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INT. SUPREME COURT/PRETORIA

The courtroom is packed with REPORTERS and CURIOUS ONLOOKERS but Abraham stands confidently before an older JUDGE.

JUDGE GALGUT

Are you prepared to swear before God and the Bible that you are the parents of this child?

Abraham glances at Sannie and Sandra standing in the witness block behind him.

ABRAHAM

I am, my lord. I mean, we are, my Lord.

Leon sits in the public gallery, squirming at all the media attention.

JUDGE GALGUT

Call in the next witness, please. Doctor...
(squints at his notes) Sparks. I believe you have a statement to make.

DOCTOR SPARKS - 30s, ramrod straight and unassuming - enters the witness box as Abraham rejoins his family.

DOCTOR SPARKS

I have studied the Laings' case closely and -

JUDGE GALGUT (interrupting) I am a great admirer of brevity Dr. Sparks but can we please have your area of expertise and place of work.

DOCTOR SPARKS

Sorry. Genetics Research Fellow at Wits University.

JUDGE GALGUT

Thank you. Go on.

DOCTOR SPARKS

I believe there is a plausible genetic explanation for Sandra's appearance.

Sandra watches him evenly.

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DOCTOR SPARKS (CONT'D)

The history of our country is such that many - indeed, we believe most Afrikaners - carry black genes -

Shock in the courtroom.

- so two white-looking parents could certainly contribute enough black genes to produce a child quite a lot darker than themselves. This phenomenon is commonly known as a 'throwback'. We prefer the more precise term, polygenic inheritance.

Sannie and Abraham hold hands tightly. Sandra looks at them for reassurance - not knowing whether this is good or bad. Sannie puts her arm around her. Hopeful.