

Julius Galacki  
12011 Pacific Avenue # 3  
Los Angeles, CA 90066

Julius.galacki@gmail.com  
Cell: (323) 821-5776

Excerpt from “TAUTOLOGY”

The monologue below appears in *Smith & Kraus’ “Audition Arsenal”* series.

The “him” and “he” is the son’s father.

The mother had died in a tragic hit and run accident.

**son**

I'm going to kill him. I thought about it. We have a long kitchen knife. Through his back into his heart. I'd have to strike really hard.... You see I was listening to the birds. I wasn't bothering him! He said how could I listen to the birds for hours. He didn't even look at them. They were little babies jumping from branch to branch. And they sang. Sang. Then he hit them with a stick. I heard the tree try to catch them as they fell. But they were dead already and they couldn't hold back. So they just fell. Then he turned to look at me. I thought he was going to kill me too. That's when I saw her. I hadn't seen her for years. Right then I could feel her brown curls - how much I loved her. How well she took care of me. I knew he was going to kill me, so I screamed "Momma, save me!" And he froze. He started to cry, ran back into the house. She saved me. I've never seen anyone make him cry.

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