



BROUGHT TO YOU BY WWW.JIMPROFIT.COM

PROFIT EPISODE SCRIPTS

PROFIT
EPISODE 4 - SYKES
ORIGINAL AIR DATE ON FOX: 22 APR 1996

WRITTEN BY: DAVID GREENWALT
DIRECTED BY: ROBERT ISCOVE
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS : JOHN McNAMARA & DAVID GREENWALT, STEPHEN J.CANNELL.

TRANSCRIPT BY \$äm
Contact the transcriptionist at samuel_allain@caramail.com

=====
DISCLAIMER:

=====

"PROFIT" and other related entities are owned by JOHN McNAMARA, DAVID GREENWALT, STEPHEN J.CANNELL, 20th FOX TELEVISION, NEW WORLD ENTERTAINMENT. All Rights Reserved. This transcript was made without their permission, approval, authorization or endorsement. Any reproduction, duplication or distribution of this material in any form is expressly prohibited. It is absolutely forbidden to use it for commercial gain.

CONDITIONS OF USE: (1) Feel free to save for personal use (2) Do not alter the content of this file (3) Do not archive/post anywhere without permission (4) Leave the headers/disclaimers in tact because it lists all those who have made this transcript possible for your enjoyment. (5) Provide a link back to the site where this file originated: <http://www.jimprofit.com>

=====
TRANSCRIPT:

=====

INTRO

SCENE #1

FADE IN

(The image is displayed on a computer screen.)

JIM (VOICE OVER)
Previously, on Profit.

[INT. JACK'S OFFICE - DAY]

JACK
...go for Chaz's job, CEO ? No, no because then you'd be in spotlight that's no good, you cannot operate in the light. Now, you've got your eye on the throne but you want to be the power behind it.

CUT TO

PETE

You didn't hear ? They're sayin' Jack Walters killed Wayne Gresham.

CUT TO

JACK

I'm not gonna plead bargain, I'm innocent.

CUT TO

(Episode 1)

JIM

Hi, dad.

JIM

Hi, mom.

CUT TO

CUT TO

JOANNE

He's dead.

CUT TO

BOBBY

You think I'm gonna let them buy it was a heart attack ?

JIM

You should 'cause if you don't I will be forced to giv'em this.

(He shows her a syringe in a plastic bag.)

(CGI buttons appears on the side of the screen and a hand clicks on 'details')

FADE AWAY

FADE IN

[EXT. JIM'S BUILDING - DAY]

CUT TO

[INT. JIM'S APPARTMENT - DAY]

(Jim is showering.)

(He stops the waterflow, gets out of the shower, grabs a towel and put it around his waist.)

(He smells.)

JIM

I smell Bobby.

BOBBY (TAPE RECORDER)

(Jim gets out of the bathroom, and takes the tape recorder on the fireplace.)

(He listens to the next words.)
(Bobby appears on the corner of the room.)

BOBBY
This is my favourite part.

(He stops the tape recorder.)

BOBBY
Remember, you help my syringe, you know the one you used to kill your daddy with.

(Jim starts again the tape recorder.)

(He stops it.)

BOBBY
Try to set up your own step-mother up for murder you committed.

(Bobby approaches Jim.)

BOBBY
What were you , born and raised by animals ? I was so upset when you threw me out, I almost forgot about my little friend here. Which I always keep handy.
Voice act **XXX**.

(She walks around the room.)

See I like to play back to what happens to me in bed, and I got all kinds of tapes in all kinds of secret places. If something bad happens to me.

(She sits on his couch.)
(He ejects the tape)

JIM
Oh I don't see anything bad happening to you, Bobby.

(He throws to her the tape recorder.)

BOBBY
I don't neither, sugar. Not anymore.

(She put the taperecorder on the coffee table.)

JIM
How did you get into my apartment ?

(He gest closer.)

BOBBY
Your doorman is sweet on me.

JIM
Is that right ?

BOBBY
I borrowed his pass key when he was uhh distracted.
I see myself livin' in a great big suite at the Castle Mar hotel.

JIM

Really ?

(She nods.)

JIM

All right. So do I.

(He starts to leave.)

BOBBY

Then, I see you introducing me to some of your rich and powerful friends. I'm lookin' for me a new husband, since you killed the last one. Someone that will look after me now that I'm approaching my early middle years. But don't worry Jimmy, 'cause ain't nothing or nobody gonna change the way I feel about you.

(She takes his towel off.)

JIM (VOICE OVER)

There is nothing quite like a caring mother. Of for that..

CUT TO

SCENE #2

[INT. CHAZ'S OFFICE - DAY]

(Chaz is looking a file.)

JIM (VOICE OVER)

..matter a caring boss.

CHAZ

You want me to hire Jeffrey Sykes.

(Chaz opens the files with Sykes' picture and resume.)

CHAZ

Are you crazy ?

LEONARD

He's a sharp lawyer with a **stirling** reputation for honesty and integrity.

CHAZ

Who filed a class action law suit against us and won.

LEONARD

I told you he was good.

JIM (VOICE OVER)

Leonard Littman, chief legal coucil. He's close with Chaz's father, our chairman emeritus. Probably why Chaz hates him so much.

LEONARD

I spoke to your father about this Chaz. I hope you don't mind. He's very excited.

PETE

Well if dad wants him...

CHAZ

Good, we'll get right on it.

(Chaz and Leonard both stand up. Leonard leaves.)

CHAZ

The day he gets it by a bus, I'll believe in God again. Allright Jim, you're in acquisitions,

(He throws the file about Sykes to Jim.)

CHAZ

Go acquire him.

JIM (VOICE OVER)

Hiring a human being, isn't much different from acquiring a company.

CUT TO

SCENE #3

[INT. BRISANI FASHION SHOW - DAY]

(Models are **displaying** clothes -défilent)

JIM (VOICE OVER)

You mount an approach that will appeal to the seller.

(There are people around tables having lunch.)

