Berr Kilgo

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**An Eye for an Eye?**

**Prologue**

(Outside the prison the air is warm. The feeling of new birth and youth fills the atmosphere. The fresh scent of flowers blooming occupies the nostrils of the many outside the prison. A well dressed man in a dark blue shirt, a light baby blue checkered colored tie, a freshly ironed black vest, and red slacks is entering the prison to see his wife. In the visiting room his spouse awaits him for his weekly visitation privileges.)

Deandre: Only 6 more weeks baby, then your out of the prison and back in the apartment with me.

Alesha: Andre, I miss you.

Deandre: I miss you too babe, but we’ll be together soon.

Alesha: I just can't wait to much longer.

Deandre: I know its hard, but when you get out and my case is done, I’m going to take you anywhere you want to go.

Alesha: I’ll take some time to think on that.

Deandre: You should. Don’t hold back. I’m not kidding when I say anywhere including Applebees (Deandre starts laughing).

Alesha: Oh baby, why does it have to be like this!??! (Alesha’s eyes start to water). I wish I had never gone out that night. The crash was his fault as much as mine. He was on my side of the road.

Deandre: Don’t try to pin this on him Lesha. Your drinking is what killed him. Don’t try to justify what you did.

Prison Guard: Time’s up you two.

Deandre: Will you give us just a little more time?

Prison Guard: You’ll have more time tomorrow.

Alesha: Well either way I shouldn’t have been arrested.

Deandre: Honey you killed a man. It’s a wonder you are only sentence two years in this place. As far as some are concerned, your release date should be 6 years from now. It was all Brian could do to you minimize your time.

Alesha: Minimize my time? A dog as my lawyer could have done better.

Deandre: No other lawyer would have been able to decrease your time by such a large amount. You could be in here for 8 years. You should thank your lucky stars you got Brian as a lawyer.

Alesha: Well it seems to me that your friend Brian couldn’t have gotten me more time if he tried.

Prison Guard: Sir I need you to leave right now.

Deandre: Well I’m sorry you can’t appreciate how lucky you are. Maybe some more time to mull over your decisions would help a lot.

Alesha: Well, if you feel that way, why do keep running your sorry little ass back to me?

Deandre: Maybe I’ll stop.

Alesha: Fine I’ll see you in six weeks.

Deandre: Maybe.

(Alesha gets taken away and Deandre leaves)

**Chorus:**

( As Deandre’s Conscious)

You’re fighting for a murderer

And arguing with your wife

You're spending more time at work

Than even giving thought to your wife

You used to visit everyday

Did you get bored

Is this murderers life more important than you and your wife’s relationship

How could you stoop to such a low level

Talking to your wife like that

Is the death penalty that important to you.

What kind of husband does that make you

Where are your morals

You consider yourself compassionate

What if she chooses to never see you again

You may regret this

**Scene 1**

(The next day, Deandre is in court fighting against the death penalty. His client has been convicted of murder and Deandre is fighting not to have her killed. The offender is known by the name of Courtney Holmes and has been involved in similar situations before. Her ethnicity is African American and she comes from the hood of St. Louis Missouri. There are claims her offense was first degree murder, a crime punishable by death. Deandre’s argument is that the crime cannot be proven to be first degree, his only leverage to save this offender’s life. )

(Court Room)

Deandre: (Speaking Loudly) Do you honestly think you can justify taking a life?

Opposing Lawyer: This woman is guilty of premeditatively taking MULTIPLE lives.

Deandre: Does taking Courtney’s life bring them back? No it doesn’t.

Opposing Lawyer: No, it won't. But, it could save lives in the future. It also might provide some closure for the victims family members and friends.

Deandre: If you take Courtney’s life would that make you any better than her? Where’s your moral code, your virtues, your humanity?. A life for a life is no solution, only revenge. Death, where does that get you? Where does that put us? Certainly not... (Deandre is interrupted)

Opposing lawyer: That is BESIDE the point. This woman, did she or did she not commit murder?

