

INT: THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE CASTRIES ST LUCIA - DAY

JUSTICE DENNIS BYRON a high court judge in black man dark in completion 58 years old and presiding over this case is addressing the jury after closing arguments from the prosecution and defense attorneys.

JUSTICE DENNIS BYRON

Ladies and gentlemen there it is, all the material upon which you have to decide this case is now before you. The time has now come for you retire to consider your verdict. At this stage it must be a unanimous one. In the unlikely event that you have not found your verdict by 5pm, I must ask you not to talk about this matter to anyone at home. Your decision is one you must arrive at jointly and without influence from outside.

CUT TO

INT: HIGH COURT CORRIDOR LEADING TO JURY ROOM - DAY

JEAN COLLYMORE a 34 years old black man, 6 feet 2 inches of with striking features, and HERMINA ANTOINE a 34 years black woman with long curly hair are walking behind two other jurors, heading down a semi lit corridor. You can see them talking but can't hear what they are saying.

CUT TO

INT : HIGH COURT JURY ROOM -DAY

The jury room is forty feet by twelve feet. There is a clock on the wall, a long brown desk dominates the center surrounded by black executive chairs, in one of the corners of the room is a small table with coffee cups, a thermos, and saucers. The juror walk in quite calm with light conversation among them. The following people are in the room:

CONDELL ST MARTHE 48 years old, black man from St Lucia.

MILDRED BENJAMIN 42 years old, fair skinned woman 5 feet 4 inches tall.

GUY ANGELO 29 years old, very light skin man 5 feet 7 inches tall and light complexion.

HELENA WILFRED 37 years old fat dark woman.

REYNOLD ANSLEM 54 years old with a beard and a full head of hair.

DAPHNE CHARLEMAGNE 31 years old 5 7 inches tall. fair skinned woman.

BERRYL WILLIAMS a 25 years old woman petite in stature and soft spoken.

JULIAN ALEXIS 5 feet 6 inches, of medium build, 38 years old.

LEAH WELLINGTON 44 years old 5 feet 4 inches, overweight, black woman.

GEORGE ALFRED 42 years old. He stands 5 feet 8 inches Deep voice yet one that is hardly ever heard Light in complexion and has curly black hair.

HERMINA ANTOINE 34 years old 5 feet 4 inches of brown skin, long black hair and a beautiful figure. She is qualified accountant.

JEAN COLLYMORE 34 years old, 6 feet 2 inches of a black man with striking features.

Court Clerk, COBHAM ALCIDE, a black man in his early sixties, 6 feet 5 inches tall.

COBHAM ALCIDE

How are you my dear, I have not seen you in ages, how's your mom?

HERMINA ANTOINE

She's not doing too well, she had surgery last week.

COBHAM ALCIDE

Give her my regards, I will make a special effort to come round on the weekend to see her.

Cobham Alcide leaves and walks towards the coffee table and addresses jurors.

COBHAM ALCIDE

I would like to draw your attention to the bell, ring it if you need anything, food, drink, and the bathrooms are at the end of the room, you've got fresh coffee and tea in the thermos. Any questions? But of course Mr St Marthe, you know all of this right?

Condell St Marthe a black man 48 years old looks at him shy yet an affirmative manner.

The 12 jurors look around to each other almost shaking their heads saying "no".

COBHAM ALCIDE
Right, well, good luck then.

Cobham Alcide exits the jury room.

Jurors move around taking their various places, pulling out chairs and placing papers on the table.

Jean Collymore is standing near the window.

JEAN COLLYMORE

Shouting to man on the street.
Yow, yow.

CONDELL ST MARTHE
Mr Collymore conduct yourself.

JEAN COLLYMORE
H come see this the sweetest
little black man wagon.

HERMINA ANTOINE

Takes two steps towards him.
Let's get down to work.

We all heard the judge we better
elect a foreman. How do we want
to do this. I suggest all those
who want to be considered for
jury foreman raise their hands.

