

Remington Steele Episode Guide

Version 2.0

Compiled by Raymond Chen

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Preface

This episode guide began as a collection of private notes on the program *Remington Steele* which I had kept while watching the show on NBC in the eighties. (Yes, I take notes on most television programs I watch. Call me anal-retentive.) Sometime in early 1990, I got the crazy idea of creating an episode guide, and the first edition of this guide eventually appeared later that year. Still not satisfied, and unable to recall the plots of most of the episodes beyond the sketchiest of descriptions, I decided to give my feeble brain cells a breather and write out more detailed plot summaries as I watched the episodes. (I consider using a VCR to be cheating, and besides, you can read a plot summary faster than you can watch a tape.) There you have it, the confessions of a neurotic television-watcher.

Not in the printed guide (but available in the guide source) is a summary of musical themes and a list of quotes. *Remington Steele* still gets my vote for the show with the best incidental music. No other show I know comes even close. The quotes you can add to your favorite textual database of quotes, to help you find just the right signature quote for your net.articles.

I wish to extend my thanks to the following people who have in some way or other contributed to this guide: Dave Cavalli, Violet K. Jen, Phyllis Mar, Kenneth E. Staffan, Arlene M. Osbourne, and Gary Will. Although the effects of their work might not always be visible in the current version of the guide, their help during the development of the guide is greatly appreciated.

All corrections and modifications should be sent to rjc@math.princeton.edu.
My favorite episodes? Probably *Vintage Steele* and *Love Among the Steele*.

Enjoy!

rjc
25 December 1991

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Introduction

This guide has been assembled as a reference to the television series, *Remington Steele*. It has been designed for use by the fans of the series.

The guide contains five chapters, one for each season of the program. The episodes are listed in the order they were originally aired by NBC between 1982 and 1987. This need not be the order they appear in syndication. In particular, the placement of the episode *Coffee, Tea, or Steele* is open to debate, since it was originally aired out of sequence. Also, the episodes *Steele Away With Me*, *The Steele That Wouldn't Die*, and *Steele With a Kiss* originally aired as single two-hour episodes, even though they typically air as two one-hour episodes in syndication.

The format of each episode is as follows:

Episode number	Episode Title	Production code
Writer		Director
Air dates	Episode description as printed in <i>TV Guide</i> .	
Character	actor	
Episode synopsis.		
Movies:		
<i>Movie title</i> , other citation information.		
Notes:		
Other comments.		

If a separate 'teleplay' credit was given, the writer of the teleplay is given in parentheses after the writer's name. Beware that some of the 'Notes' entries contain comments which are my personal opinions. (This guide started out as a collection of private notes.) If they disturb you, go ahead and scribble them out with a magic marker.

The first appendix is a list of all actors which have appeared on the program. Each entry is of the form

Actor's name	Character	Episode Title	Episode number
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The episode number is provided to facilitate finding the particular episode. (Observe that the episode number appears in the upper-left corner of each verso, so a thumb-through should locate the episode quickly.)

The list of titles can be obtained from the second appendix, which contains the episodes sorted alphabetically by title, and numerically by production code. To see the episodes sorted by air date, consult the table of contents. The third appendix is a list of directors and writers.

In the fourth appendix, each panel denotes one broadcast season. The first column is the air date, the second the production code of the episode (blank if *Remington Steele* did not air, and suffixed by an 'R' if the episode was a repeat), followed by the title. If *Remington Steele* did not air that day, the replacement programming is shown. The final column highlights the (several) changes of time slot. The fifth appendix is a relatively unorganized clump of random trivial tidbits.

The final appendix is a list of all film citations. Each film citation is of the form

<p><i>Movie Title</i> (episode number) Character: "Line of dialog." (Additional comments.)</p>

A dash (“—”) indicates the movie title when it appears in dialog.

First Season (1982–1983)

Try *this* for a deep, dark secret. The great detective Remington Steele? He doesn't exist. I invented him. Follow: I always loved excitement, so I studied and apprenticed, and put my name on an office. But absolutely nobody knocked down my door. A female private investigator seemed so . . . feminine. So I invented a superior. A decidedly *masculine* superior. Suddenly, there were cases around the block. It was working like a charm. Until the day *he* walked in, with his blue eyes and mysterious past. And before I knew it, he assumed Remington Steele's identity. Now *I* do the work and *he* takes the bows. It's a dangerous way to live, but as long as people buy it, I can get the job done. We never mix business with pleasure. Well, almost never. I don't even know his real name.

Starring

Stephanie Zimbalist [as Laura Holt]

and

Pierce Brosnan [as Remington Steele]

[on opening credits]

also starring

James Read [as Murphy Michaels]

Janet DeMay [as Bernice Foxe]

Theme music by Henry Mancini

Musical score by Richard Lewis Warren

Created by

Michael Gleason and Robert Butler

Executive Producer

Michael Gleason

1	License to Steele	2704
Michael Gleason		Robert Butler
10/01/82 10p	Private Eye Laura Holt invents a male boss to lure clients reluctant to hire a woman. The	
05/03/83 9p	ruse works until a mysterious chap interferes with her job of protecting a \$2 million jewel shipment.	
Gordon Hunter	.....	Joseph Hacker
Ben Pearson	.....	Phil Casnoff
Raymond Kessler	.....	Robert Darnell
Leo Neff	.....	John Francis

As Laura Holt and Gordon Hunter observe, heavy security successfully delivers a padlocked box. Outside, a handsome gentleman (who, to prevent ourselves from going insane, will be called ‘The Man’) ostensibly takes pictures of a small family, but is really taking pictures of the delivery. Inside, the box is opened, and it’s empty. Mr. Hunter is not impressed, but Laura explains that the security was merely a decoy; the gems will actually be transported by Murphy Michaels, disguised as a linen delivery man. Mr. Hunter is pleased and would like to talk to Steele. Laura gives her ‘advisory capacity’ spiel, but Mr. Hunter insists.

At the office, Laura calls a meeting of her staff. Murphy reminds her of her rule: A client who demands to see Steele will be turned down. But there will be so much attendant publicity that Laura thinks it’s worth the risk of pretending that there really is a Remington Steele. The Man pops in and identifies himself as Ben Pearson, from South Africa, charged with the return of the Royal Lavulite gems to his country, from which they were stolen. Fearing an attempt will be made to steal them, he asks to be apprised of the security measures. As he leaves, Laura smiles wistfully.

The Man returns to his room and is rudely accosted by two gentlemen (Kessler and Neff) who had been watching him while he was taking pictures. They confront him with his passport collection and tell him the gems are theirs. The courier who stole them originally was working for them. The Man suggests the three team up.

Laura tells Mr. Hunter that Steele is on his way, and Mr. Hunter talks about how he devoted his entire life to designing the car he will be unveiling tomorrow. Meanwhile, The Man develops the pictures he shot, and finds Murphy in one of them, dressed as a delivery man.

In the hotel restaurant, The Man orders Laura a magnum of champagne and joins her. He draws some information about the security arrangements, then Laura excuses herself. She tells Murphy to take the bags to the penthouse suite and hang everything up. Meanwhile, Kessler and Neff grab The Man. He tells them to follow him, then goes to Laura and asks for a lift in the limo. En route, he tells Laura that the men in the car following were the ones who killed the courier, then picks up the phone and reports the car following them as stolen. The Man then suggests that they use a decoy in the gem delivery. The police pull the car over.

The next morning, Laura gushes over ‘him!’ Murphy reluctantly admits that the check on Pearson was clean, with the exception that he wasn’t due to arrive until today. Just to make sure, he requested a photo. Laura instructs Bernice to have Steele paged at the hotel.

Kessler and Neff accost The Man in the hotel lobby, but when Steele is paged, he identifies himself as Steele and takes the call. Bernice is confused. Mr. Hunter spots The Man, mistakes him for Steele, and takes him to meet Agent Ben Pearson from South Africa, with whom The Man shares some resemblance. Apparently, ‘someone’ has been impersonating the Agent. The Man asks Pearson to arrest Kessler and Neff, which he gladly does.

Mr. Hunter spots Laura and expresses his pleasure at having met Mr. Steele. “There he is with Special Agent Ben Pearson,” he says, pointing at Pearson and The Man. Pearson leaves, and Laura goes to The Man, telling him, “That man who was with you. He isn’t Remington Steele.” When The Man asks after the nature of Remington Steele, Laura tries to avoid the question, and he suspects things aren’t as they appear.

The gem delivery takes place without a hitch, and with the unwitting help of Mr. Hunter, The Man gains entry into Steele’s hotel room. There, he finds Steele’s suitcases empty, the suits still with the price tags on them, the shirts and shoes never worn, and a hair brush with no hairs. He looks in the mirror and says, “Pleasure to meet you, Mr. Steele.”

At the Grand Unveiling, Mr. Hunter begins by calling Remington Steele to the microphone, and The Man gets up. Laura is too stunned to do much of anything. Mr. Hunter unveils his car. When the music

plays, The Man grabs Laura and dances with her, and confronts her with his findings, but promises not to say anything. His mission is to get back at Kessler and Neff for killing his younger brother, the courier. Once he's done, he will leave. Laura excuses herself to talk to Murphy and Bernice, who confirm that The Man is a fake. And the courier in question was in his sixties.

Laura takes Murphy to The Man's room and find his passports, all in the name of characters Bogart played in the movies. Laura opens the closet door, to find Pearson, dead. Murphy wants to call the police, but Laura wants to handle this herself. Murphy asks her if it's only the agency she's trying to protect. Downstairs, the bash is over, but Mr. Hunter's car was a flop.

In his room, The Man pores over plans, then hides them when he hears Laura and Murphy coming. He admits that he's here for the gems, intending to return them to South Africa for the finder's fee. Murphy accuses him of murder, and Steele recognizes Kessler and Neff's style of murder. The Man concludes from Laura's hesitancy that she doesn't believe he killed Pearson. Murphy wants to call the police, and The Man leaves to execute his plan, asking Murphy to bring Pearson's body back up.

In the lobby, The Man allows himself to be caught by Kessler and Neff, and offers to get them the plans to the safe. They go to his room, and Neff finds Pearson's body. "We left him in *his* room." At this point, police come in and arrest them. Murphy leaves Laura and The Man. He promises to stay away from the gems until they're out of her jurisdiction, then bids her farewell.

Laura watches The Man leave for the airport in a cab, then Murphy rushes in, rubbing his neck. Somebody took the gems from him. They follow the cab, and Laura yells, "Stop that man, he's a thief!" But it isn't The Man who runs away, but Mr. Hunter. Laura and The Man pursue Mr. Hunter in a go-cart and subdue him.

The next day's paper's headline reads 'Steele Pure Gold'. Mr. Hunter stole the gems as an act of desperation to finance his car company. A client asks to see Mr. Steele, and Laura continues the ruse, only to find The Man sitting behind Steele's desk. "How can I help you?"

Movies:

Tea and Sympathy, Deborah Kerr, John Kerr, MGM 1956.

Notes:

The opening sequence is, of course, different for this episode. It starts out the same, but then concludes: "Suddenly, there were cases around the block. Having an imaginary boss is a dangerous way to live ... but so far, it's working."

Michael Gleason

Robert Butler

10/08/82 10p Laura and Remington become involved with industrial espionage in an electronics firm,
 12/17/82 10p where an alarm-system failure results in the disappearance of trade secrets—and in murder.

Jim Meecham	.....	Arlen Dean Snyder
Roger Dillon	.....	David Hayward
Mrs. Anna Dillon	.....	Diana Douglas
Nadine	.....	Brenda King
Claude	.....	Curt Lowens
Waiter	.....	Charlie Stavola
Morgue attendant	.....	Don Dolan
Gary	.....	Stan Sells
Liebowitz	.....	Jack Ragotzy
Chauffeur	.....	Gene Ryals

When Laura receives a huge stack of bills that Steele has run up, she becomes furious. Steele’s assignment is to keep Nadine (‘the peroxide piranha’) out of the way until the Randal case is settled, which happened three days ago. To get his attention, Laura cancels his credit cards and checking account.

At the end of another expensive dinner with Nadine, Steele is embarrassed and annoyed that the restaurant is not accepting his checks or credit card. He storms into the office demanding to see Laura. Bernice reluctantly tells Steele where he can find her.

Steele barges into (and ruins) an elaborate undercover operation, just as the suspect is about to ask Laura (posing as a secretary) to steal some documents for her. The client (Roger Dillon) demands an explanation, and Laura promises that one will be coming, soon.

Jim Meecham, an investor in Dillon Enterprises, hires Steele to handle the case personally. At first, Steele declines, but reconsiders when Meecham offers him \$25,000 in cash on the spot. Steele locates an old friend, Immel Wallace, a recovered drug addict now busy helping street bums at the Lost and Found Mission, to install an alarm system at the Dillon residence, where Mrs. Dillon has moved all the sensitive materials.

While Steele supervises the installation, Mrs. Dillon offers Laura a cup of tea, a special blend ‘Packie’ (Patrick Joseph) Dillon had custom made for him before he died. The next morning, Steele awakens to find that the alarm system has been breached, and that Wallace has vanished. Meecham is suing the agency for \$10 million.

That evening, Steele invites Laura to dinner, over which he insists that Wallace didn’t do it. Laura is unconvinced until she gets a phone call: Wallace has turned up—in the morgue. Wallace was found with a needle in his arm and \$5000 in his sock. Steele insists it is a frame-up.

The pair go down to the mission area at night to see if there is anything they can find there. Laura is attacked, and Steele rescues her. The following morning, Laura arranges a meeting with Meecham to discuss the matter, while Steele takes the opportunity to break into Meecham’s room and go through his things.

Murphy has the preliminary autopsy report: Wallace was injected with a heavy dose of a muscle relaxant typically used on horses. Steele suspects Meecham, who plans to tear down the factory and build an industrial park over it. Laura suspects Roger Dillon, who needed the money to support his free-wheeling lifestyle. Murphy suspects Mrs. Dillon, for it was she who insisted that the plans be moved to the residence in the first place.

Meecham owns a stable, so Steele challenges him and Roger to a polo match, while Laura snoops around. Laura finds the muscle relaxant, and in the trash finds a hypodermic needle—and tea leaves?

That evening, Steele throws a dinner party, inviting the three suspects. Murphy arrives with the final autopsy report, and he and Laura read it with great interest. While Steele builds the suspense, Murphy serves Mrs. Dillon a cup of tea. As Steele is about to level his accusation at Meecham, Mrs. Dillon demands to know where they got the special tea from. She pulls a gun, but Murphy disarms her before anyone gets hurt.

Over the morning paper, Laura explains what really happened: Mrs. Dillon stole the plans, upset that Roger had been selling them to foreign competition, and preferring murder to being a traitor. When Wallace saw her, she brought him to the stable, served him some of her favorite tea, killed him, carried his body downtown, and made it look like he overdosed.

Movies:

Casablanca, Humphrey Bogart, Ingrid Bergman, Warner Brothers, 1942.
The Thin Man, William Powell.

Notes:

A moderately good mystery. We have a few minutes to piece together the crime ourselves before Laura solves it, though the clinching evidence (the final autopsy report) is hidden from us.

Murphy is left-handed.

This was the series pilot, so it's fun to try to spot the differences between this episode and the rest of them. (It also explains why the episode has so much character exposition.)

- * The opening voice-over is different. (Same words, but read differently.) The music from the opening is more subdued.
- * Steele's office is tiled rather than carpeted.
- * The furniture in Steele's office is different.
- * The hallways and office are much busier than we're used to seeing. (They had more money to hire extras, I guess.)
- * Laura lives in an apartment rather than a house.
- * The closing credits list the characters' names as well as the actors' names.

10/22/82 10p Laura and Remington have 24 hours to find a video-game genius who vanished on the eve
 12/24/82 10p of a successful merger, along with \$5 million and his company's latest video game plans.

Albee Fervitz	.....	Peter Scolari
Emery Arnok	.....	George D. Wallace
Cynthia Denard	.....	Betty Kennedy
Sheila Fervitz	.....	Roxanne Hart
Miss Letrell	.....	Rae Allen
Izzy Webster	.....	Randy Rocca
Fred	.....	Blake Clark
Manuel	.....	Jose Flores
Executive	.....	Christopher Thomas

At night, a voice says, “Good-bye, George,” and tosses a trunk into the harbor. The next morning, Laura cajoles Steele into coming to work to talk to their client, supermarket magnate Emery Arnock, who demands to see Steele. She sends the limo to pick him up, but Steele is kidnapped by some Hispanic teens and taken to see Albee Fervitz, the nerdy president of Ratooi Games, Intl., a video game company. He explains. When Ratooi Games went public, Gruff and Reston Industries bought up the shares quickly, and rather than find themselves completely bought out, Ratooi agreed to a merger, which is to take place tomorrow afternoon. But two days ago, their vice president, George Kaplan, vanished.

Steele arrives at the office, where Emery is very upset at having to wait two hours, and drags Laura into her office. She doesn't believe his story, and while they're arguing, Arnok leaves. Laura drags Steele to the limo to go to his hotel, but Steele detours them to Ratooi. Laura agrees to listen on the condition that Steele see Arnok. Albee introduces his wife Sheila, their financial officer. Sheila says \$5 million in assets is also missing, and Albee figures George is in some sort of trouble. Ratooi's blind sound programmer Izzy Webster slips Laura a note. Albee explains that George was a hermit, doesn't even have a driver's licence. Laura notes that the George's appointment calendar is missing a page from the day he vanished, but gets 'LV952' from the impression on the following page. Outside, Laura sends Steele on to talk to Arnok, then calls Murphy to pick her up.

While Steele detours the limo, Laura reluctantly tells Murphy that Steele may have stumbled onto something. Murphy confirms that George Kaplan took a plane to Las Vegas on flight 952. Laura figures he's there to launder money and sends Murphy to Vegas to follow the trail. Meanwhile, Steele tricks the landlady into letting him into Kaplan's apartment. There, he finds a mess of video games innards, and the remains of a wild party. A woman comes in and finds him, muttering “Oh, dear God,” since George had broken up with her, and she figures he dumped her for Steele. Steele tries to explain, but Cynthia just rushes off. He tries to follow her and bumps into Laura in the elevator on her way in. She reminds him that he's supposed to be seeing Arnok. Laura finds a coupon for a Vegas hotel and calls Emery and hands the receiver to Steele.

That evening, Laura pays a visit to Ratooi, per the note Izzy gave her. Meanwhile, Steele takes Emery to the airport, but takes a brief detour. Laura grants Izzy permission to touch her face (and his hands slowly roam further down) as he explains that Deep Water, their newest video game worth \$50 million, is also missing. Once Laura mentions George's girlfriend, Izzy quickly excuses himself.

Steele waits for Cynthia to arrive home, and he accosts her. she tries to get away, and when she gets to the elevator, she says, ‘George!’, then is shot. Steele gives chase, but the car speeds away. Cynthia dies in Emery's arms, who is clearly shaken by the experience.

Laura and Steele (with Emery) tell Albee *et al* about their respective discoveries, but Albee refuses to believe George is a murderer. Murphy calls to report Kaplan has a reservation on a flight to Toronto, which makes no sense because Kaplan just killed someone in Los Angeles. Laura agrees with Murphy that the case makes no sense. Albee takes a phone call, and is instructed to go to the marina in an hour, alone. Laura offers to accompany him furtively. She and Steele leave with Emery.

At the marina, Steele suggests he and Laura pose as lovers strolling among the boats. While they're out, Emery takes a phone call and leaves to fetch Steele. He catches up to them as they are kissing, but all quickly take cover when shots are taken at them.

Back at the office, Emery phones his wife, while Laura tries to figure out the incongruities. George is a hermit, yet has a girlfriend. He's on a plane to Las Vegas, but shows up in Los Angeles. His office is spotless,

but his condo is a mess. Steele saw a car speeding away, but George doesn't drive. Izzy calls, saying there's something they should know about George, and asks them to come by. Emery tags along. At Ratooi, they find Izzy, who manages to say, "Toodle-loo," before dying.

The three return to Steele's apartment, where Laura observes that everybody who can help them dies. Steele suggests talking to Manuel, one of Ratooi's janitors (who was part of the kidnapping team). Laura tells Steele to stay home with Emery, while she goes to find Manuel.

The next morning, Steele rehearses with Manuel his speech to Laura apologizing for the mess he's gotten them into. Laura comes in, tired after spending the entire night searching for Manuel. Steele tries to give his speech, but Laura keeps cutting him off. Manuel admits that he's never actually seen George, and his office never needs more than light dusting. "Like the dude was never there." Laura thanks him, then rushes to call Murphy. She then asks Emery (who is in the shower) for a businessman's opinion: What would he do if he were in Gruff and Reston's shoes? Emery says he'd cancel the merger and forget the situation entirely. Laura tells Steele to take Emery to the airport, no tricks.

In the limo, Steele and Emery chance across a photo of Cynthia aboard a boat named *Toodle-Loo*, and Emery tells Fred to head for the marina. "You can't expect me to pass up a lead like this!" Meanwhile, the landlady lets Laura and Murphy into George's condo. Steele and Emery board the *Toodle-Loo*, and Steele finds a map suggesting where George's body was dumped. Murphy tells Laura that George Kaplan appeared out of thin air six months ago, no tax records or any other paper trail. Laura concludes that George Kaplan is a fabrication, concocted to stop the merger. But that doesn't explain Cynthia.

At the merger meeting, Steele and Emery arrive, wheeling in a trunk, claiming he found George. Murphy figures their theory is shot, but Laura has an idea. Steele sets the scene, then opens the crate. Inside is no body, just \$5 million, and the Deep Water game. Laura explains. She calls in the landlady, who identifies Albee as George Kaplan. Laura continues. When Albee and friends learned that they were about to be taken over, they sabotaged their own company, blaming it on the mythical fourth partner George Kaplan. And Albee decided to take advantage of the available condo by having an extramarital fling, protecting his identity by giving his name as George Kaplan. When Izzy discovered that their little plan led to murder, he wanted out, and was killed for his troubles.

Laura and Steele enjoy a drink before a roaring fire at his apartment, then are interrupted by Emery, who has decided to sell out his supermarket chain. "So tell me, what's our next case?"

Notes:

According to George Kaplan's appointment calendar, the episode took place on 21 and 22 October 1982.

In the movie *North by Northwest*, George Kaplan is the CIA agent Cary Grant is mistaken for. The inside joke continues when Steele sets sail "two miles offshore, north by northwest" in search of Kaplan.

4 Signed, Steeled & Delivered 2702
 Glenn Caron Robert Butler

10/29/82 10p A CIA researcher, terrified by attempts on his life, is convinced that his own agency is
 04/26/83 9p trying to kill him.

Sheldon Quarry Thom Bray
 John Seward Philip Sterling
 Lucille Seward Alexandra Johnson
 Blonde Marta Kristen
 Eugene Price Christopher Lofton
 Cleaning lady Jackie de Rouen
 Charlie Webb Buddy Powell

A man peers through window blinds, his forehead dripping with what he later identifies as hair dye (but which looks like blood). He dashes out and drives off. Behind him pulls a blonde who first makes eyes at him, then pulls a gun. He ducks and runs away.

Nearing closing on a Friday, Murphy asks Laura one final time to join him on a golfing weekend, which she politely declines, being swamped with paperwork. Bernice has her own plans, and Steele finds that his date for the evening has taken ill. So he asks Laura out instead, who is indignant that she’s just a backup plan, and insists she a date already.

Later that evening, the man comes into the office, where only Steele remains, trying to line up a replacement date. Steele takes the man to Laura’s house, where she quickly hides the paperwork and makes it look like she’s preparing for a date. The man identifies himself as Sheldon Quarry, the Information Retrieval man at the CIA, who turned to Steele for help since he is convinced that Steele is a former agent. On Tuesday, his car blew up, killing one of the ushers for his wedding tomorrow. Since then, he’s been in hiding, afraid even to call his fiancée, lest the CIA go after her.

Laura goes to the Seward residence to tell Lucille that Sheldon is okay. Her father is furious at him, but she is genuinely concerned. Meanwhile, Sheldon finds a change of clothes in Laura’s house (“Lucky break, indeed,” notes Steele) and tells Steele how much he admires him. Sheldon excuses himself, and Steele tells Sheldon that he’d gladly trade places with him, only to find that Sheldon has since fallen asleep. Laura assures Mr. Seward that she’ll try to get Sheldon to the church on time, and the nurse notes that it’s time for Lucille to take her medication. The nurse is the blonde who took a shot at Sheldon earlier.

Driving home, Laura sees a car following her. She loses it, then it reappears. So she ducks into a supermarket, grabs a cart, and frantically wanders down the aisle, peering paranoid over her shoulder. When she spots a man lurking by her car, she approaches a young gentleman in line and smiles sweetly.

Laura returns home and tells Steele and Sheldon they have to leave; they’re onto her. Steele tries (and fails) to extract information about the fact that Laura once lived with a man. They rent a car and spend the night sleeping by the lake. The next morning, while Steele makes an appointment to see the CIA, Sheldon tells Laura that his future father-in-law is in the business of making foreign editions of American novels. His current project is selling *Gone with the Wind* to the Chinese.

Laura and Steele visit Eugene Price, CIA Operations Director, who yucks it up with Steele like they were old friends. Steele plays along, then asks about Sheldon. Eugene says he never heard of him, then remembers an appointment and shows the two to the door. In the garage, Sheldon spots his friend Charlie tinkering with the car, who tells him to stay away, but before he finishes his sentence, the car blows up. Steele storms back upstairs and demands information from Eugene. He explains they’re not trying to kill Sheldon; Charlie was probably trying to disarm a bomb he found in the car. They were just following him to try to figure out what is going on. All they have is the a picture of the blonde who shot at Sheldon. When they can’t find Sheldon, Laura concludes he left to attend his wedding.

Steele arrives at the wedding (pretending to be Simon Quarry, the best man) and finds Sheldon hiding behind the trellis. He tells Sheldon to stay out of sight while Laura and Eugene look for the blonde in the house. *Here Comes the Bride* is played, but Sheldon doesn’t emerge, so the bride can’t come yet. One of his ushers drags Sheldon out, and the procession begins. Laura bursts in on a couple hugging and backs out apologetically. She then realizes it was the blonde and a dead Eugene and returns. A struggle ensues, and the blonde rushes out of the house. Laura catches up to her and knocks her down. The blonde drops a book and her gun, which Mr. Seward picks up and brandishes. Steele, Sheldon, and Laura’s leg dispatch him.

At the reception, Laura and Sheldon explain that Mr. Seward wasn't just exporting books, but also technological secrets, on the principle that no one country should have any advantage over the other; equality equals security. When he learned that his daughter was marrying a CIA agent, he falsely concluded that they were onto him.

Monday morning, Murphy finds Laura in her office, still doing paperwork. He tells her she has to get out and "live a life, for crying out loud." Laura thanks him, and he leaves. Steele pops in, and Laura asks him, "So, how was *your* weekend?"

11/05/82 10p Laura dragoons Steele into protecting a museum painting that carries a curse, and he's soon a believer: a woman from his shadowy past wants him to help her steal it.

Abigail Holt	Beverly Garland
Felicia/Katherine Simone	Cassandra Harris
Gutman	James Blendick
Edward Coxworth	Peter MacLean
Ahmed Kalil	Kurt Christian
Sherman	Benjamin H. Slack
Stakovsky	Ben Mittleman

A masked figure breaks into a museum, but before he gets to the painting, the alarm trips, and he rushes out, empty-handed.

At the office, museum officials want to hire Steele to protect the painting *The Five Nudes of Cairo*, but he refuses. Laura arrives and prevails; the case is taken. Steele privately asks Bernice why Laura is so edgy, but he learns soon enough: Her mother arrives. Laura quickly drags Steele away to go to the museum, but not before Steele invites Laura and her mother to dinner.

At the museum, Kalil tells Laura that the external security seems intact, which suggests an inside job. Miss Simone, the exhibit curator, briefs Laura on the curse associated to the painting; the last five owners are no longer living. She later corners Steele behind a statue and kisses him soundly. Steele calls her Felicia, and she asks him to steal the painting for her.

At home, Laura finds her mother scrubbing the tub, and Abigail expresses her disappointment in her middle child. Murphy arrives with the background on the painting, the most interesting tidbit of information being that six years ago, a woman and a man named Michael O'Leary stole the painting. Murphy reminds Laura that Michael O'Leary is one of Steele's aliases and concludes that he's going to steal it. What better place to be aware of juicy stealables than as head of a detective agency?

When Laura goes to Steele's apartment to pick him up for dinner with her mother, she finds Felicia in his apartment, who had snuck in through the bedroom window. Laura storms out, only to be kidnaped by Sherman. Felicia, one of Steele's old flames, asks him to help her steal the painting a second time, explaining that she got into debt with Gutman, who is blackmailing her into stealing the painting for him. But Steele declines, to her dismay. ("There's a new feel about you. As if you've been . . . smitten.")

Abigail, who had been waiting in the car all this time, goes up to see what is taking Laura so long, only to learn that Laura had left some time ago. Meanwhile, Gutman chews out Sherman for kidnaping the wrong woman (he wanted Felicia), and Laura fakes an asthma attack in order to escape. Abigail and Steele talk at Laura's house, and when Laura returns home, adrenalin still pumping from her daring escape, Abigail scolds her for her rude behavior back at Steele's apartment, then retires. Shortly thereafter, Kalil (a museum representative) staggers into Laura's house, dead. When Abigail calls for Laura, she makes it clear to Steele that she does *not* want her mother to find a dead body in her living room. Abigail comes into the living room to apologize for her outburst, where Steele has propped up Kalil in a chair.

Steele decides that the best way to protect the painting is to steal it himself. Laura is understandably suspicious, but realizes she has little choice but to go along. The heist goes off smoothly until Laura accidentally trips a burglar alarm and is arrested. Steele gets away, with the painting.

The following morning, Laura is bailed out of jail by her mother, and Murphy says, "I told you so." Steele gives the police an anonymous tip that Gutman is Kalil's killer, and when he tries to plant the evidence in Gutman's car, he is kidnaped. While Laura talks to Felicia in the office, Steele calls Abigail and she relays the message to Laura, though all she remembers is 7249 Hemmett Street. Laura and Felicia go there, only to join Steele in captivity. Laura calls the office and tells Abigail to bring the painting, which she does. When what she brings turns out not to be the painting, Sherman is instructed to kill the quartet. Abigail gets an asthma attack, and Laura, Steele, and Felicia subdue Gutman and Sherman.

Steele returns to the museum to reveal where he hid the painting, just in time for the opening of the exhibit. Mr. Coxworth asks Steele why he stole the painting, and he explains that he had to do it to bring Gutman out into the open. Privately, Laura asks why he didn't just vanish with the painting. Steele replies, "The picture's got a bloody curse on it!"

Notes:

Not a mystery, rather an action-adventure nail-biter.

Felicia misremembers Laura's name as 'Miss Bolt', which reappears in the episode *Dreams of Steele*.

Observe that Gutman isn't there when Laura fetches the inhaler. Felicia is pointing her gun at nothing.

The introductory music is Mozart's Overture to *The Magic Flute*.

Michael Gleason

Robert Butler

11/12/82 10p The agency takes on a client charged with murder who simply can't win: the man's alibi—
04/19/83 9p the crime's only witness—is found murdered in Remington's apartment, and the man's
lawyer seems more interested in Laura than in the case.

Buddy Shapiro	Andrew Bloch
Creighton Phillips	Barry Van Dyke
Waldo Church	Raymond Singer
Ivy Shapiro	Ilene Graff
Miss Taplinger	Lora Staley
James Rubio	Ernest Emling
Clerk	David Kaufman

When Steele returns to a ransacked apartment, it brings his date with Miss Taplinger to an abrupt end. He spots a man waving outside, but the man is scared off before Steele can talk to him. The next morning, he tries to tell Laura about his escapades, but she isn't very forthcoming with information as to who it might be or why. Steele gets a phone call from Waldo Church, the man from last night, who says that the apartment was ransacked by Rubio, looking for the bill of sale, which he (Waldo) still has. He arranges a meeting.

Laura goes to the hotel to talk to Buddy Shapiro, but the clerk won't give out the room number, and Shapiro has refused all his calls. So Laura has a box of flowers delivered to the room and follows the delivery boy. Buddy is out on parole after spending 18 months in prison for stock manipulation, and is currently suspected of stealing antique coins worth over \$200,000, but he claims he purchased them from James Rubio. What can clear him is the bill of sale, which the agency has not been able to find. He's packing his bags to flee to Rio.

Steele goes to visit Waldo Church and gets bashed on the head. Murphy returns from an unsuccessful search for Rubio in San Francisco, though he did find a photograph of Rubio with Ivy Shapiro, Buddy's ex-wife. Steele wanders in, a mess. Not in the mood to play twenty questions, he extracts from Laura and Murphy the details of the case, learning that Waldo Church is the man who notarized the transaction. Laura drags Steele to tell Buddy what just happened to him. Only a promise from Steele ("If we fail, I will personally assist you in fleeing the country.") keeps him from running. Meanwhile, Buddy's attorney, Creighton Philips, asks Laura to dinner, who politely declines.

While Murphy and Laura search Church's hotel room, Laura runs across some clues and goes to a pay phone. Murphy tells her she has to give up on Steele and look for someone who shares the same values she does. She thanks Murphy for his advice and calls Creighton Philips to accept his dinner invitation.

Creighton takes Laura to a video arcade, to Laura's surprise. Creighton expresses his suspicion that Steele isn't all that he appears to be. That evening, Steele returns to his apartment after another date with Miss Taplinger, only to find Church's dead body in the bedroom. He calls in Laura (with Creighton tagging along), asks Creighton to take Miss Taplinger home, and confers angrily with Laura. ("I like cotton candy," she explains.)

The next day, Buddy is arrested, since somebody tipped the police that he was thinking of skipping the country, and there is an outstanding murder. Upon returning to the office, Laura gushes about Creighton's generous nature; he is turning down a partnership in a law firm so he can open his own office to serve people of modest incomes. Steele arranges for Buddy to be released into his custody, and makes it clear to Creighton that he doesn't want to see Laura get hurt.

Murphy has been tailing Ivy Shapiro and Laura and Steele arrive to talk with her. She is hardly friendly and insists that James Rubio didn't set up Buddy. She accuses Buddy of being jealous and storms out, upon which we hear a scream. James Rubio is found dead in the trunk of her car. Rubio's hand is clutched in a fist, and Steele pries it open, expecting to find a clue. What he finds is a long life line. Buddy is arrested again. The gun that killed Rubio was his, and his were the only fingerprints on it.

Steele enlists Murphy's help ("You asking me for help is worth a couple of red lights.") to dig up some dirt on Creighton. Apparently, Creighton and Rubio were classmates at Harvard, and he was passed over for a partnership rather than turning down one, and his new firm is in very lush quarters, hardly suited to serving the poor. Murphy helps Steele sneak into Creighton's bedroom and snoop around while Creighton

is downstairs with Laura going over the details of the case. When Steele frightens the cat, Creighton and Laura go upstairs to investigate, and Creighton takes advantage of the opportunity to make a pass at Laura, who refuses his advances; all the while, Steele is hiding under the bed.

The following day, Steele confronts Creighton with his conclusions. The killer must've been someone who knew Rubio well, in order to get him to go along with the scheme. And someone Buddy trusted, in order to get access to his gun. Someone who needs money to finance his new law firm. Buddy realizes that Creighton was stealing him blind; when he got paroled early, Creighton had to keep him from seeing his books, so he had him arrested again. Creighton challenges Steele to prove it, so Steele produces an envelope containing strands of hair allegedly found in Rubio's hand. In the ensuing fistfight, Steele punches out Creighton, breaking his own hand in the process.

At the courthouse, Laura reminds Steele that Rubio wasn't clutching any thing in his hand. ("Well, he should have been.") Buddy and Ivy leave for Las Vegas together, and Steele presents Laura with Ivy's car. Laura is flattered, until Steele adds, "Ivy would appreciate a check as soon as possible."

Movies:

D.O.A., Edmond O'Brien, Andrew Britten, United Artists 1949.

Notes:

A fair mystery.

Note that in this episode, Steele's doorbell goes 'ding-dong', whereas usually it's a buzzer.

7

Etched in Steele

2707

Glenn Caron

Stan Lathan

11/19/82 10p Laura thinks a best-selling sexy-book author killed her own husband, until she discovers it
 06/14/83 9p was the woman’s insipid spouse who really wrote the books.

Charlotte Knight Shannon Wilcox
 Dennis Baker George Morfogon
 Russell Forsyth Lyman Ward
 Tony Dinaldo Richard Cox
 Mitchell Knight Joel Colodner

A man reads a book manuscript in his living room, and is shocked at what he finds. He calls upstairs to his wife, Charlotte, who merely ignores him.

At the office, business is nonexistent, thanks to the post-Christmas doldrums. Laura learns that Steele accepted an offer from publisher Russell Forsyth to write “Remington Steele’s Ten Greatest Cases”, and is hardly pleased. Steele gets an invitation to a party honoring the latest novel by Charlotte Knight (whose steamy romances Laura appears to be quite familiar with, though she denies ever reading them). Laura insists that Steele tell Russell that the deal is off.

At the party, Charlotte’s husband Mitchell tells Laura and Steele that he believes somebody is trying to kill him: He drunkenly confides that the books Charlotte wrote were based on their marriage (upon which Laura gasps), and when he read the manuscript for the latest book, he found a scene in which the wife pushes her husband off a balcony, falling thirty-five stories to his death. Shortly thereafter, a scream is heard, and Mitch’s body is found on the pavement thirty-five stories below.

Dennis Baker (Mitch’s agent) tells them that Mitch was a troubled man, jealous of his wife’s popularity. His constant drunkenness didn’t help. Russell gives Steele a copy of the manuscript; there is no balcony death scene in it. And when Steele is about to tell Russell that the book deal is off, Laura stops him.

The next day, Steele realizes Laura stopped him because she wants to stay on the case. Laura insists it was murder, but Steele thinks Laura is afraid of relaxing and offers to fetch the notes for the book to prove there was never a balcony scene. Once he does that, he wants to whisk the entire staff off for a Caribbean vacation. When Steele goes to Charlotte, he finds Tony there. She flirts with Steele, then gives him the dictation tapes.

Laura and Steele spend the evening listening to the tapes, but find no balcony scene. The next morning, the batteries are running down, and Laura realizes that the voice is Mitchell’s, electronically sped-up to sound like a woman’s. She concludes that it was Mitch who really wrote them. When they present this to Russell, he confesses that it was true, but the ghost writing was for publicity purposes.

Laura still insists it was murder, and Steele accuses Laura of being a workaholic. Laura goes to Charlotte’s apartment to inspect the scene of the crime, and she talks to Tony, Charlotte’s handsome friend. Tony is a serious writer whose MFA thesis was a novel. He was introduced to Charlotte, who convinced Russell to publish *Lamplight*, and became his mentor, allowing him to stay with them while he makes the necessary revisions to his novel for publication. Tony convinces her that Mitch committed suicide, unable to cope with somebody else always taking the credit for his hard work.

At home, Laura browses through travel brochures and Steele stops by. She agrees that there is no case, but Steele insists there is one. He went through the tapes again, and realized that none of them were tapes of the third book. Mitchell had writer’s block on his third book; someone else ghost-wrote it. Steele concludes that whoever wrote the third book killed Mitchell Knight.

Steele drags Laura to a party Russell is throwing in honor of his “Ten Greatest Cases” book. There, Steele dramatically accuses Charlotte, Dennis, and Russell each of whom provides a convincing alibi. Steele calls Laura aside and asks her, “All right, who did it?” but Laura doesn’t know (and enjoys it). then Laura sees Tony typing away in a side room and gets one of those smiles on her face.

After the party dissolves, Laura tells Russell that they’re read to sign the book contract, and Russell asks Tony to type up the final clauses in the contract. While he’s typing, Laura notes that Mitchell said the manuscript he read was neatly typed, not dictated, and Tony admits that he wrote the third book. Laura concludes that Mitch was about to tell all at the party that Tony really wrote the book, thereby ruining Tony’s chance at a serious career as a writer. Steele suggests Tony was busy rewriting the balcony scene,

and Russell remarks that he still has a copy of the original manuscript in his office. Tony makes a run for it, but Steele trips him.

The next day's newspaper headline reads, "Steele traps literary killer", and Laura is proud of the fact that she is doing nothing.

Movies:

The Shining, Jack Nicholson.

Notes:

A good mystery. We actually get all the clues ahead of time.

11/26/82 10p Laura ponders two suspicious deaths, a run-in with Army Intelligence and cryptic clues
 03/29/83 10p about a “Palace of Heaven”, and concludes that Remington was right in the first place: the death of a visiting Japanese was not caused by jaywalking.

Tenake	Keye Luke
Mike Ito	Marc Hayashi
Kenji Ito	Sab Shimono
Winslow Craddock	Reid Shelton
Woman	Emily Kuroda
Morgue attendant	Richard Stanley
Mr. Dickerson	Stephen Lee

Laura accompanies Mike Ito to a Japanese funeral ceremony, where a Japanese man, an Occidental man, and a Japanese woman pay their respects. Steele rushes to Laura’s side and offers his condolences, but Laura didn’t know the dead man. Kenji Ito was Mike’s brother, who (according to the police report) was hit by a car while jaywalking. Mike insists it was murder, and Steele takes the case.

At the office, Murphy brings the police report on Kenji’s death; it’s “C&D” (cut and dried). Steele says he’s fed up just being a figurehead and wants to play a more active role in the agency. He dares her to teach him, and she agrees. Open questions include who claimed Kenji’s body, who arranged the funeral, and who were the other people at the funeral? First step is to see Mr. Hamada, the driver of the car that hit Kenji. Nobody answers the door, and while Laura tries to get information from a Japanese-speaking neighbor, another neighbor calls Steele over and whispers to Steele where Hamada can be found. Laura manages to figure out the woman is talking about a big man with white hair, but that’s about it.

Next stop is the morgue to see Mr. Hamada, who died of a blow to the back of the head. The attendant says that Kenji’s body was claimed during the night shift; Mr. Dickerson would be the person to talk to. Laura leaves her business card, then privately admits that the case has turned into an E&F: Enigmatic and frightful.

Laura and Steele go to Mike’s restaurant to fill him in. Mike had told them that Kenji arrived in the country unexpectedly, so they did a background check, and the company he allegedly worked for doesn’t exist. Mike reiterates that he’d never seen any of the people at the funeral before in his life. Laura goes to a pay phone to call the office, where the white-haired gentleman from the funeral stops her. He identifies himself as Major Craddock of Army Intelligence and complains that he had “that little gun-running thief Kenji Ito”, but let him go because “I knew it would lead to the Palace of Heaven.” Laura asks what this Palace of Heaven is, and Craddock tells her not to play stupid. “Just give it to me and get out while you can. . . . Consider yourself lucky. If Tenake had found you first, he’d take a finger. And then turn nasty.”

At the office, Bernice confirms Craddock’s credentials, but has nothing on the Palace of Heaven. Steele draws on his film knowledge to conclude that the Yakuza are involved. He also calls the telephone operator and locates the Palace of Heaven.

Steele goes to a Japanese movie theater, named The Palace of Heaven, and the woman at the funeral is there. Steele follows her out, and is attacked by Murphy, who was also following her. Steele goes outside, where the woman holds him at gunpoint. “I know I am a dead woman. My mother told me, to love a Yakuza is to wish for an early grave.” Steele concludes that Kenji was a Yakuza, and that she claimed the body. When he mentions the Palace of Heaven, she panics and leaves.

Laura arrives to pick up Murphy, and the three exchange information. Laura just talked to Dickerson, who said that a Japanese man claimed the body, and the name he gave was . . . Mike Ito. The three head to talk with Mike, only to see him being kidnaped.

They return to the office, where Bernice is fed up with constant phone calls from a man who merely says, “You’re still the one for me.” Steele takes the phone. “Steele here.” “You’re Steele?” “That’s right.” “The one for me. Come to 331 half First Street.” Laura and Steele drive to the address, where they are trapped and handed blindfolds. From the sound, Steele concludes they’re atop the Palace of Heaven movie theater. They are taken to offices in the Japanese style, where the Japanese woman (in traditional dress) brings them to see Mr. Tenake. Tenake explains that Kenji was a ‘free agent’, who was captured by Army Intelligence, and mysteriously released. They tried to catch him and question him, but he fled with the

'Palace of Heaven'. He gives Steele 24 hours to produce the Palace of Heaven and shows them Mike to drive his point home.

Laura and Steele caucus with Murphy on their plan of action. Murphy wants to call the police, but Laura decides to go for U&D (unexpected and daring). First, Steele and Murphy subdue the guard. Second, Steele ushers in Laura, dressed in traditional Japanese garb. Third is to find the room where Mike is being held. Laura pretends to be a serving girl and serves the captors drugged sake. Mike helps out with Laura's lack of knowledge of Japanese. But only two of the captors drink the sake, so Steele and Laura have to subdue the third the old-fashioned way. Then they escape with Mike.

All return to the office, all very pleased with themselves. Mike is shocked to learn of Kenji's double life as a Yakuza. They hear a sound in the lobby, but it's Mr. Dickerson from the morgue. He identifies Kenji's photo as the man who *claimed* the body. The deceased was all torn up from the accident, and Steele concludes that Kenji faked his own death. Mike rushes off to find his brother.

Laura and Steele go to the temple where the funeral was held, figuring that would be the most logical place for Kenji to hide, since he would see who attended his funeral. There, they find Craddock, dead. Kenji steps forward and tells Mike he faked his death to protect his younger brother from knowing the truth. Craddock had caught him, and Kenji told him nothing. But Craddock released him and told everyone he had talked. Realizing Tenake would go after him, Kenji stole the computer code (The Palace of Heaven) that details their entire Japanese operation. He planned to trade it for his freedom, but upon arriving in this country, he spotted one of Tenake's men, and in the struggle, it was Tenake's man who got hit by a car. Kenji swapped identification with the man and hid. Kenji was forced to kill Craddock to show Tenake that he did not betray him. He hands Steele the floppy disk; so long as Tenake knows Steele has it, Mike will be safe. All that's left now is for Kenji to wait for the police arrive to arrest him.

At Mike's restaurant, Laura dines on sushi and wraps up the case for Steele. It was Craddock who killed Mr. Hamada, thinking him to be Yakuza. Laura then reminds Steele of his promise to give sushi a try, who avoids the topic by trying to tell a story.

Movies:

Enter the Dragon, Bruce Lee.

The Yakuza, Robert Mitchum, Brian Keith, Warner Brothers 1975.

Kokusai (the movie showing at the theater)

The Third Man, Orson Welles, Joseph Cotten.

Notes:

Yes, that was genuine Japanese spoken throughout the episode.

12/03/82 10p Whodunit? As the only outsider at a house party, Remington is asked to identify the killer in a group of Laura's former colleagues after one of them is found dead.

Sandy Maxwell Carlene Watkins
 Carl Philip Charles MacKenzie
 Donald Arthur Rosenberg
 Alan Grievey Jeff Pomerantz

An unseen figure places a gun among a pile of clothes. At the office, Steele finds an invitation in Laura's wastebasket to a weekend party thrown by Laura's former colleague Alan Grievey. Laura and Murphy arrive at the Grievey estate and join the other guests, who are awed at Alan's success. Murphy finds a gun in Carl's suitcase. Later, Murphy talks to Sandy and they fill each other in on the intervening years. Carl talks to Laura about how reunions are all about missed opportunities.

After dinner, they play the game of "best murder". Alan tells a story about a man who gets into an empty elevator on the tenth floor, takes the elevator to the third floor with no stops in between, and is dead when the elevator doors open. He doesn't give the solution, but promises that he will not let them leave without the answer. While the sleuths ponder the mystery, Steele arrives, much to Laura and Murphy's chagrin. Steele describes a murder in which ballistics tests revealed that the bullet's path went from *inside* the victim's body outwards. When pressed for the answer, Steele dodges the question and suggests that everybody go to bed. Laura corners him, and he admits that he made it up. Downstairs, Alan and Carl have a loud argument over how Alan took advantage of Carl four years ago.

The next morning, Laura finds Alan's dead body in the elevator. Alan's neck was snapped in two. The five detectives realize that they are all potential suspects in Alan's murder and ask Steele, as the only outsider, to investigate. Calling in the police would be bad publicity for Donald's, Laura's and Murphy's respective agencies, and Sandy's husband doesn't know she's here. Steele privately enlists Laura's advice in his investigation.

Steele first asks who was the last person to see Alan alive. Everyone knows it was Carl, who admits he hated Alan, but he didn't kill him. He explains: Alan had Carl copy every scrap of information from Havenhurst, and thanked him by laughing in his face. When Carl returned to Havenhurst, he found he had been fired. So now he's a repo man. Murphy asks about the gun, but Carl denies bringing one. All search Carl's room and find nothing.

The sleuths then focus their attention on the scene of the crime. Carl pulls Steele aside, while Donald takes Laura downstairs for some coffee. This leaves Murphy (who is dusting for prints) and Sandy. She insists that she didn't kill Alan, but she knows they're going to find something that points at her. Downstairs, Donald and Laura find no coffee. Plenty of dog food, but no coffee. Donald also expresses his suspicion that Steele isn't all he seems. Carl hands Steele a plastic envelope containing threads of cloth that he found on Alan's neck. Carl presents his theory to the others: The threads came from the murder weapon. Laura proposes that they take a break while Murphy takes everyone's fingerprints to match them up with what he found in the elevator.

A scream is heard, and all rush to Sandy's room. Murphy startled her, and he finds a belt whose fibers match the ones Carl found. When Carl notes that he didn't see Sandy's car when he arrived, she tells her story. After she married, she had an affair with Alan. When her husband hired Alan to find out if she was having an affair, Alan was so warped not only to take the case and wait a week before presenting his findings, but to send a bill. So she's been staying at the Grievey residence until she can figure out what to do next. Then Alan told her she had to leave by Monday. She admits that she hated Alan, but insists she didn't kill him.

Donald has had enough and wants to call the police. While he packs his bags, the gun falls from his shelf and accidentally fires (hitting no one). Sandy reminds everyone that Alan made Donald do all his dirty work back at Havenhurst. Donald stands up for Alan, though Carl notes that when Alan started his own agency, he left Donald behind.

Murphy presents the results of the fingerprint matching. Aside from Alan's own, the only clear print was of Laura's, on the 'stop' button. Certain that Laura is innocent, Steele starts going through Alan's

things and notices that Alan's wardrobe indicate a man who went from very heavy to very light "with no stops in between". Laura realizes that the person they should've been studying most carefully was Alan. They go to his study and find that his detective business was in financial trouble, and conclude from the presence of an elevator that that he was not in the best of health. Laura goes to the elevator. She can't find a hidden panel, but notices the ventilation grating in the ceiling.

The guests are gathered, and Laura presents her theory. Alan transferred Laura's fingerprint to the 'stop' button. He also got Sandy's belt and attached it to the elevator cable. He pulled it through the vent, tied it into a noose, and pushed the elevator button. As the elevator rose, the cable pulled the belt away, snapping his neck. To make it look like murder, he arranged for the noose to tear, so that the cable would pull the belt out through the vent, and the murder weapon would vanish. In short, he committed suicide, but made it look like a murder, thereby getting the last laugh on his former colleagues. Why? Laura realized that Alan didn't have clothes in intermediate sizes because he was somewhere where you don't need clothes: a hospital. Remember also that they found shelves of dog food, but no dog. Alan had already given the dog away. But there was no real danger that Laura would be sent to jail. He promised that they would not leave before learning the answer, and true to his word, the servicemen were due to inspect the elevator on Monday. They'd have found the belt.

At the office, Laura and Steele find Murphy telling Steele's 'best murder' to Bernice.

Movies:

Witness for the Prosecution, Charles Laughton.

Notes:

A fairly decent mystery. We get most of necessary subtle clues at the start, so a really sharp viewer might notice something weird going on. But the clinching evidence isn't seen until right near the end.

Michael Gleason

Sidney Hayers

12/10/82 10p Guests are murdered one by one at a house party crashed by Laura and Remington after
 06/07/83 9p their client declines his invitation by committing suicide.

Randi Russell	.....	Lynne Randall
Ashley Feldman	.....	Paul Hecht
Michael Dominick	.....	Bruce Kirby
Madeline Vickers	.....	Brandis Kemp
Cindi Sikes	.....	Diane Stilwell
Ambrose Blinn	.....	Robert Phalen
Nurse	.....	Erica Yohn

On their way to visit a prospective client, Laura and Steele hear a gunshot and rush in to find Dr. Arthur Bellows dead in his office. In his hand is an invitation to spend the weekend at the island resort 'The Devil's Playground'. At the office, Murphy explains that Dr. Bellows was a cosmetic surgeon, with heavy financial problems after losing three malpractice suits. He also had a drinking problem which extended into the operating room. Over Murphy's objection, Steele decides to impersonate the doctor at the resort and take Laura along, to find out why the invitation triggered the doctor's suicide. Laura agrees to go along, if only to keep tabs on Steele.

Laura and Steele arrive by helicopter to the island, where they are greeted by the giggle-prone Cindi. They also meet the dry pianist Madeline, Randi (another airhead), and Mr. Feldman, and none of them appear put off by Steele's introduction of himself as Dr. Bellows. Steele learns the Playground is part of Ambrose Blinn's girlie 'Devil' magazine empire. Laura and Steele are shown to their room, complete with heart-shaped bed and mirrored ceiling. Laura is disgusted by the decor and locks herself in the bathroom. Randi comes in and bares her chest to Steele. She explains that the doctor worked on her breasts, and Laura angrily notes that since she didn't recognize Steele as not the doctor, "they must've thrown in a lobotomy at no extra charge."

Dinner is franks and beans on Wedgewood (since that's all Cindi could make), and Laura talks to Feldman, Ambrose Blinn's attorney. He explains that Randi was Ambrose's regular companion until Cindi came along. Though Randi doesn't seem to hold a grudge, perhaps because she can't hold a thought in her head for three seconds. And the last guest is Mr. Dominick, Ambrose's business partner. Dinner is interrupted by a message from Ambrose via closed-circuit television. He promises that his presence will be felt "when you least expect it."

Laura is mad at Steele for finagling them into the same bedroom, though she admits that at first she looked forward to the encounter. Steele wanders down the hallway and hears Cindi giggling incessantly. He returns to his room to find Laura asleep in bed. He kisses her good-night, then tries to get some sleep on the couch.

The following morning, Cindi is found dead in her room, and Steele (as the only doctor in the house) concludes that she was literally tickled to death. The guests split up to search for Ambrose, and Randi chooses Steele as her partner. She explains that he (as Dr. Bellows) was called in to operate on her when her regular doctor was suddenly taken ill. So in fact, they've never met face to face; she was on the operating table and he was behind a surgical mask. Steele finds Ambrose dead in the garden, choked to death on garbage. Laura observes that the body has been dead for some days. She discovers that the previous day's greeting was merely recorded on videotape; anyone could've set the timer to have the tape play automatically. They can't call the police because the island is completely isolated from the outside world; even their electricity is coming from a generator. All the guests become suspicious of each other.

In their room, Laura notes the poetic justice of the two deaths, and that Randi has motive to kill both, but Steele believes that she is too vacuous to be the killer. Their conversation is interrupted by a scream. Randi and Dominick wield respective weapons at each other. She found him going through Ambrose's things; he explains he wanted to look at the books since he knew that Ambrose had swindled him, and Cindi had spurned his advances. Steele calms them down, then back upstairs, he and Laura plan their next move. Laura will fake her own death, allowing her to roam about unhindered.

Downstairs, the generator is starting to run out of gas, so Laura helps Feldman and Dominick fetch the candles. Steele asks Randi to dance, and they ask Madeline to play something for them. When she

refuses, Randi makes a comment about Ambrose's death. Two years ago, Ambrose formed a record company for Madeline, then folded it after six months. She wanted another chance, especially considering what she did for him. When Steele asks what that was, she starts playing the piano. Dominick leaves to turn off the generator, alone. He shows the gun he carries for protection. Meanwhile, Steele suggests to Randi that they continue in his room and sends her up ahead. A scream is heard, and all rush upstairs. Randi bumped into Laura's wet stockings. The guests return to find Laura, 'dead' on the stairs.

Later that evening, someone takes a shot at Laura, who manages to get away just in time. This wakes up the other guests, and they are surprised to see Laura "alive" again. Steele identifies himself, and in the hubbub, the guests forget about Madeline, the piano player, whom they find dead, struck on the head by a large ivory tusk. In their room, Laura and Steele talk about honesty.

The following morning, Randi is found dead in her room, a syringe found by her outstretched hand. Feldman explains that it was Randi who originally financed 'Devil' magazine. Ambrose promised they would split the profits, but changed his mind when it took off. So she hired Feldman to sue him, and she had a case since the verbal contract was witnessed by Madeline. But Ambrose offered to take on Feldman as the company attorney, in exchange for sabotaging Randi's case, which he did. Ambrose bribed Madeline with her recording contract, and Randi lost the case. Dominick inherits it all now, but it is Feldman who had a motive to kill Ambrose, Randi, and Madeline, so they wouldn't talk about his indiscretion. Feldman rushes off in disgust, and Dominick chases him. Laura and Steele follow when they hear a gunshot, to see Dominick crouched over Feldman's dead body.

They return to the house and lock all the doors and windows. Laura finds a tape recorder of Madeline's piano playing in Dominick's room, which seems to clinch it. Later that evening, the weather has turned stormy, and Laura and Steele chat in front of the fireplace. Investigating a noise, they rush upstairs to find Dominick—dead. Laura concludes that somebody else faked his own death, and they go downstairs, to be greeted by Randi. She killed Ambrose in order to regain control of the magazine. She planned also to kill Dr. Bellows (whose drunkenness during her plastic surgery left her in a sorry state) before swimming off the island. But Laura and Steele manage to disarm her, of course.

Upon returning to the office, Laura explains that the syringe contained a drug which slowed the heart rate so as to simulate death. Laura informs Murphy and Bernice that they played 'the truth game', and she takes the opportunity to ask Steele what his real name is. As always, Steele tries to avoid the issue.

Movies:

Citizen Kane

And Then There Were None, Barry Fitzgerald, Walter Huston, Louis Hayward, June Degee.

Notes:

A fair mystery; more of a suspense nail-biter than a mystery.

Observant viewers might notice that Randi's death was the first non-thematic killing.

Of course, the entire premise is pretty flimsy. (Why would Dr. Bellows commit suicide over an invitation?)

The opening credits don't appear until several minutes into the episode.

Steele addresses the nurse as 'Nurse Ratchet' (from *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*). He also asks for "one of those little black bags Robert Young used to carry around." On the island, Steele constantly introduces himself as "Dr. Bellows. Dr. Arthur Bellows."

Peter Lefcourt

Seymour Robbie

01/07/83 10p A long-buried Hollywood scandal is unearthed when one of its has-beens, who thinks some-
 05/10/83 9p one's trying to kill her, convinces Laura and Remington she may be right.

Veronica Kirk Bibi Osterwald
 Jennifer Kirk Frances Lee McCain
 Phil Haver Peter Jurasik
 Mickey Prentice Duncan Ross
 Eddie Howell Richard Backus
 Dr. Dudworth Than Wyenn
 Hospital resident Michael Cornelison

Late one night, an elderly woman runs frightened out of her house. The next day, Jennifer Kirk hires Laura and Murphy to find her mother Veronica, whom she describes as drunk and deranged. Bernice has no success stopping Steele from barging in, and he recognizes the name Veronica Kirk as a B-movie actress whose specialty was dying dramatically. Their first stop is Phil Haver, a slimy movie producer who is planning a big comeback for Veronica. He refuses to say whether or not he knows where Veronica is. Eddie Howell, Haver's publicist, tells Laura where Haver hid Veronica, in exchange for an exclusive interview with the Veronica Kirk and Mickey Prentice (the family butler). He believes they are covering up something juicy.

When Laura and Steele find Veronica, Laura calls Jennifer to come pick her up, but Steele takes her away to his apartment where he can reminisce with her about the good old movie days. Laura arrives and scolds Steele for absconding with Veronica, but Veronica maintains that somebody is trying to kill her, and she can prove it. When she is returned home, Veronica tells a story of a man who took a shot at her the previous night from point-blank range, and missed. Steele uncovers a bullet-hole in the wall, only to have Jennifer explain that it had been there for thirty years: Veronica's late husband Edgar was caught in bed with a teenage girl by her brother, who killed him on the spot. Meanwhile, Mickey the butler finds Eddie poking around. Eddie notes that Mickey built a \$3 million portfolio with the insurance money Edgar left. Laura and Steele reluctantly leave.

At his apartment, Steele apologizes to Laura for his behavior, not just in the current case, but in general. Laura forgives him, but their evening together is interrupted by a phone call from Veronica, who admits "I think I just did a bad thing". In her hand is a gun, and a few feet away is Eddie Howell's dead body.

Jennifer has Veronica committed, thereby gaining power of attorney over the estate, and officially removes the agency from the case. Laura and Steele go to the hospital to see Veronica, but since they aren't family, they can't see her. When Laura visits Haver, she overhears him buying up the rights to Veronica's old films. Then she learns that he's turning a profit on his movie without shooting a single frame: He had taken out a healthy insurance policy on Veronica. She asks to see Eddie's files on Veronica, but Haver refuses.

Murphy poses as a plainclothes detective and deposits an insane Steele at the hospital. Meanwhile, Laura breaks into Haver's office and goes through the files. Murphy stops by to say that it's time they sprung Steele. Steele wanders through the hospital and finds Veronica. She explains that she just woke up with the gun in her hand, and turned on the lights to find Eddie's body on the bed. At 3am, Laura stops by the hospital posing as the health inspector, while Murphy lurks as an orderly. Laura unlocks the door to the insane ward, allowing Steele to escape with Veronica.

At Steele's apartment, Murphy reveals that the autopsy report on Eddie said he died of a single bullet that went through the heart and out of the body. Laura notes that everybody seems to have what they want. Jennifer has her inheritance and Haver has his insurance money. Murphy observes that Veronica met Eddie at the same time the attempts on her life began. She talked with him nearly every day, and Steele notes how odd it is that someone who had regular contact with Veronica would find the need to break in. And Laura shows that Eddie's file contains only one name: Joseph Twain in Ventura.

All four of them go to check it out. When they arrive, they hear gunshots and see Jennifer's car leaving the scene. Joseph Twain, the officer who investigated Edgar's death, has been murdered, the bullet embedded in the chair behind him. Veronica tells Laura and Steele more about the circumstances of Edgar's death. Officer Twain was very harsh at first, but Mickey took him aside, and thereafter he was very kind, even helping her memorize the story she told at Edgar's inquest. She had actually spent the night alone, but said

she was with Mickey as her alibi. The only person who was at home with Edgar was a 13-year-old Jennifer, whom Edgar beat regularly.

They take Veronica home and accuse Jennifer of murdering her father. She denies killing either Edgar or Twain, whom she had in fact never heard of. Mickey admits to paying off Edgar with part of the insurance money, and Steele concludes he invented the story about the teenage girl to protect Jennifer. When Eddie talked to Veronica, he started to piece together the truth, and Jennifer killed him and framed her mother. Apparently, the bullet that killed Eddie passed clean through him, just like the one that killed Edgar and Twain. She denies it all and offers to let them search every room in the house. Steele goes to Mickey's room by mistake, and Mickey gets apprehensive. Laura realizes that, if he was Veronica's alibi, then she was his. Mickey pulls out a gun, and in the struggle, a shot is fired, and Veronica takes a tumble down the stairs. He cradles her head in her arms, but she says, "You're as big a louse as Edgar."

At the office, Murphy and Laura recap the case. Mickey loved Veronica the minute he saw her, and all was well so long as she stayed inside the house. When Howell started asking too many questions, Mickey got scared and tried to frighten Veronica into backing out of the movie deal with fake attempts on her life. When that failed, he murdered Howell and framed Veronica so the movie couldn't go on.

Movies:

Psycho

Notes:

A fair mystery, though crucial information doesn't appear until the very end. We do get lots of juicy red herrings, though.

12 Steele Flying High 2711
 Richard Collins Nick Havinga

01/14/83 10p Steele wonders why he's being asked to join a committee to save the bald eagle. Then he
 06/28/83 9p learns about the murder of a member who supposedly sent him a controversial report on
 land proposed as a sanctuary.

Grace Stanton	Francine Lembi
Congressman Oren Bishop	Michael Goodwin
Harry Swan	Michael McGuire
Millicent	Martine Bartlett
Fred	Blake Clark
Clerk	Walter Beery
Friendly Fritz	Paul Brennan

A man is drowned in a mountain lake. An unseen figure searches his bags, but finds nothing of interest. At night, a woman drives to the home of Amos Maxwell, lets herself in (with the key hidden in the flowerpot), and searches the papers. She finds the Remington Steele Agency's phone number in Dr. Maxwell's appointment book and leaves.

Laura accepts (on Steele's behalf) the honorary chairmanship of a committee to save the bald eagle, as a publicity move. At the meeting, Grace Stanton (the woman from the opening) announces that the eagerly-awaited report from Dr. Maxwell on the suitability of Lake Solitude (owned by Congressman Bishop) as a bald eagle sanctuary has been delayed. Mrs. Stanton helps Steele escape from the meeting, and on their way to Dr. Maxwell's house, she confides that the doctor is missing. She also cozies up to him, revealing that she inherited \$140 million upon the death of her late husband, Willis Stanton. When they reach Maxwell's house, the spare key he usually keeps in the flowerpot isn't there, so Steele picks the lock. Inside, they find the house ransacked, and discover the doctor dead in the bathtub.

The next morning, all are shocked to see the headline "It's Murder, Says Steele" in the paper. The Congressman (whose environmental stance Murphy admires) and Mrs. Stanton each charge angrily into the agency over the accusation, demanding a retraction to counteract the negative publicity. Stanton also inquires after some information that Maxwell sent Steele, but Laura maintains that the agency received nothing. When Bernice can't locate Steele, Laura and Murphy go to his apartment and find that it, too, has been ransacked, at which point they reluctantly concede that Steele might be onto something after all. Murphy offers to get Maxwell's autopsy report, and Laura asks him to see what he can find about Grace Stanton.

Meanwhile, Steele has been kidnapped by Harry Swan, a fugitive from the IRS, who tells Steele how he turned Stanton from a featureless lump into a woman after he married her. He also warns Steele that Stanton is an accomplished liar. He then offers Steele \$10,000 for "the item". Steele bargains up to \$25,000, not knowing what he's bargaining for. When Steele returns home the next morning, he finds Laura asleep on his couch. The two of them put together the pieces: The "item" in question is Maxwell's report, which nobody seems able to locate. Steele gets the idea in his head that he is Sam Spade and starts to play the part by talking like Bogart.

Bernice calls: The agency has been ransacked. Meanwhile, Bishop pressures the committee into making a decision on buying his land, despite not having Maxwell's report. But Steele arrives in time to break up the meeting. Bishop bawls out Steele for butting in, and when Steele tells him that he has "the item" and already has an offer for \$25,000, Bishop gets ruffled and threatens to have Steele's license suspended. Steele (playing Spade) confronts Stanton but she turns on her charm and calms him down.

In the limo, Steele tries to roll his own cigarette, with no success. The autopsy report on Dr. Maxwell revealed stream water and traces of DDT in the lungs, suggesting that he was murdered at Lake Solitude. Moreover, Grace Stanton's money is all tied up in trust funds: She can't spend any of her own money. On their way to the lake, Laura and Steele rent a jeep from "Friendly Fritz" after the limo gets a flat tire. But the jeep's brakes were cut, and the two narrowly escape with their lives. They walk the remainder of the way to town to look at the platt book, only to find the relevant pages missing. The clerk says that Stanton was the most recent person to ask for that platt book.

The sleuths confront Stanton, who confesses to tearing out the page. She was the previous owner of the lake, and it wouldn't look good for the committee to buy her own land. So Congressman Bishop is fronting

the sale on behalf of Swan, the money made from the deal to be put towards settling Swan's score with the IRS. Moreover, not only was Stanton married to Harry Swan, she still is. Swan never got a proper divorce. Consequently, her marriage to Willis Stanton was invalid, and she has no legal claim to his estate. Swan is willing to keep quiet in exchange for the money. Maxwell threatened to dig deeper and reveal the committee to be a fraud.

Laura and Steele return to Maxwell's house, where Steele finds the key that used to be in the flowerpot, smudging the fingerprints in the process. The suspects are gathered when Laura claims to have "the item". Steele realizes that DDT is bad for bald eagles, and accuses Bishop: Stanton isn't strong enough to carry the body from the lake, and Swan didn't know that the key was kept in the flowerpot. Bishop stays calm until Laura suggests that they dust the key for fingerprints. Steele punches him out, and gives Swan a comfortable head start to head for the border.

The next day's mail reveals Maxwell's report; it was delayed because the ZIP code was wrong. He also gets a check for \$25,000 from Stanton, postdated five years hence, which he tears up, as well as bidding farewell to his days as Sam Spade.

Movies:

Murder Most Foul, Margaret Rutherford, MGM 1964.

The Maltese Falcon

The Big Sleep, Humphrey Bogart, Lauren Bacall, Warner Brothers 1946.

Chinatown

Notes:

A good mystery, considering that we get all the evidence we need long before the end of the program.

01/21/83 10p Laura and Steele go undercover as a doctor and patient at a sleep disorder clinic that's
 06/21/83 9p missing morphine—and a physician.

Ivan Turbell	Paul Reiser
Nurse Blackell	Nancy Parsons
Nester Bickerman	William Larsen
Dr. Philip Lindstrom	David Haskell
Dr. Terry Wicker	John Mansfield
Rona	Marly Sims
Dr. Sheila Marcus	Nancy Linari

An unseen figure unplugs wires from a polygraph, then plugs into it a different set of wires, and the machine continues its operation. The figure then walks down a hospital hallway and strangles a female doctor who was lining up a date on the phone. She clutches a blood bag as she dies.

In his kitchen, Steele cooks dinner and is drawn away to answer the doorbell. It's Laura, who is early. Steele tries to shoo her out and hide the fact that he's cooking, unsuccessfully. Laura is amazed that when Steele invited her to dinner, he would cook the meal himself, and is doubly regretful of what she came to tell him. She has to cancel, because they have a new client. Before she can explain, Dr. Lindstrom arrives. He wants to keep the investigation quiet, since if the hospital board found out about the recent events at his sleep disorders clinic, they'll pull his funding when it comes up for review next week. Ten days ago, morphine started disappearing, labs broken into, records destroyed, and just last night, Dr. Sheila Marcus mysteriously disappeared, her car is still in the parking lot. He gives them a torn photo of the missing doctor. Laura has suggested going undercover as a doctor and having Steele register as her insomniac patient. The theory is that the presence of the great detective Remington Steele may force the culprit's hand. Steele is disappointed that this means his dinner with Laura is being cancelled.

While Nurse Blackell gives Steele a preliminary examination, Laura is introduced to Dr. Wicker as Dr. Marcus's replacement. Laura tries to fake her way through a conversation with Dr. Wicker, but doesn't do a very convincing job. Steele is shown to his room, where another patient watches curiously from afar. He meets his roommate, Mr. Bickerman, a fellow insomniac who talks endlessly. Steele can't sleep and sneaks out, wandering into the morgue. There, Laura finds him, and the two discover Dr. Marcus' body among the cadavers. Laura observes bruises on the doctor's neck and concludes she was strangled. In Laura's (really, Dr. Marcus') office, she explains that they can't tell Lindstrom before they find the solution. (If they do, he'll be shut down.) The curious patient comes in and admits, "I'm the guy that did it", then promptly falls asleep. When he wakes, Ivan Turbell explains that he's a narcoleptic, but a strange sort. He has night terrors and acts out his dreams in his sleep. The night of Dr. Marcus' disappearance, he woke up with Dr. Marcus' blood-stained lab jacket under his arm. Steele wants to close the case, but Laura notes that there were no wounds on Dr. Marcus' body, so whose blood is it? Steele agrees to find out.

Steele takes the jacket to Rona, the lab technician, and uses his charm to convince her to run a blood test on it. Laura visits the sleep ward, and Ivan startles her. He talks about how life in prison can't be all that bad, and Laura asks him to recall the evening in question. After Nurse Blackell hooked him up to the polygraph, he dreamt that he strangled a dark form with a snake in his hand. Nurse Blackell comes in and scolds Laura for disrupting their study.

Dr. Wicker talks to Steele. He figures that Sheila decided to take off before Lindstrom's clinic folded, and he has his own backup plan: A franchise of sleep disorder clinics. He invites Steele to become an investor. Meanwhile, Laura informs Bickerman that, due to a paperwork mixup, he'll have to take another series of tests. Bickerman explains that he was sent to the hospital by Varicorp, who wants him to produce a clean bill of health before they'll promote him. (Apparently, somebody found out about his insomnia.) Laura sends him to produce a urine sample, and Steele wanders in and informs her of recent events.

That evening, Laura has dozed off on the sofa-bed in her office and wakes up to find Steele trying to sleep next to her. She shows him Ivan's printout, which has a half-hour gap with no readings. Steele thinks that clinches it, but Laura doesn't see how it ties into the missing morphine, nor how Nurse Blackell would have failed to notice. After Laura sends Steele back to his room, she sees someone open her door open and investigates. But the hallways are empty. She goes into a ward, and returns to find her office locked. She

takes the elevator down, and a figure tries to catch the elevator, and misses, so it takes the stairs. Laura comes out of the elevator and hears footfalls in the stairwell and grabs a bottle and hides. She's startled from behind by Rona, who has Steele's blood test and was on her way to deliver them personally. Laura takes the results.

Steele talks to Ivan about the evidence they've found, and Ivan falls asleep. Laura comes in and informs Steele that Ivan didn't do it. Not only was Steele with Ivan when somebody followed her to the nurse's station, but the blood on the jacket was type A, whereas Dr. Marcus was type O, and Ivan is type AB-. Ivan appears to be the victim of a frame-up, but by whom? Steele takes Ivan to the Dr. Wicker's locker and picks the combination lock. Inside, he finds Dr. Marcus' stethoscope, and a picture of Dr. Marcus with Dr. Lindstrom. Laura confronts Dr. Lindstrom with the picture, and he admits that it was he whom she was talking to on the phone. He didn't mention it before because he's already married, and he didn't want Dr. Marcus' love life to become the focus of study. He didn't know that she was seeing Dr. Wicker, but he's not surprised. Laura suggests that perhaps Dr. Marcus found out that Dr. Wicker was trying to get the clinic shut down, or that he had a morphine problem.

That evening, it's Steele's turn in the sleep room, and when he notices that Nurse Blackwell is absent from her station, he unplugs himself from the polygraph machine, plugs the other patient into it, draws the curtain over the other patient's (now dysfunctional) polygraph machine, and sneaks out. Meanwhile, Laura comes into Dr. Wicker's office, only to be strangled with a stethoscope. She grabs a syringe and stabs the assailant, whom Steele arrives in time to chase off. He turns on the lights to find Dr. Wicker in his chair, stabbed with a pair of scissors.

In her office, Laura admits that Wicker isn't their man after all. The stethoscope and the jacket were plants. The killer is strewing false clues to slow down the investigation. The only thing left is the missing morphine, which she figures must be the key to it all. She asks Steele how he got out of the sleep room, and when he explains what he did, she realized he's done it again, solved the case.

Laura talks to Nurse Blackwell while Steele and Ivan sneak into the records room. Nurse Blackwell explains that she leaves her post twice a night, to check on the other patients. And it was she who discovered the missing morphine since it is her job to take inventory. In the records room, Steele notices one graph which is that of an insomniac, then suddenly turns narcoleptic, then after a half hour, returns to insomniac.

Laura and Steele wait in the drug dispensary, and Bickerman comes in. They turn on the lights and confront him. Laura accuses him of returning to pick up his blood sample so nobody would find out that the insomnia was caused by his drug habit. When Dr. Marcus found out, he killed her and framed Ivan, and when Dr. Wicker found the discrepancy in the printout, he was also killed. Bickerman pulls a gun and explains that he was injured badly in a mine accident. Five operations and a ton of pain killers later, and he was an addict. Laura distracts him and Steele makes a lunge for the gun. In the struggle, Bockerman gets away, but Ivan (who was napping in the corridor) wakes up and stops him.

At Steele's apartment, he has invited Laura, Ivan, and Dr. Lindstrom to dinner, and Ivan is proud that he's staying awake through dinner, though Steele is visibly nodding off. And Bickerman's company was so upset at the bad publicity that they made a substantial contribution the clinic, so they're back in business. Laura takes Steele into the kitchen to fetch dessert, where he admits that he hasn't had a good night's sleep since leaving the clinic. She rubs his temples and his shoulders to relax him, and he dozes off on her shoulder. Laura picks him up and kisses him, then Steele quickly wakes up and dips her. Laura announces, "Time for dessert, Mr. Steele."

Movies:

The Big Sleep

Coma, Geneviève Bujold.

Notes:

Lots of cool red herrings.

Murphy and Bernice are nowhere to be seen in the entire episode.

Charles Rosin (Glenn Caron)

Robert Butler

01/28/83 10p Laura and Remington have an intoxicating romp posing as a man and wife whose marriage
 07/05/83 9p is on the rocks while they try to determine which of four angry and tipsy ex-spouses is
 trying to knock off their husbands' divorce lawyer.

Malcolm Marcall	Mark Hutter
Janet Kimmell	Susan Kellerman
Angela	Linda Carlson
Megan O'Toole	Caren Kaye
Loretta Marcall	Alexandra Borrie
Beth	Mary Joan Negro
Client	Guy Boyd
Fred	Blake Clark

The show opens to an unknown person poisoning a bottle of champagne. At a golf course, Laura and Steele pose as Bob and Judy Pepler (“Wouldn’t you like to be a Pepler, too?”), clients of the famous divorce lawyer Malcolm Marcall. He tells Steele that he’s been run off the road and had his car exhaust tampered with. He asks Steele to keep his actual identity secret from his wife. In the club lounge, Malcolm switches his glass of milk with Steele’s drink when his wife comes in; he doesn’t want her to know that alcohol aggravates his ulcer, since she likes to throw parties. Steele tells Laura that Malcolm suspects one of the four women he’s currently battling in court.

After staging an argument in public, Laura is accosted by Janet, one of the wives in question. Malcolm tells Steele that he hates the business. He’s bought some land in the desert and next month, he’s hanging up his practice and moving out of Los Angeles. Steele saves him from a passing car, driven by Janet (with Laura as passenger), who is upset that she didn’t hit him. They join the other three wives at lunch, Angela, Megan, and Beth, where they discuss their respective miseries over drinks. All of them hate Malcolm and wish he were dead. When Laura returns to the office, drunk, Steele, Murphy and Bernice are all waiting in the office, and the two men cart Laura off.

The next morning, while she is still nursing a hangover, Laura and Steele visit Marcall, who heard somebody tinkering with the car the previous night and suspects a bomb. After dodging the guard dogs, Steele checks out the car, blesses it (after a prayer), and takes it for a spin. But when he steps on the gas, the car lurches forward over a cliff. (Steele, of course, manages to jump out of the car.) The transmission was re-gearred so when you threw it in reverse, you were really shifting it into first. The sleuths suspect Megan, whose ex-husband was a race car driver. Laura goes drinking with the women again, and is called to see Marcall. There, Steele joins her, only to be fired from the case after Marcall sees her drunk and informs her that somebody set fire to his house the previous evening; Loretta was uninjured, but is in the hospital to calm her nerves. Just as they are leaving, one of Marcall’s clients offers a toast, and keels over, dead.

Laura pays a visit to Loretta in the hospital and asks her to describe the circumstances of the fire. Loretta talks about how she so loved her house, throwing parties, going to legal conventions with her husband, playing golf on Sundays. Back at the office, Laura and Murphy pore over the details of the case and ignore Steele, who has a theory. He buys four bottles of the same champagne and offers it to Megan, who is reluctant to drink with him. Murphy finds out that the poison was a herbicide (which ties into Janet’s floral shop) and the wine came from Angela’s wine shop. Steele wanders back into the office, drunk out of his gourd. Just then, Marcall calls: He’s being shot at.

Laura goes to see Marcall and leaves Steele in the car. There, Loretta answers the door; she came home when she heard about the shots. She also has been told by Malcolm about Laura’s true identity. Marcall apologizes for the outburst in the office, and hands Laura a check to pay for the agency’s services. Just then, Steele wanders by, still drunk. Marcall suggests that they seek professional help for the obvious drinking problem at the agency.

The next morning, it is Steele shaking off the hangover and he has a new theory: They all did it. All the suspects are called to the Marcall residence where Steele lets loose the accusations. Angela denies buying the wine, since “he doesn’t drink. Everybody knows that.” And Janet denies poisoning the wine, for “How could anyone get past those dogs?” While Steele is floundering, Laura solves the case: Mrs. Marcall is responsible for the attacks on her husband. After devoting so many years of her life to the advancement of her husband’s career, she doesn’t want him to retire “just when my half of the investment was beginning to pay off.”

At the golf course, Laura explains how she drew her conclusion. Nobody ever mentioned hearing the dogs barking during any of the various attempts on Malcolm's life because they weren't. Loretta silenced them so as not to give herself away. That combined with the fact that Loretta didn't know that Malcolm didn't drink alcohol clinched it. Loretta hired a mechanic to regear the car, explaining that she couldn't adjust to the European shifting pattern. Laura tees off, and Steele notes, "Handsome shot, Mrs. Pepler."

Movies:

Casablanca ("Of all the gin joints, in all the towns, in all the world")

Notorious, Claude Rains.

Murder on the Orient Express, Albert Finney, Richard Widmark, Lauren Bacall, Vanessa Redgrave, Michael York, Ingrid Bergman, Jacqueline Bissett, Anthony Perkins, Paramount 1974.

Notes:

A good mystery. We get all the clues way ahead of time. (Though we don't get the motive until afterwards.)

15

To Stop a Steele

2721

Glenn Caron

Sidney Hayers

02/11/83 10p Laura and Remington don't know it, but they're working on the same case—Laura and
 05/17/83 9p Murphy for the jeweler robbed of a \$2 million diamond and Steele for a frightened thief
 who has to explain to the syndicate that someone beat him to it.

Morrie Singer Cliff Norton
 Considine Michael C. Gwynne
 Desk Clerk Douglas Warhit
 Albert Harrod Donald Bishop
 Frank Arnold Turner
 Louie Charles Lanyer

A tuxedoed elderly Jewish gentleman goes to a luxury yacht which is playing host to a wedding reception and meets up with Louie and Frank. They crawl through the ventilation duct to Harrod's Jewelers and crack the safe, to find it... empty?

Mr. Harrod, in whose custody the \$2 million jewel was entrusted, hires Laura and Murphy to find the thief. They have 48 hours until the owner arrives to pick up it up. Harrod asks that Steele not be involved, since Steele bring publicity, and he was keeping the jewel in violation of his insurance policy. Laura and Murphy gladly agree.

Morrie Singer comes into the agency and asks for Steele to help him. He's a small-time thief who retired a few years ago. He wants to see his son Russell and his grandson, but Russell won't let him. He figures, if he moves to Tampa, he can straighten things out with his son. But to move there costs money. So he gets permission from Considine, the local syndicate, to knock over a jewelry shop, only to find that "the store was hit before we got there." He asks Steele to find who beat him to it, and Steele offers the full resources of his agency. Morrie corrects him; he wants nobody else on the case. Laura arrives and tells Steele that there is an important case he shouldn't be involved in, but instead of the protest she expects, Steele is completely amenable to the idea.

