

Lantana Beach

Episode 1
Pilot

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Lantana Beach S1:E1

INT.JUSTIN'S APARTMENT-NIGHT

NATALIE, beautiful Haitian young lady, sits very scared in the living room of her boyfriend's high-rise Palm Beach apartment. She just discovered something she shouldn't have and she's scared for her life.

Around the corner in the hallway is JEFFREY, black and average height Haitian man, talking angrily to another man (off-camera).

Natalie notices that her phone and purse are on the other side of the room in the same eye-sight as the two men. She foregoes the risk of retrieving her phone and purse, and decides to carefully tip-toe out of the apartment.

INT. HALLWAY-SAME

Natalie quickly hurries to the elevator. She presses the buttons multiple times, looking back at the apartment. The elevator doors do not open quickly. The apartment door opens, Jeffrey steps out.

Natalie runs to the staircase.

INT.STAIRCASE-SAME

Natalie is running down the stairs. Jeffrey follows her. Eventually he catches her and drags her back up the stairs at gun point.

INT.PIERRE'S BEDROOM- DAY

A sleeping STEVENSON PIERRE, an older homicide detective, middle-age Haitian man with salt and pepper hair, wakes up from noises he hears coming from the kitchen. He checks the time. It reads 7:13.

STEVENSON

Stephanie?

STEPHANIE, a young beautiful Haitian lady, and also Stevenson's daughter, pops her head in.

STEPHANIE

Morning, Daddy. Sorry did I wake you?

STEVENSON

Yes, you did, but it's fine. I need to wake up.

STEPHANIE

I'm making breakfast. Get dressed and come eat.

INT. PIERRE'S KITCHEN

Stephanie puts her father's plate together with Haitian breakfast of eggs, fried plantains, avocado, and toast. He enters the kitchen.

STEVENSON

Smells good. It smells like my favorite.

STEPHANIE

It's your first day back, you should eat something besides bread and coffee.

Stevenson sits and Stephanie places his food in front of him.

STEPHANIE

Let me get your coffee.

Stephanie fetches two mugs of coffee.

STEVENSON

Thank you.

Stephanie sits down with him. She doesn't have a plate of food, just her cup of coffee.

STEVENSON

Kote manje w? (Where's your food?)

STEPHANIE

It's too early to eat. I'm not hungry.

STEVENSON

(Chuckles)

You never grew out of that.

STEPHANIE

Nope. How are you feeling? Are you nervous?

STEVENSON

Nervous? I've been a detective for three decades. It's second nature.

STEPHANIE

I don't know, maybe you're feeling pressured.

STEVENSON

Pressured? What do you mean?

Pause.

STEPHANIE

Daddy, why didn't you just put in your resignation letter? You promised Mami...

STEVENSON

Stephanie, *li tro bonne pou sa!* (it's too early for this!) Please.

Awkward silence.

STEPHANIE

I'm sorry. I just worry for you.

STEVENSON

I know.

STEPHANIE

Do you want me to bring lunch from the restaurant?

STEVENSON

I don't know when I'll be on lunch, so don't worry about it.

STEPHANIE

Fine, but make sure you eat.

STEVENSON

I'll eat something, I promise.

STEPHANIE

Take a picture of it.

STEVENSON

Stephanie.

STEPHANIE

I'm joking, I'm joking.

INT. LANTANA POLICE PRICICNT- DAY

Stevenson walks in the office area. The room claps.

DETECTIVE JOHNSON
Welcome back Pierre.

DETECTIVE LOPEZ
Nice having you back, Detective.

DETECTIVE JACOBS
Good to see you, how you been?

STEVENSON
Thanks everyone. And I've been
alright. I'm ready to get back to
work.

Stevenson looks at his desk.

STEVENSON
It looks exactly the same.

DETECTIVE LOPEZ
For the most part. Sometimes it had
random files on it, but now we use
Henderson's old desk.

Stevenson sits at his desk and looks at its contents. He
picks up a photo frame of him, his wife, and Stephanie.

DETECTIVE JOHNSON
Look inside your drawer.

Stevenson snaps out of his gaze and puts his photo down.

STEVENSON
Do I trust you? What's in the drawer?

DETECTIVE JACOBS
Just a little welcome back gift from
us.