MILDRED BENJAMIN
Yeah I don't mind.

GUY ANGELO
I nominate George Alfred.

CONDELL ST MARTHE
Well considering I have been on
more than 8 juries in the last 5
years, and been foreman 4 times,
I believe that I am truly the
most qualified.

GUY ANGELO
Well you should give someone else
a chance.

CONDELL ST MARTHE
A man's life is in our hands, an
experienced foreman is a plus.

GUY ANGELO
Condell you think this is a
school?

HERMINA ANTOINE
Ok Mr St Marthe you have my vote.

JEAN COLLYMORE
Me too.

HELENA WILFRED
Me three.

REYNOLD ANSLEM
Heck why not.

DAPHNE CHARLEMAGNE
Here here.

BERRYL WILLIAM
You have my support Mr St Marthe.

GUY ANGELO
Well I guess, there you have it
principal, you are the jury
foreman.

CONDELL ST MARTHE
Thanks for the vote of
confidence, I pledge I will do my
best to guide us to reach a swift
conclusion, the clock is ticking.
And now I will take my place at
the head of the table.

Daphne Charlemagne shuffling through her notes.

Julian Alexis and Hermina Antoine share a secret glance.

CONDELL ST MARTHE
I propose we start with a vote.

Other jurors look around the room in complete disbelief.

Julian Alexis 5 feet 6 inches, of medium build, 38 years
old.

JULIAN ALEXIS
What?

CONDELL ST MARTHE
I see no reason to waste
everyone's time when we might
have already have reached a
unanimous verdict.

GUY ANGELO

Hang on a minute, I thought the point was to end up with a verdict.

CONDELL ST MARTHE

But what if we already agree?

REYNOLD ANSLEM

But we won't.

CONDELL ST MARTHE

How can you say that?

REYNOLD ANSLEM

Because that's the whole point, isn't it ? That's why there are so many of us from all walks of life, we're bound to disagree, then we talk it through to make sure.

CONDELL ST MARTHE

What?

REYNOLD ANSLEM

That we don't make snap judgments.

CONDELL ST MARTHE

Snap judgments is just another name for instincts. And first instincts are the most useful thing we can have in a case like this, otherwise people talk and talk it goes around and around and nothing gets decided. I have been on too many juries where this has happened. Don't you all want to get out of here as soon as possible?

HERMINA ANTOINE

Would anyone else like a cup of tea?

CONDELL ST MARTHE

Tea no madam please, we have 3 hours to get to a verdict, we can take a tea break at the half way point.

JULIAN ALEXIS

Wait a minute, you're the foreman since when did you decide on tea breaks?

CONDELL ST MARTHE

Look do you want me to do this or not?

JULIAN ALEXIS

"I want you stand up in court and say guilty or not guilty, I don't need you to tell when we can or can't have a cup of tea, a piss or a fart."

Hermina Antoine looks on with a smile.

CONDELL ST MARTHE

Well in that case I stand down.

JEAN COLLYMORE

Oh please, this is absurd.

CONDELL ST MARTHE

Look here we need rules, otherwise we sit here for one month and do nothing.

HERMINA ANTOINE

Alright then, let's vote.

Other jurors look at her in disagreement.

HERMINA ANTOINE

What is there to lose?

JEAN COLLYMORE

What's there to lose is that we have all declared our hand.

HERMINA ANTOINE

Let's get it over with. He might have a point, at least we know where we all stand.

CONDELL ST MARTHE

All those who find the defendant guilty of murder raise your hands.

Four jurors raise their hands.

CONDELL ST MARTHE

Those who find him innocent?

Four Hands are raised.

Jean Collymore seems bewildered by Hermina's not guilty vote.

CONDELL ST MARTHE
 "Abstentions?"

Four hands go up.

REYNOLD ANSLEM
 No shit, we have a hung jury.

JEAN COLLYMORE
 Surprise surprise!