(A woman takes her fork to her mouth. There's a bug on it. Sshe screams and pull over the table)

WOMAN

There's a bug in my food !

(Another woman notices the cockroach on the side of her plate.)

(She also screams and throws over her plate.)

(Sykes, who was with his girlfriend, standing up next to a column goes to the tables.)

SYKES

What's going on here ? Ha ?

(He takes a plate on a table.)

SYKES

Excuse me. How can these beautiful ladies be expected to eat this three day old food that's only good for the workers in the Brisani sweat shops ?

(A camera gets on to him.)

SYKES

The Brisani label doesn't worry about unions or benefits or the consumers that hand over a 600 % mark up.

(Jim is at a table.)

(Sykes goes on at the back.)

JIM (VOICE OVER)

Very clever Mr Sykes. Spiking the food in front of the press, all that free publicity.

CUT TO

SCENE #4

[INT. BRISANI FASHION SHOW - DAY]

(Someone cleans the floor with a Hoover.)

(Sykes and his girlfriend Lucinda, walk, avoid the spilled food on the floor.)

LUCINDA

So where did you get those bugs ?

SYKES

Oh I can't tell you that.

(Jim approaches Sykes.)

JIM

Jeffre Sykes ? Jim Profit, G&G.

(They shake hands.)

JIM

You're a hard man to reach, I've been calling for three days. If I could just trouble you for a few minutes.

SYKES

Lokk uh..Jim ? I'm not really interested.

Jim

It actually make any difference.

(Jim gets closer to whisper to Sykes.)

JIM

Don't get me wrong, Jeff. It's a good show, I had fun, it's a good show. But you and I both know what it's going to accomplish. Zip. If you want to do something about the evil in this world, Jeff, why don't you come join my team at Gracen & Gracen.

(Jim gives his business card to Sykes.)

JIM

Call me.

(Jim leaves.)

LUCINDA

All right it worked. You tricked them into offering you a job. I still don't like it. You could get yourself killed.

SYKES

Mr Profit is alike to be in more danger than I will.

END OF INTRO.

CREDITS ROLLING.

END OF CREDITS

CUT TO

SCENE #5

[EXT. CASTLE MAR HOTEL - DAY]

CUT TO

[INT. BOBBY'S ROOM, CASTLE MAR HOTEL - DAY]

(Jim and Bobby enter Bobby's suite.)

BOBBY

Oh , Jimmy ! This is what I call living. Oh , a fireplace.

(She goes to the fireplace.)

BOBBY

A fireplace of my very own.

(She turns back, looks at the bedroom.)

BOBBY

Oh God, look at that bedroom. This is what Grandma Luve would have called boudoir **field** for two.

(She drops her leather jacket on the floor and goes into the room.)

(jim picks her jacket and put in on the couch.)

JIM

Well I'm glad you like it, Bobby.

BOBBY

I love it !

(He goes into the bedroom.)

(She notices the big screen TV.)

BOBBY

Oh this is just too much.

JIM

And this...

(He opens the dresser.)

JIM

Is your new wardrobe. It's all been prearranged you've got casual, evening, and formal wear.

(She gets a dress out and put it on her to see how it looks.)

BOBBY

I feel just like Cinderella.

(Jim is looking through a notepad. He looks at her.)

JIM

Mhh..And here we have the tools of your new profession.

BOBBY

Profession ? Baby I ain't workin'.

JIM

Oh Bobby, I'll do the actual work for you.

You're going to be a decorator. I think it's a terrific way for you to meet rich potential husbands.

(She sits ont the bed.)

BOBBY

Oh, you really did learn a lot in them colleges, didn't you ?

(jim smiles.)

JIM

Mmmh.

(He looks at his watch.)

JIM

Well, I'm due to a reception. Enjoy.

(He starts to leave.)

BOBBY

Jimmy ?

(He stops.)

JIM

Yeah ?

(He sounds irritated.)

BOBBY

You being so good to me like this, it touches me.

(he gest up and gets closer to him.)

BOBBY

It's like your porr old daddy used to say.

(She puts her arms on his shoulders around his neck.)

BOBBY

"Family, is everything."

(She kisses him.)

BOBBY

Let's not forget that. Or the fact that I could send you to jail, to the end of times.

(She laughs.)

BOBBY

Life is good !

(She goes into her bedroom.)

(He tampones his lips with a mouchoir.)
(Then he leaves.)

CUT TO

SCENE #6

[EXT. G&G BUILDING - NIGHT]

CHAZ (VOICE OVER)

Welcome to the fold, Jeffrey. We're all terrificly excited to have you on board.

CUT TO

[INT. G&G RECEPTION - NIGHT]

(The executives are having a welcome reception for Jeffre Sykes.)
(Jim, Chaz, Pete and Sykes are together talking.)

SYKES

Thank you Chaz.

(Leonard comes from the back.)

CHAZ

Oh oh Here's one of your biggest fans. I trust the two of you have met.

(Sykes and Leonard shake hands.)

LEONARD

Well I read a lot about you, but I've never had the pleasure in person. Leonard Littman, Chief council.

SYKES

Good to know you Leonard.

LEONARD

Forgive me to talk business after hours, but have you ever heard of a terrific little company called Waste-not garbage ?

PETE (VOICE OVER)

Leonard.

PETE

We can't acquire Waste not. It's run by Evan Karpov, the fellow with a very

(he puts his fingers shaped like a gun, under his chin.)

PETE

..Straight collection policy.

LEONARD

Mr Karpov has never been convicted of a crime. Unless of course you can say that working in the hauling business's a crime. I spoke to your father.

CHAZ

How very thoughtful of you. Jim, look into Waste Not tomorrow.

JIM
Will do.

SYKES
We can look into right now, if you want.

(Sykes gets a pocket pc out of his jacket.)

JIM (VOICE OVER)
That's interesting. It's almost as if Sykes knew Littman was gonna bring up the garbage company. And Leonard claims he's never met Sykes before. We're going to have to take a closer look at..