Stevenson opens the drawer and finds a bottle of hard liquor.
He picks it up and stares at it.

DETECTIVE JOHNSON
For the long nights.

The room laughs.

STEVENSON

My daughter is going to kill me if she sees me with this.

DETECTIVE LOPEZ

Stephanie?

STEVENSON

Yes, she moved in with me since Claudette died. Been watching my every move.

DETECTIVE LOPEZ

She's worried about you. I understand, but she gotta let you live a little.

STEVENSON

She got rid of all the hard liquor, even the Barbancourt.

DETECTIVE JOHNSON

Shit. Not the good rum.

STEVENSON

She told my contact in Haiti not to ship any to me. I haven't drank in months.

DETECTIVE LOPEZ

Fuck.

DETECTIVE JACOBS

Bury that deep between your mattresses.

Stevenson notices a poster of a missing woman.

STEVENSON

Jessica Alexander. I remember seeing her in the news.

DETECTIVE LOPEZ

Very fucking sad. Her husband is beside himself. He calls and stops by all the time.

CAPTAIN CORTES, an older short stubby Hispanic man, walks in with ROSA ROSADO, a beautiful average height Puerto-Rican woman.

DETECTIVE JACOBS

Captain.

CAPTAIN CORTES

Morning. Pierre?

STEVENSON

Captain Cortes. It's me in the flesh.

CAPTAIN CORTES

Shit. I thought you were coming tomorrow. I didn't know you and Rosado were starting on the same day.

STEVENSON

Rosado?

ROSA

Rosa Rosado.

CAPTAIN CORTES

I'm sorry. Gentlemen, this is Rosa Rosado. She's our new detective from the Lake Worth Branch. She's replacing Henderson.

DETECTIVE JOHNSON

Welcome to Lantana Beach.

DETECTIVE LOPEZ

It's a bit more relaxed here than Lake Worth.

ROSA

I've been told.

CAPTAIN CORTES

Don't jinx us. Pierre she's your new partner.

Stevenson shakes her hand.

STEVENSON

Stevenson Pierre.

CAPTAIN CORTES

It's Pierre's first day back from sabbatical. I imagine he's ready to get back to work. He's one of our best.

STEVENSON

Thanks Captain.

CAPTAIN CORTES

I'm sorry I didn't have a welcome back gift for you, it was an honest mistake.

STEVENSON

No worries, the boys took care of it.

CAPTAIN CORTES

Do I even what to know?

STEVENSON

You don't.

CAPTAIN CORTES

Good. Take her to Henderson's desk. You fellas, please don't scare her away.

DETECTIVE JACOBS

We won't.

Captain Cortes walks away. Stevenson points at the desk next to him.

STEVENSON

This is your desk.

Detective Jacobs jumps up and removes the files.

DETECTIVE JACOBS

Sorry, let me get that for you.

ROSA

Thanks.

STEVENSON

So Lake Worth, what made you leave?

ROSA

Promotion or maybe they were trying to get rid of me.

STEVENSON

What did you do? Expose a cover-up?

ROSA

(laughs)

I'm joking. I think they noticed it in me and thought I'd make a good detective.

STEVENSON

Well your secrets would have been safe with me, but I'll buy your story.

ROSA

I guess it's a detective thing, always second guessing someone's story.

STEVENSON

(Laughs)

I think it's a just me thing. Hard to tell. I've been doing this too long.

Captain Cortes enters the room.

CAPTAIN CORTES

A young female body just washed up the shore. Pierre, Rosado, this is your case.

EXT. LANTANA BEACH PARKING LOT-DAY

Stevenson and Rosa step out of the police car. They are immediately approached by MONTY, Jessica's husband.

MONTY

Please tell me if it's Jessica.

STEVENSON

I'm sorry?

MONTY

Monty Williams. Jessica Alexander's husband. (shows picture) She's been missing.

STEVENSON

How'd you hear about this? The media isn't even here yet.

MONTY

Please, just tell me.

STEVENSON

Okay, but don't come close to the

crime scene.

MONTY

I won't.

Stevenson and Rosa continue to walk.

ROSA

Captain said CSI and the ME are
already on scene.

STEVENSON

Good.

EXT. LANTANA BEACH-SAME

They enter the beach to the crime scene. Pictures are being
taken, evidence is being collected.