Steele and Morrie go to visit Herschel Grueber, Morrie's old pal who gave him the plans for the heist. But when they go to the 'Happy Days' retirement village, they learn that Herschel has been dead for two months. Steele suspects a setup. As Steele and Morrie leave, Laura and Murphy arrive and ask after Herschel Grueber, a former employee of Harrod's jewelry, and ex-con. They find Morrie's name in the visitor book.

Back at Morrie's place, Morrie tells Steele that everything was going perfectly, only the safe was completely empty. Steele convinces him to see Considine, the crime boss who arranged the heist, and explain what happened. But they hear somebody coming and dash out the back way. The visitors are Laura and Murphy. They find the tuxedos Morrie rented, and Laura figures that he's the culprit. They follow up on a number they find in Morrie's appointment book.

On their way to visit Louie, Steele and Morrie hear a gunshot and find a man leaving the apartment. They find Louie dead and chase the car that sped away. Just as Steele and Morrie leave, Laura and Murphy arrive and recognize Morrie's license plate, and a three-way chase ensues. But Morrie's car breaks down, and that ends the chase.

Steele and Morrie go to Considine, who feels he has to make an example of Morrie. Then Steele introduces himself as John Roby, the man who beat Morrie to the jewels. Steele's theory is that Considine won't make any moves on him because he's the only person who knows where the jewels are. Just as they leave, Laura and Murphy come in and tell Considine they're onto him. Their theory is that Morrie Singer, small-time thief, pulls a small job and gets a big haul. His fence can't handle something that hot, so he turns to Considine. They tell Considine that there is a \$500,000 reward, no questions asked. If the stone doesn't turn up, the media will be alerted, and the gem will be un-unloadable.

Laura and Steele are in their respective offices, and each decides to tell the other about the current state of affairs. Murphy is against the idea, and makes a pass at Laura. Just then, Steele opens the connecting door and finds them kissing. He backs out apologetically. Steele suggests to Morrie that, for safety, he stay at his place, and Morrie asks him to pick up Happy, his lethargic dog. But first, Steele stops by Frank's place (one of Morrie's accomplices), only to find him also dead.

Laura and Murphy stake out Morrie's place, waiting for him to return home. Murphy takes the opportunity to pour out his heart, and Laura is flattered, but not entirely receptive. Murphy promises he's not

going to give up yet. They see Morrie's car come, and they cover the exits. Steele hears Murphy coming and leaves Happy there for Murphy to trip over, then picks up the dog and leaves. Laura throws her hat to the ground in disgust.

The next morning, Steele goes to Harrod's and accuses him of stealing the diamond. Harrod is completely flustered and Steele leaves. He then calls Laura. Laura and Murphy go to Steele's apartment, and when Murphy comes in, Morrie bashes him over the head. Laura gets a call from Bernice: Considine says he's located the thief.

Considine introduces the thief, John Roby. The three of them return to Steele's apartment and put together the pieces: Considine is the culprit. Together, they hold up Considine and force him to open the safe, revealing the diamond. He insists that they take him with them, rather than face his syndicate cohorts.

Laura, Steele, and Murphy return to the office and explain that Considine funded the heist with syndicate money, but kept the spoils for himself. The safe was robbed before Morrie even got to it. The reward money went to Morrie, who can now retire to Florida. Steele then leaves Laura and Murphy alone to continue whatever they were doing, but Laura talks to Steele, who explain that he's willing to step aside. "I just want you two kids to be happy." Laura responds, "Like hell, you do."

Movies:

To Catch a Thief, Cary Grant, Grace Kelly, Paramount, 1955.

The Thomas Crown Affair, Steve McQueen, Faye Dunaway, United Artists, 1968.

Notes:

The date in the visitor book is '1-15-83'. Notice there are no glass shards on the floor after Morrie coshes Murphy. Laura doesn't say "Good-bye" to Bernice before hanging up. How impolite.

16	Steele Crazy After All These Years	2715
Peggy Goldman, R. J. Stewart, and Andrew Laskos		Don Weis
02/18/83 10p	Murphy's college homecoming is shattered by the murder of a class radical that harks back	
05/31/83 9p	to a campus bombing incident involving students now among the graduates—and murder suspects.	
Annie Carpenter	.....	Annie Potts
Nat Shavers	.....	Todd Susman
Lynette Mercer	.....	Allyce Beasley
Hector Sanchez	.....	Tony Plana
Dean Percy Winfield	.....	John C. Becher
Tom Donovan	.....	Mark King
Charlie	.....	Kander Berkeley
Homecoming Queen	.....	Sharon Stone
Dan Kowalski	.....	Roger Hampton

At night, a man runs frightened through a college campus. He screams. Murphy is at his ten-year college reunion arm-wrestling with his old buddies when Annie (a believer in 'life forces' and similar southern California stuff) comes in asking him for help, remembering that he is a private detective. Her friend Dan Kowalski was supposed to meet her for dinner, but hasn't arrived. She heard him scream an hour ago. Murphy reassures that Dan probably just ran into an old friend and lost track of time. Then they find his body hanging from a flagpole.

Laura arrives on the scene, with Steele tagging along. After the usual exchange of unpleasantries between Murphy and Steele, Steele gets cocky, and challenges Laura to a bet. If he solves the case first, he gets to spend the weekend with her in Paris. Laura agrees to the bet (over Murphy's objections), demanding as her reward one year of the history of Steele's life.

Laura and Murphy talk to Annie, and when they mention that the body was hanging from a flagpole on the ROTC building, Annie recalls the events of ten years earlier. The gang (Annie, Nat, Lynette, Hector, Dan, and Tom) were going to break into the ROTC building and set off some fireworks from the roof as a protest. Annie's job was to distract the guard so they could get in. While she was waiting outside, an enormous explosion blew out the top floor, killing Tom Donovan. As for the other members, Hector wrote to say he was coming, and Nat Shavers (legendary underground activist) is probably still hiding somewhere.

Steele pokes around Dan's room and finds all sorts of poltergeist books. Then doors start slamming, lights flickering, blood pouring out of faucets. He sees a ghostly figure in the mirror, which then shatters. Steele high-tails it out of there.

At a reception, Laura talks to the homecoming queen posing to be a student, and Steele pulls her away. He tells her he's cracked the case: A ghost did it. Laura refuses to believe it, and Steele is pulled away by Dean Winfield. (Murphy had told him that the great detective Remington Steele was on the case.)

Laura and Murphy talk to Hector in the library, who says that he saw a ghost. Then he tells his version of the events of a decade ago: His job was to scale the wall, open the third-floor window, drop a rope and let the others in. While the others ran ahead, he painted slogans on the wall. Lynette came down to say that there were guards coming and they all rushed out. Just as they leave the building, Boom. After Hector finishes his story, they all see a ghost, and Laura and Murphy chase it, to no avail. When they return, they find that Hector has vanished.

Steele is talking to Dean Winfield about the case in the plaza and finds a clue: A nametag. As Dean Winfield describes how he discovered the body, they look up to find Hector's body hanging from the flagpole.

The next day, Murphy is upset that Laura now subscribes to the ghost theory. Steele claims to have solved the case, but gives no details. Murphy storms out, and after Laura also leaves, Steele reveals the killer's name to Annie: Tom Donovan, the name on the nametag. She tells him that Tom has been dead for ten years.

Laura catches a man breaking into her car and finds out that he is Charles Ryder, a.k.a. Nat Shavers. He tells his story: After Hector let them in, Tom and Lynette went onto the roof, and Nat went looking for incriminating files. Lynette said the bomb was nearly set and campus security was coming. Just as they rush out, Boom. Nat explains that the plan was to blow up the building, but they told Annie, Dan and Hector that they were just setting off fireworks to get them to go along with it.

Back at Dan's apartment, Steele finds wires running under the carpeting into the bathroom. There, he finds Murphy and Nat dismantling what's left of the electronic gadgetry that made it appear that there was a ghost. Steele finds a clue (an earring) and refuses to let Murphy see it.

Laura is talking to Annie when an intruder rushes out of the building. They give chase and are joined by Steele and Murphy, but the fellow just vanishes! Then Laura, then Steele vanish, too.

Laura and Steele find a secret panel in the kiosk which leads to an underground system of tunnels. Steele offers to call off the bet, and just award each other the prizes. They hear a noise up ahead and investigate. Steele lights a match and they get shot at. They chase the gunman through the passages and emerge out a trapdoor that leads to ... the women's dressing room. They apologize and return to the tunnels, where they catch Lynette.

Lynette joined a Hindu Kush in Afghanistan after graduating. Here's her story: After Nat left, Tom and she were supposed to go up to the roof. But instead, Tom went into an office, and she realized that he brought much more explosives than necessary. Tom set everyone up. He was going to blow up the entire building and make them all martyrs to the revolution. Lynette loved him, but hadn't noticed that he'd become more fanatic with each adventure. She thought about warning the others, but feared they wouldn't believe her. Knowing that if he didn't succeed, Tom would merely try again, she bashed him on the head, set the timer, and ran away, telling everyone to get out. When asked what she was doing in the tunnels, she says she hiding, was afraid that the killer would go after her next. She learned about the tunnels from Tom, who discovered them with his kid sister when she came for a visit. Laura believes her, since Lynette had no motive to kill anyone. And Steele realizes that Lynette doesn't wear jewelry.

Laura insists that the answer is somewhere in Annie's scrapbook, looking for someone with a motive and access to everything. She and Murphy see the photo of Tom and his kid sister and recognize her as the homecoming queen. They break into her dressing room and find Tom Donovan's jacket, a mask, and a wig. Independently, Steele recognizes the earring as the one worn by the homecoming queen in the publicity photos. They simultaneously capture her. She wanted to kill those who were responsible for Tom's death. "I'm sorry I didn't get them all!"

Back at Steele's apartment, he and Laura declare the bet a draw, and Steele offers to award each other half of the prizes. While they're getting cozy, the light bulb burns out—the work of Steele's ancestral ghost, perhaps?

Movies:

The Uninvited, Ray Milland, Gail Russell, Paramount 1944.

The Third Man, Orson Welles, London Films, 1949.

Notes:

Observant viewers might have begun to suspect the culprit when the trail led to the women's dressing room.

Bernice does not appear.

Some movie jokes, like "Mr. Yippie Goes to Washington" and "The Phantom of the Cinema".

02/25/83 10p The paintings of a vanished artist begin to soar in value as Laura and Steele search for the
 07/12/83 9p body, amid mounting evidence that the painter's demise may profit her estranged husband,
 and the gallery about to open her one-woman show.

Leo Blitzman	Phil Rubenstein
Marion Travis	Marilyn Jones
Teddy Bennett	Reid Smith
Nicholas Spriggs	Hansford Rowe
Noah Devereaux	Peter Vogt
Rina Casellis	Judith Anna Roberts
Giovanni	David Byrd
Darryl	Israel Jurabe
Fred	Blake Clark

At a party, the painter Rina Casellis makes a drunken scene, embarrassing her husband Teddy Bennett, as well as Marion Travis, another woman at the party. That evening, she is attacked by an unseen assailant.

Laura is at her sculpture class, working on a twisted piece of metal titled 'The Lovers'. Marion approaches her for help. They go to Rina's house, and Marion, who is in love with Teddy, wants Laura to clear Teddy's name. Teddy told the police he was with Marion the night of the murder, and Marion went along with the story.

At the office, Darryl, a different kind of painter, asks Steele what color he wants the office painted. While Steele contemplates the options, he answers the phone. It's for Laura. "This is Giovanni. Last night, how you say, she was magnifico." Laura comes in with Marion to discuss the case: Teddy married Rina for the money, and she was blackmailing him, though Marion doesn't know over what.

At the Spriggs gallery, Laura and Steele find a heated argument in the back room over an upcoming exhibition of Rina's works. They ask Spriggs about the party in question, and Noah Devereaux, art critic, steps forward, accusing Teddy. Spriggs notices a shady character, who runs out. Laura and Steele catch up to him: It's Leo Blitzman, private eye. They let Blitzman go, but follow him. During the chase, Laura notices that "It's almost as if they [Spriggs and Devereaux] were *expecting* her to die."

Leo leads them to a loft, where Teddy is hiding. Teddy hired Blitzman to prove Marion's innocence. Teddy says he couldn't have killed Rina for her money, since she was in financial trouble; demand for her paintings was dropping. When asked if he knows if there's anyone else who might want her dead, he admits he hadn't seen much of Rina lately; she was always at her secret hideaway where she does her painting. And the loft is being rented by Marion as a storage room.

While Laura and Steele look around Rina's house, Murphy calls and says that Rina was going blind. Laura wonders why, although there is blood spattered on the wall, none of it landed on her paintings, and Steele suggests that Rina staged her own murder to boost the value of her paintings.

On their way to meet Marion, Steele tries to clear the air, but when Laura realizes that Steele mistook Giovanni as her lover, she plays sarcastic, then spots a bug in the limo: Blitzman is following them. When they greet Marion at the loft, Steele discovers Rina's body.

At the office, Laura explains to Marion that Rina staged her own murder, but somebody found out and decided to make the a murder reality and absconded with the paintings. Unfortunately, the evidence points to Teddy as the likely culprit. When Murphy calls Laura away, Steele learns the truth about 'The Lovers' from Marion. Murphy reports that Teddy he embezzled money from Rina to pay off gambling debts. She found out about it, collected enough evidence to have him convicted, then blackmailed him. This doesn't bode well for their client.

Taking Laura home in the limo, Steele apologizes for being jealous about 'The Lovers', but pulls his own stunt to make Laura jealous. Laura returns home to find Teddy hiding there. Meanwhile, Steele finds Leo has broken into his apartment and made himself at home. Teddy went through Rina's things and found a contract. It says that Rina sold all her paintings, including the ones no one has seen yet, to a consortium. He hopes that this clears him, but Laura regrets that since he didn't know about the contract, this does not remove his motive for murder. Though it does expand the list of suspects. Laura suggests that Teddy spend the night with her, for safety's sake. Blitzman suggests that he and Steele team up, dump 'baby-doll', split the finder's fee, then go into business together. Steele shows Leo to the door.

The next day, Steele finds men's clothing on Laura's couch as they leave to see Spriggs, who called and said it was urgent. They arrive to find him dead. As they go through the slides of Rina's paintings, Steele recognizes the crossed palms and they go there to see if Rina's private hideaway is nearby. They find the house and catch Devereaux trying to run away. Devereaux planned the fake murder, and killed Spriggs when he threatened to go to the police. But he didn't kill Rina; after all, he doesn't know where the paintings are. Rina was on her way to get them when she was killed.

Laura deduces that the paintings must be in the loft. Steele finds them, and Leo suggests they sell them on the black market. Laura asks Blitzman where he got the key to get in; she has Teddy's, Marion had hers, and the police didn't find a key on Rina's body. Leo pulls a gun. He had come by to talk to Teddy, but found Rina. She refused his 50/50 deal and ran away, and he accidentally killed her. So Blitzman hooked up with Steele to find the paintings. Steele calmly takes the gun away.

Steele decides to paint the walls 'trustworthy grey', the same color they were originally. Marion and Teddy announce their engagement, and Laura and Steele share 'sixty seconds of total honesty'.

Movies:

Laura, Dana Andrews, Gene Tierney, Twentieth Century Fox, 1944.

It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World, United Artists, 1963. Spencer Tracy and a cadre of comics.

Notes:

Then opening act is loaded with clever juxtapositions.

18	Steele in the News	2717
Fred Lyle and Duncan Smith (and Michael Gleason)		Burt Brinckerhoff
03/04/83 10p	A saboteur in a TV studio makes the news team look like bumbling fools on the air. But	
07/26/83 9p	no one's laughing when the weatherman tumbles from the rafters, dead.	
Elliot Walsh	.....	J. D. Cannon
Hoop Tracy	.....	Maggie Roswell
Russel Stewart	.....	John Reilly
Amy	.....	Jenny O'Hara
Ed Greene	.....	Ron Frazier
?	.....	Richard Moll
?	.....	Alan Blumenfeld

Meanwhile, the station's gossip reporter is uncovering the truth about Remington Steele. Laura's hero, Elliot Walsh, is the culprit. He's angry that the "happy-talk" format of the news program isn't really journalism.

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03/15/83 9p A vintage caper involves Laura and Steele with a corpse that bobbed to the surface of a
08/02/83 9p wine vat and keeps resurfacing in apparently unrelated places.

Wilson Jeffries	David Huffman
Claude Vandermeer	James Widdoes
Alexis Vandermeer	Beverlee McKinsey
Werner Schumann	Michael Currie
Chester Harcourt	?
Brother Bartholomew	Michael O'Guinne
Reporter	?
Reporter	Luise Heath

At a press conference held at the Vandermeer wine factory, Wilson Jeffries is asked about the \$20 million loan to Claude Vandermeer to expand his winery. After fielding the question, he excuses himself and finds a body in one of the vats.

Steele arrives at work before Laura and takes Wilson into his office. Wilson babbles excitedly, but we manage to figure out that he's a banker, who suggested investing in Vandermeer Vineyard, but something went amiss. Laura arrives but steps back outside the second she sees Wilson. Upon further inspection, we learn that Wilson is the man Laura lived with. Wilson takes the pair outside to show them the body, but it's gone from the trunk of his car. They hop into Laura's car to retrace his steps, and head into wine country, passing by a field of toiling monks. They stop at the spot Wilson had pulled over to relieve himself, and Wilson explains he took the body because its discovery would prevent the loan from going through, and ruin his career in the process. But there is no sign of a body. A passing horse rears up at the sight of the car, and the rider is thrown off. She orders them to get the car out of sight.

Laura, Steele, and Wilson continue to the winery. (Wilson's presence has also had its effect on Laura's driving, which is now much more reckless.) They greet Claude, and Steele introduces himself as Nigel Lindsey-Woolsey, looking to do a feature in his wine book. Claude eagerly shows them around, and while he's off in his own world, Laura and Steele stumble upon the body, which had been hidden atop a conveyer belt. Before they can decide what to do next, Harcourt and the other bankers drop in. Laura sends Wilson and Claude ahead to stall them, while she and Steele struggle to stuff the body into a barrel. When the bankers come in, Laura and Steele still have an arm outstanding, so they arrange themselves to make it look like the arm is Steele's, draped around Laura's waist. Harcourt recognizes Laura, but can't quite place her face.

Laura and Steele roll the barrel outside, and Steele decides to name the body Harry, after the movie *The Trouble with Harry*. The equestrienne stops in and identifies herself as Alexis Vandermeer, Claude's mother. Assuming that they're with the bank, Alexis tells them that they're wasting their money. The land in the area is not suited to grapes. This year they just had a freak harvest. She's mad at Claude for squandering her money on the vineyard.

Laura and Steele roll the barrel into a shed, and after a brief chat, they return to find him rolling away down the hill. Harry bursts through a fence and is stopped by a gun-toting gentleman. Werner Schumann has been growing grapes for 40 years and is mad at Claude for hitting it big shortly after buying land in the area.

That evening at the winery, the bankers are engaged in drunken revelry (thanks to Claude's wine), while Laura, Steele, and Claude stand watch over the barrel. Laura figures the killer is placing the body in the winery to sabotage its expansion. Claude suspects his mother, who has always been out to undermine his success. The bankers wander in, and Harcourt spots the barrel and identifies it as 'fresh supplies'. Claude and Steele try to convince them to try another barrel, but Harcourt reminds them that he has final approval on the loan. Laura sits coyly atop the barrel. Harcourt then recognizes Laura as "the gal from Acapulco" Wilson had brought down for a convention. "She did the big fan dance on the bar!" ("The dance was big. The, uh, fans weren't," explains Laura.) The bankers start to roll the barrel away, and Laura steps in front of them. "Think Acapulco was fun? You ain't seen nothin' yet." While Laura keeps the bankers busy with a combined striptease/wild goose chase, somebody clonks Claude and gets away with the body. (During her mad dash through the winery, Laura literally bumps into a monk.)

The next day at the winery, Wilson remembers there is a monastery nearby, though Claude notes that the monks hardly ever leave the compound. Wilson figures that whoever has the body has planted it back in the winery, for it to be discovered at an inopportune moment. Laura privately talks to Wilson, bitter at him for breaking up with her. Laura, Steele, and Wilson find barrel tracks leading into the warehouse and head inside. Steele figures it was Werner who took the body, since he was the only one with a truck. Inside, Laura and Steele dodge some falling barrels and rush outside to see Werner's pickup speeding off, with a barrel in the bargo bin.

They pursue in Laura's car, and find an empty barrel by the side of the road. Laura finds a rope belt nearby and suspects there's a connection to the monastery. That evening, Laura and Wilson chat while Steele searches for a way to break into the monastery. Steele finds one, and he and Laura break in. They don clerical robes, then look behind them to find that they're playing follow-the-leader with a group of monks, and they're the leaders. They duck into a room and find... the body atop an altar.

They beat a hasty retreat and hide in the basement, which is a wine cellar. Steele helps himself to a bottle, and suspects the monks want to sabotage the winery because they have a winery of their own. Laura finds the wine very familiar. Laura wonders out loud, "Think there's any danger in feeling too much too soon?" and kisses Steele, but they are interrupted by a monk who happens downstairs. The monk hands them a card, indicating that he's taken a vow of silence. So they play charades and learn that the dead man was their abbot, but the monk doesn't know who did it or why. Laura has a plan to find out more.

The abbot's body is lying in a field, with Laura, Steele, the monk, and Wilson hiding in the bushes. Steele has let the rumor spread that the body has been found, so it's a just a matter of time to see who comes to pick him up. They hear a twig snap and catch Werner. Steele concludes that he murdered the abbot and used the body to sabotage Claude. But Werner denies it. Yes, it was he who stole the barrel, but with the intent of studying Claude's wine. To his surprise, he found a body inside. So he hid it in the warehouse and tried to scare off Laura and Steele when he thought they were going to accuse him. Laura admits that Werner's story makes sense; if he was going to kill anyone, why not just kill Claude directly?

They hear someone else coming, and it's Mrs. Vandermeer. Steele accuses her of killing the abbot and using him to sabotage Claude. But she denies it as well. She saw Wilson with the body and stole it from his car. She saw her chance to undermine Claude and planted it in the winery. That was the extent of her relationship with Harry.

They hear another person coming; it's Claude, wearing the abbot's robe. Steele inadvertently identifies the wine as the monks' and not Claude's, and realizes he's solved the case. Laura explains. Claude knew as well as Werner that the land wasn't suited for grapes; he intended to abscond with the \$20 million. Claude admits he started buying wine from the abbot a few years ago, and entered some under his own label at a competition. He didn't expect it to win first prize. The abbot didn't want to go along with Claude's expansion scheme, and threatened to expose the whole thing. Claude hid the body in the vat until he could dispose of it properly.

The next day, Harry is given a proper burial. Wilson bids Laura farewell, and Steele asks Laura about her fan dance.

Movies:

The Trouble with Harry, Paramount 1955.

Rasputin and the Empress MGM 1932. John, Lionel and Ethel Barrymore.

Notes:

Murphy does not appear.

20

Steele’s Gold

2723

R. J. Stewart

Burt Brinckerhoff

03/22/83 9p At an “Old California” party, where the sleuths are working security, a legendary prospector’s journal is stolen and a guest is stabbed to death, whose dying words spark a fevered gold rush—led by Laura, Steele, and Murphy.
08/23/83 9p

Emmett James Callahan
Sylvia Lois de Banzie
Kitty Barbara Stock
Chance McCormick William Russ
Felix Ellis Ren

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Gary Kott

Seymour Robbie

04/05/83 9p Efrem Zimbalist, Jr. and daughter Stephanie make droll antagonists as con man extraordinaire Daniel Chalmers and his pursuer Laura Holt, who is astonished to find him working a stylish sting with Steele, his one-time protege—all the while making an equally polished play for her mother.

Daniel Chalmers	.....	Efrem Zimbalist, Jr.
Abigail Holt	.....	Beverly Garland
Albert Hoskins	.....	John Orchard
Major	.....	Peter Bromilow
[Airplane] Salesman	.....	Robert Denison
Roulette man?	.....	Gerry Gibson
Leon Pinsky?	.....	Derek Partridge
Bailey?	.....	Raymond Skipp
Casino assistant	.....	Jim Jansen

Daniel Chalmers and The Major are in a London gambling casino. The Major places a substantial bet, and Chalmers pulls out his hearing aid and fiddles with it, swearing all the while. The man running the roulette wheel presses a button under the table, and the ball hops into a losing pocket. Then Chalmers fiddles some more, and the ball hops into the number the Major had bet on. When this happens a second time, one of Hoskins's assistants informs him that somebody is cheating. Hoskins, the owner, is dumbfounded. "How can that be? Customers don't cheat us, we cheat them." The Major cashes the chips for 200 000 pounds, and switches the bag with Chalmers before he is called in to see Hoskins. Hoskins extracts Chalmers's name from him before killing him.

Hoskins arrives in Los Angeles and hires the Agency to locate Chalmers. His story is that Chalmers won a lot of money from him at his casino, and he wasn't able to pay him off. So he's trying to find him so he can pay him the difference and even the score. Laura gets a buzz from Bernice: Steele has called in with the flu, and Laura's mother is here. Laura scoots Hoskins out and hides her mother (now sobbing uncontrollably) in Steele's office. She calls Steele to check up on him.

Steele answers the phone in the limo, far from ill. He's at the airport picking up Chalmers, who swindled a free ride in a private plane pretending to be interested in purchasing one. Meanwhile, Abigail tells her story. She hadn't seen anyone since Laura's father took off, until recently. She met a Dr Harvey Fennerman and the two spent a lot of time together. They were planning to go off and spend a weekend together, until he suggested that he bring his wife along.

Laura (and Abigail) go to the hotel where Chalmers is staying and break into his room, and Abigail finds a notepad with lots of phone numbers jotted on it. Meanwhile, Chalmers tells Steele what happened. He did it to finance his retirement in the south of France, but things went sour. So he now has a plan to get back at Hoskins. Chalmers used his contacts to 'recommend' that Hoskins hire the Agency, and Steele planted assorted phone numbers in the hotel room. Just then, Laura and Abigail arrive at the apartment, and Steele hides Chalmers in the kitchen. But Abigail finds Chalmers, who introduces himself as 'Colonel Reginald Froebish, Tenth Royal Hoosars'. Laura informs Steele that they have a new client, Albert Hoskins.

That evening, Chalmers and Steele (as sports bookie Jake Tucker and Johnny Todd) rough up a fellow (really, one of Chalmers's men) who fell behind on his payments to Tucker. Hoskins is there, and Chalmers swindles him out of \$1000 at darts. The next day, Laura briefs Hoskins on what she's found. The numbers in the hotel room were to yacht brokers, gambling equipment houses, and an upholsterer. Hoskins is not impressed and demands to see Steele. Laura leaves in a huff, and Steele comes in, as Johnny Todd. He asks Hoskins to help him get himself loose from Tucker. He explains that he has a source that can get sports results before Tucker's own sources, and therefore can place the bet for a sure win. He needs Hoskins to place the bet for him. Hoskins agrees to listen some more.

Back at the office, Abigail is on cloud nine and shows Laura some roses that she received from Reginald. Then Abigail gets a phone call and asks Laura to leave. Bernice tells Laura that it's from Reginald. Meanwhile, Steele has brought Hoskins to see Leon Pinsky, the man with the satellite dish. Hoskins is impressed and agrees to go along, demanding half of the winnings for his trouble.

Laura and Murphy break into Steele's apartment and poke through Chalmers' suitcase. They find the wig and hearing aid, as well as Chalmers' assorted passports. On the yacht Chalmers has all set up, he and

Steele reminisce about the good old days. Then Steele is called in by Laura who confronts him with the information she's found. Steele explains what's really going on. Laura agrees to the plan. Later that evening, Laura stops by Steele's apartment to find (to her shock) Chalmers and Abigail having dinner together. While Abigail is shunted to the kitchen, Laura extracts from Chalmers some background on Steele and asks that Chalmers say good-bye to her mother, gently but firmly. Chalmers agrees. Abigail returns and hustles Laura out the door.

Back at the yacht, the next act in the play unfolds. Hoskins comes in and Steele gives him the results. But before he can place the bet, Laura barges in demanding to talk to 'Chalmers'. Hoskins hides (fearing 'Chalmers' will recognize him) and misses placing the bet. Abigail barges in and has a heated argument with Chalmers before she is hauled out.

The next day, Hoskins is moving out of his hotel room, and Steele (Johnny Todd) catches him and asks what the deal is. Hoskins says he's found what he's after and is leaving. Johnny's problem is his own. He goes to see 'Steele' (really, Murphy playing the rôle) who explains that Chalmers is going under the name of Jake Tucker. On the yacht, Steele gets a call from Hoskins: He's back in the game. Steele calls Laura to set up the next stage of the sting.

Laura calls Hoskins to the office and gives her "I do the work, he takes the bows" speech. She then explains that she needs money to start her own agency and break away from Steele, and that she was the one who really found Chalmers. Hoskins pays her \$5000 for further information on Chalmers. She says that Chalmers has complete dossier on him, believes that he killed a friend of his, and then when Hoskins sets foot on the yacht, he's going to even the score. Hoskins is angry, "How did he know I was coming back?" "Don't you think he's missed the wig and hearing aid by now?"

That evening, Hoskins pays his last visit to the yacht. He wants to bet \$50,000 on the Manchester game to get his money back. Steele (Johnny Todd) objects, but Hoskins insists. Just as he's about to place the bet, Abigail barges in, upset, and shoots Chalmers, then starts firing indiscriminately. Steele ushers Hoskins out the back door and sends him on his way to the airport. 'It was almost worth 50,000 to see Chalmers dead and gone.' One Hoskins is gone, Chalmers gets up, and everybody applauds, except for Laura, who is dumbfounded.

At Steele's apartment, they recap the scam. Hoskins thinks Chalmers dead and won't go after him, and his gun is being sent to London where it will be used as evidence to prove that he killed the Major.

Movies:

Thirty Seconds over Tokyo

The episode is based on *The Sting*.

Notes:

Note that Chalmers speaks with an American accent when not pretending to be British.

It's also amusing that Laura uses the alias 'Myrtle Groggins' that Steele made up for her back in 'Steele Trap'.

04/12/83 9p It's touch and go as Laura and Remington try to thwart repeated attempts by a bank employee to end it all because he "borrowed" \$50,000 for a few days to help a damsel in distress, only to have both the dough and the damsel disappear.

Alfred R. Hollis	John Doolittle
Angelica da Gama	Gina Gallego
Horace Erskin	Richard Kuss
Sherry Webster	Patsy Pease
Boutique owner?	Amanda McBroom
Bank assistant?	Martin Azarow
Gun shop owner?	John Edwards
Mr. Cutler?	Thomas Newman
Mrs. Thackett?	Adele Rosse
Punk?	Ken Gibbel

Alfred Hollis works at the Federal Reserve Bank, in charge of money destruction. He very nervously signs out \$2.3 million during lunch Friday and hides it under the front seat of his car. When work lets out, he finds his car has been stolen.

Saturday morning, Steele's arrival at the office is delayed by a flat tire. While Laura tries to calm the prospective client, Steele stops Alfred from jumping off the bridge. He hustles Alfred into the office and gets rid of Mr. Cutler. Alfred explains that his girlfriend, Angelica, a recent immigrant from Spain, opened a novelty boutique and needed \$50,000 to show her creditors. Her money in Spain was tied up in paperwork, so Alfred agreed to 'borrow' the money from the bank just for the weekend.

They go with Alfred to see Angelica, but find her apartment empty, and the landlady explains that the residents (not Angelica) have been on vacation for several weeks. Alfred runs to the roof, sees Angelica, and falls off (luckily, onto a ledge). Laura notices that a newspaper in the apartment is only a week old. Alfred realizes he's been a mark in a scam and tries to leap out of the car, but they stop him.

Laura and Steele leave Alfred in Murphy's care, interrupting his weekend fling with Sherry. Sherry, who happens to be a psychology Ph.D (although she told Murphy she was a stewardess), consoles Alfred. Laura and Steele go to the punk boutique Angelica allegedly owned ('Broken Promises'), to find that she was merely an employee, and was fired recently. They find a telephone number, and Alfred recognizes it as a bank number.

They take Alfred to the bank (posing as his cousins from Cleveland) and trace the number to J. P. Whitcomb, the district supervisor, the man who promoted Alfred. The office is very sparse, and there is only one address in the appointment calendar. When Alfred realizes that his promotion was solely in order to pull off the scam, he runs out. He stands under a construction elevator, but is unharmed. Then an unseen gunman takes a shot at him, and he runs off.

At three in the morning, Laura, Steele, Murphy, and Sherry gather at the office. Steele proposes various places to look for Alfred (based on movies) and Sherry joins in: She minored in cinema. Murphy and Sherry set off in search of Alfred, while Laura and Steele go to 'Lingerie', a nightclub where Angelica allegedly hung out. They find her and learn that she was forced to go along with the scam by Whitcomb, lest she be deported back to Mexico.

In the morning, Angelica leads them back to the bridge where Steele rescued Alfred, and they find him down below, asleep. They follow up on the address in Whitcomb's calendar: A gun dealer. Angelica identifies a police service revolver as the gun Whitcomb used to threaten her. Murphy reports that Whitcomb is dead, and Alfred recognizes the scrap of paper Steele used to jot down the address as the paper they use to wrap 'dead' money.

That evening, Laura and Steele break into the Federal Reserve Bank with the aid of Murphy and Sherry (who knows how to operate the crane). They find the money hidden in the ceiling of Whitcomb's office. Erskin finds them and holds them at gunpoint. He forged Whitcomb's signature on the promotion. Erskin is disarmed in a daring struggle.

Monday morning, Bernice opens the office to find Alfred and Angelica leaving, arm in arm, then Murphy and Sherry, then Laura and Steele. Steele explains the weekend's events, but Bernice doesn't believe him.

Movies:

Gaslight, Charles Boyer, Ingrid Bergman, MGM, 1944.

A Star is Born, Frederick March

Anna Karenina, Greta Garbo

The Music Lovers, Richard Chamberlain

Pennies from Heaven

Notes:

On the opening, when you see hands riffling through what is supposed to be a wad of hundred-dollar bills, one of them is a one-dollar bill.

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Second Season (1983–1984)

Remington Steele

Starring

Stephanie Zimbalist [as Laura Holt]

and

Pierce Brosnan [as Remington Steele]

[on opening credits]

Also starring

Doris Roberts as Mildred Krebs

Theme music by Henry Mancini

Musical score by Richard Lewis Warren

Created by

Michael Gleason and Robert Butler

Executive Producer

Michael Gleason

09/20/83 9p The second-season opener finds Laura and Remington in Mexico, after a tuna stuffed with diamonds and wrapped in an Acapulco newspaper is dropped on her doorstep by a dying man. As a deadly smuggling conspiracy emerges, they're abetted by Mildred Krebs, an IRS auditor dogging Steele.

Alexander Sebastien	David Warner
Paul Dominick	Vincent Baggetta
Captain Rios	Pedro Armendariz, Jr.
Jack Merkle	Ray Girardin
George Plummer	Jack Blessing
Hector Figueroa	Fausto Bara
Secretary	Chloé Webb

We see safes being cracked in Cairo, London, and Amsterdam, and diamonds being stolen. We cut to San Diego, where a teenage boy wanders the nighttime streets carrying a package, then is chased and shot by an unseen gunman. The next morning, Laura answers her front door, and the boy falls, dead, into her living room.

Meanwhile, the office is crawling with secretaries waiting to be interviewed for the position vacated by Bernice. Mildred marches in and demands to see Steele. She's here to audit the agency and notes that the IRS seems to have lost Steele's tax return and asks to see Steele's copy. Steele excuses himself and calls Laura, who asks that he come to see her. He sneaks out.

The dead man is carrying the papers of Laura's cleaning lady's son, and the package is a tuna. Maria (the cleaning lady) comes in and insists that the man is not her son. Steele cuts open the tuna to find it stuffed with diamonds.

They return to the office and Laura apologizes for the delay. When Laura realizes that they need Steele's tax return, she confers with Steele in her office. Laura gets a phone call from the Coast Guard. Hector's tuna boat was in Acapulco three days ago; the newspaper is from an Acapulco paper; the key they found on the boy's body is from the Acapulco Princess Hotel. Laura leaves for Acapulco, and Steele tells Mildred he didn't file a return because he didn't earn any income. Mildred replies that if she finds a single personal item in his apartment, she's going to bust him.

Laura arrives in Acapulco and the hotel clerk identifies the dead man as Pedro Campos, a bellman at the hotel. She asks for room 2009 (the room on the key) and is embarrassed to find that it's the honeymoon suite and it's booked solid. Meanwhile, a suspicious-looking man follows Laura around, pretending to be Martin Ring.

Laura goes into the residential area in search of Pedro and makes no progress, owing to her inability to speak Spanish. Bad guys in a passing car grab her, but she manages to get away and bumps into Ring.

Late at night, Steele gets a call from Hector. When Hector learns that Pedro is dead, he apologizes and tells Laura to stay away, lest she get killed. He then hangs up suddenly. Steele thinks for a moment, then books a flight to Acapulco as Michael O'Leary.

Laura is being helped by Captain Rios who says he'll take over the search. Martin Ring can be seen lurking in the background.

The next day, Mildred comes just as Steele is leaving. When she sees the plane reservation, she grabs her bags and dashes out.

Alexander Sebastien promises a buyer that his diamonds will be smuggled into the United States that evening. Dominick tells Sebastien that a woman is snooping around Campos's place, and Sebastien tells Dominick that that's his problem.

A couple checks out of the honeymoon suite, and Dominick pays off the porter to get into their room. He smuggles diamonds inside their luggage, but is interrupted by the wife who returned for her watch. Later, Laura finds George Plummer trying to get back into the room. She uses her key to get in and they find nobody inside. While they talk downstairs, Steele pops in. He and Laura trade information, and Steele dashes out when Captain Rios appears.

Laura detours the next occupants of the suite and Steele books it. Mildred marches in and Steele pretends she's his wife to keep her quiet. Back up in the room, Steele knocks her out when she picks up the phone to call her supervisor. Laura arrives and they tie up Mildred.

Hector has turned up—in jail. As Laura leaves to see him, we see Mr. Bloustein insisting that he didn't cancel their reservation. Laura leaves in a cab, Martin Ring follows her, and Steele follows him. In prison, Hector tells all he knows: Pedro was part of a smuggling ring. They'd hide diamonds in tourists' luggage, then recover them after they'd successfully negotiated customs. But Pedro decided to keep some for himself. Two guys roughed up Hector demanding to know what the story was, and he is now hiding in jail so they can't get to him. The only lead Hector has is a nightclub called 'Pepe's', where Pedro picked up the diamonds.

Laura leaves the jail and Steele joins her. He points out that Ring has been following her all day. The two stroll through town to try to lose him, eventually leading him into a bullfighting ring. Ring is left alone in the ring, and a bull comes in. (To be continued.)

Movies:

The Maltese Falcon

The Bride of Frankenstein

Notes:

Inside joke fun: Pedro Armendariz, Jr. appears in the episode in which Laura mentions his father.

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Steele Away With Me (Part 2)

3709B

Michael Gleason

Seymour Robbie

09/20/83 10p The second-season opener finds Laura and Remington in Mexico, after a tuna stuffed with diamonds and wrapped in an Acapulco newspaper is dropped on her doorstep by a dying man. As a deadly smuggling conspiracy emerges, they're abetted by Mildred Krebs, an IRS auditor dogging Steele.

Alexander Sebastien	David Warner
Paul Dominick	Vincent Baggetta
Captain Rios	Pedro Armendariz, Jr.
Jack Merkle	Ray Girardin
George Plummer	Jack Blessing
Hector Figueroa	Fausto Bara

Laura and Steele trap Ring and find out that he's really Jack Merkle from U.S. Customs. He considers Laura a suspect in the recent \$250 million diamond heists. When they're done with him, Laura and Steele do a little bullfighting so he can get away.

Upon returning to the hotel, they untie Mildred and tell her about the case. But she is not impressed and views Laura's offer to hire her as bribery. She asks to call her supervisor. Laura and Steele confer and Steele is encouraged by the 10% finder's fee. Mildred reports that she has been suspended for dereliction of duty.

That evening, Laura and Steele have dinner at a restaurant. They talk about their relationship and Steele explains why Captain Rios is after him: The fifth piece of the Marchesa Collection was stolen, and Steele stole them back. Throughout, they are interrupted by guitar players all playing the same song. They leave just as Mildred arrives.

Later that evening, Steele finds the diamonds hidden in the luggage, but the conversation turns to their relationship again. They are interrupted when a porter comes in and takes the luggage. They try to stop him, but he gets away. They call Mildred in the lobby, who catches the license plate and traces it to Dominick.

They go to Pepe's, to find it closed and abandoned. It rekindles Laura's memories of Acapulco (and Steele brings up her fan dance). Steele observes that they're being followed, and they suspect that Peggy and the diamonds are being kept there. Steele proposes that Laura infiltrate the bad guys. He explains the movie *Notorious*, and when they return to the hotel, 'Richard Blaine' is paged. Laura helps him get away from Captain Rios.

That evening, Mildred brings a change of clothes for Steele (who jumped into a pool to get away from Rios' men) at a nightclub. They join Laura and Merkle to put their plan into action. Merkle identifies Dominick and describes him as major Chicago underground figure. The show goes on, with Laura playing a high-flying playgirl.

The next day, Steele and Mildred watch Dominick rubbing suntan lotion on Laura on Sebastian's boat. Later, Laura and Steele discuss the situation, and Steele is none too pleased as Laura seems to be relishing her rôle. Laura has been invited to a party at Sebastian's villa. At the party, Laura is drugged and taken to a bedroom for safekeeping.

The next morning, Steele is concerned that Laura hasn't returned and goes to Sebastian's villa. He finds only Laura's shoes. Steele steals some air parachuting equipment and, with Mildred driving the tow boat, floats into Pepe's, subdues two guards, and finds Laura and Peggy, unconscious. He wakes up Laura and they subdue yet another guard. They can't revive Peggy, so they drag her away.

When they get out, they see Sebastian's boat offshore and realize that's how the diamonds are getting smuggled. Laura tells Mildred to call Captain Rios, and she and Steele 'borrow' a boat and sneak aboard Sebastian's boat. There, they knock out the captain, and Steele steers the boat in circles to make the occupants below deck seasick and force them to come up. The plan works, but Merkle pops up and holds Laura at gunpoint. He's not really Merkle, but rather the guy who runs the smuggling ring. He tells her to call Steele out, but she tips off Steele that something is amiss and together they subdue Merkle.

Back in Los Angeles, Laura and Steele are still interviewing for secretaries, and Mildred comes in. She comes with the necessary papers to get Steele squared away with the IRS. She says she was discharged for dereliction of duty, and Laura agrees to hire her as their secretary-receptionist, to Steele's dismay.

Movies:

Notorious, Cary Grant, Ingrid Bergman, RKO 1946.

Casablanca, Humphrey Bogart

Key Largo, Humphrey Bogart, Lauren Bacall, Warner Brothers 1948.

Notes:

Mildred muses, "It's like a James Bond movie!" The use of music from the James Bond movies only helped fan rumors that Brosnan was in the running for the rôle of 007. (Ironically, Brosnan was forced to back out because MTM wouldn't let him out of his *Remington Steele* contract.)

The music in the nightclub is Michael Jackson's 'Beat It', sans vocals, of course.

Continuity fun: When Steele breaks into Sebastian's villa, it is at night. But when he goes to the bedroom, it's sunset. And when he returns to talk to Mildred, it's in broad daylight. (The scene takes place in mid-morning.)

The close-ups of Steele with the parachute show the tow rope pulled taut, even though Mildred already cut the tow rope. And when he lands in Pepe's, the tow rope has mysteriously vanished.

Lee David Zlotoff

Kevin Connor

09/27/83 9p Laura's house is blown sky high during her investigation into the corporate skullduggery that's undermining a widow's battle to keep her husband's aircraft company aloft.

R. J. Stonewell	Barbara Cason
Greg Keever	Thomas Randall Oglesby
Frannie Kuchelski	Audrie J. Neenan
Stuart Thorpe	Lewis Arquette
Eldon Veckmer	Joel Polis
Paul?	Richard Brestoff
Assistant?	James Horan
Real estate agent	Dee Dee Rescher
Fred	Blake Clark
?	James Edgcomb
Waiter	Raye Birk

While Laura goes jogging in the park, Steele is poised on a hilltop with a camera. The two eavesdrop on a meeting between Stuart Thorpe and two unidentified businessmen. Money changes hands, then the men notice Laura nearby and chase her. Steele rescues her.

At her house, Laura rests her feet and reads *The Great American Movie Book*. Mildred arrives with the photos, but refuses to show them to anyone but The Boss. Steele arrives, and leaves with Laura to see their client, R. J. Stonewell. She suspects sabotage in her airplane manufacturing company and has hired Steele to obtain courtroom evidence that Keever (one of her employees) and Thorpe (her main competitor) are behind it. She identifies Keever as one of the men in the photos, but doesn't know the other man.

On their way home after an evening on the town, Laura and Steele get a phone call: R. J. has dropped the case. They find this very unusual. Fred drops them off at Laura's house, and she and Steele escape with their lives when Laura's house blows.

The following morning, the house is reduced to little more than ashes, and Frannie from the gas company stops by to ask Laura some questions to confirm that a gas leak was not responsible for the explosion. Laura is too upset to answer any questions. She rushes off to see R. J. and demand to know why she dropped the case. "A man called," she explains. "Men like that don't usually give their names."

When Laura returns to Steele's apartment, he leaves her there to calm down, then leaves to follow Thorpe. He accosts Thorpe at a restaurant and makes it abundantly clear that he takes great exception to someone trying to kill a member of his firm. Thorpe goes to Veckmer and complains about the bombing. Veckmer agrees that murder is going a bit too far, and Thorpe leaves.

Steele returns to the apartment to find it empty, and finds Keever's address scribbled on a note pad. When he goes there, he finds paramedics carting away Thorpe's dead body after he apparently jumped from the building. Steele confronts Keever, who admits that he gave Thorpe some preliminary plans in exchange for \$10,000, but he did this because R. J. wasn't paying him anything for months and he needed the money. Laura and Steele rent an apartment across the street from Keever's so they can keep an eye on him.

Mildred comes up with background on Veckmer, and Laura explains that she and Steele are more or less partners. On their way out, Laura is kidnapped by Frannie: She is working for Veckmer. But Laura escapes. Laura and Steele watch Keever's place and follow him as he is taken away by Veckmer's men. They follow him to Enterpro, and Steele places a phone call just as they arrive. Laura distracts the guard, and they sneak in. They find the computer room: Veckmer has step-by-step plans to destroy R. J. and all the other of Thorpe's enemies. Veckmer is a corporate hit-man. Veckmer's men find them, and just as they're about to shoot him, they hear a police helicopter above and run out. When they get outside, Laura and Steele thank R. J. for coming with her helicopter.

Movies:

The Great American Movie Book, Paul Michael (editor), Prentice-Hall, 1980.
It Happened One Night, Claudette Colbert, Clark Gable, Columbia 1934.

Notes:

The creative decision to blow up Laura's house was so that they could move her into the loft and to have an excuse for completely overhauling her wardrobe.

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Jeff Melvoin

Alexander Singer

10/11/83 9p A terrified client doesn't know his own name, much less why someone is trying to kill him,
 04/10/84 10p but a fake funeral arranged by Laura and Remington produces five suspects—each claiming
 to be the man's widow.

Frank Dannon	Fred McCarren
Mary Howell Dannon	Monique Van De Ven
Nancy Stinson Dannon	Delta Burke
Barbara Troy Dannon	Jane Kaczmarek
Terry Lowell Dannon?	Carole Ita White
Stella Martino Dannon?	Clara Perryman
Store Proprietor	Sam Anderson

A man wakes up from a nightmare in a motel room, and looks around confusedly. He goes over to the phone and an arrow narrowly misses him.

At the office, Laura reluctantly helps Mildred shuffle files around. Steele comes in and Laura tells him that he must tell Mildred who really runs the agency. Frank Dannon comes in and asks them to find . . . himself. He has amnesia and can't remember anything. But he does produce the arrow that was shot at him. They trace the arrow to 'Weapon World', a military hardware store for survival-minded folks. While they talk to the proprietor, an unseen figure loads up an automated machine gun and switches it on.

They hold a fake funeral service for Frank. Five women arrive, and when the minister asks the widow to step forward, they all do. Back at the office, Frank has flashback of his nightmare, but says he can't see who is trying to kill him, but it's a woman. Steele concludes that Frank's dream is the key, if only Frank could get past his memory block.

At a little get-together for the widows, Laura plays the distraught fiancée and Steele the attorney Sterling Gilette who is handling the will. We learn that Frank maintained five separate households. To Terry, he was a history professor. To Stella, a truck driver. To Barbara, an antique dealer. To Mary, an aerospace engineer. And to Nancy, a neurosurgeon. Meanwhile, Mildred is keeping an eye on Frank in Steele's apartment, but he gives her the slip and sneaks out.

Laura observes that Barbara has a gun in her purse, and Steele notes that Nancy is more concerned with her inheritance than Frank's passing. The doorbell rings, and when Stella answers it, Frank says "Hi, everybody." Everybody screams, and Stella starts strangling him.

Steele escorts the (very upset) ladies out as Mildred comes in. Laura scolds Frank for ruining everything. As Steele takes Frank to his apartment for safekeeping, they are shot at. Steele finds a bell trinket in the gutter. At Steele's apartment, Frank's memory starts to come back, and he and Steele talk about making commitments. Frank goes into the bedroom, where Nancy is hiding behind the curtain.

Laura goes to see Barbara and asks to see the gun. Barbara says she owes Frank everything, especially for loosening her up when she had her mind totally devoted to her business. When Laura opens the purse, the gun is missing.

Nancy and Frank are getting friendly, and Steele comes in and accuses Nancy of being interested only in the inheritance. Frank asks her, "Same old cash problem, eh, Nance?"

Laura returns to her loft, where Stella holds her at gunpoint. Laura talks her down, and Stella says she's upset because she knows she's going to lose Frank, since she's the least attractive of the lot. They chat about what it's like being in love with a man with so many secrets. Laura notes that the gun Stella lifted from Barbara has not been fired.

Steele decides the safest place for Frank now is in his office, and he leaves Mildred to keep an eye on him. Mildred tenders her resignation, embarrassed over her previous failure to keep tabs on Frank. Steele talks to her and tells her that Laura is the real detective; he is just a figurehead. Mildred is won over and stays. Outside by the fountain, Steele and Laura discuss recent events and share some time together.

The next day, they rule out Nancy, Stella, and Barbara as suspects, leaving Terry and Mary. Steele suspects Terry, and Laura suspects Mary. Frank recognizes the bell trinket as something he gives all his wives.

They go to see Mary and admire her bracelet. They leave Frank with Mary and go to see Terry. But Terry also has a bracelet and points to their wedding date engraved inside. They check the date on the

trinket they found and dash out. At Mary's place, Frank sees the things around the house, and they all remind him of the dream. He remembers more of the dream and realizes it's Mary who tried to kill him. He gets up to leave, but Mary traps him with a crossbow. Laura and Steele arrive in the nick of time.

In the next day's paper, they find that Mary had murdered seven of her previous husbands, all for their money. Frank thanks the sleuths for their help and leaves. In the waiting room are his four remaining wives, who take him away. Mildred tells Laura about the conversation she had with Steele the previous night, but she thinks it was just a ploy to keep her spirits up.

Movies:

Spellbound, Gregory Peck, Ingrid Bergman, Selsnik International 1945.

Robin Hood

Sands of Iwo Jima, John Wayne, Republic 1949.

Mirage, Gregory Peck, Walter Matthau, Universal 1965.

Notes:

When Laura stops the arrow with a dictionary, if you watch carefully, you'll notice that she's just flinching from an arrow pre-stuck inside the book. (Duh. You think they'd have Stephanie do a dangerous stunt herself?)

Brian Alan Lane

Sheldon Larry

10/18/83 9p Speeding to a rendezvous, Remington hits a man. An accident? The evidence tells Laura
05/29/84 10p that Remington was being blackmailed by the victim.

Henry Spellman/Major Descoine	Guy Boyd
Detective Jimmy Jarvis	Gary Frank
Salesman (Sherman)	Archie Hahn
Carlos	Rod Corbin
Teller	Lynne Stewart
Bank Clerk	Gamy L. Taylor

In the dark of night, a man walks to a pay phone by the side of the road and asks for the number of Remington Steele Investigations.

Laura pops a cork of champagne to celebrate the anniversary of Steele’s appearance and hints of an exciting evening ahead of them. But she was referring to attending a computer class with Mildred. Steele invents an excuse not to go. Steele answers the phone, from a Mr. Spellman who says he’s in grave danger, and he asks to meet him at the Covington Inn. Driving Laura’s car to meet Spellman, Steele crashes into a body on the highway. He tells a passing ice cream truck driver (whom we recognize as Spellman) to call the police. Later, Laura arrives on the scene and Steele explains what happened. A policeman apologizes that they haven’t been able to find the ice cream truck driver, and he identifies the dead man as Henry Spellman.

Laura takes Steele home and offers to spend the night with him for comfort, but Steele says he can manage. He gets a call from Julia Spellman, Henry’s widow. She says she doesn’t blame him, and suggests they meet at the morgue when she claims the body. The next day, Laura and Steele go to the morgue, where the attendant asks where the accident took place. He notes, “It shouldn’t be that cold up there.” They spot Mrs. Spellman, who yells, “You killed him! . . . You’ll get yours, Steele, just like Henry, just like MacIntyre.” Mrs. Spellman returns home and reveals that she is really Spellman in disguise.

Detective James Jarvis stops by the office, excited to meet the great Remington Steele. Accident reports aren’t his department, but when he saw the opportunity, he leaped. Steele claimed that Spellman was to meet him at the Covington Inn, but the Covington burned down six weeks ago. Jarvis leaves, and Laura asks him, “What department *do* you work for?” Jarvis replies, “Homicide.”

Laura and Steele pay a visit to the Spellman Hat Company. Laura finds a file folder labelled, “Steele, Remington.” Steele finds Spellman’s appointment book, which is filled with entries like “Meeting with Remington Steele at Steele’s apartment.” An elderly gentleman comes in and gives Laura a flower. When he learns of Spellman’s death, the man mutters, “I warned him not to push Steele. There are other ways to get money like that.” But he refuses to talk further and leaves. Laura and Steele leave, and the old man returns. He takes off his disguise (it’s Spellman) and calls Detective Jarvis.

At the office, Mildred is pleased that she finally straightened out Steele’s checkbook snafu. Laura goes through the file folder and finds a newspaper headline, “MacIntyre Slain.” Mildred explains that Steele has another checking account, on which he drew checks to the Spellman Hat Company. Laura asks Mildred to continue looking into the numbers on Spellman’s phone bill. Meanwhile, Steele calls his fencing partner to establish an alibi, but Carlos says that after Steele left, a man named Spellman called to apologize for missing their meeting. Once Carlos hangs up, Jarvis asks to talk to him.

Laura shows Steele the file she found. MacIntyre and an unknown accomplice pulled a \$100,000 jewelry heist, and as the police closed in, MacIntyre was found dead. The accomplice was never caught. This was exactly ten days before Steele appeared. There are also copies of phone bills documenting calls from Spellman to Steele, and the phone company says that Steele returned the calls. Laura says it looks like Spellman somehow found out about the theft and was blackmailing Steele. Steele can’t think of anyone in his past that would go to all this trouble to frame him. Mildred comes in and tells them she found a safe deposit box in Spellman’s name.

They go to Palmer Bank, where Mildred pretends to be an IRS agent and gets access to the box. They find the blackmail money as well as an ancient coin with a military general on the obverse. Also in the box is a photograph of Steele with MacIntyre holding the newspaper from the day MacIntyre was killed. On their way out, they spot Jarvis, so Steele goes to a teller and hands over the note, “This is a stick-up. P.S., Please ring the silent alarm.” He explains that Jarvis is forcing him to commit the robbery, and the bank

security men pull their guns on Jarvis. While Jarvis tries to explain that he's a detective and has a warrant for Steele's arrest, Steele manages to sneak out. Laura and Mildred aren't so lucky, and Jarvis warns she'd better cooperate, lest she face charges of aiding and abetting. A bum wanders past; it's Spellman.

In the office, Laura asks why, if Steele allegedly killed Spellman at 8:30, and if bodies cool at roughly five degrees per hour, why did the coroner report a temperature of 50 degrees only four hours later? Laura keeps Jarvis occupied on the phone with her mother, while Mildred scolds her for betraying the boss. Steele has wandered into a computer store and asks for a demonstration of computer communications capability. The message "Laura, Steele here. I must see you. Where can we meet?" appears on the agency's computer, and Mildred invents an emergency so Laura can respond to the message. Jarvis catches them, and Laura admits that they have set up a meeting. Laura "accidentally" spills coffee on herself and Mildred and asks for time to change.

Jarvis takes Laura to the observatory, where he has three other undercover detectives in place. Laura gives Jarvis the slip, then Jarvis' men pick her up heading down a staircase. They catch her, but it's Mildred in a wig, wearing the same outfit that Laura is. Laura returns to Steele's apartment building, where she joins him in the sewers. Steele shows her the telephone switch box, from which the fake calls were placed and charged to Steele's bill. Laura says nobody goes to all this trouble without leaving a calling card, but Steele merely decides to vanish in order to avoid having Laura go down with him. Laura then realizes that the man on the coin isn't a general, he's a major. Major Descoine. She yells, "He's not after your Remington Steele, he's after *mine!*" but Steele has since vanished.

Steele emerges from the sewers and is chased by Jarvis and his men. Steele hitches a ride on a passing pickup. The driver is Spellman. The driver talks to Steele about the Lily Martin case. She was so upset when she was caught stealing money from Palmer Bank that she committed suicide. Laura calls the office, where Mildred has the information she requested on Descoine. He was released on parole six months ago after serving time for bank embezzlement. Meanwhile, there is no record of any Henry Spellman. And the chief coroner says that a body was stolen from a local morgue early last week. (Laura concludes that it was kept in the ice cream truck.) The driver draws a shotgun and removes his disguise, disappointed that Steele hasn't yet figured out who he is. But in true villain style, he offers Steele a chance to clear his name. Steele has a half hour to run to their 'final destination', and the driver lets Steele out. He also discards the shotgun, which was not loaded, then drives off.

Steele runs through the desert brush, not quite sure where the road will lead. Laura finds him, having feared the worst when she found the gun. She explains that Lily Martin committed suicide at the acid vats when she was found out, which is where they're headed. They arrive at the vats, where Major Descoine is waiting for them. He shows them a block of ice inside which is frozen the key to a garage where the ice cream truck and other evidence is hidden. He tosses it into the acid vat and runs off. Steele gives chase, while Laura tries to fish it out with the shotgun. Descoine gets away on a one-person mini-airplane, and Steele returns to help Laura fetch the key. Laura wraps a wire around the gun, and Steele hooks it up to the car battery. With the electromagnet, they manage to snatch the key just as the ice melts.

Detective Jarvis comes into the office and returns the key to Steele to keep as a souvenir. Descoine got away, and Jarvis extends his apologies. Laura makes Steele promise that he never leave her for her own good, and a message appears on the computer screen: "Steele, my congratulations. Until next time. Major Descoine."

Notes:

If you watch carefully, you'll see Jarvis hanging out at the morgue.

At the observatory, watch the scene right before the graffiti-covered wall. The real-life wall has no graffiti, and you can just barely see a clean wall as Jarvis turns the corner.

When Jarvis turns the computer around to look at the message, all that's on the screen is Steele's message. Laura's reply isn't on the screen. (Maybe Mildred forgot to set to half duplex?)

Stephanie Zimbalist played Gary Frank's love interest on an episode of *Family*.

Mitch Paradise and Richard Daves (Mitch Paradise)

Don Weis

11/01/83 9p Remington tries to penetrate a ring of international art thieves, who may be responsible
 06/05/84 10p for a reporter's disappearance.

Richard Wilker	Michael Cornelison
Clifford Conant	Jeffrey Jones
Joanne Pitkin	Susan Bay
Felix Schneiderman	Stefan Gierasch
Lady Monica Haddon	Gillian Eaton
Koji Asuda	Ernest Harada
Lewis Grummond	Barry Dennen
Molly Donovan	Deborah Allison
Ron	John Terry Bell
Henchman #2?	Larry Cedar

At an art auction, a woman bids excitedly on a work by local artist Joanne Pitkin, to the annoyance of the other buyers. Later, a man waits nervously at the gallery, and leaves.

Rick Walker, trenchcoated investigative reporter for the Tribune, hires the agency to find Molly Donovan. Laura and Steele pay a visit to Conant Galleries, where Laura spots Pitkin leaving in her unusually expensive car (belying her state as a struggling artist), and decides to follow. On his way in, Steele bumps into a gentleman he recognizes vaguely. Steele talks to Clifford Conant, who suggests that perhaps Molly wandered off on her own. After Steele leaves, Lady Monica Haddon and Koji Asuda talk to one of Conant's men about their Pitkins, quietly threatening that if they don't get them, the consequences might be a tad unpleasant.

Laura follows Pitkin to her lavish home, pretending to be a reporter from *Art Insight* magazine. Meanwhile, Conant tortures Molly, demanding to know why she bid on the Pitkins, but she isn't telling. Pitkin explains to Laura that Conant lets her paint whatever she wants, so long as it's on his canvases, which come in very particular dimensions. Laura relates the dimensions to Steele, who recognizes them as the sizes and shapes of paintings that have been stolen. The paintings are being smuggled inside the Pitkins. Rick Walker arrives, and Mildred blows his cover; he's really the household hints editor. Rick explains to Laura and Steele that Molly told him she was onto something hot, so he put up the money to buy the Pitkin. Molly was writing an article on missing Old Masters.

Steele decides to break into the gallery, and Laura tags along to keep him honest. They find Molly's bidding card, but no Molly. Their snooping is interrupted by two of Conant's men, whom they dispatch messily. Laura figures that if Conant had two men on duty, he must be hiding something big, and she discovers the Pitkins in Conant's bathroom. At Steele's apartment, they look at the three Old Masters, and Steele figures they'll need a top-notch forger for the job. (He has no plans to return the originals in exchange for Molly; after all, there's probably a hefty finder's fee involved.)

The next day, Lewis Grummond comes in, at Laura's request. She had sent him away for art forgery, and he's now living an honest life. But Laura wants him to return to his old ways, just this once. She shows him the paintings, and Lewis is awestruck. "These are three of the finest forgeries I've ever seen."

At a lawn party Conant is throwing for Pitkin, Steele shows Conant Polaroids of the Old Masters, but Conant remains calm. So Steele shows the photos to Schneiderman, Lady Monica, and Asuda, who are shocked that Conant no longer has their Pitkins. Laura rushes in, but is unable to stop Steele from arranging to sell the Pitkins to the three buyers for the amount they were to pay Conant. Conant toasts them from afar.

At the office, Laura and Steele figure Conant was going to sell the fakes to the buyers and keep the originals for himself. While Mildred gives Richie a little pep talk, Laura realizes that the paintings are hidden in Pitkin's studio, and when they arrive, they steal the paintings just as Conant's men arrive. Laura has gone completely gaga with excitement, and when they return to Steele's apartment, they hide the recently-stolen paintings in Steele's bedroom, and bring out the fakes. Conant's men pick up the paintings, thinking they are the originals.

That evening, the three customers inspect the goods and are pleased. They agree to pick up the paintings after the auction the next day, so that everything can be 'legal'. Conant brings Molly back to the gallery, to make a phone call. "The most important phone call of your life."

At the auction, Richie approaches Laura and Steele and explains that everything is all settled. He traded the genuine paintings for Molly's release. Upset by this screwup, Steele searches for the paintings and Laura rescues Molly. Both Laura and Steele find a set of paintings, and fend off Conant and his men. Steele doesn't know which paintings are which, and Conant insists he must have a set to give his buyers. In exasperation, Laura suggest, "Then pick a set!" They each do.

Back at the office, Lewis pronounces the paintings forgeries, and Steele is quietly upset that he's lost yet another finder's fee.

Movies:

Charade, Cary Grant, Audrey Hepburn, Universal 1964.

The Sting

Notes:

Lots of fun double- and triple-crossing.

At the art gallery, Laura is wearing the same outfit as in "Steele Framed". (A rare duplication. Makes you wonder exactly how big Laura's closets are.)

11/08/83 9p Tracking the driverless vintage car that almost ran them down leads Laura and Remington
 06/19/84 10p to several romances (a la “The Yellow Rolls-Royce”), one previously undetected murder,
 and a lost treasure.

Doctor Ellis Harvey	Clive Revill
Clarissa McCullum	Susan French
Sam Fischer	Peter Hobbs
Joseph Berkholtzer	Al Ruscio
John McCullum	Ed Penney
Wesley Poone?	Robert Thaler
Young Clarissa McCullum?	Kate Zentall
Veronica	Patricia Alice Albrecht
Jennifer?	Rebecca Street

The McCullum Estate 1936. At a posh party, the host gives his attractive wife an expensive necklace. She receives a note and rushes out to meet her boyfriend. They kiss in his car, then she leaves to return to the party. When she returns, she realizes that the necklace is missing. We see the young man burying the necklace as the husband phones the police. The police catch the young man, and the wife runs away.

Segue into Laura running through McCullum Park, where Steele catches her. The two of them are chased by a car, which they find to be driverless. Back at the office, Mildred’s been receiving steamy romantic text over the computer modem from ‘The Dark Prince’.

Outside, Steele studies the car and deduces quite a bit. Laura gives Steele the information Mildred found (though Steele accidentally reads some of ‘The Dark Prince’) and they take the Auburn to see Dr. Ellis Harvey, the registered owner. When nobody answers the door, Steele swings around back to break in. Dr. Harvey arrives, a mystery man steals the car, and Steele breaches the alarm system. Dr. Harvey explains he just returned from a vacation with his wife to help patch things up between them after she learned he had an affair in the Auburn.

Mildred picks up Laura and Steele, and they spot the Auburn and follow it to a classic auto lot. The salesman is confused, since he sold the car to Dr. Harvey a year ago. Vanessa comes in with the files on the car, and she reminds Wesley that they ‘celebrated’ his winning an award in that very car. She also produces a letter they received a few months ago, which reads: “The key to something of great value is hidden in your Auburn and you know what I mean. Soon.” Throughout, the mystery man watches from across the street.

That night, parked at Losamonte’s Lookout, we hear grunts and groans, but it’s just Laura and Steele digging through the car’s contents. A car pulls behind them as Laura and Steele get cozy, and the mystery man takes a shot at them.

Laura asks Mildred to run a background check on the Auburn, and Mildred puts two and two together (the picnic, the lookout) and gets ideas. Laura briefs Mildred (sort of) on her relationship with Steele.

Steele takes the car to Joseph Berkholtzer’s place where he is greeted by his fiancée on their wedding day. She tells Steele that she and Joseph made love for the first time in that car. She tells about the shooting death of her previous husband Calvin, then calls Joseph. We recognize him as the mystery man who shot at Laura and Steele. Joe offers to buy the car, but Steele is only interested in an explanation of the letter. Joe says it means nothing to him, but after Steele leaves, Joe’s demeanor changes.

Laura stops by Clarissa McCullum’s place, posing as a reporter for an automobile magazine. Clarissa’s companion Sam answers the door, and Clarissa tells the story of Langston Druze (the young man) and the expensive necklace. They made love in the car in the park by the chestnut tree with the benches. Upon John’s death, he left the estate to the city.

That evening, we hear grunts and groans, but it’s just Laura and Steele taking the car apart and looking for clues. Laura finds audio tape, and Steele finds a bullet lodged in the seat cushion. Steele traces the path of the bullet through the car and Joseph Birkholtzer comes in with a gun. Calvin got wind of Joseph and Jeanette, and in the struggle with Joseph, the gun went off. Joseph disposed of the body and kept the cause of death a secret from Jeanette. He denies running down Laura in the park. He is about to shoot Laura and Steele, when we hear a shot ring out—Joseph has been shot. A new mystery man speeds away. Laura is still puzzled about who sent the letters.

The next day, Laura has the tape set up. She plays the tape, and it's more grunts and groans. Mildred hears the tape and thinks it's Laura and Steele, so she doesn't knock on the door. Steele and Laura talk about their relationship and what's holding them back.

Laura and Steele pay Dr. Harvey another visit. In reality, he's never been married. He realizes they found the tape, and accuses them of blackmail. He had an affair with a patient, Monica. But Laura and Steele return the tape.

Laura and Steele go to the McCullum Estate (now a public park), surrounded by amorous couples. The file says Langston died six months ago and they mailed his papers to Clarissa. Steele realizes that the scratches on the gages are clues, and Laura deduces that they are a map to the necklace. They drive to the chestnut tree and discover the necklace.

Sam appears, with a gun. It was he who sent the letters. He knew from Langston's papers that the necklace was somewhere, but he didn't know where. So he figured one of the former owners had found it. When his attempt to hire a private detective turned up nothing, he chased Laura and Steele in the park to get them interested in the case. He wanted the necklace to be able to buy Clarissa what he wanted to. It was he who shot Birkholtzer. Clarissa shows up and tells him she doesn't want the necklace. Sam gives Steele the gun and leaves with Clarissa.

At the office, we learn that Clarissa turned the necklace over to the city. Alma Prince comes in with her son Robert, the so-called 'Dark Prince'. Mildred comes in to say she bought the Auburn for the agency as a tax write-off, and Steele introduces the Dark Prince.

Movies:

Splendor in the Grass, Warren Beatty, Natalie Wood, Warner Brothers 1961.

Tom Jones, Albert Finney

The Yellow Rolls-Royce

Notes:

The first thing we see is not the title, but rather the caption 'McCullum Estate 1936'.
In my opinion, a simply marvellous episode.

30	Scene Steelers	3703
Joyce Armour and Judie Neer (and Michael Gleason)		Peter Medak
11/15/83 9p	An actor's pet parrot is poisoned pecking at the beef bourguignon during the filming of a commercial. The question is, who was the intended victim?	
08/07/84 10p		
Derek Vivyan	.....	Barrie Ingham
Doris Waggenbacker	.....	Bibi Besch
Heather Saint-Germaine	.....	Gwen Humble
Stan	.....	Paul Kreppel
Mady Moore	.....	Faith Price
Mother Trust	.....	Frances Bay

Late at night, someone breaks into the prop truck and poisons a frozen dinner. The next morning, Laura is on the phone with Mildred, trying to locate Steele, who was supposed to bring to the set Derek Vivyan, known for his drunkenness. Laura reassures Doris Waggenbacker, the producer of commercials for Chef Gaston's Instant Gourmet Dinners, that their male lead will be arriving shortly.

Steele is fencing with Derek, recreating a scene from *Young Raleigh*, a movie Derek made in the 1950's. Steele finally prevails on Derek to head for the set, but not before Derek orders a drink from the bar after he recaps his acting career and realizes he's been reduced to hawking frozen dinners.

Steele finally brings a very drunk Derek to the set. The poisoned frozen dinner is prepared and brought out. Derek films his commercial with Heather Saint-Germaine, an airheaded blonde. Derek suggests that, instead of her feeding him like she always does, that he feed her in this commercial. While they're arguing, Derek's pet parrot pecks at the beef bourguignon and keels over.

After Steele places the dinner and the dead parrot in Laura's trunk, Laura informs him that the actors have locked themselves in their respective rooms. While they're chatting, her car is stolen.

Laura and Steele talk to Derek and Heather, respectively. Derek and Heather each accuse the other of poisoning the food. Derek figures Heather is jealous of his talent. Heather because she had spurned Derek's advances. Derek explains he wanted to change the script to get back at Heather for intentionally mis-feeding him on their other commercials. Laura observes that Derek receives a gift package of wines every morning. Both actors refuse to continue, but agree to go on when they realize that this leaves the other to do the commercials alone. Once Steele is gone, Heather picks up the phone. "We're going to have to move the timetable up."

At the office, Mildred reports that the gift wines were all charged to Doris Waggenbacker's account. Steele figures that the culprit is really trying to sabotage the commercials, not the actors. Doris tried to get Derek so drunk he'd miss the filming, and when that failed, she poisoned the dinner. Laura can't figure out why Doris would sabotage her highly successful commercials.

The next day, Derek and Heather film another commercial (this one atop a snowy mountaintop) and hurl insults at each other through their teeth. Laura talks to Doris, who denies sending the wine; it must be somebody in the office. Steele recognizes the prop lady as Mady Moore, former child actress. She explains that she left acting and moved to Chicago, where she met Stan, her husband. There, Stan met Heather, who got him the job as director of the Chef Gaston commercials. On the set, Heather storms off in a tiff, and we hear screams from her dressing room. Her costumes have all been slashed.

Laura drives Derek to his hotel room, where they are nearly run over by Laura's runaway car. This clears Derek as the culprit; unfortunately, it tags him as the intended victim. In his room, Derek makes a pass at Laura, grabbing and kissing her. Laura tosses him on the floor. Derek admits that all his talk about doing Lear was merely to keep up appearances. In fact, his brain is so alcohol-sopped that he can't remember his lines for anything longer than 30 seconds.

Steele pays a visit to Doris Waggenbacker, and spots her chatting with Mother Trust, owner of her own line of frozen dinners. Steele introduces himself as Doris' attorney. Mother Trust complains that Doris' commercials have hurt her sales, and she offers to set up Doris in her own advertising agency when the Chef Gaston commercials bite the dust.

Laura pays a late-night visit to the studio, where she spots Heather filming a shampoo commercial with Stan, who then frolic on the bed. Laura tells them that the tears in Heather's costume were all right on the seams, hence easily repaired. She thanks them for providing a motive for wanting the commercials to end, so Heather could get out of her Chef Gaston contract and go on to bigger things. And Stan has plans to

film his own movie, “A project worth killing for.” Outside, Laura finds Mady wandering past. Mady says she knows about Stan’s affair with Heather. She understands that it comes with the business, figuring that if he leaves the commercials, he’ll leave Heather, too.

That evening at the office, Laura and Steele exchange information, and when the conversation turns to Derek, Laura starts wolfing down food. When pressed, Laura explains that Derek made a pass at her, though her reassurances only seem to make matter worse. Steele storms off. Derek is watching one of his old movies and gets a phone call from Heather. She says she knows who it is that is trying to kill him and asks him to help her prove it by coming to the studio. We see that the person on the other end of the line is not Heather, but Mady, brandishing a knife. After she hangs up, she frantically slashes into Heather’s wardrobe.

Derek calls Laura to inform her of the latest development, and Laura tells him to stay put; she’ll go. Steele arrives and talks to Derek, who tells him he must lavish Laura “with flowers, champagne, a sensible diamond.” He then remembers Laura’s message, and the two head to the studio. Laura arrives at the studio, where she finds Mady talking like Heather, wearing a blonde wig and Heather’s costume. She’s also wielding a knife. Mady thinks she’s Heather. Laura plays along and backs away. She sees her chance and makes a run for it, up the mountain set, pursued by Mady. Steele and Derek arrive in time to rescue Laura.

At the office, Laura explains that when Mady, who had previously been put away for mental problems, saw that Stan preferred Heather to her, so she became Heather. But she couldn’t kill Heather, since that would be like suicide, so she went after Derek, whom Heather hated. Steele surprises Laura with a candlelit dinner and a diamond pendant.

Notes:

Fun juxtapositions as Laura and Steele interview Derek and Heather, respectively. Cute jab at the television industry, and to rumored on-set animosity between Zimbalist and Brosnan.

31 **Steele Knuckles and Glass Jaws** 3717
 Jeff Melvoin Don Weis

11/29/83 10p A boxing manager's discovery of a dead bookie and an abandoned baby in a locker room
 04/03/84 10p prompt him to call one of his former fighters: the Kilkenny kid—Pride of the Pampas, another of Steele's former identities.

Barney Kiernan	Bert Rensen
Joseph Barber	Paul Stewart
Herschel "The Hammer" Sinclair	Ken Foree
Gina Barber	Julie Carmen
Moody?	George McDaniel
Anthony Torrance?	Len Lesser
Sportscaster?	John Davey
Announcer?	Gil Stratton
Tarot card reader	Shanit Keeter
Referee?	Gino DiFirelli
Billy Flynn?	Mike Finneran
Coach?	Ed Rombola

At night, a wounded man carrying some sort of package is being chased through the streets. He ducks into a gym where boxers are training, runs into the locker room, drops the package into a locker, and dies from his gunshot wound. Herschel comes up with his coach Barney, excited about his upcoming bout, but they find Max Thursby dead, and something in the locker . . .

At the office, while Steele waits for Laura to finish prettying herself up for a hot date, he gets a call from Barney and goes to see him. Barney and Herschel show Steele the package: A baby. Laura arrives and Steele reluctantly agrees not to turn the baby over to the police. Meanwhile, Joseph Barber's consultation with a tarot card reader is interrupted by his henchman Moody: They couldn't follow Max. Barber demands, "I want that baby!" Steele sees a car pull up, and the quintet escape before the bad guys arrive. A mysterious figure waits outside the gym.

At Laura's loft, she and Steele try to take care of the baby. Herschel and Barney wake up and start training, and Mildred arrives to help take care of the baby. Hammer trains to the *Carmen Overture*, and Laura asks Barney about Max (a friend of Hammer's) but gets nowhere. Barney says Herschel's due to fight Billy Flynn (the #2 heavyweight) in two days.

Laura and Steele snoop around Max's apartment and are interrupted by Barber's henchmen. Laura tries to rescue Steele, but they're outmatched. Moody scares them a bit and lets them go.

Barber gets a phone call from Torrance, whom he owes a lot of money. Barber tries to reassure him that he'll get his money. Moody comes in with Laura's wallet (which he got when he barged in on her and Steele), and so now Barber knows who they are.

Back at the office, Laura helps Steele clean up after his scuffle, and Barber's men come to take Steele away while Laura is in the bathroom soaking a towel. She gets a phone call from Mildred asking her to pick up some formula on her way home. Only then does Laura realize that she's missing her wallet and that the bad guys are onto them.

Laura rushes home, followed by the mysterious figure (who pulls out a gun). The mysterious figure pulls the gun and demands 'her' baby. Laura talks her down and gives her baby.

Steele is taken to Barber (who is interrupted by a phone call from Flynn). His only son was knocked off a few months ago, and the only heir to the business is his baby grandson. He threatens Steele bodily harm if he doesn't return his grandson.

Gina Barber explains that her husband wanted out of the gangster business, but she was being held by Barber. Max helped her and baby Joey escape. Barney spots the bad guys coming, and Gina runs out with the baby. The bad guys get her, and realize that she was only carrying some pillows wrapped in blankets; Laura still has the baby.

At Steele's apartment, he and Laura argue while Mildred tries to put the baby to sleep. Barber calls and offers to trade Gina for Joey. Laura learned from Gina that Barber is in debt to Torrance. Steele remembers the phone call from Flynn and puts two and two together.

At the gym, Laura and Steele confront Barney. Herschel's wins were all tanked; Barney is in on the set-up. Herschel is supposed to dive in the sixth round. Herschel hears this and is not pleased. While Laura and Mildred take over as Herschel's coach, Steele combs the streets for information. Steele calls Torrance:

“You’re never gonna see your money. The fix is off. Mr. Barber is no longer in control of the situation. If I were you, I’d get yourself down to the ringside tonight unless, of course, you’re willing to see him get out of the country.”

Steele returns to his apartment and takes the baby from Mildred. He gets a call from Barber and agrees to make the trade. He demands that the switch be made during the second round of the fight. Steele sings the baby to sleep, and Laura comes in and admires. Meanwhile, Barber’s plan is to kill Steele once the switch is made.

It’s fight time, and Steele is escorted to the arena by Barber’s men. All the players are present, except Steele. In the first round, Herschel is getting walloped. Barney arrives in time for the second round to help out. It’s trade time. Steele takes the baby to Barber, but Gina won’t leave the baby. Knowing when he’s beaten, Steele leaves.

The fight reaches the sixth round and Torrence appears in time to watch. Herschel is knocked down, and Laura gets an idea and runs out. He gets up and is knocked down again. Laura returns with the tape recorder and as *Carmen* blares, Herschel gets his second wind and survives the round.

Barber gets up to leave and Torrence’s men grab him. “I think you and me should have a little talk.” Steele and Laura escort Gina away. Barney coaches Herschel and tells him how to beat Billy. Meanwhile, Steele and Moody are having a fight of their own downstairs. Both Steele and Herschel knock out their respective opponents.

That night, Laura and Steele enjoy a drink on his balcony.

Notes:

The incidental music is mostly Bizet’s *Carmen*, suitable modified to fit the dramatic action.

12/06/83 9p Laura and Steele take part in a dying man's scheme to enable his kidnapped adopted
04/24/84 10p daughter to inherit his estate, a plan that involves her secret twin sister.

'Uncle' Norman Baines Stephen Elliot
Tracy Crockett/Roxie Tyler Ann Dusenberry
Claudette Crockett Joanna Barnes
Ross Crockett, Sr. Thomas Hill
Samantha Donahue Judith Chapman
Markham Ian Wolfe
Lawyer Earl Boen
Ross Crockett, Jr.? Steven Goodwin
Eric? Barry Sattels

Laura and Steele arrive at the Crockett residence for an appointment with Ross Crockett. They encounter the elderly and chauvinist butler Markham, who refuses to let Laura talk to Mr. Crockett. Crockett tells Steele his flaky daughter Tracy has a long-lost twin sister. He gives Steele some information and hires the agency to find her, but not to tell Tracy. Tracy comes in and is insensitive to her father's plight. She explains to Steele that her father has been 'dying' for the past fifteen years. He fakes death to rein her in.

Back at the office, Mildred locates the twin, and when Steele calls Crockett, he finds that the man has died. They go to visit the estate. At the Crockett residence, the lawyer reads the will and pronounces that the entire estate goes to Tracy. Unhappy folks left empty-handed include 'Uncle' Norman (a partner in Crockett Industries), Ross Junior, the widow Claudette, and the butler.

Steele and Laura come in and talk to Tracy, who is upset that her free-wheeling lifestyle has come to an end, and she now has the entire burden of saving the company herself. If she doesn't become Chairman of the Board at the stockholder's meeting, the estate will go to charity, and Uncle Norman will become Chairman. Steele and Laura tell Tracy about her twin sister, and she insists that they find her.

Laura and Steele find Roxie (a waitress at a diner) and bring her back to the Crockett residence, but find Tracy missing. They find a message saying that Tracy left for Rome, but suspect kidnaping when they realize she didn't take her passport. Steele figures that she was kidnaped by someone who didn't want her in control of the company and comes up with the plan to pass off Roxie as Tracy to see who flinches. They spend most of the rest of the day trying to teach Roxie how to be ladylike.

Laura and Steele bring 'Tracy' to the mansion. Eric the chauffeur expresses his concern. The butler seems surprised to see her, but when Steele shows 'Tracy' to the suspects, none of them bat an eye. Meanwhile, Laura breaks into the elder Crockett's room, cracks open the safe, and sneaks out with its contents before Norman can barge in on her. Ross's mistress Samantha comes in and makes a big show, but is scolded by Claudette, and she slinks out. An unknown assailant conks 'Tracy' on the head; she falls into the pool. Steele hears a scream and rushes over to rescue 'Tracy'.

