyway....I met Dan Shelly up there.

5 JOE: You mean the irish tenor.

6 FRANK: Yeah. ..he and I went down to Cookies bar for lunch. Cookie
7 had some of this Salami. Sliced it like paper. You could
8 almost read through it.

9 JOE: Way it's supposed to be.

10 FRANK: I know Joe. Anyway. ..Cookie sliced up a bunch of it..
11 served it with cold cracked crab. Never tasted anything so
12 good.

13 JOE: Yeah.

14 FRANK: Fay's tried to find 'em for me. Brought home all kind of
15 things but she's never found the right kind. Y'know. . 8/00
16 hard enough to pound tacks with. Never forget old Cookie
17 and that spread.

18 JOE: Yeah. Well. ..if you can get your mind off food for a
19 minute.... .let's get on this thing huh?

20 FRANK: Sure gotta buy some of those before we leave....look like
21 just the thing Cookie had.

22 SOUND: UNDER ABOVE....RAY PINKER FADES IN:

23 RAY: Just finished with the powder Joe.

24 JOE: Yeah.

25 RAY: Nothin'. Whoever it was drank the milk... he took the
26 bottle out of the refrigeration compartment. Bottle sweated
27 and there isn't a print on it we can lift.

1 JOE: None of 'em anyplace else?
2 RAY: We've gone over the place from top to bottom. If they're
3 there.....we can't find 'em.
4 JOE: Not much to help then.
5 RAY: Came up with one thing....maybe you can make something out
6 of it. 2/10
7 JOE: What's that?
8 RAY: Outside the window on the back parking lot. Came up with
9 an opened pack of cigarettes. Don't know if it belonged
10 to the thief.
11 FRANK: Anything on it?
12 RAY: No... Fog last night ruined any prints that were on it.
13 Boys have got it if you want it.
14 JOE: Yeah. ..we'll take a look at it. Looks like another blank
15 doesn't it?
16 RAY: Don't envy you guys tryin' to break this one. Most of the
17 time there's a leak some place. Somewhere along the line
18 the guys gonna make a mistake and not cover something.
19 JOE: (GRUNTS)
20 RAY: This is either the smartest thief I've ever seen or the
21 luckiest. What's this make for him?
22 JOE: This is Number 19. 9/10
23 RAY: Lotta chances to take for nothin'. He's not gettin'
24 anything out of the jobs.
25 JOE: Maybe he isn't.....but we are.
26 RAY: What?
27 JOE: ~~Lotta~~ // headaches.
28 END SCENE

1 JOE: 9:38 A.M. We talked to the victim. He told us that as near
2 as he could figure there was approximately 4 dollars stolen
3 from the store. He went on to say that he'd ascertained
4 that five cartons of cigarettes ~~the new L. and M. with the~~
5 ~~filter tip that allows you to taste the clean fresh~~
6 ~~tabacco~~) and several boxes of candy bars, were taken. He
7 was unable to tell us if any other merchandize was taken
8 until he'd made a complete inventory. He went on to tell 9/30
9 us that there was over 6 hundred dollars in the safe but
10 as far as we could tell, there's been no attempt to break
11 into it. We made a canvass of the neighborhood and talked
12 with the neighbors. None of them recalled having seen seen
13 any suspicious people in the neighborhood the night before.
14 None of them had seen a suspicious automobile in the area.
15 The one thing that was apparent was that the thief was
16 working in a definite pattern. He worked only on Friday
17 and Saturday night. Always between eight P.M. and twelve
18 midnight. Frank and I met with Captain Bernard and it was
19 decided that we would maintain a rolling stake out in the
20 area in which the suspect operated. Four other cars from
21 Metro Reserves were assigned to work with us.

10/00

1 JOE: For the next ~~five~~ nights, we worked without results. It
 (CONT'D)
 2 was slow and tedious work. But from what we had....it was
 3 the only way we had left. We had to be on or near the scene
 4 when the thief struck again. Saturday night, December 19th
 5 Frank and I met and drove out to the area. The streets
 6 were crowded with early Christmas shoppers.

