

BACKYARD COLD WAR - TEASER

Written by

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EXT. CIUDAD JUAREZ, MEXICO - DAY

A blazing sun scorches the desert. FELIX SANCHES (40s, rugged, intense) stands alone, staring at the sky. The WHIR of helicopter blades grows louder. A shadow passes over him. His eyes harden with memory.

FELIX (V.O.)
(haunted)

It wasn't supposed to end like
this. Not for him. Not for any of
them.

CUT TO:

EXT. AMERICAN MILITARY OUTPOST, MEXICO - DAY
FLASHBACK (JUNE 2024)

Felix, dressed as a civilian, leaps from a helicopter onto dusty ground. Soldiers salute. He moves with purpose, a man on a mission.

FELIX (V.O.)
Santiago was my brother, not by
blood, but by choice. The cartels
took him. They took everything.

CUT TO:

INT. DRUG HOUSE, MEXICO - NIGHT

SANTIAGO (30s, frail, trembling) stumbles through a hellish den. Junkies slump against walls, needles scattered. He reaches a DEALER (40s, menacing), who tosses him a bag of pills.

DEALER
(cold)
You're the lucky one to try it
first.

Santiago, desperate, swallows the pills. Moments later, he convulses, foam spilling from his mouth. His eyes widen in terror as he collapses, dead.

BIRDS-EYE VIEW: Santiago's lifeless body among other dead junkies, sprawled across the house.

FELIX (V.O.)
(bitter)
Eight others died that night.
(MORE)

FELIX (V.O.) (CONT'D)
Some were children. I swore I'd
make them pay.

CUT TO:

EXT. MEXICAN STREET - DAY

A pickup truck roars through a terrified crowd, dragging a 12-YEAR-OLD GIRL's nude body. CARTEL MEMBERS (20s-30s, armed, laughing) fire into the air, reveling in the chaos.

BLACK-CELL AGENT 1 (V.O.)
(grim)
They raped my sister. Paraded her
body to teach us a lesson. They got
my attention.

CUT TO:

EXT. CARTEL WAREHOUSE, MEXICO - NIGHT

A black van idles near a fenced compound. FELIX and BLACK-CELL AGENT 1 (30s, hardened) sit inside with four other operatives, geared up for war.

BLACK-CELL AGENT 2
(over radio)
Jefe, Team One is in position. Two
guards too close. Permission to
engage?

Felix exchanges a glance with Black-Cell Agent 1. A shared fire in their eyes.

FELIX
(steely)
Permission granted.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY
(JANUARY 27, 2025)

PRESIDENT MIKE DAVIS (50s, furious) slams his fist on the table. FELIX, CATHERINE (30s, sharp, elegant), and military brass listen.

PRESIDENT DAVIS
(enraged)
I don't give a damn about Congress!
(MORE)

PRESIDENT DAVIS (CONT'D)
I'm the President, and I'll
eradicate those cartels myself if I
have to!

FELIX
(calm, calculated)
Sir, the media already calls you a
dictator. Invading Mexico won't
work... unless we make it look like
they started it.

Davis pauses, intrigued. Catherine watches Felix, sensing his
dangerous ambition.

CUT TO:

EXT. MEXICO CITY PALACE - NIGHT

A blinding explosion rips through the National Palace wall.
DELTA FORCE OPERATORS (Serpent Team) storm the breach, guns
blazing. Mexican guards fall in flashes of gunfire.

FELIX (V.O.)
(determined)
We fake a cartel kidnapping of the
Mexican President. Paint it as a
coup. Then we send in the troops to
"save" Mexico.

INT. WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM - NIGHT

Davis, Felix, and generals watch live feeds. A Delta operator
grabs PRESIDENT GUTIERREZ (50s, frazzled) from a dark room.

DELTA TEAM MEMBER SERPENT 1
(urgent)
Es él. Vámonos!

CUT TO:

INT. FELIX'S APARTMENT, DALLAS - NIGHT

Felix and Catherine sit at the dining table. News replays
Davis's speech: "The cartels will be toast by the end of the
year!" Felix smirks.

CATHERINE
(probing)
This has your fingerprints all over
it, Felix.

FELIX
(grinning)
It was a success.

Catherine picks up a file from a stack on the table. Her face drops as she sees a photo of LUKA, a young cartel leader with a faint birthmark on his neck.

CATHERINE
(shocked, quiet)
They're getting younger...

FELIX
That's Luka. Kingpin of Los Maka. A ghost who took over Sinaloa overnight. We can't touch him... yet.

Catherine's hand trembles. She knows something Felix doesn't.

CATHERINE
(steely)
I know a way we can.

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. WHITE HOUSE OVAL OFFICE - DAY

Felix and Catherine stand before President Davis.

FELIX
Mr. President, Catherine's former CIA. She has informants inside the cartels. She can get us into Maka.

Catherine glares at Felix, betrayed. Davis leans forward.

PRESIDENT DAVIS
(intense)
Catherine, your country needs you.
Will you do it?

Catherine hesitates, her past flashing in her eyes. She nods, resolute.

CATHERINE
Yes, sir.

CUT TO:

EXT. MEXICAN STREET - NIGHT

A black SUV speeds through the dark. Inside, Catherine stares out the window, her face a mask of determination and dread. A classified file lies beside her: "OPERATION APEX," with her photo and another woman's—BECKY.

FELIX (V.O.)

(ominous)

This isn't just about the cartels.
It's personal. For all of us.

FADE TO BLACK.

TITLE CARD: BACKYARD COLD WAR

TEXT: COMING SOON

SOUND: Helicopter blades fade into silence.