Back at Tracy's house, they discuss the case. Mildred recognizes the papers Laura lifted as a stock ledger, and some stock is missing. They also find that Junior was a big loser on sports betting, and a nice cushy job with Uncle Norman couldn't hurt. And Claudette and Norman appear to be an item. They leave Mildred to watch Roxie and ask her to study the stock ledgers.

At the Crockett residence, they encounter Markham, very upset that Ross didn't leave him a single penny after 40 years of dedicated service. They accuse Claudette of working to keep Norman as the Chairman. She explains that quite the opposite is true. Under Norman's care, the company's stock value has dropped precipitously, not at all helped by Norman's intention to abandon \$40 million worth of construction.

Mildred is onto something, but is interrupted by Eric's arrival. He tries to resume his passionate relationship with 'Tracy', and Roxie holds him off long enough for Mildred to rescue her and tell Eric to beat it. Laura and Steele return, and Mildred explains that Norman was intentionally causing the company to lose money, so that the stock would drop and he could buy more shares more cheaply. Norman appears, gun in hand. He says he saw through Roxie's ineffective impersonation of Tracy. He denies kidnapping Tracy; he doesn't need to. He takes the stock records (which is what he came for). After Norman leaves, they get a phone call from the airport: Tracy's car has been parked there 48 hours in a one-hour zone.

At the airport, Steele breaks into Tracy's car and finds a list of charities due to receive the estate if Tracy fails, one of which is run by Samantha. Meanwhile, Laura finds fresh mud and cement under the car

fender. They go to see Samantha, and she says she doesn't need any money; Ross signed over plenty of stocks to her before he died. (This accounts for the missing stock.) She says he gave it to her at the construction site that Norman is building. Laura realizes that the mud and cement are from the construction site and the two rush to find Tracy. They ask Mildred to stall the shareholders' meeting. As they find Tracy, the shareholders' meeting begins. Junior and Claudette make fun of Roxie while she tries to field questions.

As the ambulance carts Tracy away, Steele muses that it's too bad her boyfriend Eric couldn't be here. Tracy says Eric is her chauffeur. Laura and Steele realize it was Eric who kidnaped Tracy. But who is he working for? Back at the meeting, Roxie is doing well. Laura and Steele catch Eric, and Laura checks his wallet: His name is Eric Alan Markham. The butler did it. Markham stands up and starts firing haphazardly. "A woman does not belong at the head of a major corporation!" Laura manages to disarm him.

After leaving Tracy and Roxie to get acquainted, Laura and Steele discuss the luck of the draw.

Movies:

Pygmalion, Leslie Howard, Wendy Hiller, MGM 1938.

My Fair Lady

George Lee Marshall

Karen Arthur

12/13/83 9p Laura and Steele slip into the seamier side of the high-fashion world on a case involving stolen trade secrets and a vicious sibling rivalry.

Bulletz Bloustein	Joshua Shelley
Lila Colbert	Lara Parker
Julian Baron	Dean Santoro
Francois Periot	John van Dreelen
Carl	Carl Weintraub
Mark Warren Prime?	Michael Bond
Mitzi	Estelle Omens
Milton?	Joe Bratcher

In the fashion district, Mark Prime asks Bulletz Bloustein (a low-end fashion designer) to make a size 42 long coat out of a special material. Mark returns home to find a mystery man who demands the claim check for the coat. A struggle ensues, and Mark is knocked out.

Back in the fashion district, Steele plays Sam Saint-Cloud, a Birmingham buyer, and Laura a model for Julian Baron's fashion line. Baron hired them to find out who's stealing his designs. They spot Bulletz taking pictures and chase him, though Laura falls back when she realizes she's not dressed. Steele loses Bulletz in the traffic. Bulletz runs into his business and tells his assistant Mitzi to sew the film into the lining of the blazer. The mystery man arrives and demands Mark's blazer. Since Mitzi is still sewing, Bulletz gives him a different jacket. Steele follows soon thereafter, demanding the film. Bulletz gives him a different roll. When Steele mentions Baron's name, Bulletz is furious. Baron is Bulletz' estranged brother.

Back at the office, Baron and his main buyer Francois Periot are upset, since the film Steele got was unexposed. Baron explains that Bulletz steals his designs and sweatshops them.

Laura and Steele visit Bulletz, to find him rubbing his head. The mystery man bashed him on the head and grabbed the blazer with the film. The trio go to Mark's place to snoop. Laura finds a photo of Lila, a fellow model. Steele finds out Mark worked for Overdyne, a high-technology firm. And Bulletz finds Mark in the fridge, dead.

Laura pumps Lila for information but doesn't get far. Lila gets a phone call and leaves. Laura follows with Bulletz in the limo. Meanwhile, Steele confronts Baron and accuses him of murder. The memo paper they found is from his office. Steele notices that the jackets in Baron's office are 42 long. Baron tells Steele his side of the sibling rivalry.

Laura follows Lila to a health/vitamin store. Lila picks up the jacket from the mystery man and finds the film, which she pockets. She figures Mark was taking pictures at Overdyne. After Lila leaves, Laura goes in and talks to the mystery man, Carl, pretending to be a friend of Lila's. She manages to get him out of the room, finds the blazer, and sneaks out. But not before Carl catches the limo licence plate.

Lila returns. Her boss didn't want the film, he wanted the blazer. They realize that Laura has it. Meanwhile, Laura and Steele share some time together. Steele tries to convince Bulletz to reconcile with his younger brother, but no dice. Back at the fashion studio, Baron confronts Periot. It was Periot's handwriting on the memo. Periot reminds Baron that he bailed him out so many times before.

Lila and Carl confer; simultaneously, Laura, Steele and Bulletz confer. Laura leaves with Carla and Steele and Bulletz with Lila. Steele takes Lila to a restaurant, where he drops his disguise and tells Lila she's in deeper than she thinks. He accuses her of murdering Mark, and she is shocked. Meanwhile, Laura invents an excuse for Carl to leave the room so she can go through his coat. He likewise invents an excuse for Laura to leave the room and goes through her purse. He finds her drivers licence. Steele and Bulletz take Lila back to Mark's place, to find that the body has been removed.

That evening, Laura is getting ready for bed and tries on the blazer. Carl comes in the front door, pulls a gun, and demands the blazer. Laura refuses and tries to run away, but Carl fires and hits her squarely in the back. Steele arrives and Carl runs out.

Steele crouches over Laura's body and cries, then is elated and confused when Laura wakes up. They take the blazer to the lab, where Milton confirms that not only is the thread made of steel, it's bulletproof, radar-invisible, superconductive, and everything else a spy would ever want. Steele realizes that the plan was to wear the jacket out of the country. He shows Bulletz the memo that instructed Carl to go to his shop and points out that Baron is a 42 long. Bulletz is vengeful.

At the fashion studio, Carl demands his share of the money from Lila. Lila realizes that Carl killed Mark. As Carl leaves, Laura confronts him and Steele disarms him after a struggle. Periot and Laura meet in the hall, and Periot points a gun (in his pocket) at Laura and takes her away. Meanwhile, Steele and Bulletz have gone to Baron to confront him, but Bulletz knocks out Steele and tells his brother this is his only chance to get away. But Baron is a 40 regular. It is Periot who is a 42 long.

Laura realizes that Periot set up Mark with Lila and planned the entire scam. Bulletz rescues Laura, and she and Steele give chase as Periot get away with the jacket. He wraps his hand in the jacket and punches a glass security door to break through. Unfortunately, the door was electrified, and Periot dies a fiery death.

Back at the office, Laura and Steele admire the slides, though the one of a leggy brunette is mysteriously missing. Bulletz and Baron come in with gifts for Laura and Steele. They've reconciled and are working together again. Steele's gift is a photo of the brothers. Laura's gift is a pleated muffler.

Notes:

Mildred does not appear.

John van Dreelen starred with Pierce Brosnan in the NBC miniseries *Noble House*.

Larry Konner (and Michael Gleason)

Sheldon Larry

01/10/84 10p Someone is killing off “the five most eligible bachelors in Los Angeles”—and one of those
05/01/84 10p remaining is Remington.

Moriah Taylor	.....	Mimi Kuzyk
Victor Janoff	.....	Roy Dotrice
Millicent Fairbush	.....	D. D. Howard
Arnold Baskin	.....	Franc Luz
Chip Carstairs	.....	Richard Backus
Butch Moran	.....	Michael Lemon
Doctor Harold Ridley?	.....	Michael Sandoval
Hospital Doctor?	.....	Donald Craig

We see Victor Janoff murder Doctor Ridley after congratulating him on being named one of the five most eligible bachelors in Los Angeles.

Steele and Laura arrive for the formal announcement of *Upbeat* Magazine’s most eligible bachelors, since Steele is one of those named. Steele maintains that he’s doing it purely for publicity, but Laura isn’t so sure. The other winners are Chip Carstairs (a stockbroker), Arnold Baskin (an attorney), Butch Moran (a hockey player for the Los Angeles Owls), Steele, and the late Doctor Ridley. Meanwhile, Janoff electrifies the hot tub.

Outside, Laura talks to Janoff, the publisher. He agrees that the publicity stunt is rather degrading. Laura is about to dip her toe into the hot tub, but he stops her. Meanwhile, Steele suffers through a photo session with Millicent Fairbush, his designated companion and airhead extraordinaire. When it comes to the hot tub photo session, Steele is anxious to get the day over with, but Butch Moran leaps in, only to be electrocuted.

Back at the office, they talk to Moriah, the editor of *Upbeat*. She can’t think of any link between the bachelors. Laura suggests that Steele play ‘Johnny-on-the-spot’ while she talks to the other bachelors. Mildred doesn’t think much of Moriah and offers to hang around Steele to keep him honest.

Laura visits Chip, who immediately makes a play for her. He tells Laura that Janoff owns the Owls and is in financial trouble. Butch Moran was his only star player. Chip takes a bite of the food prepared for him by *Upbeat*, chokes, and dies.

At Steele’s apartment, the dinner photo session is over, and Mildred tries to shoo Millicent out. Steele talks to Mildred privately. Mildred explains that she’s only protecting Laura, and Steele offers to explain their relationship, but decides not to. Steele offers to take Millicent home. After dropping her off, Steele returns to his car, only to be run over by Janoff.

Laura rushes to the hospital and offers to keep Steele company. But Millicent arrives and Laura is privately fuming when Millicent says that Steele asked her to spend the evening at his place. Laura and Millicent take Steele home. Steele wants to clear the air with Laura, but she isn’t listening.

Arnold is asleep, and Janoff is about to suffocate him when Laura rings the doorbell. Arnold turns on the charm exactly the same way Chip did, and more. Arnold’s law firm handled Butch Moran’s contract. Janoff couldn’t afford him, and Butch announced his intention to become a free agent. Janoff had a \$5 million life insurance policy on Butch. Laura fends off Arnold’s advances and leaves.

Laura returns to Steele’s apartment where they try to put the pieces together. Steele tries a ploy from ‘Rear Window’: He’s going to goad Janoff into trying to kill him again, to prove his guilt. Steele tells Janoff he has witnesses to the murders and murder attempts, and Janoff tells him to get lost. Laura offers to break into Janoff’s apartment and snoop. But when she arrives, she finds him, dead, an apparent suicide.

Steele wants to celebrate the conclusion of the case, but Laura isn’t sure it’s over. Who is Janoff’s beneficiary? She catches Moriah going through Janoff’s papers. Moriah and Victor were secret lovers, and she wanted to check that she would be taken care of in the will. But she is shocked to find a marriage licence among the papers. Janoff was secretly married to... Millicent Fairbush. Laura goes to the arena. There, she is caught by Arnold, who is there to destroy a prenuptial agreement Millicent signed. Arnold set up the entire scheme. He tells Laura to call Steele and tell him to come over.

Steele answers phone, and Laura manages to get away. Millicent arrives just in time to take Steele to the arena. While Laura runs from Arnold, Steele arrives at the arena and starts solving the crime himself.

He realizes that Millicent is a party to the crime, but before she can push him down the stairs, Laura saves him. Unfortunately, in the scuffle, she accidentally pushes Steele down the stairs, where he crashes into Arnold.

Back at Steele's apartment, he now has two broken legs. Laura comes in with some things, and Steele suggests they get cozy. But Laura has a job: Checking out Moriah's new set of eligible bachelors. Steele is left in his apartment, wiggling his toes.

Movies:

The ABC Murders, Agatha Christie.

Rear Window, James Stewart, Grace Kelly, Paramount 1954. (Steele spends the episode in a cast, and ends with both legs in a cast.)

Notes:

Steele is incorrect when he says that *The ABC Murders* was never made into a movie. Try *The Alphabet Murders*.

01/17/84 10p A name spoken to Mildred at an innocuous seance draws Laura and Steele to a sleazy circus
 06/12/84 10p where they pose as a high-flying trapeze act to catch a murderer.

Christy Cordaro Lisa Pelikan
 Fresco Zapata Michael McGuire
 Guy Nickerson A. Martinez
 Delilah Zapata Joy Garrett
 Max Hardin Jessie Lawrence Ferguson

Mildred attends a séance at ‘Cordaro’s Fabulous Funtime Circus’, at which the name of her future romantic interest is revealed to be ‘Turk’ (even though Fresco set the dial to ‘Joe’). All the regulars present (Delilah, Max, and Christy) are shocked to see it and Mildred is shooed out. As Mildred leaves, Guy appears from the shadows, and a shadowy figure watches from the roof. Throughout the episode, this shadowy figure lurks in the background.

The next day, Steele arrives early to work, only to be greeted by a bash on the head. The office is ransacked, and Mildred confesses to her séance habit when Laura finds a circus prop among the debris. They visit a wheelchair-bound Christy Cordaro (former trapeze artist), who maintains that nothing unusual is happening. A scream is heard outside, and Steele makes a daring rescue of Guy on the ferris wheel. Upon inspection, Laura discovers that the safety pin had been cut. Christy concedes that perhaps the agency’s help is needed. She explains that after Guy’s arrival a few weeks ago, Turk (their trapeze catcher) vanished mysteriously in a boating accident a few days later. Turk was not a popular man.

Laura cajoles Steele into going undercover as Laura and Nigel Woolsey, a trapeze act. Steele also reprises his fire-breathing act as The Great Savini. Mildred works a booth and almost gives away the lure before Laura stops her. Fresco Zapata stops by the booth and invites Laura to his séance room. Delilah catches up to them and warns Laura to stay away from her husband. Guy talks to Steele and tries to poke holes in his cover, but Steele talks his way out of them.

That evening, Laura, Steele and Mildred break into the séance room to find that ‘Turk’ isn’t programmed into the magnet-propelled crystal ball. Laura and Steele go into the basement to find a larger electromagnet which was used to overpower the magnet that controlled the crystal ball. The shadowy figure locks the door, and the basement begins to fill with water. Laura and Steele use the electromagnet to send a call for help to Mildred, who rescues them just in time.

At Laura’s apartment, she and Steele practice trapeze while Mildred fills in some background. Guy was recently released from jail after he was literally left hanging at the scene of the robbery of a Gutenberg Bible four years earlier, the same night as Christy’s career-ending accident. Laura and Steele figure he’s returned to claim his share of the loot. But from whom?

Christy explains to Laura that Turk was the rigger for the fateful performance. Meanwhile, Delilah has invited Steele over for coffee, but when he asks about Christy’s accident, she gets defensive and tells him to leave. Fresco tells Steele that he was the catcher that evening. Preparing for their rehearsal with Guy, Laura and Steele conclude that it was Turk who was the accomplice. But if Guy now has the bible, why is he still hanging around? To dispel suspicion? During the rehearsal, a swinging pulley narrowly misses Laura. Max runs out, and Laura talks to him. Max says he set up the rigging the night of Christy’s accident. Turk was supposed to do it, but he was late, and Max set it up, even though he wasn’t really qualified. Turk was supposed to check Max’s work, but didn’t. When the rigging failed, Turk said he’d take the fall for the accident, provided Max not mention a word of it to anyone. Since Turk’s body was never found, Laura and Steele suspect that he isn’t really dead.

That evening, the rigging fails Laura’s trapeze act, but Steele saves her. Turk appears and exits dramatically; all give chase. Turk grabs the bible (the lure for the carnival booth), and Laura and Steele subdue him. Guy grabs the bible, but our sleuths convince him to give himself up.

At the office, Laura and Steele recap the case. Guy never believed Turk was dead. He believed somebody at the circus was working with Turk, so he rigged the séance to see how they would react. Mildred tells Laura and Steele that she’s going to see a palm reader to see if there is romance in her future. Laura suggests to Steele that they don’t need a palm reader to answer the question for themselves. . .

Notes:

Fun.

Richard DeRoy

Barbara Peters

01/31/84 10p Laura and Steele must protect two precocious children from the kidnappers who want to
07/10/84 10p keep their father from testifying in a federal investigation.

Chris Gallen	Eric Brown
Shelby Hanes	Carolyn Seymour
Angel Gallen	Bridgette Andersen
Walter Gallen	Jack Betts
Steven Cole	Ted LePlat
Bonnie Neemeyer?	Anne Gee Byrd
Barbara Frick?	Patricia Wettig
Bo Neemeyer?	Ed Crick
Policeman?	Bruce Wright
Ross?	Mike Genovese
Jackson?	Michael J. Cutt
Simpson?	Art Koustik
Reporter?	Conrad E. Palmisano
Mrs. Trout?	Renee Wedel

As Laura, Steele and Mildred go home at the end of the day, Mildred is kidnaped, and Laura and Steele give chase. When they successfully rescue her, Walter Gallen reveals himself: It was all a test to see if the agency was as good as its reputation. He hires them to escort his two children Angel and Chris (ages 9 and 14, respectively) to Phoenix, where he will be testifying in federal court against the Graykirk Corporation. In New York City, Steven Cole of Graykirk reassures Senator Collier that everything is under control.

When they pick up the kids (dressed in matching blazers and caps as 'Steele Tours'), they find that Angel is a spoiled brat, and Chris is smitten by Laura. They take the kids to 'Party Pizza', where they escape a kidnaping attempt. But the goons are waiting by the limo, so Steele et al steal a bus. Steele drops off Laura and the kids and manages to get rid of the bus without getting arrested. Throughout, Chris continues to come on to Laura, who tries to smile politely.

They go to the home of Barbara Frick, one of Laura's college roommates. Mildred arrives with an RV, and Angel refuses to go along. She phones home and talks to Shelby Hanes, Mr. Gallen's secretary. Unfortunately, the bad guys had kidnaped Shelby and therefore now know Steele's plans. Meanwhile, Laura and Steele continue to argue about why Laura *really* took the case. Laura claims it is to test her mothering skills; Steele believe it is to test his fathering skills.

On the road, Laura fends off an attempt to shoot out the RV's tires. At an RV stop, they meet Bonnie and Bo Neemeyer, who invite Angel to a piece of key lime pie, her favorite. (What a coincidence.) Laura and Steele try their best to keep Angel from joining the Neemeys (with a few arguments along the way), but they fail. Laura and Chris are kidnaped as well, and the Neemeys' RV speeds away. Steele managed to climb aboard and, with Laura's help, subdue the Neemeys.

Back in New York, Cole extracts from Gallen's bodyguard the time of Gallen's court appearance. While Steele drives the RV towards Phoenix, Chris continues to come on to Laura, who continues to smile sweetly. They arrive just in time to thwart an attempt by Cole's men to shoot Gallen.

Movies:

The Gauntlet, Clint Eastwood, Sondra Locke, Warner Brothers 1977.
The Bad Seed

Notes:

A 'no-brainer'.
'Party Pizza' is really 'Chuck-E-Cheez' in disguise.

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02/07/84 10p A murderer attends a dental convention to steal a speaker's prop, which could expose him
 07/03/84 10p as the perpetrator, not the victim, of an arson death.

Frances Piper	Maryedith Burrell
Donald Piper	Michael Durrell
Wendell Whittaker	Patrick Collins
Howie Sabatchnik	James O'Sullivan
Cookie Widdoes	Therese Brown
Clerk?	Boyd Bodwell
Dentist?	Earl Houston Bullock
Policeman?	Garry Goodron

We see a man pour gasoline over a dead body and all over a house, light it, and drive away. At a dentist's office, a dentist (Howie) and his assistant (Cookie) are kissing madly. The phone rings and Cookie answers it, breathlessly. It's Frances asking to talk to Donald; Cookie says that Donald left, and Frances suspects from Cookie's heavy breathing that she's doing more than filing charts. Howie and Cookie leave, and the man from the opening breaks into the office. He goes into the files and replaces the contents of the file for 'Wendell Whittaker'; he goes to the cabinet but finds that the teeth impressions for Wendell are missing.

Laura arrives at work to find Frances waiting for her in her office. Frances explains that Donald is in Los Angeles for a dentists' convention and for the first time in sixteen years, he didn't invite her along. Frances suspects an affair and Laura offers to see what's up. At the hotel, Donald finds Howie and Cookie kissing madly and is upset at Howie for not working on the paper they are presenting at the convention. He tells Howie to take a cold shower.

Steele arrives for work and is upset that Laura has once again gone off on a case without telling him. At the hotel, Laura is accosted by offers of free samples from a chocolate convention in the same hotel. Laura asks the clerk for Donald's room number; the mystery man asks for Howie's room number. In the hotel room, Donald is dictating the paper to Cookie (still dressed in a flimsy nightgown). Laura comes in and sees Cookie. As Donald and Laura leave to go downstairs, the mystery man arrives and shoots Cookie and Howie. The mystery man is Wendell Whittaker. Wendell goes through the room but can't find the teeth. Downstairs, Donald tries to explain, but Laura is not convinced. Steele arrives and watches Donald and Laura in deep conversation. Wendell comes downstairs and sees the teeth in Donald's hands. Donald tells Laura he didn't bring Frances because he didn't want to expose her to the hanky panky that goes on. Laura pretends to believe him, and Donald kisses her in appreciation. Steele is shocked. Wendell greets Donald and accompanies Donald into the elevator to go up to his room. Steele takes a nametag and grabs Donald. But Donald gets dragged away by his party-loving dentist friends.

Back at the loft, Frances checks up on the kids back in Connecticut and learns that the police want the dental records of one of Donald's patients Wendell Whittaker. Apparently, they found his body burned in a fire, and they need the dental records to confirm his identity. Steele arrives and asks Laura where she was; Laura says she was with a client.

The party animals drag Donald to his room and he shoos them away. He finds Cookie's and Howie's bodies in the bathroom. He calls Laura and asks her to come over. Wendell stops by Donald's room and is about to shoot him when the party animals return with women. They toss the teeth around the room as Laura and Steele arrive. Donald takes the teeth and introduces the bodies to Laura. Steele joins them. Frances appears and scolds the partiers. "Go to church and pray for forgiveness!" They slink out. Frances confronts Donald, and they try to calm her down. She storms into the bathroom. Bad move.

Wendell reads the newspaper; the headline is "Head of Bullion Exchange Dies in Fire", with a picture of himself. Back at the loft, Frances and Donald make up. Laura and Steele clear the air between them and return to the hotel, Steele as Doctor Bridges and Laura as a hooker. Laura is accosted by free chocolate samples, and Steele realizes she's a chocoholic. At the loft, Donald discovers Frances' purse filled with chocolates. Frances tells him about the phone call, and Donald realizes that Wendell switched dental files, and whoever has the teeth is in danger.

At the hotel, Laura distracts the policeman guarding Donald's room and Steele sneaks in. Wendell pulls a gun and demands the teeth. After a struggle, Wendell gets away, with the teeth. Donald and Frances arrive at the hotel and Wendell follows them, in turn followed by Laura and Steele. Laura and Steele find Donald stuffing Frances with chocolates to keep her quiet. Laura and Frances discuss their chocoholism. Meanwhile Donald explains to Steele that Wendell is under investigation for embezzling \$10 million from the bullion exchange. Donald took the teeth to the convention as a prop for his talk about tic douloureux. Steele says Donald's life is still in danger.

Donald gives his speech, and Wendell appears and pulls a gun. Steele cranks up the volume, generating feedback that causes pain in Wendell's mouth, and the shot misses. At the loft, Donald and Frances give Laura a thank-you gift of... a box of chocolates.

Movies:

Boom Town, Clark Gable, Claudette Colbert, Hedy Lamarr, MGM 1940.

The Lost Weekend, Ray Milland.

The Man Who Knew Too Much, Jimmy Stewart, Doris Day, Paramount 1956.

The episode is an irreverent rendition of a 1930's style 'screwball comedy' movie.

Notes:

Simply marvellous. Good clean, er, just good fun.

02/21/84 10p Archenemy Major Descoine appears out of nowhere and promises Laura and Steele that
 06/26/84 10p they'll be dead within the hour.

Major Descoine	.....	Guy Boyd
Minor Descoine	.....	Quinn Cummings
Cop	.....	Michael Fairman
Cab driver	.....	Ed Hooks
Man	.....	Ric Mancini

Mildred finds Steele creating a concoction with his desktop chemistry set. He's trying to recreate a drink (a 'Tropical Itch') from his days on Mykonos. He fails. Mildred gives him a form from the State Bureau of Investigative Services that has to be signed and sent by noon today. She leaves for lunch. Major Descoine comes in, having recently escaped from prison. He tells them they will be dead by noon. He vanishes in a puff of smoke. Laura studies the muffler he left behind and traces it to the Bel Oaks country club across the street.

At the country club, they find tombstones with their names on them. They ask the proprietor who ordered them, and he says he went that-a-way. They wander into a demolition area, and the foreman mentions that Descoine is their new demolitions expert. Laura and Steele continue to follow his trail, finding footprints that lead to the aqueduct. They swim through the pipe and emerge in an abandoned building. They follow the footprints to a quaint parlor, where they find that Descoine has been spying on them, and then are greeted by the the Major's daughter, who offers them tea. The daughter goes into the kitchen and vanishes. Then the parlor catches fire. The windows are bricked shut; the only way out is through the kitchen door. They burst the door down, and narrowly escape a thirty-foot drop. They see a rope ladder being pulled up to the roof. They grab a mattress and use it to cushion their fall.

The major's daughter escapes on roller skates, and Laura and Steele pursue on foot. But when she hops on a motorcycle, they realize that it's no use. While Steele hails a cab, Laura calls her mother. Laura's plan is to find a safe hiding place (she suggests a place she played when growing up) and lie low until the deadline is passed. But when they see the Major's daughter following them, they duck into a car wash and hide in the trunk. The Major's daughter gives up, and Laura directs the cab driver to drive them to the runoff tunnels.

In the tunnels, Descoine appears, and Steele fires a shot; but the bullet hits a mirror. Steele follows the path of the light, and Laura sees her childhood diary on the ground. She picks it up, but it's connected to a string which sets off a machine gun. They duck for cover, but Laura realizes that the gun is firing blanks. Descoine runs past, and they chase him outside. Steele finally catches him and tries to drown him. A policeman appears and arrests Steele and Laura; Descoine reported to the police that Steele made a death threat against him. Descoine vanishes, and Laura and Steele steal the policeman's gun and tell him to call Jarvis. They steal the police car and return to the office, where they collapse on the couch.

The Major's daughter appears and tosses a canister of gas into the room, then closes the door. She jammed the doors shut, and the office windows don't open. Laura rewires the air conditioner into an exhaust fan to suck away the fumes. Mildred returns from lunch and shortly thereafter, the postman arrives to pick up the forms. Laura is confused when the gas canister turns out to be completely harmless. Laura is about to seal the envelope but Steele drops some liquid onto the seal from his chemistry set and realizes that the glue was poisoned.

Some days later, Laura and Steele are disguised as post office employees and the Major appears to pick up his mail. He is arrested, but his daughter gets away, hiding in a postbox.

Movies:

Neptune's Daughter, Esther Williams, MGM 1949.

The Major and the Minor, Ray Milland, Ginger Rogers, Paramount 1942.

Notes:

A definite no-brainer. Hardly any dialog either, as we spend most of our time watching Steele and Laura run for their lives. Steele and Laura also draw conclusions much faster than could be reasonably expected. (Why did Laura stick her hand in the path of the gunfire? How did Steele know what poison the Major used?) And besides, you can't hide in a post box the way the Major's daughter did.

The pictures they find in the Major's parlor are Laura and Steele ringing the front door [32], Steele on the phone [31], Laura pushing Steele in a wheelchair [34], and Laura as a fashion model [33].

The date on the tombstones agrees with the original air date.

The incidental music is the same as from Descoine's previous appearance in *Steele Framed*.

During the fire scene, Steele isn't, then is, then isn't wearing his vest.

Jeff Melvoin

Seymour Robbie

02/28/84 10p Laura and Steele investigate the disappearance of a historian who stumbled onto a small
07/31/84 10p town's well-guarded secret.

Sheriff Jeff 'Jed' Nebbins	Paul Gleason
Winslow Avery	Ben Slack
Prof. Arthur Thickett	Jacques Aubuchon
Mayor Amaryllis MacKenzie	Carolyn Coates
Gun-happy townspeople?	Ford Rainey
Rachel	Jennifer Parsons
Betty Lynne?	Judith Searle
Rachel's mother?	Marilyn Schreffler
Townsperson	Ron Meszaros

Professor Thickett is in the DeNada town library eagerly doing research. The townsfolk eye him suspiciously. At closing time, he finds himself locked in and tries to escape, but is caught by the townsfolk.

Laura and Steele arrive in DeNada to find the missing professor, posing as colleagues from UCLA. Laura's hay fever starts acting up, and it remains a recurring problem for the entire episode. The gas station attendant seems friendly enough, that is until they ask after Thickett. A page is torn out of the town boarding house's register. The sheriff says that Thickett left town. As Steele and Laura walk through town, the townsfolk eye them suspiciously.

In the sheriff's office, the townsfolk are anxious for Laura and Steele to leave. Outside, Rachel tells our sleuths, "You can't stay here, please. You're already in danger," but doesn't elaborate. They go into the town diner where Laura suspects something is up. The Mayor and Winslow (town newspaper editor) join Laura and Steele. Winslow tells them, "Don't ask any questions," and notes that he's seen Steele somewhere before. Laura follows Rachel out, and Rachel tells her to leave, but doesn't say why. She offers to meet Laura at 3pm. The Mayor sees them.

Laura calls the office, and Mildred is about to give some important information when the phone suddenly goes dead. In the sheriff's office, Winslow identifies Steele as Steele, and the townsfolk wonder what to do next. The Mayor tells them to stay calm; there are only twenty-four hours left, and their seven years of work will be rewarded.

Mildred can't get through to Laura and decides to drive there herself. Laura and Steele drive to their rendezvous with Rachel and are chased and shot at, her car eventually forced into the river. They find Rachel's dead body.

They go to the sheriff, who brushes off everything. Laura realizes the entire town is in on it and wants to leave, but the car won't be fixed until Monday. We see Mildred zooming past in the Auburn, with a state trooper in pursuit. When Mildred can't make bail for speeding, the sheriff locks her up. She joins Thickett in jail. Laura and Steele visit the sheriff to bail out Mildred, but he says that they've closed for the weekend. He's also taken the liberty of disabling Steele's car.

Thickett finishes explaining to Mildred what's going on just as Laura and Steele arrive to spring them from jail. Laura discovers a huge stash of money, but there's no time to explain; Laura and Steele have to dash (leaving Mildred and Thickett still in jail) as they run for their lives from an angry torch-carrying mob.

In the woods, Laura and Steele huddle ("Strictly for warmth," explains Steele), and Steele tries to get cozy, but Laura's mind is on the case. The next morning, they find makeshift graves and airplane parts and piece together the puzzle. The Cleveland First City Bank was robbed seven years ago to the day. The culprits crash-landed in DeNada, and the townsfolk are sitting on the cash, waiting for the statute of limitations to expire.

The entire town is in the diner waiting for the clock to strike noon and the money to become theirs. Laura and Steele spring Mildred and Thickett, then hot-wire the sheriff's jeep to get out of town. They are shot at and brought back to the diner. Laura tells the townsfolk about Rachel's murder, and all are shocked. Laura notes that the Mayor overheard them set the meeting place, and the Mayor says the only people she told were Winslow and the sheriff. Steele notes that the perpetrator must have been left-handed and notes that Winslow is left-handed. Winslow pulls the sheriff's gun and tries to explain, "I was doing it all for you." Laura and Steele disarm him. Laura notes that Steele's logic was faulty, but Steele just shrugs it off.

Back at the office, Laura and Steele recap the case, and Mildred leaves for lunch with Professor Thickett. Steele produces two tickets to the ballet, which Laura finds worthy of sneezing at.

Movies:

A Bad Day at Black Rock, Spencer Tracy, Robert Ryan, MGM 1954.

In the Heat of the Night, Sidney Poitier, Rod Steiger, United Artists 1967.

Notes:

Continuity fun: When Steele and Laura find Rachel's body, their clothes are dry, even though they just waded out of the river.

Also, Laura says that 'today' is 28 February 1984, which does agree with the air date. Unfortunately, the story takes place on a Saturday, but 28 February 1984 was a Tuesday.

40	Molten Steele	3715
Richard Collins		Christopher Hibler
03/06/84 10p	A woman hires Laura and Steele to find out who had her name and number printed in a	
08/14/84 10p	sex-magazine ad.	
Emily Dumont	.....	Pippa Scott
Charles Dumont	.....	Bill Morey
Walter Muller	.....	John Furey
Anne Montague	.....	Ellen Regan
Tommy Montague	.....	John Bedford-Lloyd
Betsy Lindner	.....	Ellen Tobie
Phil Lindler?	.....	Jimmy Krell
Sandra Casson	.....	Andrea Moar
Jimmy Casson?	.....	Bill Marcus
Miss Hopkins?	.....	Brenda Currin
Mr. Ferschuer?	.....	Jonathan Terry

Mrs. Dumont stares at a ringing phone and finally answers it. She tells the caller to leave her alone and rushes out. The next day, she tells Laura and Steele that she had an affair with the mechanic who turned around and blackmailed her. When she didn't pay up, he printed her name and number in a sex magazine. Laura suggests she change her phone number, but Mrs. Dumont says that her husband (a big oil businessman) would want to know why.

Laura teases Steele for his more-than-casual interest in the contents of the sex magazine. While Laura helps Mrs. Dumont hide the facts from her husband (who just arrived by helicopter), Steele obtains incriminating evidence from the publisher of the magazine in question and confronts Muller, who tells him to buzz off. At a cocktail party at the Dumont residence, Laura is introduced to their neighbors, Jimmy and Sandra Casson, Tommy (the helicopter pilot) and Anne Montague, and Phil and Betsy Lindler. There is a scream as Muller's dead body is discovered in the yard.

That evening, Mrs. Dumont tells Laura and Steele that she told Charles everything, and Charles dismisses our sleuths with a generous fee. But Laura doesn't want to let go of the case; their only clue is a set of car keys they found in Muller's hand. At their respective residences, Anne, Betsy and Sandra are bawled out by their husbands for their indiscretion with Muller. Laura and Steele pay a late-night visit to Muller's office. When a car pulls up, Laura sneaks out to see if the key fits and Steele hides in the office. Jimmy comes in in and pokes around the office. Laura tries the key in Jimmy's car, but it doesn't fit. Laura gets trapped in the car as another car pulls up. Jimmy leaves, and Phil comes in. Phil leaves when Anne arrives. When Jimmy arrives home, Laura tries to sneak out but sets off the burglar alarm and manages to escape from the guard dogs. She walks back to Muller's where Steele drives her home. But on their way home, they are run off the road by an oil truck.

At a club, Steele goes through Muller's appointment book and notes that all three women were regular customers. While they dance, Laura muses how the marriages in Rancho Santa Louisa seem just to be false fronts.

Steele poses as a new car mechanic to try the keys in the women's cars, but it fits none of them. When Tommy asks Steele to repair a chronic oil leak, Steele sneaks the car out to a local garage for repair.

At Charles' office, Emily comes in with disturbing news: The autopsy says Muller's death was murder. Laura comes in, upset from being run off the road by one of Charles' trucks. Charles says one of his truck was stolen (then later recovered) and lets Laura see it. She finds pills on the seat. Charles notes that to drive one of these trucks, one would need lots of experience. He also advises Laura not to let her career get in the way of a relationship.

Steele returns to the garage to pick up the car, where an engine nearly falls on him. At the office, Mildred identifies the pills as nitroglycerin tablets for a heart condition. Laura crashes a tea party being thrown by Betsy and lets everyone know that Muller was servicing all of them. She shows them the keys and suggests that whoever recognizes them step forward before it's too late. As the ladies leave, Betsy identifies the keys as from her husband's car; Muller was working on it while they were at Emily's party. When they returned from the party, the car hood was up, the repairs unfinished. Laura concludes that Muller was killed while he was fixing the Lindners' car. Steele notices an oil stain in the driveway and realizes where it came from.

They arrive at the Montagues, who were on their way out. They escape in a motorboat, and Steele and Laura pursue in a helicopter. Steele leaves Laura to fly the copter while he jumps onto the boat and subdues Tommy. Unfortunately, Laura doesn't know how to fly a helicopter, much less land one.

At the club, Laura and Steele recap the case. Anne had the misfortune of falling in love with Muller. She invited him to run away with her, and when he laughed in her face, she coshed him with a wrench. Rather than expose an empty marriage, Tommy agreed to help her move the body. Laura and Steele spot the Dumonts dancing at the club and vice versa, then Laura invites Steele to explain how he learned to fly a helicopter.

Movies:

Peyton Place, Lana Turner, Lee Philips, Twentieth Century Fox 1957.

41

Dreams of Steele

3726

Brian Alan Lane

Don Weis

03/20/84 10p The reputation of the agency is at stake when the rare gems Laura and Steele were hired
09/04/84 10p to transport are switched with fakes en-route to their destination.

Clarissa Custer	.....	Judith Light
Archie Doke	.....	Woodrow Parfrey
Mr. Holmes?	.....	Jack Gwillim
Todd Doke	.....	Robert Harper
Jacques?	.....	Lomax Study
Reporter?	.....	Jim Tartan
Man at aquarium?	.....	Tom Everett

At a dinner in honor of Steele, Steele starts taking credit for Laura’s work, and Laura can’t stand it any more. She takes the microphone and reveals Steele to be a fraud. Steele is taken away. Outside, Laura is signing autographs and Steele (now a street bum) begs a quarter from her, “for old time’s sake.” She tosses the quarter into the gutter and leaves, laughing.

Laura wakes up from her nap. They’ve been hired to transport the Royal Lavulite gems, the gems that brought Steele into Laura’s life in the first place. Steele is in charge of all the security arrangements. They pick up the gems to great media fanfare, and Steele’s plan is to drive the gems to Los Angeles. Laura wakes up from a little nap in the car and notices a peculiar odor coming from the briefcase the jewels are in. Steele pulls off the road for a picnic, after which he’ll change cars. But a bulldozer suddenly appears and pushes the car down the hill. Laura sees a helicopter overhead and finds a homing device attached to the car. Luckily, the briefcase lock is intact. At Los Angeles, the gem inspector proclaims the jewels a fake, and in the ensuing struggle, the gems are tossed into the lake. The lake is dredged, and the jewels found. But when Steele inspects them, they’re fakes.

In a dream, Steele is in a French casino and turns over the Royal Lavulite to Jacques, who notes that this is the longest it’s taken him to accomplish a mission. Steele says he was sidetracked by a woman. Steele is about to leave with a sexy blonde when Nora Bolt (Laura) comes in and begs him to take her back. He leaves with the blonde, and turns to see Nora making out with a sailor and knocking over a bottle of champagne.

Steele wakes up when the car he is driving sideswipes a few garbage pails. They visit Archie Doke, the gem inspector, since Steele figures he pulled a switch on them when the bulldozer attempt failed. They break in and find a bottle of the scent Laura smelled on the briefcase. They also find Archie’s dead body in the bedroom.

Clarissa, the insurance representative, apologizes to Laura and Steele for hiring them on the case; she thought it would just be some easy publicity for the agency. She tells Laura and Steele that their fee is being held up pending an investigation. She says that Archie died of a heart attack. He was a recent widower, his only remaining family being his son Todd. She also warns them that if the gems don’t turn up soon, the insurance company will be forced to conclude that Steele stole them himself.

Laura and Steele go to the Hayden Institute of Oceanography to talk to Todd. Steele investigates a helicopter Laura sees, while Laura pokes around Todd’s office. She finds a vial of the same scent in the trash, then sees a box in the water tank. She goes out to the tank to fish it out, but Todd sneaks up behind her and pushes her in, locking the grating. Steele finds tracking equipment in the helicopter and goes to Todd’s office. Through the window to the tank, we see Laura bang on the window but Steele doesn’t see her until he finds Laura’s purse. He smashes the window. Inside the box Laura picked up is a fish head, nothing more.

They return to the office, where Mildred says that all their clients have cancelled, and their licence has been suspended. Laura gives Mildred the scent sample for lab analysis, and suggests to Steele that they get cleaned up.

In the shower, Steele slips into a dream. He answers the door to his apartment to find Nora with sacks of groceries, her hair in curlers, and pregnant. The apartment is a mess and Steele settles down to watch the ball game. Nora climbs onto his lap and starts kissing him, but Steele would rather watch the game. (“Don’t you ever get enough?”) Nora fetches the babies, and the door rings. It’s a very rich Auntie Mildred who says hi to baby Nora and baby Remington. Nora asks Mildred when she’s going to settle down and

have a family of her own, and Mildred says, “Over my dead body.” Steele wakes up from his dream. “I’ve got it. The body.”

They break into the mortuary, where Steele suspects the gems were hidden with the body. They find Archie’s ashes, but no gems. When they hear people coming, they hide in a coffin, and a mystery figure locks them in and adds a nameplate. While hiding, Steele and Laura talk about dreams. The workers load the coffin into the crematory, but Laura and Steele escape.

They return to the office and put together a theory. Mildred has the lab report: The scent was from an underwater grass. Steele realizes what’s up and he and Laura go back to the lake. They find the jewels in the swan dung, and Laura leaves a business card in their place.

At Steele’s apartment, Todd comes in with a gun. He explains he did it as a favor for his father and takes the jewels. When he tries to leave, Mildred comes in from the kitchen with a gun of her own. But Clarissa was hiding behind the curtain with her own gun. She was the one who tempted Archie into pulling the theft in the first place, and it was she who locked them into the coffin. Steele pulls the rug out from under her, and a struggle ensues. Laura and Clarissa fall off the balcony.

Steele dreams of Nora’s funeral; only he and Mildred attend. He reassures Mildred the he can manage on his own, and we see the blonde from Nice in the limo. Nora bursts out of the coffin, “Hey! Don’t think you can get rid of me that easily, Mr. Steele.”

In the hospital, Laura lies unconscious, her head bandaged, and a smile on her face. The doctor says that Laura was lucky that the hedge broke her fall, and suggests that she be left alone. On his way out, Steele wishes her, “Sweet dreams, Miss Holt.” Laura responds, “You too, Mr. Steele.”

Movies:

Ocean’s Eleven, Frank Sinatra, Richard Conte and the Rat Pack, Warner Brothers 1960.

Notes:

The dinner banner read “The Society for American Heroes Honors Remington Steele.”

Newspaper headlines in the first dream: “Laura Holt Disarms Terrorist Bomb”, “Holt Foils Assassination Plot”, and “Holt Recovers Mona Lisa.”

Throughout the dreams, Laura’s name is ‘Nora Bolt’, taken from Laura’s first dream.

42 **Woman of Steele** 3724
 Susan Baskin Christopher Hibler

03/27/84 10p With the agency guarding an art collection, Steele is distracted by a woman from his past,
 07/24/84 10p and Laura intends to learn the woman’s intentions regarding the collection—and Steele.
 Brosnan’s wife plays Anna Simpson.

Anna Simpson	Cassandra Harris
Raymond Merleau	James Laurenson
Man in bar	Christopher Stone
Caroline Welles	Eve Roberts
Herbert Welles	John Devlin
Pawn shopkeeper	John Del Regno
Butler	Jim Jansen

Caroline Welles hires the agency to oversee security arrangements at an art exhibition of the Walter Patton collection. While going over the details, Steele sees a woman and excuses himself. The woman leaves with Raymond, and she reassures him that there is nothing between her and Steele.

At a club, Laura and Steele join Caroline and Herb Welles for dinner. Music plays and Steele sees the woman come in with Raymond. Steele’s mind is elsewhere, and Laura tries to carry the conversation. Steele goes to the woman but she denies knowing him. When Steele returns to the table, he finds that Laura has already gone home. Raymond warns the woman that she’s walking on thin ice.

Steele goes to Laura’s apartment and explains: The mystery woman is a clone of Anna Simpson, a woman he knew from Monte Carlo who died the night they were to go away together. He apologizes and thanks Laura for her understanding. When he returns to his apartment, Steele finds Anna already there. When she confirms that it really is her, Steele has mixed feelings. He’s elated that she’s alive, but mad that she didn’t tell him. Steele asks her why she came back, and she just tells him, “I’m still in danger,” and says his involvement can only make things worse. Raymond watches Anna leave Steele’s apartment.

Steele arrives the next morning, unhappy. Laura identifies the mystery woman as Lydia Vanowen, soon to be married to the wealthy Walter Patton. Steele says nothing and leaves. Laura is dumbfound and starts some investigating of her own.

Steele arrives at the Patton estate, and Anna tells him he shouldn’t be here. She explains that she married Raymond and faked her death to cash in on the life insurance. Raymond returned when he learned of her engagement to Walter Patton and offered not to tell Patton the truth if she in turned shared the loot with him. Anna says she was content with the arrangement until Steele showed up. If Raymond sees Steele, he’ll suspect that Steele is going to blow the whistle. Steele reassures Anna that he’ll take care of Raymond. As Steele leaves, Laura pulls up. She wants to know what is going on. Steele isn’t very forthcoming, and Laura just tells him that the ball is in his court.

When Raymond confronts Anna with his knowledge of her visit to Steele’s apartment, she explains that Steele is blackmailing her; if she doesn’t pay, Steele will tell Patton the truth. Raymond reassures Anna that he’ll take care of Steele.

Steele phones Mildred and asks her to dig up whatever she can on Merleau. Merleau drives past, and Steele follows him to a pawn shop, where he learns that he bought a gun.

Laura returns to the office and tries calmly to discuss with Mildred her relationship with Steele. Laura realizes that there is a third party forcing her and Steele apart. She goes to the art gallery and learns from Caroline that Lydia (Anna) was the one who recommended the agency. She also knew that Steele would be at the museum to go over security and at the club for dinner afterwards.

The next morning, Steele is busy planning his next move. Laura asks him if he’s going to let Anna marry Patton, and Steele admits he hasn’t thought that far ahead yet. Laura tells Steele that Anna’s reappearance was not accidental, but Steele explains that she needed to contact him without drawing suspicion. Steele confronts Raymond with his outstanding police record and tells him to buzz off.

Laura confronts Anna at the gallery and tells her she knows why she came back. Anna in turn tries to find out what exactly is the relationship between Laura and Steele. After some verbal sparring, Anna leaves and Laura follows her to a country-western tavern. Laura waits in the car, and inside, Anna makes eyes at one of the bar denizens. They leave for the motel next door, but once inside, Anna dumps him and insults

him until he slaps her. She checks herself in the mirror and thanks him, then leaves. Laura sees Anna leave and a confused man return to the tavern. She talks to him and learns what happened.

That evening, Steele visits Anna and finds the bruise on her face. He concludes that Raymond did it. Anna tells Steele that Raymond asked her to show up at the club with “my first installment” and Steele storms out. Laura arrives just too late to stop Steele and follows in her car. Anna calls the hotel where Raymond is staying and tells him that Steele demanded the first installment from her, to be paid at the club.

Steele picks the lock to the club and walks cautiously with his gun poised. Raymond comes in and Steele tells him “She’s not coming.” Raymond takes a shot at him, and Steele ducks for cover. Laura comes in and tells them both they’ve been set up. Raymond says he’s invested too much to let either of them get away. Meanwhile Anna arrives at the club and waits outside in her car. Laura and Steele subdue Raymond, but he eventually gets away. We hear a gunshot, then Raymond stumbles back into the bar and dies.

Anna comes in. “Darling, you’re alive.” Steele realizes Anna can say that Raymond killed Steele, then she shot Raymond in self-defence. Anna tries to charm Steele, but he is not won over. She raises her gun, but Laura disarms her.

Steele pays a visit to Laura at her apartment with a bottle of Dom Perignon, a gift from Caroline. He says he came to explain some things and reassures Laura that his relationship with Anna was in the past, and it will remain there. He notes that Laura has changed him, and they drink to the present, and the future.

Movies:

Vertigo, James Stewart, Kim Novak, Paramount 1958.

Obsession, Cliff Robertson, Geneviève Bujold, Columbia 1976.

Notes:

A good suspense story. Anna executes a top-rate swindle.

Jeff Melvoin

Don Weis

05/15/84 10p Mildred's moonlighting as a detective turns up a dead Interpol agent and puts Laura and
 08/28/84 10p Steele on the trail of an international master thief.

Kevin Masters	J. D. Cannon
Anatole Blaylock	Tom Baker
Shirley Mellish	Nita Talbot
Susan Claireborne	Sarah Marshall
Rose	Doris Belack
Hazel	Freddie Weber
Ester	Paddi Edwards
Delivery man?	Stephen James
Lieutenant Tom?	James Hardie
Jonathan Hemmings?	Brian Greene
Diamond 1?	Lawrence Benedict

Mildred goes to a motel and retrieves a pet dog. As she leaves the room, a man comes in and takes a shot at her while she makes her escape. Steele arrives at the office to find Mildred not in and Laura trying to hold down the fort. When Mildred's bowling team come in and mention that Mildred is on a case, Laura and Steele go to Mildred's apartment to see what is the matter and leave Susan Claireborne (who had arrived for an appointment) to man the phones. Meanwhile, Mildred is on the run from the gunman.

At Mildred's house, Laura and Steele find everything in perfect order and realize that, aside from her bowling team, they're the only friends she has. They spot a man peeking through the window and chase him, but he gets away. They return to the office to find Kevin Masters, a charming retired gentleman, inquiring after his dog. The dog comes in, followed by Mildred, who collapses on the floor.

While Mildred rests on the couch, Laura and Steele piece together what happened. Shirley Mellish (a dog groomer) was caring for Masters' dog when it was stolen. Hazel recommended hiring Mildred. Laura is upset that she now has *two* fraudulent detectives to cover for. While Steele mends his pants after another run-in with the dog, Masters and Mildred get acquainted. Laura notices an expensive diamond collar on the dog, and the gunman comes in and takes the dog at gunpoint.

Masters hires Laura and Steele to get his dog back, and offers the diamond collar as collateral. Laura wonders why the gunman wanted the dog and not the diamond collar. Mildred admits that she told her friends that she was a detective, and Laura and Steele help maintain her charade in front of her friends.

Laura and Steele return to the motel where they hear shot fired and see the gunman getting away. They recover the dog and find dead the man who was snooping at Mildred's apartment. Jonathan Hemmings, Interpol. Laura learns that Hemmings was trying to catch Blaylock, a former Interpol agent who was in charge of catching the master thief 'Le Renard'. When he failed, he was fired, but this hasn't stopped him from using false Interpol credentials.

Mildred has a nice chat with Masters at her apartment; she is clearly charmed. As Masters leaves, we see that Blaylock is watching. Back at his apartment, Steele tries to train the dog, with little success. Laura goes through Steele's 'scrapbook of larceny' to see what she can find on Le Renard. She recognizes the diamond collar as one of the items that Le Renard stole and realizes that Masters is Le Renard and the dog is his trusty assistant Doolittle.

Laura and Steele visit Masters at his modest home to return his dog, and confront him with their knowledge. But they see no reason to turn him in. Mildred is kidnaped by Blaylock, and he forces her to call Masters. Masters tells Laura and Steele that Blaylock wants him to steal the Jennings Diamond, or he'll kill Mildred. Laura and Steele offer to help.

As they break into the gem exchange, it becomes apparent that Masters is not physically up to the task. Back at Mildred's apartment, Blaylock calls the police to report the robbery in progress. That's what he wanted all along: To catch Le Renard once and for all. Mildred's bowling team stop by and Blaylock tells her to shoo them off, which she does, but not before dropping them a hint. Back at the gem exchange, Masters injures his ankle, leaving Laura, Steele and Doolittle to complete the heist on their own.

Blaylock takes Mildred to the pier to kill her, but she gets away. Blaylock takes a shot at her, and she falls into the water. While Steele completes the heist, Laura spots Mildred's bowling team outside, where they are taken away by a detective. Laura realizes that it's a set-up and tells Steele to put the diamond

back. Outside, more police arrive, saying that they got an emergency call from an old man who got locked into the building. The detectives frisk Masters, Laura, and Steele, and Blaylock appears and says that they have the Jennings Diamond. But they don't. A damp Mildred runs up and tells the cops to arrest Blaylock. Blaylock makes a run for it, but Doolittle catches him.

At the office, Masters says that "The Fox has finally retired." Steele says that Blaylock has gone loony and shouldn't pose any more of a threat. Mildred arrives and picks up her secretarial work right where she left off.

Movies:

Old Yeller

Notes:

Tom Baker is better-known to most Americans as 'Doctor Who'. It's amusing to see how many of his mannerisms still survive.

Michael Gleason

Seymour Robbie

05/22/84 10p Mystery buffs have signed up for a make-believe case that's actually a scheme to locate a
12/25/84 10p murderous embezzler.

Rocky Sullivan	.....	Lynne Randall
Sherlock Holmes	.....	Peter Evans
Mr. Moto	.....	Keone Young
Eddie Lucas	.....	Barry Jenner
Philip Marlowe	.....	David Garrison
Doctor Watson?	.....	William Griffiths
Miss Marple	.....	Pearl Shear
Agnes Fowler?	.....	Libby Boone
Patient?	.....	Adele Rossé
Bernard Geiger?	.....	Paul Keith
Clerk?	.....	Alan Blumenfeld

Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson break into Rocky Sullivan's apartment, and she escapes on a motorcycle, though she needs extreme tactics to flag down a police officer. Back at the office, huge bouquets of flowers arrive for Laura from an unidentified secret admirer, and since there's no more room room in her office, she keeps them in Steele's office. Steele takes a call from Rocky Sullivan.

They visit her in the mental ward where she explains that Holmes and Watson were chasing her. Steele thinks she's lost her marbles until Laura spots a Rolls Royce with "the steering wheel on the wrong side". They get Rocky released and leave, intentionally letting Holmes and Watson follow them, then trap them in an alley. Holmes (Howard Epps) and Watson (George Hoffman) explain that they're just playing a game. For \$500 they get to impersonate their favorite fictional sleuth and pursue a fake case. Their assignment was to find Rocky. The big case is the embezzlement of \$750,000 where the suspect commits suicide when bank inspectors arrive. The money was never recovered, and he was being blackmailed due to an alleged involvement with Rocky. But when Holmes mentions Eddie Lucas, the brains behind the blackmail scheme, Rocky panics and backs out. Steele cajoles Laura into pursuing the case.

While Steele and Laura break into the Mystery Buff's main office, Laura tries to guess who her secret admirer is. The office is empty, except for an answering machine. On the machine are messages from Philip Marlowe and Mr. Moto. Moto says he's found Bernard Geiger, and they leave to meet him. Moto arrives at Geiger's soft porn photo studio and confronts him with a picture of Rocky with another gentleman in a compromising position. He asks after Eddie Lucas and gets thrown out. Geiger calls Lucas in a panic, and Lucas arranges a meeting in the park. Laura and Steele arrive and wait for someone to make a move.

While they're waiting, Laura accuses Steele of pursuing the case to keep her mind off her secret admirer; Steele in turn accuses Laura of using the situation to make him jealous, then notes how the arrival of the secret admirer has forced him to realize how much she means to him. Geiger leaves, followed by Moto, followed by Laura and Steele. At the park, Geiger approaches a car, and is shot by an unseen gunman, who drives away. Moto finds the body and is pleased, then leaves. Laura and Steele arrive. Geiger is dead. For real.

Laura and Steele talk to Rocky at the club and she excuses herself to prepare for her act. All the sleuths arrive and Miss Marple (Ruth Gompers) and Philip Marlow (John Wiggins) and Mr. Moto (Winston Sakata) introduce themselves. Laura and Steele tell the amateur sleuths that their case is for real. Winston says he got Lucas' licence plate and has it at home. Rocky (under the name Sandy Stevens) starts her singing act with 'Who's Sorry Now'. She starts panicking when a large fellow comes in, and once her song is over, she runs out, the man follows, and Laura and Steele pursue. They rescue Rocky but the man gets away. Rocky explains that it was Vince Pappus, her ex-husband. She identifies the man in the Mr. Moto's photo as Arthur Fowler (the embezzling bank official), whom Eddie sent her way with instructions to get him into bed. She refused, and claims that the picture must have been doctored by Geiger. Vince Pappus was Lucas's driver (and possibly ran other errands). Laura suggests Rocky stay with her. As Winston and Steele arrive at Winston's place to get the licence number, shots ring out; Winston is dead.

The next morning, Mildred digs up the information on Fowler. He committed suicide as bank examiners discovered a \$750,000 embezzlement scheme. His only remaining family is a daughter Agnes. The amateur sleuths come in and ask Steele to drop the case before there's another death. Steele gives a moving speech to

change their mind. Marlowe says he found that Pappus opened his own limousine service. Laura phones the limousine service and requests Pappus specifically, only to find that someone else called for him specifically just a short time ago.

They find Pappus, dead. Steele storms off angrily, furious that it seems someone is always one step ahead of them, as if they knew what they were going to do before they do it. He tears up Pappus's apartment and finds note paper with the legend, 'Edwin Lawton Investments'. Back at the office, Laura studies the taped messages on the Mystery Buff's Hotline. Steele calls, informing Laura that he thinks he's found Lucas.

At the golf course, Steele (as Johnny Todd) has Lawton paged, whom Rocky recognizes as Eddie Lucas. He tells Rocky to go back to Laura's apartment and lock the door, but not after Lucas gets a good look at her. Steele tells Lucas he knows about the scheme and blackmails him for \$50,000, the money to be dropped at Rocky's apartment.

At Rocky's apartment, Laura and Steele wait for Eddie to arrive. Miss Marple arrives, and Laura unmask her as Agnes Fowler. Laura explains that there were no messages from Miss Marple on the answering machine tape—because she was the one who was picking up the messages. Agnes wants to avenge her father's death, and was forced to kill Winston when he was about to produce the licence plate. Lucas calls, saying that he's tied up at the office and asks Steele to come by. But he's really waiting outside the door to Rocky's apartment. Steele realizes that the next person to step out the door is going to get shot, and Agnes runs out, so that her death will vindicate her father. Lucas shoots her, then Laura and Steele disarm Lucas.

Back at the office, Holmes, Watson, and Marlowe invite Rocky to sing at their Mystery Buff's Ball. They leave with her, and Laura comes in, clutching a file. She had Mildred check out the local florists and turned up a bill for \$3000, charged to the agency, signed by Steele. Mildred comes in with more flowers, and Steele insists he didn't send them. Laura just smiles knowingly.

Movies:

Death Race 2000

The Big Sleep, Bogart.

Notes:

Attention to detail: Notice the bruise over Laura's left eye the day after the struggle with Pappus.

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Third Season (1984–1985)

Remington Steele

Starring

Stephanie Zimbalist [as Laura Holt]

and

Pierce Brosnan [as Remington Steele]

Also starring

Doris Roberts [as Mildred Krebs]

[on opening credits]

Theme music by Henry Mancini

Musical score by Richard Lewis Warren*

Created by

Michael Gleason and Robert Butler

Executive Producer

Michael Gleason

* Except in the episode *Gourmet Steele*, in which the musical score was written by Arthur Kempel.

Remington Steele received one Emmy nomination: Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Drama Series (Doris Roberts).

45

Steele At It

4707

Jeff Melvoin

Don Weis

09/25/84 10p Laura is ready for romance as the third season opens on the French Riviera. Steele, however,
03/26/85 10p is involved with a Frenchwoman and linked to a theft, and to Laura, these are situations
equally compromising. Filmed on location.

Inspector Vouray	André Maranne
Henri Lebret	Jacques Maury
Freddie Smith	Mark Burns
Joelle Lebret	Marianne Lawrence
Ron?	Bob Sherman
Lieutenant?	Claude le Saché

While Laura performs with the Stanford University Alumni Glee Club in Cannes, Steele breaks into a hotel and steals a jewel-encrusted dagger. He discards a black dickey, and escapes on a motorcycle. During intermission, Laura confides in Mildred that “tonight’s the night” she and Steele are going to take the big step, except Steele doesn’t know it yet. Ron (the choir director) asks Laura to dinner, but she turns him down politely. Meanwhile, Steele and a mystery woman kiss, and she leaves on her own motorcycle with the dagger. Steele just arrives at the end of the concert, and Laura suspects he wasn’t in attendance. Ron reluctantly escorts Mildred to the reception.

At the reception, they meet Inspector Vouray, who is honored to be in the presence of the great Remington Steele. When Vouray is called away, Laura offers to leave early, and Steele agrees. But Vouray informs them that the Hapsburg Dagger has been stolen and asks Steele to help with the investigation, who very reluctantly agrees. At the scene of the crime, Vouray (lighting his pipe) tosses a matchstick into a garbage pail which lands on the dickey. Steele hides it, but Laura finds it and starts drawing several conclusions, to Steele’s dismay. Back at the hotel, Laura invites herself into Steele’s room, hinting strongly. But in the room is the mystery woman who rushes to Steele and hugs him.

Steele talks to the mystery woman (Joelle) and her father Henri at their place. Henri explains he got hit on the head and when he awoke, the dagger was stolen. Steele realizes he’s in a major bind, enlisted by Vouray to solve the very crime he committed, and with Laura turning up evidence left and right. As if things couldn’t get worse, three gun-toting tough guys barge in.

The next morning, Laura rings Steele’s hotel room, but nobody answers. Vouray tells Laura that the motorcycle they found was rented to a John Roby. Vouray leaves, and Ron and Mildred arrive. Ron asks Laura to a harbor cruise, but Laura offloads him on Mildred. Outside, Laura recognizes the name John Roby and sees Steele running for his life along the beach. She joins him as they steal a boat are followed by the Pallermo brothers. Laura tells Steele the game is up, and Steele stalls while he plans their escape. He abandons the boat, using Laura’s purse to tie the steering wheel in place so the Pallermo brothers continue to follow it. They swim ashore, and Laura attacks him, furious. Steele promises, no more tricks, and takes Laura to see the Lebrets.

Steele explains he and Henri were smugglers. Henri then opened a hotel in Cannes, which became known for being discreet about its visitors. The sale of the Hapsburg dagger was to take place there, but the Pallermo brother got wind of it, so Steele agreed to steal the dagger first, then return it after the Pallermo brothers left. And Laura’s invitation for the Glee Club European tour coincided beautifully. The Pallermo brothers now think Steele has the dagger, which he doesn’t. Henri commends Laura on her dedication to her partner. She corrects him, “Ex-partner. When this case is finished, so are we.”

They two leave the hotel, but Laura refuses to talk to him. Laura explains that she’s only doing this to save her own career. To get Mildred out of their hair, Steele tells her to play baccarat on his personal line of credit. They argue about their so-called partnership, and Laura decides that mixing business and pleasure was a bad idea. Steele sees the Beau Geste and realizes that Freddie Smith is behind the theft. They narrowly escape getting hit by car, and follow, first in a taxi, then on a tandem bicycle. But the bicycle has no brakes, and they land in a vegetable cart. Laura hears on the walkie-talkie that a warrant has been put out for Steele’s arrest, and they make a run for it.

At the casino, Mildred is flying high, and takes a call from Laura and Steele for equipment. The pair swim on board the Beau Geste, with evening clothes under their wetsuits, and join the party. Laura keeps Freddie occupied while Steele pokes around his stateroom. Freddie and Laura come in, and Steele hides in

the bathroom. Laura sees Steele and starts kissing Freddie madly, keeping him distracted until Steele gets out. Steele knocks on the door and tells Freddie that there's trouble on deck. Steele breaks into Freddie's safe, while he and Laura continue to argue. Freddie returns, and Laura keeps him busy again until Steele can get out. As Laura and Steele swim ashore, Freddie realizes that the dagger is missing.

When they arrive on shore, the Pallermo brothers are waiting for them and take the dagger. The Pallermo brother leave, but machine gun fire is heard, a jeep scurries off, and Laura and Steele find their dead bodies. Laura finds matchsticks by the bodies.

They pay an angry visit to Vouray and tell him they know who has the dagger. Laura explains that whoever it is must have lots of contacts, and access to wiretap equipment. Vouray leaves to fetch a notepad, and he pulls a gun, but Laura and Steele have their own guns trained on him. Steele recovers the dagger while Laura explains how Vouray learned of the entire situation from his wiretaps and wanted the money for himself as a comfortable retirement benefit. The lieutenant arrives to take Vouray away. But as they're leaving, the lieutenant tells them, "That's my car, over there." The car is the one that ran them down earlier. Steele throws the dagger at Vouray and disarms the lieutenant.

At the hotel, Steele savors his first finder's fee, but finds out that Mildred ran up a casino tab of 224,000 francs. Steele reluctantly hands over the finder's fee. Out on the balcony, Laura admits that they make a great investigating team, but it's when the relationship turns to more than business that trouble starts. Steele agrees, to Laura's relief, and predicts it'll last only a week.

Movies:

The Maltese Falcon

To Catch a Thief, Cary Grant, Grace Kelly, Paramount 1955.

Beau Geste

Goldfinger, Sean Connery, Gert Frobe, United Artists 1964.

Notes:

Continuity fun: The lips and audio don't match when the Glee Club sings *I've Got Plenty of Nothing*.

46

Lofty Steele

4703

Brad Kern

Burt Brinckerhoff

10/02/84 10p When Laura refuses to believe a ruse to get her out of her apartment for a while, she's
04/16/85 10p drugged and kidnapped so her loft can be searched for something hidden in the walls.

Charly Thomas	Gregg Henry
Burt Dixon	Joe Lambie
Mr. Putnam	Ron O'Neal
Lester Bartholomew	Armin Shimerman
Mr. Matthews	James David Hinton
Miss Livermore	Susan Ruttan
Miss Martin?	Anita Dangler
Cecil Cosgrove	Raye Birk
Receptionist?	Carmen Filpi
Helga?	Kelly Ann Conn

We see a man released from jail, and he heads straight for Laura's loft. Laura comes home and he claims to be the electrician. Laura asks to see his work order and checks her jewelry box; nothing is missing. When she comes back to the main room, the man is gone. Outside, a different man checks Laura's name on her mailbox as Steele arrives to pick her up for a 'Save the Whales' fundraiser. Before they leave, Laura talks to the manager, Mr. Thomas, a robotics nut. But he says he knows nothing about any work order and says perhaps the corporation sent him. Laura sends Steele on ahead while she changes into an evening dress and goes to the managing corporation. After Laura exchanges some harsh words with the clerk, Mr. Matthews steps forward. He notes that there have been robberies in the neighborhood recently, and offers to put up Laura in a hotel if she wants. Laura says that isn't necessary.

Matthews visits a school classroom where he talks to Mr. Dixon at a parent-teacher day. He tells Dixon that they followed Cosgrove to the loft, and Dixon says he waited 2.5 years for the papers. Matthews understands.

Laura and Steele return from the fundraiser, and Laura talks to Lester Bartholomew, the downstairs tenant, about the recent robbery, but he just slams the door in their faces. They return to Laura's loft, where Steele checks the windows and closets, and notes how it's curious that Laura's is the only loft that was broken into. Steele offers to spend the night on the couch, but Laura insists she can take care of herself, thanks the same. Once Steele leaves, a man comes up from behind her and kidnaps her.

It's nearly 10am, and Laura hasn't come in to work yet, so Steele goes to her loft to see what is up. Laura is in the mental ward at New Horizons Hospital and she manages to escape through the ventilation ducts and get to a phone to call Mildred before she is found out. Mildred realizes she must rescue Laura herself. Meanwhile, Steele finds Laura's car still parked by her apartment and wanders into her loft, where two people dash out. He tries to follow them and narrowly escapes being run over. Mildred arrives at the hospital and rescues Laura in a messy escape.

Steele pokes around Laura's loft to find holes in the walls everywhere. The mystery man bashes Steele on the head from behind and escapes as Laura arrives (with Bartholomew, who is mighty upset). While Laura changes into more appropriate dress, Bartholomew returns with the other tenants, and a petition to have Laura evicted. But their unpleasantness is interrupted by a fire. Charly and Steele go down into the basement to see why the sprinklers aren't working, while the rest go out the fire escape. Steele wrests with the valve while Charly escapes. Outside, Laura asks Charly where Steele is, and he can only shake his head.

The fire is out, and Laura goes into the basement to look for Steele. The fire chief notes that it was a good thing Steele got the sprinklers going before he... Laura finds Steele in a coal chute. The fire chief notes that the valve was intentionally jammed shut.

Steele suspects that whoever did it is after something in Laura's loft, and Laura is determined to find out who the previous tenant was. Meanwhile, Bartholomew blames the events of the day on Laura and Steele, and he and Steele exchange some unkind words.

Laura is given the runaround, but she eventually (and exasperatedly) talks to Mr. Dixon, the president. He lets Laura see the file of the previous tenant: a company owned by Cecil Cosgrove.

Laura presents Steele with her information, but Steele already has it. He used the fingerprints on the vase that Cosgrove used to bash him on the head. Apparently, Cosgrove was jailed for embezzling over

\$1 million, and was released yesterday. Laura identifies the electrician as Cosgrove, and Steele suspects he came back to retrieve the money. Laura and Steele go to the loft, only to see Cosgrove taken away, dead.

Back at the office, Mildred digs up more background. Cosgrove's money hasn't yet turned up. Even more strangely, Cosgrove's company was intentionally run into the ground by its owner, Econocon Oil. Creative bookkeeping let Econocon make a profit on the entire undertaking. Laura suspects that the key to the case is still in the loft.

Since the loft is cordoned off, they enlist Mildred to distract the police while they break in. They bump into Bartholomew, who admits that he's not a writer (as he always claimed) but a stock analyst. He pretended to be a writer hoping he'd make friends, but it didn't help. Laura and Steele continue up the stairs to her loft, where they see Dixon and Matthews remove an envelope from her walls. They attack them and get away with the envelope, hiding in Charly's room. Laura realizes it was Dixon who was the embezzler, and he pinned it on Cosgrove. Cosgrove went quietly to jail so he could blackmail Dixon when he got out. Steele uses Charly's robots to disarm and distract them so he and Laura can subdue them.

The next day, Laura, Steele and Mildred help clean up the loft while recapping the case. The envelope contained an audit that Cosgrove commissioned which proved that Dixon was behind the scheme. The tenants (sans Bartholomew) stop by and apologize, saying that it was all Bartholomew's idea. Laura sticks up for him and goes down to pay a visit. She knocks on the door and says hello, but Bartholomew just slams the door in her face.

Movies:

Moby Dick (three versions)

The Great Escape, Steve McQueen, James Garner, United Artists 1963.

Notes:

Even though this is a third season episode, it uses the second season intro.

Cosgrove finds a picture of Laura and Abby from *Sting of Steele*.

Having Mildred dress as a bag lady is an underhanded reference to Doris Roberts' Emmy-winning performance of same in *St. Elsewhere*. (*St. Elsewhere* and *Remington Steele* were both produced by MTM.)

47

Maltese Steele

4713

John Wirth

Seymour Robbie

10/16/84 10p While searching for a missing body on the island of Malta, Laura and Steele acquire a
 06/04/85 10p seemingly insignificant piece of brass that could be the key to a legendary treasure—or it
 could get them killed. [Filmed on location.]

Margaret Cable Susan Penhaligon
 Edvard Jensen Frederick Jaegar
 Newton Borg-Ward John Malcom
 Hector Tolouse? Derek Benfield
 Benjamin Carlisle Ian Tyler
 Wallace Carlisle Bruce Boa

The burglar alarm at a museum rings, and a man is chased by the security. He attaches an artifact to a falcon's leg and lets it go. When the security guard arrives, he bites a poison capsule and dies. After the guard leaves, a woman comes in and the man gets up; it was a fake capsule. "The guy thought I was dead." "The guy was right." She shoots him. "You *are* dead."

Wallace Carlisle hires Laura and Steele to find his nephew Benjamin (whom we recognize as the dead man from the opening) in Malta. He received a casket containing what was claimed to be his nephew's body, but it was the wrong body. Laura and Steele (and Mildred) fly to Malta with the coffin. As Mildred argues with the customs inspector, a distinguished gentleman watches. Steele accuses Laura of bringing Mildred along as a buffer between them, but Laura insists Mildred is an asset. The only transport they can manage is a horse-drawn cart. As they travel through town, Laura snaps photos while the townspeople lavish them with food.

They go to the town mortician who refuses that there was a paperwork botch. While they talk to him, Hector steals the body. Laura and Steele give chase on foot. Hector takes the artifact from the body, but Steele catches up and a fight ensues. Hector makes a run for it, but is hit by a car, driven by . . . the woman from the opening.

Margaret is distressed that she hit Hector, and she breaks down crying and Steele consoles her. In the background, the distinguished gentleman watches. Steele has the artifact (which he doesn't yet recognize as an artifact) and wonders why Hector wanted it. They find the name of the dead man and make plans to visit his grave that evening, hoping to find Benjamin's body.

In the hotel lobby, Margaret is distraught and Steele comforts her. She flirts with him, and he returns the favor. Mildred comes down to find a drink for her, courtesy of the distinguished gentleman, who introduces himself as Edvard Jensen. He sweet-talks her, and Mildred is smitten. Laura arrives, sees Steele with Margaret and Mildred with Edvard, and realizes she's out of place. After introductions all around, Steele suggests they all have dinner together. Margaret and Edvard privately argue over the disposition of the treasure.

After dinner, Laura and Steele go to the graveyard, followed independently by Margaret and Edvard. They open the coffin; there is no body. Steele recognizes the artifact as a piece of a Maltese cross. The caretaker arrives and shots are fired (by Margaret and Edvard).

Laura and Steele turn in for the night (into separate rooms). Margaret visits Steele's room, scared for her life. Steele shows her the artifact, and she starts to cozy up to Steele. She sees Edvard outside the window, and as they kiss, she pulls a gun out of her purse. But before she can do anything more, we hear Laura scream. Somebody tried to strangle her, and Steele's arrival scared him away. Laura is furious that Steele was entertaining a guest while she was nearly murdered.

The next day, Laura and Steele go to the museum and realize that the artifact is the fourth arm to the Maltese Cross, the key to the legendary treasure of the Knights of Malta. Laura notices that the museum piece looks much newer than the artifact, and the curator confides that the real cross was stolen two weeks ago. Meanwhile, Edvard accuses Margaret of double-crossing him, and claims that he's running the show now.

Laura and Steele talk to the museum security guard who tells the story we saw at the beginning of the show. Meanwhile, Mildred and Edvard take a romantic stroll. Laura and Steele find a note on Mildred's pillow: "Unless you turn over the missing cross to me, you will never see Mildred Krebs alive again. (signed) Carlisle."

Laura and Steele deliver the cross and find instructions to tie it to the falcon and release it. Laura admits that she brought Mildred along as a buffer, and once the falcon is released, they follow in a carriage, on moto-scooters, and scooter-boats, to an island castle. Meanwhile, Mildred opens Edvard's picnic basket and finds it empty. She realizes that Edvard was only using her. Edvard unties the cross from the falcon and pulls a gun, but Laura and Steele arrive in time to distract him and they give chase. He turns a corner, and we hear a gunshot. He staggers back, then falls dead. Margaret appears with a gun and takes the cross from Steele. Laura tells Margaret that Carlisle double-crossed her; her cross is a fake. Edvard tries to shoot Margaret, but Steele saves her.

Laura and Steele follow the map to a cave, find a secret panel, use the cross as a key, and find a secret room. Their hearts pounding, they find a note: "Well done, chaps, but too late. (signed) Sir Floyd Thursby, December 4, 1884."

Movies:

The Third Man, Joseph Cotten, Orson Welles, London Films 1949.

The Maltese Falcon

Rick Mittleman

Don Weis

10/23/84 10p Steele and Laura go undercover at an adult baseball camp when a reunion of high-school
04/23/85 10p athletes is plagued by a series of “accidents”. Hall of Famers Mickey Mantle and Whitey
Ford appear as themselves.

Jake Crowley	.....	Louis Giambalvo
Ralph Kelsey	.....	Michael McManus
Doc Gridley	.....	Marco St. John
Slats Kittridge	.....	Lionel Smith
Margie Kelsey?	.....	Patricia McCormack
Vera Woodman?	.....	Elizabeth Baur
Himself	.....	Mickey Mantle
Himself	.....	Whitey Ford
Sam Woodman?	.....	James Ingersoll
Chubby Bitterman	.....	Fred Applegate

Ralph Kelsey hires the agency to investigate a series of accidents at an adult baseball camp. Steele poses as Brendan Saint-James from England, and Laura as Mickie Boggs. The players are upset that a woman is joining them, but Miss Zugsmith (Mildred) tells them a lawsuit is coming if they don't play ball. Steele joins in the razzing. At practice, Laura does well, Steele less so. Afterwards in the locker room, Steele tries to convince Laura that his crude comments are purely for cover.

Laura thanks the coach for letting them go undercover, and he shows her the fallen lamp: The bolts were cut. Steele talks to Slats and learns the Kelsey paid everyone's way. At the gym, Laura and Steele compare notes and Laura narrowly escapes a falling mirror, then wonders who the intended victim was. Laura cozies up to Doc Gridley in the hot tub and manages only to learn that there might be some lingering grudges. Steele sees Sam and Mrs. Margie Kelsey sharing a kiss.

At a nightclub, Steele and Laura join the Kelseys and Sam and Vera Woodman for drinks. The Kelseys and Woodmans are old friends; in fact, Margie and Sam were once married, as were Vera and Ralph. Laura and Steele try to hide their surprise. Mildred digs up that Chubby borrowed \$250,000 from Ralph to start a business, which went belly-up.

The team review films of practice, and Ralph gets upset and leaves. We learn that twenty years ago, Ralph and Slats collided under a pop fly, and Ralph was injured, ending his career. Kelsey takes batting practice to let off steam, and Laura and Steele note that Kelsey has a grudge against everyone, and the baseball camp was his idea in the first place. But they find his dead body in the batting cage. Laura and Steele convince Jake to let them solve the case, and Steele learns (the hard way) that the killer pitch was a doctored ball filled with buckshot. Laura sees Maggie and Sam kissing and confronts her in her room. Maggie admits to adultery, but not murder. She couldn't divorce Ralph because she couldn't live without his money. Laura notes that Maggie can now have the best of both worlds.

Over lunch, Laura and Steele try to narrow the suspects but only manage to enlarge the list. Mildred digs up that Ralph sued Doc Gridley for malpractice. At the gym, Chubby is wheezing on the exercycle, and Laura and Steele talk to Doc. Doc says he's gotten over Ralph's lawsuit and proposes that Chubby had great motive. His loan from Ralph was secured with only a handshake. No Ralph, no \$250,000 to repay. Doc leaves, and Chubby calls for help. They shut off the cycle and Laura observes that the stirrup was bent; the next person to use it would've gotten stuck.

They return to Laura's room and Laura observes that her purse has been moved, so someone knows that they are not who they appear to be. (She has a photo of Steele in her purse.) Meanwhile, an unseen person takes a hacksaw to St. James' bat.

The last day of the camp, the team plays a game against retired pros, and Laura promises Jake that the case will be solved by the end of the game. (“I work best under pressure.”) Laura gives Mildred the master key to the motel rooms which Jake gave her, and asks her to go through all the rooms. Laura's plan is that the killer is the one who tries to kill them. Steele finds this unreassuring. While Steele is up to bat, Mildred shows Laura some papers she found: They're receipts for the raw materials for an explosive. Unfortunately, Mildred doesn't remember whose room it came from. Laura sees that Steele's bat has been doctored and tells him his bat is loaded with explosives. After Steele strikes out, Laura has a plan. Steele explains that Laura took his bat. But Laura yells that she doesn't like it and tosses it towards the dugout. Sam dives for

cover then realizes he's been set up. Vera scoops him up with a golf cart, but Steele tosses the explosive bat to stop them.

At the office, our sleuths recap the case. Vera and Sam's plan was for him to divorce Vera, marry Margie for her inheritance, then kill Margie and return to Vera.

Movies:

That Championship Season, Robert Mitchum, Bruce Stern, Cannon Films 1982.

And Then There Were None, Barry Fitzgerald, Walter Huston

The Alphabet Murders, Tony Randall, Robert Morley

Fear Strikes Out

Pride of the Yankees

Notes:

The incidental music sounds like a cross between Mozart's overtures to *The Magic Flute* and *The Marriage of Figaro*.

John Pashdag and Brady Westwater

Burt Brinckerhoff

10/30/84 10p Laura doesn't know it, but Steele stands to inherit an English title and its fortune—and
04/30/85 10p lose his life—thanks to Daniel Chalmers. Stephanie's father Efrem Zimbalist, Jr. reprises
the role of Steele's former "business associate".

Daniel Chalmers	.....	Efrem Zimbalist, Jr.
Gwen Whitewood	.....	Merete Van Kamp
Judge Penhaligon	.....	David Byrd
Nanny Perkins	.....	Irene Tedrow
Angus Whitewood?	.....	Maurice Roeves
Archie Whitewood	.....	David Fox-Brenton
Passenger #1?	.....	David Grant Hayward
Fred Bloggs?	.....	Nelson Wench
Armstrong	.....	Sandy Helberg
Stewardess?	.....	Isabel Grandin

Steele's morning routine is interrupted by a surprise visit from his criminal mentor Daniel Chalmers, who invites him to pose as Reginald Whitewood, long-lost son of the recently deceased Duke of Rutherford. While Steele tells Daniel he wants no part of it, somebody starts taking shots at them. Daniel explains that other cousins want to kill Reggie before the investiture, for once the new duke is instated, they don't get a cent. Steele agrees to go along *only* to extricate Daniel from his fine mess. There is a knock at the door, and Steele hides Daniel in his bedroom. It's Laura, and Steele says he's just heard that Daniel has been taken seriously ill and he must go to London to comfort him. Laura is supportive and asks to accompany him, but Steele insists he must go alone, doing his best to keep her from finding Daniel hiding in the closet.

Laura kisses Steele good-bye at the airport, but her demeanor changes when she sees Chalmers (healthy as ever) and Steele leaving together. She calls Mildred and buys a ticket on the plane, but when the plane lands, she gets stuck in customs because she doesn't have her passport. So she pays a passenger to follow Steele. At the estate, Daniel introduces 'Reggie' to his cousins Gwen, Angus and Archie. Steele insists he's not Reginald Whitewood, but they just laugh at his droll sense of humor. Meanwhile, Mildred arrives at the airport and gives Laura her passport.

Steele tells Daniel it makes no sense that they'd welcome him, since his very presence means they don't get any money. What he doesn't know is that his conversation with Daniel is being spied upon. Steele is even more disturbed to learn that the executor of the will is the very harsh Judge Penhaligon, and Steele realizes that if Penhaligon "catches one whiff of a fraud, he'll lock us up and throw away the key!"