7 SOUND: UNIT 1K80 RUNNING UNDER. STOPS AS TRAFFIC DEMANDS.

8 FRANK: Sure be glad when it's over.

9 JOE: What's the matter?

10 FRANK: How many rooms in your apartment Joe?

11 JOE: Three.....You know that.

12 FRANK: Won't be enough room.

13 JOE: What're you talking about?

14 FRANK: Fay.

15 JOE: What's she got to do with this?

10/30

16 FRANK: ~~Hacked~~ Joe.....real hacked.

17 JOE: What's the matter?

18 FRANK: I got up this morning....felt great. Fay's got breakfast
 19 on the table. All nice. Couple of eggs... little pig
 20 sausages. Nice.....y'know.

21 JOE: Yeah.

22 FRANK: I come down to the table and she's got the food on the
 23 table. And then I hit her with it.

24 JOE: ~~Yeah~~ what the fuck?

25 FRANK: ~~Yeah~~...I tell her that I'm gonna have to work tonight.

1 JOE: You've worked every night this week, what's wrong with
2 that?

3 FRANK: That's the way I figure it. So....I got a way out.

4 JOE: Y'have huh?

5 FRANK: Sure Joe.....t'day's Fay's birthday.

6 JOE: Y'didn't tell me.

7 FRANK: Not a good idea to tell people Joe. 11/00

8 JOE: It isn't.

9 FRANK: No.....Y'see Fay's over thirty.

10 BEAT:

11 JOE: Yeah.....I kinda figured that.

12 FRANK: Don't you get it?

13 JOE: I'm sorry pal.....you left me a couple of blocks back.

14 FRANK: Fay's over thirty....she's gettin' to the point where she's
15 takin' the years off. How can you give a person a last
16 birthday present?

17 JOE: ~~Uh-huh.~~ Yeah.

18 FRANK: I tell you about it, you're gonna giver her a present. 11/30
19 Only.....now instead of 30....she's 29. Y'understand?

20 JOE: Frankly no....but as long as you do.....it's alright.

21 FRANK: Yeah.

22 JOE: What about this morning?

23 FRANK: Well, I told her that I was gonna have to work. And I got
24 this present for her. Brand new deep fat fryer. Real good.
25 All wrapped up with ribbon. Beautiful.

26 JOE: So you gave it to her. Do any good?

1 FRANK: Not a pound. She's so had at me y'know what she does with
2 it?

3 JOE: At this point....I wouldn't even venture a guess.

4 BEAT:

5 FRANK: I'm serious Joe.....~~this~~ may mean the end of my home. 12/00

6 JOE: Go ahead.

7 FRANK: She doesn't even open it. Just puts it in the closet on the
8 back porch. Doesn't even pull the paper apart to peek at
9 what's in it. Real mad Joe. She may not let me in the house
10 t'night.

11 JOE: You can apologize when you get home.

12 FRANK: I dunno Joe....Fay's pretty sore.

13 SOUND: OFF MIKE WE HEAR THE SOUND OF A BURGLAR ALARM GOING OFF.

14 FRANK: Didn't even open the present. Not even a peek.

15 JOE: Hold it.

16 FRANK: Huh?

17 BEAT

18 FRANK: Yeah. Tell where it's comin' from?

19 JOE: Yeah,....Upon Seventh.

20 SOUND: CAR TURNS CORNER....GOES ABOUT ONE THIRD OF A BLOCK AND

21 STOPS. JOE AND FRANK START TO GET OUT OF CAR.

22 FRANK: I'll take the front.

12/30

1 JOE: Right.

2 SOUND: THE TWO OFFICERS GET OUT OF THE CAR AND FRANK RUNS TO
3 THE FRONT OF THE STORE, JOE RUNS TO THE BACK. AS HE
4 DOES, TRAFFIC FADES TO B.G....WE HEAR JOE CHECK BACK
5 DOOR, IT'S LOCKED, AS HE DOES, WE HEAR THE SCRAPE AND
6 CRASH OF GLASS AS ELROY COMES THROUGH THE WINDOW

