

“A SHORT STATEMENT ” by Alexander Lee-Rekers

BETHANY addresses the throng of reporters outside her house.

BETHANY: I'd like to make a short statement, after which I will not be taking any questions. I offer nothing but unwavering support and belief in my husband, who is doing all he can to address the ridiculous, libellous rumours that have jeopardised his reputation and threatened our family. I love my husband John; I know him to be a man of unscrupulous morals, as do his peers and our wider community. At this time, we ask for privacy and compassion as motions are being made to counter these vile allegations. Thank you.

Performance Notes:

- *So what happened? This is the first thing for you to address as the actor. As there is no direct clue in the text, it is your job to invent a plausible backstory that Bethany might be able to speak to.*
- *When it comes to John's guilt (and how much Bethany knows/believes him), this is also for you to determine. A small change in this regard can drastically alter how this scene plays out. Whatever your choice, remember that her objective is to convince the media that he is innocent—no matter what her personal view or knowledge may be.*
- *Pay careful attention to subtext in this scene. What's not being said, what's being inferred?*