

# Frank

**FRANK.** Karen Brown, C.P.A.?

**KAREN.** Yes?

**FRANK.** Agent Frank, Security Detail, Town Hall.

**BILLIE.** Security?

**FRANK.** Do I have permission to enter the premises?

*(FRANK enters. KAREN closes the Sting Hallway door.)*

**BILLIE.** This isn't good. **FRANK.** Mr. Mayor. **MAYOR.** Agent Frank.

**FRANK.** May I remind you, sir, that it is highly against protocol for yourself, as the chief executive of this jurisdiction, to proceed into an unsecured location without prior authorization from a member of security staff?

**BILLIE.** Holy crap!

**MAYOR.** But I had a meeting with Ms. Brown —

**FRANK.** To which you should have been accompanied by a member of security staff who, according to security procedures, would have preceded you into the meeting area to properly screen the location for any weapons, explosives or recording devices.

**BILLIE and KAREN.** Recording devices?

**FRANK.** *(Turning sharply:)* That's right. *(Casing the room with a suspicious eye:)* Bugs. Hidden microphones. Concealed video cameras. *(His eye falls upon the plant concealing the camera.)* And what do we have here?

**BILLIE.** Oh god. Oh god!

**KAREN.** What is it? What are you looking at?

**FRANK.** That is one healthy looking ficus. Alright, sir — I'm going to have to ask you to leave the room.

**MAYOR.** But where do I go?

**FRANK.** I've secured this hallway, both stairwells, the elevator shaft, and the entire lobby.

**MAYOR.** Well, I'll wait downstairs, then. *(Crossing to the Sting Hallway door:)* Are you coming too, Ms. Brown?

**FRANK.** Oh no. She'll be staying here. She'll be staying right here.

# Frank

**MAYOR.** Well, it was nice to meet you. I'm sorry you didn't get to ask your questions.

*(FRANK is inspecting the Sting Bathroom.)*

**KAREN.** Oh – I hope we'll still be able to talk.

**MAYOR.** Oh, good! Then I'll just come back a little later. Goodbye.

*(The MAYOR exits out the Sting Hallway door. KAREN closes the door behind him. FRANK enters from the Sting Bathroom.)*

**FRANK.** Questions, Ms. Brown?

**KAREN.** I beg your pardon?

**FRANK.** You had questions for the Mayor?

**KAREN.** Yes – a few questions about the budget.

**FRANK.** I see.

**KAREN.** It was he who asked me to meet him here.

**FRANK.** *(Opening the Sting Connecting door:)* Where does this door lead?

**KAREN.** That door? I have no idea.

**FRANK.** *(Finding the Cop Connecting door locked:)* Hmm. *(Beat. Indicating the Sting Closet:)* And that door?

**KAREN.** Oh, that's just a closet. You don't have to worry about the closet.

**FRANK.** On the contrary, ma'am – I have to worry about every door in this building.

*(He begins to open the Sting Closet door.)*

I have to worry about every door in this town.

*(FRANK has opened the Closet, revealing ERIC, but is still looking at KAREN.)*

**BILLIE.** Oh my god.

**FRANK.** Danger waits in unlikely places, Ms. Brown. My job is security. That means I'm ready for danger, wherever it hides.

*(He now sees ERIC.)*

**ERIC.** Hello.

# Frank

**FRANK.** (*Upon seeing ERIC, FRANK reveals his more frightened nature:*) Holy Mary, mother of God! (*Leaping over the bed, to the Down Stage side, and cowering on the floor, his gun drawn:*) Get down, Ms. Brown!

**KAREN.** Agent Frank —

**FRANK.** For god's sake, save yourself!

**KAREN.** Agent Frank, there's really no need —

**FRANK.** (*To Heaven:*) Dear Lord, in this our hour of judgment, as we prepare to gaze upon your heavenly countenance —

**KAREN.** Oh dear.

**FRANK.** We ask that you open your arms to us —

**KAREN.** Agent Frank —

**FRANK.** As you call your children home to the garden of —

**KAREN.** Agent Frank, there's nothing to be afraid of.

**FRANK.** Are you nuts? There's always something to be afraid of! And right now there's a crazyman standing in your closet.

**KAREN.** He's not a crazyman, he's, he's just... my boyfriend.

**FRANK.** (*Beat.*) Your boyfriend?

**KAREN.** That's right.

**FRANK.** Oh. Well. (*Standing:*) Nice to meet you.

**ERIC.** Nice to meet you.

**FRANK.** (*Raising his gun, fully composed — the secret service agent again:*) Now, would you mind telling me exactly what you were doing hiding in that closet, while your girlfriend was in here having a meeting with the Mayor?

**ERIC.** Oh. Well...

**BILLIE.** Oh no.

**KAREN.** There's a very simple explanation.

**FRANK.** Then let's hear it!

**KAREN.** Eric?

**ERIC.** Um...

**KAREN.** Well, Eric is, I think, embarrassed to say so himself, Agent Frank, but, you see, my boyfriend here is a very masculine, alphasale kind of guy. Isn't that right, Eric?

# Frank

**ERIC.** (*Beta at best:*) Um... Yeah.

(*BILLIE laughs involuntarily.*)

**KAREN.** (*Trying to get ERIC to play the role:*) Very macho. Which you can clearly tell from the way he speaks.

**ERIC.** (*After an exchange of looks with KAREN:*) Oh. Oh, right! You'd better believe I am.

**KAREN.** He's the kind of guy who won't take no for an answer.

**ERIC.** (*Warming to it:*) I certainly will not! (*After KAREN winces at this attempt:*) I mean – no friggin' way!

**KAREN.** And when he heard I was meeting the Mayor here, in a motel, he got a little over-protective.

**ERIC.** I sure as hell did.

**KAREN.** And insisted on coming with me.

**ERIC.** (*Out of character, to KAREN:*) Oh. Right. (*Back in character:*) Right! I'm comin' with you, I said. I'm not letting you meet some guy – in some cheap motel – all by yourself! You think I don't know what kinda hanky-panky goes on in those places? I'm comin' to that motel, I said, and I'm gonna hide myself in the closet. You hear that? (*Coming at FRANK with an accusatory index finger:*) You hear that, Mr. Town-Hall-Security-man-pointing-a-gun-in-my-face?

**FRANK.** (*Backing away, his confident persona faltering:*) Okay. Okay, mister. There's no need to be using the finger.

**ERIC.** You put away the gun, I'll put away the finger.

**FRANK.** Fair enough.