7 JOE: Hold it up there.

8 SOUND: ELROY HITS THE PAVEMENT AND STARTS TO RUN. JOE AFTER
9 HIM

10 JOE: Police officers. Stop or I'll shoot.

11 SOUND: MORE RUNNING FOOTSTEPS

12 JOE: (UP) Frank...he's comin' around your way.

13 FRANK: (OFF) Okay.

14 SOUND: RUNNING CONTINUES...OFF MIKE, WE HEAR SCUFFLE AS FRANK
15 CATCHES ELROY..JOE RUNS UP

16 FRANK: Take it easy.

17 ELROY: Go ahead and shoot...go on...kill me. (BEGINS TO CRY)
18 Go ahead shoot me....doesn't matter any more...go on.

19 SOUND: JOE GETS ON MIKE AND STOPS

20 JOE: Okay?

21 FRANK: Yeah.

22 (BEAT)

23 FRANK: Just a kid Joe.

24 JOE: Uh huh.

25 (BEAT)

26 FRANK: What're you doin' in the store son?

13/00

1 ELROY: What d'ya think I'm doin?

2 JOE: He asked you a question, boy.

3 ELROY: Pretty stupid. What d'ya think I was doin'?

4 FRANK: How many stores have you broken into, son?

5 ELROY: Figure it out for yourself.

6 JOE: What've you got a chip on your shoulder for?

7 ELROY: You're big guys. Don't give me a lotta conversation...

8 do what you wantta do.

9 JOE: Alright boy...you called it. *C'mon,* ~~Let's go.~~

10 END SCENE 3

11 JOE: 11:50 PM. We called the office and told them that we

12 had a suspect in custody and were taking him to Georgia

13 Street Juvenile Bureau. We put the boy in our car and

14 waited until a radio car arrived. We asked the

15 officers to notify the owner of the store and stand

16 by until he got there. We also asked that they make a

17 459 report. 11:55 PM. We started to take the

18 youngster to the juvenile bureau. *13/30*

19 SOUND: CAR DRIVING B.G. STOPS FOR TRAFFIC.

20 (BEAT)

21 JOE: What's your name, son?

22 ELROY: What difference does it make?

23 FRANK: (LITTLE OFF IN THE FRONT SEAT) Actin' like that isn't

24 gonna help you.

25 ELROY: You guys picked me up remember. You worry about it. I

26 got nothin' to be afraid of.

1 JOE: Yes you have son. You could have been shot back
2 there.

3 ELROY: Maybe you should have pulled the trigger.

4 JOE: What's ^{the matter} wrong with you. Why you actin' like this.
5 You just got real lucky. That's the only reason
6 you're alive now. It was dark back there. Far as I
7 could tell you were an adult. You didn't stop when
8 I told you to. According to the book, I could have
9 shot you. Y'know that, don't you?

10 ELROY: Killin' a kid...that make you a big man.

11 JOE: No...I'm just bringin' it up to prove a point.

12 ELROY: Save it.

13 JOE: Look, son....I'm gonna tell you something. When you
14 break into a place at night...you're not a kid anymore.
15 You're askin' for trouble. You got both of your
16 pockets full of it. Way you worked it tonight makes
17 us think that you're mixed up in a lot more thefts
18 than just tonight.

19 ELROY: That right?

20 FRANK: (LITTLE OFF) You ever been arrested before?

21 ELROY: No.

22 JOE: Never been in trouble with the law?

23 ELROY: Sure. I'm a real criminal. I got a ticket once for
24 ridin' my bike through a boulevard stop. Radio car
25 stopped me and tagged me. Big deal. I thought they
26 were going to send me to San Quentin. Maybe even give
27 me the gas chamber.

