

<b>EAE 0422 A</b>	<b>Sujet Jury</b>	<b>Sujet Candidat</b>		<b>Code Sujet</b>	<b>CLG 36</b>
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**Your main commentary should be focused on *interrogative clauses*. Other topics may also be addressed.**

I opened the envelope and drew out the shiny 4¼ by 3¼ photo that was all there was inside.

5 It was Carmen sitting in Geiger's high-backed teakwood chair on the dais, in her earrings and her birthday suit. Her eyes looked even a little crazier than as I remembered them. The back of the photo was blank. I put it back in the envelope.

'How much do they want?' I asked.

10 'Five thousand — for the negative and the rest of the prints. The deal has to be closed to-night, or they give the stuff to some scandal sheet.'

'The demand came how?'

'A woman telephoned me, about half an hour after this thing was delivered.'

15 'There's nothing in the scandal sheet angle. Juries convict without leaving the box on that stuff nowadays. What else is there?'

'Does there have to be something else?'

'Yes.'

20 She stared at me, a little puzzled. 'There is. The woman said there was a police jam connected with it and I'd better lay it on the line fast, or I'd be talking to my little sister through a wire screen.'

'Better,' I said. 'What kind of jam?'

'I don't know.'

'Where is Carmen now?'

25 'She's at home. She was sick last night. She's still in bed, I think.'

'Did she go out last night?'

'No. I was out, but the servants say she wasn't. I was down at Las Olindas, playing roulette at Eddie Mars' Cypress Club. I lost my shirt.'

30 'So you like roulette. You would.'

She crossed her legs and lit another cigarette. 'Yes. I like roulette. All Sternwoods like losing games, like roulette and marrying men that walk out on them and riding steeplechases at fifty-eight years old and being rolled on by a jumper and crippled

35 for life. The Sternwoods have money. All it has bought them is a rain check.'

'What was Owen doing last night with your car?'

40 'Nobody knows. He took it without permission. We always let him take a car on his night off, but last night wasn't his night off.' She made a wry mouth. 'Do you think — ?'

'He knew about this nude photo? How would I be able to say? I don't rule him out. Can you get five thousand in cash right away?'

'Not unless I tell Dad-or borrow it. I could probably borrow it from Eddie Mars. He ought to be generous with me, heaven knows.'

45 'Better try that. You may need it in a hurry.'

She leaned back and hung an arm over the back of the chair. 'How about telling the police?'

'It's a good idea. But you won't do it.'

'Won't I?'

50 'No. You have to protect your father and your sister. You don't know what the police might turn up. It might be something they couldn't sit on. Though they usually try in blackmail cases.'

'Can you do anything?'

'I think I can. But I can't tell you why or how.'

55 'I like you,' she said suddenly. 'You believe in miracles. Would you have a drink in the office?'

I unlocked my deep drawer and got out my office bottle and two pony glasses. I filled them and we drank. She snapped her bag shut and pushed the chair back.

60 'I'll get the five grand,' she said. 'I've been a good customer of Eddie Mars. There's another reason why he should be nice to me, which you may not know.' She gave me one of those smiles the lips have forgotten before they reach the eyes. 'Eddie's blonde wife is the lady Rusty ran away with.'

65 I didn't say anything. She stared tightly at me and added: 'That doesn't interest you?'

'It ought to make it easier to find him — if I was looking for him. You don't think he's in this mess, do you?'