

Chapter 34

Madam, Will You Say Something?



Raquel dos Santos Candido da Silva 

Audience: Adults

Field: Social

It was a special Sunday. It was Pedro's birthday and Rubia was preparing for the trip they had organized together. That day, they got up in the morning and began preparations for the event. Around 11:30 a.m., the couple, who had just parked their car on the street, heard shouting and bangs. Rubia, upon hearing the uproar, decided to go to the gate to check what was happening. The car was intact; however, a block away, Rubia saw a young man knocking on the gate of a residence with an object she could not identify. She noticed that the boy was noticeably aggressive, gesticulating, and shouting, calling for the residents, who did not come out. After a few minutes, the boy turned his back, walking in the opposite direction of the location. When he briefly turned away, a stranger appeared on the street with a gun in hand and quickly fired, striking the boy in the back and killing him on the spot.

Rubia was shocked by that scene for days and her neighbors said that the man who shot the boy was a policeman on his day off. The policeman claimed to have acted in self-defense, a version that is supported by the local press. Throughout the city, there was massive repercussion about the case. In the neighborhood, friends and family of the boy who was killed were devastated, many saying that his action resulted from a disagreement between neighbors, which was aggravated by the fact that he had mental disorders.

The people who witnessed what happened that day were afraid to tell what they saw because of possible reprisals. Rubia could be a very important witness to what happened in order to solve the case. She was sought out by police officers and by the boy's relatives to give her testimony about what exactly happened that day. When she showed up at the police station as summoned, Rubia then...

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