

A Few Good Men - Jessep is Arrested.

By

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KAFFEE

Please the court, I suggest the jury be dismissed so that we can move to a immediate Article 39a Session. The witness has rights.

Silence consumes the courtroom, and RANDOLPH looks at ROSS.

RANDOLPH

Lt. Ross?

ROSS is completely frozen, since he has absolutely no idea what to do. KAFFEE looks at him.

KAFFEE

Jack...

ROSS glances at KAFFEE, and then at JESSEP. He then nods "yes" to RANDOLPH.

RANDOLPH

The Sergeant at Arms will take the jury to an ante-room where you'll wait until further instruction.

The SERGEANT AT ARMS begins leading the jury to the room. JESSEP looks at RANDOLPH, his face holding a "what is going on in here?" look, and an angry look. He starts shouting the ceiling might crumble.

JESSEP

What the h*ll's going on?

No one says anything, as instructed.

JESSEP (CONT'D)

Captain, what the h*ll's going on? I did my job. I'd do it again. Now I'm getting on a plane and going back to my base.

JESSEP stands to leave, but is interrupted by RANDOLPH.

RANDOLPH

MP's, guard the prisoner.

The MP's looked tentative. They had never heard a marine colonel being called "prisoner" before. And not even in their wildest dreams they would've thought they had to guard

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one.

ROSS
Guard the prisoner.

JESSEP looks mad. Real mad-- his mouth quivers and his eyebrows are furrowed together.

JESSEP
What the h*ll--

ROSS
Colonel Jessep, you have the right to remain silent. Any statement you do make can be used against you in a trial by court-martial or other judicial or administrative proceeding. You have the right...

ROSS continues reading JESSEP his rights, over--

JESSEP
I'm being charged with a crime?! I'm,
what this is--

JESSEP looks at ROSS, a look of anger evident on his face.

JESSEP (CONT'D)
Marine!! Marine!!

ROSS ignores him and keeps doing his job. JESSEP looks angry and hatred is blooming constantly on his face.

JESSEP (CONT'D)
I'm being charged with a crime? I'm-
that's what's happening?! This- I'm-
this is funny, you know what?! This is-

And with that, JESSEP lounges at KAFFEE, and KAFFEE would be dead if it weren't for the three M.P.'s that were restraining JESSEP.

JESSEP (CONT'D)
(continuing, to KAFFEE)

I'm gonna tear your eyes right outta
your head and piss in your dead skull!
You fu**ed with the wrong marine!

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JESSEP says so with such intensity, any other normal human would've probably peed right there. ROSS is done reading JESSEP his rights.

ROSS
Colonel Jessep, do you understand those rights as I have just read them to you?

JESSEP ignores ROSS, and starts protesting.

JESSEP
I saved lives. That boy was-- there was a weak link. I saved lives, you hear me?

The courtroom is silent just because of Jessep's outburst. JESSEP shakes his head.

JESSEP (CONT'D)
You fu**ing people. You have no idea how to defend a nation... all you did was weaken a country today, Kaffee. That's all you did. You put people in danger. Sweet dreams, son.

KAFFEE looks at JESSEP, his eyes flaming.

KAFFEE
Don't call me son. I'm a lawyer, and an officer of the United States Navy. And you're under arrest, you son of a b**ch.

KAFFEE stays on JESSEP a moment longer, then remembers--

KAFFEE (CONT'D)
The witness is excused.