STEVENSON

What a beautiful day.

ROSA

Right, not a day that screams body at
the shore.

SHELLY, the Medical Examiner, approaches them.

SHELLY

Welcome back, Pierre.

STEVENSON

Thanks Shelly. This is my new partner,
Rosa Rosado.

ROSA

Nice to meet you.

SHELLY

Pretty name.

ROSA

Thanks, my mom thought she was clever
with that one.

SHELLY

Well, I'm Michelle Dixon, Medical
Examiner. You can call me Shelly.

STEVENSON

This is obviously not a drowning.

They move to the body. The body is a young, caramel-completion Hispanic woman.

SHELLY

Definitely not. She was strangled before she was dumped in the water. See the ligature marks?

STEVENSON

How did she get here?

SHELLY

My best guess is she was thrown in the middle of the ocean from a boat and her body made it to shore.

ROSA

How long was she floating for?

SHELLY

Two-three days. Further examination will give me a better time frame.

MONTY

(Shouting from top of beach)
Detectives!

They turn.

STEVENSON

It's not Jessica. Go home, Monty. Get some rest.

Monty leaves.

STEVENSON

Any other bruises? Marks?

SHELLY

None from what I can see. No signs of trauma or even a struggle. It's almost as if she just took it.

STEVENSON

Any ID on her?

SHELLY

Yes, Christina Ortiz. 21 years old.

STEVENSON

Shit. They get younger and younger each time.

ROSA

Did she have anything else on her?

SHELLY

She had a bookbag on her back. CSI taking pictures of the contents and bagging them.

ROSA

I'll check the bag.

Rosa approaches a CSI investigator.

SHELLY

How have you been, Steve?

STEVENSON

I'm doing okay. I didn't get my second cup of coffee back in the office, though.

SHELLY

I just rolled out of bed myself. I'm sorry I didn't check in on you, I didn't want to overwhelm you.

STEVENSON

Don't mention it. You don't owe me anything.

SHELLY

How's Stephanie? Does she still hate me?

STEVENSON

She never hated you. She was just emotional. And she's doing fine.

SHELLY

I'm glad you two are okay.

Rosa comes back with an ID and hands the ID to Stevenson.

ROSA

Says she lives just a few blocks from here. ID is expired, but what 21 year old keeps up with that stuff?

Shelly dismisses herself.

STEVENSON

It's worth a visit. What else were in her bag?

ROSA

The usual, but she also had what seemed to be a change of clothes.

STEVENSON

Any phone?

ROSA

Actually, no.

Rosa's phone rings.

ROSA

Sorry, it's my husband.

Rosa walks away and answers phone. Stevenson approaches the body again and studies it. Rosa is heard in the background arguing on the phone.

STEVENSON

Shelly, can we expedite the DNA forensics?

SHELLY

Still expecting favors?

STEVENSON

Just a wishful request.

SHELLY

I'll get it to you as fast as I can.

STEVENSON

I appreciate it.

Rosa comes back.

ROSA

I have to take my twins to school.
Unbelievable. It was my husband's day
today and...

STEVENSON

It's okay, take your kids to school.

ROSA

I'm so sorry.

STEVENSON

Don't be. I'll meet you back at the
precinct with an update on Christina.

ROSA

Thank you.

Rosa leaves.

STEVENSON

(to Shelly)

I'll see you later, Shelly. It was
nice seeing you.

SHELLY

It was nice seeing you too. You look
good. Better.

STEVENSON

Thanks, I'm trying.

SHELLY

We should do lunch sometimes, catch up
over food and not a dead body.

STEVENSON

(Chuckles)

I agree.

EXT. ORTIZ'S HOUSE-DAY

Stevenson knocks on the door. EVELYN, petite and white
Hispanic woman, opens the door.

STEVENSON

Detective Stevenson Pierre. Is this
the Ortiz residency?

EVELYN

Yes, this is the Ortiz residency. Is this about my daughter, Christina?

Evelyn's husband, MIGUEL, average height and also white Hispanic.

MIGUEL

Miguel. This is Evelyn. Do you have news about Christina?

STEVENSON

I do. May I come in?

INT. ORTIZ'S LIVING ROOM-SAME

Evelyn points to a chair. Stevenson sits down. Evelyn and Miguel sit in front of Stevenson.

