The Godfather Legacy

A Televisions Series

by

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'The Laptop'

Pilot Episode

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The Godson

Television Series Pilot

1 EXT. TEHACHAPI MAXIMUM SECURITY PRISON - DAY

TV REPORTERS clamor around ANTONIO "THE FISH" COSTELLANO (79) as a PRISON GUARD pushes his wheelchair to a waiting limousine.

Nearby, FBI Special Agents, SEAN (SMITTY) O'BRIEN (60) and CARMEN LOPEZ (30), his Latina protege, lean on an unmarked sedan.

SMITTY

I nailed this bastard fifteen years ago and he was in for life.

CARMEN

So why is he walking now?

The REPORTERS surround COSTELLANO and barrage him with questions.

REPORTER #1

What is it like to be locked up for 30 years?

REPORTER #2

Did you really kill 49 people?

Anthony shrugs.

ANTONY

All lies. I never clipped nobody.

REPORTER #3

Is it true you stashed millions the Feds did not find?

Anthony scowls.

ANTONY

Somebody stole the dough. I'm broke.

REPORTER #3

How did you get a pardon?

Costellano waves the crowd quiet, pulls back his oxygen mask and speaks slowly with a weak, raspy Brooklyn accent.

ANTONIO

I have paid my dues and settled with the Almighty. Now I am going home to die in peace. Smitty and Carmen exchange glances.

SMITTY

He got to someone.

CARMEN

Pay off?

SMITTY

Or blackmail. We will never know.

The passenger, GAVINO "THE MOUTH" GALLO (66), heavy set with slick black hair and wearing collared pink shirt under a wrinkled sport coat, lumbers from the stretch limousine and greets Antony with enthusiasm. The LIMO DRIVER, in uniform with a cap, helps the Prison Guard lift Antonio from his wheel chair into the limousine.

2 INT. LIMOUSINE INTERIOR - DAY

Antonio and Gavino get settled in the limo.

GAVINO

(Excited))

Welcome home, Boss!

ANTONIO

(Scowling)

Get me the hell out of here.

The driver closes the privacy panel. As the Limo pulls away, photographers and reporters chase the vehicle, shouting questions.

Inside, hidden by tinted windows, Antonio jerks off his oxygen mask and takes a deep breath.

ANTONIO (CONT'D)

Dumb bastards. Shows what cash will get you in the joint.

GAVINO

(Emotional, tearing)

It's good to have you out, Boss.

ANTONIO

So, what was the tab for the gov?

GAVINO

Sal said it was a cool mil.

Gavino pours whisky from the sidebar and hands Antonio a cigar.

ANTONIO

Crooked bastard. Everyone's on the dole. Forget it. I'll make it back.

He savors the whisky and lights the cigar.

ANTONIO (CONT'D)

Where the hell is Sal?

GAVINO

Said he'd see you at the lake.

ANTONIO

Lazy bastard. Turn on the TV.

3 INT. BIG SUR / MULE CABIN / LAFFING CANYON - DAY

A Golden Eagle SCREECHES as SUNRISE streams through the cabin window, waking SCOTT ADAMS (29) and SHADOW, a Belgian Malinois Shepherd.

LEILANI KALI'I (27) rolls over as Scott dresses. She is a beautiful, young Hawaiian woman whose black hair glistens against her bronze skin.

LEILANI

Need to go so early?

SCOTT

Al's already waiting.

Scott opens a panel in the wall of the cabin.

He straps on a revolver and belt knife, then grabs a rifle with scope and cartridge vest.

In the rustic kitchen he drinks a glass of juice, shares jerky with Shadow and stuffs trail mix in his jacket.

He dons a worn US Army Ranger cap. Shadow follows him to the cabin porch but Scott motions him to stop.

SCOTT (CONT'D)

(Commands)

Stay with Lei, Shad.

Shadow crouches on the porch, ears up, alert.

Leilani appears in the doorway wearing only panties. Her long hair discretely covers her breasts and genitals.

LEILANI

Give Uncle Al a hug for me.

SCOTT

He'll drop me at the gallery so lock up the cabin.

LEILANI

I'm painting the waterfall today.

SCOTT

(Smiling)

Sell it and we will celebrate

LEILANI

(softly, to herself)

Be careful, Scotty.

Leilani pets Shadow as they watch Scott hike up the trail and disappear into the canyon.

4 INT. LAKE TAHOE HOUSE / ANTONIA AND SAL - DAY

ANTONIA SOFIA COSTELLANO (30) sits at a glass top desk in a modern office overlooking Lake Tahoe. She is a strikingly beautiful woman with exotic facial features from her Arab heritage. Her penetrating eyes give a strong sense of presence, strength and mystery. Her firm, athletic body reveals muscles firmly developed, although her hardness is hidden by her alluring feminine sexuality.

