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# ELI STONE

#E112

"WAITING FOR THAT DAY"

WRITTEN BY

OSCAR BALDERRAMA

&

ANNA BETH CHAO

## \*YELLOW REVISIONS

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## ELI STONE

"Waiting For That Day"

### CAST

ELI STONE  
JORDAN WETHERSBY  
TAYLOR WETHERSBY  
(BETH KELLER)  
PATTI DELLACROIX  
MATT DOWD  
DR. CHEN  
NATHAN STONE  
MAGGIE DEKKER

Jonny Lee Miller  
Victor Garber  
Natasha Henstridge  
Laura Benanti  
Loretta Devine  
Sam Jaeger  
James Saito  
Matt Letscher  
Julie Gonzalo

Marci Klein  
Dr. Rajapaksa  
**\*Daniel Foote (formerly Ted)**  
**\*(Samuel Kohler - omitted)**  
Judge Gaitan  
Charissa Nakauchi  
Nigel Banks  
Nicole Foote  
Paul Miller  
Scott Colby (Driver)  
Partner #1  
Taxi Driver

Katey Sagal  
John Billingsley  
Tom Irwin

## ELI STONE

"Waiting For That Day"

### SETS

#### INTERIORS

WETHERSBY, POSNER & KLEIN (W.P.K.)

- CONFERENCE ROOM
- LIBRARY
- JORDAN'S OFFICE
- TAYLOR'S OFFICE
- MATT'S OFFICE
- PATTI'S DESK
- MAGGIE'S DESK
- MEZZANINE LEVEL
- WORK AREA
- RECEPTION

DR. CHEN'S OFFICE

STATE COURT

- HALLWAY

DANIEL FOOTE'S HOUSE

- KITCHEN

DR. RAJAPAKSA'S OFFICE

CITY HALL

- AIDE'S OFFICE

A SMALL HATCHBACK (DRIVING)

TAXI

#### EXTERIORS

DANIEL FOOTE'S HOUSE

GOLDEN GATE PARK

SAN FRANCISCO STREET (OUTSIDE RAJAPAKSA'S)

SAN FRANCISCO SUBURB

LE PETIT TABLE

ACT ONE

CLOSE ON ELI, staring through an aquarium full of pretty fish.

DR. RAJAPAKSA  
Mr. Stone?

1 INT. DR. RAJAPAKSA'S OFFICE. DAY.

1

REVEAL DR. SANJAY RAJAPAKSA standing behind his desk, watching Eli.

DR. RAJAPAKSA  
Mr. Stone. Please, sit down.

ELI  
Oh. Yeah. Sorry. Cool fish.

Both men sit. The good doctor reads over Eli's file while Eli fidgets in a trapped way.

DR. RAJAPAKSA  
Your pre-op exam looks promising.

ELI  
Well, I studied hard.  
(off Rajapaksa)  
Little joke.

DR. RAJAPAKSA  
Vitals look good, blood pressure normal, heart is healthy. It looks like we're all set.

ELI  
To take out the aneurysm.

DR. RAJAPAKSA  
I thought we were removing your gallbladder.  
(off Eli)  
"Little joke."

Eli's fidgeting becomes more pronounced.

DR. RAJAPAKSA  
You seem nervous.

ELI  
Why would I be nervous? It's not like we're talking about going into my skull with sharp instruments and a high likelihood that I'll lose my ability to speak, and that's if I don't lose my ability to, y'know, live.

(CONTINUED)

1 CONTINUED:

1

DR. RAJAPAKSA  
Given the risk, in these  
circumstances I recommend that  
patients get their affairs in order.

ELI  
I'm feeling calmer already.

DR. RAJAPAKSA  
All I mean to say is there can be  
issues that arise regarding how to  
handle the patient's care. The  
proper legal documentation can help  
resolve any roadblocks.

ELI  
You're telling me to draft a will?

DR. RAJAPAKSA  
A living will. A document that  
clarifies your wishes should you  
become unable to express them  
yourself. I'm sure you know a few  
good lawyers.

Off Rajapaksa, humorless, then Eli, even more so...

ELI (PRELAP)  
Taxi!

2 EXT. SAN FRANCISCO STREET. MOMENTS LATER.

2

Eli desperately trying to flag down a taxi. He waves his  
arms wildly as the yellow car flies by him.

ELI  
Jerk. Taxi!

More waving, with some jumping. Finally, a taxi pulls over.

ELI  
One-oh-One Federal Street,  
Downtown, please.

Eli climbs into the taxi --

3 INT. TAXI/A SMALL HATCHBACK. CONTINUOUS.

3

The DRIVER (young, male) is talking on his cell phone and  
blaring the radio as he pulls into traffic.

(CONTINUED)

3 CONTINUED:

3

DRIVER  
(into phone)  
Yeah, I'm almost there, macaroni.  
I'm on the Golden Gate Bridge right  
now. Yes, the big orangey one.

ELI  
Golden Gate? I said Downtown.

Eli looks out his window and sees that he is, indeed, ON THE GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE. Startled, he finally notices that he's not in a cab, but in the back seat of some guy's HATCHBACK. Surrounded by clutter. Great.

He notices that the Driver *can't see him*? Eli reaches forward and waves his hand of the man's face. Nothing.

ELI  
Great. A vision.  
(louder)  
Excuse me, I'm late for work, so if  
you could just go ahead with the  
singing or whatever, I'd really  
appreciate it.

ON THE RADIO  
*...Twenty-Twenty Newsradio. Around  
the world in twenty minutes. It's  
Thursday the twenty-fourth, the  
time is five-thirteen...*

ELI  
(yelling to the heavens)  
No, it's not! It's Monday, the  
twenty-first and it's ten in the  
morning!

Then, as if in response, there is a... shaking. Then a tremor. Then a rumble. IT'S AN EARTHQUAKE!

(CONTINUED)

3 CONTINUED: (2)

3

ELI  
Oh God, not again...

The sounds of LOUD RUMBLING, TIRES SCREECHING, and CARS CRASHING in front of them.

BRIDGE WIRES SNAP AND SPARK. The Driver throws the cell phone down and fights to keep the car under control...

ELI  
Please let this be a vision please  
let this be a vision!

The car skids. Then... WHAM! A CABLE smashes the windshield...

TAXI DRIVER (PRELAP)  
I said, where are you going?

4 INT. TAXI. DAY.

4

Eli looks around. Sitting back inside the taxicab now. The TAXI DRIVER is looking at Eli expectantly --

ELI  
Um. Chinatown. I'm going to  
Chinatown.  
(adding)  
And stay off the Golden Gate.

5 INT. DR. CHEN'S OFFICE. DAY.

5

DR. CHEN listens as Eli paces, freaking out about the vision.

ELI  
As if one fake earthquake  
hallucination wasn't enough, now  
I'm getting one directed by Michael  
Bay!  
(pointing at his head)  
It's like the aneurysm knows, Chen.  
It knows I'm trying to take it out,  
so it's trying to scare me with  
crappy big-budget sequels.

DR. CHEN  
Personifying your aneurysm? That's  
kinda weird, dude.

ELI  
It's like, Jonah. God kept talking  
to him when he wouldn't believe.  
(off Chen, surprised)  
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

5 CONTINUED:

5

ELI (CONT'D)

Yeah. I've been reading up. "Big storm." "Swallowed by a fish." You want to get all Trivial Pursuit on me, bring it.

DR. CHEN

Okay, Jonah still was a prophet, albeit a stubborn one. You're kinda making my point for me.

Eli fidgets, reluctant to say because of the implications...

ELI

I saw when it happens.

DR. CHEN

When the earthquake hits?

ELI

In three days. At five-thirteen pm.

DR. CHEN

Eli, you have to tell people.

ELI

I don't think so. Remember Silver Terrace? How I bribed a judge, kicked families out of their homes...?

