**Jean & Rick Cabot**

How they change

Costume/hair

Stereotypes

Symbolism attached to them

Relationship between them

Dialogue

Setting

IRONY

**JEAN:**

Jean is very opinionated and racist yet contradicts herself when she realises she's alone and her “best friend” is her mexican maid this may be as she changes through the movie because she learns her life was very superficial by the friends she surrounds herself with and their dialogue. Jean realises her friendships weren't very deep and none of them would be there for her when she needed it and that all of her shallow “friends” and their first world, white rich woman problems were always priority over her. Jean had tripped on the stairs ***“Carol was the only one home but she couldn’t come get me because she was getting a massage… She’s been my best friend for 10 years..”***  Jean’s character is superficial and demanding and she wears the pants in their relationship. She also acts in a jealous way about Rick and his assistant. At the start of the film when we first see these characters Jean grabs Rick’s arm when they brush past Anthony and Peter, ***“...But if a white person sees two black men walking towards her and she turns and walks in the other direction, she's a racist, right”.*** Jean is a very racial character in the way she treats Daniel and her maid she is very blatant and obvious about it. She over exaggerates minor incidents e.g her blouse getting ruined at the dry cleaners. Her tone is very assertive cross with aggressive and this is shown when she is telling Rick that she wants the locks changed in the morning in a very assertive and loud tone and she’s pointing at him and looking him dead in the eye. ***“I would like the locks changed again in the morning. And you know what, you might mention that next time we'd appreciate it if they didn't send a gang member…Yes. The guy in there with the shaved head, the pants around his ass, the prison tattoos… Oh really? And he's not gonna go sell our key to one of his gang banger friends the moment he is out our door?”*** She cuts people short when she has something to say and wants what she wants when she wants it. She doesn’t take no for an answer and doesn’t see how she could do wrong, like the world is her oyster and everything revolves around her. She questions other characters repeatedly and can respond in a very sarcastic manner. Her appearance is very proper and she appears to always have a blow out and neat clothes. Jean also expects a lot from other characters throughout the film such as the housemaid. ***“Are these dishes clean or dirty... For once I would like it to be clean in here”*** -

**RICK:**

This character has a very powerful role in the movie because of his job. Rick is wealthy and dominant district attorney who encounters some negative experiences in a short amount of time which quickly makes race and class a primary focus in his career and homelife. Due to his job his perceived appearance is crucial. Rick and his team blackmail Graham Waters into framing the wrong man for murder so they can win and ensure the “black” vote therefore he believes it will satisfy the black community. This is because the L.A.P.D is known as a very racist police department so making a public announcement saying that the african-american was innocent will make them look better. He has a cool, calm and condescending tone and is always trying to settle his wife down. He is a strategic planner on how to win back the black votes that he thinks he has lost and seems as though he is always stressed and overworked. He cares more about his image then his wife and child at home and just brushes them off. Rick’s character also shows a lot emotions visually through his facial expressions. He always looks angry, stressed and fearful most likely for his job and his wife. Throughout the film it is suggested that Rick is having an affair with his assistant and Jean often hints at it, her first few lines are about him always talking to her. Because of the car jacking Rick is scared about losing votes ***“Fuck! Why do these guys have to be black? I mean, why? No matter how we spin this thing, I'm either gonna lose the black vote or I'm gonna lose the law and order vote”.*** He results to trying to find any “black man” to honour a medal with to make himself look cultured and unaffected by the incident. ***“All right. If we can't duck this thing, we're gonna have to neutralize it. What we need is a picture of me pinning a medal on a black man. Bruce? The firefighter - the one that saved the camp or something - Northridge... what's his name?”***

**OTHER:**

Jean and Rick are an exceptionally lucky couple who are very privileged and are a stereotypical white, wealthy american couple. They often say racial comments and act in racist ways. They have flash cars, a massive house and they are always well dressed in expensive suits and dresses. They are very powerful within the L.A.P.D with Rick being a district attorney. There house is decked out in Christmas decorations and there is lots of paintings. One of the paintings when Jean i acting aggressively towards Rick there is a painted piece of art behind her of a naked woman symbolising power and equality. There house is always clean and in order.

**QUOTES:**

***“Do you wanna hear something funny… your the best friend I got”*** - Jean

***“Carol was the only one home but she couldn’t come get me because she was getting a massage… She’s been my best friend for 10 years..”*** - Jean

***“I would like the locks changed again in the morning. And you know what, you might mention that next time we'd appreciate it if they didn't send a gang member…Yes. The guy in there with the shaved head, the pants around his ass, the prison tattoos… Oh really? And he's not gonna go sell our key to one of his gang banger friends the moment he is out our door?”*** - Jean

***“I sent her out for groceries and that was two hours ago, you go through six housekeepers a year. I'm not snapping at you I am angry at the police Rick, at Maria at the dry cleaners who destroyed another blouse today, at the gardener who keeps over watering the lawn.”*** - Jean

***“...But if a white person sees two black men walking towards her and she turns and walks in the other direction, she's a racist, right.”*** - Jean

***“Gun in my face. Now I am telling you, your amigo in there is gonna sell our key to one of his homies and this time it'd be really fucking great if you acted like you actually gave a shit!”*** - Jean

***“Fuck! Why do these guys have to be black? I mean, why? No matter how we spin this thing, I'm either gonna lose the black vote or I'm gonna lose the law and order vote!”*** - Rick

***“All right. If we can't duck this thing, we're gonna have to neutralize it. What we need is a picture of me pinning a medal on a black man. Bruce? The firefighter - the one that saved the camp or something - Northridge... what's his name?”*** - Rick

***“Goddamn district attorney or Los Angeles”*** - Rick

***“He’s iraki?...He looks black” -*** Rick

***“Are these dishes clean or dirty... For once I would like it to be clean in here”*** - Jean

***You're the best friend i’ve got”*** - Jean as she's hugging her maid

***“She's been my friend for 10 years” - Jean*** yet still wouldn't sacrifice a massage to come help a friend

Paul Haggis, the director and writer of the 2003 film based on real life events, “Crash” used the characters of Jean and Rick Cabot to express the way a powerful and wealthy white family would act towards other people and races In a racial city like Los Angeles.

* Jean wants the locks changed again in the morning because they sent a ‘gang member’ with prison tattoos to change them
* “Why did these guys have to be black?!
* He’s iraki? Well he looks black - rick
* Are these dishes clean or dirty? For once i would like it to be clean in here! - Jean having a go at her Latina maid for no reason other than racism
* First world white woman problems
* I fell down the stairs, i called you cause i couldn't get through to anyone
* Called… but she couldn't get through to me because of a massage- jean, rick - what a bitch, she's been my friend for 10 years haha - jean
* Blantly racist in front of others
* Daniel is seen in jean and ricks house behind the staircase this may be as the director was wanting him to look quite removed from the upper class that is jean and rick

**CAMERA ANGLES:**

* Low angle shot looks down on Jean next to Rick however she is still shown to have authority as from her yelling and expressions
* Close up of phone as she trips over
* High angle shot of her lying on the stairs helpless
* Power shots from up high

**DIRECTOR'S CUT:**

* “Passion piece”