Laura is part of a tour group at the estate, who are introduced to Fred Bloggs, the groundskeeper. Meanwhile, when Penhaligon says that Daniel's supporting documents are irrefutable, Steele figures some minor alterations should get him off the hook. Laura confronts Steele, who tries to explain that he's trying to prove that he's *not* the duke, though Laura is skeptical of his honesty, given what happened in Cannes. Their conversation is interrupted by a knight in armor who runs them down. Laura's plan is to let Steele continue playing the Duke so they can trap the killer.

That evening, Gwen cozies up to Steele, but is interrupted by the arrival of Myrtle Groggins (Laura), gum-chewing fiancée of the 'Duke', and her mother Mildred. At dinner, Gwen privately expresses her disapproval and tries to flirt with Steele. Reggie's Nanny arrives and asks him questions about his childhood. Steele makes up answers, and she buys it, much to the amazement and relief of Laura, Daniel and Steele himself.

Later that evening, Laura talks to Daniel. Daniel says that Steele wouldn't have come if he didn't want to go through with the scheme, and suggests that Laura's resourcefulness could be a great criminal asset and they can work as a trio. Either way, he insists that Steele is coming with him. Laura visits Steele, but they are interrupted by a visit from Nanny, so Laura hides in the closet. Nanny gives Reggie his teddy bear then leaves. Then Archie arrives with a glass of wine. Angus with a shot of malt. And Gwen with milk and cookies. Steele notices that she's limping, and she attributes it to a riding accident. While Laura watches from the closet, Gwen starts to cozy up to Steele again, and (at Laura's prompting), Steele escorts Gwen to the door. Laura hears ticking, and Steele tears apart the teddy bear and finds nothing. Laura sees that the bed has been moved and pushes Steele out of the way of a falling chandelier.

Laura and Steele run to the attic. The ticking sound was a timer that controlled the chandelier's fall. They find a hidden passage, which leads to Gwen's bathtub, where she is enjoying a bubble bath. Then a scream rings out, and Laura and Steele find Angus dead. Apparently, someone poisoned the drink he brought to Reggie. In Steele's room, he thanks Laura for saving him, and they discuss why he's staying around.

They break into the safe and read the late Duke's will. It says that the money goes to Reggie, but if Reggie is dead, then the money goes equally between the three cousins and the Foundation to Save the Sussex Speckled Blue Butterfly. Upon the Duke's death, the search for Reggie must go on for twenty years before the money devolves to the above heirs. This explains why everyone is so anxious to kill Steele. Laura and Steele suspect Gwen. As a parting gesture, Steele doctors the documents to prove that he isn't Reggie.

The next morning, Chalmers levels his accusation at Archie, though his logic seems shaky. Archie stands up in anger, and a crossbow mysteriously fires, hitting Archie in the back. It would've hit Steele if Archie hadn't stood up. The arrow was rigged with a timer, so anyone could've done it. While Mildred calms Nanny's nerves, Laura and Steele break into the Foundation, where they found that coincident with the notification that the Foundation was part of the Duke's will was the arrival of an Elizabeth Perkins who within 18 months became president. Laura and Steele realize that Nanny Perkins is culprit.

The Gardener appears and pulls a gun, escorting Mildred, Daniel, and Gwen to the mulcher. A struggle ensues, and Steele arrives to save Daniel from being turned into mulch, and Laura disarms Nanny Perkins. Penhaligon arrives ready for the investiture ceremony. Steele realizes that Daniel un-altered the documents. He confirms with Penhaligon that without the documents, there is no way to prove that he is the heir, and tosses them into the mulcher.

Steele tells Daniel he isn't going to Paris with him; he has a new life in Los Angeles. Laura arrives to leave with Steele, and Gwen comes in and asks Daniel, "I say, Daniel, did you get the tickets from him?"

Movies:

The Fuller Brush Man, Red Skelton, Janet Blair, Columbia 1948.

Notes:

The entrance of Mildred Groggins is precious.

The ending (a catapult narrowly misses Steele and Laura as they leave) makes no sense.

50

Steele Your Heart Away

4711

Brian Clemens

Seymour Robbie

11/13/84 10p Laura is summoned to Ireland to help an amnesiac Steele remember who he is, what brought
09/03/85 10p him to Ireland, and why somebody wants to kill him. Filmed on location.

Mrs. Armdale	Marie Conmee
Flanagan	Chris O'Neill
Willard Skeggs	Frank Kelly
Dr. Tulliver	Tom Jordon
Mr. Carter	Seamus Fords

Steele wakes up from a dream about an Irish funeral, with music and dancing. He finds a watch in his hand, which plays *When Irish Eyes Are Smiling* when opened, and a dead man lying next to him. Meanwhile, Mrs. Armdale tells Willard that “We can’t allow one intruder alter our plans.” Steele wanders confused from the cinema (where he sees a sign for “A Day at the Races”) to the docks, followed by Willard (with a gun). Steele calls to a shipworker asking after Orson Welles, then falls into the water.

Laura and Mildred arrive at an Irish hospital upon receiving a telegram from Dr. Tulliver. The problem is that Steele has amnesia, and Laura’s was the only name they found on his person. The doctor asks her to tell him about his early life, but Laura (obviously) can’t help there. When Steele learns that he’s the head of the agency and Laura is his employee, he starts getting obnoxious (and slyly lustful) like he was in the first season. All Steele can remember is that there is a major crime that must be stopped. Laura leaves to fetch Mildred and bumps into Willard delivering medicine. Mildred wants to clonk Steele on the head to restore his memory. Laura notices that Willard had dirty fingernails and returns to stop Steele from being poisoned.

Laura and Mildred take Steele to a hotel, followed by Willard. While Mildred cleans up, Laura tells tells Steele about their ‘business arrangement’. Steele gets a vision, but it’s a scene from *Casablanca*. Laura spots a ticket stub stuck to bottom of Steele’s shoe, and they go to the Bijou Cinema. Willard reports to Mrs. Armdale that the man they want is Remington Steele. She tells Willard to find out how much Steele knows, then kill him. At the cinema, Steele finds a *Casablanca* sign, and a dead body falls from the closet. Two bobbies come in and arrest them. “The inspector was right. He said you’d come back to dispose of the body.” They are handcuffed together and taken away.

They are taken through the countryside and Steele realizes that they’re not the police. So when the police car stops at train crossing, they make their escape. They get away (after some close calls) and hide in a hayloft. Steele makes another pass at her, then he finds his musical watch, with the inscription, “To S.J. From K.L.” Steele recites a line from *Gone with the Wind* (though he doesn’t know why), and they discover a horse in the stable with them. Steele starts to remember, something to do with horses and a man named Flanagan.

Mrs. Armdale bemoans the fate of Armdale Stables since her husband’s death, and tells Willard to keep Clancy and Foster following “Steele and the girl.” Laura and Steele visit Flanagan, who fills them on on O’Flynn’s funeral party, and explains that Steele was here on account of the watch. And the letter that went with it, which reads, “Your father wanted you to have this. (signed) Patrick O’Rourke.” Flanagan gets them out of cuffs and explains that O’Rourke moved onto Dublin and open the Bijou Cinema. Laura finds a newspaper and realizes why Steele was babbling about *Citizen Kane*: The lead story is “Xanadu racehorse to run at Curragh.” And the horse is the one that they found in the stable.

As they go back to the hayloft in Flanagan’s jalopy, Laura figures out that Steele came to Ireland to find his father, and she is pleased at his new vulnerability. Steele realizes the “A Day at the Races” placard was a clue, and they go to the racetrack, where they find that Xanadu has been scratched. Mrs. Armdale talks to Mr. Carter, who explains the the horse was taken mildly ill, nothing exciting. She tells him that ‘they’ want 8 million, “Otherwise we never see Xanadu alive again.” Laura and Steele find a horse truck labelled “The Armdale Racing Association” (TARA) and follow it in a ‘borrowed’ car.

At the Armdale residence, Mrs. Armdale toasts to their success. Laura and Steele snoop around, find Xanadu, and escape with him in a horse-drawn carriage as Mrs. Armdale and Willard follow in a pickup. The carriage goes over a bump, and Steele bumps his head, so Laura takes the reins. Steele wakes up, and the sly grin is back. Laura shoos sheep onto the road and the pickup truck goes into a ditch.

The police take Mrs. Armdale and Willard into custody. Flanagan says he's found Patrick O'Rourke. Laura and Steele drive to the house, from which music emanates. Laura lets Steele go in alone. Steele goes in and finds a funeral party, as he dreamed, and the dead man is Patrick O'Rourke, whom Steele recognizes as the dead man in the cinema. Steele emerges from the house, disappointed. Laura comforts him, and they go home.

Movies:

Citizen Kane, Orson Welles, Joseph Cotten, RKO 1941

A Day at the Races, Marx Brothers

Laura, Dana Andrews, Gene Tierney.

Casablanca

Wait Until Dark, Audrey Hepburn, Alan Arkin, Warner Brothers 1967.

The Thirty-Nine Steps, Hitchcock, Robert Donat, Madeleine Carroll

Gone with the Wind

Notes:

How many people screamed "The 39 Steps" when Laura and Steele were handcuffed together? Well, I did.

51

A Pocketful of Steele

4721

Brad Kern

Harry Harris

11/20/84 10p Steele's pockets are picked by a streetwise lad who unknowingly grabs evidence in a loan-sharking case, putting his life in danger.
05/21/85 10p

Jackie Crawford	Meeno Peluce
Mr. Schwimmer	Ray Wise
Lowell McKenzie	Jerry Hardin
Larry	Jack Murdock
Leroy	Rony Clanton
Lieutenant?	Steven Williams
Miss Conover?	Laura Esterman
Thelma?	Penny Stanton
Bus driver?	Jack Thibeau
Landlady?	Paula Victor

A businessman gets a package from Styles, then poisons him. The next day, Laura and Steele go to see their client, a bank official who hired them to investigate a loan sharking case. They confront Schwimmer (the businessman) but when it comes time to present the evidence, Steele realizes that his pockets have been picked. Schwimmer goes outside for a breath of fresh air and hires Larry, a wandering pickpocket.

Laura and Steele go to a bowling alley where Thelma (the cleaning lady) identifies the pickpocket as Jackie Crawford and tells Steele where he can find him. They go to a seedy hotel in a run-down part of town and find Jackie, who sneaks out the fire escape while his 'family' run interference. Steele sees through the act, to Laura's amazement. Steele watches Jackie work a mark in a hotel lobby and nabs him, asking for the photos. Jackie doesn't give in, so Steele brings Jackie to the security guard. But Jackie put the lifted wallet in Steele's pocket, and it is Steele who is arrested.

Laura bails out Steele, and goes to see Styles, while Steele and Mildred work Jackie's hotel. Mildred lets her credit cards get lifted so that Steele can follow the thief to the local fence. There he waits for Jackie. At Styles' apartment, Laura finds him dead, then is interrupted by a cop who takes her in for interrogation. Steele accosts Jackie, who makes a run for it, into the hotel and his 'family' get into place. But Steele is waiting for Jackie as he climbs down the fire escape.

At the police station, the lieutenant tells Laura she isn't leaving until she identifies her client, who might have something to do with the murder. Laura calls Miss Conover, who refuses to allow her identity to be revealed. Steele brings Jackie to his apartment, cuts through his sob story, and eventually gets through to him (from personal experience), and Jackie agrees to fetch the pictures. But when he goes to the hotel, Jackie's arrested, and Steele tries to explain that he didn't rat on him. Laura watches with a guilty look.

Steele is furious at Laura for having Jackie arrested, and she explains that she thought maybe the police could get somewhere with him, unaware that Steele was making his own breakthrough. Laura and Steele arrive at the police station, where Jackie has been bailed out by Larry. Steele wants to follow Jackie, but Laura tells him to do some legwork to let off steam.

At the office, Mildred has her report on the addresses Laura gave Steele. All of the electronic firms' owners are dead or missing. Miss Conover and Mr. McKenzie come in. Steele asks Mildred to present the information she learned: The loan sharking was used as a means to corner a portion of the electronics market. Mr. McKenzie says he came because word is leaking out that his bank funded loan sharking, adding, "I'm in desperate need of either a villain or a scapegoat." He gives Steele the rest of the day to produce a villain.

At the hotel, Larry asks Jackie for the photos and they'll split the reward money. Jackie hands over the photos. Laura breaks into Jackie's room, and he finds her. Laura asks for the photos and tries to explain that it her fault he was arrested. Jackie is mad (and sarcastic), and tells Laura he gave the pictures to Larry. He says he needs no one, and escorts Laura to the door.

Schwimmer receives the photos from Larry, then poisons him. Steele arrives at the hotel, and Steele notices that Larry's car is parked in front of the hotel, which means the meeting is at Larry's place. They arrive to find Larry dead. They see Schwimmer running away and follow him, then see him hit by a car, dead. Steele is confused. "But he's our villain!"

Laura and Steele go to Jackie's room to find it ransacked. Steele realizes that Jackie gave Larry the photos, but the wrong negatives, so that he could negotiate directly with the buyer. Leroy tells them that Jackie said he "found the mother lode" and he's at the bus depot.

After two hours of waiting, Laura, Steele, and Mildred finally spot Jackie, who sits down and reads a magazine. Ninety minutes pass without incident; finally, Jackie gets up, talks to a guy at a vending machine, then goes to a phone booth, places an envelope in the phone book, and makes a call, then sits back down. The man goes to the phone booth and picks up the envelope. All converge on him, to find the envelope empty. The man explains that Jackie paid him \$10 to do it.

The gang spot Jackie getting on board a bus, and he waves good-bye to them. He goes to a reserved seat, removes an envelope of money, and replaces it with the negatives. He then gets off the bus (after a scolding from the bus driver, since it was an express bus to Fresno). Jackie walks down the street, followed by McKenzie. Laura and Steele force the bus to pull over and learn that Jackie was let off at Fifth and Broadway. Jackie confronts McKenzie, who explains he was lost. Jackie lets him go, but McKenzie pulls a gun. Laura and Steele return to Fifth and Broadway and wonder which way Jackie went. McKenzie explains that he can't trust that Jackie didn't make any copies. Laura and Steele arrive in time to save Jackie.

At the bus depot, Laura and Steele admire the headline, "Banker Arrested for Murder". The pictures tied McKenzie into the loan sharking operation. Steele explains how he knew which way Jackie went: It was the path back to the hotel, "home, as it were." Jackie leaves (willingly) for juvenile camp, and he thanks them. He returns with Steele's watch. But Steele knew he'd come back. Because Steele lifted his bus ticket.

Movies:

Boys' Town, Spencer Tracy, Mickey Rooney, MGM 1938.

Notes:

I'm not sure if I like it or not. I think not. The music was nice, though.

52	Puzzled Steele	4712
Brian Clemens, Dennis Spooner, and Jeff Melvoin (Jeff Melvoin)		Don Weis
11/27/84 10p	What begins as a harmless competition between Laura and Steele to find a missing journalist	
07/23/85 10p	becomes a deadly game of double identities. Filmed in the Mediterranean.	
G. W. Whainright/Benjamin Applegate	.....	Jack Hedley
Richard "The Colonel" Moreland	.....	Tom Adams
Michael Banks	.....	Tony Vogel
Carlton Shepherd	.....	Brian Gwaspari
Smuggler?	.....	Leon Lissek

In a high speed chase through the streets of Malta, Laura stops and realizes that there is something weird about their case. A wall opens revealing that the entire case was an elaborate fabrication. A distinguished gentleman identifies himself as G. W. Whainright, British tycoon. He offers to hire them on a genuine case at 3–1 odds on their \$10,000 advance that they can't solve it in 48 hours. Mildred finds a newspaper report on a missing journalist, Carlton Shepherd, but Laura refuses to play another game. When Steele offers to play alone, Laura challenges him that she can find Shepherd first. Steele agrees to the wager: If Laura wins, they return to Los Angeles. If Steele wins, they spend a week on the Mediterranean, "even if it kills me."

Laura sticks Steele with Mildred, and as they are about to set off, she harpoons Steele's raft. Laura does legwork and eventually finds a lead. Steele and Mildred are several steps behind her and are getting nowhere fast. So their plan changes: Instead of looking for Shepherd, they'll look for Laura. Laura paddles into an alcove and talks to a bunch of grungy smugglers. She learns that Carlton bought a boat from them, but as she tries to leave, the smugglers block her way and toss her about. Steele pops up from a cave with his hand in his pocket, pretending to brandish a gun. But as they make their escape, he trips and reveals that he didn't have a gun after all. They run for it and when they reach a dead end, dive into a cave lake.

"You are so lucky!" yells Laura as they surface in open waters. After a change of clothes on Whainright's yacht, they set off again. Laura accidentally lets slip that Shepherd bought a boat, and when they arrive ashore, Steele has Laura arrested for sinking his raft. Steele goes to a nautical chart shop and learns that Shepherd bought a chart for a region owned by 'The Colonel', an Englishman who lives a reclusive life and (according to rumor) is soon to be married to a local girl; his real name is Robert Moreland.

In jail, Laura sees the same newspaper that Mildred got the case from, and notices the article on Shepherd isn't in it. They've been set up yet again. She breaks out of jail and runs to Mildred, trying to convince her that she really needs to talk to Steele, but Mildred just sends her on a wild goose chase. Steele arrives in private waters and is chased out by a machine-gun firing helicopter.

At Moreland's residence, Anna prepares for the wedding and two henchmen inform Moreland that a Laura Holt has been asking after Shepherd, and that the 'Queen's Gambit 2' has appeared in the harbor. Moreland says to himself, "He's here. After ten years. I thought he might have given up."

On board the yacht, Laura confronts Whainright with the phony article. When a boat pulls up and opens fire on them, Whainright admits, "I'm just a bloody actor!" He's really Benjamin Applegate, provincial actor and part-time electrician. Laura manages to fend off the attackers with the aid of a flare gun. In the countryside, Steele spies on Moreland's castle. He is accosted by one of Moreland's men and is saved by Michael Banks, who identifies himself as Shepherd's cousin. Banks explains that Shepherd got caught up in a dangerous story and is being held prisoner by Moreland, a former mercenary in Africa, who vanished with a 400,000 pound booty.

Applegate explains that the real Whainright (a recluse) hired him for a tidy sum to play the game. His instructions were to get Laura and Steele to find Shepherd, then contact a certain address. At the castle, Moreland beats Anna at a life-sized game of chess, then calls over his guards and tells them what to do about Holt.

Laura, Mildred, and Applegate go to the address to find that Whainright has comprehensive files on them. Mildred finds a journal which tracks Shepherd's quest for 'M'. The last entry is "Steele onto something." Laura compares the case to a chess match, and Applegate reluctantly joins in when they see the yacht blow up. That evening, Steele and Banks break in and rescue Shepherd. But Shepherd denies that Michael is his cousin. Banks pulls a gun and introduces himself as G. W. Whainright.

Whainright forces Shepherd and Steele to do his bidding at gunpoint. He explains that he and Moreland pulled off the robbery together, but Moreland stole his share and left him for dead. When he learned that

Shepherd vanished, he figured Shepherd got too close to Moreland and hired Steele to continue the search. Meanwhile, Laura, Mildred, and Applegate try to sneak into Moreland's castle, but they are caught. They are brought to Moreland, and Laura tells him that Whainright was not killed on the yacht; he's probably still around here somewhere. Moreland explains what happened: While mercenaries in Africa, they plotted to steal the payroll money. But Whainright shot two guards, and the army was after them. Even worse, Whainright brought a South African girl along. They were ambushed, and she was killed. Whainright feels Moreland was to blame for her death.

One of the guards comes in to inform Moreland that Shepherd has escaped. Moreland decides to take matters into his own hands, pulls a gun, and takes Laura as a hostage. Outside, Laura gets away from Moreland and runs for it, dodging gunfire. Meanwhile, Whainright forces Steele to get up and draw away gunfire. Steele runs for it, dodging gunfire. Laura and Steele bump into each other and join forces. They run to the giant chessboard and shove chesspieces at the bad guys. Moreland arrives, gun poised, and Laura and Steele subdue him by pushing the white king onto him. "Checkmate," notes Steele. Applegate, Mildred, and Shepherd arrive, all fine. Only Whainright is unaccounted for. Laura realizes that Whainright is playing a 'Queen's Gambit'; the entire scheme is a distraction to get Anna.

In the castle, Whainright searches for Anna, who hides. He happens upon huddled figure, which turns out to be Laura. Whainright is disarmed, and he explains that he originally wanted Moreland, but changed his plans when he learned that Moreland was getting married, and wants get back at Moreland for letting Kathleen die in Africa. Moreland appears, with a gun. Moreland accuses Whainright of being too sentimental. In fact, Moreland killed Kathleen because she hampered their escape. Whainright attacks Moreland, and they both fall to their deaths out the window.

Laura and Steele enjoy laziness on a romantic boat ride. Laura notes that they'd have solved the case much sooner if they hadn't split up. "We're a team, and teams stick together." They politely argue over who really solved the case first.

Movies:

The Wizard of Oz, Judy Garland, Ray Bolger, MGM [1939].

Notes:

Writing botches: In the life-size chess game, the Colonel and Anna are seated next to each other. In genuine chess matches, the opponents sit at opposite ends of the board. (Otherwise, the person playing black is forced to look at the board from white's side.)

Technical botches: When the boat explodes, the film holds for half-second before showing the explosion.

Musical notes: The chase music was in part borrowed from *To Stop a Steele*.

Jeff Melvoin

Harry Harris

12/04/84 10p Dorothy Lamour, Virginia Mayo, and Lloyd Nolan hire Laura and Steele to find out who's
 06/11/85 10p behind the curious fan mail they received, not to mention the attempts on their lives that followed.

Himself	.....	Lloyd Nolan
Herself	.....	Dorothy Lamour
Herself	.....	Virginia Mayo
George Edward Mulch	.....	Michael Constantine
Dr. Roger Chandler	.....	Ron Harper
Morris Getz	.....	Gerald Hiken
Ernest Templeton	.....	Calvin Bartlett
Julian	.....	Rex Ryon

Mildred visits Laura and Steele in the hospital and is surprised to find Steele's arm and leg broken and Laura in a neck brace and with a broken leg. They explain what happened. Through diligent PR work, Laura arranged for Steele to be a presenter at the opening of the Hollywood Archives. After Steele presents Virginia Mayo with her plaque, she vanishes into the crowd and Steele tries to track her down. He opens a dressing room door and finds a man and woman inside, and back out apologetically. He finds Virginia Mayo outside, where they are run down by a car.

But that isn't where Steele hurt his arm. He just got a scratch on his finger. The house doctor leaves Steele his card before he is called away on his beeper. Virginia notes that she did receive some strange letters, and they go to her home where she shows them to our sleuths. One reads, "Next week is almost here, a week you'll never forget. (signed) G.E.M." Virginia notes that Lloyd also received strange letters. Laura offers to spend the night with Virginia, for safety.

Mildred asks, "Is that when you got hurt, Miss Holt? Protecting Virginia Mayo?" But it isn't; the night was uneventful. Steele visits Lloyd Nolan and obtains the letters. Lloyd notices the postman outside, which is odd because the mail already arrived. Steele saves Lloyd from a machine gun strafing, then runs out to chase the postman. The postman takes more shots at him, and he jumps into Lloyd's pool. Lloyd notes, "I keep meaning to have that refilled!"

Mildred asks if that was where Steele got hurt, but it wasn't. Steele landed on a raft in six inches of water. Meanwhile, Laura visits Morris Getz, who studies the letters and identifies the typewriter model, the type of paper, and the ink. As Steele visits Dorothy Lamour, Laura arrives and tells Steele she traced the letters. While they talk to Dorothy, Laura saves them from a gunman.

Laura and Steele go to George Edward Mulch's office; Laura figures Mulch is out for fame by killing somebody famous. They find the typewriter and paper, then chase Mulch when he stops by. They foul up a sidewalk ceremony at the famous Chinese Theater, and in the chase, Laura falls in the street as a car approaches.

But that's not where they got hurt. The car stopped just in time. They catch up to Mulch, who refuses to talk. When they confront him with their evidence, he admits that he sent the letters to hype his line of products, based on Hollywood stars, like 'Virginia Mayo Mayonnaise' and 'Dorothy Lamour Road to the United States Highway Directory and Restaurant Guide'. Laura and Steele think he's nuts. But he does have an alibi for the killings.

At the office, Steele tells Dorothy, Lloyd and Virginia that he'll handle their case at no fee. Since the fan letters led to a dead end, Laura asks if there's anything else that ties them together. Lloyd points out that the attempts on their lives all occurred while Steele was visiting them. Steele finds it hard to believe that he's at fault, but when he's the target of a drive-by shooting, he's convinced.

At Steele's apartment, Steele calls Daniel and confirms that all his old adversaries are accounted for. The killer might even be someone that Laura put away under the name of Remington Steele. They see a news report on the death of Yvette Harwood. Steele recognizes the face as the woman he saw backstage at the awards ceremony, and she was dead. Laura suspects the man who was with her is the killer.

The door rings; it's Lloyd with his cousin's son, Julian, a tall strong young man. They leave to see Virginia, who called about Yvette Harwood. Virginia and Dorothy explain that Yvette was not too bright, and was recently depressed. She was also a health nut, which doesn't mesh with the official cause of death: a heart attack. They all pile into the limo and go to Yvette's. Laura finds anti-depression pills, and Lloyd

finds the safe. The jewelry box is nearly empty, and Laura finds that the jewelry was sold off, but the bank account is nearly empty. She'd written big checks to Templeton Enterprises. Virginia recognizes the name as a fast-talking con man who poses as a producer, and Steele recognizes him from her description. Laura puts the pieces together: Templeton seduced Yvette into giving him all her money, she found out, so he killed her. They see a car pull up, and all hide. It's Templeton, and he gets away in the confusion.

They follow him to his studio. Steele rushes in, and Lloyd tells Laura, "By the book, Miss Holt, we've got him trapped. Call for backup!" She rushes in after Steele. Inside is a storage room for props and things. They escape assorted falling objects and Steele presses the chase over Laura's objection. They subdue Templeton up on the scaffolding, and as the scaffolding collapses under them, they rush to a ladder just in time. But the ladder falls under their weight. *That* is how they got hurt.

At the hospital, Mildred smells a rat. Why was the cause of death listed as a heart attack? The doctor who signed the death certificate is Roger Chandler, whom Steele recognizes as the doctor at the awards ceremony. The newspaper says that Chandler was called away by Yvette (which explains the beeper), but that makes no sense since she was already dead. Mildred suspects the doctor was in on the scam and tries to call the police, but the phone is dead. She leaves for the nurses' station. Laura realizes Yvette's depression was induced by her medication. Laura goes out to see what's taking Mildred so long, and finds that the entire hospital is empty. Chandler comes in, and asks for the pills Laura found. He kicks her crutch and smothers Steele, but Laura releases the cable on his arm, which falls on Chandler, knocking him out.

Mildred, head bandaged, tells her own (very colorful) story of how she was overcome, to Lloyd, Virginia and Dorothy.

Movies:

White Heat, Virginia Mayo

The Secret Life of Walter Mitty, Virginia Mayo, Danny Kaye, RKO

The Fan, Lauren Bacall, James Garner, Paramount 1981.

Road to Singapore, Dorothy Lamour

Moon Over Burma, Dorothy Lamour

Typhoon, Dorothy Lamour

Somewhere in the Night, Lloyd Nolan, John Hodiak, Richard Conte

Three Days of the Condor, Robert Redford

The Postman Always Rings Twice

Manhandled, Dorothy Lamour, Dan Duryea, Sterling Hayden, Paramount 1949.

Saint Louis Blues, Dorothy Lamour, Lloyd Nolan, William Frawley, Matty Melneck and his Orchestra, Paramount 1939.

Johnny Apollo, Tyrone Power, Dorothy Lamour, Edward Arnold, Lloyd Nolan, Twentieth Century Fox, 1940.

Dirty Harry

The Godfather, Marlon Brando, Al Pacino, Paramount 1972.

Notes:

The story is done in flashback, with lots of voice-overs as Laura and Steele re-tell the story to Mildred. This is certainly a reference to fifties movies or something, but I'm too young to catch it.

An important clue actually appears early on. Though of course, most of the clues appear just in time. The opening credits appear piecemeal.

The flashback method allows for lots of foreshadowing, including Laura and Steele's conversation that Mildred overhears at the start of the show.

The only episode that used a laugh track. (For the response to Virginia Mayo's acceptance remarks.) Lloyd Nolan gets all the awesome lines.

12/11/84 10p Two singing-telegram girls witness a shooting and move in with Laura for protection while
12/31/85 10p she and Steele track down the gunman.

Nathan Fitts	John Larroquette
Chip Flowers	Tom Byrd
Marjorie Flowers	Rosemary Forsyth
Toni	Alice Cadogan
Teri	Kathy Maisnik
Brenda Flowers	Mariana Hill
Nancy Evans	Kate Vernon
Mrs. White	Carol Gordon
Mr. Johnson	Cliff Medaugh

Nathan Fitts sneaks past the nighttime security guard and goes to the office of Myron Flowers. Flowers is asleep in his chair, and Fitts shoots him. Twice. As he leaves, he's greeted by two singing girls who do a dance and throw a cake in his face, then run off.

At the office, Laura and Steele share champagne and are dressed for a night on the town. Mildred arrives with a birthday cake: To Steele's surprise, it's his birthday. Mildred leaves the couple alone, and the dancing girls come in. Laura and Steele are confused, but applaud politely, then a shot rings through the window. Laura suspects the shots were meant for the girls. The girls explain that they're 'actresses' looking for their big break. Steele tries to brush it off as a massive coincidence and steal away with Laura, but Laura insists on investigating.

They visit the girls' previous customers and receive unwelcome receptions. They go to Flowers' office and find him dead. Steele sarcastically thanks Laura for finding a case, and notes that there was meringue on the door, but not on Mr. Flowers' face, which means that the girls threw the pie in the wrong man's face, possibly the murderer. The security guard goes into Flowers' office and pockets his gold breath spray atomizer.

Mildred identifies Flowers as the king of breath spray. The girls realize that they got the wrong guy, but they can't come up with a description. They're mad that they have to stay at Laura's loft; they have a gig the next day, Morgan Fairchild's manicurist's daughter's birthday party. Meanwhile, Steele is upset that he and Laura missed the play.

The security guard arrives home, sprays his breath, chokes, and dies. Laura and Steele visit the guard, only to find him dead. Steele finds a skull injury, and Laura deduces that he was killed by somebody he knew, since there was no sign of forced entry. Laura finds the atomizer and Steele figures it fell out of the killer's pocket.

At the loft, Toni and Teri do aerobics and Mildred apologizes to Steele for hiring the girls; Steele forgives her. Steele tries to wake up Laura, who clearly didn't get a good night's sleep. Laura angrily answers the phone, and it's for the girls. It's Petula, their answering service. Steele tells Mildred not to let the kids out of the loft. Laura is furious and tries to get things back to normal.

Laura and Steele talk to Dr. Marjorie Flowers, who invented the formula for the breath spray, and from whom Myron stole it. She admits she hired the girls to remind him of his deceit. Steele shows her the atomizer, and she explains that Myron gave one to each member of his 'golden circle': Fitts (second in command), Brenda (his new wife), and Chip (his son). She also notes that Brenda and Chip just gained \$25 million from Myron's death.

Steele figures that the person who is missing an atomizer is the murder, and his cockiness annoys Laura. He produces two tickets to *Forty-Second Street*, the best seats in the house. They talk to Brenda, who is falsely grief-stricken, and who introduces them to her son Chip, Nancy Evans (Myron's personal secretary), and Nathan Fitts. Brenda and Chip refresh their breath with their gold atomizer, and so does Fitts, but only after some fumbling for it. Laura and Steele leave, noting that not only do all the suspects have their atomizer, but also alibis. Meanwhile, Fitts panics because he knows the girls can identify him, and Brenda tells him, "Do what you have to do."

Laura and Steele return to the loft to find it ransacked. Laura is furious, but Steele asks, "Where are they?" Steele finds them, in the bathroom, naked. The attacker wore a mask, so nobody got a good look

at him. Laura can't figure it out. Why did he make them strip; why not just kill them? Steele realizes the man was after the atomizer. Laura sprays the atomizer at her plants, which wilt.

At the office, Laura learns from the lab that the atomizer was filled with poison, and the autopsy report on the guard says that the poison consists of standard laboratory chemicals. Steele figures the murderer poisoned Myron's atomizer, but when that didn't work, he shot Myron, then used the atomizer to get rid of the guard.

Laura and Steele pose as lab technicians and break into a lab at Flowers' plant. They hide when people come in: It's Miss Evans and Chip, who kiss madly. Meanwhile, Laura finds the ingredients on the lab shelves. Nancy confronts Chip with her knowledge that Myron was going to cut Chip out of his estate because of his affair with her, but Chip denies killing Myron. Laura and Steele sneak out.

At the office, Mildred takes a call from Fitts, pretending to be Mr. Tillema. The girls recognize the name, but Mildred tells him the girls are booked solid, thank you. Laura and Steele visit Fitts, who nervously hangs up. They tell him they know who killed Myron, but Fitts is pleasantly surprised when they level their accusation at Chip. After our sleuths leave, he breathes a sigh of relief, and calls Petula pretending to be Mr. Tillema.

Steele confronts Chip, who denies shooting his father. Steele calls in Toni and Teri to identify Chip, but they say he's not the man. Brenda throws them out. Toni and Teri pick up their phone message from Petula and leave to meet Mr. Tillema. Laura and Steele realize the girls are gone, and Mildred figures out how to find them. She calls Petula pretending to be a talent agent and demands to see the girls immediately.

Toni and Teri arrive to meet Mr. Tillema, but run for their lives when Fitts takes shots at them. The limo arrives and when they hear shots, Laura and Steele tell Mildred to stay put. They eventually find Toni and Teri and subdue Fitts. Fitts admits he shot Myron, but he didn't poison him. Mildred comes in with the coroner's report: The cause of Myron's death was poisoning.

The suspects are called together at Myron's office. It was clearly a man, since a man broke into Laura's loft, and it wasn't Fitts, since he would've murdered the kids. The murderer also needed access to a lab, and this all implicates Chip. So Steele was right after all. But Brenda tips them off that it wasn't Chip and Nancy that were the source of the problem, but rather Chip and Brenda. Brenda fooled Fitts into thinking she was going to run away with him; similarly did Chip with Nancy. Chip makes a run for it and climbs onto the breath spray billboard. Laura plays with the knobs to control the sprayer and eventually Steele subdues Chip.

At Laura's loft, the girls sing and dance the title song from *Forty-Second Street* for her and Steele (in appropriate evening dress).

Movies:

Little Murders, Elliot Gould, Alan Arkin, Twentieth Century Fox 1971.

Notes:

Note the weird gun trophies in Mr. Johnson's apartment.

The lab looks pretty fake (as do most TV laboratories).

The tossing of trash can lids reappears in *Steele Trying*.

12/18/84 10p Laura and Steele are plagued with a plethora of advice when they investigate the embezzlement of a mystery writers guild's treasury.

Alf Nussman	Joe Santos
Butch Bemis	Gary Graham
Richard Laidlaw	James Ray
Columbine Cooper	Suzanne Lederer
Jackson Grimm	Patrick Cronin
Pamela Johns	Kristine Sutherland
Maxine Delano	Barbara Townsend
Doctor	John Braden

Laura and Steele follow complicated instructions to meet Richard Laidlaw, author and president of a mystery writers guild. He explains that Gilbert Fox, a guild member, died of a heart attack the day he signed a seven-figure contract and left the guild nearly \$1 million in his will to tear down the existing building and build a new guild headquarters. The next day, the money vanished from the guild's coffers through six separate checks, each signed by a member of the board of directors.

At the office, Mildred traced the checks as far back as a Swiss bank account. The board members were the only people who knew about Fox's bequest, so their plan is to get their autographs and consult a handwriting expert to determine who forged their signatures. Laura and Steele learn the guild directors are all in money trouble. When Steele asks Columbine Cooper about her tax problems, she flirts with Steele and tells him Pamela Johns had an affair with Fox. Pamela tells Steele that he should really be talking to Maxine Delano, the other beneficiary of Fox's will. Butch Bemis catches Laura snooping on a telephone conversation. She finds his masculine crudeness offputting, but when he grabs her and kisses her, Laura can only stare, stunned.

Laura teases her hair in the car mirror as she drops off Steele at Maxine's. Maxine explains that Fox was her neighbor and left her \$100,000, but put the money under trusteeship of the guild. She also complains that another detective had also come her way. While she digs up the other guy's business card, Steele pokes around her cupboards to find them bare. Maxine returns with the card, a detective named Melvin Gamble.

The doctor explains to Laura that no autopsy was performed on Fox because nobody asked for one. Laura tries to convince him of the suspicious circumstances surrounding Fox's death, and finally succeeds in convincing him when an unseen hand pushes her into a wheelchair and shoves her in the direction of an oncoming ambulance.

At the office, the three handwriting experts come to different conclusions, thereby ruining the forgery angle. Steele goes to the guild and finds Laidlaw tossing darts at a bad review of his most recent book. Laidlaw admits that he did hire someone else at first, but Gamble quit. Well, not really quit. He died. Poisoned, actually.

Laura comes out of the shower to find Butch sitting in her living room. Laura insults him, then gets carried away with her own description and kisses him. Steele comes in, and Laura sits down and covers her mouth with her hand as if to say, "What did I do?" In the car, Steele is privately steaming, and Laura explains she's attracted to Butch in spite of herself. They go to Gamble's office and Laura saves Steele from a rigged front door. The office has already been ransacked, and Steele asks, "Do you get the feeling that someone's one chapter ahead of us?" Steele finds a letter from Fox to his agent on his new novel: A veteran writer teaches a newcomer how to write; once the job is done, the protégé kills the mentor. Laura figures someone stole Fox's story, and when Gamble found the truth, he blackmailed the culprit. Laura notes that the methods of attack have sounded vaguely familiar.

The next morning, Mildred read Nussman's books and found a wheelchair attack. Laura read Grimm's books and found a rigged office door like the one at Gamble's office. And Pamela devoted a book to poisoning. When Steele learns that the food basket wasn't delivered to Maxine's because nobody answered the door, he rushes over and calls the paramedics. Maxine is okay, though undernourished. Steele learns that Gil had a protégé, "some English dame"; she came back after the movie deal and they argued over money.

Laura visits Nussman, who turned his apartment into a jail cell for inspiration. Laura learns he learned to write in prison, and confronts him with the wheelchair incident. When she notes that Nussman has had

four different publishers recently, she suggests he's on his way down. He shows her to the door. He drives off angrily, and Laura follows.

Pamela shows Steele her poisoned plant collection and flirts with Steele, whose mind stays on the case. She explains she supported Fox monetarily while they were together and was only after some repayment. Laura follows Nussman to a book store where he finds Grimm and the two fight, Nussman accusing Grimm of stealing his ideas. Laura notes that Grimm's career is on its way down.

Steele visits Columbine and averts his eyes when he finds her lying in bed, naked. After she covers up, she explains she taught herself how to write, though Steele notes her first book was a worldwide best-seller. She explains that Fox was always watching her, following her.

Upon their return to the office, Laura and Steele are confused when Laidlaw says the case is solved; the money has been returned. Laura learns that Fox's heart attack was induced. Laura and Steele break into the guild records to study the will. The new building was to be built 'in memory of my dear departed friend B. Craven'. Steele finds that the option on the next-door lot expired at noon, and suspects that somebody doesn't want the building torn down because there's a dead body hidden in it.

Laura returns to her loft to find Butch already there. (He's wearing a shirt this time.) She learns that Craven was an pulp author whose mysterious disappearance turned him into a cult figure. Laura's mind is clearly on the case, though she smiles enigmatically.

The suspects are gathered at the guild, though they gripe about the triteness of the whole affair. Laura explains that Fox was about to write the story of Craven's death. Steele attempts to make the culprit crack with creaky noises, but no one cracks; they merely laugh. Everybody had connections to Craven. When jackhammer noises emerge from the cellar, Columbine gets nervous, and Laura pointedly asks if Fox was following her because he knew she was Craven's protégé. She finally cracks and runs into the basement, to find Mildred with a tape recorder.

Steele and Maxine share the cheese basket he sent, and he explains that Columbine typed Craven's books in exchange for writing lessons. But she decided to steal his story and publish it herself as her first novel. Laura visits and explains that Butch was just a momentary aberration.

Movies:

Jaws 4 (invented)

Arsenic and Old Lace, Cary Grant, Raymond Massey, Warner Brothers 1944.

Notes:

The incidental music was stolen from *Steele Framed*.

Always fun to see Laura and Steele playing games of affection. But the episode was otherwise drab and unexciting.

This episode adds a second data point to the 'the killer is the woman who bares her breasts to Steele' theory.

Laura doesn't say 'Good-bye' to the doctor before hanging up. How impolite.

01/08/85 10p Steele is mistaken for the restaurant critic he's trying to find, and he's targeted for murder by unsavory types steamed up over bad reviews.

Ana Dix	Billie Bird
Eloise Fairchild	Barbra Horan
Pierre Fumar	Daniel Davis
Michael Fleming	Dakin Matthews
Phyllis Lewis	Deborah May
Bill Smith	Michael Young
Frederico Rudizio?	William Schilling
Teus Stavros?	Jack Heller
Henchman #1?	Mark Nelson
Henchman #2?	Francisco Lagueruela
Sergeant Hackett?	Nick DeMauro
Clerk?	Sorin Serene Pricopie
Customer	John Allen

Three restaurant owners agree to act together. “L’Orange must die.” At the office, Steele sets up a romantic date with Eloise, then goes to see Laura, who is on the phone herself agreeing to a date with Bill. Their client, Phyllis Lewis, publisher of ‘Tomorrow’s Food’ magazine ask them to locate her restaurant critic Dick L’Orange, known for his scathing reviews. They don’t know what he looks like; they communicate with him through a box at ‘Personal Touch’.

Steele pumps Laura for information on Bill on their way to ‘Personal Touch’, where Laura breathlessly talks to the clerk about renting a box while Steele breaks into L’Orange’s box. Outside, two guys watch Steele pick up L’Orange’s mail and think he’s L’Orange. Steele manages to fight them off.

In the box were letters from circulars, letters from competing magazines, invitations, and letters begging L’Orange to give them a second chance, signed with initials. Steele goes to Phyllis, who introduces him to Michael, her nostalgia editor. Phyllis identifies the initials as Fredrico Rudizio, Teus Stavros and Pierre Fumar, owners of restaurants L’Orange panned; his review of L’Ornate (Fumar’s restaurant) coincided with his disappearance.

Laura figures, since L’Orange is missing, she’ll study the list of missing persons. Laura tells Steele she found L’Orange: Really, a grandmother named Ana Dix. They break in and find the kitchen ransacked, the refrigerator empty, and a cat. Laura asks, “Who’s feeding the cat?” While they wait, they ask each other for information on their respective dates. Ana comes in, and they identify themselves. Over tea, she explains she thought she was followed home from her box at ‘Personal Touch’, and when her kitchen exploded, she went into hiding. Laura finds a L’Ornate matchbook cover, and Steele suggests that Fumar is behind it. Over Laura’s objection, Steele plans a double date at L’Ornate.

While Mildred keeps an eye on Ana in Laura’s flat, Laura and Bill join Steele and Eloise on a double date. When they arrive at L’Ornate, they find the restaurant devoid of customers. Laura and Steele try to make each other envious of their respective dates. Michael arrives and Laura and Steele explain that they’ve found L’Orange, and he’s being kept in a safe place. The waiter recognizes Steele as Dick L’Orange and lures him into the kitchen, where the cooking staff go at him with knives. Steele escapes and cuts short their dinner. Laura thanks Bill for dropping Eloise home, and learns that Bill is still haunted by the memory of his ex-wife, who left him in 1978. Laura and Steele try to convince each other they enjoyed their respective dates.

Apparently, L’Orange was bribed by various restaurant owners to write a bad review of ‘Recherche’, a new restaurant. L’Orange took the money but wrote a good review anyway. When Steele confronts Ana with this information, she denies it completely. She never took bribes from anybody, and besides, her review of Recherche was as scathing as all the rest. Meanwhile, the bad guys kidnap Mildred, and Laura and Steele follow. When they bring Mildred before their leader, he scolds them for getting the wrong woman, and Mildred is uncerimoniously dumped on the street.

Our sleuths realize that someone is pretending to be L’Orange and has been taking the bribes. Inspired by ‘The Thin Man’, Steele throws a dinner party for all the suspects, and Mildred recognizes Michael as the man who kidnapped her. Laura figures it out: Michael is secretly the owner of Recherche, and he is the only

man who had access to L'Orange's reviews before publication. When Ana wrote a bad review for Recherche, he threw it away and wrote his own review in its place.

The following evening, Steele throws another dinner party for Eloise, Laura and Bill, to make up for the botched dinner. But he neglects to invite Eloise, and Laura neglects to invite Bill.

Movies:

The Thin Man, William Powell, Myrna Loy, MGM, 1934.

Notes:

Laura and Steele don't realize that Michael was the only person who knew that Ana was staying at Laura's place.

Music score written by Arthur Kempel instead of Richard Lewis Warren.

57

Stronger Than Steele

4718

Kerry Lenhart and John J. Sakmar

Stan Lathan

01/15/85 10p The TV superhero Laura idolized as a child is accused of killing the producer of a movie
07/09/85 10p version of the show starring another actor.

Max Donahue aka Atomic Man	Conrad Janis
James Jarvis	Gary Frank
Jennifer Davenport	Nancy Stafford
Steven Spooner	Tom Harrison
Theodore Mooney	Bernard Kuby
Hazel	Gamy L. Taylor
Security Guard #1?	Hal Landon, Jr.
Security Guard #2?	Bill Kalmenson
Man?	Stuart Mabray
Narrator?	Jackson Beck

We open to an old black-and-white science fiction serial. Pull back to reveal that it is being shown at a press announcement of *Atomic Man: The Movie*. While Spooner runs the show, Max (who portrayed Atomic Man in the television series) disrupts the presentation, yelling "I'll kill you before I'll let you destroy my creation!" as he is taken away by security.

In his office, Spooner tells Davenport that he has hired a new director for the movie. She is upset, since he had promised her the directorship. Even worse, the two are lovers, and Spooner is dumping her.

That evening, Max shows up in costume at the studio and is stopped by security. He claims that Spooner asked him to come, but Davenport says that is not true. In fact, Donohue has been harrassing Spooner. In her office, Davenport sets the clock ahead, sets up her videotape machine and calls in Hazel, the cleaning lady. They watch *Atomic Man* together (really, the videotape), and Hazel leaves. Davenport then dresses up as Atomic Man, goes to Spooner's office, and kills him with a blow to the head. She breaks the window and climbs down the trellis. The security people see her and give chase, but she ducks into her office.

The next morning, Laura is shocked to see Detective Jarvis on television issuing a warrant for Donohue's arrest in the murder of Spooner. Steele insists that they to go see their client, Theodore Mooney (who wants them to install a security system in his chain of carpet stores), and when he mentions Mooney's live television advertisements, Laura perks up. She grabs her Atomic Decoder Ring and dashes off. At the carpet store, Laura rewrites the cue cards to give a secret message to Max, which Mooney unwittingly reads on the air.

At the office, Laura takes the call from Max and arranges for them to meet at a local Atomic Man convention. Jarvis shows up, and Steele distracts him long enough for Laura to steal Max out. Jarvis storms to Laura's apartment with a warning: Any more stunts, and he'll have her arrested for abetting a fugitive. At Steele's apartment, Max describes the situation, and it is grim indeed. His fingerprints are on the murder weapon, he was present at the studio at the time of the murder, and his alibi doesn't hold up.

Steele arranges for Max to pose as Officer Kimball, Mooney's new security system (until the electronic security system is installed). Laura goes to the studio and finds Davenport in Spooner's office. While they talk, Steele tries to climb up the trellis in through the window, but it collapses under him. He notes how odd it is that Max allegedly climbed down the trellis without it breaking, though he is several pounds heavier than Steele. When Laura tosses an indirect accusation, Davenport challenges Laura to prove it.

Laura is certain that Davenport is the killer; she just needs to find the evidence. With Steele's help, Max identifies the voice that called him to the studio as Davenport's. Laura accuses Davenport and comes up with the motive: She was losing directorship of the film, and Spooner's contract provides that she take over production in the event of his death.

Laura borrows a plot from an old *Columbo* episode and deduces the VCR trick. That evening, Laura and Steele break into Davenport's office and steal the videotape of the previous night's *Atomic Man* episode from her VCR cabinet. Laura goes to see Max at the carpet store to tell him that they're on the brink of cracking the case. Together, they foil a robbery attempt. And when the police come, so does Jarvis, who arrests them both.

Steele bails out Laura, and when they bring Laura her personal belongings, Jarvis notices the videotape she stole and keeps it in his office. Laura and Steele enlist Max's help: He tells Jarvis he's ready to confess, and tells a long story, with grand gestures, leading Jarvis out of his office. Steele and Laura sneak into

Jarvis's office to get the videotape. Max rounds off the story telling how he strangled Spooner. Jarvis points out that Spooner wasn't strangled, and Max smiles.

At Steele's apartment, Laura stays up all night watching the videotape they stole. The next morning, Mildred arrives with the tape from the TV station, and Laura watches that. She finds what she's looking for.

Jarvis is brought to Davenport's office, where Laura recreates the method of murder. She shows the videotape that she stole from Davenport, who (with Hazel) confirm that that is indeed what they watched. She then pops in the videotape from the station and plays it: A scene that the two claims they watched the night of the murder is missing from the broadcast tape, proving Laura's theory.

At the office, Max thanks the gang for helping him. Max asks Steele if he ever considered a career in acting, and Laura laughs.

Movies:

The Fugitive, David Janssen, a Quinn Martin production, 1963 to 1967.

Columbo, Peter Falk, Universal Studios, 1975. *Playback*

Gone with the Wind.

Heaven's Gate.

Notes:

Generally silly, and not at all mysterious.

58

Have I Got a Steele for You

4726

Jeff Melvoin

Christopher Hibler

01/22/85 10p "Idea man" George E. Mulch is back with a new business venture that's being used by a
 06/25/85 10p partner to swindle an investor.

George Edward Mulch	.....	Michael Constantine
James Ryan	.....	John Lehne
Martha Ryan	.....	K Callan
Peter Gillespie	.....	Charles Rocket
Russ Buckner	.....	Seth Jaffe
Juan Castro	.....	Danny Mora
Courtney?	.....	Debra Dusay
Tommy Mulch	.....	Gene Freedman
Teller?	.....	Virgil Robison

A man purchases \$9000 in travelers checks from several different banks, each time under a different name. (A teller points out that if he had purchased \$10,000 worth of travelers checks, they'd have to fill out a special IRS form.) He then goes to an office and burns all the checks.

Martha Ryan tells Steele (Laura is out of town on business) that her husband has sunk half a million dollars into the Courtney Doll Company, and they haven't produced anything yet. She is certain he's being swindled and wants Steele to investigate. Steele goes to the factory to find empty tables and only a single worker, dutifully sewing dolls. He knocks on the office door only to see a man climbing out the window. He smiles in recognition. Mulch arrives at his office to find Steele waiting for him. But they don't get far into the greeting before another man comes in, belts Steele, and chases Mulch. The man catches up to Mulch and demands his money. Steele saves Mulch, who merely identifies the man as a demanding business associate.

At the office, Laura patches up Steele's head wound and scolds him for running off on a case alone. Mulch explains his latest scheme: The Courtney doll is a simple doll. It does nothing, has no accessories, and has absolutely no after-market. Parents will love it. They ask Mulch where the money is, and he admits he's only the creative end. He explains that Pete Gillespie found James Ryan, an eager investor, and they named the doll after his granddaughter. Mulch takes Laura and Mildred (Laura intentionally leaves Steele at the office) to see the books.

He takes them to Tommy, his brother-in-law, who handles the books. Outside, Gillespie phones in his report and is told to await further instructions. Inside, Mildred finds no ledgers, no books, just shoeboxes of receipts. They carry the receipts to the car, only to find it being driven away. Laura stops it, and the driver identifies himself as a car repo man; apparently, Mulch hasn't made a single payment on the car. Mulch also identifies the unwelcome guest at his office as Buckner, a loan shark he owes around \$5000 to. Mulch hasn't received a penny of salary; Gillespie claims that startup costs chewed up the money.

Laura and Steele are called to see James Ryan, whom we recognize as the man from the opening. He explains that Martha is very nervous about money, and he introduces his granddaughter Courtney, who comes in to tell him that her parents are on the phone. Courtney doesn't quite get the 'hang' of hanging up the phone. Ryan says there's no point in continuing the investigation, but Laura and Steele convince him to press on. After they leave, Ryan calls Gillespie and tells him to lie low for a while. Laura and Steele go to Gillespie's to find that it appears he left in a bit of a hurry. As they leave, Steele is beat up by thugs, and Buckner warns, "Tell that fat friend of yours, I'll be expecting his payment. Tomorrow."

At the loft, Laura tapes up Steele's bruises and gets upset when Steele makes light of his injuries. Laura realizes that their post-Cannes 'arrangement' hasn't turned out well and decides to rekindle their relationship. Laura and Steele are called to the office, where Mildred has finally unscrambled the books. The Courtney Doll Company has taken \$496,000 from Ryan and paid out the same amount in startup costs (all to only three firms). And all they have to show for it is \$800 in inventory. Steele lets Mulch spend the night on his couch to protect him from Buckner.

The next morning, Laura and Mildred go to the Wheaton Company to find that it's only a dummy corporation. Laura finds ashes in the trashcan and recovers a fragment of a travelers check. Back at the office, Steele tries to use the computer and (with Mulch's help) manages to get into the database. Meanwhile, Gillespie is getting jumpy, and Ryan tells him that their plan is to "remove those two detectives from the picture" and pin the crime on Mulch. Laura and Mildred return to the office with the information that the travelers checks were signed by the heads of the respective corporations, whom Steele turned up have been

dead for over twenty years. Steele realizes that Gillespie set up the corporations so he could assume the identities of their dead presidents, and Mildred explains that the receipts from the travelers checks would let him recover his money later without drawing suspicion. Mildred tries to call the Ryans with their discovery, only to find the line busy.

While Steele and Mulch steal Buckner's Porsche, Laura receives a phone call at the office from Gillespie, who offers to return the money in exchange for amnesty. He sets up a meeting with Laura at the factory, and after he hangs up, he tells Ryan, "They're coming." Meanwhile, Steele and Mulch repay the debt with the proceeds from the sale of Buckner's car. Steele learns from Mildred that Laura went to the factory alone and dashes there in the limo. Laura arrives at the factory and realizes she's been set up when the lights go out. Laura and Gillespie stalk each other with guns drawn. Steele rushes in as shots are fired, to find Ryan holding a gun over Gillespie's dead body.

Apparently, Gillespie called Ryan as well, but Laura has nagging doubts. Why didn't Gillespie just leave town? And Gillespie was too young to impersonate the deceased company heads. Mildred receives a call from Martha Ryan: Mr. Ryan has just filed for divorce. Mildred realizes that now that Ryan has lost all his money, he doesn't have to pay anything in the divorce settlement. Laura and Steele confront Ryan, who shrugs it off, but incriminates himself when he says that Gillespie called him, yet the phone was off the hook all afternoon (thanks to Courtney).

At Steele's apartment, he expresses his polite displeasure that Laura broke her own rule about working as a team. When Mulch lets slip that they stole Buckner's car, Laura asks Steele to explain, but Steele is saved by the dinner bell.

Movies:

Blood Alley.

The Day of the Jackal, Edwards Fox, Michel Lonsdale, Universal 1973.

Notes:

Some music borrowed from *Pocketful of Steele*.

01/29/85 10p The crooked managers of singer Rocky Sullivan decide to kill their rising star when her
07/02/85 10p success threatens their investment scheme.

Rocky Sullivan	Lynne Randall
Brian Hunter	Robert Desiderio
Vincent Nash	Don Gordon
Buddy Brokaw	Jack Kruschen
Betty Overton	Elizabeth Huddle
Arthur McKinley Reynolds, III	Timothy Stack
Clint Overton	Tony Frank
Pops?	Beau Starr
Joseph?	Peter Brocco

When the Rocky Sullivan Show comes to town, Rocky is ecstatic that she's been sold out, but her managers privately agree they need to end her career, fast. That evening, Steele is upset that Laura bought tickets to see Rocky and cajoles Laura into having dinner with him afterwards in San Francisco. When they arrive, they are confused to see that Rocky's a hit. Meanwhile, a young man goes into the theater with a gun. In Rocky's dressing room, Clint Overton (a stereotypical rich Texan) helps Rocky with her dress. Meanwhile, her managers Buddy and Brian wonder what they're going to do. Brian tells Buddy to change the order of the songs and begin with the one where Rocky is on the piano.

Rocky greets Laura and Steele and introduces them to Buddy, her manager, who tells her about the change in plans. She also introduces Clint and Betty Overton, who own a piece of Rocky's act. When the show starts, the band starts playing the music for *The Man I Love* and Rocky comes in singing *Who's Sorry Now*. A sandbag falls on the piano.

Rocky apologizes to Buddy for forgetting about the schedule change, though it turns out to have saved her life. Steele notices that the cable was cut. Buddy remarks that it was Brian's idea to change the schedule. Clint and Betty take Rocky to her dressing room. Outside, Brian is kidnaped by thugs. Betty privately tells accuses Clint of staging the murder attempt to create publicity. She also notes how he stares at Rocky all "goo-goo eyed". Meanwhile, Buddy catches the young man sifting through papers in his office, and he and Laura chase him out. Brian is taken to Vincent Nash, local crime boss, who demands to be made a 50% partner in Rocky Sullivan's act. Brian is forced to sign.

Laura figures the man with the gun also cut the cable and offers to let Rocky stay at her place. Laura goes into the back of the bus to fetch Rocky's overnight bag, where the gunman greets her. Clint sees the light on in the bus and thinks it's Rocky. Through the curtain, he professes his love for her. He finally can't stand it any more and comes through, to find the man with his gun poised. Betty wonders where Clint is and she, Steele, and Rocky go outside to the bus, where they hear shots fired and the gunman drive off.

The paramedics bandage Clint's arm and leave. Laura managed to grab from the gunman the financial ledgers from the show. Betty privately scolds Clint for risking his life, noting, "We don't belong here" in Hollywood. At Laura's loft, Mildred goes over the books: All of Rocky's performances have sold out, but Steele notices that they oversold shares, selling over 500%, then hoping Rocky's show will flop, and then pocket the money. Rocky is so pleased she's hit the big time, Steele can't bear to tell her the truth.

The next day, Brian sneaks into his office and tells Buddy what happened. "I've got to kill Rocky; it's our only hope." He tells Buddy to make sure Rocky's in her dressing room this afternoon and leaves with a cassette. When Laura and Steele arrive, Brian ducks out. Our sleuths confront Buddy, who plays dumb, claiming that Brian was the bookkeeper. Buddy sneaks out as Nash comes in. When Nash sees the books, he leaves angrily. Meanwhile, the gunman goes to Clint's hotel room.

Rocky gets a phone call at the loft from Buddy, asking her to come down to the theater. Mildred tries her best to stop her, but Rocky gets away. Mildred calls Laura and Steele in the limo, and they rush to the theater. The gunman comes into Buddy's office and demands to see Brian; he tells Buddy that he knows about their scam, and Rocky overhears it. The gunman leaves, and Buddy tries to repair the damage. He tells Rocky to go home; he'll dissolve his partnership with Buddy. Laura and Steele arrive, hear gunshots, and Steele catches the gunman, while Laura spots Nash getting away. They go to Rocky's dressing room to find Clint dragging Brian's dead body.

The gunman identifies himself as Arthur, an accountant from St. Paul who came to recover his investment in Rocky's act. Rocky explains she heard shots, so she went to her dressing room and saw the gun on the floor. She heard someone coming and took a shot at him (and missed); it was Clint. Clint dragged Brian's body out of the dressing room to protect her from what appeared to be a frame-up. Buddy points out that Rocky recently learned of the scam, so she had motive to kill Brian. Nash returns (upon advice from his attorney), and accusations fly that Nash, Buddy, Rocky, and Arthur were all headed for the dressing room before the shots were fired.

Laura and Steele send Rocky to the loft and visit her dressing room. They note that the shots were fired through the bathroom door, and inside the bathroom they find a tape recorder (with Rocky's singing) and a sturdy cloth; Brian was waiting to strangle Rocky and planned to use the tape as an alibi, since people would hear Rocky singing after he left. Which means that whoever shot him thought they were killing Rocky (since they heard the singing). And the only person not accused of going to Rocky's dressing room (because she was already there) is Betty Overton. At the loft, Betty stalks Rocky with a knife; Clint was in love with her, going so far as buying all the tickets for Rocky's performances. Laura and Steele arrive and rescue Rocky from Betty just in time.

That evening, Rocky's performance is sold out, and Clint denies buying any ticket but his own. Rocky goes out and calls Laura and Steele on stage to take a special bow, which they do, then leave as fast as they can.

Movies:

The Producers, Zero Mostel, Gene Wilder, Avco-Embassy 1968.

60

Steele in the Family

4723

Brad Kern

Larry Elikann

02/05/85 10p Mildred's enterprising straight-arrow nephew has a little problem: he needs to hide a body
 06/18/85 10p from a hit man who needs the corpse to confirm the kill for his employers.
 12/24/85 10p

Mr. Silver	.....	Jack Bannon
Bernard	.....	Albert Macklin
Clarissa	.....	Nancy Everhard
Myrtle	.....	Doris Belack
Morty	.....	Bob Hastings
Harold Delanian	.....	Ryan MacDonald
Reporter?	.....	Anna Bjorn
Morgue attendant	.....	Joey Aresco
Jill	.....	Carol Francis
Clerk?	.....	Richard McGonagle

While the call girl Clarissa prepares a bubble bath, her client answers the door, only to be greeted by the wrong end of a gun. The hit-man (Silver) leaves and calls his employer and tells him, "It's done." His employer calls the police to report the murder (anonymously) while Clarissa and Bernard frantically hide the body in the next-door apartment.

After Steele coaxes Laura into stealing away with him to Catalina, Mildred introduces her nephew Bernard to Laura and Steele, who shortly thereafter receives a call from Clarissa: Her neighbors are due to return from their vacation, and they need a new place to hide the body. Meanwhile, Silver goes to collect his fee from Myrtle and Morty, but Myrtle refuses to pay until Delanian's death is reported in the newspapers.

Just as Laura and Steele are leaving for Catalina, Bernard and Mildred appear: Bernard has obtained three tickets to a Sinatra concert. Laura and Steele reluctantly accept, leaving Bernard in Steele's apartment to study. After they've gone, Bernard meets Clarissa downstairs and the two of them drag the body into Steele's bathtub. When everyone returns early (the concert was rained out), Bernard introduces Clarissa as his Latin tutor. When Steele goes to hang up the (sopping wet) coats in the bathtub, he asks "Bernard, can I have a word with you?" Bernard begs Steele not to let Mildred know, and he agrees. After two other call girls arrive ("my study group"), Steele explains the situation as a fraternity initiation stunt and shoos Laura and Mildred out. (Laura is not convinced.) Bernard explains: The man is Harold Delanian, president of Delanian Engineering. Apparently, Bernard over-invested his clients' money in Delanian stock (including some of the Agency's money), and he needs to keep Delanian's death quiet until he can sell the stocks after an announcement the following day of a corporate merger. Steele agrees to keep up the charade for the benefit of Mildred. The first order of business is to deposit the body at the local morgue.

Silver returns to the scene of the crime, finds no body, but does find Steele's address and phone number. He calls, and Clarissa answers, then runs out. Meanwhile, Laura smells a rat and returns to Steele's apartment, only to find it deserted. Silver arrives at the apartment, mistakes Laura for Clarissa, and demands "the package". Laura plays along until Silver pulls out a gun. She takes him on a wild goose chase across town until she makes her escape.

Steele drops off Bernard at Mildred's and returns to his apartment to find a waterlogged Clarissa. When Laura returns, furious, and finds Clarissa in Steele's pajamas, she demands an explanation—and gets one. Meanwhile, Mildred talks to Bernard.

Laura's plan is to pretend that Delanian is still alive, with Steele playing the rôle of the late executive (over Steele's objections). When Morty and Myrtle hear that Delanian is not dead, they assume that Delanian bought off Silver and take matters into their own hands. Silver pays a visit to Jill to find out where Clarissa is. On their way to kill 'Delanian', Morty starts to chicken out, but Myrtle bawls him out, and we learn that they want to stop the takeover to preserve their retirement benefits. Their murder attempt is thwarted when they are swamped by a horde of media people demanding an interview with Delanian. Bernard called the press so he could confess, but Steele convinces Bernard to go along with the game. While Steele manages to fend off the press, Silver grabs Laura in the lobby and takes her to the suite. When Laura buzzes the door oddly, Steele realizes that something is wrong, and they put a plan into action. Silver breaks in, and Steele, Laura, Bernard, and Clarissa subdue Silver. While Steele escorts Silver out, Morty shoots him, mistaking him for Delanian. Steele and Laura capture him in the ensuing chase.

Instead of telling Mildred that her nephew lost the agency's money they say that he donated the money to establish the 'Mildred Krebs Endowment for the Advanced Study of Latin'. Steele pulls Laura aside and tries a second time to steal away to Catalina with her.

Movies:

The Corpse came C.O.D., George Brent, Joan Blondell, Columbia 1947.

Notes:

The titles don't appear until after the murder.

61	Diced Steele	4727
Jeff Melvoin		Don Weis
02/12/85 10p	After the agency loses an insurance company's front money in a scheme to recover stolen	
08/13/85 10p	jewels, the company's investigator digs into Steele's past and tells Laura he was in on the scam.	
Norman Keyes	.....	James Tolkan
Eddie Grogan	.....	Murphy Dunne
Bradford Murdock	.....	Alan Feinstein
Mrs. Murdock	.....	Victoria Bass
Seymour Smith	.....	Charles Cooper
Everett Blaisdale	.....	Wortham Krimmer
Benny?	.....	Tom Stewart
Sid?	.....	Marty Zagon
Nathan?	.....	Simmy Bow
Mr. Capstone?	.....	Brian Kale
Hotel Clerk?	.....	John Roselius
Cab driver?	.....	Van Quattro
Henchman #1?	.....	Joey D. Viera
Henchman #2?	.....	Ralph Bruneau
Himself	.....	Sonny Averona
Page?	.....	Paul Virtue

Steele welcomes Benny, Sid and Nathan to his apartment to help him beat Eddie Grogan. The plan is that Grogan will lose big and be forced to reveal where he has hidden the jewels he stole from Bradford Murdock. But Eddie proves too much of a match for them, leaving only him and Steele (posing as Reginald Whitewood). When Eddie wins the final pot, Steele is furious: Grogan cheated. While Mildred follows him, Laura and Steele try to convince Everett Blaisdale (an insurance company representative) that everything is under control.

But Mr. Capstone, the company president, is not convinced. He puts Norman Keyes on the case. Keyes breaks into Steele's apartment and finds his passports. Blaisdale tries to explain the situation to Bradford Murdock, who is furious that he's not getting payment on the insurance for his stolen jewels. He books a flight to Vegas, and packs a gun. Laura and Steele arrive in Las Vegas, where Steele spends money left and right trying to maintain the Whitewood image. Keyes finds Laura and tells her Steele is a fraud and he was in on the robbery. Laura plays dumb and tries to prove to Keyes that Steele is an honest man.

Steele watches Grogan lose the last of his \$150,000 at the craps table then get taken away by two thugs. Steele rescues Grogan, who explains that he hocked the jewels to Seymour Smith for \$30,000, and it'll take \$50,000 to get it back. Laura takes Keyes to see Steele, only to see him chatting amicably with Grogan. She realizes she blew it and changes her tack, "Why that treacherous snake! All right, Keyes, how do we nail him?"

Steele is furious at Laura for agreeing to help Keyes trap him, but realizes Laura had no choice. Steele tells Laura he needs \$50,000 by 6pm, and Laura is upset at the fine mess Steele has gotten them into. While Steele leads Keyes on a wild goose chase, Laura goes down to the casino and parlays a pocketful of change into \$60,000. Steele returns just in time to stop her from risking it all on another throw of the dice.

Waiting for Grogan with the money, Laura apologizes for her behavior. While going downstairs to meet them, Grogan is accosted by Murdoch, who demands the jewels. Keyes spots Steele, who runs off, and Laura reluctantly joins the chase. Murdoch and Grogan go to Smith (the pawn broker); Murdoch kills Smith, and Grogan runs off with the jewels. Steele finds Smith's dead body, when Keyes arrives. Laura knocks Keyes unconscious and she and Steele make a run for it.

Back at the casino, Grogan, fearing Murdock, tosses the gems to Steele and runs away. Murdock accosts Steele, grabs the suitcase and runs off. When he gets outside, Murdock realizes that he took the suitcase with the \$50,000 and rushes back inside to get the jewelery. Grogan is caught by Smith's men, and Keyes catches Steele. Grogan tells Smith's men that Steele killed Smith, and they go after him. Grogan grabs the jewels and runs outside. Steele is rescued by Laura, and the two run outside, where Laura sees the few remaining dollars of her \$50,000 scattered about by the wind. Keyes catches Grogan and recovers the jewels. Murdock is about to shoot the two of them, but Steele disarms him.

Back in the casino restaurant, Laura, Steele and Keyes recap the case: Murdock had long ago sold the jewels and replaced them with paste, then he hired Grogan to steal the jewels for the insurance money. But

Grogan didn't know they were fakes and tried to abscond with them. Keyes leaves, but threatens to return. Laura notes that Steele could probably palm off the fake necklace on an unsuspecting victim, but Steele merely drops it on the sidewalk. "If I'm not careful, Miss Holt, you could make an honest man of me." "I'm counting on it, Mr. Steele."

Notes:

Sonny misses a lip-sync on the word 'that' at the end.

62

Now You Steele It, Now You Don't

4724

John Wirth

John Tracy

03/05/85 10p Laura delivers a message that triggers an importer's apparent suicide, then discovers she
08/20/85 10p was used in a blackmailing scheme.

Claudia Sterling	Savannah Smith Bouchér
Whit Sterling	Philip Abbott
Fred Bigelow	Michael Shannon
Grace Kelton	Claudia Cron
Leopold Majak	Byron Webster
Weasel	Robert Pastorelli
Dr. Romsen?	Bernard Behrens
Real Leopold Majak?	Robert Moberly
Chester	J. E. Freeman
Cop?	Darwin Joston
Assistant?	Logan Clarke
Dock worker?	Al Berry

Grace Kelton enters an antique store which the owner, Leopold Majak, hired Laura to watch. Kelton pockets an item and leaves. Laura follows her back to her apartment. Kelton confesses, embarrassed, and begs Laura not to tell Whit. Laura visits the Sterling residence. Whit Sterling doesn't recognize the name 'Grace Kelton' and denies that she is his mistress. When Laura shows him the shoplifted items, he becomes very angry ("I don't like being blackmailed!") and throws her out. Laura returns to Majak and tells him what happened. He is very pleased, and pays Laura for her services—in cash. Laura is very confused.

The next morning, Laura is awakened by a phone call from Claudia Sterling: "He's dead, Miss Holt. He's dead because of you." At the Sterling residence, Laura learns that Whit committed suicide the night before, and Mrs. Sterling, in her hysteria, is blaming Laura. Whit's partner in the import business, Fred Bigelow, doesn't recognize the name 'Majak'. The doctor arrives and scolds Bigelow for not keeping Mrs. Sterling in bed due to her condition—she's pregnant.

Laura returns to Majak's shop, only to find a *different* Leopold Majak. She goes to Grace Kelton's apartment, only to find it covered in sheets, as if the residents were on vacation, which is confirmed by the cop who shows up. No Grace Kelton ever lived there. When Laura discusses the matter with Steele, he suggests that she is just a little overworked and needs a vacation.

That evening, Laura and Steele break into Sterling's house: Laura suspects murder; Steele thinks Laura has gone insane. All evidence points to suicide: The room where he shot himself was locked from the inside. Steele cracks a safe to find inside a purple heart from service in Korea, an antique figure just like the one that Kelton allegedly stole, and a piece of paper with 'Marla Rakubian, 1479 Harbor' written on it. On their way out, the sprinkler system goes on, and they are chased by guard dogs.

The next day, Laura goes to Majak again, this time with the antique figure. Majak identifies it as 'major contraband', stolen from the Beijing Museum. When Laura confronts Bigelow, he denies any knowledge of a smuggling operation. He was the salesman end of the Sterling-Bigelow partnership and left the actual importing to Whit. Laura proposes that Marla Rakubian was Whit's mistress, but Bigelow only laughs...

Steele boards the Marla Rakubian, the ship that Sterling used for importing his goods, pretending to be a customs official. He opens a crate and inspects the contents. But Chester and another worker catch him and knock him out. Laura arrives just as they're carting Steele away in a trunk.

Steele is drugged and interrogated by Grace Kelton. In his stupor, he believes that it is Laura who is asking the questions. After they give up on the interrogation, Steele makes a gymnastic escape, and looks in on the next building, where dock workers are gambling.

At the office, Laura proposes that the fake Majak found out that Sterling was smuggling antiques and was blackmailing him. But this doesn't explain why he would murder Sterling. That evening, the two sneak aboard the Marla Rakubian and open some more crates. Steele recognizes the paper they found in the safe as paper used for counterfeiting. They go to a junkyard, where 'Weasel' sells them some counterfeit money.

Laura and Steele get Mildred to pass the funny money at the gambling table Steele found. When the workers find out, she gets tossed out, then picked up by Chester. He takes them to Kelton and the fake Majak, who ask her where she got the money from. Laura and Steele rescue her, bringing representatives of the Treasury Department with them. But Kelton and Majak deny killing Whit Sterling.

The next morning, Steele is ready to whisk Laura away to the Fiji islands, but she is still worried about the alleged suicide. To convince Laura that Sterling was perfectly healthy, he reads the autopsy report, but finds something interesting: Whit Sterling was rendered impotent by an old war wound.

They confront Mrs. Sterling and Fred Bigelow, accusing them of having an affair and killing Whit. They deny it. But Steele points out a tiny hole in the window pane and characteristic footprints outside the window, placing Bigelow at the scene of the crime. Ha! Bigelow, in his panic, names Mrs. Sterling as his accomplice.

That evening, Laura and Steele recap the case in his apartment. The heavy rainstorm outside has grounded all the planes to Hawaii.

Movies:

T-Men, Dennis O'Keefe, Albert Rider, Eagle/Lion, 1948.

The Barefoot Contessa, Humphrey Bogart, Ava Gardner, United Artists, 1954.

Notes:

Steele's athletic escape after being beaten into unconsciousness is hard to believe.
How did Steele know there was a hole in the window?

03/12/85 10p A cartoonist's life seems to be imitating art when attempts to kill him parallel the adventures of his comic-strip character lookalike.
 08/27/85 10p

Arte Wayne	.....	Dennis Drake
Raymond Kelly	.....	Biff McGuire
Sid Rothman	.....	Keith Charles
Paul Steuben	.....	?
Cindy Dirks	.....	Mary Beth Evans

Late at night, a car careens down a canyon road, exactly as described in a comic strip. The driver manages to leap to safety before the car crashes through a fence and explodes, just like in the comic strip.

At the office, Laura reluctantly helps Mildred shuffle files around and finds Steele in his office, reading the most recent installment of *The Blaster*, an action comic strip, featuring guest characters Dashing Dave and Doll-Face (who bear a striking resemblance to Steele and Laura, though Dollface has Orphan Annie eyes). The current plot has Dashing Dave and Dollface awaiting the arrival of Dick Darkside, who has just double-crossed the Blaster. So, the Blaster cuts Dick's brake lines. As Steele shows Laura the final panel, in which Dick says to himself, "Someone's trying to kill me," a young man comes in, saying exactly that. The resemblance is uncanny.

Arte Wayne explains that he is the inker for Raymond Kelly's comic strip *The Blaster*. About two weeks ago, the character of Dick Darkside was introduced, and just for fun, he made the character look like himself. Since then, whatever happens to Dick happens to him, the most recent incident being the wild car ride down Malibu Canyon.

Steele talks to Paul Steuben, the producer of *The Blaster*. Although Arte's work was excellent, Kelly asked Steuben to put some more pressure on Arte. *The Blaster* was doing poorly when three years ago, Kelly hires Arte as his inker, who saved the strip. Instead of being thankful, Kelly is resentful.

Meanwhile, Laura talks to Cindy Dirks, Arte's former girlfriend. She still loves him, but things didn't work out between them. Cindy mentions that Raymond Kelly's wife had seduced Arte. Mrs. Kelly died three months ago, and Mr. Kelly never learned of the affair.

From the limo, Laura calls Mildred to get Arte's address, and Mildred asks her to relay the Aspen ski report to Steele. Steele says he didn't invite Laura along because he knows about her workaholicism, and Laura promises that, at the conclusion of the case, she'll shut down the agency for a week and go skiing.

Arte buzzes Laura and Steele into his apartment complex and puts on a tea kettle to boil. He was inking the most recent installment of *The Blaster*, in which the Blaster throws a canister of poison gas into Dick Darkside's apartment. We see Arte, unconscious on the floor, as steam from the tea kettle fills the room. Laura and Steele break in and rescue him. Someone had placed tablets of potassium cyanide in his tea kettle. Arte says that the only other people who knew about the upcoming strip were Steuben, Sid Rothman (the distributor), and of course, Kelly. Arte refuses to believe that Kelly is responsible for the attempts on his life.

Laura and Steele pay a visit to Kelly's house, a big scary castle, complete with fog. When they mention Arte's name, he angrily tells them to leave. Despite all the attorneys Arte has sent, "He's getting nothing more from Raymond Kelly!" Arte wants credit for saving *The Blaster*, and Kelly refuses to grant it.

Laura and Steele conclude that Kelly found out about the affair and is trying to kill Arte. Laura wants to talk to Sid Rothman, but Steele accuses her of stalling. Laura responds by showing Steele the plane tickets she's already purchased. Sid tells our sleuths that Kelly hates Arte, but Arte is too busy worshipping to notice. Arte had come to him three months ago with an idea for his own comic strip. Sid loved it, but had to turn him down since he can't take on any new strips until an existing one retires. The next day, Sid saw Arte with his hand in a cast, "He said it was Ray's opinion of his grand notions."

Laura and Steele try to get Arte to face the facts and admit that it is Kelly who is trying to kill him. Arte shows them the latest strip: The Blaster is chasing Dick Darkside through a jungle. "Not too many of them around here." Arte refuses their protection, but Laura and Steele spend the night watching his apartment in case Kelly shows up. The evening passes uneventfully, but the next morning Laura sees Arte driving off. Laura and Steele realize that the jungle scene in question contains elements from Kelly's house. At the house, we see signs of a struggle, as well as the comic strip: "Dick Darkside and the Blaster meet in

mortal combat.” The Blaster says, “Good-bye, Dick Darkside”. Pan over to Kelly’s indoor waterfall, where the water has taken on a red tinge.

The police take Kelly’s body away, and Arte explains that Kelly called and told him to come over. At the office, Laura is suited up for skiing, but Steele has nagging doubts about the case. He shows Laura blue penciling on the sketches Kelly allegedly sent to Arte. Kelly doesn’t have any blue pencils, nor the stiff paper that the sketches were allegedly drawn on. Laura accuses Steele of chickening out on Aspen.

On their way to the airport, Steele detours Laura’s car to a Speedy Express shop, where the clerk denies that they’ve ever delivered a package from Kelly to Arte; all their deliveries were from Arte to Kelly. Laura’s car is poised atop Malibu Canyon, and Steele dares her to navigate the twisty, turny road down the canyon without brakes. Laura accepts the challenge and heads downhill, Steele in the passenger seat fearing for his life. They finally reach the point that Arte’s car allegedly ran off the road (at night, even) and find skid marks. Laura notes that there is no way Arte could’ve survived a jump from his car at the speed he was allegedly going. Steele suggests that Arte was the real author of *The Blaster*, and with Kelly dead, he can assume full creative control of the strip.

At a memorial for Raymond Kelly, Arte thanks our sleuths for their help and gives them a drawing of Dashing Dave and Dollface, this time with Laura’s eyes drawn in. Arte makes his remarks, and Sid announces that Arte has decided to let *The Blaster* rest with Kelly. (Laura mutters, “So much for motive.”) Sid announces that Arte will instead be starting his own comic strip. (Steele responds, “Motive, Miss Holt?”)

At the office, Laura notes that Arte started dating Cindy three months ago, the same time Mrs. Kelly died, Arte went to Sid with his new strip, and the same time Dashing Dave and Dollface were introduced into *The Blaster*. They go to Kelly’s house, where they find Arte’s contract: For seven years, everything Arte created would become the property of Raymond Kelly. Steele borrows an idea from *Gaslight*.

Arte picks up the newspaper to find *The Blaster* still running. In this strip, Dick Darkside is crushed under a falling safe. He looks out his window to find a grand piano being raised. Arte nervously goes to Sid, who says that a fan of *The Blaster* came to him with a suitcase full of ideas. As a result, Arte’s new strip is back on hold.

Arte picks up the latest batch of *Blaster* strips for inking, and they show Dashing Dave studying the scene of the crime and concluding, “You murdered him, and I can prove it!” The return address on the package is Kelly’s house, and Arte heads there. Laura and Steele await his arrival, when they hear a thud outside. They find Arte dead, a gargoyle from the castle having fallen on him. They return inside, where a masked figure attacks them with a knife. After the trio tumble down the stairs, Steele manages to disarm her. It’s Cindy.

At the office, Laura and Steele recap the case. Cindy masterminded the entire plot, wanting desperately to share credit with Arte on the new comic strip. She was afraid that Arte would botch his attempt to kill Laura and Steele, then confess to everything. Laura produces her ankle, bandaged. Mildred comes in, dressed for skiing. Laura explains that Mildred has always wanted to learn how to ski, and since the reservations were already made. . . Laura wishes them a good time. On his way out, Steele notes, “Looks like we’re never going to get together, doesn’t it.” After he’s gone, Laura pulls out the drawing of Dashing Dave and Dollface and says to herself, “Don’t bet on it, Mr. Steele.” The voice balloons over the two characters read, “What now, Dollface?” “Kiss me, Dashing!”

Movies:

Psycho, Anthony Perkins, Janet Leigh, Paramount 1960.

How to Murder Your Wife, Jack Lemmon, Virna Lisi, United Artists 1965.

Gaslight, Ingrid Bergman, Charles Boyer, MGM 1944.

Notes:

The *Speedy Express* company makes its first appearance in *Steele in the Family*.

The non-photographic blue pencil was indeed genuinely non-photographic blue pencil. When Steele points at it, you can’t see it.

Robin Bernheim, Stephanie Zimbalist, and Howard Baldwin

Sheldon Larry

03/19/85 10p The inventor of a no-calorie cookie disappears along with the only samples, worth millions.

07/30/85 10p

Maynard Stockman	.....	G. W. Bailey
Gloria Blyer	.....	Jean Smart
Bill Miles	.....	Michael Bell
Sandy Dalrymple	.....	Geena Davis
Clay Platt	.....	James Carroll Jordan
Shirley Tannenbaum	.....	Camille Saviola
Walter Munzinger	.....	James R. Winker
Michael J. Spencer?	.....	David Kagen
Coach?	.....	Brian Reise
Receptionist?	.....	Lynne Stewart

Nighttime in the park, three trenchcoated figures (Shirley Tannenbaum, Bill Miles, and Maynard Stockman) wait anxiously as a car pulls up and a mysterious figure emerges with ... cookies? They each take a bite and make their bids. At a laboratory, Walter Munzinger argues with Michael Spencer (the mysterious figure); Spencer says they should take the money, while Munzinger says no. He's spent fifteen years of his life on the project, and the buyers will just suppress it. He knocks out Spencer, goes to a locker and mails its contents (cookies?) to the Agency.

