

Scene 2

An alley. Curtis enters with his four thugs.

ERNIE

So where to boss?

CURTIS

Oh I got a special place for you, Ernie. But first—I know how you love a joke.

ERNIE

Oh, yeah, I do love a good joke, boss.

CURTIS

Good. Knock Knock.

ERNIE

Who's there?

(Curtis pulls out a pistol and puts it to the side of Ernie's head.)

CURTIS

What were you doing for four hours at the police station this afternoon talking to an officer Eddie Souther?

(Ernie, caught and terrified, says nothing)

TJ

"What were you doing for four hours at the police station this afternoon talking to an officer Eddie Souther" who?

CURTIS

One of my boy's been talking to the cops and my gut tells me it was you Ernie.

ERNIE

It wasn't me boss, it was Joey.

JOEY

I wouldn't tell on you, Boss.

(He is moved)

I love you.

CURTIS

TJ?

(He pokes TJ with the gun)