DR. CHEN

And what if this earthquake vision is a validation of the first? Like Jonah hearing the voice of God twice?

ELI

I hate you sometimes...

DR. CHEN

You think that aneurysm of your's is bad? How do you think you're gonna feel when hundreds of people die and you could've done something to stop it?

ELI

I can't do anything. My "super powers" don't extend to stopping earthquakes, and if I barely believe me, who else is going to?

Off Chen, not entirely sure...

6 INT. W.P.K. CONFERENCE ROOM. DAY.

6

MARCI KLEIN sits at the table, finishing a PHONE conversation with an overseas partner.

MARCI KLEIN  
Have Simon babysit Edwards until you get back, Nigel. I need you on a plane to San Francisco tonight. I'm not asking.

She hangs up as Jordan walks in.

JORDAN  
I see you've made yourself right at home.

MARCI KLEIN  
This is my home, remember? We built this place together.

JORDAN  
Which makes it all the more disturbing for me to see you've been lobbying for my ouster.  
(off Marci)  
My name's still the first one on the door, Marci. Did you really think I wouldn't find out?

MARCI KLEIN  
Truth be told, Jordan, I wasn't very concerned either way. I'm more concerned about our top corporate clients running for the door.

JORDAN  
There will be new clients and even some of the former ones will return to the fold.

MARCI KLEIN  
Not Beutel. Not Zyre Motors. They've got their new attorneys drafting malpractice complaints instead.

(CONTINUED)

6 CONTINUED:

6

Jordan tries to hide his surprise.

JORDAN

You've spoken to the CEOs? Without my prior approval?

MARCI KLEIN

With the management committee's. I guess there are some things you're not in the loop on.

(then)

There's a common thread running through the biggest blunders this firm has made.

JORDAN

(knows where she's going)

Eli Stone isn't--

MARCI KLEIN

Your protégé? Your heir apparent? I'd fire him, but he's protected. By an agreement you signed off on.

Jordan bites back --

JORDAN

In my capacity as founding partner, and as managing partner. I think someone's forgotten their place here.

MARCI KLEIN

I think it's you who's forgotten what this place is.

JORDAN

I've done the math, Marci. You don't have the votes to replace me.

MARCI KLEIN

Be sure of that.

Off Marci, gauntlet thrown, then Jordan, ready...

MATT (PRELAP)

It's done.

7 INT. W.P.K. TAYLOR'S OFFICE. DAY.

7

Taylor's at her desk when Matt enters --

(CONTINUED)

7

CONTINUED:

7

MATT

Cancel whatever plans you've got for Wednesday night, we're going to dinner.

TAYLOR

I highly doubt that.

MATT

It might've been chimp-induced psychosis, but I have a pretty accurate memory of you offering to have dinner with me.

TAYLOR

When and if you managed to get a reservation at a restaurant with a six month waiting list. Six months. That was a week ago.

MATT

Suffice it to say, Le Petit Table is now a client of this law firm at a sharply discounted billing rate.

Taylor smiles. It's hard not to be impressed.

TAYLOR

Not bad, Mr. Dowd.

MATT

I take it from the look of surprise on your face you're unaccustomed to dealing with men as capable as the Dowd.

At which point, Eli enters --

MATT

Funny, we were just talking about you.

ELI

Hey. Do you have a second?

TAYLOR

At least sixty of them.

ELI

Actually, I was asking... "the Dowd."

MATT

What's on your structurally-defective mind?

(CONTINUED)

7 CONTINUED: (2)

7

ELI  
I need to schedule some time with you.

MATT  
Gee, buddy, that sounds swell but my social calendar is pretty full these days.

ELI  
It's not a personal matter, it's a legal one. Actually, it's a personal legal matter.

MATT  
Let me guess: You're suing me for dating your ex.

ELI  
No, but it's a good thought. Just let Patti know when you have some time tomorrow. Thanks.

Eli goes. Off Matt and Taylor, curious...

PATTI (PRELAP)  
Did you fall down and hit your aneurysm?

8 INT. W.P.K. PATTI'S DESK. DAY.

8

Eli finds Patti at her desk busily wrapping a very expensive-looking gift. Eli tries to warn Patti about the earthquake in his own sneaky way --

ELI  
You could use a few days off. Get out of town. Far out of town. Go to a spa. Just... avoid the Golden Gate Bridge.

PATTI  
I just got back from a week off.

ELI  
Well, take another one. I'm not too busy around here, especially with the surgery coming up.

She hands Eli the GIFT she's just finished wrapping.

ELI  
Oh Patti, you shouldn't have...

(CONTINUED)

8 CONTINUED:

8

PATTI  
I didn't. That's your engagement  
gift to Maggie.

ELI  
What'd I get her?

PATTI  
An apology for being such an ass  
last week. I used your credit  
card. Here.

She hands Eli a receipt. He reads it, eyes going wide --

ELI  
I'm either very sorry or I'm very  
happy for Maggie.

PATTI  
You're both.

Off Eli, sticker-shocked...

ELI (PRELAP)  
It's for you. For your engagement.

9 INT. W.P.K. MAGGIE'S DESK. SAME.

9

CLOSE ON the gift as Maggie unwraps it. Eli is just as  
curious as she is to see what's inside.

MAGGIE  
This is very nice of you. You  
didn't have to do this.

Maggie fishes around in all the layers of tissue paper and  
pulls out a gorgeous SILVER FRAME. A handwritten note is  
tucked into the edge: *"For a picture of the happy couple."*

MAGGIE  
It's beautiful.

ELI  
I just figured, y'know, while  
Scott's in Ohio he should also...  
be on your desk. In a frame.

MAGGIE  
Actually, he'll be both. He's  
moving out here on Thursday.

ELI  
That's great. I can't wait to meet  
him.

(CONTINUED)

9 CONTINUED: 9

Eli's cell RINGS. He holds one finger up and answers it --

ELI  
Hello?

WE INTERCUT:

10 INT. DR. CHEN'S OFFICE. DAY. 10

Chen on the other end, animated.

DR. CHEN  
Dude, I solved your problem.

ELI  
Sadly, I have to ask: Which one?

DR. CHEN  
Just turn on a TV. Channel 6.

SMASH CUT TO:

11 INT. W.P.K. LIBRARY. DAY. 11

On the cut, Eli steps back from his monitor, tuned to the middle of a local news report.

ON THE TV

There's a man standing on the steps of City Hall. Ranting and exasperated, holding a huge sign: "EARTHQUAKE! GET OUT WHILE YOU CAN! THIS IS THE BIG ONE!!!!"

Meet DR. DANIEL FOOTE (50s, Doc Brown without the hair). \*

DANIEL FOOTE (ON TV) \*

This is no fantasy! No careless product of wild imagination! No, my friends, this is a matter of undeniable scientific fact!

DR. CHEN (O.C.)  
Are you watching? Do you see this?

ELI  
I see a nutcase with a handmade sign and impeccable penmanship.

12 INT. DR. CHEN'S OFFICE. INTERCUT. 12

Chen is watching the same news report on his portable TV --

(CONTINUED)

12 CONTINUED:

12

DR. CHEN  
You wanted to know how to tell everyone about the earthquake so they'd believe you? Listen to this guy. He's a scientist --

DANIEL FOOTE (ON TV) \*  
*And I have predicted with near-absolute certainty that a major seismic event, an earthquake, will strike our fair city!*

ELI  
(deadpan)  
Yes, he sounds very professional.

DANIEL FOOTE (ON TV) \*  
*Through geological prognostication, I've determined that the quake will hit in three days' time -- Thursday.*

DR. CHEN  
Did you hear that? You said in your vision the earthquake hit--

ELI  
Thursday.

