

Script No. \_\_\_\_\_ Pages 12 Date 9 February, 1944

TITLE: THE PERFECT CRIME

WRITER \_\_\_\_\_ PRODUCER \_\_\_\_\_

BROADCAST \_\_\_\_\_ TIME \_\_\_\_\_

=====

MAC: 1. (AUDIO ONLY FADED IN) .... so that's why I called  
2. you in, see, on account of I just had to get my  
3. story off my chest ... I just had to tell someone  
4. about it ...

5. (FADE IN PICTURE WITH CLOSEUP OF MAC'S HEAD)

MAC: 6. (CONTINUING) y' see, it was this way. I had the guy  
7. all figured out. I had the joint cased for a month  
8. and I knew all there was t' know about it. I knew  
9. just when his housekeeper took the afternoon off,  
10. just how many windows there were, where the copper  
11. on the beat 'd be when I was gonna pull the job.  
12. I had a pair of rubber gloves ready so's I wouldn't  
13. leave no finger-prints. My gun had all the numbers  
14. filed off and it could never be traced t' me on  
15. account of I'd copped it from a hood I knew who  
16. was bumped off. Nobody knew I had it. I'm tellin'  
17. y', the job was a lead pipe cinch. So, when  
18. Wednesday night come around, I got all my stuff  
19. ready and went to where he was living. I opened  
20. the window in the basement, crawled in and went up  
21. the stairs to where I knew he'd be sittin' countin'  
22. over the day's loot. Sure enough, when I opened the  
23. door, there he was sittin' in the chair behind the  
24. desk. ...

25.

( more )



1. FADE UP PICTURE SHOWING MEDIUM SHOT OF MAN BEHIND  
2. A DESK, IN SILHOUETTE.

MAC:

3.  
4. (CONTINUING -- VOICE ONLY) ... I had my gun ready  
5. at the door but I wasn't gonna use it too soon. Y'  
6. see, there were a few things I had to talk over with  
7. him first before I was gonna give him the works.  
8. But, the minute he heard the door squeak, he turned  
9. around quickly. He couldn't tell who it was on  
10. account of it was too dark. But he hollered out ...

FANNING:

11.  
12. Who's there?

MAC:

13.  
14. Just a pal, that's all.

FANNING:

15.  
16. What do you want? How'd you get in? Who are you?

MAC:

17.  
18. One question at a time, Fanning. I'll come a little  
19. closer so's you can tell who I am, huh?

FANNING:

20.  
21. What 's the idea of the gun?

MAC:

22. What do you think? ... Uh-uh! I wouldn't reach for  
23. that gun if I were you ...

24. (CAMERA PANS OVER TO CENTER MAC IN SILHOUETTE)

MAC:

25. (CONTINUING) I let y' do it the last time, remember?

FANNING:

26.  
27. Mac!

( more )



MAC: 1. Yeah!

2.

FANNING: 3. What are you doing here?

4.

MAC: 5. A little job I got all worked out.

6.

FANNING: 7. I don't understand.

8.

MAC: 9. You will ....

10. (HE CLOSSES THE DOOR BEHIND HIM AND STARTS  
TO STAGE LEFT VERY DELIBERATELY)  
 11. CAMERA FOLLOWS HIM OVER TO FANNING UNTIL  
BOTH ARE CENTERED)

MAC: 12. (CONTINUING) you didn't think you'd get away

13. with murder, Fanning, now did you? ...

14.

FANNING: 15. I only ...

16.

MAC:\* 17. (Continuing WITHOUT INTERRUPTION) you didn't

18. think I'd lay down and take it from you ... take

19. the rap an' all an' let you get away with the dough ...

20.

FANNING: 21. I was only saving it when ...

22.

MAC: 23. (DERISIVELY) Yahi You was saving it ... but not

24. for me!

25.

FANNING: 26. Sure I was, Mac! I was all set to get a high-grade

27. mouthpiece and fix it so's you wouldn't have to take

( more )



FANNING: 1. the rap.  
(cont)

2.

MAC: 3. Wasn't that nice of you ... (SAVAGELY) ... but why'd  
4. it take y' so long, huh?

5.

FANNING: 6. These things can't be done overnight, you know.

7.

MAC: 8. No, I don't know! But I know somethin' else ...

9.

FANNING: 10. What do you mean?

11.

MAC: 12. I'm gonna make sure you don't pull anymore of your  
13. funny stunts ... if you know what I mean ...

