

TAPESTRY - SEASON 1, EPISODE 2

"ORATIO"

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TEASER PRE-CREDITS

EXT. THE SUPER COLLIDER. NIGHT. FOUR NIGHTS AGO.

A security guard lay dead at a gated entrance. Three figures step over him, his face illuminated as the tail lights of a jeep move away, toward a large grey building.

INT. ELEVATOR. SUPER COLLIDER.

A security key is swiped over an interface panel by a tattooed hand. The tattoo, an eye in a triangular flame. The panel beeps and the three, now dressed as security, wait with backpacks slung over shoulders.

200 metres below the surface, elevator doors open. The three exit into the work bay of a vast circular tunnel. Two mount EV carts, moving off in opposite directions. The third remains at the elevator doors.

Elsewhere, a security guard watches on screen as the small vehicles whisk by the wall cameras. Look at his watch, his brow furrows. Picks up a walkie talkie on his desk.

EXT. SUPER COLLIDER. GATE ENTRANCE.

A radio receiver squawks on the dead guard's chest.

INT. SUPER COLLIDER.

The two EVs stop. Each man attaches an explosive device to the nearest wall. They set timers on bombs. An alarm begins to wail as both men return on their EVs to the elevator door. It wont open. One of them grabs a walkie from a backpack and screams into it, as actual security run toward them.

SABOTEUR 1

Dieter...DIETER...!

EXT. SUPER COLLIDER. NIGHT.

Man three steps into the jeep and drives away as the building explodes, lighting a cigarette with his tattooed hand.

Man three...DIETER KRATZ...smiles to himself, as the tail lights disappear into the night mist.

EXT. PALAZZO CHIGI. ROME. DAY.

Several NOCS vehicles and black SUVs parked strategically.

INT. CHIGI. PRIME MINISTERIAL OFFICE.

Italian Prime Minister NINA VILLANI looks out her window down at the street. Ella and Tate seated in front of the PMs desk. Carbone standing beside them.

VILLANI
Cesare?

CARBONE
Si.

VILLANI
Il vero Giulio Cesare.
(The actual Julius Caesar?)

CARBONE
Si, Madame...è incredibile.

ELLA
Incredible, but true Madame Prime minister.

VILLANI
My apologies Doctor Brand. My english is unpracticed.

TATE
Your office your rules, Madame Prime Minister. He is who he says he is.

VILLANI
And the men with him?

TATE
A Legion of Rome and others. We haven't spoken to him about them.

VILLANI
All this because of the...come dici... Collider?

ELLA
As per the briefing we sent.

VILLANI
I was on the Summit call, Doctor Brand. You made an impression.
(MORE)

VILLANI (CONT'D)

Tell me, the biological concerns.
They apply here too?

ELLA

Yes, extreme caution at this point.
Keep them quarantined.

VILLANI

Colonel?

TATE

Definitely. Take no risks, Ma'm.

Villani sits at her desk, folds her hands, fingers interlaced. She looks from Carbone to Ella, then to Tate.

VILLANI

I want to speak to this man.

CARBONE

Signora, parliamo in privato?
(Can we speak in private?)

VILLANI

Beniamino, it wasn't a question.
Bring this man to me.

TATE

Madame Prime Minister. I would at least put him through a decontamination process.

VILLANI

You can arrange that, Ben?

CARBONE

Si. It will be done.

CUT TO:

INT. MOBILE SHOWER CUBICLE.

Water gushes down on Gaius' head. He relishes the experience. The water stops suddenly and two men in Hazmat suits enter the cubicle. They hold Gaius still while a third Hazmat man scrubs him. They exit and the water is turned on again.

INT. WAREHOUSE MEZZANINE.

In a small section of the warehouse, Tate looks on as Gaius is showered and scrubbed below, surrounded by armed men.

Ella, standing with Tate, watches Carbone approach the mobile shower and offer Gaius a tracksuit.

Gaius drops his towel to the floor. One of the Hazmat men place Gaius' jumpsuit and wet towel into garbage bag.

Gaius slowly dresses, inspecting the clothes thoroughly before he slips the strange cloth onto his skin. A clear full-face Hazmat mask is placed on him. Tate clammers down the metal stairs followed by Ella.

TATE

Clean as a whistle.

Tate stops at the bottom of the stairs as two NOCS guards clamp a waist chain and cuffs on Gaius.

TATE (CONT'D)

Sign him up for Man U if Juventus don't want him.

ELLA

A little decorum, Colonel.

At the word 'decorum' Gaius raises his head and locks eyes with Ella. Tate steps between Gaius and Ella. He stares back at Gaius.

TATE

Something we said?

CARBONE

Signora Villani is waiting, Colonel, please.

Gaius calmly stares back at Tate.

TATE

Follow me, lads.

Two NOCS guards take Gaius by the elbows. The group move to three Polizia vans inside the warehouse. Gaius is bundled into the back of the centre van.

Gaius' waist chain is padlocked to the van seat. He is seated between two NOCS guards. Tate and Ella climb in and sit opposite. The van door closes and the vehicles exit the warehouse, to shouts of protest from the Legion.

