

24 CONTINUED: (2)

24

1 Scene

3 Pages

JUDGE EDEN

Counsel.

ADAM

(rapid-fire)  
Trials are expensive, they can bankrupt rich people, as for the poor, forget it, this could cost Damien Winslow his house, if only he had a house, which of course he never will, why, 'cos he's poor and the poor don't get houses, maybe they did briefly when the banks were into mortgage fraud, but--

JUDGE EDEN

Counsel.

ADAM

(pointing to the packed gallery)  
--as for the witnesses, they're here today, we can get this thing over with, why put them through the inconvenience,  
(to the gallery)  
how many here for this case?

The entire room weakly raises their hands.

ADAM (CONT'D)

What's that, you're not sure, if you're here for Damien, stick 'em up high.

**START**

They all shoot their hands up high.

ADAM (CONT'D)

You see?

A beat.

JUDGE EDEN

Am I to understand... all these people...

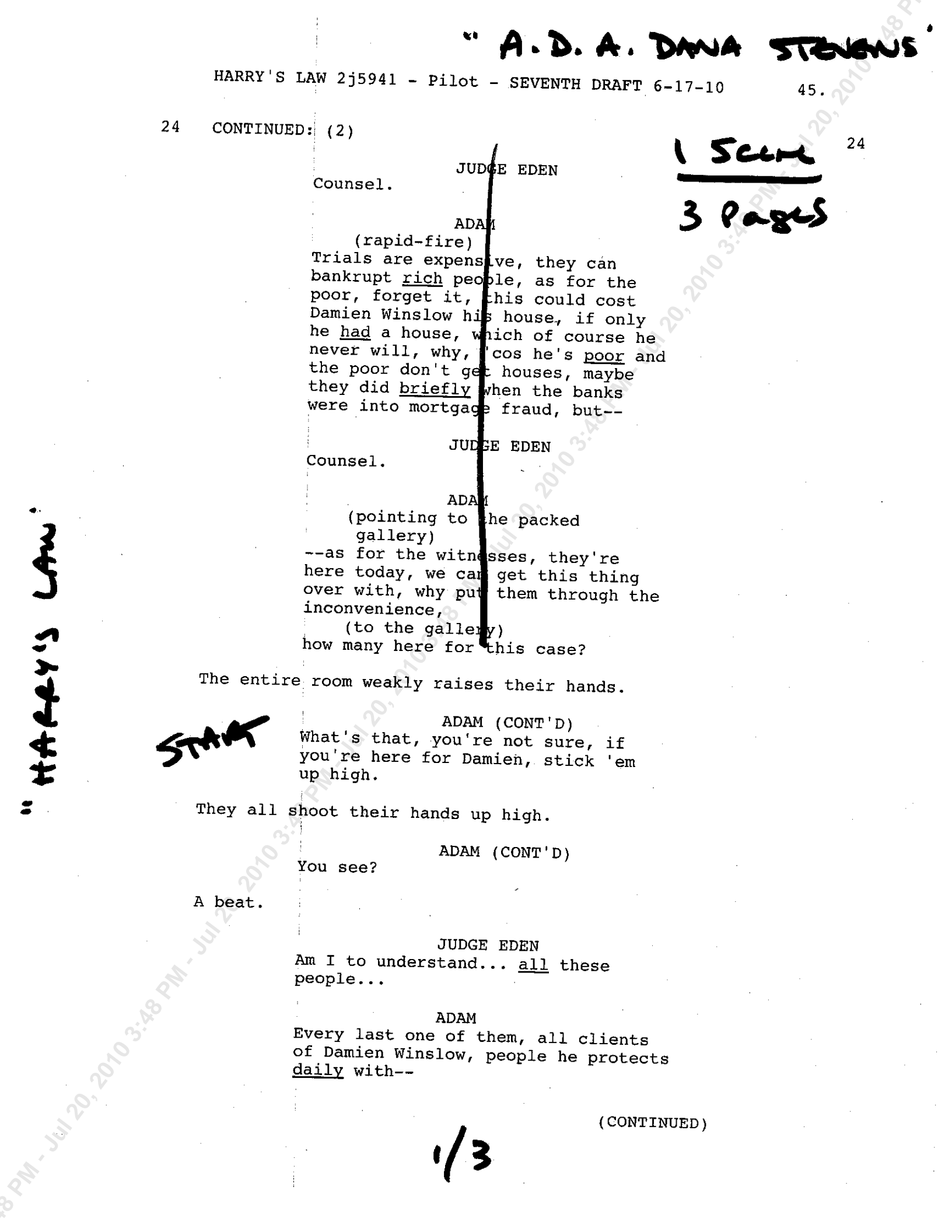
ADAM

Every last one of them, all clients of Damien Winslow, people he protects daily with--

(CONTINUED)

1/3

" HARRY'S LAW "



24 CONTINUED: (3)

24

STEVENS

They're not witnesses to the crime,  
they have no--

ADAM

They certainly bear witness to the  
need for the services being rendered  
by my client, without him their  
places of business get robbed--

STEVENS

Are you kidding  
me?

JUDGE EDEN

Mr. Storm. This is  
not the forum to be  
making this argument.

ADAM

Not the forum, isn't this where  
justice gets meted out?

JUDGE EDEN

This is an  
arraignment  
hearing.

STEVENS

(to herself)  
Oh, for God's sake.

ADAM

Understood, but trials take time,  
they're protracted, often riddled  
with continuances, delays, they go  
on and on, like the song, "On and  
on," you know, the song

(re: the Steno)

I can see she does, hey, hi,

(back to the judge)

these people are here now, judge--

JUDGE EDEN

Counsel--

STEVENS

They're not relevant to--

ADAM

They're not relevant, is that what  
you said?

STEVENS

Oh, come on--

ADAM

'Cos that's the real issue, judge,  
poor people are not relevant--

(CONTINUED)

24 CONTINUED: (4)

24

STEVENS

Give me a--

ADAM

Break? How 'bout we give the disenfranchised a break, private security is a billion-dollar business in this country, in the suburbs, in the upscale urban neighborhoods, certainly every apartment building has a guard, well, guess what, the residents of this neighborhood can't afford that, and the poor, all they get is the police which they don't get quickly, maybe 'cos they don't seem to be relevant, well, they are to Damien Winslow, you want to lock him up, then what, who's going to protect

EW

(pointing to the gallery)

Hyun Kim and Melissa Gove, Martina Sanchez, Willie Abrams, look at them all, Judge, they've come crawling out like ants at a picnic, who knew these people even existed, Damien did lead to that, he cared, we should lock him up for that, come on--

JUDGE EDEN

Counsel--

STEVENS

Jesus...

ADAM

--my God, we're talking about basic human services, they don't get health care, they don't get education, they can't even get adequate police protection, and when someone tries to help them, watch out--

JUDGE EDEN

Counsel--

ADAM

You can take a gun to Starbucks but God forbid into a low-rent laundromat, what's going on here, (to the D.A.)

don't roll your eyes, there's plenty more from wherever this is coming from,

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

3/3