

The Verdict

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It's about a court case that attracts a lot of media attention. And it leads to someone being shot.

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It was 2013 in Russia. The jury had been locked in a room somewhere, so they could discuss whether to find someone guilty or not guilty. It was a murder trial. Someone had been accused of murdering their brother. The allegation was that a twenty-five year-old man had punched his older brother to death.

The jury had heard that the twenty-five year-old man called Brian Schneider was drunk at the time. The Defence argued that because Brian was drunk at the time, he didn't know what he was doing when he punched his brother. It was known as the drunk man's defence.

One of the jurors needed to take a piss though. So, he knocked on the door and the Security Guard agreed to let him go to the toilet. He walked by himself for a minute down a hallway till he found the toilet and went in. But there was someone following him. It was the mother of Brian Schneider. Her name was Julia.

"You!" she said as she entered the room.

"Did you say you or Tszyu?" the man asked. It was a famous ex-Boxer called Kostya Tszyu.

She recognized him. She knew this would add to the media storm. A famous person being shot dead at court.

"Well, it doesn't matter what I said. I'm here to kill you!" she replied.

"Hey, you can't do that" Kostya argued. He tried to keep calm.

"I can and I will...You would like to find him guilty, wouldn't you?" Julia asked. She had the gun pointed at him.

"I couldn't give a motherfuck" Kostya said.

"That's right. You don't care. Well, cop this!" she said. Just as she squeezed the trigger, Kostya said to wait. But it was too late.

He felt the bullet penetrate his chest. He yelled in pain. Then he fell to the ground.

I can't believe it, he thought. I'm going to die from a bullet. I always thought I would die in the ring. I have taken many hits to the head over the years, and now I am starting to wonder if my whole career was a mistake. It was a waste. All the punches and hits I took were for nothing. I am going to die in this bathroom. This is so bad. I didn't even want to be on the jury. They made me do it. Oh God !! Someone help me!

It was too late. He was bleeding to death.

Did anyone care? Would the media report it on the front page of the newspapers in Russia? Julia didn't care. She left the room and looked around to see if anyone was coming after her. A Security Guard spotted her and pointed a gun at her head. Boom !! She died immediately from the shot to the head.

Three hours later, the jury which was reduced to eleven found Brian Schneider guilty of murder. The verdict was in. As for Kostya Tszyu, he was rushed to hospital and went into a coma. He would have to fight for his life again. His family were notified of the attempt on his life. And they came to the hospital to see if there was

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anything they could do to help.

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