

Side 7: (GRACIE and NELLY)

Set-up: Gracie and Nelly have been friends for 25 years. They were just speaking to the detective, and Nelly could tell that Gracie wasn't being entirely truthful.

NELLY

You know, Gracie, it's not legal to lie to police officers.

GRACIE

I don't know what you're talking about.

NELLY

It sounded to me like you were throwing everyone under the bus but Richard!

GRACIE

I was just speaking the truth!

NELLY

Oh, were you?

GRACIE

I don't like your tone.

NELLY

It wasn't the truth, Gracie.

I have the only key to the costume storage, and you know it. Even the board doesn't go in without my knowledge.

GRACIE

It was innocent. You know I don't like random people in the dressing room before I go on.

NELLY

Well, I'm fairly certain that no one is actually going on tonight.

GRACIE

Why not? We have the understudy.

NELLY

Gracie. A woman just died.

GRACIE

That's neither here nor there.

NELLY

Why not send the detective to the kitchen or the 2nd floor storage room? Why the one with the lock?

GRACIE

Well, I didn't think of that.

NELLY

It will look suspicious. He would have been perfectly content digging through cabinets for the next 20 minutes, but no! No, you sent him to the only room in the place that was clearly a lie.

You're losing your edge.

GRACIE

I was flustered! He was really pushing on that whole Richard thing.

NELLY

No more than the others so far as I could see.

GRACIE

No. No— he gripped onto... something, and he was running with it.

NELLY

Perhaps you should have called Richard an idiot, and let it all get lost in the wash.

GRACIE

But Richard's not an idiot!

NELLY

No. He is a perfectly respectable young man.

GRACIE

He is. Talented, too.

NELLY

Of course.

GRACIE

I wouldn't protect an idiot, Nelly Needlebaum.

NELLY

Absolutely not. He's a good young man with vision and ambition.