SALVATORE "SAL" VINOSA (60), Antonia's black underboss, best friend and bodyguard, watches her intently. His half smile is almost hidden by his salt and pepper mustache and chin beard. With a rich crop of curly white hair and penetrating eyes, Sal's demur connotes dignity, wisdom but hides his ruthless cruelty.

ANTONIA

(Musing)

Her only dream was to love the son of a bitch and to give him a son.

Sal nods calmly with a look of understanding.

ANTONIA (CONT'D)

And now the bastard is mine!

Antonia stares out the window to the the lake below, shaking her head slowly, engrossed in thought.

5 INT. FLASHBACK / ANTONIA'S CHILDHOOD HOME - NIGHT

Antonia, 12, sits in a closet sobbing quietly, covering her ears with her hands. A cell phone in her lap BEEPS a busy signal. She peers out of the closet and sees the face of her mother, ZAHARA, her dead eyes open, staring at her. A NAKED FAT MAN is savagely pumping her motionless body.

ANTONIA

Mother!

SCREAMING, Antonia bursts out of the closet, grabs a kitchen knife and repeatedly stabs the man in the back until he is motionless, then pushes him off her mother. Sal bursts into the room. Antonia is breathing air into her dead mother's mouth. The fat man lies dying on the floor. Antonia screams hysterically as Sal carries her out of the room.

6 INT. INTERCUT / LAKE TAHOE HOUSE / LIMOUSINE - DAY

Sighing, Antonia turns from the window and Sal stands.

ANTONIA

Will it ever go away?

SAL

It will, one day. Give it time.

ANTONIA

Is everything ready?

SAL

(Nodding.)

To your every detail.

Antonia looks at her watch and motions to Sal.

ANTONIA

(Resolutely)

It is time!

Sal turns on the large screen TV. A snowy image clears to a view of Antonio sitting in the limousine talking with Gavino, both unaware that Antonia and Sal are watching and listening.

Sal walks over and places a TV remote on Victoria's desk.

SAL

Press the pound key when ready.

In the limo Antonio PUFFS on the cigar and SIPS the whisky, savoring each.

ANTONIO

(Bragging)

You see that cop what jammed me up looking pissed that I was sprung.

DAVINO

Yeah, what did he want?

ANTONIO

Just sniffing around.

DAVINO

Why? You done your time.

ANTONIO

He's a cop. That's what they do, sniff. Should be sniffing for Tom.

DAVINO

(Curiously)

You mean your legal guy?

ANTONIO

He's gone. Disappeared. A fucking ghost. The bastard stole it all.

Surprised, Sal and Antonia exchange looks.

DAVINO

Jesus, all thirty mill?

ANTONIO

(Explodes)

Where the fuck you hear that?

ANTONIA

(Subdued)

Sorry, Boss, just gossip. I Didn't know he was a thief.

ANTONIO

Worse. Was like a son -- the son I never had. Scum-sucking, thieving, rat bastard. Broke my heart.

Antonio, agitated, takes a deep breath and leans back, relaxing with his drink and cigar, looking at the passing scenery.

ANTONIO (CONT'D)

Sweet Jesus, Gavino, how I've missed all this....

GAVINO

(Reassuring)

You're home now, Boss, it's all good.

ANTONIO

(Sniffing air)

The smells, the tastes, thirty fucking years! Feels like forever! Whose idea was this goddamn hearse?

GAVINO

Antonia's. She thought you'd want to come out in style, classy like.

ANTONIO

Antonia? Now she's Antonia? What the fuck happened to Sofia?

GAVINO

Changed her name. All legal like.

ANTONIO

Jesus, she's a nervy bitch. Always has been. Should have left her to rot like her Ma, the whore.

Scowling, Antonia picks up the remote and starts to throw it at the TV, then stops, shaking her head, breathing heavily.

7 EXT. UNCLE AL'S CAMP / LAFFING CANYON / BIG SUR - DAY

Scott takes Indian half-steps and moves swiftly along the narrow South Fork Trail. He stops at Overlook Rock tracks the stream and sees the roof of Mule Cabin. A BALD EAGLE circles in the updraft as he presses his hand in the dirt beside the large footprint of a MOUNTAIN LION in the trail.

SCOTT

(Musing)

Welcome back, my friend.

Scott hikes to the upper trail and pauses to scan the South Coast where the Big Sur headlands drop into the Pacific Ocean.

He hears HOUNDS BARKING as he reaches the Coast Trail summit and sees "UNCLE AL" REEVUS (77), sitting in an old camp chair outside his rusty trailer and smoking a hand-rolled cigarette.

As Scott approaches, Al pours coffee and hands him a cup.

UNCLE AL

Hot, black and stout, Sonny.

SCOTT

Much obliged, Al.

The hounds BARK EXCITEDLY as Scott approaches, but quickly calm down as he pets and greets each one by name. BLUE and LILY are chasing hounds, DOGO AND GOTCHA are the catchers.