Mildred accepts the package and digs into the cookies, sharing them with Laura. The two find the cookies heavenly, but try their best to exert enough willpower to stop themselves. Meanwhile, Steele is consulting with the attractive tennis player Sandy Dalrymple regarding security arrangements. Tannenbaum walks onto the court and hires Steele to find Munzinger, her brother-in-law, and presents a \$10,000 retainer. Back at the office, Steele tries to foist the missing person case onto Laura, only to learn that Miles has also hired her to find Munzinger, and also provided at \$10,000 retainer. While they're musing over this peculiar coincidence, Stockman stops by, claiming to represent the Vector Foundation, wishing them to find ... Walter Munzinger.

They go to Munzinger's apartment to find it ransacked. They also find an award he and Spencer won at a food expo, the Agency's address, and well as Clay Platt, Laura's former more-than-just-an-associate at Havenhurst, hiding in the closet. Back at the office, Mildred can't stop eating the cookies and gives them to Miss Dalrymple for safekeeping.

Laura and Steele return to the office to find it also has been ransacked, and Munzinger staggers in, dead. Laura visits Miles hawking 'Booster Bars' at a supermarket, and he says that his offer is \$3 million. Meanwhile, Steele goes to 'Lila's Delight' where Tannenbaum offers \$1.5 million. Laura and Steele regroup at the lab, to find it ransacked. After removing the bugs from the lab, they discover Spencer in the fridge, dead. Gloria Blyer, Munzinger's fiancée, happens to stop by.

They return to the office to find it ransacked again, and Miss Dalrymple is injured. Laura realizes that Munzinger must have sent something important to the office, but what? They receive a package—a bomb, which they dispatch in the elevator. Laura leaves for lunch with Clay, dressed smashingly, and Steele gets a call from Gloria. Over lunch, Laura pumps Clay for information but his intentions are elsewhere. Steele goes to Munzinger's apartment to console Gloria after she had been threatened by goons who wanted 'the package'. Gloria still has the postal receipt for it and told the goons that she gave it to Steele.

Clay tells Laura that everybody is after the recipe for no-calorie cookies before he collapses. Laura realizes that he was drugged and is taken away by two henchmen. Steele sees them taking her away and follow to Varicorp. There, she meets Stockman who explains that the recipe must be destroyed. Releasing the recipe would destroy his cookie business, putting people out of work and sending the economy into a tailspin. Steele 'rescues' Laura disguised as a cleaning man, and they return to yet another ransacked office. Laura asks Mildred where the cookies are, and Mildred explains that she gave them to Miss Dalrymple.

Laura, Steele, Mildred, and Gloria go to Miss Dalrymple to fetch the cookies, but she gave them to her coach, who in turn gave them to his son Tyrone, who is at school. All six of them pile into Laura's Rabbit and head for school, followed by Tannenbaum, Miles, and Stockman. Steele finds a bug in the car, and Laura suspects that the office was also bugged. At the school, they all split up in search of the cookies. Laura locates the cookies, but loses them in a sequence too silly for words. When all is sorted out, Laura checks the postal receipt that makes Gloria the rightful owner: But the date on the receipt is *after* Munzinger died.

Gloria knew that he had the cookie, and she killed Munzinger (who was going to sell out) and Spencer. She makes a break for it, and in her recapture, the last cookie is lost.

Back at the office, Miss Dalrymple informs Steele that she has decided not to employ his services, preferring a more low-key approach, namely Clay.

Movies:

It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World

Notes:

The closing credits fade in and out.

Too silly for words.

65

Steele Trying

4717

Michael Gleason

Rocky Lang

05/07/85 10p Steele invents a bogus case to spirit Laura away to San Francisco for a little romance, but
 09/10/85 10p the plan backfires when the phony suspect gets involved in a real murder. Tony Bennett recorded the soundtrack.

Rita del Rio	Teresa Ganzel
Seymour Glass/Fred Melnik	Herb Vigran
George Broder	Howard Witt
Judy Fishbane	Gretchen Wyler
Bertha Melnik	Ruth Manning
Cop?	Chuck Mitchell
bar owner?	Terry Beaver
Waiter?	Dennis Farina
Waitress?	Adèle Rosse

Steele arrives at work to find Laura already with a tearful client, Bertha Melnik, who is concerned for her husband's safety when she finds evidence of his sudden trips to assorted romantic points in San Francisco. Laura and Steele privately conclude that Fred is conducting some extramarital business, and Laura decides to take on the case. After Laura leaves to pack her things, Steele returns to Bertha and applauds. He pays her for her acting services, and Bertha explains that Fred Melnik is really her brother Seymour Glass, a retired locksmith who is visiting San Francisco to take care of some old business. Steele explains that he's invented the bogus case so he can steal away with Laura.

Laura and Steele arrive in San Francisco, and Steele is disappointed when Laura booked separate rooms. While talking at the bar atop the hotel, they spot Fred refusing money from a gentleman, and follow him. The mystery gentleman learns from the waitress that Steele is Steele. Laura and Steele follow Fred to Lincoln Park, where he greets another man. They hear a scream and rush over to find the man, who says only 'Trapman' before dying.

Laura calls Mildred to get her to run some names through the computer, and Steele hurriedly calls Mildred to cancel the request. Steele then suggests that Laura pretty herself up for dinner while he makes the reservation. While she's gone, he calls the front desk to find out that Seymour has checked out and left no forwarding address. He tries to call Bertha but doesn't get very far as Laura returns to go to dinner.

At Marty's Restaurant, Steele starts talking romantic, but their conversation is interrupted when Laura spots Fred. Fred talks to a woman, who breaks down in tears, and the two leave together. Laura and Steele follow them to a topless bar, where they rescue Fred and the woman from two henchmen, but manage to get captured themselves. The mystery gentleman asks them what they want with 'The Trap Man', but they profess ignorance. He is about to have them killed when Laura stops two policemen and creates a scene so that she (and Steele) can get arrested.

The next morning (still in the same clothes), Laura and Steele pay a visit to the wake of Dr. Morris Fishbane, the man who died in the park, but when they approach the front door, they are shot at. While hiding from the gunman, Steele confesses that he invented the case and fears Laura's wrath. But she's hardly angry; "I'm beside myself with joy!" With renewed vigor, they escape the gunman and return to the topless bar to arrange a meeting with the woman (Rita del Rio). They then return to Willis Fishbane's house, only to find that the body on display is Judge Morris Fishbane. His widow explains that the judge died of a heart attack, and that the wake is being held in San Francisco because their house in Hillsborough had been horribly vandalized. Laura and Steele sneak out the back way and subdue the gunman (who is still waiting outside) and check his wallet: Inspector Barney Neale, San Francisco Police Department.

Laura and Steele share a dance at the top of the Mark, where Rita del Rio arrives. She explains that Seymour told him that Dr. Fishbane was dead, and she was 'involved' with Morris. Seymour told her he did some work for the judge a decade earlier, and that "some heavy duty people didn't want him to finish it". She cried because she feared for her life when Seymour says that they are killing anyone who was close to the judge. In Steele's room, he calls Bertha and learns where Seymour's favorite hiding place is.

They find Seymour in a Chinese restaurant and identify themselves as friends of Bertha. He explains that he is a trap man; he installs hidden safes, and he's in San Francisco to reveal the location of Judge Fishbane's trap upon the judge's death. He identifies the mystery man as Captain George Broder, who

offered him \$100,000 not to open the trap. Laura figures that the bad guys thought she and Steele were after Seymour to get him to open the trap.

Back in Steele's room, they try to get Seymour to remember where the judge's house is, with no success. Though he is looking forward to his percentage of whatever is in the trap. When there is a knock at the door, Steele picks the lock to the connecting door and coshes the gunman on the head. The trio drive through Hillsborough until Seymour finds the judge's house, but as they approach it, it explodes. This doesn't daunt Seymour, however, since the trap was hidden in the swimming pool. Steele retrieves it, and Laura inspects the contents: Not money, but "a veritable cornucopia of corruption." The judge had been blackmailing "a former police commissioner, several judges, and a packet of politicians."

Laura decides to go to the FBI, but they need a safe place to spend the night. Seymour takes them back to the topless bar, where they hide in the costume room. While Steele is out buying some chili dogs, he spots more henchmen running into the bar, and he follows. He struggles with them while Laura and Seymour make their escape. Once they are subdued, Steele asks himself, "How did they know we were here?"

Rita gives Laura and Seymour the keys to her place. Laura asks her why she's returning to the bar, and she explains, "They don't want me; they want him." In Rita's apartment is Broder, gun poised. The front door opens, and he fires, but he shoots Rita (and is in turn bashed on the head by Seymour).

At the hotel, Laura and Steele pack their things to return to Los Angeles, and Laura explains that she knew that Rita's apartment was a trap when Rita said they weren't after her, since she was the one who said they were killing everyone who knew the judge. Steele figures Rita got involved with the judge just to get close to the trap. As they leave, Steele comes up with a parting movie reference.

Movies:

The Lost Weekend, Ray Milland, Jane Wyman, Paramount 1945.

Notes:

The title doesn't appear until after the first scene.

The trashcan lid trick came from *Breath of Steele*.

The 'Top of the Mark' refers (I think) to the top floor of the Mark Hopkins Hotel.

Errors: Laura and Steele take the cablecar to Lincoln Park, whereas the real Lincoln Park is nowhere near any cablecar.

66

Steele of Approval

4728

Brad Kern

Seymour Robbie

05/14/85 10p The third season winds up with Laura finding a possible romance in Mexico—and Steele
09/17/85 10p dodging a state investigator to revoke the agency's license.

Laura is hired by an odd lot of political power brokers to dig up dirt on “their man” before their opponents do. “Their man”, a charming Senate prospect named William Westfield, is honest, but he does have a gap in his past. And when Laura discovers it, somebody takes a shot at her.

That motivates her to follow a clue to Mexico City. Following Laura is Westfield, who's curious to see what she'll find. Laura's suspicious of him at first, but his apparent sincerity wins her over. Never quite certain of the status of her relationship with Steele, Laura is intrigued by the possibilities Westfield presents.

Meanwhile, Steele leaves poor Mildred to be grilled by the investigator while he tracks down the gunman who shot at Laura—and missed her on purpose.

William Westfield	James Houghton
Horton Erhart	William Prince
J. W. Kendall	David White
Oscar Bergman	Ken Olfsen
Jack Prince	Rod Arrants
Philip Dunford	Nicholas Hormann
Scott Jefferson	Richard Frank
Mitchell	Don Stewart
Mrs. Tucker?	Jeanne Ruskin
Desk clerk?	Zoanne Leroy

At a meeting of political bigwigs, Philip Dunford presents to Horton Erhart posters for William Westfield's senate campaign, though J. W. Kendall wants to wait for Westfield's background check to complete before continuing further, and the other gentlemen vote to wait. A gunman waits outside Mrs. Tucker's house, and when Laura comes out (concluding her interview regarding Westfield), he takes shots, not at Laura, but at her car.

In Laura's absence, Steele is forced to deal with Erhart, who wants to know if the Westfield background check is complete. Steele is about to give the check his stamp of approval when Laura comes in, muddled. She says she was shot at while talking to Westfield's former secretary and has found a gap in Westfield's past, a period in his life that cannot be accounted for. On her way home, Laura realizes she's been followed and manages to trap her pursuer, who turns out to be ... William Westfield.

At Laura's loft, Westfield explains that he was merely trying to get in touch with her when he found out she had been shot at. When Laura points out that, while he was working for the district attorney (Erhart) ten years ago, there is a period of three months during which nobody claims to have seen him. He explains that he was working for Erhart, then district attorney, investigating a suspicious fire tied to then-senator Hartford Jefferson. He was tasked with locating the senator's son Scott, who had fled to Mexico. He found him hospitalized following a suicide attempt, and by the time Erhart came down to obtain a deposition, Scott had been declared legally insane. Since there were no other leads, the matter was dropped. Laura is unsure whether or not to believe him, but she is definitely charmed.

At the office, Oscar Bergman from the State Bureau of Investigative Licencing arrives to ask a few questions regarding some irregularities in the case reports. Unfortunately, the case in question was before Steele became Steele, so he stalls for time and dashes out when he spots the computer printout on the car that was used in the attempt on Laura's life.

Laura talks to Erhart about the Jefferson matter, who tries to convince her that it is a non-issue. Laura suspects Westfield obtained a deposition from Jefferson, then had him declared insane so that no one else could get one, for shortly after his return to the United States, Westfield obtained a position in the law firm that handled Senator Jefferson's legal work, perhaps as a sort of payoff. Laura decides to go to Mexico City to talk to Scott Jefferson.

Steele visits Lightning Rent-A-Car posing as insurance inspector Norman Keyes and checks out the car, finding a valet parking stub. Laura returns to the office to find Mildred all tuckered out after being grilled

by Bergman. Meanwhile, Steele uses the claim stub to locate the gunman. He goes to the hotel room, finds the gun, and waits. On the plane, Laura is not pleased to find that Westfield is flying down to Mexico City with her, claiming he's just as curious as she is.

Mr. Donaldson and his wife Helen return to their hotel room, where Steele pretends to speak for his client, who is not pleased that the 'Holt situation' was not resolved properly. He learns that Jack Prince hired Donaldson to miss intentionally.

Steele returns to the office, where Mildred is mad at him for leaving her hung out to dry. She tells him that Bergman demands to see Steele at 4pm and that Laura has left for Mexico City. When the plane lands, Laura gives Westfield the slip, but he is waiting for her when she arrives at the hospital. Jefferson had been transferred to Los Angeles yesterday, and Laura is mad at herself because she need to rely on Westfield's knowledge of Spanish.

Steele arrives nearly an hour late for his meeting with Bergman, who merely tells him that he has suspended the agency's licence and that they are to stop work on all their cases. Laura calls Mildred and learns about the licence suspension. She fumes at Steele, and Westfield talks to her, and Laura warms up to him. Steele talks to Prince and demands to know why Donaldson was ordered to miss. Meanwhile, Laura and Westfield pose as a nurse and patient to get to talk to Scott Jefferson.

Laura and Steele meet in the elevator, both on their way to wrap up the case, and neither is particularly polite to the other. Laura levels her accusation at Erhart, and Steele tries to stop her. She accuses Erhart of having Jefferson committed and taking his deposition, and of hiring a gunman to kill her. Steele comes forward to make some corrections. It was Kendall who, with Prince, hired the gunman to scare Laura into digging deeper and finding the truth about Erhart. Laura and Steele conclude that it was Erhart who had their licence suspended, to keep Laura from finding the truth. As for proof, Laura produces a statement from Scott Jefferson implicating Erhart, and Steele a statement from Prince implicating Kendall.

At Steele's apartment, Laura notes that perhaps losing their licence may be a good thing. She proposes they spend some time to straighten out their relationship, to see if there's anything that binds them together besides their work.

Steele bursts into Bergman's office and roughs him up, demanding that he confess in writing that Erhart paid him to pull the agency's licence, that he restore the licence immediately, and that he turn himself in. Meanwhile, Laura joins Westfield on board the airplane and politely turns down his dinner invitation in Mexico City. "I care very much for someone who, I think, cares very much for me." She kisses him good-bye and says, "Thanks."

Steele mails the licence back to the agency and hops into the limo. "Home, Fred."

Laura arrives at Steele's apartment to find the door unlocked and nobody home. She goes into the bedroom and finds the closets and dresser empty. Laura sits down and thinks.

Notes:

The newspaper delivery trick was first used in *Steele Belted*.

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Fourth Season (1985–1986)

Remington Steele

Starring

Stephanie Zimbalist [as Laura Holt]
Pierce Brosnan [as Remington Steele]

Also starring

Doris Roberts [as Mildred Krebs]

Theme music by Henry Mancini
Musical score by Richard Lewis Warren*

Created by

Michael Gleason and Robert Butler

Executive Producer

Michael Gleason

* Except in the episode *Corn Fed Steele*, in which the musical score was written by Donald Nemitz.

67

Steele Searching (Part 1)

5701

Michael Gleason

Seymour Robbie

09/24/85 10p A fourth season opens in London, where both Laura and Scotland Yard want to find Steele,
04/12/86 10p but for different reasons. Meanwhile, Steele is hot on the trail of a man who holds a clue
to his past.

Felicia	Cassandra Harris
Inspector Lombard	Julian Glover
Katherine Galt	Angharad Rees
Earl of Claridge	Simon Oates
Bradford Galt	Stephen Dillon
Chalky	Jeff Rawie
Bowler	Emlyn Price
Hilda Lake	Claire Davenport
Blore	George Sweeney

Laura wakes up from a nightmare about Steele, “Who are you?” She stands outside the office door, takes a deep breath, and puts on a smile for Mildred. Laura continues the charade that Steele is off on a top-secret case and asks Mildred what she has found out about the names she was given (namely, Steele’s passport aliases): The trail ends in London.

Laura and Mildred fly to London and inquire into the last known address. The landlady signals a man waiting outside, who arranges that Laura’s purse is snatched. While Laura gives chase, she bumps into a very ratty-looking Steele, who hops over a fence. “Keep in touch.” The man who arranges for Laura’s purse to be stolen delivers the goods to another gentleman, who inspects the contents and says, “Use any method required. Cut any corners necessary, but find Steele. And stop him.”

In a tavern, Steele is waiting for someone and looks at his watch, the one with the inscription, “To S.J. from K.L.” A young man spots Steele and runs away, and Steele gives chase, but loses him. A woman leaves the tavern and is followed by a hansom cab. Steele hears a scream and ducks for cover. He sees the young man (Chalky) and catches him. Steele demands to know, “Who are they, and why are they after me,” and Chalky just says that it’s not safe to be seen with him (‘Harry’) these days. Steele finally extracts the name Jenny Buchanan from him.

Laura arrives at the office of the second gentleman, Chief Inspector Lombard of Scotland Yard, who was glancing at the headline, ‘Ripper—3 / Yard—0’. Lombard gives Laura her purse and asks her what she is doing in London. Laura says she’s looking for a friend, and Lombard then asks if Steele is in London on a case. Laura dodges the question, and Lombard warns her to stay away from Soho, for her own safety. Laura wonders why a Chief Inspector would handle a simple purse snatching case. After Laura leaves, Chalky comes in with his report on Steele.

Steele talks to Jenny, a prostitute who works the train station. He explains he’s learned that Patrick O’Rourke (the man who gave him the watch) used to help out a Kevin Landers, who had a tendency to get drunk and beat up women. Jenny identifies him as the Earl of Claridge. Steele spots Lombard and makes a messy escape. Meanwhile, Mildred breaks into Quintaine’s flat room and finds a matchbook cover... and Steele’s passports.

Steele visits Felicia (who calls him Michael) and asks her why she’s in London. She insists she’s not up to anything. While Steele settles down for some much-needed rest, Felicia calls Scotland Yard. Lombard arrives to find that Steele has since vanished. We see Steele running through alleys and gets attacked, but manages to get away, but not before being seriously injured on the spikes atop a fence.

Mildred returns to the hotel where Laura wonders what to do about “a new friend” who’s been following her since she visited Scotland Yard. Mildred asks Laura how much she knows about Steele, and Laura is not forthcoming. Mildred gives Laura the matchbook cover she found but keeps the passports hidden.

A nurse goes home and steps into an elevator with a scary-looking fellow.

A very bloody Steele is lying in an alley. A hansom cab emerges from the fog and goes past the tavern, where Laura goes in. The cab comes to a stop, and the driver takes the nurse’s body out, accidentally dropping a lighter in the process. Mildred sees the carriage driver and is attacked, but is saved by the arrival of Inspector Lombard and friends. The Inspector helps Mildred pick up her things and sees Steele’s passports. Meanwhile, Chalky returns to find Steele badly injured and offers to get help. Laura hears the

sirens and comes out to see what the matter is. Lombard blames Laura for coming to Soho in spite of his warning. Laura spots Lombard pocketing the lighter and demands to know what's going on.

In his office, Lombard explains. The soon-to-be-married Earl of Claridge appears to be tied to the recent murders, and shortly after the murders began, Douglas Quintaine (whom he knows to be Steele) started asking questions about a Kevin Landers, which was the Earl's pseudonym during his drunken forays into White Chapel. The Earl was shipped to Canada, and it is immediately upon his return to England that the killings began. He wants to keep Steele from making a hasty accusation and ruining the Earl, not to mention Lombard. Lombard receives a call from Chalky: He's found Steele.

But Steele isn't in the alley any more. Drops of blood fall on Laura's shoulder, and she looks up to find Steele. She distracts the Inspector long enough to rescue Steele. She takes him back to the hotel and tends to his wounds. Steele explains his hasty departure, "I needed to find something... me." He explains what he's learned about Kevin Landers, and Laura offers to go to the Earl and get Steele to a hospital.

Mildred tells Laura that Lombard has the passports as they visit the Earl posing as a magazine writer and her photographer. Laura talks to His Lordship and pointedly asks him how he travels without being recognized. She notices that he's lost his lighter, and the Earl angrily leaves her in the care of Bradford Galt, his future brother-in-law. Bradford admits that he finds all the publicity disconcerting. Laura spots a hansom cab, and Bradford explains that the Earl's ancestors always rode in it to the wedding. His Lordship is a stickler for tradition, even having Katherine and Bradford sequestered elsewhere, "No hanky-panky before the vows are exchanged." Mildred pretends to injure her ankle as an excuse for staying the night.

That evening, Laura keeps an eye on the carriage, and spots the Earl taking it for a ride. She hops into a utility vehicle to follow it and finds Steele already in it. Laura explains that the Earl might be a murderer. They follow the cab, where the driver gets out and goes into a house. Shortly thereafter, he emerges, and they continue to follow it, but skid off the road, and Laura's knee is injured. While Steele fetches help, the carriage driver attacks Laura, and Steele returns in time to rescue her. He unmask the man, and it's Bradford Galt.

In his office, Inspector Lombard explains to Laura that Bradford is "one of the most cold-blooded killers I've ever encountered." Apparently, while working at a boarding house for women, he killed the landlady while searching for her money, then fled to Canada. When his sister became engaged to the Earl, he realized that thanks to the attendant publicity, one of the boarding house ladies would recognize his face. The reason the Earl takes midnight carriage rides is that he's sneaking out past the tabloid reporters to visit Katherine. Lombard asks where Steele is and says he can't return the passports.

While walking down the street, Steele is kidnaped. He is shoved into a car, where Felicia says, "Nice to see you again. I hope you're prepared." "Prepared? For what?" "Why darling, you're going to kill the Earl of Claridge."

Movies:

Invasion of the Body Snatchers, Kevin McCarthy, Dana Wynter, Allied Artists 1956.
Smokey and the Bandit

Notes:

The "Who are you?" scene comes from *Tempered Steele*. The watch comes from *Steele Your Heart Away*.

The title doesn't appear until after the first two scenes. The closing music has a violin countertheme.

Michael Gleason

Christopher Hibler

10/01/85 10p Radical miners mistake Steele for the assassin Daniel Chalmers hired to kill the Earl of
04/19/86 10p Claridge.

Daniel Chalmers	Efrem Zimbalist, Jr.
Felicia	Cassandra Harris
Inspector Lombard	Julian Glover
Katherine Galt	Angharad Rees
Earl of Claridge	Simon Oates
Armstrong	Linal Haft

Steele is taken to a farm and told to wait. While waiting, he demands to know from Felicia why she called the police when he visited. She explains that Hawkins and Blore were coming, and she couldn't be seen with him. But they did see him, so she said that he was the man they were looking for, namely the finest assassin in Europe. Steele is taken to see the 'head man'—Daniel Chalmers. Daniel explains that he is helping a group of miners who had gone on strike, and the Earl of Claridge closed the mines. So they want to kill the Earl. (The logic of this move escapes Daniel.) Daniel accepted the job, not for the assassination, but to steal the jewels from the Earl's wedding. Daniel told the miners he would find an assassin, and apparently Steele is it.

The angry miners take Steele outside and, to prove their seriousness, kill one of their own who was about to squeal. Steele realizes that if he doesn't convince them he's the assassin, they'll kill him, Daniel, and Felicia.

Back at the hotel, Laura angrily packs her bags and explains the agency's arrangement to Mildred. Steele's current disappearance was the last straw, and she intends on abandoning him in London, but Mildred convinces her to stay and help him. Laura visits the Earl's residence, where wedding preparations are under way. Laura shows the Earl the watch, and he recognizes it. When Laura describes Steele, he realizes that Steele is his son. He explains that he had a youthful tryst with an Irish girl and only saw his son once. The Earl is called away, but asks to keep the watch. The Earl's visitor is Daniel Chalmers, disguised as an elderly miner who wishes to present a gold-plated shovel at the wedding reception as a gift.

Laura follows Chalmers back to the farm, where the miners give Steele a gun disguised as a gold-plated shovel. While Laura watches from behind some hedges, Steele demonstrates his shooting ability. Laura is spotted, and she manages to escape.

Laura tells Mildred what she saw, and Mildred helps her get away from the men who were chasing her. Steele tells the miners he demands one million pounds in payment, hoping they won't be able to pay it. They can't, so they force him to rob a bank. Laura pays a visit to the Earl and learns that the miners had demanded half-ownership of the mines, and when he refused, they started killing people, so he closed the mines. Laura tries to convince him to postpone the wedding, but he cannot.

Felicia tries to win Steele back, with no success. Meanwhile, the miners decide to keep the million pounds for themselves, kill Steele by sabotaging the shovel, and assassinate the Earl themselves. Their plan is to rub some glow-in-the-dark powder on the Earl and kill the lights. The Earl will then be shot by one of his own antique weapons.

At the wedding reception, Chalmers presents the shovel. Laura asks Inspector to arrest the miners, but he can't yet arrest them for anything beyond the bank robbery. Steele tells Chalmers he will fire into the ceiling, and in the commotion, Daniel should clobber Armstrong. Mildred bumps into Steele and quietly fumes at him. Laura is ready to give up on Steele, but is re-inspired when Felicia teases her.

Steele picks up the shovel and aims it at the Earl. Laura yells, 'No!' and runs into him, causing him to throw the shovel, which explodes. In the hubbub, the lights go out, and Armstrong escorts the Earl out of the room. Daniel appears in time to save the Earl from a crossbow attack.

Afterwards, Daniel announces that the Earl is thinking of making him chief of security, and wishes Steele well. Steele finally meets the Earl, and they greet each other. Unfortunately, the Earl realizes that Steele is not his son. Steele's eyes are blue; his son's eyes are hazel. The Earl explains that the initials 'S.J.' stand for Sean James. He gave the watch to a friend to deliver to the boy, but the watch was lost. When Steele appeared, he had hoped that the watch had somehow reached its intended recipient.

At the hotel room, Steele notes that he is now stuck in London, but Mildred arrives with a consolation present: A United States passport in the name of Remington Steele.

Movies:

The Day of the Jackal, Edward Fox, Michael Lonsdale, Universal 1973.

John Wirth

Alexander Singer

10/22/85 9p After Laura's doctored likeness appears in a porno magazine, Steele can't understand why
 01/28/86 9p she's protecting the photographer from clients who want the man's files—and from the FBI.

Douglas Veenhof Kenneth Mars
 Ford Stevens Kenneth Kimmins
 Emily Stevens? Candy Azzara
 Michael Fitzgerald Scott Jaeck
 Eileen Fitzgerald Nana Visitor
 Rhodes Chris Mulkey
 Colby Richard McGonagle

Two FBI agents, Colby and Rhodes, pay Steele a visit. They show Steele a copy of *Beside Babes* and point him at page 46, 'Babe of the Month', where Steele is embarrassed to find Laura's photo. They explain that they're after the photographer, Douglas Veenhof, for trafficking pornographic materials, and Laura was his last client. After Steele and Mildred confer as to what to do, they return to find the agents gone.

Steele pays a visit to Veenhof Photography, where he finds a studio loaded with suggestive scenes. Steele is greeted by a golf-club-wielding gentleman who demands 'the files', and when Steele tries to explain that he isn't Veenhof, Veenhof's next client pops in, "Where do you want me, Mr. Veenhof?" Steele dispatches the irate gentleman and leaves.

At the office, Mildred takes a call from Veenhof. He wants to move, but Mildred tells him to stay put and goes to fetch him. Colby and Rhodes have tapped the agency phone and head there themselves. Mildred arrives in the Auburn, and since she can't pick the apartment lock, she goes out on the ledge to climb in a window. While outside, she sees Colby and Rhodes break in, turn the apartment upside-down, then leave. She also sees a young man stealing Steele's car. Mildred comes in, gets Veenhoff, and leaves. "It's not safe here."

Steele returns to the office to find Laura on her way out. He asks her if there is anything he should know about, and she says there isn't. She's just on her way out to do a friend a favor. Steele invites himself along. Meanwhile, Mildred takes Veenhoff to Steele's apartment, but when she can't pick the lock, she decides to go someplace else. "It's not safe here."

In the limo, Steele glances out the back window at Colby and Rhodes, who are following them. He tries to draw information out of Laura, but she merely says Veenhof is a photographer, and a couple of days ago, someone broke in, roughed him up, and demanded his files. Laura thinks it's Ford Stevens, senatorial candidate. Laura pays the campaign headquarters a visit, where his secretary says he's out on the campaign trail. Laura notes that Stevens' appointment book has an interview with Channel 6 for that evening at the Stevens residence. Meanwhile, Steele steps out of the limo and instructs Fred to take the FBI men on a wild goose chase.

Mildred has hidden Veenhof in Laura's loft and calls the police to report the stolen car, demanding that they recover it. Laura and Steele arrive at the loft, and Laura tries very hard to get Veenhof to keep his mouth shut, but to no avail. Veenhof explains that he does 'Boudoir photography', wherein women pose in skimpy outfits and present the photos to their husbands as gifts. Steele asks Mildred where the Auburn is, and she says it's in the shop. Steele continues to tease Laura about the photos.

Colby and Rhodes watch Laura and Steele leave, and Rhodes heads up to the loft, where Mildred clonks him, and the two rush out. Veenhof said Rhodes claimed to be a talent agent who offered \$20,000 for his files; Mildred explains that he isn't even the FBI, "That gun, it's not government issue!"

Laura and Steele pay a visit to Ford Stevens, where he admits that he threatened Veenhof, but for good reason. His wife and her friend posed for Veenhof, and when her friend appeared in *Beside Babes* without granting permission, he wanted to stop Veenhof from printing Emily's photo. When Laura spots her own picture in the magazine, she freezes, leaving Steele to continue the interview. Laura promises she'll get the negatives from Veenhof. In the car, Steele continues to rub it in.

Laura and Steele return to the loft, to find Mildred and Veenhof missing. Mildred has taken Veenhof to the office, where she continues to demand that the police find the Auburn immediately. Laura and Steele return to Veenhof's studio, where the golf-club man is there waiting for them. He demands the files, but

their conversation is interrupted by gunshots from Colby. Laura finally learns that Steele knew all along and is furious at him. Outside, Colby calls from a pay phone: "Forget Veenhof. I've found *him*."

Laura and Steele arrive at the office, where Mildred explains that the FBI agents are impostors. Veenhof explains that he put Laura's face on the body because he needed the money. He has no idea why everybody is after his files, and Laura asks him to identify which pictures in *Beside Babes* are his. Her theory is that the magazine is the only common denominator to all the madness. He finds another picture, and Laura and Steele take him to his studio to fetch the name and address.

Colby phones in and asks for a licence plate trace. Veenhof finds the photo; the name is Eileen Fitzgerald from Castle Rock, a miniature golf course. At the office, Mildred can't find any information on her, and Steele concludes that she's under Federal Witness Protection. Meanwhile, Mildred hires a ratty-looking detective to find Steele's car.

Colby and Rhodes get the licence plate trace and heads for the miniature golf course. Meanwhile, Eileen and her husband Michael are tired of being shuffled around by the Witness Protection Program every time something goes wrong and decide to go on the run. Their plan is to sign for the money like they always do, then see how far they can go with \$5000. Colby and Rhodes and Laura and Steele arrive simultaneously, and a three-way chase through the miniature golf course ensues. Laura and Steele are trapped by Colby, and when both Steele and Colby run out of bullets, Laura grabs a putter and whacks golf balls at Colby. Steele eventually subdues Colby. Meanwhile, Rhodes has shot Michael in the leg, and as he walks towards Eileen, Laura clobbers him from behind with a golf club.

Veenhof thanks Steele for their help, and Steele suggests that he leave and pray he never meets Laura again. Steele thanks Mildred for her work, then sees the ratty detective driving in a truckful of parts to Steele's Auburn.

At Steele's apartment, Laura and Steele throw copies of *Beside Babes* into the fireplace. Laura explains she needed a photo for the Alumni Journal and didn't know about Veenhof's boudoir business. When Steele admires the photograph one last time, she grabs the magazine, tosses it into the fireplace, and kisses him.

Movies:

Hide in Plain Sight, James Caan, Jill Eikenberry, United Artists 1979.

Notes:

The time of day seems to get a little confused. Laura and Steele visit Ford Stevens at 6pm, then take Veenhof to his studio that evening. Presumably, Mildred runs the computer search the next morning, but this doesn't mesh with the fact that Colby picks up the licence plate trace from a pay phone at night. And, of course, the big chase at the golf course takes place in broad daylight.

70

Grappling Steele

5709

Rick Mittleman

Don Weis

10/29/85 10p Laura and Steele protect a popular pro wrestler who's been receiving death threats and has
05/17/86 10p had a series of "accidents".

Whitney Chambers	Kim Ulrich
Crunch Kramer	Gary Kasper
Todd Myerson	Boyd Gaines
Al Molinski	Lawrence Tierney
"Dangerous" Darryl Simmons	Tim Rossoovich
Arthur Shelby	Dan Hamilton
Ringmaster?	Jay Louden
Mary Molinski	Adele Rosse
Jake Riley?	Bud David
?	Garrick Dowd
?	Steven Barr
Young man?	Joe Nesnow

For a 'night out for the girls', Mildred takes Laura to a pro-wrestling match. Laura is hardly amused, but Mildred eats it up; clearly it isn't her first time. After Dangerous Darryl (the bad guy) dispatches his opponent, he challenges Crunch Kramer to a grudge match. Crunch then comes over to say hi to Mildred.

Crunch hires Laura to investigate the death threats he's received and a mysterious accident at the gym. Steele asks Mildred why Crunch is back, since he already rejected the case. Mildred explains that she wants the *real* boss to decide whether the case is worth pursuing. Steele insists that it's all just a publicity stunt, and Laura challenges him to prove it.

Steele visits Arthur Shelby, Crunch's manager, and also Dangerous Darryl's manager. Shelby denies that he is responsible for the death threats. Meanwhile, Crunch takes Laura to the rest home to meet his dad, Al Molinski. (Al calls Crunch 'Mike'.) Al disapproves of Crunch's girlfriend, soap opera star Whitney Chambers. Outside, Crunch notes that the judge left his ex-wife Mary with nothing except a \$1 million life insurance policy on him. Laura and Crunch visit Mary, but nobody answers. After Laura goes to talk to the neighbors, Crunch breaks in a window and is greeted by Mary, who pulls a gun and takes shots at him. Laura arrives in time to disarm her.

Laura and Steele meet at the gym, where Laura is pleased with herself for solving the case. While there, they hear a call for help and see dead body fall out of the sauna, the door to which had been jammed shut. (So much for Laura's theory.) The attendant panics and runs, "Crunch Kramer is dead!" But the dead man is Arthur Shelby. Laura finds a parking token, and figures that Crunch was the intended victim, since Shelby was wearing a 'Crunch Kramer' robe. Steele suspects Darryl, whom he had come to visit. Whitney Chambers arrives and is relieved to find that Crunch is okay. Todd Myerson (her director) asks her to return to the studio, but she wants to stay with Crunch. Todd exchanges harsh words with Crunch.

Crunch is called to the retirement home; his father has collapsed. Al fainted when he heard the news report that Crunch had died, but he's okay now. He sends Whitney to fetch some water, and scolds Crunch for wasting his college degree on pro-wrestling. Outside, Whitney explains to Steele that Al never liked her, believing that she's just seeing him to further her own career. She says that Todd believes the publicity surrounding her relationship with Crunch will ruin her acting and singing career. Yes, singing; she's doing a live special the next evening. Todd is so upset, he even accused Shelby of arranging the whole thing.

Laura and Steele drive to the studio, where they find that the parking token Laura found is for the lot at Blueberry Productions. They level their accusation at Todd, who admits making the threats on Crunch's life and roughing up Shelby, but denies killing him. Laura and Steele think they have the case wrapped up, but they get a phone call: While they were talking to Todd, there was another attempt on Crunch's life.

They go to the sound stage for Whitney's special. Crunch figured he'd make a surprise entrance from a hanging moon prop, but the chain snapped and he fell. The stage manager says the chain was cut. Laura and Steele accompany Crunch to his rehearsal with Darryl, where Darryl gets mean and Crunch keeps reminding him to stick to the script. They watch Crunch execute his trademark of bouncing off all four sides of the ring before pinning Darryl. Laura leaves Crunch with his father for safekeeping and asks Al to come to the match as a show of support, but he refuses. Laura thinks Whitney might be the killer. Meanwhile, Steele

visits Dangerous Darryl posing as an adoring fan. Darryl is furious at Crunch, upset that he's always the bad guy. What's more, Crunch owns his contract. "I wish he was dead."

Laura visits the set of 'Rage to Live' posing as an intern in television directing. She learns that Whitney had locked herself in her dressing room from 11am to 2pm and suspects she snuck out to kill Shelby. Laura returns to the office as Steele finishes making a dinner reservation for two to celebrate the conclusion of the case. Unfortunately, they've come to different conclusions. Laura think it's Whitney; Steele thinks it's Darryl. Laura suspects Whitney killed Shelby because he wouldn't let Crunch appear on her show. Laura and Steele start to get cozy, but are interrupted by Mildred, who has tickets to that evening's match.

The match opens with Whitney singing a pop version of the national anthem. Present in the audience are Al, Mary, and Todd. The match goes on, and when Crunch gets to his trademark routine, the ropes on the ring break, sending Crunch into the crowd. Dangerous Darryl wins by forfeit. Afterwards, Steele inspects the ropes, to find they've been cut. They pay a visit to Darryl, who makes a run for it, but 'Hatpin Millie' helps capture him.

Laura and Steele are dancing in his apartment, but are interrupted by Mildred. She claims they got the wrong man. She watched Whitney's show and realized that Whitney was supposed to descend on the moon all along; whoever cut the cable was trying to kill *her*. This leaves Darryl motive-less, and Laura figures out who the real killer is.

They rush to the sound stage and call Whitney in her dressing room, warning her that Al Molinski is the killer. But before she can lock the door, Al comes in, and she makes a run for it. Laura stays in the control room to try to turn on the lights (managing only to create lots of havoc by pushing levers), while Steele goes down to rescue Whitney, which he does.

At the office, Laura reads the psychiatric report on Al Molinski. The thought of losing Crunch to show business proved more than he could handle, and it seems he may never go to trial. Laura comes up with a concluding movie reference.

Movies:

A Bill of Divorcement, John Barrymore, Katherine Hepburn, RKO 1932.

Notes:

Steele's outfit as adoring fan Harley Ferguson (dressed as a drinking water delivery man) and Laura's as the intern (oversized sweater, fluffy hair, big glasses, and heart pendant earrings) are a riot.

The bit about the temperamental TV star might or might not be an inside joke.

71

Forged Steele

5710

Rick Mittleman

Harry Harris

11/12/85 10p During a 36-hour period that Steele can't remember, it seems that he gambled away the
04/05/86 10p agency in a high-stakes poker game.

Norman Keyes	James Tolkan
Harry Cranston	Ron Masak
Christy McCall	Stephanie Blackmore
Reuben Saltzman	Richard Minchenberg
Detective	John Corey
B. J. Sinclair	Monica Lewis
Kevin Fairbanks	Earl Boen
Debbie Rebelló?	Sandra Kronmeyer
Dolores?	Janis Ward

Wednesday afternoon, Steele arrives for a client interview with B. J. Sinclair, and he is pleasantly surprised that B. J. is an attractive woman who is anxious to mix business with pleasure. They leave for a night on the town. Steele wakes up in a hotel room and learns that it's Friday morning. He arrives at the office, to find it redecorated, and Mildred and Laura are ecstatic to see him and beg him to say it isn't true. Steele learns that he apparently got drunk, entered a high-stakes poker game at the Colony Park Club, and gambled away the agency to Harry Cranston. Steele denies everything.

Cranston wants to turn the agency into a high-profile agency by pursuing tabloid-style cases. Reuben Saltzman (the agency's attorney) stops by with a handwriting expert he hired to prove that Steele's signature on the promissory note is a forgery. Unfortunately, Kevin Fairbanks has consulted with two other eminent colleagues, and all three agree that it is a genuine signature. Reuben says he'll see what he can do about a restraining order.

On their way to see Sinclair, Laura is unusually understanding. They arrive, and Steele is not surprised that the butler says Miss Sinclair is out of town. Steele forces his way in to find the furniture covered with sheets. B. J. comes down on her way out of town, and scolds him for getting drunk and abandoning her at the club.

Laura is still on Steele's side and insists they follow the story until they find a hole in it. At the Colony Park Club, Steele is recognized by the doorman, the maître d', and Dolores, whom Steele had given a bracelet. Steele snatches it back and leaves.

They return to the office to find that Cranston has fired Mildred and replaced her with a ditzzy Debbie Rebelló. Mildred leaves tearfully with her things, and Laura rushes after her to apologize. Meanwhile, Steele lifts a letter from Cranston's pocket to get his home address. Outside the office, Laura offers to help Reuben with the paperwork, while Steele and Mildred wait outside Cranston's apartment for him to leave (with Debbie) in the limo, then break in and find he has his own collection of phony passports.

Steele returns to the office at night, confused that everything is back to normal, the front door, the furniture, and Mildred's nameplate. He wanders into his office to find a hole in the floor. He goes down and sees an open safe. The lights go on, and Norman Keyes explains that he's under arrest for the \$6 million jewel heist in the office below his.

At the interrogation, the detective finds Steele's story completely preposterous. Everybody in his story either doesn't exist or doesn't know Steele. Reuben comes in and tells Steele that his office was broken into; the promissory note was stolen. Keyes asks Steele why he returned to the scene of the crime, and brags how he's going to bust him big time.

Mildred visits Steele in jail and explains that bail was set at \$500,000, way beyond the agency's assets. Meanwhile, Laura watches the police turn Steele's apartment upside-down in search of the jewels. Keyes suggests Laura cooperate with the police to cut herself clear of Steele, but she says she'd rather take her chances with Steele. The detective finds the diamonds hidden in the refrigerator.

Laura calls Mildred: "We're in trouble, and I need your help." Mildred pays a visit to Keyes in a restaurant and pretends to turn against Steele. Keyes says the diamonds he found were only worth \$200,000, so his job isn't over. Mildred notes that, if he were released, Steele would probably head right for where he hid the rest of them. Keyes decides to have Vigilance Insurance put up bail anonymously, so he can follow Steele to the jewels.

Laura pays another visit to the Sinclair residence, to find a 'For sale' sign on the front lawn. She finds that the real B. J. Sinclair is an elderly woman, who just arrived home from a vacation. Laura describes the mystery woman, and B. J. identifies her as Christy McCall, her realtor.

Reuben talks to Steele and doesn't understand how Steele managed to get bail posted for him. Laura arrives to pick up Steele, and Steele takes her for a walk. Laura admits that when Steele got arrested, her trust wavered, and Steele reassures her that he is not leaving her. They go to Christy McCall's apartment, where they find Cranston's briefcase, and Cranston's body in the bedroom. Keyes and Mildred arrive, and Mildred clonks Keyes on the head so the trio can escape.

At a Chinese restaurant, Laura goes through the contents of the briefcase and concludes that Cranston invited Christy to take part, but she got greedy. Laura finds a charge slip for the boat 'The Graceful Lady', and when she spots the police around her car parked outside, they sneak out the back way. Laura drops the briefcase and has no time to collect the papers. Keyes and the police go through the briefcase, and Keyes finds the charge slip.

On the boat, Laura, Steele, and Mildred find a travel itinerary for 'Mr. and Mrs. Harry Cranston', and the plane leaves the airport in two hours. Steele stumbles over Christy's dead body. Mildred asks, "Who's left?" Laura spots Keyes coming, and they sail the boat away. Keyes commandeers a boat and boards 'The Graceful Lady', to find Christy's dead body and nobody else on board. He looks back ashore to see our sleuths waving good-bye and stealing his car.

Laura, Steele, and Mildred wait at the airport. When Laura spots Debbie, Steele sends Mildred to call security. They're even more surprised to see Reuben join her. Steele and Laura grab them, and Reuben drops the diamonds. Mildred arrives with airport security and Keyes, who levels his accusation at Steele, but Steele congratulates Keyes on nabbing the real culprits, Reuben and Debbie.

The next day, Laura and Steele read the newspaper headline, 'Diamond Caper Solved!' Reuben also represented the diamond exchange downstairs. A chronic gambler, when he found himself in debt to Cranston, he hatched the scam, and Cranston called in his girlfriend Debbie and her friend Christy. Reuben fell head-over-heels for Debbie and decided to steal away with her. And Reuben got Steele's signature on the promissory note because he was always handing Steele papers to sign and probably slipped it in the middle of a pile. Steele asks Laura what the first order of business is, when he falls through the floorboards.

Movies:

Thirty-Six Hours, James Garner, Rod Taylor, MGM 1964.

The Great Impostor, Tony Curtis.

North by Northwest, Cary Grant, Eva Marie Saint, directed by Alfred Hitchcock, MGM 1959.

Notes:

Cranston's passports are Albert Nimms (Australia), William Parcell (England), and Victor Belski (Sweden).

The 'clonk Keyes on the head with the telephone while pretending to call the police' trick was used by Laura in *Diced Steele*.

The 'tie the boat's steering wheel and leave it on autopilot' trick was used by Steele in *Steele At It*.

Pamela Norris

Don Weis

11/19/85 10p Laura and Steele get caught up in a feud between corporate and family farmers when they
05/31/86 10p try to find the swine who stole \$2 million worth of prize breeding porkers.

Preston Hayes	Harry Groener
Sheriff Dwight Clifford	Joe A. Dorsey
Frank Willard	William Frankfather
Jessica Swenson	Joan McMurty
Mary Shepherd	Mary McCusker
Mel Brundage	Dennis Pratt
Dr. Carlos Perez	Rudy Ramos
Karen Stiers	Ann McMurray
Buck Shepherd	Bruce Fairbairn
Deputy?	Gary Paget
Townswoman?	Mindi Iden

At night, a backwoods-type sneaks past security and smiles when he finds... pigs? Back in Los Angeles, Steele talks to Laura in a roundabout way about taking a boat trip, but is interrupted by prospective clients who want them to locate \$2 million worth of swine swiped from a high-tech experimental pig-breeding farm, and the pigs must be recovered within 48 hours, else they'll be worthless. Steele and Laura turn them down, but reconsider when Mildred explains she invested \$55,000 of the agency's own money in the pigs from the discretionary funds. Steele confirms with Mildred that this means any checks written against the discretionary funds will bounce, then gets a promise from Dr. Perez that he'll buy out their shares as soon as he recovers the pigs. Once everybody leaves, he calls Marty asking him not to cash the check for the boat until Steele can, er, transfer the funds.

Laura's hay fever starts acting up as the trio arrive in Grainville, Iowa, to find the farmers outside the bank building, mad at Frank Willard, the bank president, for foreclosing on Mel Brundage. Inside the bank, Willard's assistant Jessica stands up for the farmers, and Willard is upset at her for granting the farmers loan extensions, which is the cause of the problem in the first place.

Sheriff Dwight Clifford explains to Steele and Laura that Progressive Farms has been closed due to the recent theft. He gives them directions to its parent company, Agritech, but warns them to watch their backs. Laura and Steele pay a visit to Agritech and meet Preston Hayes, whom Laura eventually recognizes from Stanford. Preston explains that Agritech has been buying out small farms that have failed, so the farmers are against them. Laura suspects the 'accidental' fires and floods that have accelerated the foreclosures are Preston's doing, but Preston assures her that he doesn't need any such stunts. Preston suspects that a disgruntled farmer swiped the pigs as revenge. He knows that the pigs are still around, somewhere, since the sheriff set up roadblocks. Laura gets the key to the scene of the crime from Preston, who asks her to dinner. Steele drags Laura away before she can answer.

While investigating an open door, they wander into a grain silo, where Laura finds a package of chewing tobacco. The door shuts behind them, and the silo begins filling with grain, but luckily stops filling before they are buried.

Dwight isn't much help, but Mildred prevails on him to help them find the pigs. The town doesn't have a motel, but he points them at Buck and Mary Shepherd who agree to take them in. Laura contemplates the plight of the American farmer and notes how the loss of \$55,000 pales in comparison to the loss of one's livelihood; Steele is hardly convinced and phones Marty to ask him to hold up on the check for a little while longer. At the auction of Mel's farm equipment, Steele learns that Mel is the only one who chews the brand of tobacco Laura found. Mel publicly blames Willard for setting the fire. Preston stops by, and Laura 'congratulates' him on Agritech's success, and Preston says he has a feeling that Buck and Mary's farm will soon be his. Laura cozies up to him so she can meet the bank president.

Willard denies burning down the farms; every farm that burns down is a loan that defaults. "I'd be out of business right now if it wasn't for Agritech." Preston informs Willard that Agritech plans on shifting their banking to Chicago. Willard takes Preston into the next room and returns with the proud announcement that Agritech will continue to do business with the bank after all.

Laura and Steele visit Mel's farm, where they spot a pig before Mel chases them off with gunfire. The sheriff needs a reason to arrest Mel, but has an idea. That evening, Laura and Steele watch Mel's farm in the

pickup, while Mildred and Dwight watch in a police vehicle. Laura seems to have licked her hay fever, but now it's Steele that sneezes. Meanwhile, Mildred and Dwight become better acquainted themselves. Dwight admits that, since his wife left him, he's been alone. They follow a truck that leaves Mel's farm, and Steele is ecstatic when in the truck he finds the pigs. They also find Mel crouched over Willard's dead body.

Laura refuses to let go; she insists Mel was framed. Steele is anxious to go home, but reconsiders when the sheriff impounds the pigs as evidence. While Steele makes another phone call, Laura talks to Mel in jail, who explains that somebody called him and said he wanted to buy the pigs. When Laura asks who knew he had the pigs, he explains that *everybody* (except the sheriff) knew, and now that they think he killed Willard, he's their hero.

When the Shepherd farm burns down, Buck says he's quitting the farming business, but Mary insists on staying. Laura angrily drives to Agritech where Preston denies setting the fire, but isn't forthcoming about his whereabouts last night, nor what Willard said to him to change his mind at the bank.

Steele catches Buck and Jessica together. Jessica says that apparently Willard wasn't a very good banker; the bank is close to failing. Steele talks to Mel about Jessica Swenson. She grew up in town, even dated Buck for a while, but had her sights set high; rather ironic that she ends up back in Grainville as a banker. She was always encouraging the farmers to take out loans and experiment with new farming techniques.

Steele and Laura are stranded in a cornfield when their engine is sabotaged. They dodge a cropduster attack, as well as a gun-toting driver, until they are picked up by Mildred. Laura confronts Preston, who admits that last night he was in Des Moines with the sheriff's ex-wife; he's the reason she left him. And that's the secret Willard was holding over him. He insists Agritech isn't responsible for recent events and identifies the orange pickup that shot at them as Buck Shepherd's.

Steele suspects that Jessica has been keeping two sets of loan records, and when he and Mildred break into Jessica's office, Buck bursts out, and they give chase. Meanwhile, Laura arrives at the Shepherd residence to find Mary bound and gagged and makes a run for it when Jessica goes after her. In the van, Mildred looks over the books and realizes that Jessica would loan a farmer \$50,000, but enter it in the books as \$75,000, then pocket the difference. Then Buck would torch the farm, and the bank would be none the wiser. Steele sends Mildred to fetch the sheriff, while he chases Buck on foot.

Laura ducks into a barn, and when Jessica comes in, she disarms her. Meanwhile, Steele is being chased by a tractor, and the ground tiller is down. He stumbles, but grabs onto the underside of the tractor to avoid being turned into ground meat, then punches out Buck when he stops the tractor.

Back in town, Mel thanks our sleuths for clearing him, and Laura explains that Jessica had to kill Willard so that the bank would fail and nobody would discover her handiwork. Buck torched his own place so he would have a reason to divorce Mary and run off with Jessica. Preston gives Steele a reward check for recovering the pigs. Mildred and Dwight bid each other farewell, and Steele gets a phone call from Marty. "Wants to know if you still want that boat or not." Laura asks, "What boat?" Steele sneezes.

Movies:

Witness, Harrison Ford, Kelly McGuinness, Paramount 1985.

North by Northwest, Cary Grant, James Mason, MGM 1959.

Easy Rider.

Notes:

Laura's hay fever (and her hairstyle) come from *Small Town Steele*.

Who saw the *North by Northwest* reference coming?

Incidental music provided by Donald Nemitz.

Closing music is different again. This time, on a saxophone or something.

Gerald Sanoff

Gabrielle Beaumont

12/03/85 10p "The reports of my death have been greatly exaggerated", or so claims garlic farmer Lester
 05/24/86 10p Shane when a phony obituary threatens to ruin his life.

Monroe Henderson	Richard Lawson
Lester Shane	James Staley
Norman Maxwell	Mark Withers
Philip Lydon	Dennis Howard
Rob O'Connell	Vaughn Armstrong
Miss Carter?	K. T. Sullivan
Receptionist?	Laura Malone
Deputy Coroner Rossfeld	Dierk Torsek
Coroner?	Burton Collins

In the city, a man frantically buys every newspaper from the rack, while in the office, Steele studies the manual for his new VCR. He is greeted by a new client, a garlic farmer Lester Shane in Los Angeles on business, who explains that, ever since his obituary was printed in the local papers, all his clients have cancelled, the newspaper says they have a copy of his death certificate, and in his home town, "if I drive real fast, I might make it back in time for my memorial service."

Laura and Steele pay a visit to the obituary secretary and Steele uses his charm to get a copy of the death certificate. Steele pays a visit to Dr. Rossfeld, the coroner who signed the death certificate, who pronounces the signature a forgery. Laura goes to Weil Mortuary, to find the doors locked tight. She peeks in a window to see a roomful of women busily doing paperwork, then is caught by a tall gentleman who explains that Weil Mortuary closed two years ago. When Laura asks what is going on inside, he merely says, "We process forms here."

At the office, Laura suspects somebody is trying to cash in on Lester's life insurance, but unfortunately, Lester doesn't have any. Steele guesses perhaps his wife wants his estate all to herself, but Lester says everything is in her name already. When Steele learns that Lester was once an electrical engineer, he recruits him to install the VCR. While crossing the street, a car tries to run Lester down, and Steele saves him, destroying his VCR in the process.

Before taking Lester to his apartment, Steele pays a visit to electronics dealer Monroe Henderson, an old buddy who calls Steele 'Mick' and has decided to turn honest for a change. He gets his VCR exchanged, no questions asked, and learns that his four-foot screen has already been installed. (And he didn't even have to give Monroe the keys to his apartment, wink wink.)

At the apartment, Lester complains of a 'slight compatibility problem' in hooking up the VCR. Steele leaves with Laura to go snooping around the mortuary. The break in to find the room that was once bustling with activity *completely* empty, not even furniture. Laura pays a late-night visit to Dr. Rossfeld posing as a 'Federal Delivery Service' delivery girl and gets his signature for a package (which turns out to be a copy of *Your VCR Buying Guide*.)

Laura and Steele return to his apartment to find Lester and Mildred still fighting with the VCR because it came with the wrong manual. Mildred dug up that Rossfeld has lots more money than one would expect from a county coroner, and the signature on the death certificate matches the one he gave for the package. Mildred also turned up that the mortuary building is owned by Perennial Corporation. Laura plans their next move, then turns around to find everybody has left for Steele's bedroom to play with the VCR.

Steele pays Monroe another visit and demands the correct manual. Monroe promises that he'll do even better; he'll send his best man over to install the VCR. Laura pays a visit to Norman Maxwell, successful broker, and former boyfriend who is disappointed that Laura's visit is not a social call. Norm explains that Perennial is a blanket corporation that is doing exceedingly well. He's invested not only his clients in it, but also himself. He offers to arrange a meeting with Perennial's president, a college classmate of his.

Steele pays another visit to Rossfeld, to find that he died that morning of a hit-and-run. Meanwhile Mildred, at Laura's request, has been locating the people whom Weil Mortuary had issued death certificates for in the past two years. Laura pays a visit to Mr. Lydon, who explains that they bought the Weil Mortuary building purely as a real estate investment. He offers to check into the unusual activity inside, and after Laura leaves, the man who accosted Laura outside the mortuary comes in and says, "That woman has become a liability we can't afford."

Laura returns to the office to find it swarming with the people Mildred found. It was Steele's idea to physically bring them together, and Laura scolds him for overspending. Steele explains that there's a new twist: Rossfeld's dead. Steele and Laura can't find anything linking Lester to the eight others. Steele takes Lester back to his apartment, to find a young man picking the lock. "Relax, man. Monroe sent me." The door blows up in his face.

Laura is about to open the door to her loft, when she is greeted by Norman. He asks to win her heart back over a cup of coffee, but she explains, "I'm committed." But she invites him in for coffee, to find inside a ratty-looking Steele holding what's left of the bomb he removed from her door, having come in through the window. Steele explains what happened and realizes that they're onto something big. Norm reassures Laura that Perennial is not involved. Steele tells Laura he's booked them into a motel for safekeeping, but has one errand to run.

Steele visits Monroe and breaks the sad news. After they discuss the matter and the time they spent together, Monroe says he wants to help nail the guy who did it. Steele arrives at the motel, where Laura has been waiting for him. Steele admits he's scared, and Laura thanks him for saving her life, and just "for being you".

The next day, after having no success at finding a common denominator, Laura finally stumbles over one: Everybody involved had at one point applied for life insurance with Perennial, but decided not to enrol for some reason. But it still makes no sense, since none of the people were cheated out of any money by Perennial.

Steele and Monroe pose as Detective Saunders and a recently-apprehended car thief trying to break into Lydon's car. While Lydon is taken outside to survey the damage, Laura poses as the plant lady and goes into Lydon's office. There, she finds something in Lydon's computer and prints it out. But she is greeted by the man from the mortuary. Steele returns Lydon to his office, but spots Laura's basket still outside and bursts in with Monroe to save her and knock out the bad guys.

Norman looks over the papers and explains that Perennial invented fake life insurance policies on the people once they moved out of Los Angeles, then sold the policies to other companies. They would then 'kill' the policyholders, and the other companies would pay the benefits to Perennial, intending them to pass them on to the beneficiary, but Perennial just pocketed the money. Lester Shane was just unlucky enough to visit Los Angeles on the wrong day. Norman realizes that, not only is his friend Lydon finished, but so is he. He invested his and all his clients' money in Perennial; he's ruined.

Laura stares off into space on Steele's balcony, wondering what she would do if her world fell apart. Inside, Lester and Mildred get *Gone with the Wind* up on the VCR, but Steele says to Laura, "Frankly my dear, I don't give a damn," and kisses her.

Movies:

Gone with the Wind.

DOA, Edmond O'Brien, Luther Adler, United Artists 1949.

Gaslight, Charles Boyer, Ingrid Bergman, MGM 1944.

The List of Adrian Messenger, George C. Scott, Kirk Douglas, Universal 1963.

Notes:

Always fun to watch Laura in strange disguises, this time as a gum-chewing delivery girl and a hippie plant lady.

The computer in Lydon's office looks like it was just running GWBASIC; you can see the function key template along the bottom and a directory listing on the screen.

The violin countertheme is back for the closing music.

74

Coffee, Tea or Steele

5714

Robin Bernheim

Christopher Hibler

12/10/85 10p The body of a hired killer pops up on the baggage carousel of a luxury airline. Meanwhile,
06/07/86 10p Mildred doesn't see eye-to-eye with an intern Steele wants to hire.

Ace Ketcham	George Coe
Chuck McBride	Terry O'Quinn
Marvin T. Slaughtman, Jr.	John Zarchen
Lorraine Maywood	Julie Montgomery
Wanda Sutton	Patricia Alice Albrecht
Barry Holder	Will Jeffries
Coroner	Richard Erdman
Biff	Michael Francis Clarke
Sally Devon	Robyn Peterson
Mr. Dayton	Greg Monaghan
Carl	Don DeMita

When the passengers aboard a luxury airline land in Los Angeles, they are shocked to find a dead body among the baggage to be claimed. At the office, Laura arrives at work to learn that Steele is interviewing for an intern position without her knowledge. She is introduced to Marvin Slaughtman, then drags Steele into her office to express her disapproval, which is only enhanced when it becomes clear that Marvin is Steele's personal errand boy.

Laura drags Steele away to talk to their new client, Mr. Ketcham of Platinum Air, who wants them to find out who the dead man is and where he came from. It must have come from the flight crew, since theirs is the only baggage that isn't checked. Moreover, the lab boys say the body was dead long before it arrived in baggage claim. He asks the agency to keep the media out of it, fearing the publicity.

Steele poses as high-flying investor Trevor Keach and takes advantage of Laura's rôle as a stewardess to be his classic obnoxious self. On board, Steele chats with Barry Holder, an investor. Meanwhile, Laura is introduced to Sally, Wanda, and Lorraine, her coworkers, and tries to remain calm as they drool over Trevor Keach. She also learns about the company rule against fraternizing with the passengers after hours. When Laura delivers coffee to the cockpit, she has to deflect the advances of the copilot Biff. After the plane lands, Laura watches Wanda greet Barry. Wanda protests, but he kisses her, and they leave together. Meanwhile, Steele pokes around the baggage claim machinery and gets clonked on the head.

The stewardesses go to their respective hotel rooms, where Laura finds Biff already inside. When he starts coming onto her, Sally pops in, then backs out angrily. Biff dashes out to repair the damage. Steele arrives, and Laura tends to his injuries, and they realize that all the players have alibis except for Captain McBride and Freddie the flight engineer. They are about to kiss, but are interrupted by a telephone call from Mildred. She and Marvin compete to give the information they found: The dead man is Johnny Beldon, a contract killer, and his 'trademark' is two bullet holes at the base of the neck. Outside, Biff hears Laura and Steele getting cozy, then Laura sends Steele off, "Company policy."

On the next flight, Biff confronts Laura with his knowledge about her and Trevor, while Steele is given a tour of the cockpit and talks to the crew; McBride has no explanation for his whereabouts the previous evening. Wanda is visibly disturbed, and Laura's chat with her is interrupted by Sally, who warns Laura to keep her hands off Biff. And Steele continues to be obnoxious to Laura in the guise of a demanding customer.

Back at the office, Mildred and Marvin continue to argue and try to one-up each other. Laura privately tells Steele to get rid of Marvin, but when Marvin tells Steele that he got him theater tickets for the VIP box, Steele says nothing. After Laura and Steele leave, Barry comes in and pretends to be a reporter for *Time* magazine doing a cover story on detective agencies.

Laura and Steele pay a visit to an airport nightclub, where Laura cozies up to McBride. Steele is supposed to follow, but gets pulled aside by Lorraine, who pits him against her boyfriend Carl. While Laura stalls to give Steele time to follow, McBride spots a newspaper headline: "Platinum Air, Meat Wagon in the Sky" with Steele and Laura's pictures prominently displayed. Steele eventually dispatches Carl, but when he goes outside, Laura and McBride are gone.

McBride takes Laura to his place and tricks her into blowing her cover. Laura confronts him with the name Johnny Beldon, but he insists he had nothing to do with it. He's about to explain when Steele bursts in, and McBride makes a run for it. They give chase, and Laura shoves him into the pool.

While Laura dries out, McBride explains that he and a friend have been smuggling pastrami from New York to Honolulu and macadamia nuts on the return trip. He admits he was the one who clonked Steele in the baggage room, but explains that he panicked when he saw the headline.

Mr. Ketcham is furious at the publicity, but Laura reassures him that it's all part of their plan. After he leaves, Laura and Steele put Mildred in the hot seat, and she returns the accusation that they are trying to undermine her authority with Marvin and quits.

Steele pays Mildred a visit at home, and has to break in when she refuses to answer the door. He begs her to return, and she says she knew that Steele hired Marvin to run his personal errands now that she spending her time on agency business. Steele convinces her to return, but not before agreeing to help her get her own investigator's licence and giving her a \$100/week raise. Laura arrives and is pleased that Mildred is back, though Steele avoids telling her how much it cost him.

Laura and Steele pay a visit to the medical examiner to inspect a body which washed ashore, with two bullet holes at the base of the neck. The coroner estimates the body was dead for at least four days. Back at the office, Mildred is particularly chipper and keeps asking Steele if he's told Laura yet, which he hasn't. They get a call from Sally that Wanda is hysterical, and after they leave, Marvin apologizes to Mildred before leaving, but Mildred warms up to him and lets him stay.

Laura and Steele go to Wanda's apartment, but she doesn't answer. Sally and Biff stop by, and Biff produces the key to the apartment. Inside, they find the bedroom has been ransacked, and no sign of Wanda. Mildred and Marvin stop by with a new development: The body that washed ashore was that of an SEC agent investigating Holder Investments. (And this time, they keep trying to give each other credit for finding it.)

Laura asks Mr. Ketcham to ground all flights, on the assumption that Barry will make a run for it. While searching the airplane, they spot Barry dragging Wanda across the runway, and ask Captain McBride to give chase. Wanda manages to get away, and Steele jumps off the wing to subdue Barry.

Laura and Steele explain to Mr. Ketcham that Holder used the airline's well-heeled customers as victims in an investment scheme, and he hired Beldon to dispatch the SEC investigator, then asked Wanda (who was unaware of the plot) to check the body as her own luggage. He then dumped the body into the Pacific, so that it would wash ashore while he was in New York. When the contract killer got greedy, Barry killed him and tried to pull off the trick a second time, but a fault in the baggage system uncovered the body.

Mildred and Marvin arrive, and while Marvin fetches the car, Mildred says she's going to tutor him on the side. She then leaves Steele to talk to Laura about their new agreement. "At least we get to keep our offices."

Notes:

Episode was originally scheduled for 10/15/85.

Observe that Steele doesn't cast a shadow when he wanders through the baggage claim machinery, even though he's holding the lighter in front of him.

Elliot Lewis and Michael Gleason.

Christopher Hibler.

12/17/85 10p Three menacing Santas crash the agency’s office party, take Laura, Steele and the guests hostage, and threaten to blow up the building if they’re not given \$2 million.

Allison Greene	.....	Alexandra Borrie
Donner	.....	John Del Regno
Prancer	.....	Tom Everett
Dr. S. Wilson Scabbard	.....	Larry Gelman
Dancer	.....	Don Gordon
Jack Dendra	.....	Peter Jurasik
SWAT Captain	.....	Michael Keenan
Eva Wilson	.....	Jennifer Tilly
Albert Hastings?	.....	Paul Mantee
Felix Cradle?	.....	Newell Tarrant

While Mildred runs the agency Christmas party, Steele mopes in his office on the unseasonably warm weather. Laura calls from her loft finishing her gift wrapping to say she’s on her way. Mildred introduces the plant lady, Eva Wilson, who keeps saying, “I can’t stay long.” Steele greets Jack Dendra, Allison Greene (advertising executive), and Dr. Scabbard (a podiatrist), and bumps into a Santa on his way out. But he doesn’t get out the door, since Santa pulls a gun. Laura (loaded with gifts) leads a second Santa to the office and walks into a gun. A third Santa appears, and confirms that he is ‘finished with the deliveries’. When Scabbard tries to sneak out, he gets shot in the foot. When asked what they’re going to do, Dancer explains, they’re waiting for Blitzen.

Laura and Steele tend to Scabbard’s foot in Steele’s office, and Prancer sends Laura to fetch the agency’s gun. In the reception area, Dancer instructs Mildred to hunt for the gun, while Eva drowns the plants in water. Mildred finds the gun and pockets it, then pulls the gun on Prancer. Dancer dares her to pull the trigger, and Steele dives in and grabs the gun. Steele and Dancer point guns at each other, and Steele backs down and kicks the gun over. All are disappointed.

Later that evening, Steele shows Mildred the bullets in his pocket; the agency gun wasn’t loaded. The Santas have yet to say what they want; they’re waiting for Blitzen. Jack complains about his wife and toasts, “Here’s to captivity.” Eva asks to go to the bathroom, and the building owner calls; apparently, the Santas sent a package to him in Steele’s name, and once the top floor blows up, Steele reads Mr. Hastings a message: “Unless I receive \$2 million in nonconsecutive serial numbers by 7 o’clock tomorrow morning, your building will be blown up, one floor at a time.”

More time passes, and the plant lady is chanting as part of her meditation. Steele realizes that the three Santas have a problem: How will they get away? He asks Laura if the incident with the gun lowered her estimation of him, and Laura says, “In my opinion, both you and Mildred were far too reckless.” Laura pretends to panic and determines that Donner is unarmed.

In the reception area, Jack now misses his wife, but Dancer won’t let him call. The plant lady continues to chant. Prancer starts panicking; he wants out. Dancer gives him a gun (the agency gun), and Mildred tells Laura the agency gun isn’t loaded. “Quite an actor, our Mr. Steele,” notes Laura.

At Steele’s prompting, Scabbard pretends to have to go to the bathroom, and Steele accompanies him. Steele gives Scabbard the bullets and tells him to start a fire in the wastepaper basket, then put the bullets in. In the commotion, Steele will disarm Dancer. Steele goes into the reception area, where the police call. Dancer sends Steele out to tell them to let Blitzen through. While Steele briefs the SWAT captain on the situation, he hears the bullets going off and realizes the plan is botched. Inside, Mildred trips Dancer as he goes to investigate, and Laura grabs his gun. Prancer’s gun doesn’t fire, and it looks like everything is under control. But Eva panics and knocks the gun out of Laura’s hands, and Dancer gets it. Another Santa comes in, but he’s not Blitzen; he’s the Santa that the agency hired for the party, and he’s absurdly drunk.

The next morning, Laura and Steele talk about Christmases past. Time is running out on the 7am deadline, and Allison starts to panic about how she feels unfulfilled; she wants a baby. The phone rings; the money is ready. Dancer sends the plant lady to get the money, over her objections. Eva doesn’t return with the money, and Dancer yells, “What the hell is going on here?” Eva sends the elevator to the lobby, then goes into a maintenance closet. Meanwhile, Laura finds in Eva’s purse a remote-controlled detonator (with which she set off the explosion), and a tape recording of Blitzen; she electronically altered her voice to sound

like a man. Steele informs the captain of their findings, and he and Laura simultaneously realize how Eva is going to escape.

Dancer takes Allison hostage, but Mildred throws a pot of coffee in his face while Laura and Steele dispatch Donner and Prancer. Mildred takes the gun as Laura and Steele pursue Eva, who has since changed into a police uniform. Eva scoots off on a police motorcycle, and Laura and Steele follow on another. Steele pulls alongside and Laura hops over and subdues Eva.

At the office, Laura, Steele, and Mildred say good-bye to their guests and wish a Merry Christmas to the viewers at home.

Movies:

Shanghai Cobra, Monogram 1945.

The Taking of Pelham 123, Walter Matthau, Robert Shaw, United Artists, 1974.

Notes:

This is the only episode in which Laura, Steele, and Mildred directly address the camera. Presumably, under pressure from *Moonlighting*; the Bruce Willis references continue with a plot that makes you think *Die Hard*.

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Steele on the Air

5717

Kerry Lenhart and John J. Sakmar

Christopher Hibler

01/07/86 10p Two disc jockeys are the prime suspects in the death of a traffic reporter, but they have an
 06/14/86 10p alibi: they were on the air at the time of the murder.
 07/05/86 10p

Bud Tyler	George Pentecost
Norman Austin	John McCook
Leon Pulver	Vincent Schiavelli
Jack Lyman	Sanford Jensen
Rick Badham	Jere Burns
Frank Dix	John Hancock
Marcia West	Pamela Roylance
Cop	Gary Stein
R. Musco	John Furlong
Truck driver	Dan Halleck

As a KROT airplane takes off from the airport, Bud Tyler draws the shades on the studio window and starts the Tyler and Austin 6am radio show. Laura wakes up (listening to it), and gets dressed. In the studio, we see that Bud is actually providing the voices for both himself and Norman. During the traffic report, we see the KROT plane on the ground and a body being dragged towards it. On her way to work, Laura listens to the radio and sings along to *Girls Just Want to Have Fun*, then listens to the traffic report, where Doug West reports engine trouble. Meanwhile, we see the dead body in the plane cockpit, and an unseen figure starts the plane, which takes off, pilotless. Laura listens to the report, and hears the crash on the radio; five seconds later, she sees the plume of smoke from the crashed plane. Norman Austin sneaks into KROT and arrives in the studio. Bud scolds him for being late.

Steele arrives for work to find Mildred practicing her lock-picking and is pleased to learn that Laura has yet to return from Malibu. Meanwhile, Laura explains to the police studying the wreckage that she didn't see the plane, which should've flown overhead, and the explosion on the radio occurred before the real-life explosion. Rick Bahdam, KROT deejay, says hello as Laura finds an oil spot on the ground. She finds evidence of something being dragged, and her suspicions of foul play are confirmed when the policeman tells her that the coroner found a bullet in Doug West's skull. At the studio, Marcia West comes in and kisses Norman. Bud scolds Norman for cavorting with the grieving widow. But Norman reassures Bud that nobody could suspect him of killing Doug; he was on the air, remember?

Laura finally arrives for work at 11am, to find Steele apologizing profusely on the phone to Laura's missed 8am appointment, press agent Leon Pulver who wants to put them in *People* magazine. When Laura informs Steele of the baffling case she stumbled onto, he calls Leon with the good news.

Laura and Steele arrive at the 14-KROT (14-carat, get it?) lobby, where Rick introduces them to the station manager Frank, who is suffering through Rhymin' Lyman's latest jingle. Frank refuses to hire the agency until Laura promises that there will be no charge unless the case is solved. Meanwhile, Dr. Pam, the German-accented sex therapist, quits in disgust. Rick announces on the air that Laura and Steele are on the case, which rules out any possibility of cover. Our sleuths pay a visit to Tyler and Austin, who are busy recording a crazy sketch. Norman says that Doug and Marcia were happily married, and Bud suggests that somebody might have intercepted the radio transmission to make it appear that Doug was still alive. Laura concludes that the culprit is somebody at the station.

At the office, Steele fears failure, since Leon will be describing the case in a national magazine, but Laura looks forward to the publicity if they succeed. Leon comes in and promises, "Solve this one, the cover's yours." Mildred (at her suggestion) is sent undercover as Dr. Krebs, marriage counselor, where she spots Norm and Marcia kissing in the closet.

Mildred returns to the office with her conclusions, which are confirmed when it turns out that Marcia is the sole beneficiary of Doug's life insurance policy. Moreover, Tyler and Austin are losing their audience. But there's the matter of the on-air alibi. That evening by the fountain, Laura refuses to believe Norman is responsible, but Steele remembers that Bud can do voices. They narrowly escape being run down by a car.

The next morning, Norman finds he has a flat tire (due to Mildred's handiwork), and Laura and Steele arrive at the station to hear the Tyler and Austin show on the air and find Bud doing both voices. Bud

admits to covering for Norman. Norman finally arrives and admits he was with Marcia, but he didn't kill Doug. Bud confesses to driving the car; he wanted to scare them off, to protect his partner.

At Steele's apartment, the photo session is under way, but Laura isn't in the spirit of the festivities. She refuses to believe Norman and Bud were responsible, "Too dumb to pull off an ingenious crime like this." Laura and Steele are called to jail, where Norman and Bud make a full confession. But Laura traps them in factual errors and realizes their story is bogus. Norman admits he 'confessed' because he wants Bud to be let out; after all, Bud did nothing more than stick up for his buddy.

In Laura's loft, Laura realizes that whoever it was had to know which days Norman visited Marcia. Mildred calls from the studio, and (over the singing of Jack Lyman) says that Rick Badham has taken over the morning show. Laura and Steele follow Badham to a warehouse, where he switches to a van. A KROT contest truck spots Laura's bumper sticker, and Rick realizes they're following him. Badham crashes the van and gets away on foot. Laura and Steele look inside the van to find record albums.

At Laura's loft, they listen to the records; the music stinks, but the albums themselves are perfect fakes. The records aren't due out for another month; only a few deejays get promotional copies. Laura concludes that Rick counterfeits the albums and dumps them on the market when the album is released. Laura and Steele pay a late night visit to the warehouse, to find Doug's flight log, which has been logging more than traffic reports. The ledger says that the profits are split three ways, among Doug, Rick and whom? They hear noises and investigate, to find Rick in bad shape and a jeep speeding off. Rick says he didn't kill Doug; he was in the studio, patching in the tape of the traffic report. Doug got greedy and threatened to go to the police. Rick dies before he can name the killer.

The next morning, Laura and Steele have Bud pretend to be Rick on the morning show to see who comes to kill him. Mrs. West comes into the station lobby and pulls a gun, demanding to see Rick for killing Doug and framing Norman. Laura and Steele duck for cover (all the while saying "But you couldn't have killed your husband; you were with Norman") until she runs out of bullets. They hear another gunshot and find Jack Lyman trying to shoot Bud. Steele stops him.

Mildred bids farewell to her radio audience. Tyler and Austin are back on the air, and Laura and Steele explain to Frank what happened. Lyman masterminded the counterfeiting operation, but needed help to pull it off. He killed Doug and enlists Rick to help him cover up the murder, then feared that Rick would talk, so he killed him as well. Leon tells Steele, "The cover's off." The execs liked it much better when it was the deejays who were guilty.

Movies:

Body Heat, Kathleen Turner, William Hurt, Warner Brothers 1981.

The Third Man

Notes:

Cut for syndication is a scene where the radio men do a show on location as a promotion. I can't remember how important the scene was.

The spoof of Dr. Ruth Westheimer was too obvious for words.

77

Steele, Inc.

5703

Brad Kern

Don Weis

01/14/86 10p George E. Mulch strikes again when he opens a branch office of Remington Steele Investigations without anyone's knowledge, and botches a case so badly that the angry clients want to kill Steele.

George Mulch	Michael Constantine
Reverend Randy Rawlinson	John Considine
Brother Nick	Kenneth Gray
Morgue attendant?	Fran Bennett
Vickie Underwood	Marnie Mosiman
Mrs. Underwood	Anne Seymour
Dallas	Ernie Lively
Detroit?	Herman Poppi

At a bus depot, a man goes to a locker, removes an item, then places another item in its place and mails the key. But he doesn't get far before being hit by a car. At the office, Laura and Mildred poke their heads in the door and eye Steele suspiciously. Laura takes Steele on an unannounced trip to the San Diego morgue, to take a look at the body of . . . Remington Steele? The body is the man who got hit by the car, but his identification is Steele's. When the attendant gives the address found on his body as The Bay Building, Suite 101, Mildred gets a frightened look and acts ill. She asks for a breather, and sends Laura and Steele off to investigate the address, then sneaks out the back way.

Mildred locates Mulch, who introduces her to Dallas, Detroit, and San Francisco. She drags him to the morgue, where he identifies the ersatz-Steele as his business partner Larry. Laura and Steele arrive at the Bay Building, to find a perfect mock-up of Remington Steele Investigations (except the view from Steele's office is different). Laura demands an explanation, and Steele tries to convince her he's just as clueless as she is. A gentleman comes in, and when Steele identifies himself, he pulls a gun and takes Laura and Steele. He takes them to the Underwood estate, where the wheelchair-bound Mrs. Underwood is wheeled in by her daughter. Mrs. Underwood apparently hired the fake Steele to deliver a package and he didn't. Laura and Steele make their escape.

When Mildred sees the duplicate office, she is furious. Mulch claims Mildred okayed the franchise idea, but Mildred says she just said it sounded interesting. The postman stops by to tell them that a letter arrived postage due, and that they can pick it up at the post office. They rush anxiously to get it, they have a clue. A tall gentleman follows them.

Laura and Steele drive a stolen clunker, followed by a police car, as they try to recap what they know so far. Luckily, the police car doesn't pull them over. Meanwhile, Mildred and Mulch pick up the letter, and the tall gentleman mistakes Mulch for Steele and takes the two away at gunpoint. Laura and Steele return to the morgue to learn not only that Mildred has left, returned, and left again, but that the ersatz-Steele's body has been claimed by . . . his widow?

Laura and Steele sneak onto the Underwood Estate, since Vicki fits the description given by the morgue attendant. They find a damaged front grill and conclude that it was the car that ran down the fake Steele. Inside, they see Vicki and Mrs. Underwood arguing. They also see the man who took them at gunpoint (Sean) put a body in the car trunk and drive off.

Mildred and Mulch are taken to the makeup room of Reverend Randy Rawlinson's television evangelism show. Mildred explains to Mulch that he must pretend to be Steele to save his neck. Meanwhile, Laura and Steele watch Sean dump the body, and they recover it. The Reverend demands the package from Mildred and Mulch (posing as Laura and Steele). He gives them one hour but warns them that Brother Nick (the tall gentleman) will be following them. Mildred spots a set of crutches and tosses them, yelling, "I can walk!" She and Mulch escape in the ensuing commotion. The letter they picked up contains a locker key, and they head for the bus depot to pick it up.

That evening, Laura and Steele are about to sneak into the Underwood estate again, but when a car speeds out of the driveway, they give chase. Mildred and Mulch think they've lost Brother Nick and pick up the package, but Brother Nick appears and takes it. Laura and Steele are parked outside and see the car they followed run down Brother Nick, then a hand picks up the package, and the car speeds off.

At the Bay Building, Laura and Steele demand an explanation from Mildred and Mulch. But before they can, the Reverend comes in and demands to talk to 'Steele' and 'Laura' (Mulch and Mildred). Dallas,

Detroit, and San Francisco pop in, and Steele hides them in Laura's office as Mrs. Underwood comes in, demanding the package. He takes Mrs. Underwood and Sean into the coffee room to discuss the matter. Meanwhile, Mulch reassures the Reverend that everything is under control, and when Laura comes in, Mildred introduces her as 'Mildred Krebs'. Laura pulls Mildred aside and gets an explanation. And Mulch introduces Steele as 'George Edward Mulch'.

Laura tells Mrs. Underwood she knows it was Vicki who ran down Brother Nick, but Mrs. Underwood is willing to swear in court that Vicki was home all evening. Meanwhile, San Francisco has second thoughts and wants out of the deal. All the players see each other in the reception area and a gunfight ensues. Once the players are disarmed, Laura takes control of the situation, but Reverend Rawlinson just walks out. Laura and Steele leave to talk to the only person who isn't looking for the package.

They catch Vicki Underwood, busy loading her things into the trunk of her car. They learn that the Reverend videotaped her and Nicky in bed and blackmailed Mrs. Underwood with them for \$1 million. Laura accuses her of killing the fake Steele, but when the tape wasn't among the deceased's effects, she killed Brother Nick. Vicki denies it; after all, why would she kill Brother Nick? She loved him and they were to run off together. She says that it was Mummy who killed the fake Steele, forced her to claim the body, and killed Brother Nick. Laura suspects that Mrs. Underwood isn't as crippled as she appears.