STEVENSON

We found Christina at the shore. She was already deceased when she reached.

Evelyn begins to cry.

MIGUEL

Deceased? How did this happen?

STEVENSON

We are waiting for more details but we think she was strangled before she was thrown into the water.

EVELYN

Who would do such a thing?

MIGUEL

She didn't tell us she was back in town.

STEVENSON

When was the last time you've seen her?

Evelyn cries harder. Miguel comforts her. Stevenson notices the family portraits. He looks around and sees more. He notices that the girl in the photos is not the same girl.

STEVENSON

Who is the girl in the photos?

Miguel looks up.

MIGUEL

That's Christina.

Stevenson takes out the ID and looks at the photo on the ID and then the girl. He hands the ID to Miguel.

STEVENSON

Who's this girl?

Miguel looks at the photo.

MIGUEL

I don't know, but this isn't Christina. Evelyn, *mira...*(look)

Evelyn looks at the photo.

EVELYN

Who is this? She's not our Christina. What is going on?

STEVENSON

There's been a misunderstanding. The body we found today had that ID on it.

MIGUEL

We don't know who this girl is and how she got my Christina's information on it.

EVELYN

So, Christina isn't dead?

STEVENSON

She's not the person we found at the shore.

EVELYN

Oh *dios mio*. (oh my God)

STEVENSON

I'm terribly sorry for this.

MIGUEL

Who would make a fake ID using my daughter's information?

STEVENSON

I don't know, sir. What happened to Christina?

MIGUEL

We don't know. She goes missing for long periods at a time. She told us she would call when she was back in town.

STEVENSON

When was the last time you've heard from her?

MIGUEL

Maybe a year ago.

STEVENSON

And you didn't report her missing?

MIGUEL

We didn't know she was missing.

EVELYN

Should we make a report? Does this fake ID mean anything?

STEVENSON

Is this normal behavior from her? Not hearing from her for a year?

MIGUEL

She once went almost 2 years without speaking to us. She left home at 18 and moved around a lot to random places. She never tells us where.

EVELYN

Maybe this means she's in trouble, Miguel. Oh *dios mio*.

STEVENSON

I don't want to imply anything about Christina's safety, this can very well be something as common as identity theft. The individual on the card could have been underage and managed to get this fake ID. I don't believe it's an indication that Christina is in trouble. Maybe try calling back the number she last called you on. Of

course, you are also free to file a report, I am not discouraging you as her parents from doing so.

EVELYN

I think we should, Miguel. I don't feel right about this.

Evelyn begins to cry again. Miguel comforts her.

MIGUEL

We will try looking for her. If we don't find her, we'll file.

Stevenson stands up and hands his card.

STEVENSON

Keep in touch if you need anything from me.

Miguel grabs the card.

MIGUEL

Thank you.

STEVENSON

I'm sorry for all of this.

MIGUEL

It's okay. We'll figure it out.

STEVENSON

I'll head out but I do need the ID back.

MIGUEL

Oh yes.

Miguel hands the ID.

STEVENSON

I'm sorry again. I'll walk myself out.

Stevenson leaves.

INT. LANTANA POLICE PRICICNT- DAY

Stevenson is at his desk. He is on his computer looking through the real Christina Ortiz's file. She's been arrested for drug possession.

Rosa walks in and sits down angrily.

STEVENSON

Bad morning?

ROSA

He does this all of time. He's still very spiteful that I took this position. He's trying to sabotage it.

STEVENSON

Your husband?

ROSA

Yes. He never forgave me for becoming a cop and now he really hates me for this.

STEVENSON

My wife couldn't stand my job. Actually, she liked it at first. Found it sexy and intriguing. And then we had our daughter, suddenly, she saw it for what it really was, dangerous, time-consuming, unpredictable.

ROSA

I did the cop thing for 3 years, before that I was a stay-at-home mom. He acted completely surprised that I wanted to work. I didn't plan on becoming a stay at home mom, but then we had the twins, and at that time it made sense for one of us to stay home. He already had the career and I was just finishing college. So we agreed that I would stay home until they started school. But he didn't want me working, he thought it was great that I was home, cooking and cleaning. After a while, I convinced him to let me do something part time while the kids were in school. Two years in that job, I was miserable, then I decided it's time. And he hated me ever since.