14.

FANNING: 15. What are you talking about?

16. (CHANGE TO CLOSEUP PICTURE OF MAC)

MAC: 17. He knew what I was talking about all right, all  
18. right. I could see the sweat pouring out of his  
19. forehead. And his eyes were popping out like  
20. a pig's eyes. I could see him look around like  
21. as if he was looking for some way out. But there  
22. wasn't any way out. On account I had planned  
23. it that way. I was gonna commit the perfect  
24. crime. I was gonna commit murder and ...

25. (CHANGE TO SILHOUETTE PICTURE OF BOTH MEN)

FANNING: 26. You won't get away with it, Mac!

27.

( more )



MAC: 1. That's what you think!  
2.

FANNING: 3. You'll hang for my murder, I'm warning you!  
4.

MAC: 5. Nobody's gonna hang around here .. but there's  
6. someone that's gonna die.  
7.

FANNING: 8. What'll you take, Mac?  
9.

MAC: 10. You're givin' it t' me, now ... revenge.  
11.

FANNING: 12. I'll give you ten thousand!  
13.

MAC: 14. That's funny! That's the size of the cut I was  
15. supposed to get from our last job ... the one  
16. you framed me with.  
17.

FANNING: 18. I can explain it, I tell you!  
19.

MAC: 20. Y' don't have t' ... I know all about what happened.  
21.

FANNING: 22. I'll make it thirty thousand.  
23.

MAC: 24. Uh - UH!

FANNING: 25. Fifty thousand!  
26.

MAC: 27. Is that all your life is wort' t' y'?

( more )



FANNING: 1. A hundred grand!

2.

MAC: 3. A hundred t'ousand bucks! That's just how much

4. you got out of the job, wasn't it?

5.

FANNING: 6. Yeah! How about it?

7.

MAC: 8. Got it here?

9.

FANNING: 10. In my drawer ... (HE REACHES DOWN) I'll get it

11. and ....

MAC: 12. Cut it out, wise guy! Take your hand away from

13. that drawer!

14.

FANNING: 15. How'll I get the money?

16.

MAC: 17. If it's there, I'll get it. If it ain't, there

18. won't be no harm done ... except t' you ...

19.

FANNING: 20. I thought we settled that.

21.

MAC: 22. You did ... I didn't!

23.

FANNING: 24. (BITTERLY AND SHAKEN) You're playing with me ...

25. like a cat with a rat ...

26.

MAC: 27. Yeah! Rat is right ...

( more )



FANNING: 1. You want to see me suffer ...

2.

MAC: 3. That's right ... like you done t' me!

4.

FANNING: 5. You won't get away with it, Mac! You'll hang!

6. You'll hang!

7.

(CHANGE TO CLOSEUP PICTURE OF MAC)

8.

MAC: 9. But he didn't know I had everything fixed up so's

10. I wasn't gonna hang. He didn' know I was all set

11. t' get away wit' murder ... to commit the perfect

12. crime. Y' see, like I explained before, every-

13. thing was all set. There was nobody around, no

14. housekeeper, no cop, nothin'. Only me and him.

15. An', pretty soon, there was gonna be only me.

16. An' that's what I told him, too ...

17.

(CHANGE TO SILHOUETTE PICTURE)

18.

FANNING: 19. You'll hang, I tell you'.

20.

MAC: 21. Oh, no! an' I'll tell y' why I won't. On

22. account of it'll make you suffer all the more. Be-

23. cause you'll die knowing I'll still be living,

24. see!

25.

FANNING: 26. Make it two hundred thousand!

27.

( more )



MAC: 1. I'm glad to know y' got that much loose change  
2. lyin' around. On account of I'm gonna take it  
3. wit' me ... after I blow your brains out ...  
4. after I put the gun close t' your head so's  
5. there'll be powder-marks an' the cops'll think  
6. you committed suicide ...  
7.

FANNING: 8. Have a heart, Mac!  
9.

MAC: 10. I am ... yours! But lemme tell y' how I'm gonna  
11. get away wit' murder! After I give it t' y', I'm  
12. gonna put the gun in your hand, see. An' there  
13. won't be any of my finger-ppints on account of I  
14. got rubber gloves on, see ... (HE HOLDS UP HIS  
15. HAND TO FANNING) .... kinda clever of me, huh? ...  
16. an' there ain't no serial numbers on this here  
17. gun so's they can trace it t' me, see ... an' I  
18. got an alibi that's as tight as you are ... or  
19. maybe I should say were ...  
20.

