

- For Audition "Purposes Only" -  
"Michelle Vega" - Sicks

MICHELLE SCENE #1

INT. FBI BULLPEN

MICHELLE approaches CHO at his desk. He's busy with paperwork.

Start 1

MICHELLE

Sir? Need a hand with that?

CHO

I got it.

MICHELLE

I'm happy to help.

CHO

It's okay.

MICHELLE

I don't mind doing paperwork. When I'm going through a stack, I get so involved, sometimes I just lose track of time. I call that the zone. Being in the zone.

CHO

Good for you.

MICHELLE

I saw you at the firing range the other day. If you're ever headed back down there, maybe I could tag along, pick up some pointers?

CHO

(Head down)

Yeah, maybe.

Beat.

MICHELLE

Sir? May I say something?

CHO

You don't have to call me sir.

MICHELLE

I've been observing your work. And I admire the way you carry yourself on the job.

1/6

Isaacson and Souliere Casting - 'The Mentalist'

CHO

Uh-huh.

MICHELLE

I'd welcome the opportunity to work  
with you. Learn how you do things.

(Beat; off his non-  
response)

Of course, if you'd rather not ...

CHO

I don't know. I'll have to think  
about that.

MICHELLE

I understand. Sorry to bother you.

She starts to go.

CHO

Vega.

(She stops. He offers her  
a FOLDER.)

You can do the K-14s.

MICHELLE

Thanks. Time frame?

CHO

Whenever.

MICHELLE

You'll have them in fifteen.

Stop 1

MICHELLE SCENE #2

INT. FBI INTERROGATION ROOM

MICHELLE sits at the table with TISDALE, a forest ranger in a lot of trouble.

Start 2

MICHELLE

Correct me if I'm wrong, Mr. Tisdale, but it looks like you were taking money from some pot dealers to protect their farm. That's not one of your formal responsibilities, is it?

TISDALE

They paid me to direct tourists away. Let them know if the local cops or Feds started sniffing around. That's all. These people who got killed -- I never even saw them.

MICHELLE

I need the names of the people who paid you. The farmers.

TISDALE

I can't tell you that.

MICHELLE

Sure you can.

TISDALE

These aren't hippies growing weed in the forest. These are serious men. They think I gave up their names, they'll kill me.

MICHELLE

I know. You're in a pretty tough spot. Safest thing is to tell us who they are.

TISDALE

Right.

MICHELLE

They know you've been arrested. They think you're giving them up right now. As long as they're walking free, you're in danger.

(MORE)

3/6

MICHELLE (CONT'D)

But if you give us the names, we'll lock them up.

TISDALE

You're a child. Go to hell.

Beat.

MICHELLE

Well, that about does it for me. I appreciate your time. One other thing. You have a family?

TISDALE

Uh, yeah.

MICHELLE

You really want to send them somewhere. Not out of town. Get them out of state. You know anybody on the East Coast?

TISDALE

No.

MICHELLE

That's too bad. Overseas would be better. But that gets pretty expensive.

(Beat)

This is where you are, Mr. Tisdale. You can start looking over your shoulder and pricing plane tickets. Or you can tell me what we need to know, and enjoy the full protection of the FBI. It is totally up to you.

Stop 2

4/6

MICHELLE SCENE #3

Michelle crosses with Jane.

Start 3

MICHELLE (CONT'D)  
Agent Jane?

JANE  
Half-right. You're Vega, right?

MICHELLE  
Michelle Vega. I just wanted to say, I'm very pleased to meet you. And I look forward to working with you.

JANE  
Likewise, Agent Vega. Former military, right?

MICHELLE  
Uh, no.

JANE  
Interesting that you would lie to me so early in our acquaintance.

MICHELLE  
I wouldn't. I mean, I'm not. My dad was in the army. Career, thirty-seven years.

JANE  
Goes without saying. And tough as nails, I expect. But you put in some time, too. Keep denying it I'll just dig harder.

MICHELLE  
I was at the Point. West Point. But I never finished.

JANE  
Why not?

MICHELLE  
Um, it was because of Charlie Predweather, sir.

JANE  
Of course it was.

5/6

MICHELLE

Predweather was in my class. Good guy, but not much of a student. He copied off my paper on a Military History exam. When the professor figured out one of us had cheated, Charlie begged me to take the hit. He said with his record they'd expel him if he told truth. So I said I cheated off him.

JANE

Noble of you.

MICHELLE

Charlie only did it because he was scared. I didn't see why he should get thrown out for that. All I got was a pile of demerits.

JANE

But then you had to tell your dad.

MICHELLE

That was the scary part. But Dad couldn't have been nicer. Said he understood, things happen. Told me he loved me. Six weeks later he was dead. Liver cancer. Never even told me he was sick until he went into hospice care. After that I just wasn't that interested in the military anymore.

(Beat)

Anyway, it really is a pleasure to meet you, sir.

JANE

Likewise, Vega. But you don't have to call me sir.

MICHELLE

People keep telling me that.

Stop 3

6/6