STEVENSON

I don't think he hates you. Resentful, maybe. Possibly more worried than anything.

ROSA

How did you and your wife deal with it?

STEVENSON

We didn't. We were separated for a long time before she passed away last year.

ROSA

Shit, I'm sorry.

STEVENSON

So, I don't have that answer for you, maybe find balance. I let this job take over my life in exchange for my family. Now, I'm stuck with it. I can't live without it. It's a sick attachment.

ROSA

Are you saying I chose the wrong career?

STEVENSON

I like to think detective work chooses us, just find the right balance.

ROSA

How was the visit with Christina's parents? Was it the right address?

STEVENSON

It was the right address for Christina Ortiz but not the girl we found today.

ROSA

Shit, really?

STEVENSON

This is the real Christina.

Rosa stands over him and looks at his computer.

ROSA

Drug possession.

STEVENSON

Her parents never mentioned this. They say they haven't heard from her in a year, and they don't know the girl on

the ID.

ROSA

Do we have any missing person reports on the girl on the ID?

STEVENSON

None. I ran her face through our software and no matches found. No matches found on her DNA and fingerprints.

ROSA

Shit. Can Christina be linked to this Jane Doe?

STEVENSON

Too early to tell.

ROSA

I'll contact the news stations to post Jane Doe and hopefully we get a good tip.

Rosa walks to her desk. Detective Johnson walks in.

DETECTIVE JOHNSON

I received a security footage clip for Jessica Alexander at a hair store on -Lantana and Federal. The owner said he thought he recognized her.

He plays the short clip. In the video, Jessica finishes at the counter when a hooded person approaches her. He then grabs her by the arm and escort her out. End of video.

DETECTIVE JOHNSON

It's hard to see the person's face but we're working on getting something cleaner. The owner said he didn't get a good look at him.

ROSA

He didn't bother to call the police? A woman gets grabbed at your store and you do nothing?

DETECTIVE JOHNSON

He didn't think anything of it. He

said she seemed like she knew him.

STEVENSON

Does he know what happened after that?

DETECTIVE JOHNSON

Said the guy left in a dark grey sedan and she left on foot.

STEVENSON

Does he have any footage of it.

DETECTIVE JOHNSON

He said the cameras outside are out of order, he's been meaning to get them fixed.

ROSA

Of course.

STEVENSON

Her husband was at the scene this morning.

DETECTIVE JOHNSON

He's listening to our every move.

STEVENSON

Does he know about this?

DETECTIVE JOHNSON

We informed him and sent him a still. He doesn't recognize the man.

DETECTIVE LOPEZ

Does this give us any new information?

DETECTIVE JOHNSON

Unless we know who this guy is, this doesn't tell us anything new. This footage was in the middle of the day when she was running errands. She went home after this.

INT. PIERRE'S BEDROOM-NIGHT

Stevenson is sitting on his bed, holding the liquor bottle that was gifted to him. He opens it and sniffs it. He then takes a quick drink.

STEVENSON

Shit.

He closes the bottle and then puts the bottle in between his mattress.

INT. PIERRE BATHROOM-SAME

Stevenson is brushing his teeth to take the alcohol smell out of his mouth. He then sprays himself with cologne.

He hears Stephanie coming in the house.

INT. PIERRE LIVING AREA-SAME

Stephanie closes the front door with food in her hand. She approaches the dining table and notices files. She rolls her eyes and places the food down.

STEPHANIE

Daddy?

INT. PIERRE BATHROOM-SAME

STEVENSON

In the bathroom.

He smells his breathe before leaving the bathroom.

INT. PIERRE LIVING AREA-SAME

Stevenson enters the living area. Stephanie picks up the files.

STEPHANIE

Your first day back and you're already bringing home files? Unbelievable. You said it would be different this time.

STEVENSON

I brought it home just in case something came to mind.

STEPHANIE

Well, not tonight. Tonight, we are going to eat some good food and watch something silly on TV.

STEVENSON

Fine. No work tonight. What did you bring?

STEPHANIE

Diri djon djon avec tasso kabrit
(mushroom rice with fried goat).

STEVENSON

Hmmm, been a while since I had goat.