EXT. STREETS OF ROME. DAY

(WIDE AERIAL) The Polizia convoy moves through the streets.

INT. POLIZIA VAN.

Ella is glancing at Gaius. Gaius looks back and motions with his head toward Tate, smiling.

GAIUS
Decorum, necesse est.
(Decorum is needed)

Ella turns from Gaius' gaze.

TATE
Quiet!

Gaius ignores Tate, keeping his eyes on Ella.

GAIUS
Me intellegis, non?
(You understand me, don't you?)

Tate leans forward.

TATE
Shut it.

ELLA
Posturing never helps.

TATE
Says the Brigadier's daughter.

EXT. STREETS OF ROME. DAY.

The convoy pulls up in front of the Chigi Palazzo, beneath the central balcony.

As the guards surround the van, Tate, Ella and the guarded Gaius exit the van, moving inside.

INT. CHIGI. COUNCIL CHAMBERS. RECEPTION.

One of the guards bends to unchain Gaius' ankles.

TATE
Don't.

The guard conforms and the group proceeds to a waiting elevator.

INT. CHIGI. COUNCIL CHAMBERS OFFICE.

Villani seated behind her desk. Carbone ushers in Tate and Ella. Behind them two NOCS guards either side of Gaius. She stands.

VILLANI
He's chained?

TATE
For your protection, Madame Villani.

VILLANI
Unchain him now.

CARBONE
Signora. Please/

VILLANI
He is an Italian citizen.

TATE
Not from your Italy, Madame Prime Minister.

VILLANI
It's barbaric. You have armed men here. He doesn't pose a threat.

TATE
We can't guarantee that.

ELLA
If I may Madame Prime Minister...

Ella addresses Gaius.

ELLA (SUBTITLE) (CONT'D)
(in Latin)
You were right, Gaius. I do understand you. May I call you Gaius?

GAIUS (SUBTITLE)
(in Latin)
And you are?

ELLA (SUBTITLE)
(in Latin)
My name is Ella. But importantly this woman is the Italian Prime Minister. Her name is Nina Villani.

GAIUS (SUBTITLE)
 (in Latin)
 Prime Minister?

ELLA (SUBTITLE)
 (in Latin)
 You would call her Consul.

GAIUS (SUBTITLE)
 (in Latin)
 Consul of Rome. A woman?

ELLA (SUBTITLE)
 (in Latin)
 Not just Rome. For all of Italy.

Gaius takes in the information. He stands as tall as he can.

GAIUS (SUBTITLE)
 (in Latin)
 Salve, Consul Villani. I am Gaius
 of the Julii, Man of the people,
 Commander of Legions and First
 Citizen of Rome.

Ella translates.

VILLANI
 To be clear. You are Caesar, Gaius
 Julius Caesar.

Ella translates.

GAIUS (SUBTITLE)
 (in Latin)
 It is as you say.

Ella nods.

VILLANI
 If I ask these men to remove your
 chains, can we discuss the
 situation?

Ella translates.

GAIUS (SUBTITLE)
 (in Latin)
 I assume the situation is not war?

Ella translates.

VILLANI

It is a very strange situation we
find ourselves in.

Ella translates.

GAIUS (SUBTITLE)

(in Latin)

Then we shall talk, Consul to
Consul.

Ella translates.

VILLANI

The chains...off please.

A guard gives Carbone the chain key. He unlocks the chains.
Unnoticed, Tate casually unbuttons his sidearm holster and
unlocks his gun's safety.

Gaius rubs his wrists and reaches up to take off his mask.
Ella holds up her hand.

ELLA (SUBTITLE)

(in Latin)

The mask must stay.

Gaius nods. He sits in the chair opposite Villani.

GAIUS (SUBTITLE)

(in Latin)

Let us begin.

EXT. WHITEHOUSE. NIGHT.

INT. WEST WING HALLS.

Chief of Staff Whitten, walks the corridor. A staffer hands him a red folder as he turns a corner stopping at his secretary's desk. He opens the folder, signs a document and hands it to his secretary, JANICE.

Whitten walks into his office, surprised to see Parker.

WHITTEN

Janice! A lock on my office might be in order if any two bit Senator can waltz in.

PARKER

Any word on the UN resolution?

WHITTEN

There is, but not for distribution yet. We're not about to tell the world that people from another time are showing up on the streets.

PARKER

You just left the situation room.

WHITTEN

And my schedule is tight. I got two minutes for you.

PARKER

I head back the embassy tomorrow.

WHITTEN

Okay...and?

PARKER

The Japanese are about to go public with their own incident.

WHITTEN

Why am I finding out now?

PARKER

It happened the same day as the Scotland fracture.

WHITTEN

One of these things in Japan sends the market into free fall, Scott.

PARKER

That's why I'm telling you.

WHITTEN

But only NOW just telling me. We got Scotland, God only knows what happened in Rome, because they're not handing out information either. This thing in Texas.

PARKER

Wait, did you say Texas?