SCOTT (CONT'D)

Your guys are in great shape, Al.

UNCLE AL

Work 'em hard. Feed 'em good. Where's your Shadow?

SCOTT

Left him with Lei at the cabin.

UNCLE AL

Still glad you brought him back?

SCOTT

Couldn't leave him there after taking my bullet. We're buds for life.

UNCLE AL

A dog's the only family we get to choose. Only friend worth a damn!

Scott sips the hot brew. The dogs are nervous.

SCOTT

Where's the boar hold up, Al?

UNCLE AL

Spotted him yesterday on Cutter's Ridge, but I figure he's headed for the mud pond on Fuller's Flat.

SCOTT

How do you know he's rabid?

UNCLE AL

Seen him in the scope, frothing, crazy mad. Mean as hell.

SCOTT

Big one?

UNCLE AL

400 maybe 450 pounder. Hard to say. Was caked in mud.

SCOTT

Hurt anyone yet?

UNCLE AL

Killed a dozen cows on three ranches. No telling how many critters he's afflicted. He's God awful sick. Needs putting down.

Scott walks over to Al's rifle and picks it up.

SCOTT

I've always admired your Chapeau.

UNCLE AL

Best boar rifle ever made. Only thing my Pa ever give me.

SCOTT

It's a collectable now.

UNCLE AL

Well, it's gonna collect a sick hog today. Best get to it.

Al grabs his rifle and unleashes the hounds. Scott follows and they jog Indian style along the Coast Road, stopping only to listen and then follow the BAYING of the hounds.

8 INT. INTERCUT / LAKE TAHOE HOUSE AND LIMOUSINE - DAY

The limousine takes the Rest Area Exit and comes to a stop in a remote corner of the parking lot. Antonia and Sal watch Antonio on the TV screen as he begins to nod off. Antonia turns on the limousine camera with the remote microphone.

SAL

It's live He's all yours.

Antonia's face suddenly appears on the limo's TV and her ${\tt VOICE}$ BURSTS into the silence, .

ANTONIA

Welcome Home, Padre Mia!

ANTONY

(Startled, confused.)
Zahara, is that you? But....

DAVINO

(Calmly)

It's Antonia, Boss, she's on the TV!

ANTONY

The ghost of her fucking whore mother!

Antonia smiles, eyes cold, nodding slowly.

ANTONIA

(Cooly, smiling)

Yes, Antonio, I am the ghost of my mother! And I have come for you!

ANTONIO

(Defensive)

I cared for you like a daughter, but my daughter you are not.

ANTONIA

(Slowly)

Oh yes, I am, you miserable bastard, I am your blood daughter. You knocked up Mama, then whored her and killed her. Now I am going to kill you.

ANTONIO

(Flaring up)

You are the same whoring bitch as your mother.

ANTONIA

(Calmly)

Relax, Antonio. I am going to explain exactly how you will die and why.

ANTONIO

(Angry and frightened)
Davino, turn that fucking thing off!

ANTONIA

(InterRUPTING)

Davino, your ride is waiting.

Antonio is shocked as Davino and the Driver get out of the limousine. Davino hesitates, then sticks his head inside.

DAVINO

(Choking up, tearing)
Sorry, Boss, it is what it is.

Davino closes the door and the lock CLICKS. Antonio tries to unlock it, bangs futilely on the window, and watches in disbelief as Davino and the limo driver get into a parked sedan and drive away.

ANTONIA

(Smiling grimly)

First, Padre Mia, a DNA test confirmed I am a bastard of your blood. I took your name, the family ring, and your Capo Sal -- my best friend for years -- and now my right arm.

Antonio is red-faced, disoriented, and tries to speak.

ANTONIA (CONT'D)

(Interrupting)

Second, instead of having a con shiv you in prison, I wanted a more personal ending for you, so I bought your pardon and I own your freedom.

Antonio now sweating profusely, again tries opening the door.

ANTONIA (CONT'D)

Third, I hope you have enjoyed your last meal. Your Black Dragon cigar was laced with Scopolamine to paralyze everything except your eyes.

(MORE)

ANTONIA (CONT'D)

Your McAllen whisky was spiked with LSD to heighten your consciousness so you will not miss anything.

Antonio groans and struggles as the drugs begin to take hold. Sal watches the look of pleasure in Antonia's face.

ANTONIA (CONT'D)

You were Mama's only sin. She was a kind and gentle soul, but for some unholy reason, she loved you and dreamed your dream of giving you a son, but when your seeds made a girl, and you sold her body to punish her.

Antonio struggles less and less as Antonia speaks.

ANTONIA (CONT'D)

You broke her beautiful heart, you miserable son of a bitch. You left her alone, with nothing. She whored to feed us and died under a fat slob who was fucking her dead body.

Antonio blinks his eyes, frantically shaking his head no until his body movements come to a full stop, his eyes full of fear.

