

**INSPECTOR GUILD** (40-65 Hard-boiled Chief of detectives who has seen it all--he views Nick as a colleague and is friends with Nora)

(beaming at Nora)

Good morning

GUILD

(to Nick)

You oughtn't to play this trick on me. Running out when I was giving you time to rest up before I asked you those questions.

NICK

You mean about that gun?

GUILD

That ain't a gun any more. The firing pin's busted - the -

(he breaks off)

Don't waste time talking about that.

GUILD

Man to man, Mr. Charles, are you working on this case?

NICK

Man to man, I'm not.

NORA

But he's interested!

GUILD

I don't mind telling you I'd rather have you working with us than against us.

NICK

So would I.

GUILD

It's a bargain then. Anything you want to

NICK

What about the suicide?

GUILD

Oh, that's a phoney. The men didn't even have to go down.

NICK

I thought it might be.  
Do you think that Wynant did it?

GUILD

Looks like he planned, something.  
He shut up his apartment and his  
shop.

NICK

You've been there?

GUILD

Yeah. Couldn't find a thing. This  
is the way we figure it. Wynant  
goes to Julia's apartment. He finds  
Morelli there... sees she's two-  
timing him. They have a fight.  
But he figures he don't want to do  
anything then.... Morelli might  
squeal. So he goes away. He don't  
let his lawyer know anything has  
happened... he lets him go ahead  
and and hand over money to Julia  
to give to him, so that Julia will  
think it's all blown over. Then,  
when she don't expect it... he  
lets her have it.

NICK

No proof?

GUILD

Nothing yet to cinch it.