Stephanie prepares their plate. Stevenson sits down at the table.

STEVENSON

Aren't you going to ask me about my first day back?

STEPHANIE

Nope. I'm sure it's the same old song. Somebody died and now you're looking for their killer. Did I get anything wrong?

She places their food down and sits down.

STEVENSON

No, you didn't. I got a new partner, young lady, maybe not so much older than you.

STEPHANIE

Where did Henderson go?

STEVENSON

The office told me different county. Boynton Beach.

STEPHANIE

He didn't tell you?

STEVENSON

I'm sure he tried. I missed his calls. It feels weird now to reach out.

STEPHANIE

I'm sure he would appreciate hearing from you. You don't have to push everyone away.

STEVENSON

I don't try to, Stephanie.

Awkward silence with silverware clanking.

STEVENSON

Shelly thinks you hate her.

STEPHANIE

I don't hate her. I think she doesn't know her place.

STEVENSON

You never play fair.

STEPHANIE

No, I play call out the bullshit.

STEVENSON

Watch it, Stephanie!

Someone knocks on the door. Stevenson goes to answer the door and at the door is GLORIA, short Haitian lady and Stevenson's sister, and MARK, average-height Haitian man. Gloria runs into the arms of Stevenson.

STEVENSON

What's going on?

MARK

It's Natalie. She's missing.

Stephanie jumps up.

STEPHANIE

What happened to Natalie?

GLORIA

Nou pa konnen kote li ye? Nou pa ka jwen li. (We don't know where she is, we can't find her).

STEPHANIE

What do you mean you can't find her?

Stephanie starts to cry.

STEVENSON

Come in, please.

Stevenson shuts the door. Stephanie and Gloria embrace each other.

STEVENSON

What happened? How do you know she's missing?

MARK

She didn't come home last night. We didn't hear from her all day. She's not picking up her phone. She hasn't called us.

STEPHANIE

Let me try.

Stephanie tries to call Natalie on the phone. It goes straight to voicemail. She hangs up.

GLORIA

I know she's hurt somewhere. I can feel it. She's not okay. Stevenson, please do something. My baby, she's not okay.

Stephanie guides Gloria to sit and she sits next to her.

STEVENSON

Do you remember where she went?

GLORIA

She usually runs errands on Sunday.

STEPHANIE

She went to a party, a boat party yesterday. I made food for it.

MARK

Boat party? Who does she know with a boat?

STEPHANIE

She said she was going with her boyfriend.

MARK

Boyfriend?

GLORIA

She didn't tell us she had a boyfriend.

MARK

Stephanie, why didn't you tell us she had a boyfriend?

STEPHANIE

I'm sorry Uncle Mark, it didn't cross

my mind that she was keeping it from you and Auntie Gloria.

MARK

How long has she been seeing him?

STEPHANIE

A few months, I don't know. I'm not sure. She only started to tell me about him a few weeks ago.

GLORIA

What did you say his name was?

STEPHANIE

I don't remember.

(looks through phone)

Maybe she texted me his name before. Justin.

MARK

Justin?

STEPHANIE

He's a lawyer in Palm Beach.

GLORIA

Lawyer? Where did she meet him?

STEPHANIE

I don't know.

MARK

Justin what?

STEPHANIE

I don't know. I don't know. I'm sorry.

STEVENSON

Do you know anything about this boat party?

STEPHANIE

They were celebrating the boyfriend's birthday. I don't know anything else.

MARK

Why? What's going on?

STEVENSON

It's too early to say anything, I

don't want to cause hysteria.

GLORIA

Steve, please find her.

STEVENSON

File a missing persons report. There are detectives that will work to find her.

GLORIA

I want you to find her. They won't care for my black little girl.

STEVENSON

They will do their best to find her. I know these detectives. File the report.

MARK

Stephanie, can you get more information on this Justin, please.

STEPHANIE

I'll try.

STEVENSON

No, it's better and safer if she stays out of it, if you all stay out of it.

MARK

Excuse me?

STEVENSON

I understand, Mark. I understand your frustration, but file the report and let the police do their job. It's too dangerous to do anything alone.

GLORIA

How can you tell us that? She's your niece, Steve! Do something!

STEVENSON

I'll do the best I can. I promise. If you file, they can put it on the news, they can do investigation, track her phone, check cameras. It's the best way.

