

**INT. DETECTIVE BECKETT'S OFFICE - DAY**

Detective KATE BECKETT and author RICHARD CASTLE (who volunteered to help) are looking through paperwork for clues to solve a murder.

KATE BECKETT

Can I ask you a question?

RICHARD CASTLE

Shoot.

KATE BECKETT

Why are you here? You don't care about the victims, so you aren't here for justice. You don't care that the guy's aping your books, so you aren't here 'cause you're outraged. So what is it, Rick? Are you here to annoy me?

RICHARD CASTLE

I'm here for the story.

KATE BECKETT

The story?

RICHARD CASTLE

Why those people? Why those murders?

KATE BECKETT

Sometimes, there is no story. Sometimes, the guy is just a psychopath.

RICHARD CASTLE

There's always a story, always a chain of events that makes everything make sense. Take

you, for example. Under normal circumstances, you should not be here. Most smart, good-looking women become lawyers, not cops. And yet here you are. Why?

KATE BECKETT

I don't know, Rick. You're the novelist. You tell me.

RICHARD CASTLE

Well, you're not bridge-and-tunnel. No trace of the boroughs when you talk. So that means Manhattan. That means money. You went to college, probably a pretty good one. You had options. Yeah, you had lots of options, better options, more socially acceptable options. And you still chose this. That tells me something happened. Not to you. No, you're wounded, but you're not that wounded. No, it was someone you cared about... It was someone you loved... And you probably could have lived with that, but the person responsible was never caught.

And that, Detective Beckett, is why you are here.

KATE BECKETT

Cute trick. But don't think you know me.

RICHARD CASTLE

The point is, there's always a story. You just have to find it.

KATE BECKETT

[opens up letter and eyes grow wide]

I think I just did.