CONDELL ST MARTHE
 Since the guilty votes have made
 up their minds correctly.

He says this with a sheepish look on his face.

I suggest we ask the not guilty
 voters to explain to us why they
 voted that way.

HERMINA ANTOINE
 Great so they can try to bully us
 into changing our minds. No!

CONDELL ST MARTHE
 No so we can understand.

LEAH WELLINGTON
 I don't mind saying why I voted
 not guilty. This man was in the
 fight for his life on a boat with
 a man who was obviously younger,
 stronger and from the evidence it
 showed clearly he was losing
 touch with reality because he was
 drinking sea water. The captain
 did what any one in that
 situation would have done. This
 should never have been a case for
 murder.

JEAN COLLYMORE
 Are you mad? This man is a cold
 calculating killer, who waited
 until Toni Mackeson was asleep,
 before he stabbed him. How then
 could his life had been in
 danger?

HERMINA ANTOINE
 Of course he was in fear for his
 life. The evidence showed that
 the deceased was beating him for
 days and on the 8th day the
 deceased broke a broom on his

HERMINA ANTOINE

head, he was bleeding profusely and he already threaten that if he did not make land fall the captain would certainly be dead. So under these circumstances wouldn't you have taken preemptive action?

JULIAN ALEXIS

And think about it, this old man was frightened that when tony woke up it was death for him considering tony had beaten him in his sleep repeatedly in the days leading to his death.

DAPHNE CHARLEMAGNE

Turning to her notes.

That's true.

JEAN COLLYMORE

You two are forgetting the most important thing here, this man calculated his revenge for days, he hid the knife, he had the mace.

JULIAN ALEXIS

If it were you what would.....?

JEAN COLLYMORE

I would think for myself and I would not be hanging on to every word a woman says like a sheep that's what I'd do.

Voices talk over each other and eventually degenerate into a shouting match.

CONDELL ST MARTHE

Look here stop this childish nonsense. There is no need for the personal attacks. Let's stick to the facts.

Condell St Marthe stands and walks towards the chalk board and writes.

CONDELL ST MARTHE

Was it a case of murder, was there provocation? Was it a case of self-defense or that of revenge? Did the defendant plan this crime? What was the role of

CONDELL ST MARTHE
the captain and the laws of the
sea?

JEAN COLLYMORE
Frankly Condell I don't even
understand why you wasting time
going through all that, you are
not a lawyer and we are not the
ones on trial here. We all agree
that the defendant killed Tony
Mackeson.

HERMINA ANTOINE
How do we even know that he is
dead huh? A body was never found.
Even in this case they have to
wait 7 years before they can
pronounce him dead. So why should
we send a man to the gallows and
we are not even sure that a
murder actually took place.

JEAN COLLYMORE
Look here save that sympathetic
rubbish for your rosary praying
Christians cousins like miss over
here. A man is stabbed in his
chest with a blade about about
how long again?

DAPHNE CHARLEMAGNE
6 inches.

JEAN COLLYMORE
6 inches and he is hit with an
oar and thrown overboard, he held
on to the boat for dear life, he
was sprayed in the face with mace
and his fingers were pried from
the side of the vessel. And you
and miss church and your little
parrot here believe that Tony
Mackeson is sitting on a beach in
Bird Island Venezuela sipping
margaritas.

GUY ANGELO
Where did this crime happen?

DAPHNE CHARLEMAGNE
On the high seas.

GUY ANGELO
Exactly, we don't know whether it
was in St Lucian waters,
Venezuelan waters or the how many

GUY ANGELO
miles off shore.....we don't
know. So why are we even
deliberating that?

GUY ANGELO
"Yes but common sense would tell
you that if the crime never
happened in St Lucia why are we
here deliberating it?"

CONDELL ST MARTHE
Well that is not a matter for us.
The judge said ignore it, so we
must.

JEAN COLLYMORE
How could we ignore it, the boat
was registered in St Lucia, with
St Lucians on board, so in
essence it is a floating piece of
sovereign state.