ANTONIA (CONT'D)

Now the final act Padre Mia. When I detonate the C-4 under your seat you will be blown into a million pieces of shit and splattered the parking lot of a roadside toilet stop. May you rest in peace ... or, in pieces!

Antonio is totally paralyzed in a sitting position. His furtive eyes are his only motion and convey sheer terror.

Antonia picks up the red phone, points it at the TV and presses a button. Simultaneously a white light bursts on the screen and a loud but brief EXPLOSION fills her office.

Antonia stares at the black screen for a moment, then removes a decanter of whisky from the liquor cabinet, pours two glasses and hands one to Sal.

SAL

Feel better?

ANTONIA

(Brooding)

No, not better, not good enough.

SAL

You think he was right that his old consigliere stole the family money?

ANTONIA

I was a kid and barely knew Tom. He brought me mints from the casino when he delivered the skim pouches.

SAL

You want The Geek to look for him?

ANTONIA

His name was Baxter, Tom Baxter. Find him and we find the money.

9 EXT. FULLER'S MUD FLAT / BIG SUR MOUNTAINS - DAY

From the trail Al and Scott see the four hounds circling a large Boar in the shallow mud pond on Fuller's Flat. The boar spins wildly around, frothing, spewing foam and charging wildly at the elusive, BARKING hounds.

UNCLE AL

We got the devil beast now, Sonny.

SCOTT

Your boys got him boxed in, Al.

UNCLE AL

He's plum tuckered. All he needs is a round in the ear.

SCOTT

I have a clean shot from here, Al.

UNCLE AL

And miss all the fun?

Suddenly Al bolts and runs down the slope toward the hounds in the mud flat below. Scott follows.

SCOTT

(To himself)

Fun is getting done.

The hounds see Al coming and pull back. They stop barking and freeze. The boar stands still, exhausted, steam rising from his hulk, its long white tusks gleaming.

Al stops short of the pond, leans the Chapeau rifle against a tree and draws a .357 pistol. Scott kneels behind a nearby log, steadies his rifle and takes aim through the scope.

The dogs, PANTING, stand quiet, waiting. The boar drools, HUFFING LOUDLY and fogging the air with his hot breath.

SCOTT (CONT'D)

(Calling out)

Easy, Al. He's looking mean.

Dogo and Gotcha watch Al's hand signals, then BARK sharply, distracting the boar.

Al cocks the revolver and walks up slowly behind the boar, pointing the pistol toward the back of its left ear.

Suddenly the boar spins around and charges Al, who falls backward into the mud. With the Boar in his gunsight, Scott squeezes the trigger.

The bullet pierces the boar's right eye. It staggers, spins full circle, then collapses into the muddy pond, dead.

The hounds stay quiet. Hot steam rises from the boar's still body. Scott waits as Al stands. Shaken but smiling, he salutes Scott, who returns the gesture.

10 EXT. LIMOUSINE ACCIDENT SCENE - DAY

In the Rest Area parking lot, FBI Agents Smitty O'Brien and Carmen Lopez surveil the wreckage of the detonated limousine. Firemen douse the smoke rising from the charred remains of the limousine, now in two sections and surrounded by debris.

Smitty and Carmen duck under the tape in the accident area.

SMITTY

(Wryly)

Looks like the pardon was revoked.

CARMEN

What a godawful mess.

As the two agents approach the wreckage, Smitty lifts a tarp on the ground and looks underneath.

SMITTY

Looks like roadkill.

Carmen walks away and vomits. Smitty scouts the area looking for clues in the wreckage. A CHP Officer approaches.

OFFICER

Hold on there! You can not be here!

SMITTY

I am FBI Special Agent O'Brien and that is my partner, Agent Lopez.

Smitty shows his badge.

OFFICER

What are the Feds doing here?

SMITTY

Just passing by. Have you ID'd the Vics yet?

OFFICER

Only one here. A John Doe.

CARMEN

There was a driver and two passengers.

OFFICER

(Lightly)

Not in this wreck. But we are still putting the bits and pieces together.

SMITTY

(Nods toward the tarp)

You'll find those bits and pieces are the remains Antonio Costellano.

OFFICER

(Surprised)

The Mob quy in Tehachapi?

SMITTY

Yeah. We are coming back from his coming out party.

OFFICER

I thought he was sentenced to life.

SMITTY

(Looking around)

He was until our Governor cut him loose with a pardon.

Carmen picks up a charred fragment from the debris, sniffs it, and hands it to the CHP officer.

CARMEN

Here's a fried cell phone that smells like C-4.

The CHP officer inspects it and frowns. Smitty nods his approval at Lopez and smiles.

SMITTY

Time to go.

Smitty and Carmen return to their car and drive away.

CARMEN

Who kills a dying old man?

SMITTY

Anyone he screwed. A long list. Especially Antonia, his daughter.

CARMEN

Why would a daughter kill her father?

