

CHESH MATCH

Written by:
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INT. SAFEHOUSE - AFTERNOON

THE RAPSCALLION is sitting at a table with a chess board set up. She is playing the guitar, softly humming some song you have never heard of. THE POLITICIAN enters looking around still longing to maintain any sort of confidence. He walks slowly towards the chess table. The RapsCALLION looks up.

THE RAPSCALLION

I believe it's your turn. Why don't you have a seat?

The RapsCALLION gestures for him to sit and he does.

THE POLITICIAN

Are you-

THE RAPSCALLION

Shhh... Play.

The Politician moves his white piece and they continue playing while talking.

THE RAPSCALLION

I heard about your wife. My condolences.

THE POLITICIAN

I thought you were a-

THE RAPSCALLION

Man?

THE POLITICIAN

Yes.

THE RAPSCALLION

I'll try to take that as a compliment. (beat)
You know what I find odd?

THE POLITICIAN

What?

THE RAPSCALLION

My female clients always figure me out and yet the male clients are continually surprised to see me, a wretched female, sitting here.

THE POLITICIAN

I didn't say that.

THE RAPSCALLION

Might as well have.

THE POLITICIAN

Why am I here?

The RapsCALLION doesn't respond and keeps playing, taking one of The Politician's pieces.

THE POLITICIAN

Could you at least give me the common decency to inform me of where I am?

THE RAPSCALLION

Decency? You know nothing of decency.

THE POLITICIAN

Oh she does speak.

THE RAPSCALLION

Yes, you would find that surprising considering you only ever consider women to be play-toys that fall at your feet and not people with feelings and emotions.

THE POLITICIAN

That's only because most women I meet are gold digging tramps. They all would fall at my feet without a word spoken.

THE RAPSCALLION

Prepare to be surprised.

THE POLITICIAN

Where am I?

THE RAPSCALLION

Just a safehouse.

They continue playing the game without speaking for a while.

THE RAPSCALLION

A nice recovery from the Caro Kann Defence. Not as bad as I thought you would be.

THE POLITICIAN

Seems we can both be surprising. Why chess?

THE RAPSCALLION

What do you mean?

THE POLITICIAN

How did you know I liked chess?

THE RAPSCALLION

Call it a lucky guess.

THE POLITICIAN

So.

THE RAPSCALLION

So?

THE POLITICIAN

If you knew I was fond of chess, why would you give me white?

THE RAPSCALLION

Hmm. I did give you white, didn't I? I'd hardly noticed.

THE POLITICIAN

You know white has a better shot at winning.

THE RAPSCALLION

Only if better than the opposition.

THE POLITICIAN

Lucky for me, I am better than you.

THE RAPSCALLION

Hmm. That's debatable.

THE POLITICIAN

Considering you knight is about to get caught in my trap, I would beg to differ.

THE RAPSCALLION

Remember what I said about listening to women? Well you were executing a Ruy Lopez and instead got Caro Kann. If you had actually paid attention to what I was saying, you would see that your trap doesn't work. Look, my bishop protects my knight. It doesn't affect me. Your wife always played Ruy Lopez, didn't she?

The Politician looks up from the board slowly and glares at the RapsCALLION.

THE POLITICIAN

Why am I here?

The RapsCALLION chuckles while keeping her eyes locked on the board.

THE POLITICIAN

Is this funny to you?

THE RAPSCALLION

A bit?

THE POLITICIAN

You called me away from work for what? A game of chess? So you could attempt to ridicule me? The job is done and you got your payday. Leave me the hell alone.

THE RAPSCALLION

Or what?

THE POLITICIAN

You know I have plenty of power. Power that could be used to take you down.

The Politician stands and begins to walk out of the room.

THE RAPSCALLION

In turn, wouldn't that expose you and your connection to me? That being said, you don't know a thing about me while I know everything about you. Your full name, the real one. Not the one you tell everyone. Your address, your social security number. Hell, I have a photocopy of your birth certificate on file for cases just like this. I also know about your slightly illegal plan to bring down your political rival coming up this March. And about that plan to involve Russia in some conflict to ensure that they would help us defeat China in that war you're planning. That's sure to make national headlines. That's what this is about isn't it? Now, I would threaten your family, but truthfully, I don't believe that you care about that as much as you do about your precious reputations. I only hit people where it hurts. I find it's just so much more fun. So I implore you. Take a seat, Mr. Governor.