REYNOLD ANSLEM
Wow I never knew you were a big
time maritime expert.

CONDELL ST MARTHE
Let's have some order where.
This question of jurisdiction
should not be addressed. Let it
rest. We were warned about that,
if you continue with this kind of
talk I would be left with no
choice but to advise the judge on
a mistrial.

TIME LAPSE WITH ARGUMENTS GOING ACROSS THE ROOM AND THE
FOREMAN WRITING ON THE BOARD.

GEROGE ALFRED IS LISTENING TO A TRANSISTOR RADIO NEAR THE
WINDOW

JEAN COLLYMORE IS LOOKING OUT THE SAME WINDOW AT HIS CAR.

HERMINA ANTOINE
The boat was 14 feet long, that's
from here to

She walks to the end of the room.
There were 7 people on board.

She arranges the people in the order she thinks.
The captain was here.

Daphne Charlemagne refers to her notes.

HERMINA ANTOINE

The accused was here and Jenny was here. After the captain had been beaten several times over several days and was bleeding badly, he sat, I would imagine in the weak fetal position only 5 Feet away from his tormentor, a man who had just gotten off an attempted murder case in St Lucia and fled to Martinique, a man who the two prosecution witnesses say was a known drug dealer and a thief, a man who had assured the captain that when he woke up he will push the broken mop stick in his heart, this man who was built like a Buick, and was much stronger than the 46 year old captain, a man who assured the captain that death was imminent in the morning, this man was foolish enough to fall asleep on this 14 foot boat after all he had done.

JULIAN ALEXIS

You must also remember that the captain had never had a history of violence. He was a fool chasing love, love which turned around and betrayed him on that boat and the same love who testified against him in court during this trial.

JEAN COLLYMORE

You two are missing the whole point. Although all what you said is true ask yourself in the middle of the darkness what was the deceased doing to the accused to cause him to stab him, and the answer is absolutely nothing. The deceased had been on the high seas for 8 days thanks to the stupidity of the captain, it is only natural that he would be angry and want to lash out. Imagine if you paid someone for a trip, someone you thought was an experienced captain and turned out to be a fumbling buffoon who cause you to be lost with no food and no water for 8 days, wouldn't you be angry? Wouldn't you want to bash his head?

MILDRED BENJAMIN

Yep. He woulda get some good licks in his tail.

JEAN COLLYMORE

Exactly!

DAPHNE CHARLEMAGNE

If the captain was such a brute, would he have figured out how to cook the rice in the tin can out in the middle of the ocean, would he have killed a bird and cooked it and shared it and remember all that time he had the knife in his hand, yet he never attacked the deceased, the deceased and his friends ate all the food and the captain got none, yet the captain never stabbed him. Wouldn't you say he was being provoked. Especially since it was his vessel and his word was the law, the 56 year old man was forced to row the boat according to one of the witnesses and instead of the deceased helping he beat the old the again and again, this man was a menace! What did he think he was on the Cunard? The captain ask them to remove their cloths to make a sail in an effort to follow the tide to shore, the stupid man instead of helping he thought the captain just wanted to see Jennie naked and gave an order for no one to remove their clothes. This Tony Mackeson guy was a stupid stupid stupid man he truly deserved to be overboard.

GUY ANGELO

Exactly my point, all of that was ammunition for anger, the accused was waiting, calculating how and when he was going to attack Tony for maximum impact. If you ask me I think it's cold calculated murder!

BERYL WILLIAMS

There is no doubt in my mind that tony is dead, however I am doubtful of the circumstances which caused his death, what we are debating here is the life, the life.....of another

BERYL WILLIAMS

man. I cannot in good conscience walk back in there and know that I was part and parcel of taking a man's life. If it was to send him to jail yes, I would say guilty but how can I sleep knowing that my vote will condemn a man to death. Only god has that power."