Deandre: Courtney did, but to no point was it proven to be first degree.

Opposing lawyer: Ahhh…. according to law enforcement officer Michael Greg, there was digital evidence sent out by Courtney before the crime that may have been regarding the act itself.

Deandre: “MAY have been regarding the act itself”? You can not kill somebody because something may have been. Where is your evi…. (Deandre is

interrupted)

Judge: SILENCE IN THE COURT! (Slams the Hammer). Discussion is now over. I will be back in 30 minutes with the ruling.

(5 minutes later Deandre is thinking about his case)

**Chorus:**

(As Deandre’s Conscious)

Maybe you should think about who you’re fighting for

Courtney shows no emotion or remorse

She feels not the slightest bit of sorrow for her actions

Where would you stand if she inflicted harm on your family

Deandre: (To himself) It is irrelevant how it would affect me. I am a lawyer. My job is to represent the law. I fight for it. It makes no difference how I personally feel about it. The only matter is how our founding fathers would feel about it. I cannot let my emotions get in the way of my work. I am paid to keep my feelings in check. The law is law and I fight for it.

**Chorus:**

( As Deandre’s Conscious)

Is the law always right

Is there ever a time when we need to look past the law

to the greater good

Is the law always part of the greater good

Set in its place

Disallowing of situation

The Death Penalty

Can it be justified in any situations

Do Some people deserve to die

(Courtney interrupts Deandre’s thought)

Courtney: That bastard for a judge won’t have the balls to kill me. He’s soft inside.

Deandre: I wouldn't count on that. Things are not always as they seem in the court room.

Courtney: If he makes a decision I don't like, I promise he will regret it.

(Judge enters room 10 minutes later)

Judge: Under law, the victim has been found guilty for 2nd degree murder and will be sentenced to life in prison.

Courtney: (Screaming) You are going to regret this. It won't work well. I PROMISE THAT! Watch your back.

**Scene 2**

(The next day Deandre receives a call from the Prison Warden. The call is regarding his wife. At first he is filled with anger and ignorance, but those emotions are immediately turned into remorse and sorrow when he learns the truth.)

Prison Warden: Hello, is this Deandre Jones?

Deandre: Yes

Prison Warden: Well sir, I’m not sure how to break it to you……...But I guess I might as well come out with it…… Sir I am very sorry I have to break it too you like this, but your wife is dead. She was killed this morning in a prison fight. Killed by a woman who goes by the name of Courtney Holmes.

Deandre: (Gasps) No (Deandre feels like sobbing but is in a numb shock).

Prison Warden: I am so sorry sir. Prison guards were not alerted of the fight until it was too late. I hope the best for you.

Deandre: Thank you. Maybe next time you will make it there soon enough.

(Hangs up)

**Chorus:**

( As Deandre’s Conscious)

Your last words to her

More like the devils than a husband’s

More like a hater’s than a lover’s

More like a killer’s than a friends

Everything I took for granted

Her love her beauty her company

Now shes gone, Who knows where

Dead, gone to heaven or hell

Looks like you fought for the wrong cause Deandre

A woman, who’s life you saved one day takes another the next

Takes your life the next

Your wife’s life the next

A life for a life

sure any day

Maybe some deserve to die

The greater good not the law

If only she had died

gotten what she deserved

Why fight for a life not worth fighting for

Thats what you did

Was her life worth your wifes

An eye for an eye

Death row take her please

**Scene 3**

(The day is cloudy with a cold nip running through the spring air. The feeling of new birth as felt in the previous days is gone, seemingly to be replaced by the cold of winter. A news reporter stands outside an apartment complex relating the story of a new felt tragedy.)

News Reporter: A man by the name of Deandre Jones was just found dead. He seems to have made a successful suicide attempt. His wife was killed earlier that morning in prison by a fellow inmate named Courtney Holmes. Deandre Jones was the Defendant of the very women who killed his own wife. Courtney Holmes has received an execution for date May 17th and is now a registered serial killer.