CUT TO

SCENE #7

[EXT. WASTE NOT GARBAGE DEPOT - DAY]

(A Waste Not garbage truck passes by.)

JIM (VOICE OVER)
...our friend Mr Sykes. People are so rarely what they appear to be. Take...

CUT TO

[INT. EVAN KARPOV OFFICE - DAY]

(Evan Karpov greet Jim in his office with his accountant, and his bodygard.)

JIM (VOICE OVER)
Evan Karpov, for instance.

JIM
Pleasure.

KARPOV
Have a sit.

JIM
Thanks.

(Jim sits, so does Karpov and his accountant.)

JIM (VOICE OVER)
If I hadn't thoroughly researched his past, you would never know he's personally killed half a dozen men. And ordered the death of many more during his illustrious career.

KARPOV
So Mr Profit, I understand Gracen & Gracen's interested in my little company. I have to warn you, I'm very satisfied with operations the way it is.

JIM
Well with the incomes dream your company'ss generating, you should be. The only problem I see is that 30, 35 % of your income is bogus.

I assume you're laundering your drug profits and other illegal income through this company.

(Karpov lifts his hand to prevent the soldier from going to get Jim.)

KARPOV

And I assume you have one hell of an offer to make.

JIM

With all due respect to Edgar, no sly to you, I'm sure he did a fine job doctoring the books, but would they stand to a full blown investigation? One going back say 8, 10 or 12 years.

KARPOV

I'm listening.

JIM

I've gone up against the IRS seven times, Mr Karpov. I've beaten the IRS seven times. Auditing **XXX** is a specialty of mine. The first thing I would is review and...amend your records.

KARPOV

You want to clean my books.

JIM

So to speak. After I've done that and taught Edgar to keep them that way, we'd merge. You'd still remain in control, and receive a 2 million five hundred thousand dollars bonus just for signing. Look at it this way, it's an opportunity. An opportunity for you to spend more time with your family.

(Karpov makes a movement to indicate to the soldier and Edgar to get out of the office.)

KARPOV

I want 3 million for signing.

(He gets up and gets closer.)

You clean the books here with my accountant. Nothing about my other business leaves this building. If anything goes wrong, I don't get a lawyer. I'll kill ya.

CUT TO

SCENE #8

[INT. SYKES' APARTMENT - NIGHT]

(Lucinda's going in. Sykes is going through some papers.)

LUCINDA

Hey !

SYKES

Hey.

(He gets up from the couch to greet her.)

LUCINDA

Two tickets to the philharmonic. Front row center. You can thank me afterwards in a deeply personal way.

(They kiss. He says nothing.)

LUCINDA

Only we're not going are we ?

(Sykes goes back to the couch.)

LUCINDA

Let me guess, things didn't go as planned at G&G.

SYKES

It's not that. Profit knows that Karpov's books are dirty but he's still making the deal. He should be in my office, screaming bloody murder and telling me to contact the authorities.

LUCINDA

Well that was the plan.

(He put his papers down.)

SYKES

I'm sorry, I just have a little trouble telling these corporate guys from the guys in the mob.

LUCINDA

The guys in the mob carry guns.

(he nods.)

SYKES

I have to get my hands on those books.

LUCINDA

And I have two very expensive tickets to the philharmonic.

(He doesn't respond.)

LUCINDA

I put six months into this relationship, you know, the one between me and your obsession ?

(He sighs.)

LUCINDA

I'll tell you what. Why don't you take your obsession to the theater, you two spend all your time together anyway.

(She throws the tickets to him and leaves.)

(He throws them on the coffee table and watches her leave without a sign.)

CUT TO

SCENE #9

[EXT. G&G BUILDING (STOCK) - DAY]

PETE(VOICE OVER)

You've seen this memo ?

CUT TO

[INT. PETE'S OFFICE - DAY]

(Pete's standing up, reading Chaz's memo. Jim is with him.)

PETE

Since Jack is in prison, Chaz appointed himself acting president of acquisitions. Oh this is vintage Chaz. Seems I can have Jack's old office,

(Pete shreds the memo.)

PETE

but not his job.

(Pete hits the desk, which tosses a picture on the ground.)

(Hopefully, Jim catches it up.)

JIM

Pete, don't worry, this whole things' gonna blow over. They're gonna have to name a new president and who's more qualified than you ? This is petty politics really but Jack's office still looks like Jack's office. I don't think anybody wants to be reminded of him right now. You thought about redecorating it ?

(There's a beeping sound.)

SECRETARY (PHONE)

Charles Gracen's on three and your wife is here.

(Pete picks up the phone.)

PETE

Yeah ? Yes, Jim has talk to Waste Not. Well everything looks good.

(There's a knocking on the door. Nora appears on the **seuil** of the office.)

PETE (AT THE BACK)

No we won't forget about the long term association...

(Jim and Nora goes to one another.)

(He kisses her on the cheek.)

JIM

How are you ?

NORA

Good. Pete and I are having lunch.

JIM

That's nice.

PETE

Chaz, I will copy you on everything, I won't even go to the bathroom without calling you first.

(Chaz has hanged up.)

(Pete hangs up.)

PETE

Sorry, honey. Brother from hell !

(They kiss.)

(He holds her in his arms.)

PETE

So what were you two plotting ?

NORA

Well just about you're going to run this entire place some day.

PETE

Ain't she the best.

JIM

Mmmh.

(A telephone rings.)

CUT TO

SCENE #10

[EXT. WASTE NOT GARBAGE OFFICE - DAY]

(A truck leaves.)

JIM (VOICE OVER)

I like what you've done here Edgar.

CUT TO

[INT. EDGAR'S OFFICE - DAY]

(Jim is in front of the computer, Edgar is next to him.)

JIM

Moving the odometers so you can paddle repairs and depreciation.
Mmmh.

Let's just make sure the drivers' card reports match with numbers.

(The interphone buzzes.)

SECRETARY

Mr Profit ? Mr Littman from G&G on two. He says it's important.

(The phone rings, Jim picks up.)

