

THE WEDDING

In private investigative work you get some strange cases. What are people thinking when they call you? Maybe they watch too many television shows and think you can do anything for them. Sometimes you have to turn down an assignment and tell your client ‘no’.

Sandy White was married to a rich doctor, lived in a \$2 million dollar mansion overlooking the ocean in Miami, Florida, had 3 small children, a new sports car and was miserable.

She just found out from a close friend that her husband of twelve years was cheating. He claimed he had to work overtime because of a doctor’s shortage. Sandy didn’t know what to do with this information.

She contacted her best friend in California. The lady said to hire a private investigator to see if he was really working late or seeing someone else.

Sandy looked in the yellow pages for one. A small ad with the caption ‘Is your spouse really working late?’ caught her eye. She called the phone number listed.

On the 2nd ring a male's voice answered, "Truth Investigations."

Sandy told the man her problem and they agreed to meet at a Dunkin Donuts Store on Miami Avenue. She was to bring a photo of her husband, information on what vehicle he drove, the license plate number, his work schedule and a cash retainer of \$1,000.

The private investigator waited in a corner booth and was into his 4th donut when Sandy walked in with a small envelope. Joe Kilmer stood up and motioned for his pretty new client to have a seat.

"Can I get you something to drink or eat?"

"No thanks. I have my neighbor watching my 3 boys and I have to get back home as soon as I can."

"What are the ages of your boys?"

"Tim is 7, William is 6 and Peter is 4."

"Is that envelope in your hand for me?"

"Yes. I could only come up with \$600 right now. My husband Rick controls all our money."

"\$600 will do. May I call you Sandy?"

"Please do."

"Here are tips for you in case your spouse is cheating: Start saving your money, get a few credit cards in your name,

think of a divorce lawyer you want to hire and start looking for a job to give you income. You said you are a stay-at-home mom?”

“Yes I am. I never have worked in my life.”

“I ran data on your husband and he is worth millions.”

“My husband is a rich jerk. I know he is cheating on me. I smell her perfume on his clothes when he comes home. When can you start?”

“I can start today. My fee is \$100 an hour. It might take 40 or more hours to uncover the truth. I will trust you to pay me as soon as you can. You look like an honest woman.”

“Thank you Mr. Kilmer for helping me.”

“Call me Joe and you are welcome.”

They said their goodbyes and Joe drove over to Miami Medical Center on Broadway Street. There in the employee parking lot sat Rick White’s blue BMW with license plate ‘DR377’.

At 6 in the evening his target walked into view with a pretty nurse with blonde hair. They were holding hands. His target helped the woman into the passenger seat and kissed her as he did so. Joe videoed the whole thing.

The couple drove over to an apartment complex called 'Baymont' and entered unit 245. Three hours later Rick left alone and went home to his loyal wife, Sandy.

The next day was Saturday and Sandy said her unfaithful husband would leave their house for work around nine in the morning.

Joe arrived an hour earlier and was into his 3rd Dunkin Donut when the garage door opened. He followed Rick to a bookstore in a strip mall.

Normally the PI would just wait for his subject to return to his vehicle. This time Joe went into the store with his key chain hidden camera. He was happy he did.

Inside the book store was the nurse that Rick was with the night before. They kissed and held hands as they browsed the book aisles. Forty minutes later they departed in her car.

Joe ran the license plate number to the red Honda Civic. Tag GHE459 came back to a Heather Brown.

The address was apartment 245, at 3688 Silver Drive in the Baymont Apartment Complex. Joe followed the 2 lovebirds to Hyde Park. They sat on a bench and were flipping thru a newspaper in their hands.

It appeared they were looking for something. After 10 minutes they tossed the newspaper in the trash and walked

away with only one page. Joe stopped and retrieved the rest of the newspaper. Pages 27 and 28 were missing.

The love birds stopped at The Oaks Apartments and went inside the rental office. A few minutes later they were escorted by a male sales agent to inspect a few units. They then returned to the sales office.

After 30 minutes the pair left and Joe did not follow. Instead he went inside the model office and talked to the same sales agent. “I was just hired at Miami Memorial Hospital and a doctor there said for me to stop here,” lied Joe.

The sales agent said his name was Cory. “I just showed a few units to a doctor and his fiancée from the same hospital. They are moving in at the beginning of the month.”

Joe told the agent he would be back in the morning with his wife and left. He then bought a newspaper and found pages 27 and 28 were for apartment rentals.

On Monday morning Joe watched Rick leave for work but he did not follow. Instead he called his client and asked her to meet him at Dunkin Donuts.

An hour later over a cup of coffee and a sugar donut Joe broke the news to Sandy. “I know he is telling you he loves you and that he wants the marriage to work but it is all lies.”

“Why do you say that?”

“Because I followed the love birds over to the Oak Apartments rental office. After they left the building I went inside. I spoke to the agent on duty and he said your husband and his fiancée were moving in the first of the month.”

“So he does plan to divorce me!”

“Afraid so, Sandy. The video I am about to show you has them in a romantic relationship.”

Sandy cried when viewing the film. Joe felt bad about showing her the video. He told her the \$600 she already paid him was all he wanted.

Over the next nine months Sandy kept in touch with Joe. She said her cheating husband moved into the Oak Apartments with Heather.

One day, Sandy called her private investigator. She wanted to hire him again.

“Why?”

“My children are invited to their father’s wedding to Heather.”

“So?”

“I want to hire you to video the wedding so I can see it.”

“No. I will not do this for you. You need to just move on with your life.”

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“Can you refer me to another private investigator then?”

“No. Please move on with your life. He has.”

Joe never found out if Sandy ever hired another Private Investigator to film the wedding.

He suspects she did.

Every time he hears church bells he thinks of Sandy and her crazy request.

LESSON 1. JUST GET DIVORCED AND MOVE ON WITH
YOUR LIFE.

THE END