29 (BEAT)

29 JOE: How old are you?

14/100

14/30

1 ELROY: What difference does that make?
2 JOE: How old?
3 ELROY: You figure it..
4 JOE: Y'look like you're about 11.
5 ELROY: That's what everybody thinks....I'll be fifteen my
6 next birthday..
7 FRANK: (LITTLE OFF) Don't kid us son.
8 ELROY: It's the truth.. 15. That's what I'll be. 15
9 JOE: When were you born?
10 (BEAT)
11 ELROY: Nineteen thirty nine - November 2nd.
12 FRANK: (LITTLE OFF) You're small for your age, aren't you?
13 ELROY: Why do you say that?
14 FRANK: Aren't you?
15 ELROY: That's got nothin' to do with it. Nothin' at all. I
16 can do anything that any other kid can do...anything.
17 Don't you forget it. 15/00
18 JOE: What's the matter...that a sore point with you?
19 ELROY: Huh?
20 JOE: Your size...that a sore point.
21 ELROY: There's nothin' wrong with my size...Doctor says that
22 I'm alright.. Just that some people aren't meant to
23 be as big as others. There's nothin' wrong with me..
24 JOE: C'mon....son. What's your name?
25 (BEAT)
26 JOE: Y'know we're gonna find out..
27 (BEAT)

1 ELROY: How...How you gonna find out?
2 JOE: We will. Now why don't you save us all a lot of time
3 and tell us the truth.
4 (BEAT)
5 FRANK: (FROM FRONT SEAT) Be better if you did.
6 (BEAT)
7 ELROY: If I tell you...you gonna put it in the papers?
8 JOE: What? 15/30
9 ELROY: I tell you....,there gonna be a lot of reporters around.
10 My name gonna get in the papers.
11 JOE: Not from us.
12 ELROY: Can't tell you then.
13 JOE: Y'mean...if there's no reporters around....you aren't
14 gonna tell us your name?
15 ELROY: That's the way it is.
16 JOE: Kinda funny isn't it?
17 ELROY: Maybe that's the way it looks to you.
18 (BEAT)
19 JOE: Where do you live?
20 ELROY: Can't tell you that either..
21 JOE: You got things all wrong son...it isn't what you want
22 to tell us...That's got nothin' to do with it. You're
23 gonna tell us what we want to know..
24 ELROY: Where we goin'?
25 JOE: Georgia Street..
26 ELROY: That where the jail is?

16/00

1 JOE: Why d'ya ask that?
2 ELROY: Because I want to know.
3 JOE: There's a jail there yes.
4 ELROY: Reporters?
5 JOE: What?
6 ELROY: There gonna be reporters there?
7 JOE: What's this thing with reporters and you. What's it all
8 about?
9 ELROY: Reporters put your name in the papers don't they?
10 JOE: Sometimes.
11 ELROY: Well, you get the reporters all lined up. You get 'em
12 from all the papers. You have 'em there and I'll tell
13 you all about it. The whole story. You just get the
14 reporters and the photographers. Be sure about them
15 because I want some pictures, too.
16 JOE: Lemme get this straight.
17 ELROY: What?
18 JOE: You say you aren't gonna give us any information without
19 the press being there...that right?
20 ELROY: That's the way it's gonna be.
21 JOE: You got it wrong boy.
22 ELROY: What?
23 JOE: Doesn't make any difference who's there. You're gonna
24 come around.

16/30

- 1 ELROY: Yeah.
- 2 JOE: We'll find out.
- 3 END SCENE 4
- 4 END ACT 1
- 5 GIENEY: You are listening to Dragnet, the authentic story of your police force in action.

(COMMERCIAL INSERT)

DRAGNET RADIO
NOV. 24, 1953

SECOND COMMERCIAL 16/50

1 FENN: ~~Smokers~~ by the thousands are now changing to Chesterfield
2 ...because they're learning the facts about Chesterfield.
3 Facts like these....

4 GIBNEY: A doctor has been examining Chesterfield smokers for 17/15
5 twenty months...almost two full years now. We've just
6 received his latest report and it confirms again...no
7 adverse effects to the nose, throat and sinuses from
8 smoking Chesterfield.