JIM

Sir, Mr Littman, what can I do for you ?

LEONARD (PHONE)

Have you run our spreadsheet program on Waste Not yet ?

JIM

We just started this morning, why ?

CUT TO

[INT. SYKES' OFFICE - DAY]

(Leonard is on the phone, Sykes is at the back, sitting in front of his computer.)

LEONARD

The **damage expert** department has an upgrade on the projective payments program. I just go the new disk s.

JIM (PHONE)

Well amm I'll be in the office later today, I can pick'em up then.

SYKES (WHISPERING)

No, now.

LEONARD

You don't have to do that, I'll modem them to you right now. What's your modem number ?

JIM (PHONE)

It's five Fifty five, 0 one two 0.

(Sykes inserts a disk into the computer.)

LEONARD

Ok, here they come.

(LEGEND : 555-0120, dialing.)

LEONARD

Sorry to put a kick in your day.

JIM (PHONE)

No problem.

(Leonard hangs up the phone.)

LEONARD

What are you up to ? You put a virus on that disk. Nevermind, what I don't know I can't parjur myself with later. As far as I'm concerned we're even. We're even Sykes. If this lands me in a nest of vipers, they'll be suking out venom out of your eye too.

(He leaves.)

(LEGEND : Sending)

(LEGEND : Progrma not yet accepted.)

SYKES

Come on, Mr Profit, all you have to do is hit enter.

CUT TO

[INT. EDGAR'S OFFICE - DAY]

(LEGEND : G&G's new spreadsheet program, version 3.0. Press enter to override ver 2.0)

JIM

Ha the IRS loves spreadsheet.

CUT TO

[INT. SYKES' OFFICE - DAY]

SYKES

Come on.

CUT TO

[INT. EDGAR'S OFFICE - DAY]

(Just as Jim was about to hit enter, Mr Karpov enters Edgar's office.)

KARPOV

How is it going ?

JIM

Swimmingly. In a couple of days you can publish your finances in the Times.

KARPOV

What about the real numbers ? There are certain people I have to report to.

JIM

Well the numbers are buried so deep, Edgar and I are the only two that will be able to find them.

KARPOV

Well that's great, as long as nothing happens to Edgar or you.

(Jim hits enter.)

(LEGEND : COPY)

(LEGEND : Program accepted.)

CUT TO

[INT. SYKES' OFFICE - DAY]

SYKES

Thank you.

FADE TO BLACK.

FADE IN

SCENE #11

[EXT. G&G BUILDING - DAY]

JIM

Sorry I'm late.

CUT TO

[INT. PETE'S OFFICE - DAY]

(Jim enters Pete's office, Bobby's already here.)

JIM

Bobby, this is Pete gracen.

(They shake hands.)

JIM

Bobby's a very talented decorator.

PETE

It's a pleasure.

(Bobby takes a look around.)

BOBBY

Well, well well well well. This is not you. You are way too masculine for this office.

PETE

Well I like her already.

(Bobby get out drawings.)

BOBBY

See if there's anything here that catches your fancy.

(She shows him the pictures.)

PETE

Oh I like that.

BOBBY

The lack of colour's very...

(Sh turns back to Jim.)

(Jim mumbles to her : Non-judgmental.)

BOBBY

Non-judgmental.

PETE

Well I wouldn't want to be judgmental.

(Jim notices Joanne in the hallway.)

JIM

Pete, would you excuse me for just a second ?

PETE

Sure.

JIM

Thanks.

(Jim goes out and meets Joanne.)

JIM

Joanne ! Is that that new background I asked for ?

JOANNE

Yes, I did call Chaz to make sure he authorized it. You're so creative with memos.

(He takes the file she carried.)

JIM

Uhh thank you.

(Joanne looks at Pete's office and sees Bobby and Pete

JOANNE

I didn't realize Pete knew your step-mother.

JIM

Step-mother ? She's an interior decorator. I'm just tryin' to help her find some work.

JOANNE

That's your story and you're sticking to it. Just don't expect me to buy it.

JIM

You know what ? You're right. But unfortunately I can't talk about it without breaking her anonymity.

JOANNE

Oh you met her at AA.

JIM

Yeah.

(She sees her and Pete **trinquer.**)

JOANNE

She hasn't got tha no-drinking part yet.

JIM

Well uh, you know what they say?. One day at time.

(Pete and Bobby drink.)

(Jim and Joanne start to walk.)

JOANNE

Yeah that's what Elizabeth says. You remember Jack's wife, Elizabeth ? She live in Fulton now, to be nera the prison.

JIM

Joanne, listen, I know you had a special relationship with Jack, I'm no shrink, but I understand it's easier for you to be angry with me, than understand He deceived us all. Ok ? You want to come in my office ?

(He opens the door and enters, followed by Joanne, then he closes it.)

CUT TO

SCENE #12

[INT. SYKES' OFFICE - NIGHT]

(Sykes is still in front of his computer. He inserts a new disk.)

SYKES

Here we go.

(He types.)

(LEGEND : 555-0120, transferring)

SYKES

Karpov's files, come to papa.

CUT TO

[EXT. WASTE NOT GARBAGE OFFICE - NIGHT]

CUT TO

[INT. WASTE NOT GARBAGE OFFICE - NIGHT]

(A guard is playing with a gameboy.)
(The computer is runnign with the Waste not logo on it.)
(LEGEND : Transferring.)

CUT TO

[INT. SYKES' OFFICE - NIGHT]

(Sykes put on his jacket, prepares to leave.)

CUT TO

[INT. WASTE NOT GARBAGE OFFICE - NIGHT]

(Edgar comes into the office.)

EDGAR

I forgot to countersign the payroll tax.

(he picks something in a drawer. He notices the file transfer on the computer.)

(LEGEND : FILE EMPTY)

EDGAR

What's going on ?

(He hits a few keys.)

EDGAR

Someone's draining the file !

(He plugs out the modem at the back of the computer too late.)

CUT TO

[INT. SYKES' OFFICE - NIGHT]

(Sykes takes his disk out of the computer.)