WHITTEN

Yeah. Few hours ago. Now Japan I suppose. Thanks for the warning.

PARKER

It was the earliest possible time. I couldn't just throw it out there in front of the President in a room full of agents and military. You wanted someone to keep an eye on Tate. So I leveraged the scientist.

WHITTEN

You got the President thinking he volunteered.

PARKER

He did. After we found out the fracture was in his home town.

WHITTEN

You offered him quid pro quo on a natural disaster? What's his end?

PARKER

Access. He gives us access to Tate's operation and we give him access to the fracture site.

WHITTEN

Manifest zone.

PARKER

Huh?

Whitten opens a folder on his desk.

WHITTEN

UN security council Resolution 8117.

(MORE)

WHITTEN (CONT'D)

A resolution to isolate member states who have experienced quantum fallout resulting in sites with temporal fractures.

Member states are instructed to ban entry to these sites, hereafter known as Manifest Zones. They are subject to annexation by the UN security council.

PARKER

Manifest Zones?

WHITTEN

Yeah. President's flying down to Texas to secure the site herself.

PARKER

Whatever. We've promised him access in Japan. I don't care what the UN calls them.

WHITTEN

Fine, why his home town? I thought we were embedding him with Tate.

Parker reaches for a laptop from his satchel.

PARKER

A bargaining chip.

Whitten and Parker watch footage of the Japanese incident.

INT. CHIGI PALAZZO. COUNCIL CHAMBERS OFFICE.

Gaius, still seated, leaning back, a hand on his chin with eyes closed. Ella seated next to Gaius, Tate now seated against the wall behind them. NOCS guards at the door, rifles rested in arms.

VILLANI

I know it's a lot to take in. Would you like some time?

TATE

He's been made aware. We should return him to holding.

VILLANI

Some compassion might help.

ELLA (SUBTITLE)

(in Latin)

Do you need a moment? Water perhaps?

Gaius nods and waves his free hand slightly.

ELLA (CONT'D)

Can we get some water, please?

CARBONE

Si, of course.

Carbone leaves, fumbling passed the armed guards.

GAIUS (SUBTITLE)

(in Latin)

How is this even possible?

ELLA (SUBTITLE)

(in Latin)

We are trying to figure this out.

GAIUS (SUBTITLE)

(in Latin)

You say time itself was broken and brought us here?

ELLA (SUBTITLE)

(in Latin)

As best we know.

TATE

He's going to speak to his men?

ELLA

I haven't gotten to that part yet.

TATE

What's the problem?

ELLA

Explaining quantum mechanics. Hard enough in English, Colonel. Doing it in Latin takes time.

Carbone enters with a glass decanter of water and a small glass. He places it on Villani's desk.

VILLANI

Please.

Villani signals to Gaius, who leans toward the desk.

TATE

Wait.

Tate stands quickly and pours the glass of water. He pushes the decanter to the far edge of the desk. He turns and offers the glass to Gaius, keeping his hand on his sidearm.

TATE (CONT'D)

Genghis Khan once murdered a tribal chief with a bowl, in his own tent. He was an invited guest.

Gaius lifts his mask, drinks the water, eyes locked on Tate.

TATE (CONT'D)

Compassion is a lovely idea.

Gaius hands the glass back to Tate, who places it with the decanter.

TATE (CONT'D)

Until it's used against you.

Tate goes back to his seat.

Villani surreptitiously looks across the contents of her desk. Folders, a phone...a letter opener. She looks at Gaius who is staring at her.

VILLANI

Tell him to inform his men of their situation. Tell him I'll do all I can to make them comfortable.

Ella translates. Gaius nods.

TATE
All done?

VILLANI
For now.

The guards step forward.

VILLANI (CONT'D)
It has been a pleasure to meet you.

ELLA (SUBTITLE)
(in Latin)
She thanks you.

GAIUS
Gratis fuit.

Gaius gives the salutatio. Holds out his hands to be cuffed.
As the guards cuff Gaius, Villani steps from behind her desk.

VILLANI
Before you whisk him away...

The guards stop.

VILLANI (CONT'D)
It is not lost on me, the position
you find yourself in.

Ella translates.

VILLANI (CONT'D)
Before we return you to your men, I
will re-introduce you.

Ella translates...and shrugs.

VILLANI (CONT'D)
Ben. My car please.

TATE
Madame Prime Minister?

VILLANI
You're a guest here Colonel Tate.
Remember that.

Villani turns to the senior NOCS guard.

VILLANI (CONT'D)
Once he's in the van, follow my
vehicle.

Villani heads for the door.

VILLANI (CONT'D)
It's the one with the Prime
Ministers flag.

CUT TO:

EXT. AERIAL. MONTE MARIO. ROME. DAY.

The Prime Minister's car and three NOCS vans parked.

Gaius stands between two guards, chained and shackled,
looking over the city. Ella just behind them.

Ben Carbone, Colonel Tate and Prime Minister Villani stand
back with the vehicles about ten meters behind.

GAIUS (SUBTITLE)
(in Latin)
The shaking that brought me here...
did it do much damage?

