

SIDE 8 - CAULDER

p. 16 – CAULDER SCENE

Suddenly, **CAULDER TIPTON III**, a fifty-year-old, mask-less, overgrown, rich, Southern, good ol' boy enters. He wears a designer, baseball jacket and a MAGA hat.

SUZANNE

And speaking of the devil, there he is! Well, what are y'all waiting for? I need backup.
(As they all cross)

CLEO

Six feet, boy! Six feet!

CAULDER

Calm down, woman! I told you I've already had COVID.

SUZANNE

What do you want, Caulder?

CAULDER

I want you to tell that little pussy detective of yours to stop sniffing around my country club takin' pictures or he's gonna end up in the emergency room with some surgeon tryin' to find his little camera.

SUZANNE

I know about your girlfriend, Caulder. I know when you started seeing her. And the judge is gonna know, too!

CAULDER

Great! Bring it, girl!

SUZANNE

Get away from me! You're all sweaty!

CAULDER

That's because I've been drivin' one of the lead boats in the Trump parade. At least twenty-five of my buddies and then all the Proud Boys and QAnon, showed up with their boats, every one of 'em flyin' the Trump flag! Dude, it looked like a damn invasion!

MARY JO

No wonder this election is starting to feel more like an erection.

CLEO

You like that QAnon, do you?

CAULDER

Yeah, I like it. I'm not a member.

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CLEO

You know they think Trump is the savior.

CAULDER

I don't read all that stuff.

CLEO

I was just curious, because I, myself, go to church and I was always taught that the Lord will someday send his son, Jesus Christ, back to save us all. So I'm just a little bit disappointed to find out that he's decided, instead, to send the guy from *The Apprentice*, who fired Gary Busey for showing poor leadership skills during the Omaha Steak challenge.

CAULDER

I don't know anything about that.

JULIA

You know, Caulder, just because you've had the virus doesn't mean you can't still spread it. Why not wear a mask? Why is this one, tiny, four-inch square of fabric such an outrageous affront to your manhood?

CAULDER

Because... Hillary's a bitch?

MARY JO

She's not even running! What the hell does that have to do with anything?

CAULDER

I dunno... I just know that's always the right answer. I gotta go. Ladies, as always, it's been a pleasure. (to Suzanne, exiting) See you in court, darlin'.

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CAULDER

Oh, God. It just shatters my nerves to come over here. You're like a bunch of Walmart greeters gone bad!

SUZANNE

What do you want, Caulder?

CAULDER

Is that all you ever say?
(mimicking)

“What do you want, Caulder?” You have to sign the realtor agreement to sell the house. And I also brought your absentee ballot. What's with the Louis Vuitton?

SUZANNE

I'm moving back home.

CAULDER

Whoa. I don't think that's a very good idea. I'm throwing a big Trump fund raiser this weekend. We're roasting a three-hundred-pound pig and I've got a truckload of MAGA hats coming, the first ones to have cup-holders on each side and a big straw that glows in the dark!

JULIA

How could it have ever been otherwise?

CAULDER

You're still voting for him, aren't you?

SUZANNE

I'm not for anybody... I might just write in Haley's name.

HALEY

Oh my gosh! Thank you. I know you're kidding, but it's still just so... unexpected.

JULIA

Caulder, let me ask you something about Donald Trump--

CAULDER

No, I have to go.

JULIA

Please. Just hear me out. I promise not to bring up the usual stuff, like (rolling eyes) the fourteen hundred lawsuits filed against him.... I get it!

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(chuckling) Old news! Anyway, who among us has not been sued, or accused of the occasional sexual assault... or started a fake charity, or a fake university? Or, for that matter, told twenty-five or thirty thousand lies-- especially if somebody's actually counting! (then laughing)

I mean, there but for the grace of God, go you and I, right?

CAULDER

No. That doesn't sound right.

JULIA

But today I found out something that does kind of bother me. According to Trump's exneighbor, when he was a teenager... he threw rocks at her baby.

CLEO

You can't come back from that. You can't come back from throwing rocks at a baby.

JULIA

No ma'am! (to Caulder) Does that... bother you?

CAULDER

No.

JULIA

Why is that?

CAULDER

Because Hillary's a bitch.

CLEO

Dude, Hillary was a bitch in 2016. You need to unfuck your facts. Now Hillary's a Satan worshipping pedophile. If you're gonna be for Trump, you gotta keep up with all the batshit, crazy town covfefe.

CAULDER

I don't care. I have to go. (picking up document, crossing to door)
Anyway, I'm tired of coming over here and getting attacked by you people! Why are you always on my case? If you wanna know about Donald Trump, ask your sister.

SUZANNE

Caulder! Don't you dare!

CAULDER

All I did was vote for him. She's the one who slept with him! (Caulder exits.)