SYKES

Bye bye now.

(He leaves.)

CUT TO

SCENE #13

[INT. JIM'S OFFICE - DAY]

(Jim is holding Sykes' picture and the report.)

JIM

Have you discover if Sykes had ever worked with our chief legal counselor Leonard Littman ?

JOANNE (VOICE OVER)

During his law school, Sykes clerked for Dodsens Bremmer and Faye.

(She sits.)

JOANNE

Littman had a file class action suit against their client Bigalow drugs for manufacturing a heart medicine in the wrong dosage.

JOANNE

Bigalow won at the first trial, but Littman discovered that Bigalow were suppressing their own research studies. He won three hundred million on appeal.

JIM

Wow. Pfu. You think Sykes fed Littman the research.

JOANNE

No I know he did. I talked to a partner who worked for Dodsens Bremmer and Faye that year.

JIM

What about personal life ?

JOANNE

His girlfriend is Lucinda Lovett, the designer. She was convicted twice for drug possession. Last bust was five years ago, she seems pretty clean now.

JIM

Who's Reed Fisher ?

JOANNE

Sykes' best friend. They grew up together.

JIM

Why is that name sound so familiar.

JOANNE

Fisher was an innvestigator reporter for the Philadelphia Eagle. He disappeared three years ago while on assignment.

JIM

Doing an expose on Evan Karpov. Karpov killed Sykes best friend.

JOANNE

The police couldn't prove a thing. Feds came up empty too.

(Sykes is walking across the hallway. He stops, turns back and salutes Jim by the window.)

(Jim notices makes him a little wave.)

JOANNE

Say aren't you in some sort of deal with Evan Karpov. Sure hope you don't end up in little **bitty** pices.

CUT TO

SCENE #14

[INT. AGENT BRIGGS OFFICE - NIGHT]

(Briggs is seated in his chair.)
(The phone rings.)
(He pick it up, coughs.)

BRIGGS
Agent Briggs.

SYKES (PHONE)
It's Sykes, How are you ?

BRIGGS
I was bad. But now I'm hearing from you, I'm worse.

SYKES (PHONE)
This isn't

CUT TO

[INT. SYKES' APPARTMENT - NIGHT]

(Sykes is fixing up a plate of fruit. He speaks on the phone.)

SYKES
About Karpov killing Reed. It's about Karpov's tax evasion. His backdoor deals with the other families, his drug and protection money , how he launders it.

CUT TO

[INT. AGENT BRIGGS OFFICE - NIGHT]

BRIGGS
When you have proof of these allegations, don't hesitate

CUT TO

[INT. SYKES' APPARTMENT - NIGHT]

BRIGGS
..To give us a tinkle.

SYKES
Anthony, don't hang up. I've got proof. I got copies of his records going back

CUT TO

[INT. AGENT BRIGGS OFFICE - NIGHT]

SYKES (PHONE)
..ten years.

BRIGGS
You're not big on letting go are you ?

CUT TO

[INT. SYKES' APPARTMENT - NIGHT]

BRIGGS (PHONE)

One question. And try to remember you're talking to an FBI agent..

(Sykes opens a cd case.)

CUT TO

[INT. AGENT BRIGGS OFFICE - NIGHT]

BRIGGS

Did you come to posses these records through legitimate means ?

CUT TO

[INT. SYKES' APPARTMENT - NIGHT]

(He opens the cd player.)

SYKES

Of course, Anthony. On normal performance at my new job at Gracen & Gracen I discovered them.

BRIGGS

Close enough.

CUT TO

SCENE #15

[EXT. WASTE NOT GARBAGE OFFICE - NIGHT]

(Jim types the entrance code of the door and enters.)

CUT TO

[INT. EDGAR'S OFFICE - NIGHT]

(Jim opens Edgar's office door. Edgar is in front of the computer with Evan Karpov and his guard.)

KARPOV

Good evening, Jim. I understand we have a little problem.

(LEGEND : Password required.)

(Jim is standing behind Edgar who's typing on the computer.)

JIM

Undelete.

(Edgar types.)

EDGAR

Not available.

(karpov is at the back, talking on th ephone.)

KARPOV

That's a start, Warren. Just keep reaching everyone we know.

(He hangs up the phone.)

EDGAR

It's totally erased, I can't retrieve anything.

(LEGEND : FILE EMPTY)

(Karpov gets back to Jim and Edgar.)

KARPOV

So ?

EDGAR

It's gone..everything..the stuff we cleaned, the stuff we didn't.

(Edgar sighs.)

KARPOV

Jim ?..

(He makes sign to Jim.)

JIM

Keep working.

CUT TO

[INT. EVAN KARPOV'S OFFICE - NIGHT]

(The guard, Jim and Karpov enter his office.)

(He closes the door.)

KARPOV

I was just talking to one of my lawyers in Washington. He's in connection with the FBI. Seems that they're sending an agent out here who expects to get his hands on my business record in the next twelve hours.

JIM

I did not do his to you.

KARPOV

Do you know the people these records implicate ? Do you have any idea what they'll do to me, if the FBI catches them ?

(He grabs Jim by his jacket and throws him on the door, breaking the window.)

(Edgar jumps off hi chair.)

JIM

If I stole your records, why would I come back here tonight to get them. I didn't do it.

JIM

Fellow named Jeffrey Sykes did it.

JIM

He's a lawyer, he just came to work at G&G

KARPOV (TO HIS GUARD)

Take him somewhere and kill him.

JIM

He was Reed Fisher's best friend. Ring a bell ?
A lot of people seem to think that you killed Reed Fisher. Sykes
can't prove it so he's gonna get you this way.

KARPOV

You're quick on your feet. Except, how did Sykes get my records if
he's never been here ?

JIM

Electronically. He fed me a spreadsheet program with a stuff virus
which he used to invade your system.

KARPOV

Electronically.

JIM

Yeah.

KARPOV (TO EDGAR)

You can do that ?