As the ON SCREEN REPORTER continues interviewing Daniel, we go off Eli, more than a little freaked now... \*

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

13 EXT. SAN FRANCISCO SUBURB. DAY.

13

Eli and Chen walk up the sidewalk --

ELI  
You didn't have to chaperone.

DR. CHEN  
I'm not chaperoning. I'm making  
sure you don't blow this off.

ELI  
And by "this" you mean your plan to  
get people to take me seriously by  
relying on someone that nobody  
takes seriously?

DR. CHEN  
Eli, he predicted the earthquake  
from your vision.

ELI  
He also predicted the last five  
earthquakes that *never happened*.

DR. CHEN  
Obviously he's gotten the kinks of  
his prediction system worked out.

ELI  
That's not obvious. It's the exact  
opposite of obvious.

They arrive at Daniel Foote's HOUSE. Aside from being a bit  
overgrown, it looks unexpectedly... normal. *Except for the  
goat eating the grass in the front yard.* \*

Daniel is standing atop a LADDER to the roof. He's applying  
a HAMMER to an odd-looking STRUCTURAL BRACE which envelops  
the house at odd angles. \*

ELI  
Excuse me, Dr. Foote?  
(over the hammering)  
Dr. Foote?! DR. FOOTE!

Foote abruptly stops with the hammering. Spins around.  
Eccentricity in his eyes.

(CONTINUED)

13 CONTINUED:

13

ELI  
I'm Eli Stone. I'm an attorney.

Foote goes back to his hammering.

DANIEL FOOTE \*  
This earthquake proofing is exactly  
to code. And it's patented, so  
don't even try to rip me off.

DR. CHEN  
Dr. Foote, we're here because we  
believe you.

DANIEL FOOTE \*  
Nobody believes me. But nice try.  
None of the hecklers have tried "we  
believe you" before. You get  
points for originality.

ELI  
Thanks, but we're not here to  
heckle you or sue you or rip you  
off. We're here because...  
(beat)  
Well, it's a long story, but I am  
very interested in your method of  
earthquake prediction.

*That* actually gets Foote's attention. Foote steps down off  
the ladder --

DANIEL FOOTE \*  
Seismic prognostication.

ELI  
How does that work? Do you have a  
seismometer or something?

DANIEL FOOTE \*  
You're looking at it.

Eli thinks Foote's referring to --

ELI  
The goat?

DANIEL FOOTE \*  
The house.  
(then)  
Follow me.

Daniel dashes into the house, followed by Eli and Chen  
into... \*

14 INT. DANIEL FOOTE'S HOUSE. KITCHEN. SECONDS LATER. 14

Practically empty, everything clean and white. The walls appear to be lined with thin wires. Velcro on the counters. Lots of canned food and bottled water. A MAP on a wall.

DANIEL FOOTE

The entire house is basically an extremely large seismic station. Each brace not only protects the house from seismic undulation, but also collects data from the motion-amplifying mechanical linkages--

\*

ELI

I'm not a scientist. You're basically just saying this whole house is a giant earthquake detection device?

DANIEL FOOTE

And a tax write-off, yes.

\*

ELI

But you've never accurately predicted an earthquake using it.

DANIEL FOOTE

I hate that word, "predict." It implies psychic powers, clumps me in with palm readers and fortune tellers.

\*

DR. CHEN

I think what Eli is trying to get at is you're oh-for-five on your prognostications.

DANIEL FOOTE

That unimpressive statistic doesn't take into account the fact I've been growing steadily more accurate each time thanks to improvements in my methodology.

\*

DR. CHEN

And you're confident you've got it right this time.

Eli notices a picture frame velcro'd to the countertop. Daniel, his wife, two kids.

\*

(CONTINUED)

14 CONTINUED:

14

ELI

What does your family think about you turning the house into a giant... earthquake... thing?

DANIEL FOOTE

They don't. My wife moved everyone down to Cupertino.

(shaking it off)

Better for them, anyway. As far away from this city, the better.

ELI

The quake you say is coming... where do you think the epicenter will be?

Daniel illustrates his point on the nearby map.

DANIEL FOOTE

Not think -- know. See these lines? These are the seven major faults running underneath the Bay Area. My algorithm says the epicenter will be inland. Most likely Silver Terrace.

DR. CHEN

(for Eli's benefit)

Silver Terrace. You don't say.

DANIEL FOOTE

But the magnitude of the quake, six-point-five at least, would mean shockwaves that could destroy things like the Golden Gate --

ELI

Bridge.

(beat)

Dr. Foote, how far are you prepared to take this?

DANIEL FOOTE

You mean to get people to listen to me, to grasp the danger?

(Eli nods)

Well, Mr. Stone, I've lost my family, my job, my reputation and a large percentage of my dignity. So... pretty far.

Off Foote, then Eli, ready to take this on...

(CONTINUED)

14 CONTINUED: (2) 14

CHARISSA NAKAUCHI (PRELAP)  
You can't be serious.

15 INT. STATE COURT. DAY. 15

Eli squares off against the City's attorney, CHARISSA NAKAUCHI (tough, smart). JUDGE JEFFERSON GAITAN presides.

ELI  
No, I can be. I promise.

CHARISSA NAKAUCHI  
How is this not a joke? You're asking the court to close the Golden Gate Bridge.

ELI  
No, I'm not. I'm asking the court to order the City to close the Golden Gate Bridge.

Judge Gaitan holds up Eli's legal brief --

JUDGE GAITAN  
Under this writ of mad anus you mention?

ELI  
*Mandamus*, Your Honor.

CHARISSA NAKAUCHI  
A law so old, it's practically written on a stone tablet. And it only applies if the City isn't meeting one of its legal obligations.

ELI  
Like protecting the health and welfare of the citizenry.

CHARISSA NAKAUCHI  
The citizenry are doing just fine, thanks.

ELI  
They won't be three days from now.

CHARISSA NAKAUCHI  
(to Judge Gaitan)  
This is the part where he trots out the quack scientist with the crackpot earthquake prediction.

(CONTINUED)

15 CONTINUED:

15

ELI

Doctor Foote has degrees from Stanford, MIT, and Cal Tech --

CHARISSA NAKAUCHI

And an oh-for-five record in forecasting earthquakes. The *mandamus* law presupposes that the plaintiff possesses better judgment than the City. I don't think Dr. Foote qualifies.

ELI

But I do.

(to Judge Gaitan)

You'll see in our papers that I'm the named plaintiff. Dr. Foote is merely providing the evidence I'm relying upon.

CHARISSA NAKAUCHI

Bringing me right back to "quack" and "crackpot." Maybe this isn't the ideal situation for closing the Bridge for the first time.

ELI

Actually, the Golden Gate's been closed three times due to forecasts of high winds. Only now instead of wind, we're talking earthquake.

JUDGE GAITAN

Assuming you believe Doctor Foote.

ELI

No, Your Honor, assuming you believe him. Hundreds of lives are at stake. What's a few hours to listen to what the man has to say?

CHARISSA NAKAUCHI

Your Honor --

JUDGE GAITAN

If I dismiss this case, I've got to start a three month trial on accounting practices. I'll do anything to put that off for another day or two.

(to Eli)

Have your witness in court by ten tomorrow. Adjourned.

(CONTINUED)

15 CONTINUED: (2) 15  
Off the gavel swing, then Eli, one hurdle crossed...

16 INT. W.P.K. JORDAN'S OFFICE. DAY. 16  
Jordan looks up from his desk as Taylor enters, steaming --

TAYLOR

Henry Robles from New York is talking to Matt Dowd downstairs. Lauren Choi from the Chicago office is checking her e-mail on my computer this very minute.

JORDAN

Are you live-blogging the office now?

TAYLOR

I'm a woman, I'm a lawyer, and I'm Jordan Wethersby's daughter, and I know when some bitch is trying to orchestrate a palace revolt.

