

Eyewitness
Sheshatshiu Innu Auassit
Fall 2023

Cast (in order of appearance):

Scene 1

Billie Jameson (clerk): Kanani Michel
Detective: Harper Gregoire
Billie (past): Florrah Rich
Intruder: Uniam Pinette
Mr.White (past; witness): Mason Penashue

Scene 2

Alma: Janet Snow
Detective: Harper Gregoire
Officer 1: Terese Rich
Officer 2: Helen Nuna
Officer 3: Mya Pone
Mr.White (present): Kallum Hart
Billie (past): Florrah Rich
Mr.White (past): Mason Penashue
Intruder: Charles Rich

Scene 3:

Morgan Foster: Brooklyn Rich
Macy Winters: Louisa Rich
Anita Foster: Maria Penashue
Detective: Harper Gregoire
Intruder (described by Morgan): Roy Snow
Intruder (described by Macy): Tyries Jack

Scene 4:

Billie Jameson: Kanani Michel
Detective: Harper Gregoire
Arresting Officer 1: Helen Nuna
Arresting Officer 2: Raina Michelin
Officer Escorting Larry: Karleanna Pokue
Larry Jameson: Peyton Abraham

Scene One:

Questioning of Billie Jameson, the Clerk

Interrogation room.

Lights up on stage right (interrogation room).

Detective is questioning witnesses, one by one, about a convenience store robbery that happened the day before in Goose Bay.

Clerk sitting at a table. There is nothing on the table except a glass of water in front of the clerk and a closed manila folder in front of the detective.

Detective: Can you state your name for the record?

Billie: Billie Jameson

Detective: Thank you. How old are you, Billie? Do you mind if I call you Billie?

Billie: Yeah, that's fine. I just turned 18 the day before yesterday.

Detective: Please let the record reflect that Billie Jameson was a legal adult at the time of the incident and at the time of questioning.

Okay, Billie. I have some questions for you about an incident that happened at Big Land Convenience yesterday, Saturday, July 8th, 2023. Were you present at Big Land Convenience yesterday during the incident in question?

Billie: Yes. I started my shift at 9 am and wasn't scheduled to get off until 5 pm.

Detective: What is your role at the Big Land Convenience Store?

Billie: I work the cash register mostly. I sometimes have to stock shelves but we have some part-time stockers, so mostly I'm just on cash.

Detective: Can you please tell me if anything happened during your shift yesterday that was out of the ordinary?

Billie: Well man, there was a robbery, so I'd say that was pretty out of the ordinary.

Detective: What do you recall of this incident?

Billie: It's kind of a blur. It all happened so fast, you know? I was texting my brother, and the door to the store opened. Someone screamed and when I looked up, there was a knife in my face.

Detective: Who was holding the knife?

Billie: Some guy wearing a mask

Detective: Can you walk me through exactly what happened, as you remember it?

(lights go down on the interrogation room and come back up on the reenactment on stage left)

Re-enactment on the other side of the stage:

Billie is standing behind the cash register, texting. We hear a bell above a door and a masked person walks in and approaches the register.*

Billie*: Just one sec, man (without looking up)

Intruder: Gimme the money!

Billie*: Whoa - whoa.

Intruder: Now - open the register. Slowly. Hands where I can see them. Don't do anything stupid.

Billie*: Okay. You can take whatever you want. I don't care. Just don't hurt me.

(Billie opens the register and the Intruder thrusts a bag towards Billie*.)*

Intruder: Put it in here. All of it!

(Billie puts the money into the bag. Intruder takes it and starts to go towards the door but stops when he sees another customer frozen by the door.)*

Intruder: Move! (pushes past the customer and runs offstage)

(lights go down on the reenactment and come back up on the interrogation room on stage right)

Interrogation Room:

Detective: What happened next?

Billie: That's it. I pressed the panic button and then you guys showed up.

Detective: Thank you. Please leave your contact information with Alma out front. We'll be in touch if we need anything else.