SMITTY

You never know with these people. I I was in the courtroom the day Antonio was sentenced to life instead of the death penalty. The daughter went nuts, screaming that he killed her mother before getting dragged out.

CARMEN

So who takes his place as the boss.

SMITTY

Blood line bullshit. It's their way. Probably Antonia. When he went to prison, she put on the family ring, then took all the operations legit.

CARMEN

What does she do now?

SMITTY

She runs everything from the Five Aces Casino in Reno and lives in the old family compound on Lake Tahoe.

CARMEN

Sounds enterprising.

SMITTY

Smart as hell. In-house and online gambling, an escort service, she mills pleasure pills, coined her own crypto and stores client profiles in her own data center for blackmailing.

CARMEN

How do you know so much about her?

SMITTY

I'm the guy who made the Rico case that put Papa Antonio in prison.

CARMEN

Think we should hit the tables in Reno and go fishing at the lake?

11 INT. MAUI PLANTATION HOUSE / LANAI - DAY

The plantation house in Kula, Maui overlooks the vast Pacific Ocean and is surrounded by tropical plants and flowers.

TOM BROWN (59), FKA Tom Baxter, Antonio's former Consigliere, and Katherine's husband, reads a newspaper on the lanai. Hawaiian music streams from a radio in the kitchen.

KATHERINE BROWN (57), Katherine Costellano, Antonio's former wife and Tom Brown's current wife, enters the lanai with a handful of freshly-picked, tropical flowers.

KATHERINE

Morning, Dear. Aren't they beautiful?

Katherine leans over and kisses Tom.

TOM

(Smelling the flowers)
As gorgeous the lady who grew them.

An excited voice shatters the Hawaiian music on the radio, "THIS IS A BREAKING NEWS BULLETIN".

RADIO NEWSCASTER

Late yesterday afternoon old time Mafia Godfather Antonio Costellano, known as Tony the Fish, was killed in an automobile explosion.

Katherine drops the flowers, rushes to the kitchen and turns up the volume. Tom slowly folds up his paper and listens.

RADIO NEWSCASTER (CONT'D)

Castellano's vehicle exploded in the parking lot of the Highway 395 Rest Area only hours after he was released from Tehachapi Maximum Security Prison where he had been incarcerated for the last fifteen years.

Stunned, Tom and Katherine stare intensely at each other.

RADIO NEWSCASTER (CONT'D)

Costellano was recently diagnosed with terminal lung cancer and released on a governor's pardon, allegedly so he could live his final days at home.

TOM

(Shaking head) Cancer? Hah!

RADIO NEWSCASTER

Details of the explosion are unclear at this time, but a spokesman for the California Highway Patrol in Kern County commented off the record that foul play was suspected.

Tom scowls and turns off the TV. Katherine covers her mouth.

KATHERINE

Oh, Tom, now Scott will know everything!

TOM

(Breathes deeply)
It's time, Kat, He is a man now. He can handle it. I will see to it.

Tom picks up his phone.

TOM (CONT'D)

Book me a ticket on the next flight to San Francisco. Brown, Tom Brown.

12 INT. MAUI PLANTATION HOUSE / BEDROOM - DAY

Tom and Katherine enter the master bedroom where the walls are filled with rows of framed photographs of SCOTT ADAMS from a young boy to an striking young man with a chiseled jaw, blue eyes and black hair.

The camera pans the wall of photos:

A baby in Katherine's arms / A boy with cowboy hat sitting on a horse / Throwing a football in a game / Pitching a baseball/ Saluting with an Eagle Scout sash / Graduation Day at Stanford / An Army Ranger kneeling with Assault Rifle with a K-9 dog / Washing his Scout pickup with an elderly man / Rafting on a white-water river / With Leilani on the Big Sur Cabin Porch / On a boat with Leilani in Hawaii / With Leilani and Shadow outside the Vallejo Houseboat.

Katherine pines and SIGHES at the wall of photographs.

KATHERINE

(Pensively)

How will he take it, Tom?

TOM

We will know tomorrow.

KATHERINE

All these years I dreamed of meeting him, but now I dread it. Will he forgive me or hate me forever?

TOM

One step at a time, Katherine. He has every reason to love you.

Tom opens a closet, moves apart the hanging clothes and presses a panel that opens into a small room. A shot gun hangs on the wall. He opens a drawer containing wrappers of cash, passports and a revolver.

He removes a US Passport and a few \$100 bills, then reaches inside a drawer and pulls a lever that opens a small panel.

Tom removes an attaché. Inside he opens is a laptop computer. He enters a passcode and the LAPTOP SCREEN lights up with a message:

LAPTOP SCREEN

For Scott Adams. Welcome to your new life.

Satisfied, Tom powers off the computer and closes the attaché.

13 EXT. SAN FRANCISCO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT - DAY

Tom hails a cab. An Indian taxi driver, head wrapped in a turban, dressed in coat and tie, opens the door for him.

