The camera slowly spins back and pushes in towards the wall between the apartments.

# 86 INT. DETECTIVES' CROWN VICTORIA - NIGHT

86

Spaulding and Evans' Crown Vic is parked at a remote street location. They have received Christian's information about Marcus and they know he lied about being in school. They want to pin him but have been unable to so far. They are tired, frustrated, angry. Evans is on the driver's seat and Spaulding is in the back shaking Marcus down.

Marcus is nervous but resolute in maintaining his innocence.

### **EVANS**

Marcus. This isn't looking good for you, my man. You told us you were at school the day she disappeared. 3 of your teachers said otherwise. And now we've got these girls. These two girls that both said you did things-

#### MARCUS

-I don't know what you're talkin' bout man, I don't know them girls.

### **EVANS**

Shh, shh. You like girls, right Marcus?

# MARCUS

Yes, I like girls, but I swear I don't know anything about those girls and I don't know where Monique is.

Evans stares at him for a beat.

## **EVANS**

I feel like I should share something with you, is it okay if I share? It's about our friend sitting next to you. Something that you should know about Spaulding is that he hates niggas.

There's an uncomfortable silence for a moment.

SPAULDING

I do.

Marcus shifts nervously in his seat.

**EVANS** 

Spaulding is a bad person.

More uncomfortable silence.

SPAULDING

I am.

**EVANS** 

And you know what he hates more than niggas?... Liars. Can't fuckin' stand 'em. So think to yourself. Think hard boy. What can you imagine happening if you take an angry, racist mick with a badge and put him in the backseat with a lyin' nigga? [LONG BEAT] You get me?

Marcus looks at Spaulding, who gives him a sinister smile.

Spaulding suddenly reaches up very fast and grabs Marcus by the throat, pushing his head into the car window.

SPAULDING

Listen you little shit, we know you took the girl, and we know you can tell us where she is. You either give her up or you can spend the rest of your life shitting into a bag because I am going to drag you out behind a fucking dumpster and shove a two by four up your ass if you don't talk. Say it. Tell us where the fucking girl is.

MARCUS

I don't know man, you guys are fuckin' crazy yo! Get off me!

**EVANS** 

You really want to talk kid, you gotta trust me, it's better if you come clean.

MARCUS

I said bruh, I don't know, get off me!

Spaulding shakes Marcus hard before letting him go. He angrily opens the back door, gets out, rounds the car, and pulls Marcus out onto the ground.

SPAULDING

We're gonna get you, you fuck!

Evans rolls the window down and leans out.

**EVANS** 

Do the right thing kid.

Spaulding rounds the car again to enter the front passenger seat. The car drives off leaving Marcus alone on the ground.

87 INT. WATSON FAMILY'S APT BATHROOM - MORNING

87

Michael wakes up on his chair in the living room, holding his daughter's photo. He gets up disoriented. He looks at the photo.

88 INT THE COMPLEX 3RD FLOOR HALLWAY - MINUTES LATER

88

Michael bursts into the hallway and bangs on the Mitchells' door.

MICHAEL

Where is he? Where is he?!!

The door to #324 opens and TYRELL HUNTER (early 30's, African-American professional) emerges. He has finally returned from his extended work trip and is checking on the commotion.

TYRELL

Hey what's going out here?

Michael turns around startled.

MICHAEL

Tyrell! You scared me man. didn't know you came home.

TYRELL

Yeah I got back late last night.
Long trip.

MICHAEL

Have you seen Marcus?