Laura and Steele arrive at the Bay Building, to see Mildred and Mulch outside the office window. Mulch figured that the way to prove that Mrs. Underwood can walk is to set a fire in the office and lock her in, to see if she gets up. Laura scolds him for such a harebrained stunt, and when Mrs. Underwood tries to get up but can't, Steele breaks the window and rescues her. They realize that it really *was* Vicki all along, and that Nick allowed himself to be videotaped as part of the blackmail scheme. But where was Vicki going? At Reverend Rawlinson's church, Vicki wheels herself to the stage in a wheelchair and pulls a gun. Steele and Laura arrive in time to save the Reverend.

At the office, Dallas, Detroit, and San Francisco are disappointed that the franchise idea fell through and leave. As Steele and Laura leave, Mulch gets a call from Dallas, who is willing to pay \$50,000 in cash to reconsider, but Laura draws Steele away.

Movies:

The Maltese Falcon, Humphrey Bogart, Mary Astor.

01/25/86 10p A spoiled roly-poly importer must locate a missing shipment of Russian caviar before the
06/28/86 10p president of the company—his father—returns from abroad.

Bingham "Bing" Perret	.....	Louie Anderson
Ivan Strelnikov	.....	Allan Kolman
?	.....	John Shearin
Martin Rome	.....	Peter Jason
Vladimir Denisovich	.....	Vachik Mangassarian
Wade?	.....	Richard Green
Smokey?	.....	Alan Halfret
Truck driver?	.....	Adam Postil
Director?	.....	Michael Boyle

Bing goes to a posh supermarket and buys every case of caviar on the shelf. but as he loads them into his car, a man approaches him and Bing manages to drive off. At his apartment, Steele tells Laura a long story about a precious bottle of champagne, but Laura gets impatient and tells him, "Pop the cork." But before he can, there is a knock at the door. Bing, a young, roly-poly whiner, bursts in in a panic, begging for help; he's being followed by the man at the supermarket. When he holds up a fistful of bills and says, "Money is no object," Laura's eyes light up, and the two go outside to investigate. Steele gets coshed on the head by the man, who is in turn coshed on the head by a second man. Laura scares the second man off, and the first man babbles deliriously in Russian. Laura and Steele rush back upstairs when they hear a gunshot from the apartment, but it turns out to have been Bing opening the bottle of champagne, and the cork went through the window. "Just put it on my bill," he explains. When Bing learns that his pursuer is from Russia, he drops the champagne bottle and breaks a glass end-table. This pushes Steele over the edge, and Laura does her best to keep him from strangling Bing.

At the Perret caviar warehouse, Bing explains. The Perret family (well, his father Marshall) has an exclusive contract to import Russian caviar, but the latest \$1 million shipment of caviar turns out to be Bulgarian ball bearings. He's been unable to contact Denisovich, the commisar of caviar. Bing gets a phone call from his father, who is on his way back to the States, and reassures him that the shipment arrived without a hitch. He hires Steele to locate the caviar by the day after tomorrow, in time for a charity polo match which will be attended by all his potential buyers.

While Bing prepares to spend the night on Steele's couch, the second man watches from the next building. When Bing doesn't fit on the couch, Steele lets him use the bed, only to have the bed collapse under his weight. "Put it on my bill."

The next morning, Laura digs through piles of paper and observes that unlike all the other shipments, the faulty shipment went through Bulgaria. She asks Mildred to try to contact Denisovich, then heads for the polo grounds. At the grounds, Bing has trouble mounting his horse for a publicity photo, then is drawn away by a phone call. Steele is introduced to Martin Rome, the owner of Rome's Caviar Emporium, and one of Perret's biggest customers. Rome tells Bing that his caviar shipments are way overdue, and if doesn't get them by the polo match, he'll take his business elsewhere. Bing goes into the stable, where the second man calls him over and says, "I am Vladimir Denisovich." Bing starts strangling him, demanding his caviar. But Denisovich wants \$1 million for the caviar, and gives Bing an address. The first man appears (with a gun). Outside, Laura and Steele see two well-dressed men go into the stable. Shots are fired, Bing dashes out, and the two suits drive off. Bing explains what happened, and Steele suspects the first man to be KGB and the two suits to be CIA.

While Laura and Steele follow up on the address, Denisovich offers another deal with Bing. At the motel address, Laura and Steele are greeted by the CIA men. Steele apparently says the wrong thing, and they decide to kill him. Laura creates a distraction, and the two make their escape.

At the office, Bing expresses his disappointment in the agency. He complains about the bill (for the broken merchandise), and says he recovered the caviar himself, having made a deal with Denisovich. He discharges them from the case, and in a dramatic gesture, breaks Laura's precious lamp. In the limo, Laura and Steele both fume at Bing. Bing calls, saying that "They're trying to kill me" as shots are heard in the background. They reluctantly decide to help him.

They arrive at the warehouse, to find Bing in no danger at all; he faked the shots. He called them because, when he came to the warehouse, he found Denisovich dead and no caviar. They put the body in the limo trunk, and Laura takes it to the office, while Steele and Bing take Bing's car. But they don't get to Bing's car before the first man identifies himself as Moscow police and arrests them for the murder of Vladimir Denisovich. When he handcuffs them, Steele and Bing make a messy escape. Bing offers to go to Rome, whose office is nearby, but first they have to dodge the police cars.

At the office, Mildred uses the computer to scramble Marshall Perret's flight itinerary, to give them more time. The Moscow cop comes in, "Do as told, nobody gets hurt." He identifies himself as Ivan Strelnikov and explains he came to the States to arrest Denisovich, and Perret was his only lead. He was tipped that Denisovich was at the warehouse by Martin Rome. Mildred suggests that he and Laura team up, and they become reluctant partners.

At Rome's warehouse, Laura and Ivan go through boxes of caviar and talk about their respective countries. Meanwhile, Rome talks to Steele and Bing and calls in Wade and Smokey, whom Steele recognizes as what he thought were the CIA men. Bing is very slow to catch on. Laura and Ivan find Russian caviar packaged as 100% American, and see Steele and Bing being locked in a freezer. After the henchmen leave, Laura and Ivan rescue them.

At the office, Laura deduces what happened. Rome bribed Denisovich to shunt the caviar shipment to him, and send in its place the ball bearings. Rome never intended to pay up, and when Denisovich left the Soviet Union to collect, Rome killed him. Rome's plan is to pass off the Russian caviar as American, and thereby corner the market.

While Mildred paints a truck 'Martin Rome Enterprises', Laura and Bing pose as police officers and pull over the real delivery truck, taking the driver away on suspicion of driving a stolen vehicle. While he's away, Mildred and Ivan swap trucks (and keys), and Laura and Bing return the driver. At the polo grounds, Steele and Rome exchange unpleasantries. Laura and Bing return the costumes to 'Central Hollywood Studios', and while they change, Bing decides it's time he did something himself for a change, locks Laura in the trailer, and drives off in her car.

While the truck driver unloads a shipment of caviar, Bing arrives, and Rome's men follow him into a stable, where he manages to escape one of them. Laura gets a ride to the polo grounds, where she saves Laura from the other gunman. Steele is doing fine at the polo match, when he hears a scream from the caviar tent. Rome is shocked to find that the caviar has been replaced by ball bearings, and when he finds Denisovich's body in another crate, he makes a run for it, but Steele catches him.

Outside Marshall Perret's office, Laura, Steele and Mildred send Bing off with some inspiring words to talk to his father. That evening, Steele and Laura are back in his apartment just as they were at the start of the show, and are again interrupted, this time by Mildred and Ivan. They toast to better relations between their two countries.

Movies:

The Macomber Affair, Gregory Peck, Robert Preston, United Artists 1947.

Notes:

Bing is so amazingly annoying you wish Steele had strangled him at the start of the show.

Curious to see Stephanie Zimbalist playing opposite a Russian character, since her grandfather (Efrem Zimbalist, Sr.) was a Russian violinist.

02/11/86 10p Laura's sister, who's prone to exaggeration, can't convince anyone that there was a dead man on her kitchen floor—until Steele finds a body in the trash.

Frances Piper	Maryedith Burrell
Donald Piper	Michael Durrell
Vince Delgado?	Andre Gower
Terry Goldblume	Laurie Burton
Ted Warner	Tom Callaway
Harrison Bumpers	Noble Willingham
Judy Bartlett?	Valorie Armstrong
Mindy Piper?	Penina Segall
Youngest Piper	Judith Barsi
Daniel Piper?	Michael Rider
Postman?	Nicholas Mele
Harimoto?	Lloyd Kino
Hasuro?	Jesse Dizon
Takahomo?	Michael Yama
Housewife #1?	Suzie Lonergan
Housewife #2?	Bridget Bruce
Alan Hackston?	Jon Smet

Morning at the Piper residence. Upon returning home after dropping the kids off at school, Frances answers a knock at the back door: A man staggers in and falls dead on the floor.

Laura and Steele are on their way out of the office for Steele to give the keynote address at the East-West convention of criminologists. Frances calls. Laura and Mildred are fed up with Frances' flakiness so Steele takes the call. "There's a dead man in my kitchen." Over Laura's objection, they go to see Frances to calm her down. When they arrive at the residence, the kitchen is spotless.

Mildred return from the convention with three Japanese private investigators in tow (who are deeply honored to be able to see the office of the great Remington Steele), to find Steele playing with Frances' three kids while Laura and Donald try to calm her in the office. Steele offers to watch the kids, to let Donald and Frances spend an evening together alone in Laura's apartment. At the Piper home, Laura and Steele try their best to keep the kids under control, but Laura's 'special spaghetti' is a flop. Outside, a gunman waits.

Morning at the Piper residence, Laura and Steele presiding. A rather tattered Laura does her best to keep a smile on her face while breakfast collapses around her. Taking out the garbage, Steele finds a body in the trashcan. Donald and Frances return home to find police cars in the driveway; the gunman drives away.

In Steele's office, Laura and Steele try to console Frances, who is distraught yet again. Harrison Bumpers, a colleague of Mildred's in the Fraud Squad, stops by and fills in the details. The body in question is that of Felix Melcher, an IRS agent who was investigating the con man and suspected tax dodger Ted Warner, whose current scam is Bright Age Cosmetics, a door-to-door cosmetics firm using housewives as salesmen.

Steele visits Warner, introducing the Japanese investigators as foreign investors. While Warner gives them a tour of the cosmetics factory, Steele breaks into his safe and finds some floppy disks, which he pockets.

Mildred and Harrison study the files on the disk, but find no sign of creative bookkeeping; everything seems to be on the level. Steele convinces Laura to try another approach: She and Frances will pose as prospective purveyors of cosmetics. At the Bright Age hype meeting, the life of a Bright Age cosmetics salesperson sounds too good to be true; Frances' neighbor Judy is putting her son through college on her commissions alone. The housewives in attendance eat up Warner's sales pitch, and Warner turns the microphone over to Terry Goldblume, Frances' next-door neighbor, who was having an affair with Melcher.

Steele goes to pick up Donald at the university before dropping off the Japanese fellows at the airport. They see Donald kidnapped and follow him to the factory, where inside the gunman and a friend think Donald killed Melcher and demand he turn over what Melcher was carrying. Steele and the Japanese investigators save Donald, and Steele and Donald hop aboard a delivery truck and search its contents for evidence of smuggling.

Frances throws a cosmetics-selling party, and when Laura and Terry head into the kitchen to get more refreshments, Laura talks to her about Bright Age but doesn't get much information. Meanwhile, Steele and Donald complete their search and find nothing.

Donald returns to the office, where Mildred and Harrison continue to go over the books, but can't find anything wrong with them. The Japanese investigators arrive and show the pictures of the bad guys they took, and Harrison identifies the gunman as Vince Delgado and his pal as Alan Hackston, a mob leader.

At Laura's loft, she and Frances reconcile their differences, then Terry drops by to give Frances and Laura their paychecks. Laura notices that they are absurdly high and concludes that the company is laundering money for the mob.

Back at the Piper residence, Steele, Mildred, Harrison, and the Japanese investigators are all watching the house. A truck pulls up, but it's a false alarm; it was making a flower delivery to the house next door. Next, the postman comes by, and Donald notes that he's not their regular mailman. All converge on him, then apologize when they realize the old postman retired. But while they were interrogating him, Donald gets kidnapped by the flower delivery man. While the truck tries to make its escape, Laura arrives and causes it to crash into the post office truck. The hit-man says that he was assigned to hit Melcher, but was beaten to it; he thought Donald did it.

Laura and Steele rush to Bright Age and interrupt a sales pitch, accusing Warner. But they are booted off the stage by the adoring housewives. They turn their attention to Terry, and realize it was she who killed Melcher. When Melcher showed her the information he found, instead of offering to assist in the investigation, she killed Melcher to keep her lucrative paychecks coming. Terry makes a run for it, but is tripped by Frances.

At the office, the Japanese investigators head for home, and Harrison invites Mildred to return to D.C. with him, but Mildred says she can't go. He bids her a fond farewell. Frances and Donald take their leave of Laura and Steele. Laura notes that the old Remington Steele wouldn't have been interested in her family and asked what changed him. Steele responds, "What's life without a little mystery?"

Movies:

Beverly Hills Cop, Eddie Murphy, Judge Reinholt, Paramount 1984.

Notes:

A running gag is that the Japanese investigators are constantly taking pictures; watch them when they are in the background, taking pictures of each other, of Frances, of Steele's copy machine (Toshiba!) and anything they can get into focus.

80

Santa Claus is Coming to Steele

5721

Michael Gleason

Seymour Robbie

02/18/86 10p One of the fake Santas who held the sleuths and their partygoers hostage on Christmas Eve
 07/26/86 10p is out on bail and eager to “persuade” witnesses not to testify.

Dancer	Don Gordon
Lieutenant Benjamin	Ray Girardin
Wally Donovan	Michael Horton
Delivery man?	Wil Albert
Ralph?	Ted Noose
Officer Hanley	?

A man stops by the office asking after Steele and Laura (neither of whom is in), and Mildred recognizes him as Dancer, one of the Santas that held the agency and its guests hostage at the office Christmas party. He leaves, and Mildred calls Lieutenant Benjamin, to learn that Dancer is out on bail. Steele sees Dancer on his way in, and he asks Mildred to alert Laura.

Laura is in her apartment practising her ballet, while the new building manager Wally works on the plumbing. She sniffs a bouquet of flowers as she answers the call from Mildred. Her doorbell buzzes, and she manages to scare the delivery man (thinking it's Dancer), and signs for a package: It's an expensive watch and a card from a secret admirer that reads, 'May the hands of time never dim your loveliness'. Laura sighs dreamily and sends Wally out so she can get dressed for work.

At the office, Mildred comes up with Dancer's file. His real name is Anthony Del Getty, and he has a history of getting into trouble, including grenading his lieutenant while he was in the service. But nothing came of the incident because the only eyewitness developed selective amnesia. Steele figures Dancer is trying to scare the hostages into not testifying at his trial next week and tells Mildred to call the others and let them know that Dancer is on the loose.

Laura admires her watch as she finishes getting dressed, and as she's about to leave her loft, she finds Dancer standing in front of her door. He warns her that the only way she's going to testify is in a casket.

Steele stares at the agency gun lying on his desk, and Mildred comes in to report that she's contacted all the other hostages, except for Dr. Scabbard. Laura comes in, furious at Dancer, then flaunts her new watch in an attempt to get Steele to admit that he sent it. First, she received a new bouquet of flowers every day for a week, then boxes of expensive candies, and now expensive gifts, all with cards from a secret admirer telling her to dump Steele. Steele holds his ground in the ensuing verbal sparring.

Laura tells Mildred she knows that Steele is sending the gifts, and she's tired of playing games. She just wants Steele to come forward and proclaim his true feelings without hiding behind a 'secret admirer' façade. Lieutenant Benjamin comes in to inform them that Dr. Scabbard's X-ray machine fell on him; he's in critical but stable condition. He offers them police protection, but Laura declines, for PR reasons.

Steele suggests that the three regroup at Laura's loft after work, and confides in Mildred that he suspects Laura is sending the gifts to herself, but he's not going to confront her; he's going to wait to see how long it will be before she finally cracks and confesses.

Laura is in her kitchen fixing dinner, the agency gun lying on the counter. The phone rings; it's Dancer, who simply says, "Ho, ho, ho," then hangs up. When Laura hears a noise on the fire escape, she locks the window and turns off all the lights. Meanwhile, Mildred locks up the office and heads out. Steele leaves his apartment and calls the elevator, then hears his phone ring. He can't decide whether to answer it or leave it and steps into the elevator, only to fall down the elevator shaft.

Wally returns to his apartment and answers the phone; it's Laura, who asks him up for a drink. Laura then leaves a message for Lieutenant Benjamin to ask him if Steele is with him, since he isn't at the office or his apartment. She gives Steele's apartment one more call, but nobody answers. Wally arrives with a huge package that arrived for her while she was out. When Laura asks how he got to be manager of the building, he explains that he is a recovered drug addict, and he needed a place to mellow out after spending eight months in the hospital.

Laura receives another phone call with nobody on the other end, and Wally says how he never dreamed that they two of them would be together. He notices the dinner plates on the table and asks Laura if she just asked him up "to kill time before he [Steele] came". Laura says she asked him up to thank him for the work he's done as manager. Wally prompts her to open the gift, and it's a huge teddy bear. Laura says how

much she wished the ‘secret admirer’ would step forward, and Wally pours his heart out to her. But Laura doesn’t hear him because she just learned about Steele’s accident and dashes out. Wally is crushed, and he sees the gun on the counter.

Laura arrives at Steele’s apartment, to find Mildred tending to Steele’s broken leg. Laura now agrees to police protection, and Lieutenant Benjamin posts a man outside the apartment door. Laura sends Mildred to fetch some coffee and privately apologizes to Steele for not agreeing to police protection in the first place. Meanwhile, Steele is mad at himself for not looking where he was going. When he denies sending her the teddy bear, another argument ensues, but Steele convinces Laura that he didn’t send it when he asks, “Do you honestly think that I’m the sort of man that would give a woman a teddy bear?” Laura realizes that there really *is* a secret admirer, and excuses herself. She tells Mildred she’s going back to the loft because she left the gun on her kitchen counter and asks Mildred to cover for her.

Laura returns to her loft, but the gun is gone. Meanwhile, Mildred notices that the security guard is gone. Steele asks after Laura, and Mildred dodges the question. There is a knock on the door, and Officer Hanley falls in, dead. Dancer crashes through the balcony window and pulls a gun. He denies rigging the elevator, and Mildred and Steele realize that it was the secret admirer’s doing. Dancer forces Steele to call the other witnesses and tell them not to testify.

When there is no answer at the door, Laura lets herself into Wally’s apartment, and finds his bedroom wall covered with newspaper clippings and pictures of Laura in various stages of undress. Wally comes in, and Laura realizes he’s not only the secret admirer, but also mentally unstable. She asks after the gun, and Wally produces it, but doesn’t let her have it. She realizes that it was he who rigged the elevator when he inquires after Steele’s injuries and says, “If at first you don’t succeed.”

Steele calls Jack Dendra and convinces him not to testify. Next on the list is Allison Greene, but Steele calls Laura’s loft instead. There is no answer. Mildred knocks over a vase, and while Dancer is distracted, Steele clobbers him with his crutch. Steele continues to try to call Laura.

At Wally’s apartment, Laura plays along with him, “I never liked the man.” Wally walks toward Laura (who backs away), pointing the gun carelessly, and talking about how well he’s going to treat her. When he hears a siren outside, Laura quickly changes the subject and admires his photography. Wally says that the thought of Laura kept him going for his eight months in the hospital; he fell in love with her picture in the newspaper. When he was released, he applied for the manager’s position to be close to her. He hears more sirens outside and pulls the gun on Laura. Laura grabs a camera, blinds him with the flash, and wallops him with the camera.

Back at Steele’s apartment, Laura reads Wally’s file and tells Steele he spent eight months in a mental institution after hacking up his mother. Steele asks Laura if she intends to continue in her current profession for the rest of her life, and if so, how she would reconcile it with raising a family.

Movies:

Dirty Harry

Rear Window, Jimmy Stewart

Notes:

Among the items on Wally’s wall is the newspaper article from *Coffee, Tea, or Steele* (with Steele’s face scribbled out), two photos of Laura practising ballet, one of her in a towel, one in a robe, and one undressing. An altogether *very* weird episode.

81

Steele Blue Yonder

5718

Brad Kern

Don Weis

02/22/86 10p A woman hires Laura and Steele to investigate her father's increasingly eccentric behavior,
08/02/86 10p but the sleuths discover there's a method to his madness.

Johnny Cooper	Andrew Duggan
Duncan Harlow	Dennis Patrick
Miss Cooper	Susan Strasberg
Geoffrey Whittlesey	Mike Preston
Flyer	Fred Carney
Flyer?	Nick Angotti
Man in casino?	Chuck Winters
Woman in casino?	Phyllis Hamlin
FBI Agent?	Charles Davis
?	Dale Reynolds
Dealer?	Summer Lee Thomas

Late one evening, the burglar alarm goes off at 'Flying Aces Air Freight', and a sports car takes off at high speed. It leads the police on a wild car chase; when it is finally cornered, the driver turns out to be a seventy-year old man. "Is there a problem, officer?" he asks.

The next morning, Miss Cooper hires the agency to tail her father and try to explain his eccentric behavior. It all started when his best friend Chuck Serdes died in a plane crash six months ago. After Steele and Laura follow him for most of the day, Steele is convinced that there is absolutely nothing doing. But Johnny gives them the slip, reappears in a tuxedo, steps into a limo, and takes off before they can follow him.

Laura and Steele trace the limo to Bedard's, a posh nightclub with a secret casino in the back. There, Johnny Cooper goes by the name of Jack Craig, high-flying multi-millionaire. In a high-stakes poker match with Geoffrey Whittlesey, Whittlesey shows three deuces. Cooper has four kings, but throws in his hand, to Steele's and Laura's confusion. Later that evening, they are watching his apartment, and he leaves for the airfield, taking off in a vintage World War II fighter plane. Laura is convinced: "He's out of his mind."

The next day, they brief Miss Cooper. She resigns herself to committing her father to a rest home, but Steele suspects there may be a method to his madness. Miss Cooper lets them into his apartment, where Laura finds his mantelpiece strewn with Air Force medals and awards. She also finds a photo of his WWII flying squadron, which was showered with awards. They get together every month and fly the old planes. One member of the squadron is Duncan Harlow, of Flying Aces Air Freight. Steele discovers Johnny's darkroom, which is full of photos of the J. Murphy Museum. It is clear that Johnny is planning a heist.

Mildred is assigned to follow Johnny, but he confronts her and takes her to a movie, where he gives her the slip. He then follows Mildred back to the agency. Laura and Steele are studying the photos, and Steele suspects that he's pulling the heist just for the fun of it. We see Johnny at a phone booth: "Plans have changed. We're on tonight."

At the museum, they find the collection of Duncan Harlow, one of Johnny's squadron mates. "This case is getting more bizarre by the minute," notes Steele. They see Johnny leave the museum, and they follow him. For hours. "As long as we're on his tail, he can't be breaking into the museum," observes Laura. But she's wrong. While they're busy following the sports car, the museum is being broken into by a trio of thieves. Finally, over 200 miles from Los Angeles, Steele stops the car, to find the driver to be a completely different elderly man.

Very angry, Laura and Steele go to see Johnny the next morning. They confront him with their theory, and he laughs it off. But he finally gives in and agrees to tell them the story. Back at the museum, Harlow observes that the thieves hit *only* his collection, so obviously somebody is out to get him, somebody who knows that he is hard up on cash. Harlow tells Geoffrey to "reopen the operation" and suggests Jack Craig as a buyer.

At the airfield, Johnny explains what is going on. Harlow parlayed the squadron's fame into his air freight company, which started running into financial problems. To raise cash, he stole medical supplies from the Air Force and sold them on the black market. Johnny suspects that Serdes caught on and was about to tell the police when Harlow killed him. He explains that the wild car chase through town was to distract the

police while Johnny's friends could break into Harlow's safe, where he kept his ill-gotten gains. This is the money which is funding Johnny's crazy scheme. He then befriended Whittlesey, posing as a potential buyer of medical supplies. His plan is to force Harlow back into the medical game, then catch him with his hand in the cookie jar. Laura and Steele are charmed and agree to help him.

At Bedard's, Johnny sets up the payoff for the following morning. Johnny then holds a brief memorial for Lowell, a squadron member who has since died, at which Whittlesey recognizes him as Jack Craig and tells Harlow.

The next morning, Laura and Steele man the audio tape and camera. But when Whittlesey arrives with the goods, he also brings the police, who arrest Johnny. Laura and Steele visit Johnny in jail and see Harlow leaving his cell. Johnny tells them to buzz off; he knows when he's beaten and is throwing in the towel.

Back at the office, Steele suspects that Johnny just folded with four kings again; he hasn't really given up. Miss Cooper comes in upset over recent events. When she says that Johnny has been released, and the charges dropped, Steele and Laura suspect that Harlow got him released so he could get his paintings back, and Laura guesses that Johnny hid the paintings in the museum.

They go to the museum's security room and see Johnny tearing up Harlow's paintings while Harlow holds a gun. Steele realizes that Johnny is videotaping the entire affair and is willing to die to prove that Harlow is a killer. Laura rushes out and distracts Harlow, who then rushes to the roof and falls through the skylight. Johnny catches him, but Harlow concedes defeat and lets go, falling to his death.

Johnny leads a memorial service for Harlow with his flying buddies. He thanks Laura and Steele for their help, then leaves to take a walk. Laura and Steele watch him walking down the airstrip.

Movies:

Going in Style, George Burns, Art Carney, Lee Strasberg, Warner Brothers, 1979.

Notes:

Not very much of an 'armchair mystery'. I find this episode unsatisfying because Laura and Steele seem clueless. Note also that Steele is driving his Auburn in this episode, even though it was destroyed in *Steele Blushing*.

Credits fade, and there is a piano countertheme.

82

Sensitive Steele

5719

Rick Mittleman

Don Weis

03/01/86 10p A self-improvement spa will lose its license if “accidents” don’t stop.

03/09/87 10p

Gerald Steinmetz	Stewart Moss
Sonia Steinmetz	Dorothy Fielding
Maxine Gilroy	Susan Scannel
Ursula Garrikson	Yuliis Ruval
Arthur Henderson	David Wohl
Dr. Neil Brimsley	Steve Vinovitch
Ethan Deerfield?	Tom Henschel
Warren Spriggs?	E. Danny Murphy
Dolores Spriggs?	Eva Charney
Judy Fulton?	Susie Duff

At the Friedlich Sensitivity Spa, a primal scream therapy session turns into genuine screams when one member sees a body slumped over in the hot tub below. Gerald and Sonia Steinmetz, the directors of the spa founded by Sonia’s first husband Carl Friedlich, hire Laura and Steele to investigate a series of suspicious accidents, the most recent of which being Gerald’s being hit on the head by a heater and falling into the hot tub. The police didn’t seem to take much notice, but the state licencing board did; they’ve been put on probation. Since the accidents took place over a long period, Laura suspects one of the staff members. Laura and Steele go undercover as Laura and Richard Blaine, and they suffer through a ‘snuggling’ exercise run by Dr. Brimsley.

Outside, Laura suggests that Steele could take some pointers from the sessions. They hear screaming, and find Maxine, the primal scream therapist. She bitterly says that she’s leaving the spa because the other staffers are merely using it as a springboard for selling their books. “I couldn’t care less if this place just burned to the ground.”

Arthur Henderson leads the next session, where the members are asked to write their partners a letter, listing their most endearing qualities, then exchange the letters in private. Outside in the gazebo, Steele studies the wiring, but Laura asks for his letter. Steele tells Laura to keep her mind on the case, and Laura suggests he take the sessions seriously. Arthur Henderson stops by to ask how the letter-exchange is going, and Laura snatches Steele’s letter. Arthur leaves them alone together, and Laura reads the letter, to find that Steele listed such qualities as ‘well-dressed’, ‘frugal’ and ‘kind to furry animals’. Laura is furious and throws her letter off the cliff. Shortly thereafter, the gazebo itself falls off the cliff.

Laura and Steele are rescued, and Dr. Brimsley notes that the ground is soaked with water. They find an open pipe, which was apparently left open all night, according to Ethan, the groundskeeper. And somebody informed the state licencing board of the most recent accident. Later, Laura and Steele see Dr. Brimsley and Arthur arguing vehemently, and Gerald explains that the two were in competition for the associate directorship, which Arthur won.

Maxine runs the latent hostility session, wherein couples, armed with padded sticks, bop each other while releasing pent-up frustration at each other. Laura and Steele are next up, and the argument turns very, very serious and nasty, until Laura yells, “I was better off without you anyway!” and tells Steele to go away. He does.

Outside, Laura apologizes for what happened, but Steele wants to stick to the case. They spot Ursula and Gerald embracing on the beach. That evening, Steele angrily prepares the couch for bed as Laura asks Mildred to see what she can find out about Ethan. Laura tries to reconcile with Steele, but he doesn’t want to talk about it.

The next morning, Laura wakes up to find Steele gone. He’s outside taking a stroll and runs into Gerald. Gerald admits his marriage to Sonia has been troubled; she is more interested in her work, so he turned to Ursula for comfort. “If Sonia ever left me, I don’t know what I’d do.” Laura finds Steele poking through the ashes of the maintenance room that had burnt down. Mildred discovered that the oceanfront property upon which the spa is built was originally owned by Ethan’s father, who was forced to auction it off for a paltry \$75,000 to pay off back taxes. Steele points out that the ashes indicate that the fire was set off by a bomb rather than faulty wiring.

Laura and Steele ask to be let into Ethan's cabin, and Sonia finds it hard to believe that Ethan was behind it all. The Steinmetzes had hired him out of guilt and treated him as their own son. Laura finds the faulty guy wire from the fallen heater, and Steele the relief valve from the burst pipe. As Steele concludes that Ethan is responsible, the sauna explodes, and Steele rescues a body. It's Ethan, dead.

Laura figures Ethan was trying to sabotage the sauna when his bomb exploded accidentally, but Steele notices that his toolbox isn't among the rubble and concludes Ethan was lured to the sauna. Searching for a motive, Steele figures perhaps Gerald and Sonia wanted the spa to close so they could sell the property, but Maxine says that Friedlich's will forbids Sonia from selling the spa. Laura gets an idea.

That evening, Laura tells Gerald and Sonia that she talked to the licencing board and got their licence reinstated, now that Ethan has been pinned for the accidents. Gerald and Sonia celebrate, and Gerald leaves to soak in the hot tub. After Gerald gets in, an unseen figure goes to the fusebox and sends electricity through the hot tub. Steele nabs Sonia as she tries to get away, and Laura reveals that the body in the hot tub was a dummy. Sonia says that she's sick of being sensitive; she wants to cash in on the \$6.5 million property.

The next day, Laura and Steele explain to the staff that Sonia was trying to force the spa to close, since Friedlich's will provided that if the spa were to shut down, the land became hers to do with as she pleased. Sonia offered Ethan \$250,000 to do all the dirty work, but when Ethan pressed for more money, she lured him into the sauna and blew it up, then planted evidence in Ethan's cabin to incriminate him. Maxine is re-inspired to stay.

Steele notes that they're in no hurry to return to Los Angeles and offers to take a stroll on the beach. Steele produces a revised letter listing Laura's most endearing qualities. Laura reads it, smiles, and they embrace.

Movies:

Hamlet, Laurence Olivier, Jean Simmons, Jay Arthur, Rank 1948.

Chain the Tiger, Jack Lemmon, Jack Guilford, Paramount 1972.

Notes:

03/08/86 10p Laura and Steele are hired by a TV-magazine show to find a singer who vanished 30 years ago.

Billie Young	Rose Marie
Jake Slater	George D. Wallace
Windsor Thomas	Rebecca Holden
Lou Mackler	Charles Woolf
Kyle	Tony Cummings
Patsy Vance	Ernestine Mercer
Dennis	Tom Dasbach

In the 1950's, a man whose face we do not see drags a woman's body into the bathroom and reaches for a razor blade. Back in the present, Windsor and Kyle, hosts of the television show *L.A. Spotlight*, hire the agency to locate Billie Young for a television reunion program. Laura is annoyed that Steele is getting all the attention from the very attractive Windsor. When they try to find a paper trail, they find that Billie Young simply vanished from sight in 1956.

Windsor returns with Kyle and her cameraman Dennis, and Laura prevails on Steele to tell them what progress they've been making. To cover up for the lack of results, Steele explains that he's letting Laura handle the case as part of her apprenticeship. Laura explains that it appears that Billie intentionally covered her tracks and vanished. But far from being disappointed, Windsor loves it. It adds an air of mystery to the story, and she asks for permission to cover their work live. Laura's reluctance turns to enthusiasm when Windsor puts the spotlight on her rather than Steele. A man watches the television report, in which Laura promises to locate Billie Young, and takes out a gun.

Laura and Steele visit Patsy Vance, Billie's singing partner, and she gives a rendition of their signature song, *Sisters*. Patsy doesn't know where Billie is, but she does know why she vanished. Billie's roommate and best friend Sally Benson, a young actress, committed suicide. As a result, Billie decided to leave Hollywood and never return. Her agent Lou Macker (now head of the Baxter Broadcasting Group) sent a detective to find her, but with no success. She suggests they talk to Tom Hogan, Billie's make-up man and good friend. Laura asks to use the phone.

On their way to see Tom Hogan, Steele assures Laura that he's not jealous of the media attention she's getting. They arrive at Hogan's apartment, to find the lock already picked, and Hogan dead on the floor. Laura pockets Hogan's address book as Windsor, Kyle, and Dennis arrive and start filming.

Laura and Steele watch Windsor's report on the television in Steele's apartment. Windsor interviews Laura as Steele talks to a detective in the background and steals jealous glances at Laura. Steele shuts off the television and, when Laura admits that her phone call was to Windsor, scolds her for turning Hogan's death into a circus. Laura in turn accuses Steele of being jealous of the media attention, since he'd always gotten it before. Laura leaves angrily.

Windsor demands from her boss, Lou Mackler, a chance to cover the Billie Young story, since she's tired of doing fluff stories for *L.A. Spotlight* and wants to do serious news. He allows her one chance, but warns her that if she blows it, he doesn't want to hear any more whining. As Windsor leaves, Laura and Steele arrive, and Windsor says that the reunion was Lou's idea; he wanted to know what happened to Billie. From Lou, Laura and Steele get the name of the detective he hired thirty years earlier: Jake Slater.

Laura and Steele arrive at Slater's house, where he is inside burning old letters. He ignores the doorbell, but when they persist, he takes his gun, hides it in his jacket, and answers the door. Laura asks for his files when he worked on the Billie Young case, and he angrily assures her, "If I couldn't find her thirty years ago, you're not going to find her now." After they leave, Steele has a feeling that he's seen Slater before, but can't remember where.

Laura and Steele return to the office to find Mildred yelling at the cameraman. Windsor shoves a mike in Laura's face, but she asks for a second and ducks into her office. Mildred tells Steele he's got to get rid of the media as the cameraman knocks over a vase. Mildred shows Steele the address book Laura pocketed (and Steele's attempt to remind her that what she did is illegal doesn't quite work) and says she thinks she's found Billie Young: She located a person named Chelsea Nash in Twin Pines; Chelsea Nash is the name of a character Billie Young portrayed on television. Steele and Mildred sneak out without telling Laura.

Steele and Mildred take the limo to Twin Pines and ask after Chelsea, claiming to be friends. The woman they talk to says Chelsea moved out, but Steele notices that her rowboat is named 'Sisters' and says, "Hello, Billie." Billie says there is no way she's going back; she wants her privacy. When Steele promises to return to Los Angeles and pretend he never found her, she warms up, then is saddened to learn of Hogan's death. Mildred spots a television truck arriving, and Steele tells her to fetch the limo while he gets Billie. Steele saves Billie from gunshots and sees Slater running away. Mildred arrives with the limo, and Steele scolds Fred for telling Laura where he was. Steele asks Billie if she knows the name Jake Slater, and she says she doesn't.

Leo tells Windsor she had her chance, and now he's bringing in the real news crew. Windsor pleads, and Leo agrees to let her stay on it, but demands she tell him every move she makes, "This story is too good to lose."

At the office, Laura demands to know, "All right, where is she?" She's mad at Steele for trying to usptage her, but when Steele explains what happened, she realizes that the television coverage endangered Billie's life and decides she's had enough publicity. Steele notes that Slater retired in 1956 and since then has apparently lived comfortably despite not having any reported income. Laura concludes, "Blackmail."

In Steele's apartment, Mildred talks to Billie about Sally's death. Sally was pregnant and unmarried, and the father didn't want anything to do with her. Billie notes that her two best friends are gone, and Mildred notes, "Life is like that sometimes. There's not much we can do about it." While Mildred fetches more tea, Billie sneaks out.

Laura and Steele try to figure out where Billie went and why. Steele uses an old movie to conclude that Slater *did* find Billie in 1956 after all. On their way out, Windsor appears with a camera, and Laura and Steele tell her to buzz off.

Slater investigates a noise in his house, and Billie says, "Hello, Jake." She asks him why he killed Tommy, and he says he had to, he wouldn't shut up. He pulls a gun and says, "I got to protect my investment." Laura and Steele arrive in time to scare him off, and Billie tells them, "Nail the creep." They give chase, and Slater, who is not in the best of shape, stops for a breather, then collapses. As Laura and Steele arrive, so does Windsor and her cameraman. Laura smashes the camera. They hear Billie scream and rush back to find her on the floor, coughing. Laura tends to her while Steele spots a car speeding away and follows in his Auburn, in turn followed by the television truck. With Windsor's help, they cause the car to crash into an *L.A. Spotlight* billboard. It's Lou Mackler. Windsor says she recognized the car and realized that he was using her to locate Billie.

At the office, Billie explains that after she disappeared upon Sally's death, Slater found her. She fell in love with him before she learned he was a detective, hired by Mackler to recover Sally's diary. Slater didn't know why Mackler wanted the diary, nor did Billie. So they took a look: It was Lou who got Sally pregnant, and he refused to marry her. Sally was going to have the baby anyway, and she insisted that Lou support the child. Lou killed Sally to keep his career on track. Billie was so in love with Slater that she agreed to his plan to blackmail Lou with the diary. He helped her disappear, set her up in Twin Pines, took the diary, and returned to Los Angeles. He said he'd come back, but never did. Lou thought it was Billie blackmailing him, when in fact it was Slater, and when Windsor suggested the reunion, Lou pounced at the opportunity. Laura tells Windsor she's anxious to see how she reports the story.

Back at her home, Billie watches Windsor deliver the news report, which concludes with, "The whereabouts of Young [...] remains a mystery." Laura and Steele take a nighttime stroll, and Laura notes how she was blinded by the spotlight.

Movies:

Sunset Boulevard, Gloria Swanson, William Holden, Paramount 1950.

Out of the Past, Robert Mitchum, Kirk Douglas, (Jane Greer), RKO 1947.

Notes:

Possible inside joke if Rebecca Holden is related to William Holden, whose movie Steele references.

03/15/86 10p Steele becomes a butler to the soap opera-ish Wellingtons, one of whom is suspected of murdering the previous manservant who was threatening to sell his memoirs and expose the family skeletons.

Charles Wellington	Dan O'Herlihy
Katherine Wellington	Neva Patterson
Cindy Wellington	Cindy Fischer
Albert Wellington	Arye Gross
Harold Wellington	Granville Ames
Greta Swenson?	Liz Sheridan
Sam Kuromatsu	Sab Shimono
Maria?	Darryl Hernandez
Bernie?	David Hooks
Winston Hastings?	Sandy Helberg

The Wellingtons squabble over business at dinner, and Charles (the father) is drawn away by a phone call. He is followed by his wife Katherine, who accuses him of inventing the phone call so he could spend some time with Maria, the maid. Charles finds in his bath Hastings the butler, dead.

As Laura and Steele arrive at the Wellington residence, Steele looks forward to a healthy fee, but Laura harbors a resentment towards Wellington Petroleum stemming from a college protest. Laura and Steele are shown to their clients, not the Wellingtons but their servants, Mrs. Swenson (the housekeeper), Vincenzo (the chauffeur), Pierre (the chef), Maria (the maid), and Kuromatsu (the groundskeeper). Steele would rather not take the case, but Laura is anxious to get back at the Wellingtons, and her interest is piqued when the servants explain that Hastings died the day before his retirement, and had been writing his memoirs. Vincenzo says he saw a light in the upstairs window and heard two men arguing. And Pierre heard a loud banging sound upstairs.

Steele reluctantly goes undercover as the new butler Rupert Ruggles, and Mrs. Swenson takes him to his room, reminding him that the servants are on a limited budget, so they'd like the case solved quickly. Steele opens the door to find the room ransacked, and shortly thereafter gets clonked on the head. Maria wakes him up and explains that Hastings was blackmailing the Wellingtons, and the two of them planned to run away together.

Steele goes downstairs to see Vincenzo giving Albert his repaired debating trophy. Laura and Mildred arrive, posing as a magazine reporter and her assistant. Laura enjoys taking advantage of Steele's servile position, and Mildred soaks up the sumptuousness of her surroundings. While doing a background check, Mildred notices that she could find no history on Cindy before her marriage to Albert, and Laura notes that Wellington Petroleum is in financial difficulty, vulnerable to a hostile takeover.

Charles takes Laura to a scenic vista, where Laura wonders out loud who turned off the water to the bath Hastings was found in. She also takes photos, of Kuromatsu chatting with some gentlemen, and of Katherine and Vincenzo kissing. Meanwhile, Steele spies Cindy and Harold together. He returns to his room to find it ransacked, and is greeted by another clonk on the head. Pierre wakes him up and demands Steele solve the case quickly.

The Wellingtons throw a Texas barbecue dinner party, and Kuromatsu calls Steele over and shows him Charles' broken tennis racket he found in the trash. Mildred got a copy of Cindy's fingerprints and dug up that she's an ex-hooker from Vegas with a long police record. Katherine suggests Laura take a photo of the party from the hay wagon, and when she gets on it, the horses bolt. The wagon overturns, and Steele protectively fishes Laura out of the mess. Mildred notes that the wagon was sabotaged.

Steele confronts Vincenzo, who admits that he and Katherine were trying to scare them off so he wouldn't dig into their affair and discover that he is Harold's father. But he didn't kill Hastings. Steele warns Vincenzo to steer clear of Laura.

That evening, Steele sees Charles putting something into a wall safe, then returns to his room, where he subdues Albert who was lying in wait for him. Albert angrily admits that he is gay and married Cindy to keep up a good front. He was looking for the memoirs but didn't find them. While cleaning up the mess, Steele sees paper shreds in the trash and gets an idea. He goes to Laura's room, but finds it ransacked. He mutters, "Oh no," just before he gets coshed on the head yet again.

Laura and Mildred wake him up and report that one of the camera bags is missing. Steele says he came because he thinks he knows where the memoirs are: on the computer. Laura realizes the killer was after the film, fishes the roll out of its hiding place, and leaves to have it developed. Steele makes plans to crack the wall safe, and Mildred to snoop around the household computer.

Laura pays a visit to Bernie's darkroom, a young gentleman whose affections she had spurned five months earlier. She spots something in one of the photos that is worth a closer look. Meanwhile, while snooping, Mildred is surprised by Pierre, but she scares him away with her crazy culinary tastes. She then sets to work on the computer. And while a storm rages outside, Steele cracks the wall safe and finds a cashier's check for \$100,000 made out to Hastings, dated the day of the murder. Steele is surprised by the Wellington family, who demand an explanation. The servants arrive and explain who he really is. And everyone is waiting to hear what Steele has to say.

Steele decides to wing it, and Mildred arrives with the memoirs: Hastings wrote only "The life of a butler is..." So he dramatically recreates the scene of the crime: Hastings' phone message was a ruse to arrange a meeting with Charles. When Hastings didn't have the memoirs, Charles killed him. Charles admits that the meeting was arranged, but when he got to his room, he found Hastings dead on the floor, and his tennis racket smashed nearby. Fearing a frame, he dumped the body into the bathtub and waited for Katherine to arrive so they could 'discover' the body together.

Steele turns his attention to Albert, who was being blackmailed by Hastings and who couldn't stand his father. While Charles was fetching the check, he went up to kill Hastings with the tennis racket. Albert admits that he was being blackmailed, but when he went to fetch his gun, he found Hastings already dead on his bedroom floor with his broken trophy lying next to him. So he dragged the body into Charles' room and smashed the tennis racket. (Which explains the banging noise.)

Steele turns his attention to Cindy and Harold. They ambushed Hastings and coshed him with Albert's trophy. They admit that they were going to, but they found Hastings dead in Harold's bedroom. So they moved the body into Albert's room and smashed the trophy as a decoy. The only family member left is Katherine, but she was with Mrs. Swenson at the time of the murder.

Laura arrives, confused at the nighttime meeting. But she explains that a corporate takeover was in the works, engineered by somebody on the inside, namely Hastings, who used every eavesdropped conversation to his advantage. Charles was willing to pay Hastings \$100,000 for his shares and thus gain decisive control of the company. But a Japanese firm had their own spy in the family: Kuromatsu. Laura confronts him with the photograph of him she took. Laura and Steele explain: Kuromatsu had made an offer to buy Hastings' stock, but Charles made a sweeter offer. Kuromatsu tells Hastings he's willing to make a better offer, and kills him in Harold's room (explaining the struggle Vincenzo saw), steals the stock certificates, and runs off. Then follows the repeated relocation of the body.

Kuromatsu makes a run for it, and Laura and Steele give chase. Steele dodges a chainsaw and they follow him to the stable, where Kuromatsu reappears with another chainsaw. Laura uses a grain blower to dispatch him. Since it's raining outside, Laura and Steele decide to wait it out in the stable. They kiss, and Laura asks, "What about him?" indicating Kuromatsu. "What will he think?" Steele closes the stable door and replies, "What else? The butler did it."

Movies:

Blow Up, David Hemmings, Vanessa Redgrave, MGM 1966.

Notes:

Anyone with freeze-frame care to check what date is on the check?
The credits fade, and the music is more improvisatory.

03/22/86 10p Laura is accosted in a triathlon after another woman surreptitiously switched numbers with her before the race.

Allan Kendall	.....	John Driver
Joan Grey	.....	Alison LaPlaca
Sandra Jenkins	.....	Deborah Wakeham
Joe Gullickson	.....	Frederic Coffin
Landlady?	.....	Milli Slavin
Cop	.....	John DiSanti
Ernie?	.....	Ned Bellemy
Clerk?	.....	Tanya Melendez
?	.....	Lise Cutter
Thomas Ivory	.....	Rif Hutton

A woman jogs through the park, then suspects she is being followed. Laura arrives at work to find Steele buried in paperwork, and he scolds her for coming in late and leaving early every day for the past week, leaving him to do all the work. Laura explains that she's been training for a triathlon. Steele offers to pick up Laura for the race, then learns he has to pick her up at 6am.

Steele picks up Laura (and Mildred) in the limo, and Laura scolds him for wasting money. At the Westside Triathlon, the woman jogger, who bears some resemblance to Laura, arrives for registration and looks anxiously over her shoulder at two men who have been following her. She greets Laura and introduces herself as Joan Grey. She then switches her and Laura's registration numbers.

The race is under way. Mildred watches excitedly, Steele less so. And the two thugs also watch. In the cycling phase, the two thugs jostle Laura, who manages to run them off the road. While changing to the running phase, Laura mentions the incident to Steele, who decides to tag along behind Laura. Laura is kidnaped by a van, but is unceremoniously dumped when Kendall says, "It's not her."

At the office, Mildred digs up Joan's address and her place of employment. Steele reminds Laura that they have no client, but Laura insists they pursue it. Laura bribes the landlady into letting her into Joan's apartment, where she finds a credit card slip signed 'Joan Kendall'. When Laura leaves, a car follows. Steele goes to the exercise studio and, after an initial deception, convinces Sandra Jenkins that he's trying to help Joan. Sandra says she doesn't know where Joan is and notes that another man (different from the two who kidnaped Laura) is also waiting for Joan. When Steele leaves, the man follows. Steele doubles back and chases the man, but he has a friend, and the two of them beat up Steele, then are called away by a third man.

While Laura tends to Steele's wounds in the office, Mildred reports that Joan Grey is really Joan Black, but has been unable to find anything more on Joan Black or Joan Kendall. Steele reports that Sandra hasn't seen Joan since the race, and that Joan apparently had marital problems. Laura figures that Joan Grey is really Joan Kendall, and she sets Mildred to work on Ivory, the man who accosted Steele in the alley.

Gullickson reiterates to Ivory and Arguayo, former athletes, that getting Joan is the way to get to Kendall. Laura and Steele are called to Joan's apartment by Sandra, whom they find crouched over the unconscious body of an off-duty New York City policeman, which Laura identifies as one of the men who chased her at the race. The landlady listens outside as Sandra explains that Joan called her and asked her to get some things from the apartment and meet her at Union Station. When she arrived, the man was waiting for her. After the trio leave, Gullickson tells the landlady that he's a policeman on the trail of Joan Grey, a known felon. The landlady tells him to go to Union Station. Kendall and the other kidnaper follow Laura, Steele, and Sandra to the station.

Joan waits, frightened, at the station, and when she sees one of the men who was following her, she runs. Steele chases Joan, while Laura and Sandra nab the man. Joan gets away from Steele, but he talks her back. Laura talks to Allan Kendall, who explains that he and Joan are separated, and when she called, accusing him of sending people after her, he hired the two off-duty cops to locate her. Steele talks to Joan and suggests a reconciliation, to which she is amenable. But as they leave, they are greeted by Gullickson and his men, who beat up Steele as Joan gets away.

At the office, it's been four hours and no sign of Steele or Joan. Using old newspaper articles, Mildred identifies Thomas Ivory as a former track star who got caught up in a blood doping scandal. Kendall

identifies the man next to Ivory as Joe Gullickson, his company's public relations man, and Laura suspects the third man in the photo, César Aguayo, is the other man who beat up Steele. Kendall realizes that, in his chemical research into steroids, he had stumbled across a variant that escaped detection; Gullickson is probably after the formula and is using Joan as a bargaining chip.

Steele calls from a phone booth, explains what happened, and asks Laura to come pick him up. Meanwhile, Gullickson and his men continue to search for Joan. Joan calls the office, but runs away before she can say where she is. Laura arrives with Kendall and Sandra, dressed in a warmup suit. Her plan is to exploit her similarity to Joan to act as a decoy, while Steele rescues Joan. As it seems that Gullickson is about to close in on Joan, he spots Laura, and he and his men give chase. Laura leads them into an ambush, where Gullickson and Aguayo are dispatched, but Ivory gets away and continues to chase Laura. Laura walks nervously along the train tracks, dodging passing trains, until Steele finally saves her from Ivory.

Laura and Steele return to the office to report that Joan and Allan are reconciled. And Laura gives Steele a gift: running shoes. She invites him to train with her for the next triathlon. Steele says, "Thanks, but pursuing you is all the exercise I need," and he kisses her.

Notes:

An entirely forgettable episode. Too much time is spent watching nothing happen. If I had a choice between watching it again and clipping my nails, I'd have to think hard.

86

Beg, Borrow or Steele

5722

Brad Kern

Kevin Inch

03/29/86 10p Laura and Steele return from New York to find police barricades around their apartments,
07/12/86 10p and grisly accounts of their murders on TV.

Detective James Jarvis	.....	Gary Frank
Sister Natalie	.....	Mary Kate McGeehan
Candy	.....	Nancy Lane
Michael Harrigan	.....	Ken Swofford
Pittsburgh Phil	.....	Antony Ponzini
Man	.....	Jack Ragotzy
Allesandro Pascal?	.....	Lee Ryan
Cook?	.....	Jack Wells
Racetrack Official?	.....	Buzz Borelli
Newsreader?	.....	Michael Masters
Newsreader?	.....	Alan David
Stenographer?	.....	Suzanne Childs
Motel clerk?	.....	Kirk Scott

Steele drops Laura home upon their return from a weekend wedding bash in New York, and returns to his apartment to find it roped off with police tape and the silhouettes of two bodies taped on his carpet. He goes to the office, also roped off, and finds Laura, whose loft was similarly decorated. Steele would prefer to lie low until he knows what is going on, and while walking downtown, Laura sees their picture on the television in a store window. Steele breaks in, but the news story has already moved on to an as-yet-unclaimed winning racetrack pick-six ticket worth \$1.5 million. After searching the channels, they find another news report: "Police still aren't saying whether or not they have any leads in the brutal murders of famed private investigator Remington Steele and his secretary, Laura Holt." They check into a motel for the night, but Steele uses his credit card (which had been reported stolen), and they run out when the police come.

Laura and Steele come out in the morning, after spending the night in an all-night porno movie house. Hiding in the staircase, they spy on their own wake at the office. A strange collection of people pay their respects: A man, a shady-looking character (Pittsburgh Phil), a nun, a group of jockeys, and another man, all asking after a package that Steele may have been holding for them. The next visitor is detective James Jarvis, who tells Mildred he has narrowed down the list of suspects considerably. Laura and Steele call Mildred from a pay phone and arrange a meeting at the funeral home.

Mildred arrives, and explains that she had mis-identified the bodies (since there was very little left to identify). Steele and Laura figure that the unexpected guests were asking after something the real victims were carrying, and since Laura and Steele are officially the victims, everybody thinks *they* have it, whatever 'it' is. They return to the office, and Mildred isn't much financial help; they agree to regroup at Mildred's house. Going through the victims' belongings, Steele identifies the victim as Freddie Lazenby, an expert pickpocket. Jarvis arrives and arrests Mildred for murdering Laura and Steele for their \$1 million (each) life insurance policies. Laura and Steele go to meet Candy, Freddie's partner in crime, and give her the bad news. She explains that Freddie lifted Pittsburgh Phil, a loan shark, and got a big haul. He went to Steele's apartment and called his girl to celebrate with him.

From the police station, Mildred uses her one phone call, not to call her lawyer, but her housekeeper, who says that Laura and Steele aren't there. Jarvis takes Mildred away. Laura and Steele go to the racetrack, where Steele talks to Phil and learns that Freddie lifted the winning racetrack pick-six ticket from him. Phil sets his goons on Steele, and Laura rescues him. They then see the first man at the wake, and follow him to a church.

Sister Natalie greets them and gives a little more information. As collateral for a loan, Pittsburgh Phil took the ticket from the man they chased (her brother), who in turn took it from her purse. She got it from Michael Harrigan, a recovering alcoholic. He was holding the ticket for someone, and gave it to her for safekeeping so he wouldn't be tempted to cash it himself. Sister Natalie tells them that they can find Harrigan working at a shelter.

That evening, they wait in line for food to see Harrigan, but he's not there. And since Mildred wasn't home, they are forced to spend the night in a shelter. When Laura feels something on her leg, she angrily gets up and says she's going to go to the police so she can go home and get a good night's sleep. Steele tells

her to go ahead, but he's going to continue to see who killed his friend Freddie. Laura softens and agrees to stick with him. Pittsburgh Phil finds them (tipped off by Sister Natalie's brother), and they end up sleeping under the freeway.

At the police station, Mildred gives her statement and tells the truth about Laura and Steele. but Jarvis thinks she's trying a temporary insanity ploy and doesn't believe her.

Laura and Steele find Harrigan at the racetrack, drunk out of his gourd. Laura figures he was holding the ticket for a group of jockeys who bet on their own horses. They talk to the jockeys, who confirm the story, but deny killing anyone. Laura and Steele realize that the person with the ticket is the one who isn't looking for it, and they return to find Harrigan, who has vanished; he wasn't really drunk after all. Pittsburgh Phil finds them, but they are rescued by Jarvis, who finally believed Mildred's story after a fingerprint check.

As the racetrack official is bringing out the money, Harrigan grabs it and runs. Laura and Steele chase him, and find him shot, dead. They return to the racetrack and see Sister Natalie carrying the money. They capture her and find that it's really Candy. She was the one who murdered Freddie, and everybody else.

Laura and Steele recap the case in front of the fireplace at Steele's apartment. Candy had enlisted Harrigan to use his track connections to get the ticket cashed with no fanfare. Laura stops in mid-sentence and asks, "Is that your foot on my leg?" Steele smiles.

Movies:

Death Takes a Holiday, Fredric March, Evelyn Venable, Paramount 1934.

Notes:

The opening credits don't appear until a few minutes into the episode.

05/03/86 10p Once thought to be terminally ill, an escaped felon claims to have framed himself for murder so that his wife could collect the reward, but now that he's cured, he wants Laura and Steele to clear him.

Vincent Dowd	Donovan Scott
Nedra Dowd	Pippa Pearthree
Detective Steven Zweigenhoff	Arthur Taxier
Weasel	Robert Pastorelli
Tony Petz	Daniel Greene
Heather LeBlanc?	LaGena Hart
Mrs. Tuttle?	Shannon Wilcox
Doctor?	Tim Cunningham
Cop?	Mark Harrison
Sergeant Briggs?	John Walter Davis
Schoolgirl?	Jamie Lyn Hart

Surgery in progress. Afterwards, the prison doctor tells the patient that he's cured, and rather than being elated, he attacks the doctor, coshes a guard, and takes his gun. Meanwhile, Frances has left the children's many caged pets in Laura's care while they're on vacation, and while Laura overfeeds the fish, the patient comes through her loft window. Vincent Dowd politely pulls a gun and explains. Last year, he learned he was terminally ill, and when the famed exercise personality Lance LeBlanc was kidnaped and a \$250,000 reward posted, he decided to frame himself so that his wife could collect the reward. Now that he's been cured, he wants Laura and Steele to clear his name. Laura is hardly agreeable, but Steele believes him. When Detective Zweigenhoff knocks on the door, Vinnie ducks out the fire escape. Zweigenhoff notes that Dowd has escaped recently and has been spotted in the area. On his way out, Zweigenhoff accidentally steps on an escaped turtle.

Laura arrives at the office with a turtle to replace Phyllis, and insists to Steele that Vinnie is lying. Steele promises to drop the matter if she would agree to see Dowd's wife to see if she confirms the story. While talking to Nedra, Vinnie literally drops in and greets her. Steele tells Vinnie he's taking the case, over Laura's vehement objections.

Vinnie explains that he has an alibi for the day of the kidnaping; he was bowling with Frank Dunn, but he paid Frank to perjure himself. While Laura and Steele pay Frank a visit, a policeman writes Laura's car a parking ticket, and Vinnie tries to explain his presence in the car. Inside, Laura and Steele find Frank, shot dead. When Laura and Steele emerge, they see Vinnie speeding off, with a police car in pursuit.

Laura and Steele find Laura's crashed car, and Zweigenhoff asks them why they're working for Dowd, though both deny it. He thinks Dowd killed Dunn, and reminds them that harboring a fugitive is a felony. Laura and Steele return to the office, where they tell Vinnie that Frank was murdered. Nedra comes in, noting that the police came to question her about the murder. Laura reluctantly offers to let Vinnie stay at Frances' house, and Steele volunteers Mildred to stay with him. Laura and Steele talk to the widow LeBlanc, who now runs the exercise gym. She says that Lance had no enemies. After they leave, she picks up the phone. "We've got trouble."

Their next visit is to Tony Petz, the last person to see LeBlanc alive, and owner of a soon-to-be-opened health spa. He says that Lance is responsible for his current physical prowess, and that he was popular with the women. He recalls the night of the kidnaping; the gym had just closed, and Lance stepped out and never came back. Laura and Steele leave, then Steele pops back and asks Tony if bulking up might help him with the 'chicks'. Tony assures that him it will, and Steele notes, "Lance didn't know what he was missing," since he was married. Tony confides that Lance was on his way to see a woman named Tuttle when he was kidnaped. Once Steele leaves, Tony picks up the phone. "We've got trouble."

At Frances' place, shots are fired through the window and a fist breaks through the door. Mildred and Vinnie dash out in the station wagon, destroying the garage door in the process. The gunman, a long-haired gentleman comes in, and dials the phone. "We got trouble."

Laura and Steele arrive at Frances' house, to find it swarming with police surveying the damage. Zweigenhoff tells Laura that these coincidences had better stop. In the limo, Laura takes a call from Frances and reassures her that the neighbors' reports are exaggerated. Then a call from Mildred, and they

go to pick her up in a school bus parking lot (and see Frances' wagon towed away). Laura is very mad. When Zweigenhoff arrives, the quartet hop aboard a school bus. Laura thinks it is all suspicious. Lance was kidnaped in broad daylight in front of his own gym, and there were no witnesses. The ransom money was dropped in a phone booth at a busy intersection, where it is never picked up, and nobody hears from the kidnapers again. Mildred notes that the coroner's report stated that Lance was already dead at the time the ransom note was delivered. Laura thinks Lance was murdered, and the kidnaping was a diversionary tactic.

While Mildred checks on Lance's insurance records, Laura and Steele pay a visit to Mrs. Tuttle. She admits she was with Lance that night, but had nothing to do with the murder. Mrs. LeBlanc had no knowledge of their affair, and Lance had no intention of leaving his wife, since she was the brains behind the business. He wanted out, but couldn't afford it. When Lance left, he said that "He had a problem he had to take care of."

Laura, Steele, and Vinnie pay a late-night visit to the gym and find Mrs. LeBlanc, dead. Zweigenhoff appears, and Vinnie makes a run for it. Steele interferes, and Zweigenhoff angrily says, "You're under arrest." Mildred bails our sleuths out of jail and tells them Lance had no life insurance, most of his business was in his wife's name, and he had lots of money. Not only are they out of suspects, but they haven't heard from Vinnie.

Vinnie drops home and tells Nedra they're going to Mexico. Steele suspects that Lance hired someone to kill his wife and pays a visit to Weasel at a pool hall. Weasel says LeBlanc had a buddy who was "in the art of artificial persuasion", named Tony Petz. Before Laura and Steele leave, Steele sinks a trick shot.

Laura and Steele return to Tony's gym and confront him. He makes a run for it, and the lights go out. Shots are fired, and Laura runs out to see a car speeding off. When she returns, the lights are on, and Tony is dead. Meanwhile, Vinnie calls the office from the bus depot and tells Mildred he's going to Mexico with Nedra. Zweigenhoff had the phone tapped and heads for the depot, but tells his men not to do anything until he gets there.

At Tony's gym, Steele spots a framed newspaper clipping of Zweigenhoff presenting a certificate to Tony. They don't know how, but Laura and Steele figure Zweigenhoff has more than a professional interest in the case. In the limo, Laura calls Mildred and tells Fred to go to the bus depot. At the depot, Zweigenhoff says he'll handle the situation himself, and as he approaches Vinnie, he tells him, "Run." When Vinnie doesn't run, he pulls a gun. Steele arrives in time to stop Zweigenhoff, and Laura tells the Sergeant that Zweigenhoff is the killer. But Mildred disagrees; he's not the man who shot at them at Frances' house.

Gunshots are fired outside, and Laura and Steele dispatch the long-haired man. Vinnie recognizes him as Wolfe, the downstairs neighbor. If Vinnie cleared himself, Nedra would have to return the money, and she admits, "I could always get another husband, but where I could get another \$250,000?"

At the office, Laura and Steele try to explain to Mildred what happened. Steele begins, "Lance LeBlanc hired Tony Petz to kill his wife. Tony took the money, but found he couldn't carry out the deed." Laura continues, "So Tony hired his pal Zweigenhoff to kill Heather, only Zweigenhoff fell in love with her." "On the night that Zweigenhoff was going to kill Heather, Lance surprised him by coming home early. There was a fight, and Zweigenhoff killed him." "That's when Heather and Zweigenhoff concocted the kidnaping plan to cover up their murder." Mildred's mind seems to be elsewhere though. She looks around the carpet and admits, "Phyllis went AWOL." Vinnie comes in and accidentally steps on Phyllis.

Movies:

Convicted, Glenn Ford, Broderick Crawford, (Dorothy Malone), Columbia 1950.

Notes:

Throughout, Steele tries to prove his strength, but ends up embarrassing himself at every turn.

05/10/86 10p Laura has her hands full with a case, while Steele is making plans to marry—a call girl?

Alessandra Henry	Rebecca Street
Norman Keyes	James Tolkan
Clarissa	Nancy Everhard
Estelle Becker	Mary Ellen Trainor
Lyle Andrews	Daniel Ziskie
Juan	Bert Rosario
Personnel secretary?	Terry Wills
Building Facilitation?	Don Grey
?	Bobbie Ferguson
Cop?	Maurice Hill
A. J. Drury?	John Welsh
?	Diane Lander
Minister?	Don Hostetter

Steele is on the limo phone telling someone that there's been a slight change of plans and asking if it would be all right to "push everything back an hour." Steele and Laura arrive at the UniDac corporation, where Alessandra Henry takes them into David Burnett's office. He's dead. And she can't call the police because *she* is being framed for the murder. As Steele nervously glances at his watch, Alessandra recalls that Mr. Burnett had said that "there was something strange going on." Laura finds a key to room G949 that Burnett was apparently trying to hide when he was killed. Laura instructs Alessandra to continue the ruse that Mr. Burnett is still alive.

Laura and Steele can't find room G949, and when they ask for directions, they are told to ask Building Facilitation. Building Facilitation tells them that G959 exists, and when Laura asks to be taken there, he says, "That's Building Coordination." Laura asks what is done in G959, and he says the information is classified and asks who authorized her request. Meanwhile, Steele pockets the computer access code book, and the two leave. They return to see Alessandra having trouble keeping up appearances, but rescue her.

Heading to the office, Steele remembers a doctor's appointment and ducks out. Laura comes in to find Norman Keyes and Estelle Becker asking after Steele. On their way out, Keyes asks Laura to relay a message to Steele: "You can run, but you can't hide." Laura gives Mildred the code book and asks her to see what she can find about room G949. When Mildred says that Steele never mentioned any medical tests, Laura gets suspicious. She looks out her office window to see Clarissa (see *Steele in the Family*) drive by and pick up Steele. The two kiss and drive off. Laura asks Mildred about Clarissa but stops when Mildred starts asking questions back. Mildred discovers that G949 is for Project Omega, whatever that is.

Laura talks to Alessandra (her mind clearly on Clarissa), whose nerves are wracked. Laura lends moral support and learns where she can find out about Red Flag projects. She babbles bureaucrat-speak to get past the Personnel Supervisor and breaks into the Red Flag Projects room. She finds the Omega file, and it's completely empty. When Laura is discovered, she claims to be security and threatens to put the Personnel Supervisor on report for letting her in at all. As Laura leaves, a woman who had previously suspected something was amiss about Burnett comes in and sees her.

Laura is paged to T405, and when she goes there, she is locked in; it's a wind tunnel. The propeller goes on, and Laura hangs on for her life as the wind plays havoc with her hair. The tunnel finally shuts down, and Steele pops his head in the door, "I've been looking everywhere for you."

At the office, Keyes and Miss Becker are tired of waiting for Steele and leave, but not before Keyes tells Mildred that the agency is going to fold soon. In the elevator, Keyes explains to Miss Becker that when Vigilance Insurance put Steele on retainer and that he has to report to him on all major cases, it proved too much for him.

Laura and Steele return, her hair so askew it's funny. Laura angrily asks Steele how his doctor's appointment went. A tuxedo is delivered for Steele, and when Mildred says that Keyes and Miss Becker came to see him, Steele is clearly troubled. A call comes in for Steele from Ilsa Lund, and Laura recognizes the name as Lauren Bacall's character in *Casablanca* and snoops in on the extension. It's Clarissa, who said that there's been a change in schedule and "it's been moved up to three o'clock." Steele invents an excuse to leave, and Laura tries to follow him, but Mildred calls her back. Laura explains what she saw and tells Mildred the truth about Clarissa. Mildred tells Laura to go after him.

Mildred takes a call from Alessandra, "The police are here!" Mildred heads to UniDac. Laura watches Steele emerge from the Los Angeles County Courthouse clutching a piece of paper. As Steele drives away, Laura tries to follow, but is cut off by Lyle Andrews, Unidac Security. When Laura says 'Omega', Andrews admits it's so top secret, even he doesn't know what that is and offers to take Laura to see the company president.

In Mr. Burnett's office, Alessandra appears ready to crack as the woman insists to a cop that Burnett is dead. Mildred arrives, claiming to be an IRS agent who just got back from a long meeting with Burnett. The cop and the woman leave. Alessandra explains that the woman is Payroll Supervisor, so she must be in on it. Whatever 'it' is, Mildred smuggles the body out of the office in a mail hopper.

In Andrews' car, Laura tries to comb her hair, but realizes it's beyond repair. Laura notes she's not being taken to UniDac, and when Andrews lets slip Burnett's name, she realizes she's in big trouble. She leaps out of the car, tumbles down a hill, and runs away down the beach.

Laura arrives at the office, even more disheveled than before. While she changes into sneakers, she takes a call from Starbright Jewelers, saying that the rings for Steele are being delivered to the Little Chapel of Perpetual Happiness. Laura puts the pieces together and realizes that Steele is marrying Clarissa. She furiously storms out, but is drawn back by a call from Mildred. Laura tells Mildred to take Alessandra to the office for safekeeping.

The wedding ceremony is under way, and when the minister says, "let them speak now or...", Laura bursts in. "You better believe it, buster!" She attacks Steele, who carries her (kicking and screaming) into the next room, dumps her in a closet, and barricades the door. He returns to the ceremony, which is interrupted by Keyes, who pronounces the marriage a fraud. Miss Becker introduces herself as from the Immigration and Naturalization Service and reminds Steele that a marriage of convenience cannot be used to establish residency. To prove he truly loves Clarissa, Steele gives her a kiss, which Laura sees. Miss Becker is convinced, but Keyes warns Steele, "This isn't over." The minister continues, "I now pronounce you..." Mildred bursts in, "Boss, we got big trouble! They've got Alessandra!" Laura breaks the door down, and Laura and Mildred drag Steele away, Laura driving the limo which is decorated with a 'Just Married' sign. Mildred asks about the wedding, but Laura insists they drop the issue until the case is over. Laura thinks she knows where Alessandra is.

Alessandra is being grilled by Andrews and the Personnel Secretary. She continues to profess her ignorance of 'Omega' as the limo arrives at UniDac. Laura, Steele, and Mildred rush inside, chased by security. Alessandra convinces Andrews that she knows nothing, so he pulls out a gun. Laura, Steele, and Mildred steal a go-cart, crash through Andrews' door, and rescue Alessandra. Andrews gets away, and Laura and Steele chase him across the field, where he and Laura struggle in the mud. (And you thought Laura's appearance couldn't get any worse.) Steele can only watch, fearing he'd soil his tuxedo. He eventually grabs a plank and coshes Andrews.

In the office of A.J. Drury, UniDac President, Laura and Steele explain that Andrews and friends siphoned off tens of millions of dollars into the nonexistent Project Omega. They killed Burnett when he discovered the discrepancy.

Steele drives the limo to the chapel, and Laura demands an explanation. Steele explains that, once Laura arranged the consulting contract with Vigilance Insurance, it riled up Keyes, who ratted to INS. Laura gets upset when Steele seems to be implying that it's all her fault and demands Steele stop the car. When he doesn't, she yanks the key out of the ignition, and Steele explains that if he isn't married to an American citizen by six o'clock, he's going to be deported. Clarissa calls, from jail. Keyes had her arrested for soliciting. Steele realizes he's doomed and resigns himself to his fate. Laura challenges him to think of something.

At the dock, Laura professes her eternal love for Steele to Miss Becker, who is moved to tears. The fishing boat casts off just as Keyes arrives. He yells, "You won't get away with this! It stinks just like those fish! You can run but you can't hide. I'll be the last thing you see at night, the first thing you see in the morning! For better or for worse, Steele, you're mine! You're mine!"

The ceremony is conducted by the Spanish-speaking fish cleaner, and Laura learns that they have to keep up the charade for two years. "This is the worst day of my life!" Steele replies, "Laura, how can you say that? The honeymoon hasn't even started yet."

Movies:

They Won't Believe Me, Robert Young, Susan Hayward, RKO 1947.

The Bride of Frankenstein

Casablanca, Ingrid Bergman.

The Happy Hooker

Death Takes a Holiday

Notes:

Opening credits are centered. Closing credits fade.

The original script had Steele announcing that he was going to marry Clarissa, then Laura responding "If you marry anyone, you marry me." It was agreed by all that such an exchange was unsatisfactory.

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Fifth Season (1987)

Remington Steele

Starring

Stephanie Zimbalist [as Laura Holt]
Pierce Brosnan [as Remington Steele]
Jack Scalia as Tony Roselli
and
Doris Roberts as Mildred Krebs

Musical score by Richard Lewis Warren
Theme music by Henry Mancini

Created by

Michael Gleason and Robert Butler

Executive Producer
Michael Gleason

89

The Steele That Wouldn't Die (Part 1)

6702

Brad Kern

Kevin Inch

01/05/87 9p

The TV series that wouldn't die is reincarnated as a two-hour 1987 TV-movie.

The story picks up where it left off last May: with Laura and the mysterious Mr. Steele being wed by the captain of a Mexican fishing boat. The union is designed as a marriage of convenience, set up to prevent Steele from being deported. And the happy couple is advised, for appearances' sake, to go on a honeymoon and take lots of snapshots to make their ruse more believable—especially to the likes of investigator Norman Keyes, who has vowed to expose them.

After Keyes and Steele have a number of ugly confrontations in public, Keyes is found dead in Steele's hotel room. Soon Steele is tossed into a Mexican slammer and charged with murder. And with Steele behind bars, it's up to Laura and Tony Roselli, another mysterious fellow who purports to be an archaeologist, to prove Steele's innocence.

Filmed in Las Hadas, Mexico.

Norman Keyes	James Tolkan
Fernando	Castulo Guerra
Estelle Becker	Mary Ellen Trainor
Clerk	George Galvan
Juan	Bert Rosario

To the Mendelssohn *Wedding March*, Laura approaches the altar of a grand cathedral in her long-trained wedding dress. She smiles at Steele, and the minister turns into Keyes, who promises to reveal that the marriage is a fraud. Laura looks to her side, and instead of Steele stands a fish.

We recap the final scene of *Bonds of Steele*, and Laura wakes up in the limo, the accordion-playing fisherman still singing in the back seat. The group return to Steele's apartment, where Laura excuses herself to freshen up. Steele follows her into the bedroom, where he convinces Laura to put up a good front for Miss Becker. They return to the living room and answer the door: It's Keyes, who promises he'll expose the fraud. Miss Becker inquires as to their honeymoon plans, and notes that, thanks to Keyes, her superiors are breathing down her neck, which means that Laura and Steele must take a honeymoon, and "take lots of pictures." Mildred offers to arrange their honeymoon as her wedding gift.

Laura and Steele fly coach and arrive at the airport, to be taken to the hotel in a rickety bus. As the bus passes through a stretch of dirt road, the passengers duck, avoiding the gunfire from the Malvados. Laura and Steele finally arrive at the Hotel Del Amor, a dilapidated dump. The clerk gives them the keys to the 'penthouse suite' and a handful of mosquito netting. Laura asks after a phone and learns the nearest one is thirty miles away in Las Hadas. Laura and Steele struggle up the stairs to their room, and when Laura angrily starts hanging up the netting from a light fixture, it falls from the ceiling. The two start laughing at the absurdity of it all.

Taking a walk outside, Laura and Steele decide to 'let the chips fall where they may', but Steele wants it to happen in a 'more worthy setting' and they agree to check out of the Hotel Del Amor and go to Las Hadas. But the bill is 72,000 pesos (\$100), and the clerk won't take travelers' checks. Unwilling to take their luggage as collateral, the clerk suggests leaving Laura. "You'll come back for her." Steele putters off to Las Hadas in a rickety jeep.

While taking another walk, Laura is surrounded by a group of men, and she makes a run for it through the woods. When she gets trapped between the men and a raging river, another man swings in on a vine and punches out the bad guys. But one punch pushes the man into Laura, who is in turn pushed into the rapids. The man jumps in to rescue her. Laura grabs hold onto an overhanging branch, but slips away before the man can get to her, and she goes over the falls. The man says to himself, "Oh, what the hell..." and goes over himself. The two go ashore, where Laura is mad at the man for pushing her into the rapids, and he is equally mad at her for getting into trouble in the first place. He leaves, and Laura sits indignantly on a rock; when he doesn't return, she gets up and goes after him. Meanwhile, Steele putters along the road, but the road suddenly ends and he ends up in a river.

The man cruises through the forest, cutting a path with a knife, and Laura continues to bitch. They reach some ruins, and the man identifies himself as an archaeologist. He goes into the forest to fetch wood

for a fire to make coffee, where he runs across the tough guys again. He pays them for their services, though that last punch was a bit too much. When he returns, Laura leaves for Las Hadas, but when she heads into the forest, she hears growling. Laura decides to take him up on his offer of coffee.

Steele wanders through the woods and is narrowly missed by a golf ball. He finds a golf course and an expensive hotel resort. Steele wanders into the lobby and asks for the honeymoon suite. The manager Fernando recognizes Steele, and suggests he wait until morning to fetch Laura. Keyes wanders in and the two exchange harsh words.

From the hotel room, Steele calls Mildred, who promises that heads will roll. Steele answers the door to find Laura, who storms in angrily, followed by the man in the forest, who introduces himself as Tony Roselli. Steele is rather sarcastic about the situation, not giving Laura much of a chance to explain what happened. Steele invites Tony to stay for dinner, over Laura's objections. After he leaves, Laura asks Steele why she asked him to stay. Steele says he wanted to hear the story of what happened. Laura is mad at Steele for neglecting her, and for not acting the slightest bit jealous.

At dinner, Steele admits to Tony that he was jealous, and his pointed remarks earn kicks under the table from Laura. Laura quickly changes the subject to Tony's work. A bottle of wine is delivered, courtesy of Keyes, and Steele goes over to him. When Keyes makes lewd remarks about Laura, Steele punches him, and he falls off the balcony into the pool below. Security take Steele away.

Steele is taken to the manager's office, where Fernando receives a call that Keyes can't seem to be located. He warns Steele to stay away from Keyes. Meanwhile, as 'As Time Goes By' plays, Laura and Tony walk and talk. Tony catches Laura calling Steele 'Mr. Steele', and Laura thanks Tony "for everything". Steele return to his room, to find Keyes dead on the floor, a smashed lamp by his head. Steele carries Keyes' body to the beach, where he is discovered by security.

Movies:

Romancing the Stone, Michael Douglas, Kathleen Turner, 20th Century Fox 1985.

Notes:

Essentially a soap-opera episode, since there is no case being solved.

Lots of changes to the production staff, most notably the addition of Robin Bernheim as executive story editor. (From what I can gather, she is one of Stephanie Zimbalist's close friends.)

Inside joke about sensitivity to the word 'cancel'.

90

The Steele That Wouldn't Die (Part 2)

6708

Brad Kern

Kevin Inch

01/05/87 10p The TV series that wouldn't die is reincarnated as a two-hour 1987 TV-movie.

The story picks up where it left off last May: with Laura and the mysterious Mr. Steele being wed by the captain of a Mexican fishing boat. The union is designed as a marriage of convenience, set up to prevent Steele from being deported. And the happy couple is advised, for appearances' sake, to go on a honeymoon and take lots of snapshots to make their ruse more believable—especially to the likes of investigator Norman Keyes, who has vowed to expose them.

After Keyes and Steele have a number of ugly confrontations in public, Keyes is found dead in Steele's hotel room. Soon Steele is tossed into a Mexican slammer and charged with murder. And with Steele behind bars, it's up to Laura and Tony Roselli, another mysterious fellow who purports to be an archaeologist, to prove Steele's innocence.

Filmed in Las Hadas, Mexico.

Norman Keyes	James Tolkan
Fernando	Castulo Guerra
Police Chief	James Victor
Conchita	Maria Rubell
Danielle Scribner	Anna Nicholas

The next morning, Laura visits the jail where Steele is being held and asks him for his side of the story. And things don't look good, since Keyes was at the Hotel Del Amor the days before Laura and Steele arrived, so it appears as if they've been chasing him across Mexico. While Steele rots in jail, Laura talks to various people at the hotel, and Tony asks if he can help. Mildred arrives (intending to clear up the travel plan mixup), along with another woman who catches Tony's attention. Laura immediately sets Mildred to work on finding all the insurance cases Keyes was on. Laura takes up Tony on his offer of help.

Tony takes a fake spill off a go-cart, and the guard on Keyes' room fetches medical attention. Laura and Tony break into the room and start searching. Tony finds an unfinished letter by Keyes, which says "I am more convinced than ever that Steele is trying to silence me" and that he can prove the marriage is a fake. While Laura searches the bathroom, Tony goes through her purse. Laura finds a hairbrush and pulls a long blonde hair from it.

Tony returns to his room, and the woman from earlier is there waiting for him. He scolds Conchita for coming, and she says that when he called last night, he said that "everything was perfecto." Things have gotten more complicated, but Tony assures her that he can handle the situation. In the ensuing argument, we learn that Tony is really an immigrations agent who has fallen out of favor and got sent on cases to out-of-the-way places, and that his current assignment is to prove that the Steeles' marriage is a fake. The first order of business is to get Steele out of jail.

Mildred arrives at the jail to tell Steele that Keyes was on no other cases. And Keyes raised his insurance by \$1 million, "afraid of what you might do to him". And she also knows who switched the travel plans. Before she can explain, Steele calls the police captain over and asks Mildred to tell him who it is that's trying to frame him. Mildred reluctantly looks at Steele and says, "You did." The captain thanks her for letting him upgrade the charges to first degree murder.

Mildred returns with a rope, attached to a party boat. She ties the rope to the jail cell bars, and the wall blows out. The police chase Steele and Mildred, and while they hide in the woods, Steele asks Mildred to find out who Keyes' beneficiary is. He then distracts the police to let Mildred get away. Steele hops onto the rear bumper of a passing bus, and when the bus is searched by the police, he climbs on top.

In the manager's office, Laura goes over Keyes' bill. He made no phone calls, just rented a car. Outside, Laura sees luggage being unloaded from the car, and Laura sees a blonde woman. She follows the porter to the room and introduces herself to Danielle Scribner as the hotel's guest relations director. Tony pretends to be a hotel worker delivering a cheese basket and goes into the bathroom to find that a hairbrush is indeed missing from her vanity case. Miss Scribner identifies herself as Keyes' niece, come to claim the body.

Laura and Tony arrive at the room to find Mildred finishing up a phone call. Tony is called away by Conchita, and he scolds her for coming. When he sees Steele coming, he hides her under the bed. Meanwhile,

Mildred scolds Laura for seeing another man while Steele is languishing in jail. Steele comes in, and Mildred says that Miss Scribner is Keyes' beneficiary. When Captain Suarez knocks on the door, Laura hides Steele under the bed, where he finds interesting company. Laura tells the captain that Steele was heading to the Hotel Del Amor, and he leaves. Laura and Steele come up with a movie reference to establish their plan of attack, and Mildred warns Tony, "I'd hate to see anyone try to mess with this team." As the gang set off to their tasks, Laura sees Conchita emerge from under the bed.