MARK

Okay, okay. We will file, but please make sure you are part of the investigation.

STEVENSON

I will.

INT. AUTOPSY ROOM-DAY

Jane Doe body is laying on a table. Shelly begins to explain what she found to Rosa and Stevenson.

SHELLY

We didn't find any bruises or marks on her or any deformities. No sexual trauma. However, she did have semen in her. We collected it and will be testing for DNA. We tested her blood and it came back positive for a sedative.

ROSA

She was drugged?

SHELLY

Yes, which would explain the lack of defensive wounds.

ROSA

So whoever did this was a coward. He didn't want her to put up a fight.

STEVENSON

Who said it's a he?

SHELLY

He's right. Could be a she. It's really hard to tell.

ROSA

You said you found semen in her.

SHELLY

Well, yes, but no sexual trauma. I'm reluctant to say that the person she had sex with also killed her. However, there's always that possibility that he did.

STEVENSON

Any other DNA found on her?

SHELLY

We did find some finger prints in her underarm, but the ocean's salt water ruined the quality. We ran what we could and nothing came back.

STEVENSON

When can we get the results for the semen?

SHELLY

I expedited it. Less than 48 hours.

STEVENSON

Thanks, I appreciate it.

SHELLY

No problem. So this isn't Christina Ortiz?

STEVENSON

She's not. For now, she's Jane Doe.

ROSA

We're hoping to get some leads on who she is. She's been on the news since yesterday.

SHELLY

What a shame. Her family must be worried sick.

ROSA

If a good tip doesn't come in, maybe her family will report her missing. So far, she doesn't match any current missing persons.

SHELLY

I hope she's identified so her family can give her a proper burial and get some closure.

INT. CAPTAIN CORTES' OFFICE-DAY

Captain Cortes is looking through some files when Stevenson knocks on the door.

CAPTAIN CORTES
Pierre. Come in. Sit.

Stevenson sits down.

STEVENSON
Captain.

CAPTAIN CORTES
A missing persons case came in today
and the father made it very clear that
the missing person is your niece.

STEVENSON
I told him to file.

CAPTAIN CORTES
I need you to stay off the case. It
will crowd your judgment.

STEVENSON
Captain...

CAPTAIN CORTES
Let this be a family matter for you
and let us take care of the
investigation.

STEVENSON
I told them I would be a part of it.

CAPTAIN CORTES
You shouldn't have, that's not our
protocol and you know that.

STEVENSON
I know, but this is my niece, Captain.

CAPTAIN CORTES
And I am here to support you in any
other way. If you need some time off,
I am more than..

STEVENSON
I just had time off, plenty time off.

CAPTAIN CORTES
I know it's been one hell of a year
for you and now this. If you need
counseling, we will offer you those
services.

STEVENSON

I need my niece back. I can help her come back. She might be connected to my case. She went to a boat party. Our Jane Doe was thrown off a boat.

CAPTAIN CORTES

There are plenty of boats in Lantana. It could be just a coincident. Do you know if they were on the same one?

STEVENSON

No.

CAPTAIN CORTES

Keep the two cases separate. You are not permitted to work on your niece's investigation, Detective Pierre. That's an order. Have I made myself clear?

STEVENSON

Understood.

CAPTAIN CORTES

Right now, I need you to support your family while we find their daughter.

STEVENSON

Understood.

CAPTAIN CORTES

I really do hate to do this to you, Pierre, but I think it's for the best.

STEVENSON

Is there anything else?

CAPTAIN CORTES

No, not from me.

STEVENSON

Great.

Stevenson gets up and leave.

INT. LANTANA POLICE PRICICNT- DAY

Rosa is on the phone.

ROSA

Blue house on the corner of West Drew
and Pinetree. Do you know her name?
It's fine. Thank you for the call.

Rosa hangs up as Stevenson walks in, he is visibly upset.

ROSA

Are you okay?

STEVENSON

I'm fine.

ROSA

Someone just called with a tip. Said
our Jane Doe looks like his neighbor.
He doesn't know her name, but he's
pretty sure it's her.

STEVENSON

Did he give his name?

ROSA

Nope. He did say he hasn't seen her in
a few days.

STEVENSON

Who does she lives with?