JORDAN

I assume the "bitch" to whom you're referring is one of this firm's founding partners?

(off Taylor)

Marci is hardly the first lawyer to try to throw me off my perch. Don't worry. Your father's made of Kevlar.

At which point, Marci enters, charged --

MARCI KLEIN

Your favorite son is at it again. Do you have any idea what he just did?

JORDAN

I can't say that I do.

MARCI KLEIN

And I can't say I'm surprised. For managing partner, you seem to manage to turn a blind eye where Eli Stone is concerned. He just sued San Francisco. The entire city. He's asking a judge to close down the Golden Gate.

Jordan absorbs this news with grace. Beat.

JORDAN

If he is, I'm sure he has a good reason. I'll talk to him and--

(CONTINUED)

16 CONTINUED:

16

MARCI KLEIN

No. I've got this one. I just wanted to make sure you're in the loop. Since you don't seem to be.

And she's gone.

TAYLOR

I wish someone would throw a bucket of water on her.

(then)

So are you going to talk to Eli? Get him to stop giving Marci ammunition to use against you?

JORDAN

It hadn't occurred to me to do so, no.

TAYLOR

Well, it "occurs" to me.

Off Taylor, course of action determined...

ELI (PRELAP)

I have a surprise for you.

17 INT. W.P.K. MAGGIE'S DESK. DAY.

17

Eli is approaching Maggie's desk --

ELI

Better than a surprise, actually. Another gift.

He hands her a thick LEGAL BRIEF. Maggie hefts it, deadpan --

MAGGIE

Really, the frame was generous enough.

ELI

(re: the brief)

We're saving people from an actual earthquake. Hundreds maybe thousands of lives. We'll be like super-heroes. But with suits and briefcases instead of capes and secret identities.

MAGGIE

This is your earthquake case?

ELI

Our earthquake case. You're my second chair.

(CONTINUED)

17 CONTINUED:

17

MAGGIE  
I can't do that, Eli...

ELI  
Scott doesn't get into town until the  
end of the week. This'll be over by  
then. Believe me, it has to be.

\*  
\*

MAGGIE  
That's not the problem. I'm kind of...  
working for Ms. Klein on something.

ELI  
Medusa Klein? What kind of case--

MARCI KLEIN (O.S.)  
Have you filed the appearance?

Eli turns, a little scared by Marci's hovering. Sheepishly,  
Maggie hands Marci a short legal motion --

MAGGIE  
Yes. You're now attorney of record  
for the City.

MARCI KLEIN  
We are, Ms. Dekker. Let's go.

ELI  
You're-- You and Marci are--

MARCI KLEIN  
Opposing counsel in your earthquake  
case, yes. Pro bono, as you might be  
familiar. We'll see you in court.

Marci spins around, leaves. Eli's eye catches something...

ELI  
Maggie... I see you filled the  
frame. Is that..?

MAGGIE  
That's Scott and me in New York  
last year. See ya in court, Eli.

Maggie exits. Eli looks down at the picture. CLOSE ON THE  
PHOTO, we realize why Eli is so concerned. Maggie's fiancé  
is the same man who was driving the car in Eli's vision.

Off this revelation...

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

18      INT. W.P.K. RECEPTION. DAY.      18

Full of pre-game energy, Eli and Daniel Foote head off to court. \*

DANIEL FOOTE      \*

So your own firm is suing us now?

ELI

No, they're representing the side that we're suing. I did the same thing to them four months ago. It's kind of ironic, actually.

DANIEL FOOTE      \*

Instead of getting cross-examined by a minimum wage civil servant, I'm now going to be interrogated by a highly-paid and no doubt highly-educated legal shark. "Ironic" is not the term I would use.

ELI

Well, "screwed" wouldn't be good for your morale, so--

MATT (O.S.)

Stone.

Eli turns to see Matt approaching --

MATT

What was it you wanted yesterday? \*

ELI

Now's not a really good time for me, Matt...

MATT

Beggars can't be choosers, Stone. One of those immutable facts of life.

ELI

(to Daniel)

Can you give me a minute? \*

Eli pulls Matt over to a private corner. Then, rapid-fire --

(CONTINUED)

18 CONTINUED:

18

ELI

I'm late for Marci and Maggie to try to shred me in court, so I'll keep this brief: I'm going in to have the aneurysm taken out. Chances are, I won't survive the surgery, so I need someone to draft a living will to make sure my wishes and my dignity are protected.

Matt just stares back at Eli. Beat. Then --

MATT

And my heartstrings will be tugged on so hard, I'll be limp for your ex. Nice try, Stone.

ELI

This isn't about you and Taylor. It's about me not living like a vegetable one second longer than I have to. I need this to be ironclad, drafted without sympathy or sentiment.

MATT

I am fairly unsympathetic.

ELI

This is what I'm counting on. We're going to put your utter lack of humanity to good use.

Eli slugs Matt on the shoulder, as we...

ELI (PRELAP)

You had your whole career ahead of you.

19 INT. STATE COURT. DAY.

19

*Stone v. San Francisco.* Back in session. Chen watches from the Gallery. Maggie and Marci are now at the City's table. Eli has Foote on the stand --

DANIEL FOOTE

(nodding)

Tenured Berkeley professor at thirty-two. Vice President of the American Seismological Society at thirty-five. By all objective measures, I was poised to become the leader in my field.

\*

(CONTINUED)

19 CONTINUED:

19

ELI  
But you didn't.

DANIEL FOOTE \*  
No. No, like Ahab, I developed a single-minded vendetta against a white whale. In my case, it was forecasting and preventing a devastating seismic catastrophe.

ELI  
Predicting "the Big One," you mean? The next great San Francisco earthquake.

DANIEL FOOTE \*  
That's right.

ELI  
And you haven't exactly been successful so far, have you?

DANIEL FOOTE \*  
No. But it took Edison almost a year before the first successful test of the light bulb. The first powered glider built by the Wright Brothers flew for only three seconds and damaged the thing.  
(beat)  
Failure is merely a road to success. I've refined my methodology and I can tell you with ninety-eight percent certainty that this quake is coming.

ELI  
When?

DANIEL FOOTE \*  
In two days. During rush hour. \*  
This is a scientific fact.

Eli nods and sits. Marci rises. A total shark.

MARCI KLEIN  
Your Honor, at this time, I would move to have Mr. Foote's testimony stricken from the record and the plaintiff's case dismissed.

(CONTINUED)

19 CONTINUED: (2)

19

ELI  
(standing back up)  
Ms. Klein's been in Europe for the past three years, but generally defendants cross-examine at this point.

MARCI KLEIN  
Mr. Stone's right, I have been out of the country recently, but I presume *Daubert* is still on the books?

(off Judge Gaitan)  
Scientific testimony is inadmissble unless it's generally accepted by the scientific community.

Marci wheels around on Daniel --

\*

MARCI KLEIN  
What members of the scientific community back your claim, sir?

DANIEL FOOTE  
(dodging)  
Some of my colleagues have really been intrigued by my work --

\*

MARCI KLEIN  
But the exact number of those who actually agree with it would be zero.

ELI  
Your Honor --

JUDGE GAITAN  
She's within the bounds, counsel.

MARCI KLEIN  
(keeping on Foote)  
So no scientists. That's alright. What about laypeople? A sympathetic journalist, maybe?

DANIEL FOOTE  
Not that I'm aware of.

\*

MARCI KLEIN  
You're the only person who believes this quake is coming.

DANIEL FOOTE  
Mr. Stone appears to believe me.

\*

(CONTINUED)

19 CONTINUED: (3)

19

Eli winces. Not the best answer. Marci smiles.

MARCI KLEIN  
And your wife, I'm sure.

DANIEL FOOTE \*  
I'm not certain. You'd have to ask  
her.