(Lights go down)

Scene Two: Questioning of Hector White, a Witness

Lights up on stage right (interrogation room).

Detective is talking to three other detectives quietly, looking at photos when the secretary comes in from offstage.

Alma: We have the next witness ready for you, sir.

Detective: Thank you. Send them right in. (Alma leaves)

Officer 1: Something isn't adding up, for sure. We'll watch from the observation room. We can meet again later.

(Observing detectives leave and stand "behind the glass")

(Mr.White, the customer who was a witness, walks in)

Detective: Please take a seat. Thank you for coming in today, Mr.White.

Mr.White: Of course.

Detective: Can you state your name and age for the record?

Mr.White: Hector White. I'm 67 years old.

Detective: Thank you. Were you present at Big Land Convenience yesterday?

Mr.White: Yes.

Detective: Can you please tell me what you recall?

Mr.White: I was going into the store to buy some eggs and bread. I always go on Saturdays. When I walked in, I saw that something was happening by the cash register.

Detective: Did you hear anything that was being said?

Mr.White: No, my hearing's not what it used to be. I don't always wear my hearing aids. I'm pretty good at reading lips but I was way back by the door.

Sidebar - behind the glass

(Observing detectives are watching, nodding their heads.)

Officer 2: That's consistent with what the clerk said.

Officer 1: I guess. Something still seems off to me.

(Back to the observation room)

Detective: Please tell me what happened as you remember it.

(lights go down on the interrogation room and come back up on the reenactment on stage left)

Re-enactment on the other side of the stage:

Mr.White is standing beside the door, watching Billie and the intruder.

Billie is filling a bag with money, and passes it over to the intruder. The intruder starts to leave, and then Billie says something that makes the intruder turn back to him.*

The intruder passes the bag back, and Billie shoves gift cards inside. The intruder takes the bag and leaves.

Intruder: Move! (pushes past the customer and runs offstage)

(lights go down on the reenactment and come back up on the interrogation room on stage right)

Interrogation Room

Detective: Are you absolutely sure that the clerk put gift cards into the bag?

Mr.White: Yes. I mean, I couldn't hear much, but I could see pretty good from where I was standing. I was trying to decide whether I should run out or hide. Before I could do anything, the guy with the mask was coming at me. I was afraid he was going to hurt me, but he just yelled at me and ran out.

Detective: Did the intruder have a weapon?

Mr.White: Not that I could see.

Detective: Alma will take down your contact information when you go out front. Please don't talk about the details of the case with anyone as it is an ongoing investigation. I will be in touch if more questions arise. You've been very helpful, Mr.White. Thank you.

Sidebar - Behind the Glass

Officer 1: See? I knew there was something off about that clerk. He didn't mention the gift cards at all.

Officer 3: Maybe he forgot.

Officer 2: Hmm. I dunno. Would you forget something like that?

Officer 1: And what about the knife? The witness didn't see a knife at all.

(Lights go down)

Scene Three: Questioning of Morgan and Macy, Parking Lot Witnesses

Lights up on stage right (interrogation room).

Two young girls are sitting at the interrogation table. There is an adult with them, sitting to the side.

Detective is in the observation room, watching them, and talking to the officers gathered there. When the detective looks up and sees the girls waiting, he strides into the room as the other officers observe.

Detective: Thank you very much for coming in today. Can you both state your name and age for the record?

Girls look toward the adult. She nods.

Macy: I'm Macy Winters and I'm 12.

Morgan: I'm Morgan Foster and I'm 11 and three quarters. And Macy's not really 12 yet. We're two days apart.

Detective: Okay, noted. Thank you. We've asked a chaperone to accompany

you today, since you are both minors. Can you also state your name for the record, and your relationship to the witnesses?

Anita Foster: I'm Anita Foster. Morgan is my daughter. She and Macy were picking up snacks for a sleepover at my house. We just live two streets over from Big Land, so I let them walk.

