

INT. THE OFFICE - NIGHT

SAM joins KAFFEE and JO. The mood is sombre.

KAFFEE

Dawson's gonna go to jail just to spite me. Fine. If he wants to jump off a cliff, that's his business. I'm not gonna hold his hand on the way down.

(to SAM)

I want to get him a new lawyer. How do I do it?

SAM

You just make a motion tomorrow morning at the arraignment. The judge'll ask you if you want to enter a plea. You tell him you want new counsel assigned.

KAFFEE

(beat)

Then that's that.

JO

(beat)

Yeah. One thing, though. When you ask the judge for new counsel, Danny, be sure and ask nicely.

KAFFEE

What do you want from me?

JO

I want you to let 'em be judged! I want you to stand up and make an argument!

SAM

An argument that didn't work for Calley at My Lai, an argument that didn't work for the Nazis at Nuremberg.

KAFFEE

For Christ sake, Sam, do you really think that's the same as two teenage marines executing a routine order that they never believed would result in harm? These guys aren't the Nazis.

There's a pause in the room.

JO

Don't look now, Danny, but you're making an argument.

KAFFEE

(pause)

Yeah. (beat) Tomorrow morning I'll get them a new attorney.

JO

Why are you so afraid to be a lawyer? Were daddy's expectations really that high?

KAFFEE

Please, spare me the psycho-babble father bullshit. Dawson and Downey'll have their day in court, but they'll have it with another lawyer.

JO

Another lawyer won't be good enough. They need you. You know how to win. (beat) You know they have a case. And you know how to win. You walk away from this now, and every thing could be lost.

KAFFEE

Their fate was sealed the moment Santiago died.

JO

Do you believe they have a defense?