

Episode 1.5 : Chemistry

COLD OPEN

The camera cuts to various items in a small motel room. We see a baseball cap, some shades (something along the lines of the standard "undercover" gear used by many **MCU** heroes while on the run), and a Swiss Military watch lying on an unused bed. We see a cellphone charging on a nightstand. **ABC World News Now** is playing on the television (making it some time after 2:00 am). After a few moments, **Delroy Garrett Jr (Triathlon)** and a **Triune Pharmaceuticals** researcher named **Sheri Dennon** hurriedly enter the room carrying bags and equipment. A series of quick-cuts show the two setting up an I.V. infusion pump, various I.V. drugs and saline, some monitors, and **Dennon** laptop on a nearby desk. We close with **Garrett** being attached to the monitors, having an I.V. line placed in his arm, and **Dennon** working the I.V. pump.

Sheri Dennon: "Dr. Tremont has made some adjustments in the dosage of your treatment based on the results of your last episode. We believe we have a pretty good handle on the tremors, but we still need to get the insomnia and restlessness under control."

"How long has it been since you've slept?"

Delroy Garrett Jr: "I've been awake for about three days now."

Sheri Dennon: "Have you noticed any new symptoms that you feel may be associated with your condition?"

Delroy Garrett Jr: "Not really...just the usual."

Sheri Dennon: "Any chest pain? shortness of breath? nausea? dizziness? blurred vision? headaches?"

Delroy Garrett Jr: "No"

Sheri Dennon: "Any visual or auditory hallucinations?"

(Images of **Moonstone** and **Songbird** flying through the air while performing aerial maneuvers, **Taskmaster** in full tactical gear, and some of the creatures from the **Roxxon** oil refinery attack quickly flash on screen)

Delroy Garrett Jr: "...nope."

Sheri Dennon: "Have you noticed yourself feeling unusually nervous, anxious, irritable, or on edge lately?"

Delroy Garrett Jr: "No. Well...no"

(**Garrett** looks away from her work and gives **Garrett** a moment to continue. He only offers up a forced smile.)

Sheri Dennon: "Please feel free to share Mr. Garrett. In order for me...us...to help, I need you to share any and all new information. No matter how minor or embarrassing you think it may be."

Delroy Garrett Jr: "It's nothing really. It's just this new assignment. It's ...uhmmm...different. I'm still getting adjusted to a new team of people. A new environment. New responsibilities."

(**Sheri** 's body language changes as the tone of the conversation shifts from a straightforward clinical assessment to something more personal.)

Sheri Dennon: "I know that certain aspects of your job need to remain confidential, Mr. Garrett..."

Delroy Garrett Jr: "Delroy. Please, call me Delroy."

Sheri Dennon: "Okay, Delroy. I know that you can't really talk about certain parts of your job. But I just want you to know that, in addition to helping you deal with the physical side effects of your condition, I am also available to talk about...whatever... day or night."

(**Dennon** nervously averts her gaze away from **Garrett**.)

Delroy Garrett: "Thank you doc."

"And I guess I should apologize for asking you to meet me at a shady, no-tell-motel in the middle of the night. I just don't want the people at the base to start asking questions or doubting my ability to do my job. You have no idea how much I appreciate all the help that you've given me over these past few months. I really owe you one."

Sheri Dennon: "I'm just glad that I can help, Delroy,"

(The two share a quiet moment before **Dennon** slips back into doctor mode.)

Sheri Dennon: "As you know, with your unique physiology, it usually takes a few minutes for the medicines to start showing signs of working. Although we're still adjusting your dosages, we seem to have a pretty good understanding of where the lower limits of an effective dose lies. Still, if you start to feel nauseous, lightheaded, short of brea..."

- (**Delroy** raises both his hands to eye level. They go from their steady trembling, to shaking at an unnaturally high speed - even for **Garrett**. As **Garrett** stands up, the high speed shaking quickly engulfs his entire body. The monitors start to alarm from the elevated readings. As both **Dennon** and **Garrett** attempt to remove the IV. from his arm, **Garrett** abruptly stops shaking and appears to be perfectly fine. Both are clearly shocked by the intense episode and lock eyes in a shocked, "what-the-hell-was-that" sort of way. Both remain perfectly still as they wait to see what will happen next.)

Sheri Dennon: "Are...Are you okay?!?!?!"