ELLA (SUBTITLE)
(in Latin)
A few small buildings were brought
down. But mostly the city held.

GAIUS (SUBTITLE)
(in Latin)
She always does. No matter who
rules.

ELLA
Roma Invicta.

GAIUS (SUBTITLE)
(in Latin)
Indeed. Some of my men think we are
on our way to Elysium. I would have
them see this.

ELLA (SUBTITLE)
(in Latin)
I am sure Consul Villani can
arrange that. It will take time.

GAIUS
Tempus rerum imperator
(Time. Commander of all things.)

ELLA (SUBTITLE)
(in Latin)
Indeed.

Gaius nods. The guards turn with him and move him to the van.

ELLA (SUBTITLE) (CONT'D)
(in Latin)
I will ask them to find a
translator for you.

GAIUS
Gratis.

His waist chain is secured to the seat, guards sit either
side.

VILLANI
The Colonel and Doctor Brand will
ride with me.

Villani looks in at Gaius.

VILLANI (CONT'D)
We shall speak again Gaius. May I
call you Gaius?

Ella translates.

GAIUS (SUBTITLE)
(in Latin)
You may call me Consul.

The van door closes.

TATE
I'm impressed by your compassion,
Madam Prime Minister.

VILLANI
It's not compassion. I need him to
see. This is not his Rome.

EXT. AERIAL.

The vehicles move off.

EXT SHOT. AIR FORCE ONE.

Somewhere over Kansas.

INT. AIR FORCE ONE. PRESIDENTS CABIN.

President Ashbourne on couch reading reports. Whitten seated across, looking out the window.

ASHBOURNE

This Texas tremor. What am I walking into?

WHITTEN

Ma'am?

ASHBOURNE

The bowling alley. How many people?

WHITTEN

There were six families and a bowling league that appeared with the building. 108 altogether.

ASHBOURNE

Quarantined?

WHITTEN

We've kept them inside.
Decontamination tents outside.
Agents on the ground.

ASHBOURNE

How far back?

WHITTEN

Well, Madame President, it's a bowling alley. So not centuries.

Happened around 1am. Some kid was driving by when the tremor hit, saw a flash of light, ran off the road and when he stepped out of his car the bowling alley was open, cars outside and people screaming. Advance says the time difference is 21 years.

ASHBOURNE

So we have a bunch of scared civilians who think George W is still President.

WHITTEN

If only it were that simple. The place closed down in 2020. Building's been abandoned since.

ASHBOURNE

108 people out of nowhere. How much more complicated do we want it?

WHITTEN

The same bunch of people who are still alive elsewhere, but 21 years older.

ASHBOURNE

What do you mean the same?

WHITTEN

They're not just...It's the nature of this thing. If we had Hoshido here I could...

ASHBOURNE

Spit it out.

WHITTEN

Advance is telling me that the people we've kept inside the bowling alley...One of the guys from a bowling team inside...He showed up as one of the first responders in the fire trucks.

ASHBOURNE

As in, a double?

WHITTEN

Yeah.

ASHBOURNE

Ya kidding me. This is confirmed?

WHITTEN

Unless they've died in the last 20 years, every one of those people in that bowling alley has another self, alive somewhere. That's why the UN are so keen on securing these sites and not going public.

ASHBOURNE

This is absolutely..., I don't know. I don't know what this.

WHITTEN

Unprecedented.

ASHBOURNE

Yeah. Mel, if the UN keep pushing this Manifest Zone idea I'm closing the shop.

WHITTEN

Seriously?

ASHBOURNE

No one from the Security Council is stepping onto US soil until we get a handle on this.

WHITTEN

Chuck will be happy.

ASHBOURNE

You won't.

WHITTEN

Why not?

ASHBOURNE

I've ordered the George Washington and the Alabama into the Pacific.

The Presidents desk phone buzzes. She picks up.

ASHBOURNE (CONT'D)

Okay...Thanks. (hanging up) Down in twenty.

WHITTEN

The George Washington will raise questions. We need to get ahead of this.

ASHBOURNE

Prepare a statement. I'm gonna let the world know what we're up against.

WHITTEN

For now, we have 108 citizens who have 20 years to catch up on and nobody who can tell us if this will keep happening.

EXT. A91 HIGHWAY. ROME AIRPORT ROUTE. NIGHT.

Tate's vehicle moves along the A91.

INT. TATE'S VEHICLE.

Ella driving.

TATE

Fancy little trick you pulled.

ELLA

Sorry?

TATE

Latin. Care to tell me why you didn't clue me in before you spoke.

ELLA

I don't need permission to speak.

TATE

You've been assigned to me and any mission critical information/

ELLA

Mission critical? Mission critical, really? If we had followed your way of dealing with things He wouldn't have said a word. You might be in charge, but I'm not your slave.

TATE

The combined governments of the Commonwealth are in charge here, for your information. Last I checked Australia was still part of the commonwealth.

ELLA

Barely.

TATE

Assess the situation before you/

ELLA

Are you assessing the situation now? I'm trying to concentrate and get to the airport in one piece.