9 FENN: That's a matter of record. And so is this... 17/30
10 Chesterfield is the only cigarette proved highest in
11 quality - low in nicotine. Those are the facts about
12 Chesterfield... more good reasons why Chesterfields taste
13 so good.. smoke so much milder. How about it, friends?
14 Smoke America's most popular two-way cigarette.
15 Chesterfield - regular and king-size .. Best for you! 17/45

1 JOE: 12:10 A.M. We got to Georgia Street Juvenile Bureau.
2 Frank pulled the car into the side alley and we took the
3 subject out of the back seat. 18/00
4 ~~SOUND: OFF MIKE STRAFFIC SOUND. THREE PEOPLE WALKING ON BLACKTOP~~
5 FRANK: Up this way,
6 ~~SOUND: THEY WALK UP A FLIGHT OF TWELVE MARBLE STEPS.~~
7 ELROY: This is a seedy lookin' place.
8 JOE: Been here a long time.
9 ELROY: Looks like a set out of a picture.
10 JOE: Don't worry about it.
11 ~~SOUND: FRANK PUSHES OPEN A SWINGING DOOR.~~
12 JOE: You wanna take him down the hall Frank...I'll check with
13 Hartgrove.
14 FRANK: Yeah.....c'mon son.
15 ~~SOUND: FRANK AND ELROY WALK DOWN THE HALL. JOE TAKES A COUPLE OF~~
16 ~~STEPS INTO THE OFFICE OF LT. HARTGROVE.~~
17 HART: Hi Friday how are you...workin' kinda late aren't you.
18 JOE: Yeah.
19 HART: I got the note from Simmons on the milk burglaries.
20 Checked around the night watch. Nothin' on it so I didn't
21 call you.
22 JOE: I don't think you need to worry about it. I think we got
23 the answer,
24 HART: Yeah. 18/30
25 JOE: Got a kid. Got him dead bang in a market. Open bottle
26 of milk next to the cash register.
HART: Where is he now?

1 JOE: Frank's got him down the hall.
2 HART: You think he's your boy?
3 JOE: Looks like it...everything adds up...entrance...what he
4 tried to take...the milk. All along ~~the line~~ ^{seems to} it fits.
5 HART: Y'got that kind of a case...what're you worrying about?
6 JOE: Two things.
7 HART: Yeah?
8 JOE: Who he is and why he did it.
9 HART: He won't tell you?
10 JOE: No. Got some big thing workin' about the press. Says he
11 won't give us anything without reporters bein' there.
12 HART: Makes it rough Joe...you know the policy.
13 JOE: Yeah. We don't want to hurt the kid, but he won't let us
14 help him.
15 HART: If he want's publicity...take me down...introduce me as a
16 reporter.
17 JOE: Might do it. 19/100
18 HART: Won't do any hurt to try. Let's go.
19 SOUND: HARTGROVE AND JOE GET UP AND START THROUGH THE DOOR.
20 HARTGROVE WALKS OFF MIKE A LITTLE.
21 HART: Just a second Joe.
22 JOE: Yeah.
23 HART: ~~(LITTLE OFF) Miss Castle...I'll be down the hall if you~~
24 ~~need no...~~
25 SOUND: HARTGROVE COMES BACK ON MIKE
26

1 HART: Who'm I gonna be?
2 JOE: Tell him you're Sid Hughes from the Mirror.
3 HART: Might as well be one of the good ones.
4 SOUND: THEY WALK DOWN THE HALL AND OPEN A DOOR. JOE AND
5 HARTGROVE WALK INTO THE INTERROGATION ROOM. DOOR CLOSE.
6 JOE: Son...you wanted to talk to somebody from the papers.
7 it's against the policy but we swung it for you. This
8 is Sid Hughes from the Mirror.
9 HART: Hi.
10 ELROY: You the fella that held that guy on the phone in Baltimore
11 HART: Yeah?
12 ELROY: Great. I read all about it. You gonna write me up like
13 that? ^{19/30}
14 HART: I hope not son...there were two men killed in that
15 operation.
16 ELROY: I read all the stories...everybody did. That's how I
17 mean for you to write me up...with a picture.
18 HART: What makes you think you got it comin'? You break into
19 one store and try to steal a couple of cartons of
20 cigarettes. That doesn't make the first page.
21 ELROY: One store...I got into 19 of 'em. Nineteen before they
22 caught me. That's important isn't it. That's a story.
23 HART: I dunno. Might be.
24 JOE: Couple of things we better get straightened out. First
25 off...what's your name?

