

Clarity Trailer

By

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FADE IN:

INT. CLUB PAX PRIVATE ROOM - NIGHT

Recorded BIG BAND MUSIC plays, barely audible.

FELICITY, late 30s, blond, in Chanel, past it, and knows it.

SUPER: "Disgraced ex Idol Judge"

She wears a headset, sits at a well laid candle lit table.

TONY, mid 20s, in a Tux, sits opposite. Ex Oklahoma, tall, blond hair, blue eyes, clean shaven. Street smart.

SUPER: "Death Row Inmate"

FELICITY

Do remember you're here to romance
and entertain me and my audience.
Their votes alone are your ratings.
Over fifty percent by the end of
the show, you're free. If not,
well, you know how that ends.

TONY

How important is the audience vote?

FELICITY

Crucial. This is their show, so
you'd better make it exciting.

FADE OUT AND INTO:

Felicity lies curled up in the fetal position, underneath
the table, hands over her ears. Terrified.

Her heart pounds. She breathes out and in loudly, quickly.

VOICE OVER HEADSET (O.S.)

Ratings are seventy two percent.

FADE OUT AND INTO:

TONY

How come you can buy my freedom?

FELICITY

The state is short on prison space
and funds. I offered to help out.

FADE OUT AND INTO:

Tony holds Felicity, they dance to slow music.
He stops dancing, pulls her in. She looks at his lips.
He gazes into her eyes, moved his mouth towards hers.
She moves his hand down to her butt.
He stops, shakes his head.

TONY

It's way too soon, I can't do this.

He returns to his chair. Felicity stands alone.

VOICE OVER HEADSET (O.S.)

Ratings are forty percent.

FELICITY

Ratings are down to forty percent.

TONY

I guess nobody wants a happy
ending. What's it take to impress
this audience of yours?

FADE OUT AND INTO:

Tony's Tux jacket covers his chair. Bow tie on the table.
He stands behind a seated terrified Felicity.

TONY

I am getting really hot. You know
what would help? A cold beer. Not a
fancy imported beer, just a good
old fashioned American beer. You
know ... with a twist off cap.

He holds her head still with both hands. She trembles.

FADE OUT AND INTO:

Felicity sits upright in her chair, eyes fixed on Tony.

FELICITY

Where is he? You've got to tell me.

TONY

Trade you for my freedom. Maybe we
all get what we want out of this?

FELICITY
Oh, God, yes!

TONY
What about the ratings?

FELICITY
I'm sure my audience will be
ecstatic if I can find him again.

FADE OUT AND INTO:

Felicity stands between the table and the door. Livid.

FELICITY
Why did you do that? WHY?

TONY
Ratings were down.

FELICITY
You've just sealed your own fate.

She turns back towards the exit.

TONY
You're bluffing.

FELICITY
You think so?

She turns, rushes towards him. She raises her hands to scratch him. He stands tall. She stops in her tracks.

FELICITY
I'm going to get a ring side seat
to watch you fry, and I'm going to
enjoy every minute of it.

TONY
Don't be like that. We still have
time. Quit now, your career's over.
I never figured you for a quitter.

She stands immobile, looks at him, the door, back at him.

VOICE OVER HEADSET (O.S.)
Ratings are eighty four percent.

FELICITY
Ratings are down. Let's see you get
out of this. You have half an hour.

4.

FADE OUT.

OVER BLACK: 3 GUN SHOTS ring out.