MARCI KLEIN  
(feigning ignorance)  
Are you estranged from your wife,  
sir?

DANIEL FOOTE \*  
She left me.

MARCI KLEIN  
When?

DANIEL FOOTE \*  
September 4, 2005.

MARCI KLEIN  
You seem to remember that date  
fairly precisely. Does it have any  
significance?

DANIEL FOOTE \*  
(beat)  
It's the date of the last  
earthquake I predicted.

MARCI KLEIN  
Hmm. I don't seem to recall an  
earthquake on that date. Funny  
thing.

Marci sits back down. Off Foote, slayed, then Eli...

TAYLOR (PRELAP)  
I'm not laughing, Eli.

20 INT. W.P.K. LIBRARY. DAY.

20

On the cut, Eli sets his trial bag down. Taylor is reading  
him the riot act.

ELI  
Are you sure? Because I think a  
catastrophic earthquake is  
hilarious.

(CONTINUED)

20 CONTINUED:

20

TAYLOR

Help me out here: Would this be "catastrophic" like the last one you predicted?

ELI

I'm not predicting this one. There's a scientist, Daniel Foote --

\*

TAYLOR

I've always supported you except, I guess, when it comes to earthquakes, for which you seem to have a pronounced blind spot.

ELI

And what's my "blind spot" this time?

TAYLOR

Marci Klein. She's using your little crusade as evidence my father doesn't have a grip on his own firm.

This is news to Eli. And it registers. Beat.

TAYLOR

That's right: You push this, and my father, the man who's been like a father to you, takes the hit.

Off Eli...

ELI (PRELAP)

I can drop the case.

21 INT. W.P.K. JORDAN'S OFFICE. DAY.

21

Jordan looks up from behind his desk to see Eli.

ELI

The earthquake case. I can recuse myself immediately, get my client new counsel.

JORDAN

I doubt you'll find another attorney in this City as eccentric as yourself, Eli.

(then)

It's not like you to bail on a client. Is something the matter?

(CONTINUED)

21 CONTINUED:

21

ELI

No. Well, not with me. But with you... I've heard... rumblings. Not actual rumblings. I meant... office rumblings.

JORDAN

And did you hear them from a tall female associate who has my eyes?

ELI

Taylor may have mentioned that there could be political consequences for you if I continue with the case.

JORDAN

And you've decided to come to my rescue. How gallant.

ELI

No, not... gallant. You've been there for me. You've stood up for me, protected me, represented me. And now I'm here for you.

JORDAN

An attitude that, however noble, presumes this recusing yourself is your decision to make.

ELI

It's not?

JORDAN

Every case you have tried or ever will try at this firm, has been and will be done so at my pleasure. If I hadn't wanted you to represent Daniel Foote, or, for that matter, Beth Keller or Arvin Solinsky, make no mistake, you wouldn't have. And while I appreciate your newly-located sense of loyalty, you started this case. It's not finished yet. My lawyers finish their cases, understood?

\*

ELI

Yes, sir.

Jordan returns to his work. Sensing his cue to leave, Eli turns for the door when:

(CONTINUED)

21 CONTINUED: (2)

21

JORDAN  
Just win the damn thing, Eli.

Eli nods and exits.

MAGGIE (PRELAP)  
I can't believe I'm going to beat  
you.

22 INT. W.P.K. MEZZANINE LEVEL. MOMENTS LATER.

22

As Eli walks out of Jordan's office, Maggie falls into step  
with him --

ELI  
You're not going to beat me.  
Marci's going to. You're not doing  
any of the talking.

MAGGIE  
Hearing's not over yet.

ELI  
Tell me about it.

MAGGIE  
No, I'm serious. Marci says she  
has big plans for me.

That stops Eli in his tracks.

ELI  
Maggie, why do you think Marci  
chose you to second chair?

MAGGIE  
My work in the St. Vincent's  
malpractice trial...

ELI  
Which was really my work, which  
Marci, being a very clever person,  
would find out.

MAGGIE  
What are you saying?

ELI  
That of all the associates in this  
firm, she didn't exactly pick the  
most competent one. So why do you  
think she picked you?

(CONTINUED)

22 CONTINUED:

22

MAGGIE

(wounded)

Because I'm... spunky. And a hard worker.

ELI

And you know more about me than almost anyone else at this firm. She picked you so she can pump you for information about me, Maggie. My strategies, my tactics, my history --

MAGGIE

What about your over-inflated ego?

ELI

I'm just saying, what if Foote's right. People could die, Maggie. People we know. People or a person you know.

Meaning her fiancé, but of course, he can't say that.

ELI

Just-- When Marci comes at you, and believe me she will, don't be you.

MAGGIE

Y'know, I can see why you're representing Dr. Foote -- you're both great at alienating people.

And she sprints off. But something in her retort gives Eli as an idea, as we...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

23 INT. STATE COURT. DAY. 23

*Stone v. San Francisco.* Back in session. Eli stands to address Judge Gaitan --

ELI  
Your Honor, we'd like to call a  
rebuttal witness. Nicole Foote.

MARCI KLEIN  
(standing)  
Unless Mrs. Foote is a seismologist  
herself, I don't see the relevance.

ELI  
Ms. Klein made her relevant when  
she asked Dr. Foote about his  
marriage yesterday.

JUDGE GAITAN  
Bring her up.

Eli turns and NICOLE FOOTE (40s, plain, sad) steps into the well, as we... TIME CUT TO:

24 INT. STATE COURT. MOMENTS LATER. 24

Nicole is on the stand now, testifying...

NICOLE FOOTE  
I think the thing I loved most about  
Daniel was... he liked scrambled eggs  
and bacon for dinner. \*

(off Eli)  
He never understood why some foods  
were rigidly considered only for  
breakfast. He... challenged life  
that way. Questioned everything.

MARCI KLEIN  
(standing)  
Since we're sharing, I like men  
with long fingers.

JUDGE GAITAN  
(to Eli)  
I think the point is get to  
something relevant, Mr. Stone.

Eli nods. Turns back to Nicole --

(CONTINUED)

24 CONTINUED:

24

ELI

We heard yesterday how you left Daniel after thirteen years of marriage. Can you tell the court why?

\*

(to the Judge)

You'll see the relevance in a second, Your Honor.

He turns back to Nicole. Invites her to answer --

NICOLE FOOTE

I got tired of being the other woman. I got tired of taking second place to seismic theory and geologic prognostication.

(beat)

Daniel's work, his theories, his experiments... He believes they can change the world. He believes he can save millions of lives. It's a lot to compete with.

\*

Eli pauses, the testimony as much about him as it is Daniel...

\*

ELI

I think yesterday, we were left with the impression that you separated because Daniel is crazy.

\*

NICOLE FOOTE

Albert Einstein filled his closet with multiple pairs of the same shirt and pants so he wouldn't have to waste a thought on what to wear. It was a quirk of genius. Today they'd label that behavior OCD.

ELI

Do you believe Daniel's machine can predict earthquakes?

\*

NICOLE FOOTE

Honestly, I'm not sure. But that's not the point. I didn't leave Daniel because I thought he was wrong. I left because being right was more important to him than I was.

\*

Eli sits. Marci stands.

MARCI KLEIN

Given that Mrs. Foote offered no relevant testimony, I have no cross-examination.

(CONTINUED)

24 CONTINUED: (2) 24

Marci sits. Off Eli, questioning his emotional gambit...

ELI (PRELAP)  
It's kind of like "to be or not to be."

25 INT. W.P.K. LIBRARY. DAY. (FORMERLY MATT'S OFFICE) 25

Eli sits on the couch, reviewing a draft. Matt sits in the adjoining chair, pen in hand, legal pad on lap.

MATT  
Kind of.

ELI  
Except for the "I'll-already-be-brain-dead" part.

MATT  
There's that. If it's any consolation, I already think of you as "brain dead."