TATE

You jumped in and/

ELLA

I assessed the situation and none of you were getting anywhere.

TATE

Villani speaks Greek.

ELLA

I know. Stop distracting me.

TATE

Caesar spoke Greek.

ELLA

I know he speaks Greek. I'm not a moron.

TATE

Do you speak Greek?

ELLA

No

TATE

Nor do I. They could've had their little chat, left us out of it and we'd be on our way to get soil samples during the day...and do the job we were sent to do.

ELLA

You wanted brains on this thing?

TATE

What?

ELLA

Brains not bullets I was told.

TATE

Glad someone told you. Could you use it at some stage?

ELLA

Greek was a second language in Caesar's time. He had to learn Greek from his teachers growing up. It gave him access to power, the ability to negotiate and it was an advantage on the field.

TATE

What's this got to do with it?

ELLA

His teacher was a greek slave. A slave. An inferior. They assimilated Greek culture when they *conquered* Greece. So go ahead and let the Prime Minister of Italy speak to him in Greek.

At best, you've brought back memories of his childhood, having Greek shoved down his throat. At worst, you've just sent a signal to Gaius that Villani can be conquered.

They pull into Fiumicino Airport, off the A91. Tate points.

TATE

There.

Waiting at the FCO passenger pick-up is Yugi Hoshido.

They pull up beside him.

TATE (CONT'D)

Doctor Hoshido.

YUGI

Colonel Tate, Doctor Brand.

TATE

Hotel and then tomorrow we'll go look at some dirt.

Yugi throws his luggage onto the back seat and gets in.

TATE (CONT'D)

Hiding any secret language skills like Latin, Dr Hoshido?

Yugi barely has time to answer or put his seat belt on...

ELLA

Carpe Diem.

Ella puts her foot down and speeds away, throwing Yugi back into his seat.

INT. WAREHOUSE. ROME. NIGHT.

NOTE: THE DIALOGUE IN THIS SCENE IS SPOKEN IN LATIN FOR THE FIRST FOUR (4) LINES AND SUBTITLED IN ENGLISH.

Gaius sits on a metal bench at the rear of the warehouse with three other men. MARCUS CASSIUS SCAVEA, QUINTUS JUNA and CORNELIUS PETRONIUS.

 QUINTUS (SUBTITLE)
 (in Latin)
Two thousand years?

 GAIUS (SUBTITLE)
 (in Latin)
It is as they say.

 SCAVEA (SUBTITLE)
 (in Latin)
They are devils and this is the
work of a demon. We've been taken
from our land.

 GAIUS (SUBTITLE)
 (in Latin)
NO. I stood on the top of Cinna's
Hill. I have seen it.

The camera circles the group as we change to English.

 SCAVEA
A devils work.

 CORNELIUS
When the shaking began I saw
lights, strange shapes and then
that flying beast. And you're
telling us we are still in Rome?

 GAIUS
We are still in Rome, Cornelius.
The gods have kept us safe.

 SCAVEA
And the ones who dared to bring
blades into the senate?

 QUINTUS
Their treachery caused this.

Nine senators huddle together, sitting against a side wall keeping an eye on the crowd.

QUINTUS (CONT'D)

Look at them, cowering in the corner like filthy rats.

SCAVEA

We should be rid of them.

GAIUS

They sealed their own fate when they drew blades on the senate floor.

Gaius stands and stretches, cracking his back and shoulders.

GAIUS (CONT'D)

But Rome has been enlarged. The land is the same. I'm trusting that the people might be as well.

CORNELIUS

This woman, the Consul. She was willing to listen?

GAIUS

Prime Minister, they call her. She seemed to know who I was somehow. But she is a deceiver. She has no intention of freeing us.

QUINTUS

If we have crossed two thousand years, there is no-one outside these walls to come to our aid. They are all long dead.

GAIUS

But we are not. We are Roman and we are still in Rome. We are alive. We will be free.

SCAVEA

And the senators.

GAIUS

Two days or Two thousand years. Rats are rats.

In the morning, drown them in their own filth.

Scavea, Quintus and Cornelius eye on the senators as they disband.

EXT. CURIA POMPEIA. NEXT DAY.

Now shrouded in scaffolds and a large Hazmat tent, the recently 're-manifested' building is blocked off to all traffic in the Largo Argentina area.

Yugi working in a large grid pattern of blue tape next to the senate steps. Scrapes a trowel full of soil and broken concrete into a plastic bag. Seals it, places it into a satchel slung over his shoulder.

Shouting is heard. Yugi looks up. Across the street, the owner of a textile / fabric store argues with a NOCS officer about access. Yugi opens another plastic bag and steps across a blue line of tape. He kneels for another sample scrape, but not before noticing an older man sitting at a cafe table. The old man is smoking, sipping a coffee, watching Yugi's every move.

Yugi scrapes a sample and then stands, looking directly at the old man, who takes one last drink, flicks his cigarette away and leaves.

INT. CURIA POMPEIA.

NOCS guards and several suited officials are positioned at entry points.