1 ELROY: (TO HARTGROVE) Better get your notebook out...be able
2 to take all this down.
3 HART: Don't worry about it son...you just answer the questions.
4 I'll get it. *20/00*
5 ELROY: Yeah...(TO JOE) Okay...my name's Elroy Graham. That's
6 (SPELLS) E-L-R-O-Y...G-R-A-H-A-M.
7 HART: Yeah.
8 JOE: How old are you?
9 ELROY: I told you once...almost 15.
10 JOE: You said you'd broken into 19 stores...that right?
11 ELROY: Yeah...19. Might have made it more but somethin' went
12 wrong t'night. Had trouble with the burglar alarm. I
13 thought I had it turned off. Bad mistake. Be still
14 workin' if it wasn't for that. Guess it only takes one
15 thought...huh Mr. Hughes?
16 HART: Yeah. Guess so.
17 JOE: You wanna tell us why you did it?
18 ELROY: What? *20/30*
19 FRANK: You had to have a reason for committing these robberies.
20 Wanna tell us what it was?
21 ELROY: Sure. Good reason. Real good.
22 JOE: Go ahead.

1 ELROY: Well, Y'see...I always had trouble at school. Never
2 seemed to quite make it.. All the guys liked me. They
3 all did...all the girls do to. I got girls callin'
4 me almost everynight askin me to take 'em to dances
5 stuff like that. But I don't go much for that kind
6 of stuff. You can understand can't you Mr. Hughes?

7 HART: Go ahead Elroy.

8 ELROY: Well, they wanted me for all the teams...football...
9 basketball. All the time..askin me to play. But I
10 figure that if you're gonna get ahead in the world 2/100
11 ...you gotta have a aim. Someplace where you wanna get.
12 Figure out that...work for it...and you're gonna get
13 there. Don't you find that tru Mr. Hughes?

14 HART: Go ahead.

15 ELROY: That's the way it was with me. All the time turning
16 down offers to be on some team...tellin' some girl that
17 I couldn't take her to a dance. Just didn't have the
18 time. Somehow...just couldn't make it. You can
19 understand it. You been around...you know all the
20 successful kinda people. You write somethin' and a
21 lotta people read it. You know what I mean.

22 BEAT

23 ELROY: Don't you?

24 BEAT

25 ELROY: What's the matter...something wrong? 2/30

26 BEAT

1 ELROY: I'm trying to tell you what happened...I'm givin' it to
2 you straight. What's the matter?
3 BEAT
4 JOE: Now you wanna tell us the truth, Elroy?
5 ELROY: What?
6 JOE: I don't know why you're trying to sell this line boy.
7 It isn't necessary. I don't know why you did what you did
8 did but I do know you had a reason for it. That's
9 what I wanna know. ^{Just the} ~~That~~ reason.
10 BEAT
11 ELROY: You don't believe me?
12 BEAT
13 JOE: Afraid not?
14 ELROY: How 'bout you?
15 FRANK: No son.
16 BEAT
17 ELROY: Mr. Hughes?
18 HART: No.
19 BEAT
20 ELROY: Can't even lie right. (STARTS TO BREAK) Can't even
21 tell a lie good. All my life and I been tryin' to be
22 like other kids. All the time gettin beat up...gettin
23 left out of things..y'know why? Do you know?
24 JOE: Go ahead.