EDGAR

Yes sir, yeah.

JIM

Look, we're both in the same boat, you've got 12 hours, give'em to me
I can get your records back, I know where Sykes is weak.

KARPOV

Well let me tell you where I am not weak, Mr Profit. I hand fed that
son of a bitch Reed Fisher to the rats and him I kinda liked. What do
you think I might do to you ?

(Jim nods he doesn't know.)

KARPOV

12 hours.

(Jim opens the door and leaves.)

KARPOV

Keep an eye on him.

CUT TO

SCENE #16

[INT. SYKES APARTMENT - NIGHT]

(Lucinda comes in)

LUCINDA

If you thought sending me all those roses and tentalizing love notes
was gonna work...you were right.

(She kisses him on the lips.)

LUCINDA

Mmmh, what are we celebrating ?

SYKES

The end of Evan Karpov. I got his records.

LUCINDA

Thank God.

CUT TO

SCENE #17

[EXT. JOANNE'S HOUSE - NIGHT]

(Jim goes to Joanne's house.)

(He almost tries to break into, but at the last moment, he knocks.)

(Joanne opens the door with the lock still on.)

JIM

Joanne, hi. Sorry to disturb you.

JOANNE

What happened to you ?

JIM

It's not important. You left something out of your report. The fact that Sykes blackmailed Littman to get his job at G&G didn't you ?

JOANNE

I never said that.

JIM

Well you said you spoke to a partner who worked at the law firm where Sykes was clerking at when he leaked the drug research to Littman

JOANNE

That conversation was off the record, on the grounds I protect this person's anonymity. You know, kinda like what you're doing for Bobby.

JIM

I need the name of that partner.

JOANNE

Do you ? I'd like to know why you introduced your step-mother to Pete Gracen. Feel like tellin' me ?.. No.. Good night.

(She tries to close the door, but Jim put his hand on the way.)

JIM

Joanne, you're crossing the line here.

JOANNE

What line ?

JIM

You have responsibilities to Gracen & Gracen. This is got nothing to do with me, ok ? This is about Sykes harming the company.

JOANNE

Syke isn't the one who got us to deal with a crook, you are. And if Sykes can get us out of that deal, he's helping G&G. You crossed the line when you got into bed with Evan Karpov, and if he means to harm you, well Jim, I'm sorry, I just don't think I'm gonna be losing much sleep over that. Good night.

(She tries once again to close the door, but he puts his hand on the way.)

JIM

Joanne. You open this door and you give me the name of that partner.

JOANNE

Oh please Jim break down the door. Give me an excuse to blow your psychopathic head off.

(They stare at each other, then he leaves.)

(She closes the door.)

FADE TO BLACK

FADE IN

SCENE #18

[INT. SYKES' APPARTMENT - NIGHT]

(Lucinda and Sykes are kisssing. The phone rings.)

(Sykes answers.)

SYKES

It's better be greatly important.

CUT TO

[INT. AGENT BRIGGS' OFFICE - NIGHT]

(He's on the phone.)

BRIGGS

We got a problem. The old man says that the bust will never stick unless we have the records in Karpov's possession. I'm cancelling my flight.

CUT TO

[INT. SYKES' APPARTMENT - NIGHT]

SYKES

Don't. I'll get them in his possession.

CUT TO

[INT. AGENT BRIGGS' OFFICE - NIGHT]

BRIGGS

How ?

SYKES (PHONE)

I'll do it.

CUT TO

[INT. SYKES' APPARTMENT - NIGHT]

SYKES

And you'll get a big promotion.

BRIGGS (PHONE)

Yeah right.

CUT TO

[INT. AGENT BRIGGS' OFFICE - NIGHT]

BRIGGS

You're at least blowin' my ear, you're gonna leave me around like this.

CUT TO

[INT. SYKES' APPARTMENT - NIGHT]

SYKES

Anthony, please !

CUT TO

[INT. AGENT BRIGGS' OFFICE - NIGHT]

BRIGGS

I'll be there.

(He hangs up the phone.)

CUT TO

SCENE #19

[INT. JIM'S APPARTMENT - NIGHT]

(Jim is sitting naked behind his computer.)

(He's running the office simulation program and gets into Sykes' office.)

(He clicks on the details CGI button.)

(The cover of the magazine 'Figment' appears.)

(Next appears a section called '2-Hip couples', with a picture of Sykes and Lucinda.)

JIM (VOICE OVER)

The popular designer makes herself beautiful, at her antique vanity table, next to her roomy walking closet. Vanity...

(We hear a phone dialing.)

CUT TO

[INT. SYKES' APPARTMENT - NIGHT]

(Sykes is on the phone.)

JIM (PHONE)

It seems you've taken something that doesn't belong to you Jeff.

SYKES

What do you want ?

JIM (PHONE)

I want you to give'em back to me. Tomorrow morning at Lucinda's fashion show.

CUT TO

[INT. JIM'S APPARTMENT - NIGHT]

JIM

If you decide not to, if you decide to share this conversation with anyone else, especially that FBI agent who's flying out here,

SYKES (PHONE)

How do you know about that ?

JIM

Please, don't interrupt me, Jeff. If you decide to do anything besides giving me the records, Lucinda's life is over.

CUT TO

[INT. SYKES' APPARTMENT - NIGHT]

JIM (PHONE)

Sleep tight.

(Jim hangs up. Sykes sighs.)

CUT TO

[INT. JIM'S APPARTMENT - NIGHT]

(Jim is still behind his computer.)

(LEGEND : SPEED DIAL.)

(The number is dialed.)

(LEGEND : SMART BUY ALL NIGHT PHARMACY.)

SMART BUY (PHONE)

Smart buy pharmacy

JIM

Do you deliver ?

SMART BUY (PHONE)

24 hours a day.

JIM

I need some baby laxative, two small boxes and some extra strength aspirin please.

CUT TO

SCENE #20

[EXT. CASTLE MAR HOTEL - DAY]

CUT TO

[EXT. BOBBY'S ROOM - DAY]

(A gloved hand knocks on the door of the room 702.)