The Politician takes a seat trying to not let her words get to him.

THE RAPSCALLION

I don't need much from you. I just want you to talk.

THE POLITICIAN

Talk?

THE RAPSCALLION

Talk.

THE POLITICIAN

Talk about what exactly? The weather?

THE RAPSCALLION

What kind of weather did she like best?

THE POLITICIAN

She was the rain. I liked the rain... for a while.
Perhaps it was love at some point.

THE RAPSCALLION

Well you liked the rain then... What changed your mind?

THE POLITICIAN

The sun.

THE RAPSCALLION

Oh, the sun.

THE POLITICIAN

Yes, the sun.

THE RAPSCALLION

What made the sun so special?

THE POLITICIAN

What do you mean?

THE RAPSCALLION

Would I be wrong in assuming that the sun and the rain
bear a passing resemblance to each other?

THE POLITICIAN

Hey wait a min-

THE RAPSCALLION

What was it? Her hair? Her face? Why did you like her
more than your wife?

THE POLITICIAN

She was younger. You know, fresh meat.

THE RAPSCALLION

Younger? You couldn't even be delicate and say her personality or something.

THE POLITICIAN

What? God knows she doesn't have the brains Caroline did.

THE RAPSCALLION

Stop talking.

THE POLITICIAN

What? I mean this new girl isn't gonna be on anyone's honor roll.

THE RAPSCALLION

Be quite.

THE POLITICIAN

No A+ report cards here.

THE RAPSCALLION

Shut. Up.

THE POLITICIAN

I mean her body is a ten out of ten but Double D's don't make a good wife for a politician.

The RapsCALLION takes a pistol out of her holster. She smacks him across the face with it. He falls unconscious. She panics slightly and puts the gun down.

BLACK OUT

INT. SAFEHOUSE - AFTERNOON

The Politician slowly wakes up and grunts.

THE RAPSCALLION

Oh. Hello.

THE POLITICIAN

What... What happened?

THE RAPSCALLION

Well ugh before I say that. I would like to tell you that I am very sorry and I do feel bad for hitting you with the butt end of my gun.

THE POLITICIAN

You what?

THE RAPSCALLION

But that's not the point. I'm bored.

THE POLITICIAN

You're bored?

THE RAPSCALLION

Yes, of playing chess. Taking into consideration that I just learned to play chess last week, this is not surprising. I want to play another type of game. But first, I'd love to introduce you to someone.

THE POLITICIAN

Who? You didn't mention that someone else would be here.

THE RAPSCALLION

The Sun.

The Politician's eyes widen as THE SUN walks in. The Politician tries to get up, but realizes he has been handcuffed to his chair.

THE SUN

What was that talk about my intellect?

THE RAPSCALLION

To be honest, that's not even the best part. Now let's rewind just a little. You wanted to kill your wife. Not for any particular reason. You just needed her out of the way. That's where I come in. You hired me to kill your wife. So I asked a good friend of mine to fill in the role of "The reason I killed my wife." You

gave yourself the justification and proceeded. Job done. With no blood on your hands. You get off Scot free. Except for the fact that your very smart wife saw me coming from a mile away and came to me with a proposition. A proposition and far more money than you offered. Who could say no to that? I believe it's time for a reunion. Here she comes now. The Rain.

THE RAIN walks in and sits across from The Politician with the chess set still in front of them. The Rapsallion and The Sun begin to walk off stage.

THE RAPSCALLION

We'll leave you kids to it.

THE RAIN

Is it mine turn or yours?

THE POLITICIAN

What?

THE RAIN

The game. You always hated unfinished business.

THE POLITICIAN

Yours.

They continue playing the game.

THE RAIN

I've always found the way you play chess is so aggressive. Constantly attacking hoping to overwhelm the opponent. You have failed to realize that your tactic only works when the person you're playing with doesn't know you. Unfortunately, I know you very well. I find it amusing that you thought you could get rid of me so quickly. And how horrible you are at chess.

She moves her final piece and knocks over the white king.

THE RAIN

Checkmate.