TOM

Do you go to Sausalito?

TAXI DRIVER

Yes, Sir, the fare is \$70. However, it's much cheaper to take Bart to the Embarcadero, then get on the ferry to Sausalito.

TOM

Your accent makes me feel like I'm in London. And I love the drive over that bridge. Let's go.

Tom enters the cab.

TAXI DRIVER

It appears you are well traveled,
Sir....

14 EXT. VALLEJO HOUSEBOAT / SAUSALITO GATE 5 - DAY

Shirtless and standing on a ladder, Scott Adams is painting the side of the VALLEJO houseboat. Shadow lays nearby.

As Tom Brown steps on the boat ramp, Shadow BARKS once, then sits, alert with ears pointed forward.

SCOTT

(Calling out)

May I help you?

TOM

Hello, Scott. My name is Tom Brown. You do not know me but I have something for you.

SCOTT

(brusquely)

You are right. I don't. You have the wrong Scott.

Scott turns and continues painting. Shadow GROWLS SOFTLY. Leilani, barefoot in shorts and tee shirt, appears at the houseboat door and leans against the jam.

LEILANI

(Calls)

Here, Shadow. Here boy.

Shadow, eyes fixed on Tom, does not move.

TOM

No, young man, you are the very Scott Adams with whom I have come to speak

Scott stops painting, looks down from the ladder.

SCOTT

How do you know my name?

TOM

Well, I have something that belongs to you.

SCOTT

(Defensively)

And what would that be?

TOM

Your past and your future. Right here in this attache.

SCOTT

(Firmly)

Look, Mister, I don't know how you got my name or what you're selling, but I'm not interested.

Shadow GROWLS LOUDER, a steady low sound, as he moves between Tom and Scott on the ladder. Tom backs away.

TOM

Now hold on, big fella. Scott, I know you don't know me, but don't be alarmed. I knew your father and know your mother, and the laptop in this attache is yours.

SCOTT

(Impatiently)

My old man deserted my mother who died of a broken heart when I was born. So be on your way.

Scott smiles and winks at Leilani, then begins painting again. Shadow sits at the foot of the ladder.

TOM

(Slowly but firmly)

Yes, I know what you have been told, but it is not even close to the truth.

SCOTT

(Glaring)

Look, mister, I don't want to be rude, but you are beginning to piss me off and I have work to do.

TOM

(Nodding)

Believe me, I understand your suspicion. Maybe this would help. I have a laptop for you in this attache. The login - all caps - is L-E-I-L-A-N-I and the password is your birthday 01-20-1992.

Scott pauses, his face darkens, he takes a deep breath. He climbs slowly down from the ladder and approaches Tom, who backs away, shaking his head. Alarmed, Leilani walks toward them, but Scott motions for her to stay. Shadow, on full alert, moves to Scott's side.

TOM (CONT'D)

(Calming Shadow)

Easy, fella, everything's okay!

SCOTT

How the hell you know Leilani's name? Or my date of birth?

TOM

I probably know more about you and your life than anyone, including your step folks, Arnie and Susan.

Scott stops, visibly shaken. Leilani, fearful, covers her mouth. Tom holds up the attaché. Shadow begins BARKING.

SCOTT

(Commands Shadow)

Hold.

Shadow stops barking and sits at full attention. Tom hands the attache to Scott but he refuses to take it.

TOM

You'll find all the answers in here, young man.

Scott shakes his head and steps back. Tom places the attache on the ramp and places a cell phone on top of it.

TOM (CONT'D)

Press speed dial one if you want to talk. I will be at the Sausalito Hotel until tomorrow afternoon.

Tom walks off the ramp and Shadow follows, GROWLING MENACINGLY. Leilani rushes to Scott and embraces him. Scott stares at the attaché case.

15 INT. VALLEJO HOUSEBOAT / SAUSALITO GATE 5 - DAY

Inside the houseboat, Scott places the attaché on the desk, staring at it thoughtfully. Leilani brings a cup of tea. Shadow lays down on his nearby matt.

LEILANI

(Upset)

Who was that?

SCOTT

I haven't a clue.

LEILANI

He seems to know a lot about you -- about both of us!

SCOTT

Way too much.

LEILANI

Are you going to open it?

SCOTT

(Shrugs, teasing)

Not sure. Might be a bomb!

Scott begins to laugh, but the instant Shadow hears the word BOMB, he leaps to attention and freezes. Scott understands.

SCOTT (CONT'D)

(Orders)

At ease. Sorry, Shad, it is okay.

Shadow relaxes and returns to his pad under the desk and lays his chin on Scott's foot.

Leilani is surprised by Shadow's instant reaction and Scott's brusque command. Scott opens the attaché and removes the Laptop. Leilani watches as he logs in. The screen lights up

LAPTOP SCREEN

Good Day, Mr. Scott Adams. Effective 05:01:2025 @ 03:06:39 EST your account portfolio totals \$33,493,955,873.47. Press ENTER to open.

