

## **OLD MAN NATURE**

(2M, 4W)

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Inspired by true events in 1980's Northern California. Naomi, a grieving mother, is obsessed with finding her missing daughter, Angelica. In order to cope with her pain, Naomi starts a Bible study group comprised of other young mothers whose children have been abducted. James Bender, a mysterious middle-aged man, visits the women's homes with information about their daughters and even helps search for them. Because of his unusual knowledge of child abduction and police procedure, he's a constant suspect. Bender gives a voluntary lie detector test to prove his innocence. Naomi, hidden away behind a tinted police glass mirror, witnesses Bender cry during questioning about Angelica. During the lie detector test police conduct a secret bloodhound inspection of his van. However, the inspection proves inconclusive.

Through the investigation, Naomi surprisingly befriends Bender. The police ask her to wear a wire tap and ask specific questions for them. She agrees, if she can ask her own questions. During the meeting, Bender reveals a new location he is searching for the missing girls. Naomi offers Bender one of Angelica's necklaces and dolls to thank him and to examine his reaction. He remains calm and quickly realizes she is wearing a tap. He suddenly rips it from her shirt and leaves the scene. The police find the location Bender described and dig up a note that simply says: Gotcha.

The police use circumstantial evidence to obtain a search warrant and raid his house but find nothing. Naomi decides to make peace with Bender by inviting him to her house without anyone else's knowledge. He agrees if there will be no police involved. Bender arrives at Naomi's house. In darkness, an audio tape replays the section of the lie detector test where Bender cries. Naomi demands he finally confess to killing her daughter. When he doesn't, she stabs him out of rage and frustration. Naomi is taken to the police station. During questioning, the police reveal there was a section during the wire tap meeting that Naomi took the wire tap off momentarily. Within that section, Bender reveals that he could possibly be the killer, but now that he's dead, Naomi will never know the truth.