

**Characters:**

- **Dr. Steven Campman: suit**
- **Parent 1, Doctor, Girlfriend: all black**
- **Parent 2, Pathologist, Narrator: all black**

*The stage has three chairs on it: one facing the audience, the others two behind it with their backs facing each other.*

*Lights up on Dr. Steven Campman, a middle-aged man dressed in a business suit, and the narrator, a man dressed in all black. The narrator is standing and holding a sheet of paper in front of him.*

**Narrator:** Dr. Steven C. Campman has been practicing medicine for 22 years. Dr. Campman graduated from the Creighton University School of Medicine in 1992. He practices medicine in San Diego, CA and specializes in Anatomic Pathology & Clinical Pathology. Dr. Campman speaks English and Spanish.

*Narrator sits down. Lights down on narrator.*

**Dr. Campman:** Well, it starts with: a long time ago my dad was a biology teacher, so I was gonna be a biologist, like him. And then I thought that people are more interesting than, you know, other animals. So I thought, medicine is what I should do. And then, in high school, for, I don't really know the reason why they chose me but, the senior boys, a lot of 'em were chosen for something called 'Boy's Day in the Government,' and I was chosen to be Los Angeles County coroner for a day. Dr. Nobuchi. And so I went to the the medical examiner/coroner's office, and, you know, just saw that for a day and I thought it was really interesting. So, I kept with my plans for medical school, and all through medical school I knew that's what I wanted to do.

*Pause*

**Dr. Campman:** Everything that some other doctor does, relates to pathology. If a patient comes into the doctor and the doctor takes a little biopsy to see -

*Lights up on Doctor and Pathologist, Doctor hands Pathologist a manila folder.*

**Doctor:** Is it cancer or not?

**Dr. Campman:** It's not that doctor that figures out it's cancer. He sends it to a pathologist and the pathologist figures out -

*Pathologist hands the folder back to Doctor.*

**Pathologist:** It's cancer.

*Lights down on Doctor and Pathologist.*

**Dr. Campman:** -and then tells the doctor who then tells the patient. Behind every plain old doctor there's a pathologist that's telling them their diagnosis. So, then, we're kind-of the doctors, for doctors!

Pathology in general has to do with everything, forensic pathology is just a subset of pathology that is just a little more interesting to me because it has to do with watching out for public health. Anytime someone in this county dies and their doctor doesn't know what killed them, we have to be involved in figuring that out. Part of what we do here is examine people to see if they have a disease that could be dangerous for public health. Right now, I was at UCSD preparing for what happens if somebody has ebola virus; deciding who's gonna do what and who's gonna take charge of the body, you know, and that kind of stuff.

*Long pause.*

*Sound of a train plays.*

**Dr. Campman:** One case that I kinda remember right now is, a guy that was found hit by a train, and we didn't know who he was at first, but his family had called hospitals and police and everything saying-

*Lights up on Parent 1 and Parent 2.*

**Parent 1:** I'm concerned about his safety!

**Parent 2:** He's been suicidal!

*Lights down on Parent 1 and Parent 2.*

**Dr. Campman:** Turns out that was the guy. So I did his autopsy, and he had injuries from the train, and I said that it was suicide because his only history was of depression and his family was so worried about him that they were calling around because they thought he might've hurt himself. Right after the autopsy his parents called and just yelled at me -

*Lights up on Parent 1 and Parent 2.*

**Parent 1:** How could you call it suicide?

**Parent 2:** My son would never do that!

*Lights down on Parent 1 and Parent 2.*

**Dr. Campman:** So I agreed to investigate more. I interviewed some more people, I found his psychologist, and I wrote a list of questions for his parents.

*Lights down on stage. Lights up on Narrator, he is standing toward the front of the stage.*

**Narrator:** And they answered all of the questions except one.

*Lights down on Narrator and up on Dr. Campman and Parent 2. They are sitting in chairs facing each other, but angled slightly towards the audience.*

**Dr. Campman:** When he spoke of suicide before, how long ago was it, and what did he talk about?

**Parent 2:** We could have ten people write letters saying that he was very happy, and he would never do that!

**Dr. Campman:** Fine, you don't have to write the letters I believe you!

*Lights down on Dr. Campman and Parent 2 and up on Narrator.*

**Narrator:** Then he tracked down his ex-girlfriend, and asked her the same question:

*Lights down on Narrator and up on Dr. Campman and Girlfriend. The chairs are in the same position as before.*

**Dr. Campman:** When he spoke of suicide before, how long ago was it, and what did he talk about?

**Girlfriend:** Oh, that was just a month before.

**Dr. Campman:** Oh? what happened?

**Girlfriend:** He broke into my apartment and found me with another guy, and he said that he was gonna go down to the train tracks and kill himself. So I called his parents and they went to the train tracks and stopped him.

*Lights down on Girlfriend. Dr. Campman stands up and walks towards the audience.*

**Dr. Campman:** What was really interesting to me is that his parents lied to me. They knew all along what happened, and it took a little extra investigating to prove that we were correct. I just thought it was really interesting that people would lie about that.

*Pause*

**Dr. Campman:** Getting to do what I do is a slow process. First you see stuff in college, you know, or even in high school; dissecting frogs and pigs and sharks, and all that kinda stuff. And through medical school you get used to being with people. Sick people and hurt people and crying and screaming people, you know. People throwin' up and poopin'. You know, it's just all different kinds of people and you get used to it. And then little by little you get used to working with dead people. And so, you know when I see a dead person, it's not really shocking. I just do my best to describe their injuries or diseases. At the end of the day that's what there was and that's what happened.

*Lights down on Dr. Campman.*