JEAN COLLYMORE

Oh please! Gimme a break! Did this killer do soul searching before he drove a 6 inch blade into the man's heart, did he? Did he consider that the man had a mother and family who would miss him? Did he? Did he consider "vengeance is mine says the lord" did he consider that? No! Then why should we consider him?

BERYL WILLIAMS

"Say as you please but I will not get blood on my hands."

JEAN COLLYMORE

Its already on your hands lady, if you vote not guilty the blood of Tony Mackeson is on your hands, look his mother in the face when you walk back out and tell her that you are allowing her son's killer to walk free. You people are holy hypocrites.

CONDELL ST MARTHE

Control yourself Mr. Collymore.

HELENA WILFRED

For me it was Jenny, she had lies written all over her face, she was the cause of this entire episode and the drama unfolded when the captain tried to protect her, that's what first enraged the deceased and everything after that spiraled.

JULIAN ALEXIS

But what does that have to do with anything?

HERMINA ANTOINE

Show of hands how many people believed that the captains life was in danger?

Hands go up.

HERMINA ANTOINE

How many people think legally he had the responsibility to return the passengers safely to land?

Hands go up.

HERMINA ANTOINE

How many people believe that Tony Mackeson was placing everyone's life in danger?

Hands go up.

HERMINA ANTOINE

How many people believe that the captain should have sat back and done nothing?

HERMINA ANTOINE

How many people believe that Augustin Pierre was responsible for saving the lives of the other 5 passengers on the vessel and it was his efforts caused them to eventually make a sail, to catch a wind to drop them in Bird Island Venezuela?

JULIAN ALEXIS

Seems like everyone has forgotten that this man's action saved the lives of 5 people plus himself.

Most jurors look pale face and stare at each other.

HERMINA ANTOINE

Exactly! If that isn't reason enough for an acquittal God help us all.

LEAH WELLINGTON

I could understand why the captain could have been angry because he was being beaten but there was sufficient time for him to cool down, compose himself and reason with the deceased.

JULIAN ALEXIS

Cool down..... are kidding me? It was a 14 foot boat, where do you think he could have gonefor a walk? Have a cigarette? Relax his mind? Lady

JULIAN ALEXIS
 the old man was in the same toxic
 environment and death awaited him
 at sunrise. Ok!

Long shot of the jury room to get time on the clock
 4.15pm.

CONDELL ST MARTHE
 Please calm down time is against
 us, we were supposed to be
 working together.

GEORGE ALFRED
 Now will you admit that it was a
 mistake asking people to vote so
 early?

CONDELL ST MARTHE
 In a way I agree but.

GEORGE ALFRED
 And this is the danger with
 things like these people form
 camps like these set here and
 they refuse to give an inch.

The room degenerate into pockets of arguments.

5 PEOPLE ARE NO LONGER SITTING AROUND THE TABLE. JEAN
 COLLYMORE IS STILL LOOKING OUT THE WINDOW WHILE TRYING TO
 GET HERMINA ANTOINE'S ATTENTION. GEORGE ALFRED HAS TURNED
 ON HIS RADIO TO HEAR THE CRICKET SCORE.

GUY ANGELO
 What's the score there ?

LONG SHOT OF THE JURY ROOM WITH COURT CLERK COBHAM ALCIDE
 WAKING TOWARDS THE COFFEE TABLE WITH A THERMOS IN HIS
 HAND.

HERMINA ANTOINE IS STANDING NEAR THE REFRESHMENT TABLE
 MAKING A CUP OF COFFEE. THE COURT CLERK WHISPERS SOMETHING
 TO HER. THEY ARE WITHIN RANGE OF GUY ANGELO.

Hermina Antoine facial expression changes as she tried to
 maintain her composure.

AS HERMINA ANTOINE HANDS THE CUP OF COFFEE TO JULIAN
 ALEXIS, JEAN COLLYMORE CAN SEE THEM WHISPERING AND TALKING
 MUCH TO HIS ANNOYANCE, BUT HE CAN'T HEAR WHAT THEY ARE
 SAYING.