ELI  
I appreciate that.  
(reads)  
"I do not want my life prolonged if I have an incurable and terminal condition or if I become unconscious and am unlikely to regain consciousness."  
(beat)  
"I wish to be permitted to die."  
(puts it down)  
Cheerful. Where do I sign?

Matt points. Eli signs the paper and checks his watch --

ELI  
Not even noon and I've already made my end-of-life decision. What have you done so far today?

MATT  
We're not quite done yet.  
(beat)  
Organ donation?

Eli thinks about his father, and Valerie Masters and Dina Allston from Ep. 110.

ELI  
Absolutely.

(CONTINUED)

25

CONTINUED:

25

MATT

Without restriction?

ELI

I'm all theirs.

MATT

Then there's only one more thing.  
But we can skip it if it's too  
personal.

ELI

Really, Matt, how much more  
personal can we get?

MATT

I need to talk to you about  
something called "the Ulysses Pact."

ELI

I saw that movie. Russell Crowe  
was awesome.

MATT

It's a clause appointing someone to  
make medical decisions for you in  
case you can't, either because  
you're incapacitated or aren't  
thinking clearly.

ELI

Well, I haven't been thinking  
clearly for over three months now,  
so it's probably a good idea.

MATT

(sarcastic)

Well, I'm sure you'd want to ask  
me... but any idea who you might  
appoint?

ELI

To make literal life and death  
decisions for me? I might have to  
think about it for a bit.

Matt's about to say something, but Eli waxes on...

ELI

Sorry. This whole thing's a little  
depressing.

(CONTINUED)

25 CONTINUED: (2)

25

MATT  
Can't imagine why.

Despite the wit, Matt can't help but be deeply affected by Eli's plight, as we...

TAYLOR (PRELAP)  
Yeah. I'm pissed at him.

26 EXT. LE PETIT TABLE. NIGHT. (FORMERLY INT. FRENCH LAUNDRY)

26

Rustic luxury. Old stone walls, white tablecloths. Matt and Taylor sip wine and glance at their menus. Matt's a little distracted.

TAYLOR  
After everything my father's done for him, why Eli can't drop one stupid -- incredibly stupid -- case...

MATT  
Yeah, well, y'know...

TAYLOR  
What did I just say?

MATT  
Excuse me?

TAYLOR  
Do you have any idea what I've been saying for the last ten minutes?

MATT  
Sure. Of course.  
(off Taylor's look)  
So what do you think looks good? I was thinking of starting with the oxtail carpaccio...

Taylor looks at Matt. Pissed.

TAYLOR  
I recognize it's probably been some time since you've managed to go on a date without a woman who did it professionally, Matt, but you're generally expected to pay attention to the woman you're with.

MATT  
Sorry.

(CONTINUED)

26 CONTINUED:

26

TAYLOR

Look, obviously we're a little...  
off here. Why don't you tell me  
what's on your mind?

MATT

Nothing.  
(then)  
Well, maybe you should go a little  
easier on Eli -- see, I was paying  
attention.

TAYLOR

Go easy on Eli? Since when do you  
care? My father's done everything  
for Eli. Eli could do one thing  
for him.

MATT

I think Eli's just focused on other  
stuff right now...

TAYLOR

What kind of stuff? Is this about  
the legal thing he wanted your help  
with?

MATT

I'm taking care of something for  
him, so everything I know is...

TAYLOR

Privileged? Eli and I used to tell  
each other all the time.

MATT

Don't put me in that position.  
(then)  
However, I can think of a few other  
positions you can put me in...

TAYLOR

It's almost hard to believe you'd  
botch the one evening you have to  
prove you're not all pig. Sad.

Off Taylor, then Matt, not quite the evening they planned...

27 INT. W.P.K. CONFERENCE ROOM. EVENING.

27

Maggie and Marci work late, surrounded by documents. Maggie  
sets aside a thick stack --

(CONTINUED)

27 CONTINUED:

27

MAGGIE

City budget number crunching,  
crunched.

(looks up)

What should I do next?

MARCI KLEIN

Go home. I think you've worked  
hard enough for today.

MAGGIE

But it's only ten o'clock --

MARCI KLEIN

I see my reputation proceeds me.  
Whatever you may have heard, Ms.  
Dekker, I'm not a monster.

MAGGIE

That's not what I meant --

MARCI KLEIN

I mean it. Get some rest.  
(as Maggie starts to get  
her things together)  
I know how hard this case must be  
on you.

MAGGIE

What?

Marci leans forward. Confessional. One of the girls...

MARCI KLEIN

Jordan and I, we had a thing once.  
Before he was married and before we  
started this firm, we'd take each  
other on in court. And outside of  
court.

Maggie winces. TMI.

MARCI KLEIN

What I'm saying is, I know how  
difficult it is to sit across the  
aisle from someone you're close to.

MAGGIE

Eli and I aren't "close."

MARCI KLEIN

Really? I looked through his  
recent cases, and you worked on  
nearly all of them.

(CONTINUED)

27 CONTINUED: (2)

27

MAGGIE  
I needed courtroom experience.

Remembering Eli's warning, Maggie gets her defenses up --

MARCI KLEIN  
Just with Eli? You've tried almost every case in the last three months exclusively with him. Perhaps you can help me out with something.

MAGGIE  
Oh, I'm really not all that... helpful.

Marci casually opens up a file --

MARCI KLEIN  
Looking over his caseload, it seems illegal aliens and kids get his most zealous representation, while Our higher-end clients, Arvin Solinsky, Zyre Motors, get something less than his A-game.

MAGGIE  
Actually, in the Solinsky case, Eli did everything he could to evacuate Silver Terrace--

MARCI KLEIN  
Evacuate? You mean evict --

MAGGIE  
(scrambling)  
Right, evict --

MARCI KLEIN  
Isn't Silver Terrace the alleged epicenter of the alleged earthquake? But Dr. Foote only made his prediction this week....

MAGGIE  
I meant evict. I always switch words when I'm tired --

MARCI KLEIN  
How does Mr. Stone choose his cases and clients?

MAGGIE  
He doesn't really share his thinking with me.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

27 CONTINUED: (3)

27

MAGGIE (CONT'D)

He doesn't really share anything.  
He's not a sharer. I should really  
go--

MARCI KLEIN

Sit down, Ms. Dekker.  
(she does)

You're going to tell me everything  
you know about Eli Stone, Silver  
Terrace, and imaginary earthquakes.

It hits Maggie like a ton of bricks. Eli was right. Marci  
was playing for this moment all along.

MAGGIE

He told me things in confidence. I  
can't say anything.

MARCI KLEIN

You not only can, you're obligated  
to. You have a fiduciary duty to  
this case. You're an officer of  
the court and you have a  
responsibility to your client. The  
city of San Francisco needs you to  
tell me the truth.

Off Maggie, terrified, and Marci, ready to strike...

28 INT. STATE COURT. DAY.

28

*Stone v. San Francisco.* Eli and Daniel Foote sit at the  
plaintiff's table. Marci enters with a confident stride,  
with Maggie following her, stiff.

\*

JUDGE GAITAN

Well, counsel, can we proceed with  
final arguments?

MARCI KLEIN

Actually, Your Honor, we have our  
own rebuttal witness to call.  
Margaret Ann Dekker.

Eli whips around to Maggie, who mouths "I'm sorry."

ELI

(shooting up)

Objection! Maggie-- Ms. Dekker's  
an attorney of record here.

(CONTINUED)

28 CONTINUED:

28

MARCI KLEIN

This is a hearing, not a trial.  
And, in any case, Ms. Dekker hasn't  
said a word in court thus far.

Which was Marci's plan all along. Eli glares at Maggie.

JUDGE GAITAN

Objection overruled. Take the  
stand, Ms. Dekker.