FANNING: 21. Mac! Listen t' me! You may think you've got it  
22. all fixed up so you won't hang. But there's  
23. something you're slipping up on, I tell you, some-  
24. thing that'll put the rope around your neck ...  
25.

MAC: 26. Don't make me laugh! That's only a stall an'  
27. you know it!

( more )



FANNING: 1. You won't get away with it!  
2.

MAC: 3. This is gonna be a perfect crime.  
4.

FANNING: 5. You can't do this, Mac! After all we've gone through  
6. together.  
7.

MAC: 8. Whyn't y' think of that before?  
9.

FANNING: 10. I set you up in this racket, and you know it.  
11.

MAC: 12. Yeah! an' I also know how y' let me down ...  
13. (HE STARTS TO ADVANCE ON FANNING) .... just like  
14. I'm gonna let you down now ...  
15.

FANNING: 16. Mac, don't! Keep away from me!  
17.

MAC: 18. You should be happy, Fanning. It ain't every guy  
19. that gets smacked down in a perfect crime.  
20.

FANNING: 21. Please, Mac, Please!  
22.

MAC: 23. How do y' feel now? Knowin' I'm gonna get away  
24. wit' murder ... wit' your murder?  
25.

FANNING: 26. I'll make everything up to you, Mac! Honest I will!

MAC: 27. It's too late!

( more )



FANNING: 1. Mac! Mac!

2.

MAC: 3. Take it easy, chum! It won't hurt ... for long.

4.

FANNING: 5. You'll hang!

6.

MAC: 7. Tsk! Tsk! Now how many times do I have t' tell  
8. y'? This is gonna be a perfect crime ... one of  
9. the few perfect crimes there ever was ... on account  
10. of I got it all figured out, see. I got every-  
11. thing taken care of. I ain't slipped up not once.  
12. Everything's been covered. I'm gonna give it  
13. to y' now, an' then I'm gonna slip the gun in  
14. your hand, an' the coppers'll see the powder  
15. marks on your forehead, an' the coroner's jury'll  
16. say ... "Why, the guy committed suicide" ...  
17. it's gonna be as easy as all that ...

18.

FANNING: 19. You won't get away with it!

20.

MAC: 21. Well! Here goes! Take a look at me now on  
22. account of it's the last look you'll ever get  
23. of me ... or anyone ....

24.

FANNING: 25. No!

26.

MAC: 27. I'm gonna turn the light off ... an' the minute

( more )



MAC: 1. I do, I'm pulling this here trigger ...

(cont)

2.

FANNING: 3. You'll hang!

4.

MAC: 5. (CONTINUING) and then your light's goin' off ...

6. you ready? Here goes the light ...

7.

FADE PICTURE SO THAT SCREEN IS BLACK

8.

FANNING: 9. (AFTER A LONG PAUSE, AND GURGLING IT OUT, AS

10. THOUGH DYING) Now ... why ... did ... you ...

11. have ... to ... do ... that ....?

12.

(FADE UP CLOSEUP OF MAC)

13.

MAC: 14. So, y' see that's how it all happened ...

15. that's how I committed the perfect crime...

16.

17. (CAMERA DOLLIES BACK SLOWLY FOR A MEDIUM SHOT  
OF THE INTERIOR OF A PRISON CELL. BARS IN  
THE BACKGROUND. MAC IS SEEN SEATED AT A  
18. WOODEN TABLE, LEANING ACROSS IT INTENTLY AS  
HE TALKS. ACROSS FROM HIS IS SEATED A PRIEST  
19. WITH A BIBLE IN HIS HANDS STARING INTENTLY  
AND SYMPATHETICALLY AT MAC WHO IS DRESSED  
20. IN CONVICT'S CLOTHES. ODDS AND ENDS OF  
CLOTHING ARE ON THE TABLE)

21.

MAC: 22. ... but what I don't understand, Father, is

23. what happened? I thought I had it all figured

24. out. But I slipped up somewhere ... somewhere.

25.

FATHER: 26. What shall I do with your clothing, son?

27.

( more )



MAC:

1. Anything, Father, anything you want ... but what

2. I wanna know is this, Father ...

3.

