

From A Night Near the Sun
By Don Zolidis

LOUISE, 40ish. Downtrodden and a little sick.

(LOUISE's husband, TROY has been murdered by an isolated, damaged young man named ERIC, whom she had been attempting to seduce.)

LOUISE

Lust. Lust, your honor. I knew that Eric Downing had been in love with me for some time. I'm very perceptive. I think from the moment he met me, really. I think it was because I was unattainable. It's sad, you know. Because that kid had a future. Doing what, I don't know. That's what passion does to you, your honor.

(short pause)

Is that robe made out of silk? I've never felt a judge's robe before, can I just... okay, I'll stick to the point. When I found... my husband... the computer was still on... and typed into it, were the words:

(reads from a sheet of paper)

"I'm hot for you, baby." I believe that this was Eric's message to me. I'm hot for you. Baby.

(breaking down)

I'm sorry. I did love my husband, your honor. There were times that he could have been a better man, I think. And I wasn't the best wife... There were days that I tried to be... better... but what does that have to do with anything...?

(Pause)

That's it, huh? That's all we get... Things go by quickly, I guess... and you find out you didn't try hard enough...

(Pause)

Is it true that judges don't wear underwear under their robes?