

Collateral

written by Stuart Beattie

Max: But you didn't answer my question. You like what you do?

Annie: (pause) Yeah.

Max: But not today?

Annie: No, I do. Like I can't wait. I love standing in that courtroom. At the same time I get this clenched up thing the night before the first days.

Max: Clenched up? How?

Annie: I think I'm gonna loose. I think the case sucks. My exhibits aren't in order. I'm not prepared enough. People are going to find out that I don't know what I'm doing and I've been running some charade all these years. I represent the Department of Justice, and my opening statement is gonna fall flat at the most important point and the jury is going to laugh at me. And then I cry. I don't throw up, a lot of people throw up, I have a strong stomach. And then I pull myself together, I rewrite my opening statement, work my exhibits. And that's what I do for the rest of the night. That's my routine. In the morning it starts and I'm fine.

Max: You need a vacation.

Annie: I just had a vacation on the Harbor Freeway.