At night, Steele and Tony arrive at the funeral home, and while Steele carefully tries to pick the lock, Tony just kicks the door down. Inside Steele asks about Conchita, and Tony says nothing. Steele finds an urn labelled 'Sr. Keyes'. Realizing that Miss Scribner can't have had the body cremated since she hasn't claimed it yet, Steele concludes that Keyes is still alive.

In the hotel room, Steele explains that Keyes faked his own murder. It was he who changed the travel plans, then staged public arguments with Steele to give the police all the motive they needed. Steele's plan is to force the niece to contact Keyes. Laura and Steele watch Miss Scribner go into her room, where she finds the urn already there. Steele figures she'll immediately run off to Keyes, but by the next morning, nothing has happened. Tony arrives with coffee, and Mildred arrives to inform them that the niece called for an airport taxi. They see the niece carrying an urn while a porter takes her bags away. What our sleuths can't figure out is why she's taking a taxi when she could be driving the car. They split up, Mildred and Tony watch the niece, while Laura and Steele watch the car.

Tony disguises himself as the taxi driver and Mildred a fellow passenger. Conchita stops the taxi and gets into a big argument with Tony (in Spanish). He tries to throw her out, but she stays. After the taxi leaves, Keyes' car pulls up, and his luggage is loaded into it. Laura and Steele follow it in a go-cart, in turn followed by the police.

The taxi arrives at the airport, and Mildred follows the niece. Conchita confronts Tony, "It's her isn't it. That gringa brunette." Tony insists, "she's a case", but she won't hear any of it. Tony goes into the airport, where Mildred and Miss Scribner argue over custody of the urn. When the niece asks Tony to tell the police whose urn it is, he says it's Mildred's. Mildred asks Tony, "Who are you?"

Laura and Steele follow the car to a very lush house. They break in and smell cheap cigars, so they know they're on Keyes' track. They finally spot Keyes running, and the two give chase, dodging police bullets along the way. Keyes escapes on a motorboat, and Laura and Steele follow in a motorized raft. They arrive at a dock, and seem to have lost him. They spot the rickety bus and search it, only to see Keyes leaving in a taxi. They steal the bus and give chase, in turned chased by the police. They follow him to the airstrip on which he arrived, where a small plane is on the runway. Steele drives the bus towards it, and they play a game of 'chicken'. Keyes loses and swerves off the runway. Laura and Steele finally catch him, but the police arrive, and Keyes gets away. Another shot rings out, and the police capture two men with a shotgun, and find Keyes, dead for real.

At the airport, Mildred gives Laura and Steele their first-class tickets, while she'll travel in tourist class. (Three's a crowd.) Laura realizes that on the entire honeymoon they haven't taken a single picture, and asks Tony to take a picture of them, which he does as they share a kiss. Once Laura, Steele, and Mildred leave, Tony goes to the airline clerk and books a seat on the next flight to Los Angeles.

On the airplane, Laura and Steele toast "to finishing in Los Angeles what we started in Mexico".

Movies:

Beverly Hills Cop, Eddie Murphy, Judge Reinholt, Paramount 1985.

And Then There Were None, Barry Fitzgerald, Walter Huston, Louis Hayward, C. Aubrey Smith, Twentieth Century Fox 1945.

Notes:

Throughout, Laura tries to rid herself of the habit of calling Steele 'Mr. Steele' and instead call him 'Remington', with mixed results.

Another inside joke about sensitivity to the word 'cancel'.

02/03/87

It gets tougher for the Steele's [sic] to continue their marriage charade when a woman from Steele's past shows up intending to become the real Mrs. Steele; and Tony, the phony archaeologist from Mexico, pops up in Los Angeles as an Immigrations agent.

Shannon Wayne	.....	Sarah Douglas
Gladys Lynch	.....	Frances Conroy
Norman Metzger	.....	Irving Metzman
"Nine o'clock"	.....	Christopher Stone
Mrs. McCormick?	.....	Louise Troy
Doctor?	.....	David Grant Hayward
Fred	.....	Blake Clark
"Eleven thirty"?	.....	Peter Jolly
Thug?	.....	Richard Hoyt Miller

In England, a woman is confronted by two men. One asks for the money, and she promises she'll get it, from her husband, Remington Steele.

Laura, Steele, and Mildred return to Los Angeles, where Fred gives them a letter that came special delivery: It's from Immigration, saying that, owing to the death of Norman Keyes, they are continuing their investigation of the Steele-Holt marriage, signed by Gladys Lynch. As they head to the office, Laura and Steele decide to invite Gladys to dinner to prove that they are the most happily-married couple in the world.

When they arrive at the office, they find it swarming with prospective clients. Laura and Steele split up to dispatch them all as fast as possible. Laura talks to Mrs. McCormick, a secretary who married her boss, who wants to prove that her husband is cheating on her with the new secretary. Laura turns her down. Meanwhile, Steele yucks it up with a male chauvinist client who fails to treat Laura with proper respect.

At the Immigration Office, Gladys Lynch reports to her new supervisor, Tony Roselli. She asks him why he's on the case, then asks him directly, "Who are you?" since she tried to do a background check on him, which turned up empty. Tony merely says that all he wants to do is prove the marriage is a fake; he's willing to let her take all the credit. Gladys knows Tony has some ulterior motivation, but he merely threatens her that she'd better go along with him.

Steele answers the door to his apartment, and the woman from the opening comes in and kisses him. Shannon Wayne (who calls Steele 'Douglas') was a friend of Steele's in Hong Kong, five years ago. Steele hides her in his bedroom when the doorbell rings. It's Laura, with her clothes. Steele takes the clothes into his bedroom, and Laura suspects something is up. Steele dumps the clothes and Shannon in his closet as Laura comes in. He takes Laura onto the bed and kisses her soundly, so she won't see Shannon. The doorbell rings; it's Gladys Lynch, who says that Estelle Becker was removed from the case because she was too soft. Laura and Steele make goo-goo eyes at each other, and while Laura is showing Gladys the kitchen, Steele goes into the bedroom and drags Shannon onto the balcony. Laura and Gladys come in, and when Laura opens the closet door, she finds all the clothes on the floor. "Men. Never let them unpack." Laura sets to hanging up her clothes.

From the balcony, Shannon fogs up the glass and draws a little heart. Steele drags her into the living room and hides her in the kitchen when he finds Mildred at the door. He instructs her to vanish as soon as the coast is clear, while she continues to invite him to run off with her. Steele takes Mildred into the bedroom, where Laura finishes with the hanging, and the pole breaks. Mildred shows Gladys the honeymoon picture. Steele ducks into the kitchen, and Shannon isn't there. They hear a crash from the bedroom, and find Shannon in her underwear on Steele's bed. Laura and Steele explain her away as Steele's sister and shoo Gladys and Mildred out.

Steele introduces Shannon, and Laura is unusually understanding because she knows that a failed marriage means her downfall as well. Back in the living room, Gladys wants to see the other pictures, and the doorbell rings. It's Tony, whom Laura greets with a big kiss as Steele, Mildred, and Gladys watch astounded. Laura introduces Tony as her brother, and he and Gladys exchange glances. Laura leaves with Tony, ostensibly to pick up Mother at the airport. Mildred notes, "Sounds like your goose is cooked." Gladys leaves, having seen enough. Mildred goes into the bedroom and throws Shannon out. She then folds her arms and says to Steele, "This better be good."

Laura and Tony take a walk along the beach. Laura explains there was a domestic tiff and asks Tony what he's doing in Los Angeles. Tony says he has a standing offer at UCLA, but didn't tell her about it because he didn't want it to look like he was following her. He then asks why Keyes thought the marriage was phony, and adds, "If someone could prove you weren't really married, I'd be the happiest man in the world. I did follow you here." Laura says, "Good-bye, Tony," and walks away.

The next morning, Laura comes into the office to find a client waiting for Steele, who isn't in. Mildred demands an explanation from Laura, who insists that Tony is just a friend. Laura sees their client, Mr. Metzger, who would prefer to see Steele. Metzger is the executor of the Levinson estate, and he suspects a \$2.5 million painting has been stolen; Eric Lindstrom of the gallery isn't returning his calls. Laura sets to work, though Metzger would like to see Steele.

Steele arrives at the office, and Mildred tells him that she talked to UCLA, and they don't know anything about a Tony Roselli. Tony comes in, and Steele takes him to his office. Tony says he finds Laura very attractive, and notes, hypothetically, that if they weren't really married, Laura would be fair game. Steele, in turn notes, hypothetically, that Laura might not take it well if she found out that a certain archaeologist was a liar. Tony says he's leaving for England in a few days. Steele sees him out, then tells Mildred to dig up "all there is to know about that slippery wife-stealer." Then a call comes in for Steele; his 'sister' just collapsed.

Steele pays Shannon a visit, who says she has a heart condition. (The 'doctor' is the man from the opening who accosted her.) When Steele refuses to run off with her, she says, "Oh stop being such a loyal twit. Forget Lulu." Steele is not convinced.

Laura and Metzger break into the Lindstrom gallery, where they find that the painting is indeed gone. Metzger insists that Laura call in Steele. Laura calls the office and gets a phone number where she can reach Steele. She calls it, and Shannon answers, who says, "I'll tell him just as soon as he gets dressed." The 'doctor' comes in, and Shannon insists that she will indeed become Mrs. Remington Steele.

Laura and Metzger break into Lindstrom's house, where they are shot at through the window. Metzger demands to see Steele. When Steele arrives, he finds Lindstrom's travel itinerary and pockets it, then gives Metzger his 'advisory capacity' spiel and leaves. "Carry on, Mrs. Steele."

Shannon returns to her hotel room, where Steele is waiting for her. He accuses her of shooting at Laura, since Lindstrom left town two days ago. She denies it. To convince Shannon to leave him alone, Steele tells her the truth about his 'marriage' to Laura. Shannon says, "I wouldn't do anything to hurt you."

Shannon tells Gladys and Tony that Steele's marriage is a fraud, claiming that she is the real Mrs. Remington Steele. In exchange for a signed statement to that effect, she wants Steele merely deported instead of jailed. Gladys starts quoting regulations, but Tony tells her to go take a walk.

As Shannon goes to her car, she is sprayed by fake pest control workers and is taken away in a van. Meanwhile, Steele comes into the office, where Mildred tells him that not only does UCLA not know who Tony is, neither does anybody else. He simply doesn't exist. Steele instructs Mildred not to tell Laura about this. Laura and Metzger come in, and Laura announces that they're flying to London, where one of Metzger's friends spotted Lindstrom, who "had the nerve to invite him up to the Presidential Suite for tea." Steele eagerly agrees, and merely dismisses the question of who it was that shot at Laura.

The van arrives at an airport hangar, where Tony instructs the kidnapers to put Shannon on a plane to Singapore with a fake diplomatic passport. Before he leaves, Tony notes, "I pull this off, I'm back in business." When the two thugs open the van door, Shannon sprays them with pesticide and runs away.

Metzger places a call from a pay phone: "It worked. Steele's on his way to London." In his office, Tony hangs up the phone, rubs his hands, leans back, and smiles.

Movies:

Arsenic and Old Lace, Cary Grant, Josephine Hull, Warner Brothers 1944.

Notes:

We have now left the world of the crime drama, never to return. From here on out, the program is a nighttime soap opera. (Which means things get weirder and weirder, and when you think they can't get any weirder, they get weirder.)

02/10/87 In London, Steele is blackmailed by Tony into making a dangerous delivery. Meanwhile, Laura finds out why the woman from Steele's past has reappeared, claiming to be his wife.

Shannon Wayne	Sarah Douglas
Sterling Fitch	Ronald Leigh-Hunt
Man in tavern	Colm Meaney
H. R. Rigby	John Hammil
Roderick Smithers	Milton Johns
Nicholas Theodopolis	Bernard Kay
Edward Helmsley	Sean Lawlor

On the plane to London, Steele tries to initiate a conversation, and assures Laura that Shannon is gone for good. Laura in turn says that nothing happened on the beach with Tony, "because I didn't want anything to happen." Laura notes that the stolen painting case should not take long, and they drink to "a honeymoon in London." When they land, a man in a bowler hat watches.

Laura goes to the hotel clerk and asks after Eric Lindstrom, but there is no such person registered. Meanwhile, Steele goes to a pub and learns that the painting *Boy With Flute* is in Russia, and has been there for many years. Steele gets into an altercation and is chased out, as the man in the bowler watches. A car passes by, and the driver says, "Get in!" which Steele does. The driver identifies himself as H. W. Rigby, from Immigration. Steele is taken to an office, where Tony confronts him with the bogus marriage licence and blood test. Steele flippantly explains them. But when Tony produces Shannon's signed statement, Steele realizes he's in big trouble. Tony tells Steele he is free to leave.

When Laura checks into the hotel's honeymoon suite (arranged by Mildred), she learns that the man with the bowler has also been asking after Steele. Laura goes to the man and identifies herself as Mrs. Steele, but he doesn't believe her. When he threatens to call security, Laura starts unbuttoning her blouse, ready to scream rape, but he stops her. He identifies himself as Roderick Smithers, come to inform Steele that he has inherited one million pounds.

Steele joins Tony in archery practice at an estate. Tony blackmails Steele with the signed statement, in exchange for Steele making a delivery for him. Steele realizes that this was Tony's plan all along. If Steele makes the delivery, Tony will turn over Shannon's statement and get Immigration off his back. Steele gets Tony to add that, if all goes well, he'll stay away from Laura.

Laura enters her hotel room and hears water running. In the tub she finds, not Steele, but Shannon. Laura suggests Shannon is after Steele's inheritance, and when Shannon mentions the sham marriage, Laura asks what it'll take to get her out of her life, once and for all. Shannon asks for 50,000 pounds, to buy back some compromising photos of herself from the Duke of Wallingford. Laura offers to help recover the photos on the condition that Shannon never reappear in her life again.

Tony boards a bus and talks to a distinguished gentleman. Fitch warns Tony that if he bungles this, "I doubt that you'll have a friend left in the department." Tony wants to prove that there is a mole in British Intelligence, and demands Fitch give him the documents immediately. Fitch leaves. Meanwhile, Steele arrives at the hotel to see Laura and Shannon leaving in a taxi together. He follows.

At Wallingford Castle, Laura and Shannon join a tour group, then sneak away to the Duke's chamber, where they find him dead. Shannon fears 'The Greek', and explains: She and the Duke had a 'business arrangement' where he would get her invited to parties, and she would relieve the guests of their valuables. And now that The Greek has the photographs, he's going to go after her: In the photo, she is wearing the earrings she stole from The Greek. They hide the body in a suit of armor as security arrives. Steele is part of the next tour group, and when he hears a crash, he wanders off to investigate and finds the Duke's armored body, and is in turn found by security.

Laura and Shannon return to the hotel room, and Mildred calls from the room next door. Laura and Shannon pay Mildred a visit, where she says she has big news. But Laura knows that the stolen painting was a concocted case, and that Steele is due to inherit one million pounds. Mildred has one more ace up her sleeve, and Laura presses it out of her, namely the truth about Tony.

Steele goes to the hotel room, and takes a phone call from Tony, jotting down the arrangements for the drop. When he goes into the bedroom to freshen up, Laura comes in, sees the note, takes it, and dashes out. Steele emerges and finds that his note is missing.

Laura arrives at the Flamingo Club and sees Tony. She greets him with a kiss and plays amorous, asking him what he's doing in London. Steele arrives and he and Tony try to get rid of her, with no success. Major mind games ensue as Shannon and Mildred arrive. Shannon panics, suspecting The Greek is nearby, and the pointed references continue, most of them under the table when Shannon hides there, and is joined by everyone else. Laura storm off, Tony grabs Steele and takes him away, and Shannon chases after Steele, leaving Mildred alone at the table. "Bats. They're all bats."

Steele grabs Laura on the dance floor, and Tony grabs Shannon and dances her towards Steele. During too many changes of dance partners to count, Laura confronts Tony with his lies, Steele learns about his inheritance, Laura learns that Shannon was put up to it by the phony doctor and the duke, Laura is furious at Tony because he was going after her only to get to Steele, and Mildred warns Tony to stay away from Laura. Tony spots Fitch and Shannon spots The Greek (and panics). Steele takes her outside for some fresh air while Tony tells Fitch that everything is proceeding "smooth as silk". Fitch tells Tony, "Do try not to let this one get away from you," and hands over the documents. Steele arrives to pick up the envelope, and Tony explains what Steele's story is to be. Lindstrom is a spy, who, in order to buy his freedom, told Steele about an American agent who is about to defect, and gave him the documents. Steele got in contact with a British agent named Helmsley and arranged to give him the documents. Tony suspects Helmsley isn't honest and will contact Tony, whom he thinks is the American agent.

Shannon overhears Tony send Steele in a taxi to Paddington Station, then is kidnaped by The Greek. Tony steals a car to give chase, while Laura follows on foot. The Greek gets away, and Shannon says she told him that Steele had the jewels, at Paddington Station. When a bobbie arrives and inquires as to the commotion, Mildred shoves her purse into Shannon's hands and yells, "She stole my purse!"

Laura and Tony hop into a car and head for Paddington Station. Tony says that Steele is doing him a favor. A dangerous one. Laura accuses Tony of getting close to her to get to Steele, but Tony says, "I didn't have to get close to you to get to him. I just got close to you." Laura thinks about this.

At Paddington Station, a shadowy figure approaches Steele, pulls a gun, and asks questions to sound him out. Steele passes the quiz, and Helmsley takes the envelope and leaves. Steele is then greeted by The Greek, who demands the jewels. When Steele doesn't produce them, he and his men beat him up, and Tony and Laura arrive to rescue him. Laura demands an explanation.

At the police station, Mildred drops the charges against Shannon, but when The Greek recognizes her, the police take her back into custody. Steele wants to go back to the hotel to enjoy the fruits of his labors, but the constable hands him a stack of forms to fill out. Later, Steele signs the papers at the hotel to receive his inheritance from the Earl of Claridge, who had died and left Steele in his will as the son he almost had. But the money isn't in cash; it's in the form of a castle in Ireland. Laura thinks a honeymoon in a castle, shut off from the outside world, would be just the ticket.

Helmsley pays Tony a visit and pulls a gun. Tony gets away and makes Helmsley fall out a window. Tony angrily calls Fitch. Not only was Helmsley tipped off, but he didn't have the documents on him. Fitch tells Tony that's too bad.

At the train station, Laura and Steele get cozy in a cabin, waiting to leave for Ireland. Tony pops in, and Laura gets a strange expression on her face. Tony gives Steele Shannon's statement and assures him that Immigration will not bother them any more. The train pulls away, then suddenly stops, as bobbies swarm the train. Laura looks at Tony, who says, "Help me." Laura jumps on him and smothers him with kisses as Steele tells the constable that all is well in the cabin. The bobbie leaves, but Laura is still kissing Tony. The train starts moving, and Laura finally breaks the kiss and plops down in her seat with a very stunned expression on her face. Steele wonders out loud, "Why do I get the feeling I'm going to regret that act of mercy?"

Notes:

Running inside joke about poor telephone connections. (Which I don't get.)

The "pretend to be a kissing couple to avoid a car-by-car train search" trick comes from *The Thirty-Nine Steps*.

02/17/87

The Irish castle Steele inherited seems to be the perfect hiding place for Tony until he can prove he's not a double agent. Meanwhile, Daniel Chalmers must deliver Tony to the KGB as part of a scam he is running.

Daniel Chalmers	Efrem Zimbalist, Jr.
Marisa Peters	Barbara Babcock
Sergei Kemadov	Stephen Yardley
Sterling Fitch	Ronald Leigh-Hunt
Mikeline O'Flynn	Derry Power
Detective Inspector O'Brien	Alan Devlin
Nikolai Petrossian	Jeremy Clyde
Terence O'Reilly?	Martin Dempsey
Bridgit O'Leary	Eleanor Feeley
Bartender	Brendan O'Duill

At the ferry dock, Laura, Steele, Mildred, and Tony are greeted by Mikeline O'Flynn, chief of staff of Ashford Castle. They are taken to the castle, where the staff are lined up and politely applaud Steele's arrival. Laura and Steele are shown to the master bedroom, which is the size of a basketball court, complete with canopied bed. Laura and Steele start to get cozy, but are interrupted by O'Malley, with the heating bill, for £98,000. Before they can continue where they left off, there is another knock at the door. The chef has prepared a minor repast.

Laura and Steele join Mildred and Tony in the dining room, where dinner is a boiled potato. Steele calls Mikeline aside learns that none of the bills nor have the staff been paid for 59 years. Laura asks Steele to fetch her sweater, while she goes outside and accosts Daniel Chalmers, who is lurking outside. Daniel reminds Laura that he *is* the late Earl's chief of security, and assures Laura that he is not up to anything.

Steele comes down with Laura's sweater, and Tony grabs him and accuses Steele of tipping off Helmsley, "If I find out you fingered me, I'll have to kill you." Mildred has been researching the castle's history and tells Steele that the castle has been for sale since 1532, and there have been no takers.

Outside, Steele catches up to Laura as Daniel wanders by. Laura leaves the two. Daniel asks Steele how he could've let himself get tied down to one woman and assures Steele that he's not using his position as head of security to abscond with the jewels. When they stumble across a cleaning lady, she and Daniel exchange pointed comments. Laura returns to the bedroom to find somebody going through the suitcase. Thinking it's Steele, she grabs him and kisses him, but it's Tony. Laura goes to the window for a breath of fresh air, then demands an explanation. Tony says he is looking for evidence that Steele ratted on him. There is a knock at the door, and Laura reluctantly lets Tony sneak out the window. He steals a kiss from her on the way out. Steele comes in and sees Tony getting away, but he doesn't press the matter; he shows Laura a newspaper. The headline reads, "Local police search for double agent", and the picture is of Tony.

The cleaning lady confronts Daniel in his room. She paid him £25,000 to do something for her, which he has already lost on the horses. She shows Daniel the newspaper and says, "All we have to do is trade Mr. Roselli for what we need." Steele asks Mildred if they could burn down the castle for the insurance, but Mildred says it's been tried before. Stone castles don't burn.

Steele goes to the chauffeur Terence and learns that Tony took a trip into the village and asks to be taken to the same place. Laura asks Mildred where Steele went (she doesn't know), and Mildred tells Laura that Daniel in fact turned down the job as chief of security. Laura sees Daniel leaving with his lady friend in a car and follows.

At O'Flanagan's Pub, Tony calls Fitch, who says that Helmsley had the documents all along and that it's safe to come home. Fitch tells Tony there's a safe house nearby; he'll arrange things and call him back, but warns Tony not to do anything precipitous. Steele watches outside.

Meanwhile, Daniel and his friend visit the Soviet Embassy; Laura climbs over a wall to get in. The woman shows Secretary Kemadov the newspaper and asks him if he's interested. He asks what their price is. The woman (Marisa Peters) is searching for her father, who had been arrested for smuggling political refugees through the Iron Curtain. Security bring in Laura, whom Daniel pretends to be one of his servants. He scolds her and tells her to pick up a badge at the front desk and get to work in the kitchen.

Tony goes to the safe house, but Steele catches him. When Tony insults Steele, a fistfight ensues, cheered on (and bet on) by the locals. A constable comes by to break things up, and when Tony says the people in the house can explain, the constable goes over to ring the bell, to have the house blow up.

Hiding from the police, Tony realizes that Fitch was the real mole, and he wants to go to Kemadov before Fitch does. Steele offers to help; he returns Tony to his room, where he is clonked by Daniel. When Steele learns that the police have arrived, he shimmies down a pipe and climbs into the study to greet them. Detective O'Brien asks if Steele has seen Tony, and Steele assures the detective that he'll call him if anything turns up. Laura returns to the castle, where Mildred says she has learned that the castle is haunted. Mildred says that Steele and Daniel both left for parts unknown. Laura goes to Daniel's room, searches it, and finds something startling.

At the embassy, Steele knocks out a guest to swipe his invitation. Daniel delivers an unconscious Tony to Kemadov, but Kemadov isn't going to give any information until he gets some from Tony. At the party, Steele bumps into Daniel and Marisa (whom Daniel introduces as Countess Ina Olafson), but Steele sees through the charade quickly. Daniel's coughing spells act up a little more. Steele wanders upstairs, hears a moan, picks the lock, and finds Tony tied up inside a gunny sack. When Kemadov comes in, Steele klonks him, and the two stuff him into the sack.

Daniel returns to his room at the castle to find Laura waiting for him. Laura tells him she knows Daniel isn't chief of security and that he came to Ashford Castle to meet Steele. She confronts him with his drawerful of pills and Steele's musical watch she found among his things. Daniel admits that he's dying. And he has the watch because he stole it. Again. "As difficult as it may be to believe, the man you call Remington Steele... is my son."

02/17/87

The Irish castle Steele inherited seems to be the perfect hiding place for Tony until he can prove he's not a double agent. Meanwhile, Daniel Chalmers must deliver Tony to the KGB as part of a scam he is running.

Daniel Chalmers	Efrem Zimbalist, Jr.
Marisa Peters	Barbara Babcock
Sergei Kemadov	Stephen Yardley
Sterling Fitch	Ronald Leigh-Hunt
Mikeline O'Flynn	Derry Power
Detective Inspector O'Brien	Alan Devlin
Nikolai Petrossian	Jeremy Clyde

Daniel explains to Laura that the Earl was so touched by the truth that he left Steele the castle, in the hopes that it would bring him and Daniel together. Laura asks Daniel how she knows that this isn't just another of his scams. Daniel replies, "You don't."

Steele and Tony take Kemadov's body into the castle dungeon, where they shackle him to the wall. Steele and Tony agree to keep recent events secret from Laura. Laura comes in and asks Tony to leave the room, then stares at Steele for a long time. She finally snaps out of it and asks Steele why he and Tony are so chummy all of a sudden. Steele in turn asks Laura what she and Daniel were talking about. Laura says that Daniel is "really a very fine man" and excuses herself to fetch Daniel.

Tony returns to his room, where Marissa and Daniel knock him out and take him away. In the basement, Kemadov finally breaks free of his shackles. Mildred hears Tony's moans and thinks it's a ghost. Outside, Laura confronts Daniel and tells him it's not fair of him to make her live with his secret. He agrees and takes her inside, as Marissa hides nearby with Tony's body.

Laura gives Daniel the watch and leaves him with Steele. Meanwhile, Mildred and Mikeline poke around the basement and stumble across something frightening. Steele comes out of the room, and Daniel leaves. But Daniel didn't tell Steele the truth; he told a story about a dog he loved that died. Laura hears a car speeding off and storms away, furious. Steele goes down to the basement to check on Kemadov. When he is distracted by Mildred's muffled tones, Kemadov strangles him.

In the parlor, Steele doesn't tell Mildred who the man in the basement is. Steele suggests giving the castle to the government, but Mildred says it's been tried before. Mikeline comes in and tells Steele that the staff have searched for Tony, with no success. Marissa and Daniel take Tony's body into the embassy as Laura watches and puts on her embassy badge. Inside, Petrossian insists Kemadov is in conference. Daniel's cough has gotten worse, and Daniel talks to Marissa about her father; she regrets that their last words to each other were spoken in anger. Kemadov wanders in, tattered, and Marissa says she put Tony in the same room he was rescued from. Laura, disguised as a cleaning lady, is surprised to find Tony, and she helps him escape. Kemadov, Daniel, and Marissa come in to find Tony gone. Downstairs, Steele pretends he lost his lighter at the party last night, and when he is left alone with a guard, Steele 'pretends' to find it and knocks out the guard. Laura and Tony reach the compound wall, and Tony hops over. Daniel approaches, and Laura tells him that she's actually glad he chickened out and didn't tell Steele the truth. "He's better off imagining the strong father he deserves than finding out he's the son of a cowardly con-artist."

Steele wanders into the room where Tony was being held and is caught. Outside, Tony grabs Laura and explains that Fitch set him up. Laura offers to sneak back into the embassy. Tony kisses her, and Laura is confused. She tries to convince Tony (and herself) that she can't give up on Steele, not after four years of getting to where they are now.

Kemadov tells Marissa that her father is alive, but he doesn't know where. He will dig deeper if she delivers Tony. She agrees, on the condition that he tells all the moment Tony is delivered. Kemadov suggests that Steele will lead her to Tony. Carrying a tray of tea, Marissa comes into the room where Steele is being held and distracts the guard so that Steele can subdue him. Kemadov instructs the guard to let them escape. Investigating a crash, Kemadov finds Laura crouched over a broken bust of Lenin. She coshes him and puts him in the gunny sack.

Fitch arrives at the airport and is driven to the Russian embassy by Petrossian. When Petrossian says that Kemadov has been acting strangely lately, Fitch suspects Kemadov is going to defect and needs to stop

him from blabbing to the Americans about his double-dealing. Outside the embassy compound, Tony pulls up with a car, and he and Laura put Kemadov's body in the trunk. They drive off as Fitch arrives, and he instructs Petrossian to follow Tony.

Steele and Marissa arrive at the castle, where she gladly joins in the search for Tony. Steele pays a visit to Daniel, who explains that Marissa is looking for her father. Daniel talks about "the most exquisite lady every to grace my life." While he was in prison for a failed caper, she died giving birth to his son, who was put up for adoption. Daniel then tells Steele he is his father. Steele is furious at him for keeping this from him for twenty years and angrily throws the watch at him. "You take your watch. I don't need your watch."

Steele walks along the grounds, and Mildred catches up to him. She asks if everything is all right, and Steele tells her that Daniel is his father, then tells her to buzz off. Mildred decides that the way to turn Steele around is to bad-mouth Daniel, which she does. She then asks, "Is this the way you want it to go down?"

Steele pays a visit to Daniel's room. They reminisce on their previous escapades together, then Daniel suggests a drink. Steele fetches it, and when he returns, he asks, "What's my real name?" But Daniel has died. Laura comes in and comforts him, then Mikeline informs them that caskets are being delivered downstairs.

Tony talks to Kemadov in the parlor. "You ain't going anywhere until you give me Fitch." Meanwhile, Laura and Steele can't figure out why Daniel ordered three caskets delivered. Kemadov refuses to betray Comrade Fitch. Fitch bursts in and takes some shots. Petrossian speeds off as Kemadov yells he can explain everything. Kemadov scolds Marissa; Petrossian will tell the KGB that he's a traitor, so he has no choice but to defect. Marissa asks where her father is, but Kemadov says he doesn't know, and now that he's fallen out of favor, he never will. The police arrive, but when Kemadov announces, "I want to defect," they ignore him.

The police inform Steele that Tony was spotted coming to the castle, and Steele lets them conduct their search. Meanwhile, Tony dodges gunfire from Fitch and dives into the lake. When Tony doesn't surface, Fitch looks around nervously and is distracted by a driverless boat as Tony punches him out.

Laura and Steele ask Marissa what Daniel's plan was, but all she knows is that he planned on smuggling her father out of the country in one of the caskets. Steele realizes Daniel was playing a shell game; he'd ship himself to Robert Peters, and while the authorities tried to puzzle out the situation, Robert would swap bodies with Daniel and smuggle himself back to the West. Unfortunately, they can't carry out the plan because they don't know where Robert is. Tony stumbles in and informs them that he has Fitch tied up, but he needs a place to hide. Laura hides him in a casket, and when the police arrive, Steele turns Tony over. Laura is furious, but Steele explains, "We didn't have enough caskets to go around." Steele takes charge and apologizes to Marissa he's going to use the caskets in a scheme of his own. She says that she couldn't locate her father in time for Daniel's plan anyway. "Do what you have to do." Steele's plan is to get Kemadov to the States and Fitch to London, so Kemadov can expose Fitch.

A casket is delivered to the United States State Department. When it is opened, Kemadov says, "I love baseball." Fitch is delivered to London in the second casket. And Daniel's body is shipped to Moscow. The guard realize that Kemadov has defected, but since Kemadov is to be buried as a national hero, they decide to seal the casket and pretend that it is indeed Kemadov.

Laura and Steele watch the television reports of Daniel's burial in London as a national hero for exposing Fitch and of Kemadov's burial in Moscow as a national hero for "assorted heroic activities." Laura notes, "Only Daniel could end up being buried as a national hero in both London and Moscow." Steele carries Laura up the stairs to the bedroom, having decided to give the castle to the servants (who are out celebrating) and sent Mildred off.

The phone rings; Laura sends Steele up to prepare the bed as she answers. It's Tony, who has been released now that Kemadov cleared him. Tony reminds her of their earlier conversation and adds, "I'm not going to give up on you." Laura quickly ends the conversation and hangs up. Steele returns, and the phone rings again. Laura says, "Let it ring," and the two head into the bedroom. From outside, we see the bedroom lights turned off, as the phone continues to ring.

Notes:

The Executive Producer credit was listed as 'Michael O'Gleason'.

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Appendix A: Actors List

Philip Abbott	Whit Sterling	Now You Steele It, Now You Don't	62
Tom Adams	Richard "The Colonel" Moreland	Puzzled Steele	52
Patricia Alice Albrecht	Veronica	Love Among the Steele	29
	Wanda Sutton	Coffee, Tea or Steele	74
John Allen	Customer	Gourmet Steele	56
Rae Allen	Miss Letrell	Steele Waters Run Deep	3
Deborah Allison	Molly Donovan	A Steele at Any Price	28
Granville Ames	Harold Wellington	Steele at Your Service	84
Bridgette Andersen	Angel Gallen	Blood is Thicker Than Steele	36
Louie Anderson	Bing	Steele Spawning	78
Sam Anderson	Proprietor	Altared Steele	26
Nick Angotti	Flyer?	Steele Blue Yonder	81
Fred Applegate	Chubby Bitterman	Second Base Steele	48
Joey Aresco	Morgue attendant	Steele in the Family	60
Pedro Armendariz, Jr.	Captain Rios	Steele Away With Me	23-24
Valorie Armstrong	Judy Bartlett?	Suburban Steele	79
Vaughn Armstrong	Rob O'Connell	Premium Steele	73
Lewis Arquette	Stuart Thorpe	Red Holt Steele	25
Rod Arrants	Jack Prince	Steele of Approval	66
Jacques Aubuchdon	Prof. Arthur Thickett	Small Town Steele	39
Sonny Averona	Singer	Diced Steele	61
		Dancer, Prancer, Donner and Steele	75
Martin Azarow	Bank assistant	Steele in Circulation	22
Candy Azzara	Emily Stevens?	Steele Blushing	60
Barbara Babcock	Marisa Peters	Steeled With a Kiss	93-94
Richard Backus	Eddie Howell	Steeling the Show	11
	Chip Carstairs	Steele Eligible	34
Vincent Baggetta	Paul Dominick	Steele Away With Me	23-24
G. W. Bailey	Maynard Stockman	Steele in the Chips	64
Tom Baker	Anatole Blaylock	Hounded Steele	43
Jack Bannon	Mr. Silver	Steele in the Family	60
Lois de Banzie	Sylvia	Steele's Gold	20
Fausto Bara	Figuroa	Steele Away With Me	23-24
Joanna Barnes	Claudette Crockett	My Fair Steele	32
Steven Barr	?	Grappling Steele	70
Judith Barsi	Youngest Piper	Suburban Steele	79
Calvin Bartlett	Ernest Templeton	Cast in Steele	53
Martine Bartlett	Millicent	Steele Flying High	12
Victoria Bass	Mrs. Murdock	Diced Steele	61
Elizabeth Baur	Vera Woodman?	Second Base Steele	48
Frances Bay	Mother Trust	Scene Steelers	30
Susan Bay	Joanne Pitkin	A Steele at Any Price	28
Allyce Beasley	Lynette Mercer	Steele Crazy After All These Years	16
Terry Beaver	Bar owner?	Steele Trying	65
John C. Becher	Dean Percy Winfield	Steele Crazy After All These Years	16
Jackson Beck	Narrator?	Stronger Than Steele	57
John Bedford-Lloyd	Tommy Montague	Molten Steele	40
Walter Beery	Clerk	Steele Flying High	12
Bernard Behrens	Dr. Romsen?	Now You Steele It, Now You Don't	62
Doris Belack	Rose	Hounded Steele	43
	Myrtle	Steele in the Family	60
John Terry Bell	Henchman #1?	A Steele at Any Price	28
Michael Bell	Bill Miles	Steele in the Chips	64
Ned Bellemy	Ernie?	Steele in the Running	85
Lawrence Benedict	Diamond 1?	Hounded Steele	43
Derek Benfield	Hector Tolouse?	Maltese Steele	48
Tony Bennett	Himself	Steele Trying	65
Al Berry	Dock worker?	Now You Steele It, Now You Don't	62
Bibi Besch	Doris Waggenbacker	Scene Steelers	30
Jack Betts	Walter Gallen	Blood is Thicker Than Steele	36
Billie Bird	Ana Dix	Gourmet Steele	56
Raye Birk	Waiter	Red Holt Steele	25
	Cecil Cosgrove	Lofty Steele	46
Donald Bishop	Albert Harrod	To Stop a Steele	15
Anna Bjorn	Jill	Steele in the Family	60
Stephanie Blackmore	Christy McCall	Forged Steele	71
James Blendick	Gutman	Thou Shalt Not Steele	5
Jack Blessing	George Plummer	Steele Away With Me	23-24
Andrew Bloch	Buddy Shapiro	Steele Belted	6
Alan Blumenfeld	?	Steele in the News	18
Bruce Boa	Wallace Carlisle	Maltese Steele	47
Boyd Bodwell	Clerk?	Steele Sweet on You	37
Earl Boen	Lawyer	My Fair Steele	32

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Michael Bond	Kevin Fairbanks	Forged Steele	71
Libby Boone	Mark Warren Prime	Steele Threads	33
Buzz Borelli	Agnes Fowler?	Elementary Steele	44
Alexandra Borrie	Racetrack official?	Beg, Borrow or Steele	86
	Loretta Marcall	Hearts of Steele	14
Simmy Bow	Allison Greene	Dancer, Prancer, Donner and Steele	75
Savannah Smith Bouch�er	Nathan?	Diced Steele	61
Guy Boyd	Claudia Sterling	Now You Steele It, Now You Don't	62
	Client	Hearts of Steele	14
	Henry Spellman/Major Descoine	Steele Framed	27
	Major Descoine	Elegy in Steele	38
John Braden	Doctor	Let's Steele a Plot	55
Joe Bratcher	Milton?	Steele Threads	33
Thom Bray	Sheldon Quarry	Signed, Steeled & Delivered	4
Paul Brennan	Friendly Fritz	Steele Flying High	12
Richard Brestoff	Paul?	Red Holt Steele	25
Peter Brocco	Joseph?	Springtime for Steele	59
Peter Bromilow	Major	Sting of Steele	21
Pierce Brosnan	Remington Steele	All seasons	
Eric Brown	Chris Gallen	Blood is Thicker Than Steele	36
Therese Brown	Cookie Widdoes	Steele Sweet on You	37
Bridget Bruce	Mindy Piper?	Suburban Steele	79
Ralph Bruneau	Henchman #2?	Diced Steele	61
Earl Houston Bullock	Dentist?	Steele Sweet on You	37
Delta Burke	Nancy Stinson Dannon	Altared Steele	26
Jere Burns	Rick Badham	Steele on the Air	76
Mark Burns	Freddie Smith	Steele At It	45
Maryedith Burrell	Frances Piper	Steele Sweet on You	37
		Suburban Steele	79
Laurie Burton	Terry Goldblume	Suburban Steele	79
Anne Gee Byrd	Bonnie Neemeyer?	Blood is Thicker than Steele	36
David Byrd	Giovanni	Steele Among the Living	17
	Judge Penhaligon	Blue Blooded Steele	49
Tom Byrd	Chip Flowers	Breath of Steele	54
Alice Cadogan	Toni	Breath of Steele	54
James Callahan	Emmett	Steele's Gold	20
K Callan	Martha Ryan	Have I Got a Steele for You	58
Tom Callaway	Ted Warner	Suburban Steele	79
J. D. Cannon	Elliot Walsh	Steele in the News	18
	Kevin Masters	Hounded Steele	43
Linda Carlson	Angela	Hearts of Steele	14
Julie Carmen	Gina Barber	Steele Knuckles and Glass Jaws	31
Fred Carney	Flyer	Steele Blue Yonder	81
Phil Casnoff	Ben Pearson	License to Steele	1
Barbara Cason	R. J. Stonewell	Red Holt Steele	25
Larry Cedar	Henchman #2?	A Steele at Any Price	28
Judith Chapman	Samantha Donahue	My Fair Steele	32
Keith Charles	Sid Rothman	Illustrated Steele	63
Suzanne Childs	Stenographer?	Beg, Borrow or Steele	86
Kurt Christian	Ahmed Kalil	Thou Shalt Not Steele	5
Rony Clanton	Leroy	A Pocketful of Steele	51
Blake Clark	Fred	Steele Waters Run Deep	3
		Steele Flying High	12
		Hearts of Steele	14
		Steele Among the Living	17
		Red Holt Steele	25
Logan Clarke	Assistant?	Steele Hanging In There (Part 1)	91
Michael Francis Clarke	Biff	Now You Steele It, Now You Don't	62
Jeremy Clyne	Nikolai Petrossian	Coffee, Tea or Steele	74
Carolyn Coates	Mayor MacKenzie	Steeled With a Kiss	93-94
George Coe	Ace Ketcham	Small Town Steele	39
Frederic Coffin	Joe Gullickson	Coffee, Tea or Steele	74
Burton Collins	Coroner?	Steele in the Running	85
Patrick Collins	Wendell Whittaker	Premium Steele	73
Joel Colodner	Mitchell Knight	Steele Sweet on You	37
Marie Conmee	Mrs. Armdale	Etched in Steele	7
Kelly Ann Conn	Helga?	Steele Your Heart Away	50
Frances Conroy	Gladys Lynch	Lofty Steele	46
John Considine	Reverend Rawlinson	Steele Hanging In There (Part 1)	91
Michael Constantine	George Edward Mulch	Steele, Inc.	77
		Cast in Steele	53
		Have I Got a Steele for You	58
		Steele, Inc.	77
Charles Cooper	Seymour Smith	Diced Steele	61
Rod Corbin	Carlos	Steele Framed	27
John Corey	Detective	Forged Steele	71
Michael Cornelison	Hospital resident	Steeling the Show	11
	Richard Wilker	A Steele at Any Price	28
Richard Cox	Tony Dinaldo	Etched in Steele	7
Donald Craig	Hospital Doctor?	Steele Eligible	34

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Ed Crick	Bo Neemeyer?	Blood is Thicker Than Steele	36
Claudia Cron	Grace Kelton	Now You Steele It, Now You Don't	62
Patrick Cronin	Jackson Grimm	Let's Steele a Plot	55
Tim Cunningham	Doctor?	Steele Alive and Kicking	87
Quinn Cummings	Minor Descoine	Elegy in Steele	38
Tony Cummings	Kyle	Steele in the Spotlight	83
Michael Currie	Werner Schumann?	Vintage Steele	19
Brenda Currin	Miss Hopkins?	Molten Steele	40
Michael J. Cutt	Jackson?	Blood is Thicker Than Steele	36
Lise Cutter	?	Steele in the Running	85
Anita Dangler	Miss Martin?	Lofty Steele	46
Robert Darnell	Raymond Kessler	License to Steele	1
Claire Davenport	Hilda Lake	Steele Searching (Part 1)	67
John Davey	Sportscaster?	Steele Knuckles and Glass Jaws	31
Alan David	Newsreader?	Beg, Borrow or Steele	86
Bud David	Jake Riley?	Grappling Steele	70
Charles Davis	FBI Agent?	Steele Blue Yonder	81
Daniel Davis	Pierre Fumar	Gourmet Steele	56
Geena Davis	Sandy Dalrymple	Steele in the Chips	64
John Walter Davis	Sergeant Briggs?	Steele Alive and Kicking	87
John Del Regno	Pawn shopkeeper	Woman of Steele	42
	Donner	Dancer, Prancer, Donner and Steele	75
Nick DeMauro	Sergeant Hackett?	Gourmet Steele	56
Janet DeMay	Bernice Foxe	First season	
Don DeMita	Carl?	Coffee, Tea or Steele	74
Martin Dempsey	Terence O'Reilly?	Steeled With a Kiss (Part 1)	93
Robert Denison	Airplane Salesman	Sting of Steele	21
Barry Dennen	Lewis Grummond	A Steele at Any Price	28
Robert Desiderio	Brian Hunter	Springtime for Steele	59
Alan Devlin	Detective Inspector O'Brien	Steeled With a Kiss	93-94
John Devlin	Herbert Welles	Woman of Steele	42
Gino DiFirelli	Referee?	Steele Knuckles and Glass Jaws	31
Stephen Dillon	Bradford Galt	Steele Searching (Part 1)	67
John DiSanti	Cop?	Steele in the Running	85
Jesse Dizon	Hasuro?	Suburban Steele	79
Don Dolan	Morgue attendant	Tempered Steele	2
John Doolittle	Alfred R. Hollis	Steele in Circulation	22
Joe A. Dorsey	Sheriff Dwight Clifford	Corn Fed Steele	72
Roy Dotrice	Victor Janoff	Steele Eligible	34
Diana Douglas	Mrs. Anna Dillon	Tempered Steele	2
Sarah Douglas	Shannon Wayne	Steele Hanging In There	91-92
Garrick Dowd	?	Grappling Steele	70
Dennis Drake	Arte Wayne	Illustrated Steele	63
John van Dreelen	Francois Periot	Steele Threads	33
John Driver	Allan Kendall	Steele in the Running	85
Andrew Duggan	Johnny Cooper	Steele Blue Yonder	81
Murphy Dunne	Eddie Grogan	Diced Steele	61
Michael Durrell	Donald Piper	Steele Sweet on You	37
		Suburban Steele	79
Debra Dusay	Courtney?	Have I Got a Steele for You	58
Ann Dusenberry	Tracy Crockett/Roxie Tyler	My Fair Steele	32
Barry Van Dyke	Creighton Phillips	Steele Belted	6
Gillian Eaton	Lady Monica Haddon	A Steele at Any Price	28
James Edgcomb	?	Red Holt Steele	25
John Edwards	Gun shop owner?	Steele in Circulation	22
Paddi Edwards	Hazel?	Hounded Steele	43
Peter Elbling	?	Steele Blushing	69
Stephen Elliot	'Uncle' Norman Baines	My Fair Steele	32
Ernest Emling	James Rubio	Steele Belted	6
Richard Erdman	Coroner	Coffee, Tea or Steele	74
Laura Esterman	Miss Conover?	A Pocketful of Steele	51
Mary Beth Evans	Cindy Dirks	Illustrated Steele	63
Peter Evans	Sherlock Holmes	Elementary Steele	44
Tom Everett	Man at aquarium?	Dreams of Steele	41
	Prancer	Dancer, Prancer, Donner and Steele	75
Nancy Everhard	Clarissa	Steele in the Family	60
		Bonds of Steele	88
Bruce Fairbairn	Buck Shepherd	Corn Fed Steele	72
Michael Fairman	Cop	Elegy in Steele	38
Dennis Farina	Waiter?	Steele Trying	65
Eleanor Feeley	Bridgit O'Leary	Steeled With a Kiss (Part 1)	93
Alan Feinstein	Bradford Murdock	Diced Steele	61
Bobbie Ferguson	?	Bonds of Steele	88
Jessie Lawrence Ferguson	Max Hardin	High Flying Steele	35
Dorothy Fielding	Sonia Steinmetz	Sensitive Steele	82
Carmen Filpi	Receptionist?	Lofty Steele	46
Mike Finneran	Billy Flynn?	Steele Knuckles and Glass Jaws	31
Cindy Fischer	Cindy Wellington	Steele at Your Service	84
Jose Flores	Manuel	Steele Waters Run Deep	3
Whitey Ford	Himself	Second Base Steele	48

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Seamus Fords	Mr. Carter	Steele Your Heart Away	50
Ken Foree	Herschel "The Hammer" Sinclair	Steele Knuckles and Glass Jaws	31
Rosemary Forsyth	Marjorie Flowers	Breath of Steele	54
David Fox-Brenton	Archie Whitewood	Blue Blooded Steele	49
Carol Francis	Reporter?	Steele in the Family	60
John Francis	Leo Neff	License to Steele	1
Gary Frank	Detective James Jarvis	Steele Framed	27
		Stronger Than Steele	57
		Beg, Borrow or Steele	86
Richard Frank	Scott Jefferson	Steele of Approval	66
Tony Frank	Clint Overton	Springtime for Steele	59
William Frankfather	Frank Willard	Corn Fed Steele	72
Ron Frazier	Ed Greene	Steele in the News	18
Gene Freedman	Tommy Mulch	Have I Got a Steele for You	58
J. E. Freeman	Chester	Now You Steele It, Now You Don't	62
Susan French	Clarissa McCullum	Love Among the Steele	29
John Furey	Walter Muller	Molten Steele	40
John Furlong	R. Musco?	Steele on the Air	76
Boyd Gaines	Todd Myerson	Grappling Steele	70
Gina Gallego	Angelica da Gama	Steele in Circulation	22
George Galvan	Clerk	The Steele That Wouldn't Die (Part 1)	89
Teresa Ganzel	Rita del Rio	Steele Trying	65
Beverly Garland	Abigail Holt	Thou Shalt Not Steele	5
		Sting of Steele	21
Joy Garrett	Delilah Zapata	High Flying Steele	35
David Garrison	Philip Marlowe	Elementary Steele	44
Larry Gelman	Dr. S. Wilson Scabbard	Dancer, Prancer, Donner and Steele	75
Mike Genovese	Ross?	Blood is Thicker than Steele	36
Louis Giambalvo	Jake Crowley	Steele Second Base	48
Ken Gibbel	Punk?	Steele in Circulation	22
Gerry Gibson	Roulette man?	Sting of Steele	21
Stefan Gierasch	Felix Schneiderman	A Steele at Any Price	28
Ray Girardin	Jack Merkle	Steele Away With Me	23-24
	Lieutenant Benjamin	Santa Claus is Coming to Steele	80
Paul Gleason	Sheriff Jeff 'Jed' Nebbins	Small Town Steele	39
Julian Glover	Inspector Lombard	Steele Searching	67-68
Gary Goodron	Policeman?	Sweet on You	37
Michael Goodwin	Congressman Oren Bishop	Steele Flying High	12
Steven Goodwin	Ross Crockett, Jr.?	My Fair Steele	32
Carol Gordon	Mrs. White	Breath of Steele	54
Don Gordon	Vincent Nash	Springtime for Steele	60
	Dancer	Dancer, Prancer, Donner and Steele	75
		Santa Claus is Coming to Steele	80
Andre Gower	Vince Delgado?	Suburban Steele	79
Ilene Graff	Ivy Shapiro	Steele Belted	6
Gary Graham	Butch Bemis	Let's Steele a Plot	55
Isabel Grandin	Stewardess?	Blue Blooded Steele	49
Don Grey	Building facilitation?	Bonds of Steele	88
Kenneth Gray	Brother Nick	Steele, Inc.	77
Brian Greene	Jonathan Hemmings?	Hounded Steele	43
Daniel Greene	Tony Petz	Steele Alive and Kicking	87
William Griffis	Doctor Watson?	Elementary Steele	44
Harry Groener	Preston Hayes	Corn Fed Steele	72
Arye Gross	Albert Wellington	Steele at Your Service	84
Castulo Guerra	Fernando	The Steele That Wouldn't Die	89-90
Brian Gwaspari	Carlton Shepherd	Puzzled Steele	52
Jack Gwillim	Mr. Holmes?	Dreams of Steele	41
Michael C. Gwynne	Considine	To Stop a Steele	15
Joseph Hacker	Gordon Hunter	License to Steele	1
Linal Haft	Armstrong	Steele Searching (Part 2)	68
Archie Hahn	Salesman (Sherman)	Steele Framed	27
Dan Halleck	Truck driver?	Steele on the Air	76
Dan Hamilton	Arthur Shelby	Grappling Steele	70
Phyllis Hamlin	Woman in casino?	Steele Blue Yonder	81
John Hammil	Rigby	Steele Hanging In There (Part 2)	92
Roger Hampton	Dan Kowalski	Steele Crazy After All These Years	16
John Hancock	Frank Dix	Steele on the Air	76
Ernest Harada	Koji Asuda	A Steele at Any Price	28
James Hardie	Lieutenant Tom?	Hounded Steele	43
Jerry Hardin	Lowell McKenzie	A Pocketful of Steele	51
Robert Harper	Todd Doke	Dreams of Steele	41
Ron Harper	Dr. Roger Chandler	Cast in Steele	53
Cassandra Harris	Felicia/Katherine Simone	Thou Shalt Not Steele	5
	Anna Simpson	Woman of Steele	42
	Felicia	Steele Searching	67-68
	Cop?	Steele Alive and Kicking	87
Mark Harrison	Steven Spooner	Stronger Than Steele	57
Tom Harrison	Sheila Fervitz	Steele Waters Run Deep	3
Roxanne Hart	Schoolgirl?	Steele Alive and Kicking	87
Jamie Lyn Hart	Heather LeBlanc?	Steele Alive and Kicking	87
LaGena Hart			

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Actors List

David Haskell	Dr. Philip Lindstrom	A Good Night's Steele	13
Bob Hastings	Morty	Steele in the Family	60
Marc Hayashi	Mike	Your Steele the One For Me	8
David Hayward	Roger Dillon	Tempered Steele	2
David Grant Hayward	Passenger #1?	Blue Blooded Steele	49
	Doctor?	Steele Hanging In There (Part 1)	91
Luise Heath	Reporter	Vintage Steele	19
Paul Hecht	Ashley Feldman	Steele Trap	10
Jack Hedley	G. W. Whainright/Benjamin Applegate	Puzzled Steele	52
Sandy Helberg	Armstrong	Blue Blooded Steele	49
	Winston Hastings	Steele at Your Service	84
Jack Heller	Teus Stavros?	Gourmet Steele	56
Darryl Henriquez	Maria?	Steele at Your Service	84
Gregg Henry	Charly Thomas	Lofty Steele	46
Gerald Hiken	Morris Getz	Cast in Steele	53
Mariana Hill	Brenda Flowers	Breath of Steele	54
Maurice Hill	Cop?	Bonds of Steele	88
Thomas Hill	Ross Crockett, Sr.	My Fair Steele	32
James David Hinton	Mr. Matthews	Lofty Steele	46
Peter Hobbs	Sam Fischer	Love Among the Steele	29
Rebecca Holden	Windsor Thomas	Steele in the Spotlight	83
David Hooks	Bernie?	Steele at Your Service	84
Ed Hooks	Cab driver	Elegy in Steele	38
Barbra Horan	Eloise Fairchild	Gourmet Steele	56
James Horan	Assistant?	Red Holt Steele	25
Nicholas Hormann	Philip Dunford	Steele of Approval	66
Michael Horton	Wally	Santa Claus is Coming to Steele	80
Don Hostetter	Minister?	Bonds of Steele	88
James Houghton	William Westfield	Steele of Approval	66
D. D. Howard	Millicent Fairbush	Steele Eligible	34
Dennis Howard	Philip Lydon	Premium Steele	73
Elizabeth Huddle	Betty Overton	Springtime for Steele	59
David Huffman	Wilson Jeffries	Vintage Steele	19
Gwen Humble	Heather Saint-Germaine	Scene Steelers	30
Mark Hutter	Malcolm Marcall	Hearts of Steele	14
Rif Hutton	Thomas Ivory	Steele in the Running	85
Mindi Iden	Townswoman?	Corn Fed Steele	72
James Ingersoll	Sam Woodman?	Second Base Steele	48
Barrie Ingham	Derek Vivyan	Scene Steelers	30
Scott Jaeck	Michael Fitzgerald	Steele Blushing	69
Frederick Jaegar	Edvard Jensen	Maltese Steele	47
Seth Jaffe	Buckner	Have I Got a Steele for You	58
Stephen James	Plant man?	Hounded Steele	43
Conrad Janis	Max Donahue aka Atomic Man	Stronger Than Steele	57
Jim Jansen	Casino assistant	Sting of Steele	21
	Butler	Woman of Steele	42
Peter Jason	Martin Rome	Steele Spawning	78
Will Jeffries	Barry Holder	Coffee, Tea or Steele	74
Barry Jenner	Eddie Lucas	Elementary Steele	44
Sanford Jensen	Jack Lyman	Steele on the Air	76
Milton Johns	Roderick Smithers	Steele Hanging In There (Part 2)	92
Alexandra Johnson	Lucille Seward	Signed, Steeled & Delivered	4
Peter Jolly	Eleven o'clock?	Steele Hanging In There (Part 1)	91
Jeffrey Jones	Clifford Conant	A Steele at Any Price	28
Marilyn Jones	Marion Travis	Steele Among the Living	17
James Carroll Jordan	Clay Platt	Steele in the Chips	64
Tom Jordon	Dr. Tulliver	Steele Your Heart Away	50
Darwin Joston	Cop?	Now You Steele It, Now You Don't	62
Israel Jurabe	Darryl	Steele Among the Living	17
Peter Jurasik	Phil Haver	Stealing the Show	11
	Jack Dendra	Dancer, Prancer, Donner and Steele	75
Jane Kaczmarek	Barbara Troy Dannon	Altared Steele	26
David Kagen	Michael J. Spencer?	Steele in the Chips	64
Brian Kale	Mr. Capstone?	Diced Steele	61
Bill Kalmenson	Security Guard #2?	Stronger Than Steele	57
Gary Kasper	Crunch Kramer	Grappling Steele	70
David Kaufman	Clerk	Steele Belted	6
Bernard Kay	Nicholas Theodopolis	Steele Hanging In There (Part 2)	92
Caren Kaye	Megan O'Toole	Hearts of Steele	14
Michael Keenan	SWAT Captain	Dasher, Prancer Donner and Steele	75
Shanit Keeter	Tarot card reader	Steele Knuckles and Glass Jaws	31
Paul Keith	Bernard Geiger?	Elementary Steele	44
Susan Kellerman	Janet Kimmell	Hearts of Steele	14
Frank Kelly	Willard Skeggs	Steele Your Heart Away	50
Brandis Kemp	Madeline Vickers	Steele Trap	10
Betty Kennedy	Cynthia Denard	Steele Waters Run Deep	3
Kenneth Kimmins	Ford Stevens	Steele Blushing	69
Brenda King	Nadine	Tempered Steele	2
Mark King	Tom Donovan	Steele Crazy After All These Years	16
Lloyd Kino	Harimoto?	Suburban Steele	79

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Bruce Kirby	Michael Dominick	Steele Trap	10
Allan Kolman	Ivan Strelnikov	Steele Spawning	78
Art Koustik	Simpson?	Blood is Thicker Than Steele	36
Jimmy Krell	Phil Lindler?	Molten Steele	40
Paul Kreppel	Stan	Scene Steelers	30
Wortham Krimmer	Everett Blaisdale	Diced Steele	61
Marta Kristen	Blonde	Signed, Steeled & Delivered	4
Sandra Kronenmeyer	Debbie Rebello	Forged Steele	71
Jack Kruschen	Buddy Brokaw	Springtime for Steele	59
Bernard Kuby	Theodore Mooney	Stronger Than Steele	57
Emily Kuroda	Woman	Your Steele the One for Me	8
Richard Kuss	Horace Erskin	Steele in Circulation	22
Mimi Kuzyk	Moriah Taylor	Steele Eligible	34
Francisco Lagueruela	Henchman #2?	Gourmet Steele	56
Joe Lambie	Burt Dixon	Lofty Steele	46
Dorothy Lamour	Herself	Cast in Steele	53
Diane Lander	?	Bonds of Steele	88
Hal Landon, Jr.	Security Guard #1?	Stronger Than Steele	57
Nancy Lane	Candy	Beg, Borrow or Steele	86
Charles Laney	Cohort #2	To Stop a Steele	15
Alison LaPlaca	Joan Grey	Steele in the Running	85
John Larroquette	Nathan Fitts	Breath of Steele	54
William Larsen	Nester Bickerman	A Good Night's Steele	13
James Laurenson	Raymond Merleau	Woman of Steele	42
Sean Lawlor	Edward Helmsley	Steele Hanging In There (Part 2)	92
Marianne Lawrence	Joelle	Steele At It	45
Richard Lawson	Monroe Henderson	Premium Steele	73
Suzanne Lederer	Columbine Cooper	Let's Steele a Plot	55
Stephen Lee	Dickerson	Your Steele the One for Me	8
John Lehne	James Ryan	Have I Got a Steele for You	58
Ronald Leigh-Hunt	Sterling Fitch	Steele Hanging In There (Part 2)	92
		Steeled With a Kiss	93-94
Francine Lembi	Grace Stanton	Steele Flying High	12
Michael Lemon	Butch Moran	Steele Eligible	34
Ted LePlat	Steven Cole	Blood is Thicker than Steele	36
Zoanne Leroy	Desk clerk?	Steele of Approval	66
Claude le Saché	Lieutenant?	Steele At It	45
Len Lesser	Anthony Torrance?	Steele Knuckles and Glass Jaws	31
Monica Lewis	B. J. Sinclair	Forged Steele	71
Judith Light	Clarissa Custer	Dreams of Steele	41
Nancy Linari	Dr. Sheila Marcus?	A Good Night's Steele	13
Leon Lissek	Smuggler?	Puzzled Steele	52
Ernie Lively	Dallas	Steele, Inc.	77
Susan Lonergan	Housewife #2?	Suburban Steele	79
Jay Loudon	Ringmaster?	Grappling Steele	70
Curt Lowens	Claude	Tempered Steele	2
Keye Luke	Tenake	Your Steele the One For Me	8
Franc Luz	Arnold Baskin	Steele Eligible	34
Stuart Mabray	Man?	Stronger Than Steele	57
Amanda McBroom	Boutique owner?	Steele in Circulation	22
Frances Lee McCain	Jennifer Kirk	Steeling the Show	11
Fred McCarren	Frank Dannon	Altared Steele	26
John McCook	Norman Austin	Steele on the Air	76
Patricia McCormack	Margie Kelsey	Second Base Steele	48
Mary McCusker	Mary Shepherd	Corn Fed Steele	72
George McDaniel	Moody?	Knuckles and Glass Jaws	31
Ryan MacDonald	Harold Delanian	Steele in the Family	60
Mary Kate McGeehan	Sister Natalie	Beg, Borrow or Steele	86
Richard McGonagle	Clerk?	Steele in the Family	60
	Colby	Steele Blushing	69
Biff McGuire	Raymond Kelly	Illustrated Steele	63
Michael McGuire	Harry Swan	Steele Flying High	12
	Fresco Zapata	High Flying Steele	35
Philip Charles MacKenzie	Carl	In the Steele of the Night	9
Beverlee McKinsey	Alexis Vandermeer	Vintage Steele	19
Albert Macklin	Bernard	Steele in the Family	60
Peter MacLean	Edward Coxworth	Thou Shalt Not Steele	5
Michael McManus	Ralph Kelsey	Steele Second Base	48
Ann McMurray	Karen Stiers?	Corn Fed Steele	72
Joan McMurty	Jessica Swanson	Corn Fed Steele	72
Kathy Maisnik	Teri	Breath of Steele	54
John Malcom	Newton Borg-Ward	Maltese Steele	47
Laura Malone	Receptionist?	Premium Steele	73
Vachik Mangassarian	Vladimir Denisovich	Steele Spawning	78
Ruth Manning	Bertha Melnik	Steele Trying	65
John Mansfield	Dr. Terry Wicker	A Good Night's Steele	13
Paul Mantee	Albert Hastings?	Dasher, Prancer, Donner and Steele	75
Mickey Mantle	Himself	Second Base Steele	48
Andre Maranne	Inspector Vouray	Steele At It	45
Bill Marcus	Jimmy Casson?	Molten Steele	40

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Rose Marie	Billie Young	Steele in the Spotlight	83
Kenneth Mars	Douglas Veenhof	Steele Blushing	69
Sarah Marshall	Susan Claireborne	Hounded Steele	43
A. Martinez	Guy Nickerson	High Flying Steele	35
Ron Masak	Harry Cranston	Forged Steele	71
Michael Masters	Newsreader?	Beg, Borrow or Steele	86
Dakin Matthews	Michael Fleming	Gourmet Steele	56
Jacques Maury	Lebret	Steele At It	45
Deborah May	Phyllis Lewis	Gourmet Steele	56
Virginia Mayo	Herself	Cast in Steele	53
Colm Meaney	Man in tavern	Steele Hanging In There (Part 2)	92
Cliff Medaugh	Mr. Johnson	Breath of Steele	54
Nicholas Mele	Postman?	Suburban Steele	79
Tanya Melendez	Clerk?	Steele in the Running	85
Ernestine Mercer	Patsy Vance	Steele in the Spotlight	83
Irving Metzman	Norman Metzger	Steele Hanging In There (Part 1)	91
Richard Hoyt Miller	Thug?	Steele Hanging In There (Part 1)	91
Richard Minchenberg	Reuben Saltzman	Forged Steele	71
Chuck Mitchell	Cop?	Steele Trying	65
Ben Mittleman	Stakovsky	Thou Shalt Not Steele	5
Andrea Moar	Sandra Casson?	Molten Steele	40
Robert Moberly	Real Leopold Majak	Now You Steele It, Now You Don't	62
Richard Moll	?	Steele in the News	18
Greg Monaghan	Mr. Dayton	Coffee, Tea or Steele	74
Julie Montgomery	Lorraine Maywood	Coffee, Tea or Steele	74
Danny Mora	Juan Castro	Have I Got a Steele for You	58
Bill Morey	Charles Dumont	Molten Steele	40
George Morfogen	Dennis Baker	Etched in Steele	7
Marnie Mosiman	Vickie Underwood	Steele, Inc.	77
Stewart Moss	Gerald Steinmetz	Sensitive Steele	82
Chris Mulkey	Rhodes	Steele Blushing	69
Jack Murdock	Larry	A Pocketful of Steele	51
Audrie J. Neenan	Frannie Kuchelski	Red Holt Steele	25
Mary Joan Negro?	Beth	Hearts of Steele	14
Mark Nelson	Henchman #1?	Gourmet Steele	56
Joe Nesnow	Young man?	Grappling Steele	70
Thomas Newman	Mr. Cutler?	Steele in Circulation	22
Anna Nicholas	Danielle Scribner	The Steele That Wouldn't Die (Part 2)	90
Lloyd Nolan	Himself	Cast in Steele	53
Ted Noose	Ralph?	Santa Claus is Coming to Steele	80
Cliff Norton	Morrie Singer	To Stop a Steele	15
Brendan O'Duill	Bartender	Steeled With a Kiss (Part 1)	93
Monty O'Grady	Butler	In the Steele of the Night	9
Michael O'Guinne	Brother Bartholomew	Vintage Steele	19
Jenny O'Hara	Amy	Steele in the News	18
Dan O'Herlihy	Charles Wellington	Steele at Your Service	84
Ron O'Neal	Mr. Putnam	Lofty Steele	46
Chris O'Neill	Flanagan	Steele Your Heart Away	50
Terry O'Quinn	Chuck McBride	Coffee, Tea or Steele	74
James O'Sullivan	Howie Sabatchnik	Steele Sweet on You	37
Simon Oates	Earl of Claridge	Steele Searching	67-68
Estelle Omens	Mitzi	Steele Threads	33
Thomas Randall Oglesby	Greg Kever	Red Holt Steele	25
Ken Olfson	Oscar Bergman	Steele of Approval	66
John Orchard	Albert Hoskins	Sting of Steele	21
Bibi Osterwald	Veronica Kirk	Steeling the Show	11
Gary Paget	Deputy?	Corn Fed Steele	72
Conrad E. Palmisano	Reporter?	Blood is Thicker Than Steele	36
Woodrow Parfrey	Archie Doke	Dreams of Steele	41
Lara Parker	Lila Colbert	Steele Threads	33
Jennifer Parsons	Rachel	Small Town Steele	39
Nancy Parsons	Nurse Blackell	A Good Night's Steele	13
Dennis Patrick	Duncan Harlow	Steele Blue Yonder	81
Derek Partridge	Leon Pinsky?	Sting of Steele	21
Robert Pastorelli	Weasel	Now You Steele It, Now You Don't	62
		Steele Alive and Kicking	87
		Steele at Your Service	84
		Steele Alive and Kicking	87
		Steele in Circulation	22
		High Flying Steele	35
		A Pocketful of Steele	51
		Maltese Steele	47
		Love Among the Steele	29
		Steele on the Air	76
		Altared Steele	26
		Coffee, Tea or Steele	74
		Steele Trap	10
		Steele Crazy After All These Years	16
		Red Holt Steele	25
		In the Steele of the Night	9
Neva Patterson	Katherine Wellington		
Pippa Pearthree	Nedra Dowd		
Patsy Pease	Sherry Webster		
Lisa Pelikan	Christy Cordaro		
Meeno Peluce	Jackie Crawford		
Susan Penhaligon	Margaret		
Ed Penney	John McCullum		
George Pentecost	Bud Tyler		
Clara Perryman	Stella Martino Dannon?		
Robyn Peterson	Sally Devon		
Robert Phalen	Ambrose Blinn		
Tony Plana	Hector Sanchez		
Joel Polis	Eldon Veckmer		
Jeff Pomerantz	Alan Grievey		

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Antony Ponzini	Pittsburgh Phil	Beg, Borrow or Steele	86
Annie Potts	Annie Carpenter	Steele Crazy After All These Years	16
Derry Power	Mikeline O'Flynn	Steeled With a Kiss	93-94
Dennis Pratt	Mel Brundage	Corn Fed Steele	72
Mike Preston	Geoffrey Whittlesey	Steele Blue Yonder	81
Emlyn Price	Bowler	Steele Searching (Part 1)	67
Faith Price	Mady	Scene Steelers	30
Sorin Serene Pricopie	Clerk?	Gourmet Steele	56
William Prince	Horton Erhart	Steele of Approval	66
Van Quattro	Cab driver?	Diced Steele	61
Ford Rainey	Gun-happy townspeople?	Small Town Steele	39
Jack Ragotzy	Liebowitz	Tempered Steele	2
	Man	Beg, Borrow or Steele	86
Rudy Ramos	Dr. Carlos Perez?	Corn Fed Steele	72
Lynne Randall	Randi Russell	Steele Trap	10
	Rocky Sullivan	Elementary Steele	44
		Springtime for Steele	59
Jeff Rawie	Chalky	Steele Searching (Part 1)	67
James Ray	Richard Laidlaw	Let's Steele a Plot	55
James Read	Murphy Michaels	First season	
Angharad Rees	Katherine Galt	Steele Searching	67-68
Ellen Regan	Anne Montague	Molten Steele	40
John Reilly	Russel Stewart	Steele in the News	18
Brian Reise	Coach?	Steele in the Chips	64
Paul Reiser	Ivan Turbell	A Good Night's Steele	13
Bert Remsen	Barney Kiernan	Steele Knuckles and Glass Jaws	31
Ellis Ren	Felix	Steele's Gold	20
Dee Dee Rescher	Real estate agent	Red Holt Steele	25
Clive Revill	Doctor Ellis Harvey	Love Among the Steele	29
Dale Reynolds	?	Steele Blue Yonder	81
Michael Rider	Alan Hackston?	Suburban Steele	79
Doris Roberts	Mildred Krebs	Second through fifth seasons	
Eve Roberts	Caroline Welles	Woman of Steele	42
Julie Anna Roberts	Rina Casellis	Steele Among the Living	17
Virgil Robison	Teller?	Have I Got a Steele for You	58
Randy Rocca	Izzy Webster	Steele Waters Run Deep	3
Charles Rocket	Peter Gillespie	Have I Got a Steele for You	58
Maurice Roesve	Angus Whitewood?	Blue Blooded Steele	49
Ed Rombola	Coach?	Steele Knuckles and Glass Jaws	31
Burt Rosario	Juan	Bonds of Steele	88
		The Steele That Wouldn't Die (Part 1)	89
John Roselius	Clerk?	Diced Steele	61
Arthur Rosenberg	Donald	In the Steele of the Night	9
Duncan Ross	Mickey Prentice	Steeling the Show	11
Adele Rosse	Mrs. Thackett?	Steele in Circulation	22
	Mary Molinski	Grappling Steele	70
Adèle Rosse	Waitress	Steele Trying	66
Adele Rossé	Patient	Elementary Steele	44
Tim Rossovich	"Dangerous" Darryl Simmons	Grappling Steele	70
Maggie Roswell	Hoop Tracy	Steele in the News	18
Hansford Rowe	Nicholas Spriggs	Steele Among the Living	17
Pamela Royslance	Marcia West	Steele on the Air	76
Maria Rubell	Conchita	The Steele That Wouldn't Die (Part 2)	90
Phil Rubenstein	Leo Blitzman	Steele Among the Living	17
Al Ruscio	Joseph Berkholtzer	Love Among the Steele	29
Jeanne Ruskin	Mrs. Tucker?	Steele of Approval	66
William Russ	Chance McCormick	Steele's Gold	20
Susan Ruttan	Miss Livermore	Lofty Steele	46
Yuliis Ruval	Ursula	Sensitive Steele	82
Gene Ryals	Chauffeur	Tempered Steele	2
Lee Ryan	Allesandro Pascal?	Beg, Borrow or Steele	86
Rex Ryan	Julian	Cast in Steele	53
Marco St. John	Doc Gridley	Steele Second Base	48
Michael Sandoval	Doctor Harold Ridley?	Steele Eligible	34
Dean Santoro	Julian Baron	Steele Threads	33
Joe Santos	Alf Nussman	Let's Steele a Plot	55
Barry Sattels	Eric?	My Fair Steele	32
Jack Scalia	Tony Roselli	Fifth season	
Susan Scannel	Maxine	Sensitive Steele	82
Marilyn Schreffler	Rachel's mother?	Small Town Steele	39
Vincent Schiavelli	Leon Pulver	Steele on the Air	76
William Schilling	Frederico Rudizio?	Gourmet Steele	56
Peter Scolari	Albee Fervitz	Steele Waters Run Deep	3
Donovan Scott	Vincent Dowd	Steele Alive and Kicking	87
Kirk Scott	Motel clerk?	Beg, Borrow or Steele	86
Pippa Scott	Emily Dumont	Molten Steele	40
Judith Searle	Betty Lynne?	Small Town Steele	39
Penina Segall	Housewife #1?	Suburban Steele	79
Stan Sells	Gary	Tempered Steele	2
Anne Seymour	Mrs. Underwood	Steele, Inc.	77

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Actors List

Carolyn Seymour	Shelby Hanes	Blood is Thicker Than Steele	36
Michael Shannon	Fred Bigelow	Now You Steele It, Now You Don't	62
Pearl Shear	Miss Marple?	Elementary Steele	44
John Shearin	Dallas	Steele Spawning	78
Joshua Shelley	Bulletz Bloustein	Steele Threads	33
Reid Shelton	Craddock	Your Steele the One For Me	8
Liz Sheridan	Greta Swenson	Steele at Your Service	84
Bob Sherman	Ron?	Steele At It	45
Armin Shimerman	Lester Bartholomew	Lofly Steele	46
Sab Shimono	Kenji	Your Steele the One For Me	8
	Kuromatsu	Steele at Your Service	84
Marly Sims	Rona?	A Good Night's Steele	13
Raymond Singer	Waldo Church	Steele Belted	6
Raymond Skipp	Bailey?	Sting of Steele	21
Ben Slack	Winslow Avery	Small Town Steele	39
Benjamin H. Slack	Sherman	Thou Shalt Not Steele	5
Milli Slavin	Landlady?	Steele in the Running	85
Jean Smart	Gloria	Steele in the Chips	64
John Smet	Daniel Piper?	Suburban Steele	79
Lionel Smith	Slats Kittridge	Steele Second Base	48
Reid Smith	Teddy Bennett	Steele Among the Living	17
Arlen Dean Snyder	Jim Meecham	Tempered Steele	2
Timothy Stack	Arthur McKinley Reynolds, III	Springtime for Steele	59
Nancy Stafford	Jennifer Davenport	Stronger Than Steele	57
James Staley	Lester Shane	Premium Steele	73
Laura Staley	Miss Taplinger	Steele Belted	6
Richard Stanley	Morgue attendant	Your Steele the One for Me	8
Penny Stanton	Thelma?	A Pocketful of Steele	51
Beau Starr	Pops?	Springtime for Steele	59
Charlie Stavola	Waiter	Tempered Steele	2
Gary Stein	Cop?	Steele on the Air	76
Philip Sterling	John Seward	Signed, Steeled & Delivered	4
Paul Steward	Joseph Barber	Steele Knuckles and Glass Jaws	31
Don Stewart	Mitchell	Steele of Approval	66
Lynne Stewart	Teller?	Steele Framed	27
	Receptionist?	Steele in the Chips	64
Tom Stewart	Benny?	Diced Steele	61
Diane Stilwell	Cindi Sikes	Steele Trap	10
Barbara Stock	Kitty	Steele's Gold	20
Christopher Stone	Man in bar	Woman of Steele	42
	Nine o'clock?	Steele Hanging In There (Part 1)	91
Sharon Stone	Homecoming Queen	Steele Crazy After All These Years	16
Susan Strasberg	Miss Cooper	Steele Blue Yonder	81
Gil Stratton	Announcer?	Steele Knuckles and Glass Jaws	31
Rebecca Street	Jennifer?	Love Among the Steele	29
	Alessandra Henry	Bonds of Steele	88
Lomax Study	Jacques?	Dreams of Steele	41
K. T. Sullivan	Miss Carter?	Premium Steele	73
Todd Susman	Nat Shavers	Steele Crazy After All These Years	16
Kristine Sutherland	Pamela Johns	Let's Steele a Plot	55
George Sweeney	Blore	Steele Searching (Part 1)	67
Ken Swofford	Michael Harrigan	Beg, Borrow or Steele	86
Nita Talbot	Shirley Mellish	Hounded Steele	43
Newell Tarrant	Felix Cradle?	Dasher, Prancer Donner and Steele	75
Jim Tartan	Reporter?	Dreams of Steele	41
Arthur Taxier	Detective Steven Zweigenhoff	Steele Alive and Kicking	87
Gamy L. Taylor	Bank Clerk	Steele Framed	27
	Hazel	Stronger Than Steele	57
Irene Tedrow	Nanny Perkins	Blue Blooded Steele	49
Jonathan Terry	Mr. Ferschuver?	Molten Steele	40
Robert Thaler	Wesley Poone?	Love Among the Steele	29
Jack Thibeau	Bus driver?	A Pocketful of Steele	51
Christopher Thomas	Executive	Steele Waters Run Deep	3
Summer Lee Thomas	Dealer?	Steele Blue Yonder	81
Lawrence Tierney	Al Molinski	Grappling Steele	70
Jennifer Tilly	Eva Wilson	Dancer, Prancer, Donner and Steele	75
Ellen Tobie	Betsy Lindner	Molten Steele	40
James Tolkan	Norman Keyes	Diced Steele	61
		Forged Steele	71
		Bonds of Steele	88
		The Steele That Wouldn't Die	89-90
Dierk Torsek	Deputy Coroner Rossfeld	Premium Steele	73
Barbara Townsend	Maxine Delano	Let's Steele a Plot	55
Mary Ellen Trainor	Estelle Becker	Bonds of Steele	88
		The Steele That Wouldn't Die (Part 1)	89
Louise Troy	Mrs. McCormick?	Steele Hanging In There (Part 1)	91
Arnold Turner	Cohort #1	To Stop a Steele	15
Ian Tyler	Benjamin Carlisle	Maltese Steele	47
Kim Ulrich	Whitney Chambers	Grappling Steele	70
Monique Van De Ven	Mary Howell Dannon	Altared Steele	26

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Merete Van Kamp	Gwen Whitewood	Blue Blooded Steele	49
Kate Vernon	Nancy Evans	Breath of Steele	54
James Victor	Police Chief	The Steele That Wouldn't Die (Part 2)	90
Paula Victor	Landlady?	A Pocketful of Steele	51
Joey D. Viera	Henchman #1?	Diced Steele	61
Herb Vigran	Seymour Glass/Fred Melnick	Steele Trying	65
Steve Vinovitch	Brimsley	Sensitive Steele	82
Paul Virtue	Page?	Diced Steele	61
Nana Visitor	Eileen Fitzgerald	Steele Blushing	69
Tony Vogel	Michael Banks	Puzzled Steele	52
Peter Vogt	Noah Devereaux	Steele Among the Living	17
Deborah Wakeham	Sandra Jenkins	Steele in the Running	85
George D. Wallace	Emery Arnok	Steele Waters Run Deep	3
	Jake Slater	Steele in the Spotlight	83
	Dolores?	Forged Steele	71
Janis Ward	Russell Forsyth	Etched in Steele	7
Lyman Ward	Desk Clerk	To Stop a Steele	15
Douglas Warhit	Alexander Sebastien	Steele Away With Me	23-24
David Warner	Sandy	In the Steele of the Night	9
Carlene Watkins	Ester?	Hounded Steele	43
Freddie Weber	Leopold Majak	Now You Steele It, Now You Don't	62
Byron Webster	Mrs. Trout?	Blood is Thicker Than Steele	36
Renee Wedel	Carl?	Steele Threads	33
Carl Weintraub	Cook?	Beg, Borrow or Steele	86
Jack Wells	A. J. Drury?	Bonds of Steele	88
John Welsh	Fred Bloggs?	Blue Blooded Steele	49
Nelson Wench	Barbara Frick?	Blood is Thicker than Steele	36
Patricia Wettig	Terry Lowell Dannon?	Altared Steele	26
Carole Ita White	J. W. Kendall	Steele of Approval	66
David White	Claude Vandermeer	Vintage Steele	19
James Widdoes	Charlotte Knight	Etched in Steele	7
Shannon Wilcox	Mrs. Wilcox?	Steele Alive and Kicking	87
	Lieutenant?	A Pocketful of Steele	51
Steven Williams	Harrison Bumpers	Suburban Steele	79
Noble Willingham	Personnel secretary?	Bonds of Steele	88
Terry Wills	Man in casino?	Steele Blue Yonder	81
Chuck Winders	Walter Munziner	Steele in the Chips	64
James R. Winker	Mr. Schwimmer	A Pocketful of Steele	51
Ray Wise	Norman Maxwell	Premium Steele	73
Mark Withers	George Broder	Steele Trying	65
Howard Witt	Markham	My Fair Steele	32
Ian Wolfe	Lou Mackler	Steele in the Spotlight	83
Charles Woolf	Dr. Dudworth	Stealing the Show	11
Than Wyenn	Policeman?	Blood is Thicker Than Steele	36
Bruce Wright	Judy Fishbane	Steele Trying	65
Gretchen Wyler	Takahomo?	Suburban Steele	79
Michael Yama	Sergei Kemadov	Steeled With a Kiss	93-94
Stephen Yardley	Nurse	Steele Trap	10
Erica Yohn	Bill Smith	Gourmet Steele	56
Michael Young	Mr. Moto	Elementary Steele	44
Keone Young	Sid?	Diced Steele	61
Marty Zagon	Marvin T. Slaughter, Jr.	Coffee, Tea or Steele	74
John Zarchen	Young Clarissa McCullum	Love Among the Steele	29
Kate Zentall	Daniel Chalmers	Sting of Steele	21
Efrem Zimbalist, Jr.		Blue Blooded Steele	49
		Steele Searching (Part 2)	68
		Steeled With a Kiss	93-94
Stephanie Zimbalist	Laura Holt	All seasons	
Daniel Ziskie	Lyle Andrews	Bonds of Steele	88

