

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.