(**Garrett** frantically feels his arms, chest, abdomen, face, etc)

Delroy Garrett Jr: "I think so. Yeah. Yeah, I'm okay!"

(**Garrett** slowly begins to smile and chuckle while **Dennon** lets out a huge, nervous sigh.)

Sheri Dennon: "You should sit down. I've gottaI need to..."

(**Dennon** silences the alarming monitors, then quickly begins making adjustments to the IV. pump.)

Sheri Dennon: "Oh my God, I've got to chart this!"

"Okay... So, full disclosure... I'm not sure what the hell just happened. We didn't make any changes to your *Propanolol* or *Galapertin*. We only upped the dosage of the *Lorazepam* and *Melatonin* to address the insomnia and head off any increases in anxiety. We did start you on a new rally pack during your last episode...but that's just vitamins and electrolytes.

Most likely, you just experienced some sort of reaction caused by the sedatives and anticonvulsants interacting with the experimental compound that is already in your system. There's also the unknown variable that is unique to you and accounts for your becoming the exceptional specimen that you've become..."

(As **Dennon** continues to enter data into her laptop while nervously firing off theories and ideas, **Garrett** slowly starts to lie down onto the bed.)

Delroy Garrett Jr: "Hey doc, I'm feeling REEEEEALLY tired all of a sudden. I think I'm gonna lie down for a secon..."

(**Dennon** quickly moves towards a now unconscious **Garrett**, fearful that the drugs may have broken through his unbelievably high tolerance level and is now over sedating him. Though the monitors are showing steady vital signs, she starts to pull up **Dr Tremont**'s personal number in her cellphone and is moments from calling for help when **Garret** suddenly begins snoring.)

(Satisfied that **Garrett** is stable, **Dennon** opts to continue the drug therapy and monitoring. As she waits for the regimen to finish, there are quick cuts of the researcher taking **Garrett**'s vital signs, checking the equipment, flipping through channels on the television, and typing reports on the laptop.)

(At one point **Sheri** is adjusting a few of the probes attached to **Delroy**, and he suddenly grabs her hand in his sleep and gently holds it. Though the gesture catches her a little off guard, it appears to be welcomed and brings a small smile to **Sheri**'s face. The moment quickly passes however, as the well-worn wedding band on **Sheri**'s finger reminds her that she is a married woman. **Dennon** slowly withdraws her hand from **Garrett**'s and gets back to work.)

(SCREEN FADES TO BLACK)

After a while, the screen fills with the same opening shots that began the episode, only this time we see the baseball cap, shades, and Swiss Military watch lying on the floor along with the shirt that **Delroy** was wearing. We see the cellphone is still charging on a nightstand, but now it has a few missed texts and reminders on the screen. An infomercial featuring former child star and radio personality **Patricia Walker** is playing on the television (making it some time after 5:30 am) . And we eventually see **Sheri Dennon** asleep in a chair near the desk. She is startled awake by the sound of **Delroy** stepping out of the bathroom after having just taken a shower.

Delroy Garrett Jr: "Sorry. I was trying not to wake you."

"The I.V's stopped a while ago, so I just turned the pump off and removed the line. I also wrote down my vitals and the times on that little pad over there."

Sheri Dennon: "Jesus...I am so sorry. I..."

Delroy Garrett Jr: "Don't apologize doc, I feel a LOT better! The tremors are gone...I got a few zzzzz's in...The shower only had a minimal amount of mold in it. What more can I ask for?"

(The pair seem to simultaneously realize the slippery slope that they are standing on. **Delroy** is standing inches away from **Sheri** with nothing more than a waist-wrapped towel separating them ...in a motel room...with a relatively unused bed nearby.)

Delroy Garrett Jr: "So, I should probably get dressed so we can get going..."

Sheri Dennon: "Yeah, I'd say we're all done here..."

SCENE CHANGES TO THE PARKING GARAGE OUTSIDE OF A DC AREA CONDO

It is around 8:00 am that same morning, and we see **Sheri** pull into her parking space at her and her husband's condo and start to head towards the entrance with her laptop in hand. Before she can reach the door, however, a luxury car pulls up beside her. The back window rolls down to reveal a beautiful young woman.

Giuletta Nefaria: "Hello Dr Dennon. My name is Giuletta."

THE OPENING NOTES TO THE MAIN THEME BEGINS TO PLAY - LISTEN

"I was wondering if I might have a moment of your time?"

END OF EPISODE