Tate is kneeling down inspecting the floor. Latex gloves on, he runs his hand across the ground between new floor and the old.

In a corner of the Curia, a makeshift work area and bench. Two young men in casual attire and ID lanyards attend as Ella sets out various daggers, sandals and papers. She gently wipes the handle of a blade with a cotton swab and places the swab in a small clear tube. Tate approaches.

TATE

Strange, all this.

ELLA

The understatement of the day.

TATE

Not just the building. Every other other temple in this area is untouched.

(MORE)

TATE (CONT'D)

The rubble from the archaeological dig, the cat sanctuary. Even the new walkways right up to steps of this building... all undisturbed.

ELLA

You're talking as if someone chose only this building to re-emerge.

TATE

Strange, is all.

ELLA

If we bag these items and finish the soil sample work, I can get to a proper lab and scan the quantum residue.

Tate picks up a dagger.

ELLA (CONT'D)

Don't touch.

TATE

I've got my gloves on. Don't worry.

ELLA

You've just been touching the floor.

Ella signals to one of the young assistants. She hands him the dagger. He seals it in a clear plastic bag.

ASSISTANT 1

Mmmm. Pugio. Strano.

ELLA

Strano. Strange. What's so strange?

TATE

For me an understatement, but when the cute lab assistant says it/

ELLA

Perche 'strano'... why strange?

ASSISTANT 1

I meant funny strange Professora... Un Pugnale. Pugio. Daggers in here. Where Caesar was killed. Strange no?

ELLA

Oh shit.

CUT TO:

INT. WAREHOUSE. ROME.

From the warehouse mezzanine, a NOCS guard watches as a squabble breaks out amongst the Legion.

It is a distraction. Unseen by the guards, SCAVEA, QUINTUS and CORNELIUS have entered the toilet block attached to the warehouse.

They've cornered three senators, three amongst the assassins who rushed at Caesar with their daggers in the Curia.

CUT TO:

INT. CURIA POMPEIA.

Tate on the phone. Ella standing by.

TATE

Now, I said. Find him. isolate him.

INT. WAREHOUSE MEZZANINE.

A NOCS guard lifts his pistol into the air and fires. The squabble in the main warehouse area stops as ten NOCS guards run through the Legion to the toilet block.

INT. TOILET BLOCK.

The senators lay dead in cubicles, each soaking wet.

INT. WAREHOUSE.

AS the NOCS guards shove their way through the Legion, throughout the crowd of men lay six dead bodies. The NOCs arrive at a bench, where Gaius sits alone. As they grab him up, the Legion rushes forward in an attempt to stop them.

BANG!!! - From the mezzanine, the rattle of gunfire from a Beretta AR70/90 fills the space. The Legion backs away as Gaius is grabbed and dragged from the crowd.

INT. CURIA POMPEIA.

Tate still on the phone.

ELLA
They found him?

TATE
Your pal is fine. Nine dead. They
don't know what happened yet.

ELLA
Call Villani.

TATE
Wait, I'm still...Yes. He's
separated. Good. Thank you.

Tate hangs up.

ELLA
Gaius?

TATE
In isolation. They're informing
Villani now.

ELLA
I could help.

TATE
Not our problem. Gather the
samples. Let's get out of here.

ELLA
He trusts me.

TATE
We have a job to do.

Yugi walks in. Holds up his satchel.

YUGI
Grid scrapings.

TATE
Get your boys to archive the
daggers, sandals and documents.

ELLA
We're seriously leaving?

TATE

Unless there's a facility in Rome
with coherent quantum detectors.

YUGI

The French have a quantum
processor.

TATE

Good enough.

ELLA

We can't just abandon the
situation.

TATE

We're not bloody social workers,
Brand. Let Villani handle it.

Tate starts to gather the samples from Ella's workbench.

ELLA

Fine. I can do it.

They pack their samples into three pelican cases.

EXT. CURIA POMPEIA.

Tate secures the last of the cases and jumps into the SUV.
Yugi now the front passenger. Ella in the back seat.

TATE

Trust me. We're leaving at the
right time.

ELLA

Running away more like it.

TATE

Got what we came for. We're done.

YUGI

You met him? They let you see him?

ELLA

There were other people dragged
here besides Caesar and his Legion.

TATE

Somebody else's mess to clean up.

Tate guns the accelerator and the SUV pulls away.

INT. BEDROOM. ROME

Yugi's 'old man' enters, takes off his hat and sits beside a bed. Brutus sleeps, sweat dripping from his forehead. The old man applies a damp cloth as his daughter, the bar waitress, brings in soup and water on a tray.

We follow the old man as he walks from his residence down to...

INT. CAFE/BAR.

On a wall above a juke box is a TV. On screen a news report about the scaffolding around the site of Pompey's Curia.

The old man sits at the bar, lights a cigarette and pulls out an object wrapped in cloth from beneath the bar. He unwraps the cloth and stares at the Roman dagger in front of him.

EXT. BOWLING ALLEY. AUSTIN TEXAS. NIGHT.