Appendix B: Basic List of Episodes

Alphabetical Order

Altared Steele	26	Steele Among the Living	17
Beg, Borrow or Steele	86	A Steele At Any Price	28
Blood is Thicker Than Steele	36	Steele At It	45
Blue Blooded Steele	49	Steele at Your Service	84
Bonds of Steele	88	Steele Away With Me	23-24
Breath of Steele	54	Steele Belted	6
Cast in Steele	53	Steele Blue Yonder	81
Coffee, Tea or Steele	74	Steele Blushing	69
Corn Fed Steele	72	Steele Crazy After All These Years	16
Dancer, Prancer, Donner and Steele	75	Steeled With a Kiss	93-94
Diced Steele	61	Steele Eligible	34
Dreams of Steele	41	Steele Flying High	12
Elegy in Steele	38	Steele Framed	27
Elementary Steele	44	Steele Hanging In There	91-92
Etched in Steele	7	Steele, Inc.	77
Forged Steele	71	Steele in Circulation	22
A Good Night's Steele	13	Steele in the Chips	64
Gourmet Steele	56	Steele in the Family	60
Grappling Steele	70	Steele in the News	18
Have I Got a Steele for You	58	Steele in the Running	85
Hearts of Steele	14	Steele in the Spotlight	83
High Flying Steele	35	Steele Knuckles and Glass Jaws	31
Hounded Steele	43	Steele of Approval	66
Illustrated Steele	63	Steele on the Air	76
In the Steele of the Night	9	Steele Searching	67-68
Let's Steele a Plot	55	Steele's Gold	20
Licence to Steele	1	Steele Spawning	78
Lofty Steele	46	Steele Sweet on You	37
Love Among the Steele	29	The Steele That Wouldn't Die	89-90
Maltese Steele	47	Steele Threads	33
Molten Steele	40	Steele Trap	10
My Fair Steele	32	Steele Trying	65
Now You Steele It, Now You Don't	62	Steele Waters Run Deep	3
A Pocketful of Steele	51	Steele Your Heart Away	50
Premium Steele	73	Steeling the Show	11
Puzzled Steele	52	Sting of Steele	21
Red Holt Steele	25	Stronger than Steele	57
Santa Claus is Coming to Steele	80	Suburban Steele	79
Scene Steelers	30	Tempered Steele	2
Second Base Steele	48	Thou Shalt Not Steele	5
Sensitive Steele	82	To Stop a Steele	15
Signed, Steeled & Delivered	4	Vintage Steele	19
Small Town Steele	39	Woman of Steele	42
Springtime for Steele	59	You're Steele the One for Me	8
Steele Alive and Kicking	87		

Basic List of Episodes

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Production Code Order

Tempered Steele	2	0903	Second Base Steele	48	4706
Steele Belted	6	2701	Steele At It	45	4707
Signed, Steeled & Delivered	4	2702	Steele in the Chips	64	4710
Steele Waters Run Deep	3	2703	Steele Your Heart Away	50	4711
Licence to Steele	1	2704	Puzzled Steele	52	4712
Hearts of Steele	14	2705	Maltese Steele	47	4713
Thou Shalt Not Steele	5	2706	Gourmet Steele	56	4716
Etched in Steele	7	2707	Steele Trying	65	4717
In the Steele of the Night	9	2708	Stronger than Steele	57	4718
You're Steele the One for Me	8	2709	Cast in Steele	53	4720
Steele Trap	10	2710	A Pocketful of Steele	51	4721
Steele Flying High	12	2711	Springtime for Steele	59	4722
A Good Night's Steele	13	2712	Steele in the Family	60	4723
Steeling the Show	11	2713	Now You Steele It, Now You Don't	62	4724
Steele Crazy After All These Years	16	2715	Illustrated Steele	63	4725
Vintage Steele	19	2716	Have I Got a Steele for You	58	4726
Steele in the News	18	2717	Diced Steele	61	4727
Steele Among the Living	17	2718	Steele of Approval	66	4728
To Stop a Steele	15	2721	Steele Searching (Part 1)	67	5701
Sting of Steele	21	2722	Steele Searching (Part 2)	68	5702
Steele's Gold	20	2723	Steele, Inc.	77	5703
Steele in Circulation	22	2724	Steele Blushing	69	5704
Altared Steele	26	3702	Steele in the Spotlight	83	5705
Scene Steelers	30	3703	Bonds of Steele	88	5706
Elementary Steele	44	3705	Dancer, Prancer, Donner and Steele	75	5708
A Steele At Any Price	28	3706	Grappling Steele	70	5709
Steele Sweet on You	37	3707	Forged Steele	71	5710
Steele Framed	27	3708	Premium Steele	73	5711
Steele Away With Me	23-24	3709	Corn Fed Steele	72	5712
Red Holt Steele	25	3710	Steele in the Running	85	5713
Steele Threads	33	3711	Coffee, Tea or Steele	74	5714
Blood is Thicker Than Steele	36	3712	Steele Spawning	78	5715
My Fair Steele	32	3714	Suburban Steele	79	5716
Molten Steele	40	3715	Steele on the Air	76	5717
Love Among the Steeles	29	3716	Steele Blue Yonder	81	5718
Steele Knuckles and Glass Jaws	31	3717	Sensitive Steele	82	5719
High Flying Steele	35	3718	Steele Alive and Kicking	87	5720
Steele Eligible	34	3719	Santa Claus is Coming to Steele	80	5721
Elegy in Steele	38	3720	Beg, Borrow or Steele	86	5722
Small Town Steele	39	3721	Steele at Your Service	84	5723
Woman of Steele	42	3724	The Steele That Wouldn't Die (Part 1)	89	6702
Dreams of Steele	41	3726	Steele Hanging In There (Part 1)	91	6706
Hounded Steele	43	3732	Steele Hanging In There (Part 2)	92	6707
Blue Blooded Steele	49	4701	The Steele That Wouldn't Die (Part 2)	90	6708
Breath of Steele	54	4702	Steeled With a Kiss (Part 1)	93	6709
Lofly Steele	46	4703	Steeled With a Kiss (Part 2)	94	6710
Let's Steele a Plot	55	4704			

Appendix C: Creative Credits

Directed by	Karen Arthur	Steele Threads	33
		High Flying Steele	35
	Gabrielle Beaumont	Illustrated Steele	63
		Premium Steele	73
		Steele in the Running	85
	Jeff Bleckner	Steele Waters Run Deep	3
	Burt Brinckerhoff	In the Steele of the Night	9
		Steele in the News	18
		Steele's Gold	20
		Lofty Steele	46
		Blue Blooded Steele	49
		Gourmet Steele	56
		Steele in the Spotlight	83
	Robert Butler	License to Steele	1
		Tempered Steele	2
		Signed, Steeled & Delivered	4
		Steele Belted	6
		Hearts of Steele	14
	Thomas Carter	Your Steele the One For Me	8
	Kevin Connor	Red Holt Steele	25
		Elegy in Steele	38
	Larry Elikann	Vintage Steele	19
		Steele in the Family	60
	Harry Harris	A Pocketful of Steele	51
		Cast in Steele	53
		Forged Steele	71
	Nick Havinga	Steele Flying High	12
		Steele Among the Living	17
	Sidney Hayers	Steele Trap	10
		To Stop a Steele	15
	Christopher Hibler	Molten Steele	40
		Woman of Steele	42
		Let's Steele a Plot	55
		Have I Got a Steele for You	58
		Springtime for Steele	59
		Steele Searching (Part 2)	68
		Coffee, Tea or Steele	74
		Dancer, Prancer, Donner and Steele	75
		Steele on the Air	76
		Steele Hanging In There	91-92
	Kevin Inch	Beg, Borrow or Steele	86
		The Steele That Wouldn't Die	89-90
	Rocky Lang	Steele Trying	65
		Steele at Your Service	84
	Sheldon Larry	Steele Framed	27
		Steele Eligible	34
		Steele in the Chips	64
	Stan Lathan	Etched in Steele	7
		Stronger Than Steele	57
		Suburban Steele	79
		Steele Alive and Kicking	87
	Will MacKenzie	Steele Spawning	78

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	Peter Medak	Scene Steelers	30
	Leo Penn	Thou Shalt Not Steele	5
	Barbara Peters	Blood is Thicker Than Steele	36
	Seymour Robbie	Steeling the Show	11
		A Good Night's Steele	13
		Sting of Steele	21
		Steele Away With Me	23-24
		Love Among the Steele	29
		My Fair Steele	32
		Small Town Steele	39
		Elementary Steele	44
		Maltese Steele	47
		Steele Your Heart Away	50
		Steele of Approval	66
		Steele Searching (Part 1)	67
		Santa Claus is Coming to Steele	80
		Bonds of Steele	88
		Steeled With a Kiss	93-94
	Alexander Singer	Altared Steele	26
		Steele Blushing	69
	John Tracy	Now You Steele It, Now You Don't	62
	Don Weis	Steele Crazy After All These Years	16
		Steele in Circulation	22
		A Steele at Any Price	28
		Steele Knuckles and Glass Jaws	31
		Steele Sweet on You	37
		Dreams of Steele	41
		Hounded Steele	43
		Steele At It	45
		Second Steele Base	48
		Puzzled Steele	52
		Breath of Steele	54
		Diced Steele	61
		Grappling Steele	70
		Corn Fed Steele	72
		Steele, Inc.	77
		Steele Blue Yonder	81
		Sensitive Steele	82
Story by	Joyce Armour	Scene Steelers	30
	Howard Baldwin	Steele in the Chips	64
	Robin Bernheim	Steele in the Chips	64
	Richard Daves	A Steele at Any Price	28
	Peggy Goldman	Steele Crazy After All These Years	16
	Larry Konner	Steele Eligible	34
	Andrew Laskos	Steele Crazy After All These Years	16
	Fred Lyle	Steele in the News	18
	Judie Neer	Scene Steelers	30
	Mitch Paradise	A Steele at Any Price	28
	John Pashdag	Blue Blooded Steele	49
	Charles Rosin	Hearts of Steele	14
	Duncan Smith	Steele in the News	18
	R. J. Stewart	Steele Crazy After All These Years	16
	Brady Westwater	Blue Blooded Steele	49
	Stephanie Zimbalist	Steele in the Chips	64

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Creative Credits

Teleplay by	Joyce Armour	Scene Steelers	30	
	Robin Bernheim	Steele in the Chips	64	
	Glenn [Gordon] Caron	Hearts of Steele	14	
	Michael Gleason	Steele in the News	18	
		Scene Steelers	30	
		Steele Eligible	34	
	Larry Konner	Steele Eligible	34	
	Andrew Laskos	Steele Crazy After All These Years	16	
	Fred Lyle	Steele in the News	18	
	Jeff Melvoin	Puzzled Steele	52	
	Judie Neer	Scene Steelers	30	
	John Pashdag	Blue Blooded Steele	49	
	Duncan Smith	Steele in the News	18	
	R. J. Stewart	Steele Crazy After All These Years	16	
	Mitch Paradise	A Steele at Any Price	28	
	Brady Westwater	Blue Blooded Steele	49	
	John Wirth	Blue Blooded Steele	49	
	Stephanie Zimbalist	Steele in the Chips	64	
	Written by	Susan Baskin	Vintage Steele	19
			Steele Sweet on You	37
Woman of Steele			42	
Robin Bernheim		Coffee, Tea or Steele	74	
		Suburban Steele	79	
		Steele Hanging In There	91-92	
Glenn [Gordon] Caron		Steeled With a Kiss	93-94	
		Signed, Steeled & Delivered	4	
		Etched in Steele	7	
Brian Clemens		To Stop a Steele	15	
		Steele Your Heart Away	50	
		Puzzled Steele	52	
Richard Collins		Molten Steele	40	
		Steele Flying High	12	
Richard DeRoy		Blood is Thicker Than Steele	36	
		Let's Steele a Plot	55	
Michael Gleason		License to Steele	1	
		Tempered Steele	2	
		Steele Belted	6	
		Steele Trap	10	
		Steele Away With Me	23-24	
		Elementary Steele	44	
		Steele Trying	65	
		Steele Searching	67-68	
		Dancer, Prancer, Donner and Steele	75	
		Santa Claus is Coming to Steele	80	
		Let's Steele a Plot	55	
		Steele at Your Service	84	
		Lofty Steele	46	
		A Pocketful of Steele	51	
Steele in the Family		60		
Steele of Approval		66		
Steele, Inc.		77		
Steele Blue Yonder		81		
Beg, Borrow or Steele		86		
The Steele That Wouldn't Die		89-90		
Steeled With a Kiss		93-94		
Gary Kott		Sting of Steele	21	

Creative Credits

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Brian Alan Lane	Steele Framed	27	
	My Fair Steele	32	
	Elegy in Steele	38	
	Dreams of Steele	41	
Andrew Laskos	Steele Among the Living	17	
Peter Lefcourt	Steeling the Show	11	
Elliot Lewis	Dancer, Prancer, Donner and Steele	75	
Kerry Lenhart	Stronger Than Steele	57	
	Illustrated Steele	63	
	Steele on the Air	76	
	Steele in the Spotlight	83	
George Lee Marshall	Steele Threads	33	
	High Flying Steele	35	
Jeff Melvoin	Altared Steele	26	
	Steele Knuckles and Glass Jaws	31	
	Small Town Steele	39	
	Hounded Steele	43	
	Steele At It	45	
	Puzzled Steele	52	
	Cast in Steele	53	
	Have I Got a Steele for You	58	
	Diced Steele	61	
	Bonds of Steele	88	
	Rick Mittleman	Second Steele Base	48
		Grappling Steele	70
		Forged Steele	71
		Sensitive Steele	82
Pamela Norris	Corn Fed Steele	72	
John J. Sakmar	Stronger Than Steele	57	
	Illustrated Steele	63	
	Steele on the Air	76	
	Steele in the Spotlight	83	
Gerald Sanoff	Premium Steele	73	
Bob Shayne	Gourmet Steele	56	
Dennis Spooner	Puzzled Steele	52	
Joel Steiger	In the Steele of the Night	9	
R. J. Stewart	A Good Night's Steele	13	
	Steele's Gold	20	
John Wirth	Maltese Steele	47	
	Breath of Steele	54	
	Springtime for Steele	59	
	Now You Steele It, Now You Don't	62	
	Steele Blushing	69	
	Steele Spawning	78	
	Steele Alive and Kicking	87	
	Susan Woolen	Steele in the Running	85
	Lee Zlotoff	Steele Waters Run Deep	3
		Thou Shalt Not Steele	5
Your Steele the One For Me		8	
A Good Night's Steele		13	
Steele in Circulation		22	
Red Holt Steele		25	
Love Among the Steele		29	

Appendix D: Dates of Broadcast

First Season: 1982–1983			Second Season: 1983–1984				
10/01/82	2704	License to Steele	Friday, 10pm	09/20/83	3709	Steele Away With Me (2 hrs)	Tuesday, 9pm
10/08/82	0903	Tempered Steele		09/27/83	3710	Red Holt Steele	
10/15/82		Movie: "East of Eden"		10/04/83		Movie: "Tribute to a Bad Man"	
10/22/82	2703	Steele Waters Run Deep		10/11/83	3702	Altared Steele	
10/29/82	2702	Signed, Steeled & Delivered		10/18/83	3708	Steele Framed	
11/05/82	2706	Thou Shalt Not Steele		10/25/83		A-Team 2hr episode.	
11/12/82	2701	Steele Belted		11/01/83	3706	A Steele at Any Price	
11/19/82	2707	Etched in Steele		11/08/83	3716	Love Among the Steele	
11/26/82	2709	You're Steele the One for Me		11/15/83	3703	Scene Steelers	
12/03/82	2708	In the Steele of the Night		11/22/83		Miniseries: "Kennedy"	
12/10/82	2710	Steele Trap		11/29/83	3717	Steele Knuckles and Glass Jaws	Tuesday, 10pm
12/17/82	0903R	Tempered Steele		12/06/83	3714	My Fair Steele	Tuesday, 9pm
12/24/82	2703R	Steele Waters Run Deep		12/13/83	3711	Steele Threads	
12/31/82		Special: "Secrets of the Bermuda Triangle"		12/20/83		The Rousters: Premiere	
01/07/83	2713	Steeling the Show		01/03/84		Riptide: Premiere	
01/14/83	2711	Steele Flying High		01/10/84	3719	Steele Eligible	Tuesday, 10pm
01/21/83	2712	A Good Night's Steele		01/17/84	3718	High Flying Steele	
01/28/83	2705	Hearts of Steele		01/24/84	3709R	Steele Away with Me (2 hrs)	Tuesday, 9pm
02/04/83		Movie: "Shogun"		01/31/84	3712	Blood is Thicker than Steele	Tuesday, 10pm
02/11/83	2721	To Stop a Steele		02/07/84	3707	Steele Sweet on You	
02/18/83	2715	Steele Crazy After All These Years		02/14/84		Miniseries: "Celebrity"	
02/25/83	2718	Steele Among the Living		02/21/84	3720	Elegy in Steele	
03/04/83	2717	Steele in the News		02/28/84	3721	Small Town Steele	
03/11/83	2706R	Thou Shalt Not Steele		03/06/84	3715	Molten Steele	
03/15/83	2716	Vintage Steele	Tuesday, 9pm	03/13/84		Pre-empted at the last minute	
03/22/83	2723	Steele's Gold		03/20/84	3726	Dreams of Steele	
03/29/83	2709	You're Steele the One for Me	Tuesday, 10pm	03/27/84	3724	Woman of Steele	
04/05/83	2722	Sting of Steele	Tuesday, 9pm	04/03/84	3717R	Steele Knuckles and Glass Jaws	
04/12/83	2724	Steele in Circulation		04/10/84	3702R	Altared Steele	
04/19/83	2701R	Steele Belted		04/17/84		Miniseries: "Jesus of Nazareth"	
04/26/83	2702R	Signed, Steeled & Delivered		04/24/84	3714R	My Fair Steele	
05/03/83	2704R	License to Steele		05/01/84	3719R	Steele Eligible	
05/10/83	2713R	Steeling the Show		05/08/84		Miniseries: "V—The Final Battle"	
05/17/83	2721R	To Stop a Steele		05/15/84	3727	Hounded Steele	
05/24/83		Movie: "The Enforcer"		05/22/84	3705	Elementary Steele	
05/31/83	2715R	Steele Crazy After All These Years		05/29/84	3708R	Steele Framed	
06/07/83	2710R	Steele Trap		06/05/84	3706R	A Steele at Any Price	
06/14/83	2707R	Etched in Steele		06/12/84	3718R	High Flying Steele	
06/21/83	2712R	A Good Night's Steele		06/19/84	3716R	Love Among the Steele	
06/28/83	2711R	Steele Flying High		06/26/84	3720R	Elegy in Steele	
07/05/83	2705R	Hearts of Steele		07/03/84	3707R	Steele Sweet on You	
07/12/83	2718R	Steele Among the Living		07/10/84	3712R	Blood is Thicker Than Steele	
07/19/83	2724R	Steele in Circulation		07/17/84		Special: "Cousteau Odyssey, Part 1"	
07/26/83	2717R	Steele in the News		07/24/84	3724R	Woman of Steele	
08/02/83	2716R	Vintage Steele		07/31/84	3721R	Small Town Steele	
08/09/83		Movie		08/07/84	3703R	Scene Steelers	
08/16/83	2722R	Sting of Steele		08/14/84	3715R	Molten Steele	
08/23/83	2723R	Steele's Gold		08/21/84		Special: "Cousteau Odyssey, Part 2"	
08/30/83		Movie: "The Godfather"		08/28/84	3727R	Hounded Steele	
09/06/83		Movie: "The Wind and the Lion"		09/04/84	3726R	Dreams of Steele	
09/13/83		Miniseries: "Beulah Land"		09/11/84		Miniseries: "Marco Polo"	

Dates of Broadcast

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Third Season: 1984–1985

09/18/84	Hunter: Premiere	Tuesday, 9pm
09/25/84 4707	Steele at It	Tuesday, 10pm
10/02/84 4703	Lofty Steele	
10/09/84	Movie: "Last Time I Saw Paris"	
10/16/84 4713	Maltese Steele	
10/23/84 4705	Second Base Steele	
10/30/84 4701	Blue Blooded Steele	
11/06/84	Election coverage	
11/13/84 4711	Steele Your Heart Away	
11/20/84 4721	A Pocketful of Steele	
11/27/84 4712	Puzzled Steele	
12/04/84 4720	Cast in Steele	
12/11/84 4702	Breath of Steele	
12/18/84 4704	Let's Steele a Plot	
12/25/84 3705R	Elementary Steele (from 2nd season)	
01/01/85	Movie: "Oh, God!"	
01/08/85 4716	Gourmet Steele	
01/15/85 4718	Stronger Than Steele	
01/22/85 4726	Have I Got a Steele for You	
01/29/85 4722	Springtime for Steele	
02/05/85 4723	Steele in the Family	
02/12/85 4727	Diced Steele	
02/19/85	Riptide, due to 2-hour A-Team episode	
03/05/85 4724	Now You Steele It, Now You Don't	
03/12/85 4725	Illustrated Steele	
03/19/85 4710	Steele in the Chips	
03/26/85 4707R	Steele at It	
04/02/85	Miniseries: "A. D."	
04/09/85	Miniseries: "Wallenberg: A Hero's Story"	
04/16/85 4703R	Lofty Steele	
04/23/85 4705R	Second Base Steele	
04/30/85 4701R	Blue Blooded Steele	
05/07/85 4717	Steele Trying	
05/14/85 4728	Steele of Approval	
05/21/85 4721R	A Pocketful of Steele	
05/28/85	Special: "Bob Hope in London"	
06/04/85 4713R	Maltese Steele	
06/11/85 4720R	Cast in Steele	
06/18/85 4723R	Steele in the Family	
06/25/85 4726R	Have I Got a Steele for You	
07/02/85 4722R	Springtime for Steele	
07/09/85 4718R	Stronger Than Steele	
07/16/85	Movie: "Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid"	
07/23/85 4712R	Puzzled Steele	
07/30/85 4710R	Steele in the Chips	
08/06/85	American Almanac	
08/13/85 4727R	Diced Steele	
08/20/85 4724R	Now You Steele It, Now You Don't	
08/27/85 4725R	Illustrated Steele	
09/03/85 4711R	Steele Your Heart Away	
09/10/85 4717R	Steele Trying	
09/17/85 4728R	Steele of Approval	

Fourth Season: 1985–1986

09/24/85 5701	Steele Searching (Part 1)	Tuesday, 10pm
10/01/85 5702	Steele Searching (Part 2)	
10/08/85	Movie: Love, Mary	
10/15/85	Pre-empted by baseball game	
10/22/85 5704	Steele Blushing	Tuesday, 9pm?
10/29/85 5709	Grappling Steele	Tuesday, 10pm
11/05/85	Riptide (due to 2-hour A-Team episode)	
11/12/85 5710	Forged Steele	
11/19/85 5712	Corn Fed Steele	
11/26/85	Miniseries: "Mussolini: The Untold Story"	
12/03/85 5711	Premium Steele	
12/10/85 5714	Coffee, Tea or Steele	
12/17/85 5708	Dancer, Prancer, Donner and Steele	
12/24/85 4723R	Steele in the Family (from 3rd season)	
12/31/85 4702R	Breath of Steele (from 3rd season)	
01/07/86 5717	Steele on the Air	
01/14/86 5703	Steele, Inc.	
01/25/86 5715	Steele Spawning	Saturday, 10pm
01/28/86 5704R	Steele Blushing	Tuesday, 9pm
02/04/86	Miniseries: "Peter the Great"	
02/11/86 5716	Suburban Steele	Tuesday, 10pm
02/18/86 5721	Santa Claus is Coming to Steele	
02/22/86 5718	Steele Blue Yonder	Saturday, 10pm
03/01/86 5719	Sensitive Steele	
03/08/86 5705	Steele in the Spotlight	
03/15/86 5723	Steele at Your Service	
03/22/86 5713	Steele in the Running	
03/29/86 5722	Beg, Borrow or Steele	
04/05/86 5710R	Forged Steele	
04/12/86 5701R	Steele Searching (Part 1)	
04/19/86 5702R	Steele Searching (Part 2)	
04/26/86	Special: "AFI Salute to Billy Wilder"	
05/03/86 5720	Steele Alive and Kicking	
05/10/86 5706	Bonds of Steele	
05/17/86 5709R	Grappling Steele	
05/24/86 5711R	Premium Steele	
05/31/86 5712R	Corn Fed Steele	
06/07/86 5714R	Coffee, Tea or Steele	
06/14/86 5717R	Steele on the Air	
06/21/86 5703R	Steele, Inc.	
06/28/86 5715R	Steele Spawning	
07/05/86 5717R	Steele on the Air	
07/12/86 5722R	Beg, Borrow or Steele	
07/19/86	NBC burned off a pilot	
07/26/86 5721R	Santa Claus is Coming to Steele	
08/02/86 5718R	Steele Blue Yonder	

The show was "placed on hiatus" at this point, which is broadcast-speak for "temporarily cancelled". Two months later, due to viewer demand, the show was renewed for a fifth season.

Fifth Season: 1987

01/05/87 6702	The Steele That Wouldn't Die (Part 1)	Monday, 9pm
01/05/87 6708	The Steele That Wouldn't Die (Part 2)	Monday, 10pm
02/03/87 6706	Steele Hanging In There (Part 1)	Tuesday
02/10/87 6707	Steele Hanging In There (Part 2)	
02/17/87 6709	Steeled With a Kiss (Part 1)	
02/17/87 6710	Steeled With a Kiss (Part 2)	

Appendix E: Esoterica

Superscript numbers indicate the number of the episode from which the information came.

The Characters

Laura Holt

Aliases include:

- Miss Crenshaw (from the Renfrow Insurance Company)⁸.
- Tracy Lord (nurse)¹⁰, (hotel executive director of guest relations)⁹⁰.
- Myrtle Groggins^{10,49} (from the Society for the Preservation of Train Travel)²¹.
- Millicent Wirtner (inspector from the State Board of Health)¹¹.
- Judy Pepler (soon-to-be-divorced wife)¹⁴.
- Miss Holtstein (Mutual Fidelity Insurance agent)²⁷.
- Frieda Milch³².
- Laura Woolsey (circus performer)³⁵.
- Carolyn Bixby (professor at UCLA)³⁹.
- Francis Stevens⁴⁵.
- Mickie Boggs⁴⁸.
- Laura Styles (visiting cousin)⁵¹,
- Mrs. Van der Heusen (home buyer)⁷¹.
- Dr. Lorilou Holt (agriculture researcher)⁷².
- Laura Blaine (ostensibly loving wife)⁸².
- Laura Giles (reporter from West Coast Living magazine)⁸⁴.

Frequently, Laura uses her real name even when undercover, as a

- secretary²,
- doctor¹³,
- student¹⁶,
- grieving fiancée²⁶,
- magazine reporter^{28,29,67},
- high-fashion model³³,
- tour guide³⁶,
- Vassar alumna⁴⁰,
- AFI intern in television directing⁷⁰, or
- airline stewardess⁷⁴.

And unnamed as a

- Japanese servant⁸,
- casting director for a punk version of *Gone with the Wind*²²,
- Alfred's cousin from Cleveland²²,
- chauffeur²³,
- jogger²⁵,
- insurance agent²⁷,
- tube of toothpaste³⁷,
- plant lady⁷³, or
- cop⁷⁸.

Age 27¹⁴, Laura is the middle of three children⁵. (We never hear about her younger sibling.) Her older sister Frances⁴¹, married for 16 years to dentist Donald Piper, moved from Connecticut³⁷ to Tarzana, California⁷⁹ when Donald got a teaching position at USC. Donald also owns a chain of twelve athletic footwear stores⁵, but only as an investment³⁷. They have three children; from oldest to youngest: Danny, Mindy, and an unnamed girl⁷⁹. (This contradicts information given earlier³⁷ when Frances says they only have two children.) At last check⁷⁹, Frances was considering becoming a dental hygienist so she could work with Donald. They keep the key under the mat⁸⁷.

When Mother comes, she wants her schedule packed⁵. Laura grew up in Los Angeles^{36,38}, but her mother lives someplace far away^{5,38}.

Once ran away from home, but actually hid in the laundry hamper⁵. When six, she found her grandmother's missing ring and received in payment a quarter, and a grand piano²⁵. When ten, was Junior Downhill [Skiing] Champ⁶³. When twelve, demanded an electric blanket on a Girl Scout overnight³⁹. (Or was she a Bluebird⁸⁹?) Dusk to dawn pinochle champ three years running at summer camp²⁷. Her father left when she was sixteen³⁶. Up until the time he left, he'd take Laura to circuses, great and not-so-great; Laura's been addicted to circuses since³⁵.

Laura's mother Abigail hates a mess, and tells Laura's grandmother that she's "a dental assistant, with great prospects of marriage". Abigail also suffers from asthma⁵.

Was a gymnast in college (including a three-night stint as a trapeze artist in the homecoming circus)³⁵, and graduated summa cum laude from Stanford University²⁵ in mathematics^{37,38,61}. Wore non-prescription glasses in order to look smarter in calculus class⁷. A member of the Stanford Alumni Glee Club⁴⁵. Her college friends, 'The Girls at Four East', all have successful careers and families, including Barbara Frick (the leader), a child psychology major³⁶.

Apprenticed at the Havenhurst detective agency^{9,25,64,86}, a company with seventy detectives⁹, making \$24,000 per year⁶⁴. Rose the the level of 'full operative' in an unprecedented three years, and opened "Laura Holt Investigations", which closed in six months. "Remington Steele Investigations" was two-and-a-half years old when Steele shows up²⁵. Murphy presents a contradictory timeline⁹, when he says that it has been four years since they left Havenhurst.

Lived with a man (a banker)⁴, whom we later learn is Wilson Jeffries¹⁹.

Passing fancies include eating jellybeans and buying Chinese cookbooks²⁸. A hay fever sufferer^{39,72}. Wears a size six shoe³⁴.

Her car (an automatic convertible white Rabbit, hee hee) has license plate 1ELI525^{8,14,19,29,30,31,43,55,85,86}, or 1E49963³⁹.

Her house was blown up by the Enterprow Corporation^{25,46}.

Milton (a lab technician) calls her 'Binky' and we never find out why³³.

Her loft: 3A, 800 10th Street, Los Angeles, CA 90013^{31,33,46}, phone number 555-6235⁸⁰. Neighbors include Lester Bartholomew (2B, a stock analyst), Wright (3B), and Mr. Putnam (1B, a lawyer)⁴⁶.

Likes to unwrap packages carefully, preserving the wrapping paper³³. Though shortly thereafter³⁷, she has learned to tear up wrapping paper like the rest of us.

Had never been to Europe before they go to Cannes⁴⁵.

Swore off alcohol¹⁴, not that she kept her promise for very long.

Studied French in school²³, knowledge of which she seems to have retained well⁴⁵. Regrets not having studied Spanish instead²³.

On Laura's wardrobe, Zimbalist says, "I bought most of them myself, in secondhand places. I'd buy a suit for \$10, and they'd have to do \$200 in alterations. But what incredible fabrics and workmanship! I own all those clothes, still have them in my closet. And I love the look of a man's hat on a woman—the way you look out from under the brim, just so."

Remington Steele

His name comes from a typewriter and a football team².

Passports include:

- Michael O'Leary, Ireland (from *Dark Victory*)
- Richard Blaine, Australia^{23,82} (from *Casablanca*)
- John Morel, France
- Douglas Quintaine, Great Britain
- Paul Fabrini, Italy

Other aliases (and past lives) include:

- Benjamin Pearson^{1,41} (Mutual Fidelity Insurance agent)²⁷.
- Simon Quarry (best man)⁴.
- Bob Pepler (soon-to-be-divorced husband)¹⁴.
- John Roby^{15,45} (from *To Catch a Thief*).
- Professor Perkins¹⁶.
- Nigel Lindsey-Woolsey¹⁹.
- a gold prospector in the Yucatan²⁰.
- Harry (what Daniel, Felicia, and Candy⁸⁶ call him)^{21,49,67,68}.
- Mr. Benton²¹.
- Johnny Todd (street-wise lad)^{21,44}.
- Montgomery Crewman (from the State Board of Exterminators)²².
- Marcos Xenos²⁵ when he was a smuggler in Greece.
- Sterling Gilette²⁶ (from the law firm "Drummond, Brady, and Sterling Gilette")³⁰.
- Adam Canfield (editor of *Art Insight* magazine)²⁷.
- Gaylord²⁹.
- The Kilkenny Kid (Pride of the Pampas)³¹, when he was a boxer in Rio.
- Herman³¹.
- Darren McGuffin³².
- Sam Saint-Cloud (fashion buyer)³³.
- The Great Savini³⁵, when he worked in a circus.
- Nigel Woolsey (circus performer)³⁵.
- Remington Steele (tour guide)³⁶.
- Dr. Stanley Bridges (dentist)³⁷.
- Felix Hillenbrand (professor at UCLA)³⁹. ("I had an uncle named Felix," Laura explains.)
- Lord Marchmaine (penner of filth)⁴⁰.
- Alfred Mainwaring (mechanic)⁴⁰.
- Mr. Saint-Albins (head of mediæval religious history at the British Museum)⁴⁷.
- Brendan Saint-James⁴⁸.
- Reginald Whitewood (Duke of Rutherford)⁴⁹, (high-spending high-flyer)⁶¹.
- Milo Minderbinder (Jingle-Grams Inc.)⁵⁴.
- Harrington (customs inspector)⁶².
- a stint in commercial art⁶³.
- Norman Keyes (insurance agent)⁶⁶.
- Harley Ferguson (pro-wrestling fan)⁷⁰.
- Jed Steele (agriculture researcher)⁷².
- Mick⁷³ when he hung out with Monroe Henderson.
- Benson Whitely (London coroner's office)⁷³.
- Detective Saunders⁷³.
- Trevor Keach (high-flying investor)⁷⁴, (caviar sales rep)⁷⁸, (British Railway Association)⁹².
- Whartney Chambers (investment counselor)⁷⁹.
- Rupert Ruggles (manservant)⁸⁴.
- Douglas⁹¹ when he hung out with Shannon in Hong Kong.

He also posed as a

- casting director for a punk version of *Gone with the Wind*²²,
- Alfred's cousin from Cleveland²²,
- insurance agent²⁷,
- cleaning man⁶⁴.

All of Steele's old flames were portrayed by his real-life wife Cassandra Harris.

Address⁶⁰: 5994 Rossmore, 5th floor, Apartment 'A'. Phone⁶⁰: 555-4377.

Hinted that he played polo with 'Charles' in London² and took 'the occasional schuss down the Alps with Jean-Claude'⁶³.

His philosophy is that "nothing is worth doing unless it can be accomplished by a shortcut."⁵²

Has a collection of pre-Columbian art and impressionist paintings⁶.

Doesn't remember a thing when drunk¹⁴.

Never carries cash. It's too bulky^{2,86}. And never carries coins. It's too noisy⁷⁸, though in a later episode, he does have a pocketful of change to make a phone call⁸⁵.

"I hate [taking] pills."³⁴

'The Honeyymooners' is "the only show I never tire of"³³.

Learned to fly a helicopter in Monte Carlo (contessa, etc.)⁴⁰.

His car: 1936 supercharged Auburn speedster⁵⁶, front left fender replaced, grille nicked, gages scratched, upholstery a bit worn. Steele describes it as "stylish without being flashy, daring yet understated."²⁹. Licence plate is AUBURN 1⁶⁹. Although it was dismantled by car thieves⁶⁹, the car reappears intact in some subsequent episodes^{81,82,83}.

Mildred Krebs

Aliases include:

- Belle Krebs (from Houston)³².
- Miss Zugsmith (from the equal rights commission)⁴⁸.
- Mildred Groggins (Myrtle's mother)⁴⁹.

She also used her own name as a:

- Talent agent from the William Morris Agency⁵⁴.
- Magazine photographer^{67,84}.

Mildred's private life was kept pretty secret. Writers typically had her involved in whatever goofy things would help the plot move along. The goofier the better.

Worked with the IRS, including six years with the Fraud Squad^{23,69}.

Has a sister Eunice in Seattle³¹. Also has a nephew Bernard (student at UCSB) via her sister Edna⁶⁰, with whom she wasn't very close. (Apparently, her parents had this thing for dumpy names.) Note, though, that Laura says⁴³ that Mildred has only one sister, the one in Seattle.

Divorced, husband Walter^{60,83} had heart trouble⁴⁰ and was a generally dull person^{24,40}.

"Every time I go shopping, I get hungry."²⁴

Believed in séances and all that, at least until she learned how they really worked³⁵.

Captain of her bowling³⁸ team, The Dragon Ladies: Hazel, Esther, and Rose⁴³.

On her mantelpiece are some candlesticks, a bowling trophy, a photo of her bowling team, and a photo of Laura and Steele⁴³. (The latter photo looks like a publicity shot, since Steele has one of those enigmatic grins on his face.)

Doesn't like nuts in her chocolate-chip cookies⁴³.

A pro wrestling fan ("Hatpin Millie") and a soap opera junkie⁷⁰.

Her cleaning lady, Teresa, speaks little English⁸⁶.

Bernice Foxe

Prefers health food like avocado on seven-grain with alfalfa sprouts².

By her own admission, all partied out, just looking for a slightly dull, filthy rich husband². Though, apparently, she was lying, since she still does the nightclub scene⁴.

Knows that Steele is Laura's territory and is of the philosophy, "He's here, you're here, go for it"².

Ran off with a saxophone player, no doubt to join some 'hot licks' in New York²³.

Running gag is that Steele always calls her "Miss Wolfe".

Apparently, they didn't decide precisely how long Bernice had been with the Agency. The general assumption is that she's been with them since Day One. She's been with them long enough to remember the last time Laura's mother visited (nearly three years ago)⁵, yet not long enough to know that business drops off right after Christmas⁷.

Murphy Michaels

Aliases include:

- Sergeant Milton, Wilshire Division¹¹.

Prefers standard American deli fare like 'corned beef and pastrami on a Kaiser with horseradish and sauerkraut'² or a more subdued ham and cheese¹⁵.

Privately has designs on Laura's affections^{4,6}. (Who doesn't?) Acts on them in *To Stop a Steele*¹⁵.

Played basketball in college¹⁶. Owns fencing equipment and sailing trophies²².

Set up his own agency in Denver, working in close association with the coroner's office²³.

Steele calls him "Murphy McMichaels". Running gag is that Murphy always handles the autopsy reports.

Daniel Chalmers

Passports include:

- Leighton Sinclair²¹, Great Britain.
- Eric Gooner, Sweden.
- Colonel Reginald Frobish, Hong Kong.
- Daniel Chalmers, Canada.

The Office

The front door reads, "Remington Steele Investigations; Suite 1157". The office phone number is 555-5458 (from the business card), 555-9458 (on Dr. Maxwell's appointment calendar¹²), or 555-3535 (when Bernard⁶⁰ and Laura⁶⁵ call). The building address is 4000 Avenue of the Stars, Los Angeles.

Door connecting Laura and Murphy's offices disappears after the first season, though it is present in the fake office in San Diego⁷⁷.

Limousine's license plate is R STEELE. The driver's name is Fred, usually played by Blake Clark, though in the later years, by somebody else who doesn't look like Blake.

Their neighbors include Cohen, Campbell, and Carstairs on 22 (an advertising firm)⁷⁵, Dr. S. Wilson Scabard on 8 (podiatrist)⁷⁵, and a diamond exchange in the office immediately below⁷¹.

The Computer

The computer changed from episode to episode. Its precise capabilities were never clearly defined, probably because the writers didn't think that was necessary to do. As the writers learned that they had a computer to play with, they made it capable of lots of things your average computer probably isn't capable of doing.

For the first season, it was an Apple /// in Laura's office, which she used in 'Tempered Steele'. No other first-season episodes used the computer, but you could see the Apple /// (and later, a TRS-80 Model III) lurking in the back of Laura's office.

For the second and third seasons, the TRS-80 Model III (two disk drives and asynchronous communications²⁷) moved to a more prominent position by Mildred's desk.

When Steele tries to use the computer himself⁵⁸, this is what he gets:

```
>RUN "REMS
REMINGTON STEELE CORPORATE INFORMATION FILE
WELCOME TO DATA NET
PLEASE ENTER THE
NAME OF THE COMPANY
YOU WISH TO EXAMINE
READY
>_
```

The fourth season introduced some computer, the precise make of which I can't quite figure out.

The Title Sequence

First Season

Try *this* for a deep, dark secret.
 The great detective Remington Steele? He doesn't exist. I invented him.
 Follow: I always loved excitement, so I studied and apprenticed, and put my name on an office.
 But absolutely nobody knocked down my door. A female private investigator seemed so . . . feminine. So I invented a superior. A decidedly *masculine* superior.
 Suddenly, there were cases around the block. It was working like a charm.
 Until the day *he* walked in, with his blue eyes and mysterious past. And before I knew it, he assumed Remington Steele's identity.
 Now *I* do the work and *he* takes the bows.
 It's a dangerous way to live, but as long as people buy it, I can get the job done.
 We never mix business with pleasure. Well, almost never.
 I don't even know his real name.
Starring Stephanie Zimbalist
Pierce Brosnan

Laura peeks into the office.
 Laura signs Steele's name to a letter.
 Laura tackles a suspect.
 Laura with a microscope.
 Laura studies a fingerprint, also in darkroom.
 Laura puts her name on an office.
 Nobody knocks down her door.
 Laura puts Steele's name on an office.
 Laura with a cook, a chef, an equestrienne, a surgeon, a pilot, a politician, and a boxer.
 Steele walks in¹ (their second meeting).
 Laura comes in, to find Steele at his desk¹ (final scene).
 Laura dusts for fingerprints.
 Steele soaks up the accolades¹ (the unveiling).
 Laura is attacked² (at the mission).
 Laura surrounded by reporters.
 Steele kisses Laura's hand¹ (bidding farewell).
 Laura comes into the office.
 Steele comes into the office.

The letter Laura forges Steele's name to reads:

Thank you for your kind words concerning my plans for a total renovation of your security system.

Always good to work with a man who appreciates the need for anonymity in this kind of endeavor.

I am delighted my assistant, Laura Holt, conveyed my intentions so accurately and precisely.

I look forward to our next successful association.

Sincerely,
 Remington Steele

which was almost certainly inspired by the plot of the pilot episode.

Second Season

There are two versions of the title sequence. The syndication package is distributed with the second style. The first style was used for some of the first-run episodes.

Clips used in the syndication version:

[Steele joins Laura in an otherwise empty movie theater.]

- Car explodes⁴.
- Steele picks a lock (breaking into Meecham's room)².
- Steele wanders, out of breath, through the morgue¹³.
- Steele gets bashed on the head looking for Waldo Church⁶.

[Steele grimaces, Laura smiles.]

- Steele kisses Laura's hand¹.
- Laura gasps as an elevator door closes on Alan Grievey's dead body⁹.
- A gun points through the door, and Laura gets away just in time¹⁰.
- Laura is chased by a car⁴.
- Laura falls from a construction beam while breaking into the Federal Reserve Bank²².

[Laura shrugs, Steele smiles.]

- Laura's house explodes²⁵.
- Laura and Steele rush to close the limo door before an oncoming truck hits them²².
- Laura falls into the sewers²⁷.
- Laura and Steele steal 'The Five Nudes of Cairo'⁵.
- Steele and Laura frolic in the park²⁹.

[Laura looks embarrassed, Steele smiles.]

- Laura gets away from Steele²⁹.
- Steele puts his hand to his chin, dumbfound².

The original title sequence (used when the episodes were first aired by NBC) used a different collection of clips (in particular, the second-season clips weren't included). Also, it ends with a shot of the movie theater, with Laura's and Steele's seats empty. Only a box of popcorn remains. The change probably was to reflect the change in tenor of Laura and Steele's relationship in the third season. (Anyone who still has a tape of the original title sequence please contact me, since I'm working entirely from memory here.)

Clips used in the original version:

- Steele lights a match, then gets shot at¹⁶.
- Steele tries to pick a lock¹³.
- The abbot's body comes down the ramp¹⁹.

Third and Fourth Seasons

Clips used in the title sequence, based on the fingerprint, gun, and lipstick montage used for commercial breaks:

- Laura laughs⁴⁵.
- Steele smiles enigmatically⁴⁷.
- Car explodes⁴.
- A gun points through the door, and Laura gets away just in time¹⁰.
- Mildred answers the phone 'Countess von Krebs here'⁴⁵.
- Mildred faints while Laura and Steele support her²⁷.
- Laura floats in an aquarium while Steele sits and waits⁴¹.
- Laura and Steele run through a mine field³⁸.
- Laura tips her hat³³.

- Steele puts his hand to his chin².
- Steele wanders, out of breath, through the morgue¹³.
- Laura is chased by a car⁴.
- Steele kisses Laura's hand¹.
- Laura gasps as an elevator door closes on Alan Grievey's dead body⁹.
- Laura and Steele rush to close the limo door before an oncoming truck hits them²².
- Laura and Steele steal 'The Five Nudes of Cairo'⁵.

Fifth Season

Clips used in the title sequence:

- Laura laughs⁴⁵.
- Steele smiles enigmatically⁴⁷.
- Car explodes⁴.
- A gun points through the door, and Laura gets away just in time¹⁰.
- Tony swings in on a vine⁸⁹.
- Tony slips off a branch and tumbles down a waterfall⁸⁹.
- Laura floats in an aquarium while Steele sits and waits⁴¹.
- Laura and Tony look like a cute couple⁹⁰.
- Mildred answers the phone 'Countess von Krebs here'⁴⁵.
- Mildred faints while Laura and Steele support her²⁷.
- While Steele picks a lock, Tony just kicks the door down⁹⁰.
- Steele and Tony glare at each other⁹⁰.
- Steele kisses Laura's hand¹.
- Steele and Tony shake hands in greeting⁸⁹.
- Laura, Steele, Tony, and Mildred peep over a wall⁹⁰.
- Laura and Steele steal 'The Five Nudes of Cairo'⁵.

Other non-episode clips

During the second season, NBC's slogan was 'Be there!', and they promoted their shows with something like, "You couldn't be there when [something embarrassing happened to one of the characters], but watch NBC and you can be there to see [the character doing something impressive]." The ones produced for *Remington Steele* were pretty inane (and, thankfully, were aired only a small number of times), and you could probably embarrass someone if you can find them.

Body Count

Television private detectives run into more than their share of dead bodies. Here's a body count. People who die of natural causes aren't tabulated. It's interesting to see how Laura's reaction to dead bodies changes. Steele, of course, is never perturbed.

1: 1	23: 1	45: 3	67: 3	89: 0
2: 1	24: 0	46: 1	68: 0	90: 1
3: 2	25: 1	47: 2	69: 0	91: 0
4: 2	26: 0	48: 1	70: 1	92: 1
5: 1	27: 1	49: 2	71: 2	93: 0
6: 2	28: 0	50: 1	72: 1	94: 0
7: 1	29: 1	51: 3	73: 1	<u>Total: 2</u>
8: 3	30: 0	52: 3	74: 1	<u>Grand</u>
9: 1	31: 1	53: 1	75: 0	total:127
10: 6	32: 0	54: 2	76: 2	
11: 2	33: 2	55: 2	77: 2	
12: 1	34: 4	56: 0	78: 1	
13: 2	35: 0	57: 1	79: 1	
14: 1	36: 1	58: 1	80: 1	
15: 2	37: 3	59: 1	81: 1	
16: 2	38: 0	60: 2	82: 1	
17: 2	39: 1	61: 1	83: 3	
18: 2?	40: 1	62: 1	84: 1	
19: 1	41: 1	63: 2	85: 0	
20: 1?	42: 1	64: 2	86: 3	
21: 1	43: 1	65: 2	87: 3	
22: 0	44: 4	66: 0	88: 1	
<u>Total: 38</u>	<u>Total: 24</u>	<u>Total: 34</u>	<u>Total: 29</u>	

Car insurance

Laura's Rabbit gets more than its share of body damage. Her insurance premiums must be astronomical.

- Steele hits a pedestrian with the car²⁷.
- Laura's car is stolen, then later crashes into another car³⁰.
- The car ends up in a river³⁹.
- With Steele driving, the car is forced off the road⁴⁰.
- Pushed off a cliff by a bulldozer⁴¹.
- Windows shot at⁶⁶.
- Vincent Dowd drives it off and crashes it⁸⁷.

Spending the Night

A common tease is to have Laura and Steele spend the night together without anything happening.

- ⁴ Protecting Sheldon from the CIA.
- ⁷ Listening to dictation tapes.
- ¹⁰ Reluctant roommates at The Devil's Playground.
- ¹³ "I'm not trying to sleep with you. I'm just trying to sleep with you."
- ²⁵ Laura stays at Steele's apartment when her house blows up.
- ³¹ Laura and Steele take care of the baby.
- ³⁹ Laura and Steele sleep in the woods.
- ⁷³ To escape attempts on their lives.
- ⁸² Posing as a married couple.
- ⁸⁶ Hiding from Pittsburgh Phil.

Where They Have Gone

- Glen Gordon Caron: Created 'Moonlighting'.
- Lee David Zlotoff: Created 'MacGyver'.
- Rick Mittleman: Executive story editor for 'MacGyver'.
- Joel Steiger: Story editor for 'Father Dowling Mysteries'.
- Richard DeRoy: Story editor for 'Father Dowling Mysteries'.

Show Premise Restated

- ¹ Laura explains some of it to proto-Steele.
- ² Laura tries to drill into Steele the rules of their arrangement.
- ³ Laura pleads with Steele to go along with their arrangement.
- ⁷ Laura reminds Steele of his nonexistence.
- ²¹ Laura gives her "I do the work, he takes the bows" speech to Hoskins.
- ²⁶ Steele explains to Mildred the real story, but Mildred doesn't believe him.
- ⁴¹ Laura dreams of exposing Steele for the fraud he is.
- ⁴⁵ Laura and Steele argue about their arrangement.
- ⁴⁹ Chalmers commends Laura on her inventiveness.
- ⁵⁰ Laura explains the situation to Steele, in an attempt to restore his memory.
- ⁵² Laura and Steele argue about their arrangement.
- ⁶⁸ Laura explains to Mildred who really runs the agency.
- ⁷⁷ Mildred describes how Mulch should act in order to impersonate Steele.

Internal References

The notation ^a/_b means that episode a makes reference to episode b. Sorted by referencer, not referencee. Obvious sequels (the George Mulch series and the Major Descoine series, for example) are not included.

- 19/ 4 Wilson Jeffries is the man Laura lived with.
- 23/19 Steele reminds Laura of her fan dance.
- 27/25 "He's the boss, but I'm in charge, remember?"
- 28/24 Steele doesn't want to lose another finder's fee.
- 37/ 5 Steele mentions Donald's ownership of athletic footwear stores.
- 43/31 Laura notes that Mildred's only family is her sister Eunice.
- 45/24 Steele relishes his first finder's fee.
- 46/25 Laura talks about the previous home she lost.
- 49/45 Steele admits that Cannes was a mess.
- 50/ 5 Laura mentions 'The Five Nudes of Cairo' to jog Steele's memory.
- 50/20 Laura mentions prospecting in the Yucatan to jog Steele's memory.
- 50/31 Laura mentions being the Kilkenny Kid to jog Steele's memory.
- 52/45 Whainright hired Steele because of the Hapsburg Dagger case.
- 53/45 The Pallermo Brothers.
- 53/23-24 Acapulco (listing Steele's escapades).
- 53/31 South America (listing Steele's escapades).
- 53/50 Ireland (listing Steele's escapades).
- 53/27,38 Major Descoine.
- 58/45 Laura and Steele decide to forego their Cannes 'arrangement'.
- 61/ 5 The Five Nudes of Cairo.
- 61/24 The Marchesa Collection in Acapulco.
- 61/45 Mildred notes she lost mega bucks in Cannes.
- 62/54 Holt's Last Case cf. Steele's Last Case.
- 67/ 2 Laura recalls when she asked Steele 'Who are you?'
- 67-68/50 The watch.
- 69/67-68 Mildred reminds Steele of their London escapades.
- 74/67-68 Mildred reminds Steele of their London escapades.
- 76/57 Steele compares the case to the Atomic Man case.
- 77/27 Laura mentions when Steele was being framed for murder.
- 77/66 Laura mentions when Steele lost the agency's licence.
- 77/71 Laura mentions when Steele gambled away the agency.
- 79/45 The Japanese investigators mention the Hapsburg Dagger case.
- 79/47 The Japanese investigators mention the Maltese Cross case.
- 80/34 Steele breaks the same leg as last time.
- 80/44 Laura recalls the last time she had a secret admirer.
- 81/ 5 Laura reminds Steele of the time they stole 'The Five Nudes of Cairo'.
- 82/48 Steele compares the case to the baseball fantasy camp.
- 82/36 Steele says, "I hear you".
- 82/67-68 Laura brings up their London escapades.
- 82/23-24 Laura brings up their Acapulco escapades.
- 82/45 Laura brings up their Cannes escapades.
- 88/60 Steele plans to marry the call girl Clarissa.
- 90/10 Laura and Steele mention it while trying to come up with a theory.
- 94/21 Steele and Daniel reminisce.
- 94/49 Steele and Daniel reminisce.

Appendix F: Film Annotations

The number in parentheses indicates which episode the citation was taken from. When reproducing dialog, a dash indicates the movie title.

The Alphabet Murders (48)

Steele: "A variation on —, uh Tony Randall, Robert Morley..."

Laura: "I know, I know."

(Tony Randall, Robert Morley, MGM 1965; based on "The ABC Murders" by Agatha Christie.)

And Then There Were None (10)

Steele: "—."

Laura: "That's what I'm afraid of."

Steele: "No, the movie!"

Laura: "What movie?"

Steele: "Barry Fitzgerald, Walter Huston, Louis Hayward, June Depree, for God's sake."

Laura: "Get a grip on yourself. You're coming unhinged."

And Then There Were None (48)

Steele: "—, Barry Fitzgerald, Walter Huston..."

Laura: "I remember."

And Then There Were None (90)

Steele: "—."

Tony: "There's not much."

Steele: "Barry Fitzgerald."

Tony: "This isn't Keyes?"

Steele: "Walter Huston, Louis Hayward, C. Aubrey Smith, Twentieth Century Fox 1945."

Anna Karenina (22)

Steele: "Or the train station. I mean, Garbo threw herself in front of a train in —."

(Greta Garbo, Fredric March, Basil Rathbone, MGM 1935.)

Arsenic and Old Lace (55)

Steele: "—, Cary Grant, Raymond Massey, Warner Brothers 1944."

Arsenic and Old Lace (91)

Steele: "—?"

Mildred: "Come again, chief?"

Steele: "Cary Grant, Josephine Hull, Warner Brothers 1944."

Bad Day at Black Rock (39)

Steele: "I must admit that this case is beginning to sound more and more like —."

Laura: "Annotation?"

Steele: "Spencer Tracy, Robert Ryan, MGM 1954."

The Bad Seed (36)

Steele: "You expect *me* to travel in *that* [the RV] with —?"

(Nancy Kelly, Patty McCormack, Warner Brothers 1956.)

Bambi (64)

Steele: "A movie would be a good idea. What would you like to see?"

Laura: "I'll leave it to you, Mr. Steele."

Steele: "I want to see —."

The Barefoot Contessa (62)

Steele: “—.”

Laura: “Who?”

Steele: “Humphrey Bogart, Ava Gardner, United Artists 1954.”

Beau Geste (45)

Steele: “—.”

Laura: “I’m really not in the mood for one of your movie quotes right now.”

(Three versions, Ronald Colman, Neil Hamilton, William Powell, Paramount 1926 [silent]. Cary Cooper, Ray Milland, Paramount 1939. And Telly Savalas, Guy Stockwell, Universal 1966. Avoid the 1966 version.)

Beverly Hills Cop (79)

Steele: “—, Eddie Murphy, Judge Reinhold, Paramount 1984. A wealthy industrialists smuggles bearer bonds hidden inside shipping crates.”

Donald: “What are you talking about?”

Beverly Hills Cop (90)

Laura: “—.”

Tony: “Who?”

Steele: “Eddie Murphy, Judge Reinhold, Paramount 1985. Excellent, Laura.”

The Big Sleep (12)

Laura: “Say something. If you can’t talk, groan.”

Steele: “—, Humphrey Bogart, Lauren Bacall, Warner Brothers 1946.”

Laura: “Good God, you’re babbling.”

The Big Sleep (13)

Dr. Wicker: “Welcome to —.”

The Big Sleep (44)

Steele: “—.”

Laura: “What?”

Steele: “A killer sets a trap for Bogart. . . .”

A Bill of Divorcement (70)

Laura: “A Bill of Whatchamacallit, with Who’s-it’s and What’s-his-name?”

Steele: “Ah yes, uh, —, uh John Barrymore, Katherine Hepburn, RKO 1932.”

Blood Alley (58)

Steele: “I was only going to investigate a doll factory. I didn’t anticipate —.”
(John Wayne, Lauren Bacall, Warner Brothers 1955.)

Blow Up (84)

Laura: “—, David Hemmings, Vanessa Redgrave, MGM 1967. Or was it 1966.”

Bernie: “What are you mumbling about?”

Laura: “A certain friend of mine will be very proud of me right now.”
(It was 1966.)

Body Heat (76)

Steele: “—.”

Mildred: “It certainly was!”

Steele: “Kathleen Turner, William Hurt, Warner Brothers 1981.”

Boom Town (37)

Laura: "Look, before you convince yourself that it's — all over again,"

Frances: "What?"

Laura: "— MGM 1940. Clark Gable leaves Claudette Colbert for Hedy La..." [Realizes what she's just said.]

Boys' Town (51)

Steele: "All right everybody, here we go. —, Spencer Tracy, Mickey Rooney, MGM 1938."

Laura: "Yeah, yeah, I know."

The Bride of Frankenstein (23)

Steele: "Uh, who is it?"

Laura: "—."

(Boris Karloff, Elsa Lanchester, Universal 1935.)

The Bride of Frankenstein (88)

Mildred: [to Laura] "You look like —."

Casablanca (2)

Laura: "Who are you? Where did you come from?"

Steele: "Humphrey Bogart to Ingrid Bergman, —, Warner Brothers 1942."

Casablanca (14)

Steele: "Of all the gin joints in all the towns in all the world..."

Casablanca (24)

Laura: "Richard Blaine. Why is that name so familiar?"

Steele: "It's the name of the character Bogart played in —."

Casablanca (50)

Laura: "You don't have to be a movie buff to realize what you just recounted is a scene from —."

Casablanca (88)

Laura: "Ilsa Lund!"

Mildred: "What are you doing?"

Laura: "Ilsa Lund is the name of the character Ingrid Bergman played in —."

Chain the Tiger (82)

Steele: "—, Jack Lemmon, Jack Guilford, Paramount 19...72."

Charade (28)

Laura: "—."

Steele: "The game or the movie?"

Laura: "Cary Grant, Audrey Hepburn!"

Steele: "Universal 1964.'

Chinatown (12)

Laura: "—, I, too, attend an occasional movie. Is there another book like this one?"

Clerk: "Of course not."

Steele: "A page has been torn out."

Clerk: "Never happened before that damn movie."

(Jack Nicholson, Faye Dunaway, Paramount 1974.)

Citizen Kane (10)

Laura: "Franks and beans, on Wedgewood? Shades of Citizen Hearst."

Citizen Kane (50)

Steele: "I'm looking for Orson Welles. Or was it Joseph Cotten. Ah, yes, yes. Xanadu. I'm looking for Xanadu."

(later)

Laura: "The movie —?"

Steele: "Uh, Orson Welles, Joseph Cotten, RKO 1941."

Coma (13)

Steele: "You know what they tried to do to Geneviève Bujold in —."

Convicted (87)

Steele: "—, Glenn Ford, Broderick Crawford, Columbia 1950. Ford plays an innocent man convicted to life imprisonment for a murder he didn't commit."

Sergeant: "Ruth Rolman played the dame, right?"

Steele: "Dorothy Malone, actually."

The Corpse Came C.O.D. (60)

Steele: "—"

Bernard: "We're going to try to get money for it?"

Steele: "George Brent, Joan Blondell, Columbia 1947."

A Day at the Races (50)

Steele: "The stills outside the cinema pointed the way all the time, only I didn't connect them 'til now. —. Come on!"

(Marx Brothers, MGM 1937.)

The Day of the Jackal (58)

Steele: "Ah. —, Edwards Fox, Michel Lonsdale, Universal 19...73."

Mulch: "Yeah!"

Mildred: "Whaddy mean, 'Yeah'?"

The Day of the Jackal (68)

Steele: "—."

Daniel: "Jackal? They'll be feeding on our caracasses if you don't pull this off."

Steele: "Edward Fox, Michael Lonsdale, Universal 1973."

Death Race 2000 (44)

Steele: "For gosh sakes, slow down, will you? This isn't —."

(David Carradine, Sylvester Stallone, New World 1975.)

Death Takes a Holiday (86)

Mildred: "But I don't understand. How?"

Steele: "—, Fredric March, Evelyn Venable, Paramount 1934."

Laura: "Mr. Steele, please."

Death Takes a Holiday (88)

Steele: "Look, if death can take a holiday, why can't you?"

Dirty Harry (53)

Lloyd Nolan: "No disrespect, but let's face it. — you ain't."

(Clint Eastwood, Harry Guardino, Warner Brothers 1971.)

Dirty Harry (80)

Mildred: "— is beginning to look better and better."

D.O.A. (6)

Steele: “—, Edmond O’Brien, Andrew Britten, United Artists 1949.”

Laura: “—?”

Steele: “Uh huh. It means ‘dead on arrival.’”

Laura: “I know what it means, what does it mean?”

D.O.A. (73)

Steele: “—! Edmond O’Brien, Luther Adler, United Artists 1949.”

Easy Rider (72)

Steele: “Right idea, wrong movie. It was —.”

Enter the Dragon (8)

Steele: “Are we looking here at —, with Bruce Lee on the trail of illicit narcotics?”
(John Saxon, 1973)

The Fan (53)

Steele: “—.”

Virginia Mayo: “What?”

Steele: “Lauren Bacall, James Garner, Paramount 1981.”

Fear Strikes Out (48)

Steele: “How about a double feature tonight to take our minds off the case.”

Laura: “What’s playing?”

Steele: “— and *Pride of the Yankees*.”

(Anthony Perkins, Karl Malden, Paramount 1957.)

From Russia With Love (50)

Steele: “Into the back and throw the oil drums into their path!”

Laura: “Right! . . . Oil drums! There aren’t any oil drums!”

Steele: “There were in —!”

(Sean Connery, Robert Shaw, Pedro Armendariz, United Artists 1963.)

The Fuller Brush Man (49)

Steele: “—, Red Skelton, Janet Blair, Columbia 1948.”

Gaslight (22)

Steele: “Are you suggesting . . . —?”

Alfred: “What?”

Steele: “Charles Boyer, Ingrid Bergman, MGM 1944.”

(A remake of the 1939 version by British National.)

Gaslight (63)

Steele: “—.”

Laura: “The flashlight’s fine, thanks.”

Steele: “Ingrid Bergman, Charles Boyer, MGM 1944.”

Laura: “I like your choice of films, Mr. Steele.”

Gaslight (73)

Steele: “—, Charles Boyer, Ingrid Bergman, MGM 1944.”

The Gauntlet (36)

Steele: “—, Clint Eastwood, Sondra Locke, Warner Brothers 1977.”

Laura: “Down kids, we’re going to the movies.”

The Godfather (53)

Steele: “—, Marlon Brando, Al Pacino, Paramount 1972.”

Going in Style (81)

Steele: “—, George Burns, Art Carney, Lee Strasberg, Warner Brothers 1979.”

Goldfinger (45)

Laura: "Not a bad move."

Steele: "—, Sean Connery, Gert Frobe, United Artists 1964."

Gone with the Wind (50)

Steele: "Frankly my dear I don't give a damn. Why did I say that?"

Laura: "Rhett Butler's last line to Scarlet O'Hara. Oh, I do hope this has something to do with —.

Now that's one movie I do know about, I've seen it a dozen times."

(Clark Cable, Viven Leigh, Olivia de Havilland, MGM 1939.)

Gone with the Wind (57)

Steele: "I keep hoping I'll wake up and I'll be watching —."

Gone with the Wind (73)

Laura: [holds up a videocassette] "—?"

Steele: "Merely to make sure that the machine is functioning properly."

(Throughout the episode, Steele tries to watch the movie on his VCR.)

The Great Escape (46)

Steele: "—, [cough] Steve McQueen, James Garner, [cough] United Artists 1963."

The Great Impostor (71)

Steele: "That guy is a bigger fraud than Tony Curtis in —."

(Raymond Massey, Karl Malden, United Artists 1961.)

Hamlet (82)

Steele: "—, Laurence Olivier, Jean Simmons, Jay Arthur, Rank 1948."

The Happy Hooker (88)

Laura: "So you're going to waltz down the aisle with —?"

Heaven's Gate (57)

Steele: "I keep hoping I'll wake up and I'll be watching 'Gone With The Wind'. Or —."

(Kris Kristofferson, Isabelle Huppert, 1980)

Hide in Plain Sight (69)

Steele: "—."

Laura: "... We could be looking for anyone."

Mildred: "Yeah, but who?"

Steele: "James Caan, Jill Eikenberry."

Mildred: "Who?"

Steele: "United Artists 1979."

How to Murder Your Wife (63)

Steele: "—, Jack Lemmon, Vienna Lese, United Artists 1965."

The Hunchback of Notre Dame (32)

Roxie: "I feel like —."

(Charles Laughton, Cedric Hardwicke, RKO 1939. An excellent remake of the 1939 [Lon Chaney, Universal] silent.)

In the Heat of the Night (39)

Steele: "—, Sidney Poitier, Rod Steiger, United Artists 1967."

(The movie is actually 1969.)

Invasion of the Body Snatchers (67)

Mildred: "—, Kevin McCarthy, Dana Wynter, Allied Artists 1956. Oh, how he loved that picture!"

It Happened One Night (25)

Steele: "Shouldn't be too hard for a long-legged field darter named Claudette."

Laura: "Claudette?"

Steele: "Claudette Colbert in —, uh, Clark Gable, Columbia 1934. I'll explain on the way."

It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World (17)

Laura: "I've seen those palm trees before."

Steele: "Of course you have. It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad [sic] World, United Artists 1963. Spencer Tracy and a cadre of comics."

It's a Mad, Mad, Mad, Mad World (64)

Steele: "—."

Laura: "Profound observation, Mr. Steele."

Steele: "Spencer Tracy, Sid Caesar, United Artists 1963."

Jaws (55)

Steele: "Yes, well, I hate to tear you away from 'Jaws 4', but..."

(Robert Shaw, Roy Scheider, Richard Dreyfuss, Universal 1975. 'Jaws 2': Roy Scheider, Lorraine Gary, Universal 1978.)

Johnny Apollo (53)

Lloyd Nolan: "Don't forget —, darling."

Steele: "Oh, Tyrone Power, Edward Arnold, Twentieth Century Fox, 19 uh 40. I'm sorry, excuse me."

(Lloyd Nolan, Dorothy Lamour.)

Key Largo (24)

Steele: "Did you happen to see —, Humphrey Bogart, Lauren Bacall, Warner Brothers 1948?"

Laura: "The last movie you took me to almost cost me my life."

Laura (17)

Steele: "Laura."

Laura: "Yes?"

Steele: "Laura."

Laura: "What!"

Steele: "Laura, Dana Andrews, Gene Tierney, Twentieth Century Fox 1944."

Laura (50)

Dr. Tulliver: "This is Miss Laura Holt."

Steele: "Ah, Laura, of course. Yes, Dana Andrews, Gene Tierney."

The List of Adrian Messenger (73)

Laura: "What have we stumbled into here?"

Steele: "—, George C. Scott, Kirk Douglas, Universal 1963."

Little Murders (54)

Steele: "Ah, —, Elliot Gould, Alan Arkin, Twentieth Century Fox eh 1971. A rampant sniper picks people off at a New York high-rise building."

The Lost Weekend (37)

Steele: "I've seen that look before."

Laura: "What look?"

Steele: "Ray Milland had it in —."

The Lost Weekend (65)

Laura: "We've gone through this whole case without your once coming up with a movie reference."

Steele: "Ah, here you go, I've got an appropriate one."

Laura: "Oh?"

Steele: "—, Ray Milland, Jane Wyman, Paramount 1945."

The Macomber Affair (78)

Mildred: "I loved that about the lion, Chief."

Steele: "Gregory Peck to Robert Preston, —, United Artists 1947."

The Major and the Minor (38)

Steele: "Hardly in keeping with the lighthearted spirit of the movie, is it? —, Ray Milland, Ginger Rogers, Paramount 1942."

Laura: "Mr. Steele has a great fondness for equating motion pictures with real life."

The Maltese Falcon (12)

Laura: "Where were you?"

Steele: "In a scene right out of —. There I was, confronting the very incarnation of Casper Gutman. I, of course, was Sam Spade, the slightly shady seamus. And, we were dinkering for the dinkus, only he called it an item."

(Humphrey Bogart, Mary Astor, Peter Lorre, Sidney Greenstreet, Bridget O'Shaughnessy, Warner Brothers 1941.)

The Maltese Falcon (23)

Steele: "Package? Wrapped in newspaper? Laura, this is beginning to smack of —. Walter Huston plays a sea captain, who, although riddled with bullets, manages to bring Bogart the falcon wrapped in newspaper."

The Maltese Falcon (45)

Ron: "I thought the Hapsburg Dagger was just a myth. Like —."

The Maltese Falcon (47)

Steele: "You realize what we're doing, don't you, Laura? We're chasing a Maltese falcon."

The Maltese Falcon (53)

Steele: "I get this image. This image of the character Peter Lorre played in —."

The Maltese Falcon (77)

Mulch: "That's a clue!"

Mildred: "What's a clue?"

Mulch: "—, Humphrey Bogart, Mary Astor, um... you know, all those other guys."

Manhandled (53)

Steele: "I mean, take —, Dan Duryea, Sterling Hayden, uh Paramount 1949."
(Dorothy Lamour)

The Man Who Knew Too Much (37)

Steele: "—."

Donald: "Look, I'm willing to forget if he is."

Steele: "Jimmy Stewart, Doris Day, Paramount 1956."

Mirage (26)

Steele: "I've got it. —, Gregory Peck, Walter Matthau, Universal, uh 1965."

Frank: "I don't remember that one."

Steele: "I'm not surprised."

Moby Dick (46)

Laura: "Do you really think people cared there were three versions of —?"

(A silent movie titled 'The Sea Beast.' John Barrymore, Joan Bennett, Waner Brothers 1930. And Gregory Peck, Richard Basehart, a John Huston production 1956.)

Moon Over Burma (53)

Steele: "You're kidding. Dorothy Lamour? The Road to Singapore? —? Typhoon?"

(Dorothy Lamour, Robert Preston, Paramount 1940.)

Murder Most Foul (12)

Grace Stanton: "He began saying all sorts of strange things."

Laura: "Such as?"

Grace Stanton: "—, Margaret Rutherford, MGM 1964. Do you know what any of this means, Miss Holt?"

Laura: "Um, Mr. Steele often speaks in a code."

Murder on the Orient Express (14)

Steele: "Paramount 1974, a veritable cavalcade of stars. —."

Murphy: "I'm going to go get some more coffee. Want some?"

Laura: "I'll come with you."

The Music Lovers (22)

Sherry: "Or the reservoir. Where Richard Chamberlain drank contaminated water in —."

(Richard Chamberlain, Glenda Jackson, United Artists 1970. An absurd fantasia on the life of Tchaikovsky.)

My Fair Lady (32)

Steele: "[Pygmalion] Or for those who prefer the musical version, —."

(Rex Harrison, Audrey Hepburn, CBS 1964.)

Neptune's Daughter (38)

Steele: "—, Esther Williams, MGM 1949."

North by Northwest (3)

(A character is named 'George Kaplan', Cary Grant's character. In search of Kaplan, Steele sets sail for "two miles offshore, north by northwest.")

North by Northwest (71)

Laura: "How can you be so sure?"

Steele: "—, Cary Grant, Eva Marie Saint, directed by Alfred Hitchcock, MGM 1959."

North by Northwest (72)

Steele: "—, Cary Grant, James Mason, MGM 1959."

Laura: "I never saw it."

Steele: "Laura, sometimes you're very difficult to talk to."

Notorious (14)

Steele: "Good idea, wouldn't you say?"

Laura: "Hm. Very good."

Steele: "That's what I thought. Well, it had to be good. Claude Rains did it in —."

Notorious (24)

Steele: "—?"

Laura: "Well, it's true, Pepe's did have a bit of a reputation in those days."

Steele: "Cary Grant, Ingrid Bergman, RKO 1946."

Laura: "I must've missed that one."

Obsession (42)

Steele: "—, Cliff Cliff Cliff Robertson, Genevieve Bujold, uh Columbia 1976."

Ocean's Eleven (41)

Steele: "—, Frank Sinatra, Richard Conte and the Rat Pack, Warner Brothers um 1960."

Old Yeller (43)

Steele: "It sickens me to think that you and — are members of the same animal family."
(Dorothy McGuire, Fess Parker, Walt Disney 1957.)

One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest (10)

Steele: "Nurse Ratchet, we are private investigators."

Out of the Past (83)

Steele: "—, Robert Mitchum, Kirk Douglas, RKO 1947."

Pennies from Heaven (22)

Steele: "A trifle more substantial than —."

Peyton Place (40)

Steele: "This town is a veritable —. Lana Turner, Lee Philips, Twentieth Century Fox 1957."

The Postman Always Rings Twice (53)

Lloyd Nolan: "Stay down, Steele. —."
(Lana Turner, John Garfield, MGM 1946.)

Pride of the Yankees (48)

Steele: "How about a double feature tonight to take our minds off the case."
Laura: "What's playing?"
Steele: "Fear Strikes Out and —."
(Gary Cooper, Teresa Wrigt, a Sam Goldwyn production 1942)

Psycho (11)

Phil Haver: "She doesn't need a motive. She's nuts. Didn't you ever see —?"

Psycho (63)

Laura: "—."
Steele: "I beg your pardon?"
Laura: "Anthony Perkins, Janet Leigh, Paramount 1960."

The Producers (59)

Steele: "Ah. —."
Laura: "Here we go again."
Steele: "Zero Mostel, Gene Wilder, Avco-Embassy 1968."
(Really, 1967.)

Pygmalion (32)

Steele: "—!"
Laura: "What?"
Roxie: "Who?"
Steele: "Leslie Howard, Wendy Hiller, MGM um 1938."

Rear Window (34)

Steele: "—."
Laura: "I know *that* was made into a movie."
Steele: "James Stewart, Grace Kelly, Paramount 1954."
(Steele spends most of the episode with his leg in a cast, and ends it with both legs in a cast, just like Jimmy Stewart.)

Rear Window (80)

Steele: "Now I know how Jimmy Stewart felt in —."

The Road to Singapore (53)

Steele: "You're kidding. Dorothy Lamour? —? Moon Over Burma? Typhoon?"
(Bing Crosby, Bob Hope, Dorothy Lamour, Paramount 1940.)

Robin Hood (26)

Laura: "Spellbound?"
Steele: "Or —."
(Douglas Fairbanks, Wallace Beery, 1922 [silent].)

Romancing the Stone (89)

Steele: "A veritable —."
Tony: "What?"
Steele: "Michael Douglas, Kathleen Turner, Twentieth Century Fox 1985."

Saint Louis Blues (53)

Dorothy Lamour: "Lloyd and I did uh —."
Steele: "William uh Frawley and Matty Melneck and his Orchestra, Paramount 1939, yes."

Sands of Iwo Jima (26)

Laura: "What are you doing?"
Steele: "—, John Wayne, Republic 1949."

The Secret Life of Walter Mitty (53)

Steele: "You know, you still look as lovely as you did in —? Danny Kaye, RKO 19 uh..."
(Boris Karloff, Samuel Goldwyn 1947.)

Shanghai Cobra (75)

Steele: "Feets don't fail me now. Do you know who said that?"
Scabbard: "I can't say that I do."
Steele: "Charlie Chan's chauffeur. —, Monogram 1945. I've always thought those words to live by."

The Shining (7)

Laura: "What am I supposed to make of this?"
Steele: "—?"
Laura: "What?"
Steele: "Did you see —?"
Laura: "Did *anyone* see —?"

Smokey and the Bandit (67)

Steele: "Have you driven one of these things before?"
Laura: "I've seen —."

Somewhere in the Night (53)

Steele: "I went to a revival house where they were showing —, but they lost the last reel. ..."
(John Hodiak, Lloyd Nolan, Richard Conte, Twentieth Century Fox 1946.)

Spellbound (26)

Laura: "By the way, where did you get this stuff on amnesia?"
Steele: "—?"
Laura: "Yes, I was, actually."
Steele: "Gregory Peck, Ingrid Bergman, Selsnik International, um 1945."
Laura: "Why do I ask?"

Splendor in the Grass (29)

Steele: "—, Warren Beatty, Natalie Wood, Warner Brothers 1961."

Stagecoach (36)

Steele: "When John Ford was directing —..."
(Claire Trevor, John Wayne, United Artists 1939.)

A Star is Born (22)

Steele: "What about the beach? I mean, in —, Fredric March walks himself into the ocean."
(Janet Gaynor, Fredric March, Selznick 1937.)

The Sting (21)

(The entire episode is the Remington Steele version of the movie. Paul Newman, Robert Redford, Universal 1973.)

The Sting (28)

Laura: "We're about to enact our version of one of Mr. Steele's favorite films, —."

Sunset Boulevard (83)

Steele: "—."

Laura: "I thought he lived on Eastwood Drive."

Steele: "Gloria Swanson, William Holden, Paramount 1950."

(Curiously, Rebecca Holden appears in the same episode.)

The Taking of Pelham 123 (75)

Steele: "—."

Scabbard: "What?"

Steele: "Walter Matthau, Robert Shaw, United Artists, 1974."

Scabbard: "We're all going to die like dogs and he's talking about a movie?"

Tea and Sympathy (1)

Steele: "Years from now, when you talk of this, and you will, be kind. Deborah Kerr to John Kerr.
—, MGM 1958."

They Won't Believe Me (88)

Steele: "—."

Laura: "Who won't?"

Steele: "Robert Young, Susan Hayward, RKO 1947."

The Thin Man (2)

Laura: "I hope you know what you're doing."

Steele: "I know precisely what I'm doing. William Powell did exactly the same thing in —."

The Thin Man (56)

Steele: "—, William Powell, Myrna Loy, MGM 1934. Nick and Nora invite all the suspects to a dinner party and then serve up the killer at the main course."

The Third Man (8)

Steele: "I'm afraid to admit it this far along, but I think we're in the wrong movie. [...]"

Laura: "What are you talking about!"

Steele: "—!"

The Third Man (16)

Steele: "—, London Films 1949. Orson Welles disappeared in the sewers of Vienna..."

The Third Man (47)

Steele: "—, Joseph Cotten, Orson Welles, London Films 1949."

The Third Man (76)

Laura: "Now all we need is —."

Steele: "Well, if it isn't Orson Welles, I can't be of any immediate help. —, Joseph Cotten..."

Laura: "I got it the first time."

The Thirty-Nine Steps (50)

Steele: "Pretty soon you'll want to make yourself comfortable and then do you Madeleine Carroll routine. Yes, I'm looking forward to that."

Laura: "What Madeleine Carroll routine?"

Steele: "—? The Hitchcock movie? Even I remember that. I mean, Robert Donat, Madeleine Carroll, on the run..."
(1935.)

Thirty Seconds over Tokyo (21)

Steele: "I'm watching a movie, um, —, heroic stuff, makes me proud to be in your brave country."
(Spencer Tracy, Van Johnson, MGM 1944.)

Thirty-Six Hours (71)

Steele: "What's going on here, Laura?"

Laura: "—."

Steele: "James Garner, Rod Taylor, MGM 1964."

The Thomas Crown Affair (15)

Morrie: "How we gonna do that?"

Steele: "—, Steve McQueen, Faye Dunaway, United Artists 1968."

Three Days of the Condor (53)

Lloyd Nolan: "What were we talking about?"

Steele: "—."

Lloyd Nolan: "No, I wasn't in that."

(Robert Redford, Faye Dunaway, Cliff Robertson, Paramount 1975.)

T-Men (62)

Steele: "—, Dennis O'Keefe, Albert Rider, Eagle/Lion 1948."

To Catch a Thief (15)

Laura: "John Roby?"

Steele: "—, Cary Grant, Grace Kelly, Paramount uh 1955."

To Catch a Thief (45)

Steele: "What are you talking about?"

Laura: "[furious] —, Cary Grant, Grace Kelly, Paramount 1955? Grant plays a retired catburglar named John Roby."

Steele: "I'm impressed."

Laura: "You took me to see it three weeks ago!"

Tom Jones (29)

Laura: "This stuff sounds more to me like —."

Steele: "—? Albert Finney never had to work this hard."

Laura: "Albert Finney never had to play the part with me."

(Albert Finney, Susannah York, United Artists 1963.)

Typhoon (53)

Steele: "You're kidding. Dorothy Lamour? The Road to Singapore? Moon Over Burma? —?"
(Dorothy Lamour, Robert Preston, Paramount 1940.)

The Uninvited (16)

Steele: "—, Ray Milland, Gail Russell, Paramount 1944."

Laura: "You're taking me to the movies again..."

Vertigo (42)

Steele: "If this were some normal case were were working on, I'd blithely come up with a string of movies to explain it all, I mean, —, James Stewart, Kim Novak, eh Paramount 1958."

Wait Until Dark (50)

Steele: "Well, we'll wait til dark. Audrey Hepburn, Alan Arkin, Warner Brothers 1967."

Laura: "Another clue?"

Steele: "I don't think so, it just popped into my head."

(The movie also starred Efrem Zimbalist, Jr.)

White Heat (53)

Steele: "And so we come to the triumph of —, in which Miss Mayo further displays her versatility opposite James Cagney."

(James Cagney, Edmond O'Brien, Virginia Mayo, Warner Brothers 1949.)

Witness (72)

Steele: "—, Harrison Ford, Kelly McGuinness, Paramount 1985."

Witness for the Prosecution (9)

Laura: "Murphy, why would people put an elevator in their homes?"

Steele: "Charles Laughton, —. Had a stroke, couldn't walk up stairs."

Murphy: "He's good."

(Tyronne Power, Marlene Dietrich, United Artists 1957.)

The Wizard of Oz (52)

Laura: "I don't think we're in Kansas any more."

Steele: "—, Judy Garland, Ray Bolger, MGM [1939]."

The Yakuza (8)

Steele: "Aha! —!"

Laura: "—?"

Bernice: "Robert Mitchum, Brian Keith?"

Steele: "Exactly. Warner Brothers 1975. —. Japanese word for 'gangster'. Ruthless code of honor."

Laura: "Where do you find these films?"

(later)

Steele: "It appears we're on the mark with —."

Murphy: "—?"

Steele: "Mm hm."

Laura: "Robert Mitchum, Brian Keith, all about the Japanese underworld."

Murphy: "Oh my God, he's got you doing it now?"

The Yellow Rolls-Royce (29)

Steele: "—."

Laura: "This is still an Auburn, no?"

Steele: "No. —, Rex Harrison, George C. Scott, Shirley Maclaine, Art Carney, Ingrid Bergman, Omar Sharif, MGM 1965."

(1964, actually.)

? (23)

Laura: "Home, James!"