Ashamed, Maggie walks to the witness stand. As she's sworn  
in by the bailiff, Daniel grabs Eli's arm --

\*

DANIEL FOOTE

What's that girl going to say?

\*

ELI

Nothing good.

Marci Klein approaches the stand.

MARCI KLEIN

Ms. Dekker, in your capacity as one  
of Mr. Stone's co-workers, have you  
noticed a change in his legal  
practice?

ELI

Objection. Neither myself nor my  
practice are on trial here.

MARCI KLEIN

I admit it's not like his  
disbarment proceeding two months  
ago, but Mr. Stone put himself at  
issue by seeking the *mandamus* writ  
personally, Your Honor.

JUDGE GAITAN

(to Eli)

Checkmate, counsel. Sit down.

Marci turns back to Maggie --

MAGGIE

Eli's trying to represent more  
individuals and less corporations.  
(adding; helpfully)  
There's nothing wrong with that.

(CONTINUED)

MARCI KLEIN

I'm sure we all agree, Ms. Dekker. But can you tell the jury how Mr. Stone tried to "help" the citizens of the Silver Terrace neighborhood when they sued his client, Arvin Solinsky?

MAGGIE

He was concerned for their welfare. He wanted them to get a good deal.

MARCI KLEIN

He wanted them to move out of their homes, as fast as possible, isn't that right?

MAGGIE

That's what Mr. Solinsky wanted.

MARCI KLEIN

But not for the same reason.

ELI

Objection. She's leading the witness.

MARCI KLEIN

Permission to treat the witness as hostile, Your Honor.

JUDGE GAITAN

Your own co-counsel?

MARCI KLEIN

I don't get along with my co-workers, Your Honor.

And to prove it, she advances on Maggie --

MARCI KLEIN

Why did Eli Stone want the residents of Silver Terrace to vacate their homes?

MAGGIE

How can we ever know what's in another person's mind?

MARCI KLEIN

What did he tell you, Ms. Dekker?

ELI

Objection. Hearsay.

(CONTINUED)

28 CONTINUED: (3)

28

MARCI KLEIN  
Oh, I'm not admitting it for the  
truth, Judge. Believe me.

Marci turns back to Maggie. A laser-like glare. Maggie  
folds, heartbroken as she betrays:

MAGGIE  
He said... there was going to be an  
earthquake.

MARCI KLEIN  
But not because Dr. Foote told him,  
right?  
(no response)  
Tell the judge why Mr. Stone thought  
there would be an earthquake.

MAGGIE  
(beat; then, sotto)  
He told me that... that he thought  
there would be an earthquake. That  
he could see the future.

The courtroom reacts. Even Foote looks at Eli like he's  
nuts. Maggie looks apologetic.

MARCI KLEIN  
Pass the witness.

Eli stands up. Hollow. Then looks to Maggie --

ELI  
When I told you there would be an  
earthquake, what did you tell me?

MAGGIE  
(beat)  
That I believed you.

Eli nods. Sits back down. As we...

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FOUR



30 CONTINUED:

30

ELI  
I'm sorry, Daniel --

\*

DANIEL FOOTE  
I'm sorry, too. Sorry I let you  
rope me into this, sorry I let you  
use me as a mouthpiece for your own  
personal nutbaggery.

\*

ELI  
No, I didn't. I believe you --

DANIEL FOOTE  
Only because you're koo-koo for  
Cocoa Puffs. At least I have a  
machine, a methodology.

\*

ELI  
Look, I can file an emergency appeal --

DANIEL FOOTE  
You even try and I'll get a restraining  
order. Stay away from me.

\*

Daniel storms off. As he goes, REVEAL Maggie, who's seen the  
whole thing.

\*

ELI  
Another satisfied client.

MAGGIE  
This is all my fault...

ELI  
No, it's not.  
(beat)  
Actually, it is. You should've--

MAGGIE  
Listened to you, I know. I know.  
You were right. I'm sorry. I just  
figured, y'know, I could take her.

ELI  
Maggie, she's a trained litigator  
with decades of experience,  
you're... like a tiny bunny who can  
fit in the palm of her hand.  
(off Maggie)  
I guess that's my way of saying,  
don't be too hard on yourself.

MAGGIE  
No, that's what I have you for.

(CONTINUED)

30 CONTINUED: (2)

30

ELI

You have to tell Scott to stay off  
the Golden Gate.

MAGGIE

Come on, Eli --

ELI

He calls you "Macaroni." If I  
wasn't right, how would I know  
that?

MAGGIE

I must've told you. First it was  
Magg-eroni and Cheese, then just  
Magg-eroni, then Macaroni --

ELI

Trust me, you didn't tell me. I'd  
remember being that bored. Just  
please, Maggie, call him. Do it  
for me.

PAUL MILLER (O.S.)

Mr. Stone?

Eli turns to see PAUL MILLER (30s, bureaucrat) --

PAUL MILLER

My boss wanted me to speak with you.

ELI

Who's your boss?

PAUL MILLER

The Mayor of San Francisco.

Off Eli, maybe there's still a chance to save the city...

MARCI KLEIN (PRELAP)

I don't want to do this.

31 INT. W.P.K. CONFERENCE ROOM. DAY.

31

The room is packed full of PARTNERS, including Jordan and  
Marci. An assemblage very different from our typical staff  
meetings.

(CONTINUED)

31 CONTINUED:

31

MARCI KLEIN

I'd like to be anyone other than the person leading this charge. Jordan, Martin Posner, and I founded this firm together.

(beat)

And we found it on the principle that we would set a new standard for legal representation. That our clients would be the best and the brightest, the largest and the most successful.

(beat)

But those clients are leaving. And they won't come back until they receive a signal from us that we've seen the error of our ways. Unfortunately, that signal needs to be louder than the firing of one renegade associate. It needs to be the ouster of the man who's been allowing him to damage our firm and its reputation.

Marci sits down. Jordan stands. Commanding.

JORDAN

Eli Stone has not damaged the reputation of this firm.

MARCI KLEIN

No, suing the City over an imaginary earthquake was great for it. We should take out an ad.

JORDAN

Mr. Stone was representing an individual with a legitimate, albeit ultimately unsuccessful, cause of action. If it wasn't legitimate, the court wouldn't have entertained a three-day hearing.

(beat)

Ms. Klein's problem isn't that Mr. Stone is eccentric, it's that he applies his considerable talents to underdogs and individuals instead of conglomerates and CEOs. He reminds us that in business there is still room for humanity, that capitalism without mercy is tantamount to evil. He reminds us about the best parts of ourselves.

(beat)

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

31 CONTINUED: (2)

31

JORDAN (CONT'D)

Yes, I have protected Eli Stone because I believe this firm needs Eli Stone. I believe every firm, every company, everyone needs an Eli Stone. And by your vote, you'll say whether or not you agree. If you don't... then this place has become something I don't want my name on anyway.

And with that, Jordan WALKS OUT. Off the partners, then Marci...

ELI (PRELAP)

Would you mind repeating that?

32 INT. CITY HALL. AIDE'S OFFICE. DAY.

32

Eli and Daniel sit before Paul Miller. Both are, suffice to say, more than a little shocked --

\*

ELI

Because, full disclosure here, I've been known to hear things...

DANIEL FOOTE

And see the future, but I don't think that's relevant.

\*

Eli shoots Daniel a "gee, thanks" look as --

\*

PAUL MILLER

In any case, you heard me right. The Mayor's closing the Golden Gate Bridge, despite the judge's ruling.

DANIEL FOOTE

The Mayor is a wise man, Mr. Miller.

\*

ELI

Yes, absolutely, and I probably shouldn't ask this, but... Why?

PAUL MILLER

Well, for one thing, when Dr. Foote's not shouting hysterical proclamations from the front steps of this building, he's actually quite persuasive.