Detective: Thank you, Ms.Foster. Now girls, I just have a few questions for you. I understand you were in the parking lot when you saw an intruder leaving Big Land Convenience?

Morgan: Yes! It was really scary! We were just walking across the parking lot, minding our own business, when this guy ran out with a bag full of cash.

Detective: Can you please tell me what you saw, with as much detail as Possible?

(lights up on the re-enactment - the whole stage is lit)

Re-enactment on the other side of the stage as Morgan is describing the intruder:

A masked intruder comes out of the store (towards center stage).

Morgan: Sure. Let's see. He had a mask on, but it was definitely a guy. He was huge. Like over 6 feet tall. I think he had a heavy chain around his neck. Yes, I definitely remember that. He was wearing all black, and he had a giant bag of cash in one hand. He couldn't even get it closed because there was so much cash in there.

Macy: No, that's not what -

Morgan (interrupting): He had a giant knife. What do you call those jungle knives? Machetes? Yeah, one of those. It was dripping with blood too. Like who knows what he even did before he robbed the store.

Masked intruder whips out a bloody machete.

Macy: That's not true!

Morgan: I know what I saw! He was really scary looking and he was making scary noises. Like growling and snarling.

Macy: Stop! That's not right at all! *(hops out of her chair)* I'll tell you what really happened.

As Macy talks, the intruder (who has frozen) rewinds, walking backwards offstage in slow motion. As Macy describes him, he re-enters, looking completely different.*

Macy: He was probably only 5'5" or something. He had black gym pants and a hoodie, and the hood was up and tied so we couldn't see his hair. But he didn't have a mask on. He had one of those neckwarmer things pulled up over his mouth and nose. He had a small bag in one hand and a cell phone in the other. He was texting someone.

Detective: Did he see you?

Macy: When he looked up and saw us, he kind of stopped and then he took off running. He dropped his cell phone.

The intruder runs offstage, dropping a cell phone in his haste.

Detective: I'm sorry, but you must be mistaken. There was no cell phone recovered at the scene.

Macy: Morgan -

Morgan: Well now, that seems to about sum it up, doesn't it? Is that all, sir?

Macy: But -

Morgan (standing and smiling sweetly): Bye! Glad we could help!

Anita Foster: Morgan Uapukun Foster! The next words out of your mouth better be the truth, or you will be walking home.

Morgan: Ugh. Okay, okay. I picked it up. I thought I could crack the case before the police, and then Big Land Convenience might offer me a reward or something. Or maybe the mayor would give me a medal. *(Perks up)* Hey, do you think they still might?

Anita Foster: Honestly, Morgan. What am I going to do with you?

Detective: Where is the phone now?

(Morgan takes the phone out of her pocket and puts it on the table.)

Morgan: Here. I charged it, but there's a password so I couldn't get into it.

Detective: Removing evidence from the scene of a crime is also a crime, young lady. Do you understand that what you did impeded our investigation?

Morgan: I'm really sorry. Please don't arrest me! I'm too pretty for jail!

Detective: For now, I'm going to let you go with a warning. I trust you will never do that again?

Morgan: Never! Cross my heart and hope to die! Scout's honor! Pinky promise. *(holds out her pinky)*

Detective: That's okay. Are you both sure that's ALL you saw?

Macy *(nodding)*: Yes, officer.

Morgan: For sure.

Detective: Thank you all for coming in. Please see Alma at the front and she'll take your contact information in case you remember anything else.

(Ms.Foster and the two girls leave. Detective takes out his own phone and makes a call.)

Detective: Lisa? Can you do me a favor? A cell phone came into evidence. We need to find out who it belongs to.

Yeah, there's a password.

How long do you think?

Thanks buddy. I owe you.

(Lights go down)

Scene Four: Arrest of Billie Jameson

Lights up on stage right (interrogation room).

Billie Jameson is sitting at the Interrogation Room table, fidgeting nervously. Detective walks into the room, holding a cell phone in a plastic evidence bag.

