

LAW & ORDER: SVU ROLE: ADAM

INT. SVU INTERROGATION - NIGHT

Stabler and Fin with Adam.

STABLER
You killed Caroline.

ADAM
No. She was my friend.

STABLER
Good-looking girl... never tried to bang her?

ADAM
We were partners. That's all.

FIN
How'd you work it?

ADAM
We'd play separate clubs, then switch every few months after sharing information about the regulars there-- habits, tics, weaknesses. (Beat) That was her last night at Riley's. We were gonna switch the next night.

STABLER
You two don't come from much. Where'd you get the startup money for your poker partnership?

ADAM
We saved six hundred bucks from our campus jobs. After four months we'd turned it into eighty thousand. Imagine what we could have done in a few years.

STABLER
Caroline was paying her tuition with the winnings. Where'd your money go?

ADAM
Living the good life, you know. Buying things, going to nice places: Concerts, restaurants and clubs.

(CONTINUED)

FIN

You spent all that money on
nightlife?

ADAM

Going to college isn't just about
the education. It's about making
connections. I can't make the right
friends with a rusted bike and a
job in the cafeteria.

STABLER

Then they're probably not the right
friends.

ADAM

I'm not going back to LaGrange to
work in the warehouse with my dad.
I want to be here.

FIN

What's stopping you?

ADAM

City kids don't look at you unless
you're rich. Only way to roll with
them is to spend money like they
do.

STABLER

The debt would cut off your stream
of new income. That's why you
killed her.

FIN

Hundred and fifty grand in the
hole, no more living the high life.

ADAM

Do you have any idea what it's like
to come from nothing and go to
school with kids who have
everything? These jobs we work in
the cafeteria, the athletic center,
the laundry... poor kids have to
serve rich kids just to go to these
schools.

STABLER

Hudson's not the only college in
the country, why not go somewhere
else?

(CONTINUED)

ADAM

It's where the right people are.

FIN

Your new dough let you into their club.

ADAM

(With real emotion)

It was an amazing feeling. I was free. (Beat) Either of you ever spend time with people so well off they don't have a care in the world? Yeah, me neither.

STABLER

But Caroline jeopardized your new carefree life when she got herself into trouble with the house at Riley's game.

FIN

And no one knows you're partners.

STABLER

If Caroline goes away, then so does your problem. You killed her to erase the debt.

Beat. Then Adam starts to break down--

ADAM

It was an accident.

FIN

Pretty hard to accidentally strangle someone with your bare hands.

ADAM

I didn't mean to. I can explain--

STABLER

Explain it to the judge.