SCOTT

(Aghast)

Thirty three million dollars?

LEILANI

(squinting at the

screen)

Look again, Scotty, that's a "B" -- for billions! All 33 of them!

Stunned, they exchange looks, then peer at the screen.

Scott presses **OPEN** and sees row after row of stock names appear: Microsoft, IBM, Apple, Google, Facebook, Sony, Berkshire Hathaway, ExxonMobil, AMEX, MasterCard, and more.

As he scrolls down, screen after screen, countless stocks, each with columns of moving numbers appear on the screen.

SCOTT

I cannot even imagine a billion dollars, much less count that far.

LEILANI

Well, this poor little island girl took math 101 and learned one billion is one thousand million dollars!

SCOTT

(Lightly)

I bet that would buy a lot of Poi!

Leilani laughs and punches him in the arm.

SCOTT (CONT'D)

Ouch!

Scott leans back in the desk chair, rubbing his eyes and shaking his head in disbelief as he watches stock names and numbers filling the screen and changing rapidly in real time.

16 EXT. VALLEJO HOUSEBOAT / SAUSALITO GATE 5 - DAY

Scott leans on the rail of the houseboat deck watching the city of San Francisco across the bay. Shadow rests nearby. The windows in the white buildings glimmer from the late afternoon sun. Leilani joins him with two glasses of wine.

LEILANI

A penny?

SCOTT

No thoughts, just feelings, strange ones, deep in the gut. Not sure if I want to know what they mean.

LEILANI

Listen to them, trust them.

SCOTT

Even if it were rightfully mine, I would not know what to do with it.

LEILANI

If you don't want it, don't take it.

SCOTT

But what if it were actually mine, and mind to take?

LEILANI

Then it's yours to keep, or not keep.

SCOTT

It might be better not to find out.

LEILANI

About what? About learning who you are? Where you came from? Your real roots?

SCOTT

I thought I knew who I was. But now I am not so sure.

LEILANI

Is that a good enough reason to want to know more?

Scott looks at Leilani, embraces and kisses her softly until she moans.

SCOTT

You always remind me why I love you!

LEILANI

(Sexy, teasing)

You need reminding? Let's go inside so I can really remind you!

17 INT. VALLEJO HOUSEBOAT / SAUSALITO GATE 5 - NIGHT

Scott and Leilani are wearing their pajamas and sitting at the desk looking at the laptop. Shadow is asleep under the desk. Scott opens a menu tab titled "Family", scrolls down.

LAPTOP SCREEN

(Caption)

VIDEO: SCOTT'S MOTHER. PRESS "ENTER".

An attractive, middle-age woman wearing a Hawaiian Muumuu dress with an orchid in her greying hair, appears on screen with a man who Scott and Leilani immediately recognize as Tom Brown.

Katherine and Tom sit at an outdoor table on the deck of their Maui plantation home. Behind them the Pacific Ocean expands to the horizon. The SONGS of island birds accentuate the steady sound of the SURF washing onto the beaches below.

KATHERINE

(Smiling nervously)

Hello, Scott, my name is Katherine. I'm here with my husband, Tom, and I'm your mother, your birth mother.

Katherine looks at Tom for support.

KATHERINE (CONT'D)

There! Scott. I've said it!

Leilani watches Scott shaking his head no in disbelief.

TOM

(Breaking in)

Scott, if you're watching this, we have already met. I brought you the laptop playing this video.

KATHERINE

(Emotional, stuttering)
I'm not sure I can do this, but I'll
try. I fell in love with your father,
Antonio Costellano, before I knew
his was a criminal. I went along
with it for awhile, but when I became
pregnant with you, I didn't want you
to grow up that way, so I lied and
told him I had aborted you. He went
crazy and almost killed me.

The camera follows Katherine as she talks, gently picking flowers from pots on the deck. The amateur video wobbles and takes her off screen from time to time.

KATHERINE (CONT'D)

Tom helped me escape to my sister Susan's in Pebble Beach where you were born. I asked her and Arnie to raise you as their son - the only way I could keep you safe from him.

TOM

He would have killed her, Scott, but would have spared you to groom for the family business.

KATHERINE

Oh, Scott, we have followed every stage of your life from photos Susan sent. I have missed loving and holding you every moment. I hope you will be able to forgive me.

TOM

Antonio entrusted me with the money he stole from his family. When he dies, as his son, you get the money and that's when you will meet me.

Katherine sits down, nervously arranging the flowers into a bouquet and avoiding the camera, hiding her tears.

KATHERINE

(Brokenly)

It's hard to talk to a camera and pretend I'm talking to you, Scott.
(MORE)

KATHERINE (CONT'D)

I hope we can meet soon, whenever you want, whenever it is safe.

Katherine begins SOBBING. Tom covers the video camera lens.