22/00

1 ELROY: Big reason. Biggest reason in the world. Because I'm
2 almost fifteen years old and I'm 4 feet 7 inches tall.
3 4 feet seven. Weight 97 pounds. That ain't very big.
4 Not big enough. All the time...other kids shovin you ^{22/30}
5 around. All the time...you're the joke. Get's to the
6 time when you figure it's easier to laugh too because
7 if you don't some kid's gonna beat you up. Get's to
8 the point where you don't care anymore. I used to clip
9 out those coupons and send 'em in. Get the books
10 back on how to build myself up. Worked at it. Pressin'
11 my hands together...didn't do nothin' for me. I was
12 still 4 feet seven and weighed 97 pounds. All the
13 stuff I took, didn't do no good. Still came out 4
14 feet seven:.....97 pounds. ^{23/10}

15 JOE: You wanna tell us about the burglaries?

16 ELROY: I did it to be big. That's why. I had the things
17 other people wanted, cigarettes....candy. The other
18 things kids wanted.....I had a lot of. All the stuff
19 that other kids wanted. That made me important. Don't
20 you see that?.....You gotta understand it Mr. Hughes.
21 That's why I wanted my picture in the paper....That's
22 why I wanted the story. So's the kids would know
23 that I'd done something big. So they'd know.....
24 (HE BREAKS DOWN) ^{23/30}

25 JOE: Alright Son...it's gonna be alright.

26 BEAT

1 ELROY: No it isn'tlike everything else I tried to do....
2 I loused it up. I didn't mean to steal. But it was
3 the only way. The only way I had.

4 JOE: Wasn't there another?

5 ELROY: No. No there wasn't. All the time the other kids
6 laughin....all the time talkin. I just couldn't stand
7 it any more. I just couldn't.

8 JOE: Here. 24/80

9 ELROY: Thanks. (HE BLOWS HIS NOSE) You can understand it
10 can't you? It makes sense.

11 JOE: What's that?

12 ELROY: I didn't like the kids sayin' I was little....

13 JOE: Yeah.

14 ELROY: But I didn't want them to think I was small.

15 END SCENE 5

16 JOE: 12:36 AM We contacted the parents of the Graham boy
17 and asked them to come down to the station. We talked
18 to them for an hour and tried to fill them in on the
19 facts. In view of the fact that the parents of the 24/30
20 subject were responsible persons, the boy was booked
21 for violation of section 459 P.C. delinquent, and
22 released to his parents pending his hearing in Juvenile
23 Court. Five days passed and we heard nothing from
24 the Graham boy. On December 24th, Frank and I checked
25 into the office.

26 SOUND: SQUADROOM B.G. JOE AND FRANK WALK BACK INTO SQUADROOM

27 GINDER: Friday?

28 JOE: Yeah, Earl.

1 GINDER: Kid in the back...wants to see you and Smith.
2 JOE: Okay.
3 SOUND: JOE AND FRANK WALK BACK INTO THE SQUADROOM. THEY STOP.
4 ELROY: Hi Mr. Friday.
5 JOE: Hello Elroy....what can we do for you?
6 ELROY: Well....I guess you think it's kinda funny. 25/80
7 BEAT
8 JOE: What is it son?
9 ELROY: I wanna tell you that I sure think it's good what you
10 did for me..helpin me with that burglary thing the
11 other night.
12 JOE: Isn't over yet son....Court still has to make a
13 decision.
14 ELROY: Yeah...but what you did made me feel better. Far as
15 I'm concerned whatever the judge decides...I'll go
16 along with it. I had a long talk with my folks. We
17 got it all talked out. All the way. Talked out.
18 JOE: That's good son.
19 FRANK: Yeah, Elroy...we're glad of it.
20 BEAT
21 ELROY: Maybe you guys won't like it...I mean me knowing you
22 such a short time and all.....but I wanted to bring
23 you these....Merry Christmas. 25/30
24 JOE: That's awful nice of you Elroy..but it isn't necessary.
25 ELROY: I wanna give 'em to you anyway..for what you did for me.
26 FRANK: It's pretty nice of you Elroy. Sure appreciate it.

1 ELROY: Couple of packages of cigarettes,,hope they're the kind
2 you smoke.

3 SOUND: JOE AND FRANK TAKE OFF THE WRAPPING..TISSUE PAPER.

4 JOE: Yeah...son they're fine.

5 FRANK: Thanks.

6 ELROY: Just glad they're the right kind..I wasn't sure. I
7 gotta nother package here for Mr. Hughes...wonder if
8 you'd give it to him?

