

CLOSING STATEMENT OF THE ALPHA'S ATTORNEY

Therefore the showers have been withholden, and there hath been no latter rain; and thou hadst a whore's forehead, thou refusedst to be ashamed.¹

This is a cycle. We must silence these women for my client's sake. I warn the fathers of this room: Do not prostitute thy daughter, to cause her to be a whore; lest the land fall to whoredom, and the land become full of wickedness.² I recommend that you punish these women, your Honor.

And you, you women who harass with your stories, stalking the bedrooms of your abusers, I say: bring out the damsel to the door of her father's house, and the men of her city shall stone her with stones that she die: because she hath wrought folly in Broken Mirror, to play the whore in her father's house: so shalt thou put evil away from among you.³

¹ Jeremiah 3:3

² Leviticus 19:29

³ Deuteronomy 22:21

EVIDENCE

Her thighs—
out of nowhere,
purple blossoms surfaced.
Eruptions, as if no one had
struck her.

OUR ATTORNEY'S CLOSING STATEMENT

We have what we call, in the study of law, an eggshell plaintiff, susceptible to his feelings. Under the four corners of the statute, we must prove that a reasonable person feels threatened. We have not proven anything reasonable here today.

Evidence has been erased. How are reasonable people, like my clients, supposed to know when they're being lied to, baited? This is a fabrication brought upon the Court, you Honor. Your Honor has the power to judge the credibility of these women. I believe what they've told you. They believe what they've told you. I know you have an extensive background in domestic violence, your Honor. I don't think you're going to say that these women are lying, because nothing they've said has been disputed. Perception is in the eye of the beholder. To a hammer, everything looks like a nail. It's got to be anything but the hammer, he thinks. Not me, he thinks.

At the end of the day, people are allowed to express themselves. That's the First Amendment. And I think what they're doing is okay. It is art. What is art? An expression of life, our tribulations. It's scary. Maybe people like it, maybe they don't. Maybe they relate, maybe they don't. What's terrifying, what's terrifying to me is that to this hammer, everything in his future will look like a nail.

THE HONORABLE ANSWER SENTENCES

Sir, because I cannot prove whether or not you abused these women, and I cannot prove whether or not this woman caused you to lose anything in your life, you are in the wrong court. For the other woman, though, I have some issues. You, ma'am, are an advocate. Your job is to advocate for other people, correct, for unions? You have your own truths, okay, and I'm not saying it's not the truth. But when you're trying to help what I would call domestic violence, you have to be very careful because you don't know where people are or whether they're in safe spaces. If they want your help, they will ask for it. I am troubled by your truth-telling. How loud it is. How vocal. This speaking out has caused this man emotional distress. So I will grant the order of protection here. Ma'am, do you own or possess a gun? During this year you cannot own or possess a gun. Please stay to sign the papers.