

DESPERATE HOUSEWIVES
7x23

"The one who..."

6 actors
It can be adapted to 2 persons

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Interior, evening. GABRIELLE enters the house to set up dinner for her neighbors. They have organized a progressive dinner, eating one course at a time in different homes around the neighborhood. Now it's GABRIELLE and her husband Carlos' turn to host dessert. GABRIELLE is alone.

ALEJANDRO
(coming out from the living
room)
Hola, Gabrielle.

GABRIELLE screams.

GABRIELLE
What are you doing here?

ALEJANDRO
I know you told me not to come
back, but I'm betting you won't be
so tough without your gun.

ALEJANDRO touches the inside of his jacket, implying that he has GABRIELLE's gun underneath.

GABRIELLE
I told you to leave.

ALEJANDRO
And I did. I drove 50 miles out of
town. But I just couldn't stop
thinking about all those things you
said. You made me sound like a
monster.

GABRIELLE
I only said what was true.

ALEJANDRO
Are you sure? Because when you said
that thing about being a vergin, I
almost had to laugh.

GABRIELLE
What?

ALEJANDRO
Come on, Gabby. Those short skirts
you wore, those halter tops.
(Coming closer) You were a little
slut.

GABRIELLE
You sick bastard.

GABRIELLE tries to leave but ALEJANDRO stops her by holding her arms.

ALEJANDRO
No, no, no, no. You did all the
talking before. Now it's my turn.
Sit down.

ALEJANDRO pushes GABRIELLE on a chair.

Meanwhile, from outside the house, Gabrielle's husband CARLOS approaches. He sees the moment of tension through the window. He enters silently.

GABRIELLE
Stay away from me.

ALEJANDRO
I remember those nights in your
room, baby.

ALEJANDRO grabs GABRIELLE'S wrists.

GABRIELLE
Alejandro, stop.

ALEJANDRO
And as far as me putting my hand
over your mouth, that was so your
mother wouldn't hear how much you
were enjoying it.

CARLOS violently hits ALEJANDRO from behind with a candlestick. ALEJANDRO falls on the floor.

GABRIELLE
Oh, my God.

GABRIELLE hugs CARLOS.

GABRIELLE
He came in. He came in and he was
standing there, and I was so
scared, and I couldn't do anything!
I couldn't -

CARLOS
It's ok.

GABRIELLE
I couldn't do anything, I couldn't
do anything.

CARLOS
Ok. Hey.

CARLOS goes closer to ALEJANDRO to check his body.

GABRIELLE
Let's call the police before he
wakes up.

CARLOS
Oh, God.

GABRIELLE
What?

CARLOS
There's no pulse. He's dead. I
killed him.

GABRIELLE
But it was self-defence. I mean, he
had my gun.

CARLOS
Your gun? I put that in the safe.

GABRIELLE
No, he had it. He had it right
here. It was here.

GABRIELLE and CARLOS check ALEJANDRO's jacket. They can't
find the gun.

CARLOS
I just killed an unarmed man.

BREE, LYNETTE and SUSAN enter the house.

BREE
Gabby! I thought you were gonna
call.

SUSAN
Yeah, it's been 15 -

The three see ALEJANDRO's body.

LYNETTE
Wha - what happened?

BREE
Who is that?

GABRIELLE
My stepfather.

LYNETTE
The one who...

GABRIELLE nods.

SUSAN
Is he dead?

CARLOS
Yeah, I killed him.

Beat.

GABRIELLE
Okay, I know. This is bad. This is really bad.

BREE
The man was in your house, and you had every reason to be scared after what he did to you.

GABRIELLE
No. I never reported him. No one knows. They're only gonna know that he was here and he was unarmed, and Carlos killed him. And now he's gonna go to jail because he was trying to protect me.

LYNETTE
Calm down, we just need time to think.

SUSAN looks at the window.

SUSAN
We don't have time. Everybody is coming.

LYNETTE
(to BREE)
Including your boyfriend, the detective.

CARLOS
I killed the son of a bitch who
hurt my wife. If I have to go to
prison, I will.

Beat.

BREE
That's not gonna happen.

Everybody looks at ALEJANDRO's dead body.