CUT TO

[INT. BOBBY'S ROOM - DAY]

(Bobby's in her bed, watching TV.)

BOBBY (YELLING)
It's open !

(Jim enters her bedroom. He's puzzled by the TV.)
(She shuts the sound of the TV.)

BOBBY
Hey, Jimmy, what'd ya want ?

JIM
You.

BOBBY
Well it's a little early, but what the hell ?

JIM
Hey that's my girl.

(He goes to the bed and starts undressing.)

BOBBY
Ouh, somebody got hurt. I kinda like that.

JIM
May I use that bathroom, Bobby ?

BOBBY
Well if you have to.

(He goes to the bathroom.)

BOBBY
Hey, I'll even turn the TV off for you.

(Jim is in the bathroom.)

BOBBY (VOICE OVER)
To avoid morning performance anxiety.

(Jim loses his tie neck.)

JIM (VOICE OVER)
Bobby prefers to hide her dope in the bathroom in case she's got to shoot up when she's got company.

(Jim picks a box up.)
(In the bedroom, Bobby fixes the tape recorder on the night stand.)

BOBBY
Hurry up sugar. I got the tape recorder prepared and everything.

(In the bathroom, Jim finds the dope inside the box.)
(The phone rings, Bobby answers it.)

BOBBY (VOICE OVER)
Hello ?

JIM
Bobby, bobby, bobby...

(Jim takes several dope bags and put them into his shirt's breast pocket.

BOBBY (VOICE OVER)
Phone ! For you !

(Jim gets out of the bathroom.)
(He takes the phone.)

JIM
This is Jim Profit, this better be important.

CUT TO

[INT. GAIL'S OFFICE - DAY]

GAIL
Uh you told me to call at exactly nine fifteen.

CUT TO

[INT. BOBBY'S ROOM - DAY]

JIM
What ! No we had a deal. No, don't do anything, I'm on my way.
(he hangs up the phone.)

CUT TO

[INT. GAIL'S OFFICE - DAY]

(Gails hangs up the phone, not understanding what he said.)

CUT TO

[INT. BOBBY'S ROOM - DAY]

JIM
You're not gonna believe this one.

BOBBY
What ?

JIM
A 20 million-dollar negociation is about to go up in smoke if I don't talk a saoudi arms dealer back at the table.

BOBBY
Oh really ? So you just think you're going to leave me here like this ?

JIM
Some decisions are hard to make Bobby, this one's sex or money.
Suites like this are very expensive. What's it gonna be ?

BOBBY
Hit the road, baby.

CUT TO

SCENE #21

[LUCINDA'S FASHION SHOW - DAY]

(Models are *défiler*)

(Backstage, Sykes is standing up next to a curtain.)

(Jim comes right next to him.)

JIM

Good morning, Jeff. Lucinda looks so beautiful doesn't she ?

(They both take a look at her.)

JIM

You'd never believe she had a couple of drug bust in her past.

(Lucinda looks very pleased with the way things are going.)

JIM (VOICE OVER)

Do you know what would happen if she was convicted again, say for possession

JIM

With intent to deal ?

(He looks at Sykes, he looks back.)

(Jim laughs ironically.)

JIM

Of course you do, you're a lawyer. That 3 strikes law kicks in, she's going to prison for the rest of her life, that's a mess really.

SYKES

She doesn't use drugs.

JIM

I know, I know. But do you see that gentleman out there.

(He points his finger to someone.)

(A man is standing behind the audience.)

JIM (VOICE OVER)

With the trench coat ? He's a cop.

JIM

He got a phone call this morning about Lucinda. He's just waiting for another tip to tell him where she stashes her dope. Maybe it's her handbag you know, or her office, or maybe that vanity table, you know the antique one next to that walking closet at her house.

SYKES

You were in her apartment ?

JIM

Well...

So what's it gonna be pal ? karpov's records, Lucinda's future. I'd choose number one if I were you.

(Sykes waits a moment, stares at Lucinda dressing up a model, then takes the disk from his jacket and handles it to Jim.)

SYKES
Everything's on it.

JIM
Thank you. Oh one more thing, Jeff. Nothing personal, but it doesn't seem it's working out for you at G&G? It's too bad really. Let's have your resignation on Chaz's desk by the end of business today mmhh ?

(Jim winks at him.)

JIM
Take care.

(Jim leaves.)

CUT TO

(The office simulation goes into Sykes virtual office.)
(Sykes' character explodes.)

FADE TO BLACK

FADE IN

SCENE #22

[EXT. WASTE NOT COMPANY - DAY]

(A truck leaves.)

[INT. KARPOV'S OFFICE - DAY]

(Jim enters the office, he stares at the frame where the window was broken.)

JIM
You really oughta get this fixed.

(He goes to Karpov, seated behind his desk)

JIM
Everything goes back to where it belongs. Put that in a safe place, it's got both sets of records on it, clean and private.

(He gives the disk to Karpov.)

JIM
It's good to be back in business with you.

(They shake hands.)

KARPOV
What about this guy Sykes ?

JIM
Sykes ? I don't think he's gonna be bothering us anymore.

(The FBI breaks in. Karpov hitman stands up quickly with a hand in his jacket.)

BRIGGS

Federal agence. Evan Karpov, you're under arrest to the frauding the United states government and its internal revenue service, and for laundering illegal income.

(Briggs kicks the chair which I in his way and cuffs Karpov.)
(Sykes comes into the office, and stand next to Jim.)

BRIGGS (VOICE OVER)

You have the right to remain silent. Everything you say can and will be used against you in court of law. Do you understand your rights Mr Karpov ?

KARPOV

Oh yes I understand.

(Karpov stares at Jim. Jim doesn't understand what's happening.)

BRIGGS

Let's make a note on the record, Mr karpov had the records in his possession at the time of arrest.

(Briggs handles the disk to an agent.)
(The start to take Karpov, Sykes stops them.)

