

NUMBER ONE Miss Stewart?

(HELEN looks up. He gives her a patronising smile.)

NUMBER ONE
(cont'd) I know how you must be feeling, but let me assure you – one tragic mistake need not be the end of a promising career. Providing you're prepared to co-operate.

HELEN Co-operate? With this pack of lies?

NUMBER ONE Helen –

HELEN Oh well obviously, if the Government wanted us to tell the truth about what happens in prisons, why would it insist we all sign the Official Secrets Act?

(The NUMBER ONE'S mobile rings.)

NUMBER ONE *(into phone)* Yes? – Almost – Certainly, your Ladyship. I'll be there. Goodbye. *(Ends call. To HELEN.)* The important thing is knowing when to move on.

HELEN You're talking about covering up what caused a young woman's death!

NUMBER ONE Had you followed Mr Fenner's advice about Wade, she might still be alive.

HELEN Nikki Wade wasn't a threat to Rachel.

NUMBER ONE Well she was certainly instrumental in causing a riot.

HELEN This is all from Fenner, isn't it?

NUMBER ONE Helen, you made the mistake of becoming involved with a dangerous and manipulative inmate. The case is closed, whether you like it or not.

HELEN Well I don't like it. I don't like it one bit!

NUMBER ONE Your only option is where you go from here. But face it, Helen. You are going.

HELEN And I'll tell you where – to a tribunal.

(The NUMBER ONE'S taken aback.)

NUMBER ONE Don't be ridiculous.

HELEN I'm not leaving those women with Fenner. I'm going to fight this all the way.

NUMBER ONE Then you'll lose. Everything.

HELEN Not my principles. And they're worth more to me than a bloody pension.

(She turns away, determined. The NUMBER ONE fumes.)