CONDELL ST MARTHE
 Come on. Come on. I think we are
 close to making a decision, let's
 all sit and focus so we can

CONDELL ST MARTHE
 complete this before 5. Mr Alfred
 please turn off the transistor
 and return to the table. Jean
 enough already with this stupid
 car outside, a man's life is in
 your hands, I can't get the bus
 to Derresseaiux after 6pm so
 let's finish this.

Everyone is seated.

CONDELL ST MARTHE
 The question is, did Augustin
 Pierre intentionally set out to
 kill Tony Mackeson on that 14
 foot boat in the middle of
 nowhere?

HERMINA ANTOINE
 Yes! Yes, I think he did.

The room degenerates into all out argument with Jean
 Collymore voice being the loudest.

BERYL WILLIAMS
 Wow, I didn't see that coming,
 did I miss something.

JEAN COLLYMORE
 Oh you missed something alright,
 the part where the savior of the
 murderer finally grows a
 conscience and realizes she has
 made a blunder, but nothing you
 say can be trusted. So why the
 change of heart?

JULIAN ALEXIS
 It's her right. And she doesn't
 need to explain it to
 you.....showoff!

JEAN COLLYMORE
 Better a show off than a poodle.
 And in fact there are several
 reasons why this man can be found
 innocent now that you two have
 conveniently grown one brain. Why
 if there were 5 other people on
 that tiny boat did none of them
 stop Augustin from stabbing Tony.
 Why? Wouldn't that tell you that
 perhaps they were convinced that
 Tony was indeed putting
 everyone's life in danger? Huh.
 Ever thought of that poodle? Ever

JEAN COLLYMORE

thought that perhaps just perhaps Tony was not dead after all, remember the witness Jenny Lesfloris said there was a ship passing in the distance, Tony was a young man in the prime of his life, perhaps he could have swum to the ship, we would never know for sure. No one saw when he drown, the body was never found and now you want to sit here and say you change your mind and all of a sudden after you say all that now he is a cold blooded murderer and I am a show off, why? cause I have a crisp new ride and you have to take the bloody bus.

GEORGE ALFRED

Looking in the direction of Hermina and Julian Alexis.

I have no idea what games you two are playing, but I am prepared to walk out there to tell the judge what really happened in here today. My hearing aid doubles as an eavesdropper even when I don't want it to. I heard every word the court clerk or bailiff or whatever he is just told you. He said to her this morning Augustin was involved in a fight with another prisoner who happens to be her nephew, word is that Augustin beat him to an inch of his life and he is at VH in the ICU. You were not even aware that your sister's son was in jail, but now you want to spin this room upside down to become the crusader of death for the accused?

CONDELL ST MARTHE

We were warned about outside interference. I am minded to advise this judge to declare a mistrial.

The room bursts into an uproar. Time lapse of arguments, Jean Collymore and Julian Alexis come very close to trading blows and have to separated by the jury foreman.

CONDELL ST MARTHE

Since everyone seem so emotional
there is only one sensible thing
for us to do so we all can go
home. Let's take a secret vote.

Time lapse of everyone writing their verdict and placing
it in a small basket the time on the clock shows 4:51,
while Julian Alexis and Jean Collymore can me seen trading
nasty steers.

INT : HIGH COURT CORRIDOR OF THE COURTS - DAY

Bailiff of the court a man in his early forties dressed in
police uniform with a paper in his hand

BAILIFF OF THE COURT

All persons in the case the Queen
vs Augustin Pierre please return
to court number three.

Tony Mackeson's mother a woman in her fifties tall dark,
wearing a election campaign shirt.

TONY MACKESON'S MOTHER

That's it, that's us.

Tony Mackeson's mother, Jenny Lesforis a witness and
Christopher Sealy - two witnesses who testified in the
trial - walk towards the court door.