The President's motorcade arrives at the DART BOWL bowling alley. Secret Service agents open car doors and flank the President, Whitten behind. She makes her way passed a crowd of bystanders and the portable decontamination tents. Ashbourne stops to shake hands.

Whitten whispers into Ashbourne's ear. She takes in the face of the fireman she's thanking. Mid 40s, mustache.

They move. To the bowling alley entrance which has now been covered with plastic sheeting to prevent sight lines.

INT. BOWLING ALLEY. AUSTIN TEXAS.

Medics, first responders and red cross workers attend to the 108 people inside the Dart Bowl, all masked for precaution.

As President Ashbourne passes by the various makeshift booths, Whitten hands her a clear full face mask. She puts it on and continues to pass by each booth.

ASHBOURNE

Are we set up somewhere?

WHITTEN

Across the road. McCallum High
gymnasium.

ASHBOURNE

Press?

WHITTEN

All there.

ASHBOURNE

Make sure they're comfortable. I'll take an hour here, then go public.

Whitten taps Ashbourne's arm and she turns to watch as a man is being attended to. The fireman from outside, only 21 years younger. Same mustache.

Ashbourne approaches, shakes his hand, smiles and moves on.

As Whitten and Ashbourne approach the next booth, a commotion is heard. A large man begins shouting at a secret service agent guarding the door.

CITIZEN 1

Why cant we leave?

AGENT

Safety sir.

CITIZEN 1

There was an earthquake and you drag us all back in here?

AGENT

Sir, calm down. We're doing the best we can.

CITIZEN 1

Why are the doors covered? It was night outside. We all saw it. It was noon when I got here.

AGENT 2

Please, sir. Have a seat and let the medics/

The man attempts to get by the agent. They stop him.

CITIZEN 1

I don't need a medic. I need to get home to my family.

Ashbourne and Whitten approach the scuffle.

ASHBOURNE

What's going on here?

CITIZEN 1

That's what I'm asking. I wanna leave. Why wont they let me leave?

AGENT
Madame President, we've secured the
building as instructed.

ASHBOURNE
(under her breath) Oh God.

Ashbourne shakes her head, eyes closed.

The man stops resisting, stares at Ashbourne.

CITIZEN 1
President?

Other bowling alley patrons have overheard. Some of them
stand, curiosity peaked.

AGENT
Sir, if you come with me/

CITIZEN 1
No no. You said Madame President.

AGENT 2
Sir calm down please.

CITIZEN 1
I am calm. He said 'Madame
President'. You're the President?
Of what?

The man turns toward Ashbourne. Before he can move a step the
agents grab his arms.

CITIZEN 1 (CONT'D)
What the hell? Let go of me.

ASHBOURNE
Sir please!

The scuffle continues

CITIZEN 1
Get the hell off me. Who are you
people. What the hell is going on?

The whole bowling alley is on its feet watching the scuffle.

CITIZEN 1 (CONT'D)
Who are you people?

Other patrons start to move toward the entrance. Agent 2
cuffs the arguing man. Agent takes Ashbourne by the shoulder,
wrist radio to his mouth.

AGENT

Detail 1. Eagle on the move. Front entrance. Repeat Detail 1 moving.

The scuffling man continues to resist, shouting. Ashbourne exits with Agent and Whitten.

CITIZEN 1

You're not the President. What the hell... Who are you people !!!?

EXT. BOWLING ALLEY. AUSTIN TEXAS.

Agent 1, Ashbourne and Whitten burst through the door.

ASHBOURNE

Call Chuck. We're moving forward. I'm talking to the press in ten.

Three secret service men bundle Ashbourne into their vehicle and the motorcade leaves.

Left at the entrance, Whitten makes the call.

INTERCUT: PHONE CONVERSATION. WHITEHOUSE. JCS OFFICE.

Whitten's secretary answers her buzzing desk phone.

JANICE

(into phone)
C.O.S desk.

WHITTEN (O.S.)

Janice, patch me through to the JCS would you?

JANICE

(into phone)
Right away, sir.

WHITTEN

(into phone)
And check the Secretary of Defence schedule. I need a meeting.

JANICE

(into phone)
You're on with JCS.
(hangs up)

GENERAL HOWARD
 (Generals Office)
 (into phone)
 Mel. What's happening?

WHITTEN (O.S.)
 General, we're going public.

GENERAL HOWARD
 (into phone)
 Understood. Alabama's deep. The
 George Washington on stand by.

WHITTEN
 (into phone)
 On the President's order only.

GENERAL HOWARD (O.S.)
 Of course. Eagle is back when?

WHITTEN
 (into phone)
 Press then straight to Air Force
 One. Four hours I'd say.

GENERAL HOWARD
 (into phone)
 I'll have the situation room dusted
 and the table set.
 (hangs up)

Whitten hangs up, jumps into a motorcade vehicle. Through the window he sees the mustache fireman remonstrating with another secret service agent. His vehicle pulls away.

INT. MCCALLUM HIGH GYMNASIUM.

A press gaggle waits, seated with Austin officials in front of a makeshift podium complete with lectern and microphone.