ROSA

She lives with her mom, dad, and what
he thinks is her younger siblings. You
think it's worth the visit?

STEVENSON

We have nothing to lose. Something
might come out of it.

ROSA

Are you sure you are okay? I'm sorry
about your niece. I just heard.

STEVENSON

I don't want people to feel sorry for
me. I've had enough pity these days.

ROSA

If there's anything I can do, please
let me know.

STEVENSON

Well there's nothing I can do, Captain told me to stay off of the investigation.

ROSA

Shit. That's tough.

STEVENSON

My daughter said she was going to a boat party.

ROSA

Shit. You don't think..

STEVENSON

God I hope not.

ROSA

Did you tell Captain?

STEVENSON

He doesn't think they're related.

ROSA

What do you know about your niece?

STEVENSON

Not much, unfortunately. She had some lawyer boyfriend from Palm Beach. Justin. I don't have a last name.

ROSA

If she went to a boat party with him, she would be missing in Palm Beach. Our Jane Doe washed up on Lantana. Too far to be related, I think.

STEVENSON

You're probably right. Her father is going to be disappointed that I'm not on the case. He demanded I be on it.

ROSA

I would want you on the case too. Whatever you do, I won't snitch.

Stevenson chuckles.

INT. JANE DOE'S HOUSE-DAY

Rosa and Stevenson are in front of Jane Doe's house. Stevenson knocks on the door. They wait a while.

STEVENSON

Are you sure this is it?

ROSA

Yup, he said the blue house on the corner of West Drew and Pinetree.

STEVENSON

Probably nobody's home.

The door opens and a little boy peeps his head out.

ROSA

Hola, nino, donde esta tu mama?
(Hello, little boy, where is your mom?)

The boy runs and leaves the door a bit ajar. Rosa peeps in. A short and older Hispanic woman approaches the door. The little boy wraps his arms around her leg.

ROSA

Hola, mi nombre es Rosa. Soy un detective. Este es Steve. El tambien es un detective. (Hi my name is Rosa. I am a detective. This is Steve. He is also a detective).
(Pulls out a photo of Jane Doe)
Sabes quien es? (Do you know who this is?)

LITTLE BOY

Maribel.

The older woman pushes the boy back and shakes her head.

OLDER WOMAN

No, por favor, no. Lo siento. (No, please, no, sorry)

The woman goes to close the door. Rosa stops her.

ROSA

Por favor, ella fue encontrada muerta ayer a la playa. (Please, she was found dead yesterday at the beach).

The lady looks shock and then she shuts the door.

ROSA

Por favor!

STEVENSON

Rosa, she's not going to open the door.

ROSA

Unbelievable.

They head to the car.

ROSA

Something isn't right.

They enter the car.

INT. POLICE CAR-SAME

ROSA

Why didn't she at least report her missing?

STEVENSON

They're definitely hiding something.

ROSA

The little boy said she was Maribel.

STEVENSON

We can do a web search on this address and see if her name shows up.

They see the older woman peeping out the window and then quickly closes the blinds.

ROSA

What is she so afraid of? Why won't she speak to us?

STEVENSON

She probably thinks we're ICE. Maybe they're undocumented.

ROSA

Just because they're Latinos, doesn't mean they're undocumented.

STEVENSON

Take your emotions out of it Rosado and pay attention. She doesn't report her daughter missing, who had a fake ID on her. This is South Florida, the chances of someone being undocumented is very high.

ROSA

Should we go back and tell her we're not ICE.

STEVENSON

No, we scared her enough. We should just let her sit with this news and hopefully, she'll come around.

Stevenson's phone rings.

STEVENSON

Pierre.

He stays on a bit long and then he hangs up the phone.

STEVENSON

A body washed up the shore again.

ROSA

Are you serious?

STEVENSON

Young female. Goddamit, I hope it's not Natalie.

ROSA

Fuck.

EXT. LANTANA BEACH-DAY

Stevenson hurries to the crime scene.

SHELLY

Same MO as our Jane Doe.

ROSA

Maribel. Jane Doe's name is Maribel.

Stevenson looks at the body.

STEVENSON

Fuck.

ROSA
Is it Natalie?

STEVENSON
No, it's our missing wife. Jessica.

End of Episode 1.