CUT TO

INT : HIGH COURT REAR BALCONY UPSTAIRS THE COURT HOUSE
-DAY

Bailiff of the court opens the door to the balcony of the
court there the prosecutor is smoking a cigarette.

BAILIFF OF THE COURT

That's it they're done.

CUT TO

INT : DOWNSTAIRS HIGH COURT IN PRISONER HOLDING CELL - DAY

AUGUSTIN and his attorney SYDNEY BENNETT a man in his mid
forties dressed in his legal robe sitting close to each
other near the holding cell of the court downstairs the
court house.

SYDNEY BENNETT

Well, I guess there nothing left
to say but..... good luck.

Sydney stands up and as he begins to walk out the cell
Augustin looks up and says.

AUGUSTIN PIERRE

No.....there's nothing
left to say but thanks, thanks a
lot.

They have a heartfelt handshake and Sydney walks out.

CUT TO

INT : HIGH COURT CORRIDOR OF THE COURTS - DAY

Shot of noisy feet walking down the corridor, a mixture
of male and female silhouettes.

CUT TO

INT : HIGH COURT ROOM 3-DAY

Prosecutor's apprehensive look in the court room.

INT : HIGH COURT CORRIDOR OF THE COURTS-DAY

Feet coming down the corridor.

CUT TO

INT : HIGH COURT ROOM 3-DAY

Sydney Bennett nervously playing with his pen.

CUT TO

INT : HIGH COURT CORRIDOR OF THE COURTS

Feet coming down the corridor.

CUT TO

INT : HIGH COURT ROOM 3

Augustin Pierre the defendants face waiting anxiously.

CUT TO

INT : HIGH COURT ROOM 3

The court opening throwing a slightly different light
into the room and almost everyone turning to watch them
file in.

CUT TO

INT : HIGH COURT ROOM 3

The angry face of the foreman followed by Jean Collymore.

CUT TO

INT : HIGH COURT ROOM 3

Decease's mother's face.

CUT TO

INT : HIGH COURT ROOM 3

Overhead shot of jurors taking their seats on the jury benches.

CUT TO

INT : HIGH COURT ROOM 3

Court clerk Cobham Alcide face sitting in the court.

CUT TO

INT : HIGH COURT ROOM 3

Jurors faces now that nearly all of them have sat down, they look like an extremely tense lot, some are still in the process of sitting in the back row.

COBHAM ALCIDE

Would the foreman please rise.

Foreman apprehensively standing.

Defendant Augustin Pierre and his lawyer Sydney Bennett standing simultaneously.

COBHAM ALCIDE

Please confine yourself to answering yes or no to the following question.

DEFENDANTS FACE.

PROSECUTOR DANE HAMILTON A BLACK MAN 35 YEARS OLD, DRESSED SMARTLY IN BLACK SUIT AND COURT ROBE.

COBHAM ALCIDE

Have you reached a verdict upon which at least 10 of you agree?

With a pause.

CONDELL ST MARTHE

Yes.

COBHAM COOPER

Do you find the defendant guilty
or not guilty?

Faces in the gallery and close up on the defendant.

Long pause.

Sydney Bennett hard swallow.

CONDELL ST MARTHE

Guilty!

Screams from the deceased's mother.

Outburst from Augustin Pierre.

AUGUSTIN PIERRE

Guilty, that's bullshit, I save 6
people's life, the man was trying
to kill me, he is not dead, there
was no body.....

Screaming and cursing the jury.

DANE HAMILTON

Ma lord we wish the court to
apply sentence of death today ma
lord.

Augustin Pierre still cursing and screaming having to be
physically removed from the court.

LOOK ON THE COBHAN ALCIDE FACE AS HE GIVES A SLIGHT SMILE
TO HERMINA ANTOINE.

CUT TO

BLACK SCREEN

Music and newspapers with the date of the murder, the date
of the sentence and photos of Augustin Pierre 38 years
later still languishing behind bars.

The end.