Ashbourne enters. Journalists, cameras, lights all come alive as microphones reach out toward Sarah Ashbourne.

Questions begin from the gaggle as she takes the podium. She places an iPad on the lectern in front of her.

Ashbourne holds her hands up and starts speaking.

ASHBOURNE
 One statement and time for a few
 questions only.

JOURNALIST 1
Madame President could you explain/

ASHBOURNE
A statement, then questions guys.

The room settles as Ashbourne opens a prepared statement on her iPad.

ASHBOURNE (CONT'D)
I'm sure you're all aware by now of the events that have transpired in the last week, beginning with the incident at the LHC site in Norway. The collider breakdown was the result of sabotage as reported. I made a series of phone calls to leaders around the world and an International coalition has been organized to combat any further threat.

SERIES OF SHOTS BENEATH ASHBOURNE STATEMENT.

England: Narise Owens watches the press conference from her office, several uniformed staff with her.

ASHBOURNE (V.O.)
A summit was held in London to discuss the effects of the collider explosion, now identified as Quantum fallout. As far as we can determine, the effects from this fallout include earth tremors of varying scale and electromagnetic phenomena along the path of said tremors.

New York City: A bar. Waitresses collecting bottles have stopped, people sitting at the bar have stopped drinking, all looking up at a TV above the barman, who reaches up to turn up the volume.

ASHBOURNE (V.O.)
Most baffling and most concerning of all the effects stemming from the Collider sabotage and the resulting fallout is what appears to be, for lack of a better explanation, a disruption in linear time space.

Rome: Prime Minister Villani and assistant Carbone watching the press conference at Carbone's desk on a computer.

ASHBOURNE (V.O.)

Be that as it may, we have an alliance with NATO and an article 5 agreement that an attack on one nation in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization is an attack on us all.

The United Nations Security Council passed a resolution condemning this attack.

Sydney Harbor: Adjacent to the Opera House, cafe patrons and staff watch the press conference on a wall-mounted TV.

ASHBOURNE (V.O.)

But that is where we believe there authority ends. My administration has been informed that the UN security council has passed a second resolution today, demanding that any member nation that has experienced the effect of temporal disruption should surrender that site to the UN and block entry.

Paris: Ella, Tate and Yugi loading a vehicle in a military hangar, watch the press conference on a hangar screen.

ASHBOURNE (V.O.)

The UN security council has labelled these sites as 'Manifest Zones'. Two of our citizens are being held in one of these zones in England

One such zone is directly across from where we are gathered now.

Tate stops loading. Muttered at the screen.

TATE

Kept everyone in the dark did you?

ASHBOURNE (V.O.)

My administration believes that the United States is within its rights to secure our borders, while we find a solution.

(MORE)

ASHBOURNE (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Therefore I have advised our
defense forces to do just
that...secure our nation.

Whitehouse Situation Room: General Howard and other military staff listening to the conference as they draw up security plans on the various screens around them.

ASHBOURNE (V.O.)

Any foreign government, UN Security Council task force or other member state that seeks to enter the United States to secure Manifest Zones that appear within our borders shall be turned away. By force if necessary.

END SERIES OF SHOTS 1.

INT. MCCALLUM HIGH GYMNASIUM.

Whitten shows up at the gymnasium entrance. He nods toward the President. She nods back.

ASHBOURNE

For reasons too complex to discuss here, *WE* shall secure these zones in the United States. No one but United States authorities will secure these zones.

I will now take a few questions.

Hands raise all over the gymnasium.

SERIES OF SHOTS 2: BENEATH MUSIC

- General Howard in situation room / The Alabama submerges
- Yugi's mother in Hakodate Manifest Zone
- Scottish couple from 1600s and Old soldier
- Bowling alley individuals being moved into vans
- Ella, Tate and Yugi around quantum equipment in French lab.

END SERIES OF SHOTS 2.

EXT. A DOCK SOMEWHERE. DAY.

Dieter Kratz stands on the upper deck gangway of a cargo ship overlooking shipping containers and smoking a cigarette.

A muffled beep from a phone. Kratz pulls a satellite phone from his jacket pocket and takes the call.

KRATZ

Stefan!

INTERCUT: XCU of STEFAN speaking into a satellite phone.

STEFAN

(into phone)

I'm in.

KRATZ (O.S.)

And...?

STEFAN

(into phone)

It's true.

KRATZ

(into phone)

You're certain?

STEFAN

(into phone)

With my own eyes. How is this possible?

KRATZ (O.S.)

Who knows. But the machine is gone.

STEFAN

(into phone)

Brach and Ivan with it.

KRATZ

(into phone)

Good men. Faithful men.

STEFAN (O.S.)

What next?

KRATZ

(into phone)

He may be of use. Make contact.

Kratz ends the call. Flicks his cigarette away.

INT. WAREHOUSE MEZZANINE.

Stefan places a satellite phone in his jacket.

We pull back to reveal Stefan in uniform...a NOCS guard.

He looks down from the warehouse mezzanine...

...where Gaius lay sleeping.

FADE OUT.