(CHANGE TO CLOSEUP CAMERA ZOOMING IN ON NECKTIE  
HANGING FROM THE TABLE TOP IN THE SHAPE OF  
A PERFECT NOOSE)

4.

5.

MAC:

6. (CONTINUING) I thought I had everything all

7. figured out for a perfect crime .....

8.

9.

10.

11.

12.

THE END

13.

14.

15.

16.

17.

18.

19.

20.

21.

22.

23.

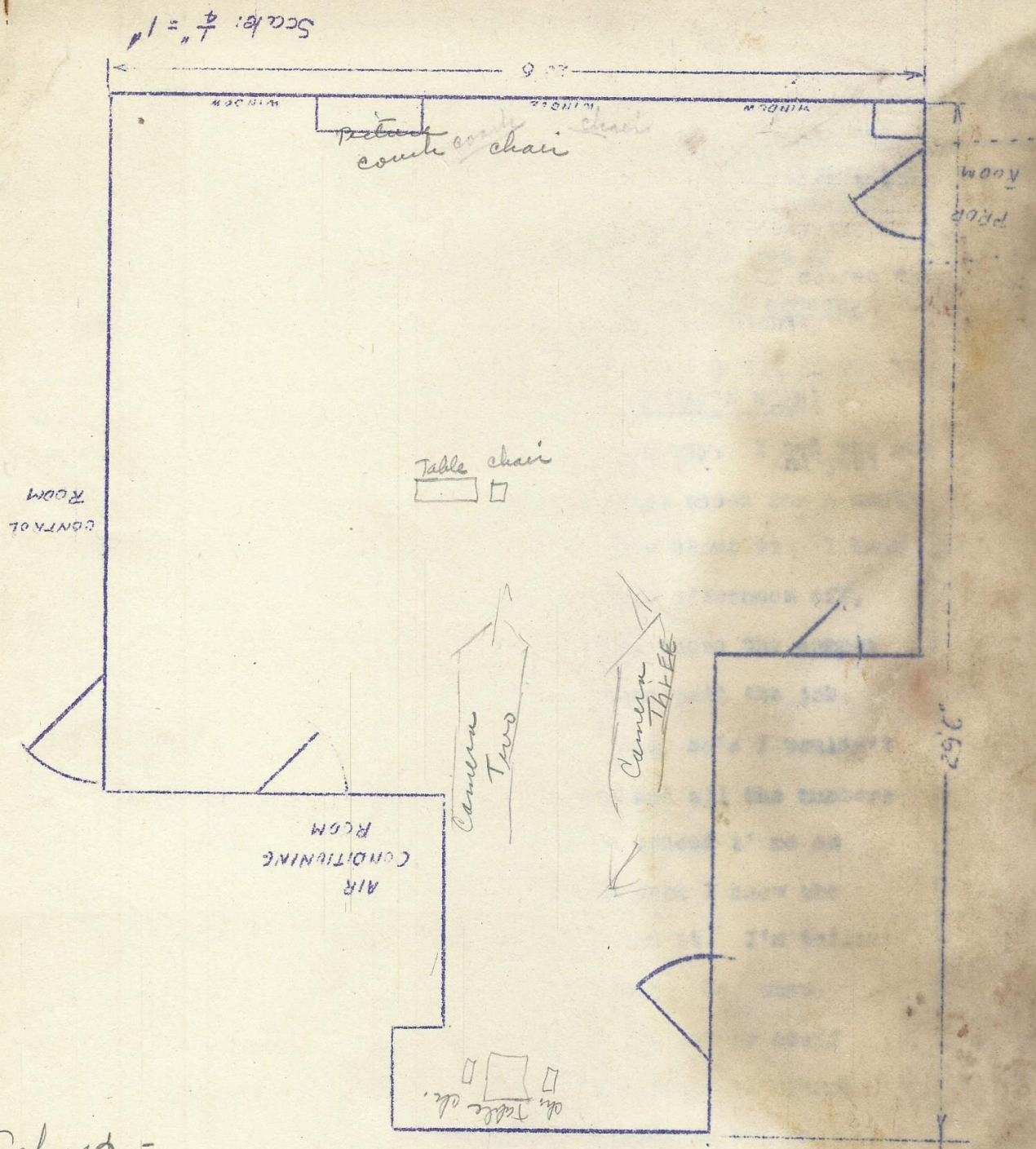
24.

25.

26.

27.





Set up -

for Perfect Crime

Subject to change with Technical  
Difficulties ———— from Harris