

Interrogation
by
Simon Wiedemann

© 2026

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM - DAY

The room is concrete and bare. A female INTERROGATOR (30s) sits behind a table that's fixed to the floor. She faces a stone-faced SUSPECT called 'NICK' (40s), who is fully dressed in orange and who sits with his hands tied behind his back. On the table is a tape recorder.

INTERROGATOR

Hello, Nick. Do you know why you're here?

NICK

Yes.

INTERROGATOR

And why is that?

NICK

I'm being held on suspicion of murder.

INTERROGATOR

Good. Well not GOOD, but you know what I mean. I'm glad you're sane. And do you mind if I record this interview?

NICK

No.

INTERROGATOR

Good.

The INTERROGATOR presses a button on the tape recorder.

INTERROGATOR

Nick, where were you on the night of Shawn's murder?

NICK

Somewhere else.

INTERROGATOR

And that was?

NICK

I was sleeping. Because it was night.

INTERROGATOR

It was past your bed time?

NICK

What?

INTERROGATOR

Am I triggering anger in you? Do you want to kill me?

NICK

I just thought it was an odd thing to say, that's all...

INTERROGATOR

And what was odd about it?

NICK

I'm in my 40s...

INTERROGATOR

So no one tucks you in and reads you a bedtime story?

NICK

No.

INTERROGATOR

Ok, you handled that well.

NICK

Tha...

The INTERROGATOR'S eyes bulge.

INTERROGATOR

(interrupting)

DID YOU DID IT??

NICK

No!

She composes herself.

INTERROGATOR

I do admire killers, you know? You're a real man!

NICK

I see...

INTERROGATOR

And how did my compliment make you feel?

NICK

It made feel like a criminal whilst boosting my self-esteem at the same time...

INTERROGATOR

And you're not a criminal, even
though that would make you a big man?

She flexes her arm muscles.

NICK

No.

INTERROGATOR

The thing is, you're really stone-
faced and you look really shifty. If
only my tape recorder records images,
too. For the record, the person I'm
interviewing looks really stone-faced
and shifty.

NICK

It's not a crime.

INTERROGATOR

Yes, but you do look like a criminal,
even though your elderly mother tells
you when to go to bed.

NICK

That's a lie...

INTERROGATOR

It does happen you know? Some people
get really angry at being treated
like a baby, and then they kill
Shawn. Wow. Hardcore.

NICK

It's not who I am.

INTERROGATOR

Any ideas who it could be?

NICK

James Ziegler?

INTERROGATOR

No it's not him.

NICK

How do you know?

INTERROGATOR

He wears a pink dress everywhere.

NICK

So?

INTERROGATOR
Actually, it's people like him who
are more likely to be the target of
violence.

NICK
Oh.

The INTERROGATOR relaxes in her chair and speaks softly.

INTERROGATOR
Can you imagine how Shawn's family
are feeling, Nick?

NICK
Sad?

INTERROGATOR
Yes, very sad. How does that make you
feel?

There is a long period of silence. A lone tear falls from
NICK'S eye.

INTERROGATOR
Are you ok?

There is more silence.

INTERROGATOR
Nick?

NICK looks down, defeated.

INTERROGATOR
Nick?

NICK
Sorry, I was just remembering the
time I was chopping up onions.

INTERROGATOR
I'm warning you.

NICK
What??

INTERROGATOR
Do you think this is funny?

NICK
No!

INTERROGATOR

And why were you thinking of chopping onions in a very serious police interview?

NICK

Not sure. I'm hungry.

The INTERROGATOR sighs.

INTERROGATOR

Ok. Nick, do you realise James' 50th radio show special is coming up and you're going to be a part of it? Because he knows who you are, why you're here, and he likes featuring wacky or controversial guests?

NICK

Yes.

INTERROGATOR

Don't you think a 50th radio show special with a murderer on it would be rather... inappropriate?

NICK

I didn't do anything! Also, I'm not wacky!

INTERROGATOR

Yes I know that. But you are controversial.

NICK

I told you! I didn't do anything!

INTERROGATOR

Ok, this interview isn't going anywhere, I'm going to have to terminate it.

The INTERROGATOR presses a button on the recorder. NICK breaks down and cries. The INTERROGATOR starts recording again.

INTERROGATOR

Are you ok??

NICK

So many onions!

INTERROGATOR

Argh!