DANIEL FOOTE

Thank you.

\*

(CONTINUED)

32 CONTINUED:

32

PAUL MILLER  
But truth be told, he wasn't the  
one who persuaded the Mayor.

DANIEL FOOTE  
Figures.

\*

Eli reacts. Surprised. Confused --

ELI  
Wait. Are you talking about me?

PAUL MILLER  
Dr. Foote gave up his reputation years  
ago. But you were still willing to  
risk your reputation to represent him.  
The staff did some checking and it  
turns out, you're a pretty smart guy.

ELI  
Debatable.

PAUL MILLER  
If someone like you is willing to  
risk everything to be heard, the  
Mayor wouldn't be much of a leader  
if he didn't listen.

ELI  
And what if Daniel and I are wrong  
and there's no quake?

\*

PAUL MILLER  
What if you and Daniel are right  
and we did nothing?

\*

ELI  
A fair point.  
(beat)  
The only person in the entire city  
who believes me just happens to be  
the Mayor. Talk about dumb luck.

PAUL MILLER  
Well, that's the thing about  
followers, Eli. Sometimes you only  
need the right one.

Off Eli and Daniel, wow...

\*

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT FIVE

ACT SIX

FADE IN:

33 INT. W.P.K. MATT'S OFFICE. DAY.

33

Matt has gathered Eli, Patti, and Taylor into his office.

PATTI

This better be good, Dowd. I'm missing Oprah. Dr. Oz is on.

MATT

This is only slightly more important.

TAYLOR

It might help us to know what "this" is.

Matt looks to Eli --

ELI

Before I go in for my minor life-or-death surgery, I want to make sure I don't get Terry Shivo'd.

MATT

He asked me to draft up an Advance Healthcare Directive.

ELI

(to Taylor)

I would've asked you, but I needed someone without sympathy or conscience.

(to Matt)

No offense.

MATT

None taken.

Taylor is taking in the magnitude of this --

TAYLOR

Eli, I'm sure there's no need-- What I mean is, I'm sure these surgeries usually work out fine.

PATTI

Only fifty-percent of the time. I've been reading up. Eli's a coin toss away from being a vegetable.

(CONTINUED)

33 CONTINUED:

33

ELI  
Thanks, Patti.  
(then)  
In any case, I need it witnessed,  
which is why you guys are here.

TAYLOR  
You want us to witness your suicide note?

ELI  
It's not a suicide note. It's a  
statement of my wishes.

TAYLOR  
About how you want to die.

ELI  
About how and under what  
circumstances I don't want to live.

Eli holds out a pen to Taylor. After a beat, she takes it.  
As she signs...

ELI  
Thank you.  
(then; to Patti)  
Patti?

PATTI  
You draft your will yet?

ELI  
I left you all my George Michael CD's.  
I figured that was appropriate.

Patti takes the pen and signs. As she does, Taylor turns to  
Matt --

TAYLOR  
So I guess if you're Eli's lawyer  
for this, privilege would...

MATT  
Prevent me from bringing it up on a  
date, yeah.

Taylor smiles. She misjudged him. This time. As Patti  
finishes --

ELI  
Excellent. Now, if you'll all go  
to the nearest exits, Golden Gate  
Park is the safest place for the  
imminent earthquake.

(CONTINUED)

33 CONTINUED: (2)

33

TAYLOR

Eli --

ELI

Do it for me. Consider it a last request if you have to. Golden Gate Park. Not Bridge. Bridge is bad.

He shoos them out of the office and heads out himself to --

34 INT. W.P.K. WORK AREA. CONTINUOUS.

34

Eli moves to the planter table in the center and... climbs on top of it. (Jordan, Marci, Taylor, Matt, and Patti are amongst the crowd.)

ELI

Excuse me...

A few people take note but essentially there is no response.

ELI

Hello?

Nothing. Frustrated, Eli WHISTLES. Shockingly loud. All hustle and bustle STOPS.

ELI

Hi. Sorry to interrupt. I have it on... good authority... that there's going to be an earthquake an hour from now. A big one. The big one. So I'm leaving. And I hope you'll do the same because I'm guessing twenty-two stories in the air surrounded by glass will be one of the less desirable places to be.

Workers look at one another seeing if anyone is buying this.

ELI

Look, I know all or at least most of you think I'm crazy. The lawyer with a hole in his head and an inappropriately-timed song in his heart. And I know as lawyers we're trained to rely on facts, on empirical evidence, but this one time... with the stakes so completely high... I'm asking you, I'm asking each and every one of you to believe me, to take something on faith. Trust me, you won't regret it.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

34 CONTINUED:

34

ELI (CONT'D)  
(off the crowd)  
Who's with me?

Eli hops off the table. Looks around. A couple of co-workers step forth to follow him. Not a huge number, but enough. They follow Eli out of the office, as we...

MARCI KLEIN (PRELAP)  
Alright then.

35 INT. W.P.K. CONFERENCE ROOM. 5:12 PM.

35

The partners, re-assembled. Jordan awaits his fate.

MARCI KLEIN  
I've tallied the partners' votes  
and, well, there's no easy way to  
say this, Jordan...

JORDAN  
I think you just did, Marci.

MARCI KLEIN  
But for the record, it's the  
decision of the partnership that  
Jordan Wethersby be removed from  
his post as managing partner,  
effective immediately.  
(then; sincere)  
Truly, Jordan, I am sorry.

JORDAN  
I'm not. I can live with the  
partners' decision.  
(beat)  
I hope they can.

Jordan, with quiet dignity, moves towards the door as...  
*rumble*. What's that? Then... *another rumble*. It's an --

PARTNER #1  
Earthquake!

The room starts to tremble. The glass windows of the  
conference room SHATTER. Everyone panics before --

Off Jordan, the room shaking, but quite satisfied...

DANIEL FOOTE (PRELAP)  
I told you!

\*

36 EXT. GOLDEN GATE PARK. 5:13 PM.

36

Earthquake in progress. A huge assemblage of people has gathered. Much larger than the group Eli put together, including NATE. Clearly, word has gotten out. Daniel Foote is present, screaming like an excited banshee --

\*

DANIEL FOOTE  
I told you!!! Six-point-eight on  
the Richter scale!

\*

The excited Foote runs straight past... Eli, who's darting in and out of the crowd, looking for --

ELI  
Maggie!

MAGGIE  
Eli!

ELI  
You came!

MAGGIE  
It's an earthquake, Eli. What, you  
thought I was gonna stay in our  
perilously-tall building?

Maggie turns to one of the crowd. A man. He turns around, revealing himself to be... SCOTT COLBY (30s, intelligently-attractive). Maggie's fiancé and the man from Eli's vision.

MAGGIE  
This is Scott. My fiancé.

Eli double takes. She got word to him? Maggie just smiles --

MAGGIE  
I told you I believed you.

Eli can't help but smile as A BOOM draws everyone's attention towards...

THE GOLDEN GATE BRIDGE. Visible in the distance. It violently FRACTURES in half... Eli's vision came true.

MAGGIE  
Oh my God...

ELI  
That's certainly one way to put  
it...

(CONTINUED)

36 CONTINUED: 36

In an instant, everything is still. The earthquake is over.  
Awed silence. Maggie HUGS Scott. Eli has no one to hug...  
until... Daniel lays a BEAR HUG on Eli, as we...

\*  
\*

37 INT. W.P.K. CONFERENCE ROOM. SAME. 37

Silence. Dust swirls. A chaotic mess of glass and plaster.

Jordan and Marci are the first to rise from the rubble. They  
face-off across the room -- a stare-down -- Jordan wins.

Then, shaken partners emerge from under the table, brushing  
off glass confetti and plaster dust.

\*

JORDAN

I call for a re-vote.

\*

FADE OUT.

END OF EPISODE