

## **Audition: Juror 7.**

**JUROR NO. 7:** A loud, flashy-handed salesman type who has more important things to do than to sit on a jury. Quick to show temper, quick to form opinions on things about which they knows nothing. Is a bully and, of course, a coward.

### **Pages 25-26 (Edited).**

EIGHT [*to FIVE*). Do you think he lied?

FIVE. I- I don't know.

SEVEN. Now wait a second. What are you - the guy's lawyer? Listen-there are still eleven of us who think he's guilty. You're alone. What do you think you're going to accomplish? If you want to be stubborn and hang this jury he'll be tried again, and found guilty sure as he's born.

EIGHT. You're probably right.

SEVEN. So what are you going to do about it? We can be here all night.

NINE. It's only one night. A man may die.

SEVEN. Oh, now. Come on.

EIGHT [*to NINE*). Well, yes, that's true.

SEVEN. We know he bought a switch knife that night and we don't know where he really was. At the movies?

EIGHT [*standing*). I've got a proposition to make. I want you eleven men to vote by secret ballot. I'll abstain. If there are still eleven votes for guilty, I won't stand alone. We'll take in a guilty verdict right now.

FOREMAN. That sounds fair. (*Counts votes*) One, two, three... Six guilty. Guilty. Guilty. Guilty. [*Pauses for a moment at tenth ballot and then reads.*] Not guilty.

SEVEN [*standing, snarling*]. Who was it? I think we have a right to know. [*Looks about. No one moves.*]

### **Pages 36-37 (Edited).**

THREE [*turning abruptly from window, snarling*). Where? What is the doubt?

FIVE. There's the knife. . . .

SEVEN [*slamming his hand down on table*]. Oh, fine!

FIVE. The old man, too. Maybe he didn't lie, but then just maybe he did. Maybe the old man doesn't like the kid.

SEVEN. Well, if that isn't the end.

FIVE. I believe that there is reasonable doubt. [*Sits again.*]

SEVEN. What are you basing it on? Stories that this guy - [*Indicates EIGHT.*]-made up! He ought to write for *Amazing Detective Monthly*. He'd make a fortune. Listen, the kid had a lawyer, didn't he? Why didn't his lawyer bring up all these points?

FIVE. Lawyers can't think of everything.

SEVEN. Oh, brother! [*To EIGHT.*] You sit in here and pull stories out of thin air. Now we're supposed to believe that the old man didn't get out of bed, run to the door and see the kid beat it downstairs fifteen seconds after the killing.

FOUR. That's the testimony, I believe.

SEVEN. And the old man swore to this - yes - he swore to this only so he could be important. [*Looks over at NINE.*]

FIVE. Did the old man say he *ran* to the door?

SEVEN. Ran. Walked. What's the difference? He got there.

FOUR. He said he *went*. I remember it now. He *went* from his bedroom to the front door.

EIGHT. Where was his bedroom, again? Mr. Foreman, I'd like to take a look at the diagram of the apartment.

SEVEN. Why don't we have them run the trial over just so you can get everything straight?