9 JOE: Yeah...we'll take care of it.

10 ELROY: Well.....I guess that's it. I gotta be gettin home...
11 ...my folks don't know I'm down here. Gotta get back.

12 JOE: Well, thanks for comin' in Elroy....Thanks for the
13 cigarettes.

14 ELROY: Yeah....Well....see you guys around huh?

15 JOE: Yeah.

16 SOUND: ELROY WALKS TO THE DOOR. OPENS IT AND STOPS.

17 ELROY: Thanks again huh?

18 JOE: Yeah.

19 FRANK: Elroy?

20 ELROY: ~~(FROM THE DOOR.)~~ Yeah?

21 FRANK: Merry Christmas.

22 BEAT

23 ELROY: Thanks.

24 SOUND: DOOR CLOSE.

25 BEAT

26 ~~JOE: What's the matter...you catchin' cold?~~

26/12

1 FRANK: What d'ya mean...

2 JOE: Looks like there's something wrong with your eyes.

3 FRANK: Draft when the kid opened the door. That's all it was

4Just the draft. Looks like there's something

5 wrong with your eyes too

6 ~~BEAT~~

7 JOE: Yeah...but I'll be honest about it.

8 FRANK: What d'ya mean?

9 JOE: It isn't the draft.

10 MUSIC: SIGNATURE

11 FENN: The story you have just heard is true. The names have

12 been changed to protect the innocent.

13 GIBNEY: On the 21st of December a petition was filed in

14 Juvenile court on behalf of the subject. On January

15 26th, trial was held in Department 52 of Juvenile

16 court State of California, in and for the County of

17 of Los Angeles. In a moment the results of that

18 trial,

19 FENN: Now here is our star, Jack Webb

20 WEBB: COMMERCIAL INSERT

DRAGNET RADIO
11/24/53

CLOSING COMMERCIAL 76/35

1 FENN: Now, here is our star, Jack Webb.
2 WEBB: Thank you, George Fenneman. Friends, Thanksgiving is
3 traditionally a time when families and friends get
4 together. I'd like to make this suggestion .. Tomorrow ..
5 get a couple of cartons of Chesterfields. You'll be all
6 set for Thanksgiving and the weekend. We know you - your
7 family, and guests are sure to enjoy America's most
8 popular two-way cigarette. Chesterfield ... regular and
9 king-size ... Best for you!

76/57

27/23
TRIAL PAGE

1 GIBNEY: Elroy Merton Graham appeared before the juvenile court
2 where he admitted the alleged burglaries. At this time,
3 under the council of the Judge of the juvenile court,
4 the subject was placed under the care of the probation
5 department for a period of three years with the provision
6 that his parents take him to a competent psychiatrist.

27/33

END PAGE

1 MUSIC: THEME:

2 THEME: UNDER

3 GIBNEY: You have just heard Dragnet -- a series of authentic cases
4 from official files. Technical advice comes from the office
5 of Chief of Police, W.H. Parker, Los Angeles Police 28/60
6 Department. Technical, advisors: Captain Jack Donohoe,
7 Sgt. Marty Wynn. Sgt. Vance Brasher. Heard tonight were:
8 Ben Alexander, _____

9 _____ . Script
10 by John Robonson. Music by Walter Schumann. Hal Gibney
11 speaking.

12 MUSIC: THEME UNDER....CONTINUES:

13 FENN: Watch an entirely new Dragnet case history each week on
14 your local NBC television station. Please check your
15 newspaper for the day and time. (BEAT) Chesterfield has 28/30
16 brought you Dragnet transcribed from Los Angeles.

(FATIMA HITCHHIKE)

DRAGNET RADIO
NOV. 24, 1953

28/17

MUSCULAR DYSTROPHY PLUG

- 1 ANNCR: Don't forget your letter carrier when he makes a special
- 2 trip to call on you for muscular dystrophy. Reach in
- 3 your pocket ... give for muscular dystrophy.

29/10 ✓