Detective: Mr.Jameson, we appreciate you coming down. We have a few follow-up questions.

Detective puts the bag on the table but doesn't say anything about it.

Billie (eyeing the bag nervously): Yes, sir. That's no problem. What can I do to help?

Detective: Well, Mr.Jameson, some new evidence came into light. We're wondering if you have anything to add to your story before an arrest is made.

Billie: No, I told you what I remembered. What new evidence? Where did it

come from?

Detective: You told us that you were texting your brother when the intruder entered the store. Is that correct?

Billie: Yes.

Detective: Could I please see your phone, Mr. Jameson?

Billie: Um, I don't have it on me.

Detective: You sure about that?

Billie: Yes, I'm always forgetting it.

Detective: That's okay. I have your phone number right here. Alma wrote it down for me. (takes a scrap of paper from his pocket, and reads out the numbers aloud) 285-4421. Let's try that out, shall we?
(Takes the phone from the bag and dials in the numbers.) 2 - 8 - 5 - 4 - 4 - 2 - 1.

(A phone rings in Billie's pocket.)

Detective: Now that's interesting. When I entered the number, it was saved as Buttface. Who do you know who would save your number as Buttface?

Billie: Um, I didn't realize I had... I mean, I thought I left my phone... I have no idea whose phone that is.

Detective: You sure? You see, we had our people find out who owned this phone. It was dropped by the person who robbed Big Land Convenience. And do you know what they found?

Billie: No. I have no idea whose phone that is. I was just working and minding my own business.

Detective: Mr. Jameson, this phone is registered to a Mr. Jameson. But it's not

yours, is it? It belongs to another Mr. Jameson. Your brother, Larry Jameson.

Billie: What? Larry robbed the store? I can't believe it. I -

Detective: Mr. Jameson, I'm going to tell you what I believe happened on Saturday, July 8th at Big Land Convenience. Please correct me if I'm wrong. You see, on the afternoon in question, I believe you were really texting your brother just before the robbery. In fact, I know you were because we have cell phone records indicating that Larry Jameson received a text from you just a minute and a half before he entered the store. That text told Larry that the coast was clear. At that point, Larry came into the store to assist you in robbing your own employer.

Billie: Hey, that's not what happened!

Detective: No? Then please, tell me what happened.

Billie: If Larry robbed the store, he did it alone. I didn't have anything to do with it! Larry's always been trouble! Momma's heart will break when she finds out he did this! Is he going to jail?

Detective: Oh, I don't think Mr. Jameson will see any jail time. He's been very cooperative. Told us where to find the stolen goods - including quite a few gift cards. Now that really was a puzzler. You didn't mention the gift cards at all. We couldn't figure out why anyone would steal gift cards. I mean, before they're activated, they're useless. But you know what? Someone working in a store with the ability to activate gift cards might not find them so useless.

Billie: I never -

Detective: *(looking toward the glass)* Officers.

Two uniformed police officers enter from behind the glass.

Detective: Billie Jameson, you are under arrest for conspiracy to commit

theft over \$5000 and aiding and abetting in theft over \$5000. I'm now going to inform you of your rights. You have the right to remain silent; anything you say and do can be used against you in the court of law. You have the right to attain legal counsel during questioning, if you cannot afford legal counsel the court will appoint someone to you. You also have the right to end questioning at any time. Do you understand your rights as I read them to you?

As the detective speaks, one of the uniformed officers handcuffs Billie and starts to march him out of the room.

Just then, Larry Jameson is escorted past the Interrogation room by another police officer. Billie sees him and starts yelling after him.

Billie: Larry! How could you do this to me? It's all your fault! Wait until Momma finds out that you framed me!

Officer: That's enough, Mr. Jameson.

Billie: It was all his idea anyway! He forced me to do it!

(Billie is taken offstage.)

Detective: Case closed.

(Lights go down.)

The end.