SYKES

Hang out a second. You don't know me, but you knew a friend of mine, Reed Fisher ? So why don't you think of the next 25 years as a little presetn from him.

(They take Karpov away.)
(Briggs goes to shake Sykes hand.)

BRIGGS

Well you said you would get them into Karpov's hands and you did.

SYKES

Thanks Anthony, I appriciate it.

(Briggs leaves.)

SYKES

I just want to thank you Jim. I don't know what we could have done without you.

(He shows his hand to shake Jim's.)
(Jim looks at him, puzzled.)
(He takes his glove off and shakes Sykes' hand.)

JIM

Oh well you know I tried to help wherver I can.

SYKES

Why don't we get a few things straight ? You threaten someone I love. Maybe you were desperate and felt your life was in jeopardy and you had to. That's ok. It's **lease notes**. I'm not come down for you. And I don't expect you to come down for me. But you need to understand, if anything, **XXXXXX**, happens to me and mine **again** I will wipe the floor with you.

Oh and, Jim, I'm not resigning. Kinda like it to be on the power side.

CUT TO

(Sykes virtuel character pieces come back together.)

CUT TO

SCENE #23

[INT. G&G HALLWAY - DAY]

(Chaz is walking, pissed off, followed by Jim.)

CHAZ

Well, it's not enough that I had an idiot brother in acquisitions, now I have Sykes, in business affairs. Do you realiez he's insane, He doesn't give a damn whether we make money or we lose money. I can't fire him, the press would flame me. Just what the hell were you thinking ?

JIM

It was the best solution to a bad problem.

CHAZ

Instead of acquiring Waste-not like I told you to, you subjected Mr Karpov to a witch hunt. Something like this happens again and you'll be looking for employment elsewhere.

(Chaz climbs the stairs and leaves Jim in the hall.)

(Jim sighs and turns back. He falls on Joanne.)

JOANNE

Wow, he's really upset.

JIM

Do you have something you want to talk to me about, Joanne.

(He starts to walk, like he's fleeing from her.)

(She follows him. He stops.)

JOANNE

I need your advice about something. I'm writing letters to Jack, in prison. And I can't wait to tell about the new guy Sykes, and how he's running circle around you. But do I tell him that Evan Karpov is gonna kill you for having betrayed him or do I wait for the next letter, sort of spread out the good news.

JIM

Whichever one you choose, be sure you give him my best.

(Jim leaves. Joanne smiles, looks satisfied.)

CUT TO

SCENE #24

[INT. G&G CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY]

(Chaz is holding up a press conference.)

CHAZ

When we discovered something was'nt quite right about Mr Karpov's books, we immediately contacted the appropriate authorities, and cooperate fully at his arrest. We're espacially proud of the roles played by our new business affairs VP, Jeffrey Sykes, and our acquisitions VP, Jim Profit.

LUCINDA (VOICE OVER)

You let that creature

CUT TO

SCENE #25

[INT. SYKES' APPARTMENT - NIGHT]

LUCINDA

Put drugs into my perse

SYKES

You were never in danger.

LUCINDA

What if you had to choose between me and reaching your almighty objective. What if he had you in a real vice.

SYKES

It didn't happen..

LUCINDA (INTERRUPTING HIM)

What if he did !

SYKES

Then I would have lost.

(He grabs her by her arms.)

SYKES

I promise it will never happen again.

LUCINDA

No it won't. Let me ask you something. You couldhave chosen any corporations to get at Karpov. Why G&G ?

SYKES

It's personal.

LUCINDA

I know, Jay. That's why you need to tell me.

SYKES

No, I can't.

LUCINDA

I hope you find, whatever it is that youwant there, and I hope it was worth losing me.

(She leaves.)

JIM (VOICE OVER)

Failure. It's a much better teacher than success.

CUT TO

SCENE #26

[INT. JIM'S APPARTMENT - NIGHT]

(Jim's sitting behind is computer, in his homeplace.)

Jim (VOICE OVER)

My failure was an underestimating of my competition, which was far more complex and dangerous than I had suspected. I'll know better next time.

(On chinese whadows, Jim mocks a gun with his fingers and shoot at Sykes' picture on the computer screen.)

(LEGEND : incoming call)

(Jim click answer and clicks on the ansxering machine.)

JIM (MACHINE)

This is Jim Profit, please leave a message.

BOBBY

You ain't gonna believe what happen to me, some wsipe ass lowlife married to his cousin drug dealer sold me a bunch of baby laxative. You can trust nobody in this cheap ass world. You'd better get your butt over here Jimmy. I need money and I need loving.

JIM (VOICE OVER)

Sorry, mom. Servicing you tonight is the least of my troubles.

CUT TO

SCENE #27

[EXT. PRISON - NIGHT]

(Evan Karpov's looking through his cell window.)

C.O. (VOICE OVER)

How are you doing, Mr Karpov ?

CUT TO

[INT. KARPOV'S CELL BLOCK - NIGHT]

C.O.

Everything ok, anything we can do for you ?

KARPOV

Yeah, I really need a..

C.O.

Hold on, I'm still talking here. Now me and my buddies that guard this septic tank, we know a friend of yours, Jim Profit. He's gotten us all a monthly stiping, good money too, but we're all hoping that you clock him anyway. You want to know why ? Cause if something bad happens to him, like an accident, then all we have to do is bash your head in, and we get this majot cash bonus from hos estate. Isn't that fantastic ?

(Karpov's get deeper in his cell and seats on his bunk, defeated.)

C.O.

Oh, don't throw the towel comrade. I really want to put a pool in the backyard.

(the C.O. grins and goes away.)

CUT TO

[EXT. G&G - NIGHT]

(Jim gets out of the building and opens his umbrella.)

(A car starts and drives fast, avoids other cars and stops right in front of Jim as he crosses the road. He doesn't blink.)

WOMAN

Oh God, I'm so sorry, I didn't see you. Are you alright ?

JIM

I'll be just fine.

(he leaves.)

THE END.