TOM

(Caught on the audio)
Okay, that's enough! Shut it down!
I'll tell him the rest when we meet.

The video ends abruptly. Scott sits back, eyes moist, staring into space, shaking his head and breathing deeply.

Leilani embraces him in silence. Shadow rises from his pad and rests his chin on Scott's leg.

SCOTT

(Voice breaking)

This is going to take a little time, Lei. Thanks, Shad.

18 EXT. RENO / ANTONIA'S ACE CASINO PENTHOUSE - NIGHT

A helicopter lands on the helipad of the Aces Hotel and Casino. Antonia emerges wearing a white pants suit, Hermes scarf and Fedora hat. She carries a thin, black alligator attaché.

19 INT. INTERCUT / RENO / ANTONIA AND SAL - NIGHT

Antonia enters the rooftop door to her luxurious Penthouse apartment that covers the entire top floor of the Ace Hotel and Casino Tower. She has 360 degree views of downtown Reno and the surrounding mountains.

The interior is decorated with elegant white leather furniture and modern artworks. All four outside walls are floor-to-ceiling glass, each side opening into a spacious Terrace, one with an infinity lap pool and hot tub.

Antonia's cell phone rings and she answers.

SAL

Just checking in. The pilot said it was choppy. You okay?

Antonia pours a glass of wine, turns on ZEN MEDITATION music, and strips to panties and bra, revealing her slender but muscular body.

ANTONIA

Thanks, Sal, just tired. I need some down time.

Antonia walks outside, with her back to the camera, she strips naked and steps into the reflecting pool holding the phone in one hand and a glass of wine in the other. The moving neon lights of the Reno Casinos flicker against the night sky.

SAL

I am expecting visitors soon asking questions some vehicle accident in California. I will retro-log a Bahamas trip for you on the jet.

ANTONIA

(Distracted)

Sal, ask The Geek to calculate what the thirty million Tony stole and stashed fifteen years ago would be worth today.

Antonia hangs up and makes another call.

ANTONIA (CONT'D)

Hi Maddie, I'm in the mood tonight. Who's on deck? Gina or Damon? Hmm. Have security bring up Gina.

20 INT. VALLEJO HOUSEBOAT / SAUSALITO GATE 5 - NIGHT

With Leilani leaning over his shoulder, Scott scrolls to the next screen to a video image of an attractive, slender woman with bundled blond hair and rimmed glasses, SARAH MARPLES-DUNN (27). She is dressed in a plain woman's business suit. He presses ENTER and she speaks in an educated British accent.

LAPTOP SCREEN

(Caption)

CAPTION. FINANCIAL LIAISON "ENTER". Good day, Mr. Adams. Welcome to The Commonwealth Fund. I am Miss Sarah Marples, your personal account manager. I look forward to meeting you in person. May I introduce you to our chairman, Sir Egbert Oliver.

SIR EGBERT OLIVER (74), short and stocky, dressed in a three-piece suit, appears on the screen with a nervous, pasty smile.

SIR EGBERT OLIVER

How do you do, Mr. Adams. We have served our clients for two hundred years and I trust you are satisfied with our services. Now back to Miss Marples and Good Day to you, Sir.

SARAH MARPLES-DUNN

Feel free to contact me anytime, day or night, on my personal cell, 001+44-559-661-2301 or private email, smd@tcf.com. Until then....

LEILANI

(With a affected British accent)

That's quite an invitations, Mr. Adams, Sir! My personal number! Call me anytime! Day or night! Rather fetching, indeed, old chap!

Shadow raises his head from his matt bed and looks at Leilani. Scott smiles, enjoying the moment.

SCOTT

(Retorts with stuffy
British accent)
Quite so, my dear, and I must say,
you are rather fetching yourself!

LEILANI

Oh, Mr. Adams, I am available anytime you are in need of my personal services!

SCOTT

(laughing)

Your services, Princess, are the only services I will ever need!

LEILANI

They better be, my Haole Hero, or you will never enjoy them again!

As Scott programs Sarah's contact information in his phone, Leilani punches him playfully on his arm and walks away. Shadow looks curiously at Scott, who smiles and nods okay.

21 INT. LAKE TAHOE HOUSE - DAY

Special FBI Agents Smitty O'Brien and Carmen Lopez arrive at the Estate in Lake Tahoe and stop at the Gate. The GATE GUARD (35), uniformed and clean cut, greets them politely as he shines a bright light into the vehicle.

GATE GUARD

Good evening, gentlemen, how can I help you?

SMITTY

(surprised)

We came to see the boss.

GATE GUARD

I'm sorry, Sir, who is it you would like to see?

SMITTY

(Impatiently)

Whoever the hell is here. We are special agents of the FBI. Open the fucking gate.

GATE GUARD

Yes, of course, Sir. Would you mind showing me your credentials?

Smitty GRUMBLES as he retrieves and shows their badges. The Guard studies their badges and removes a radio from his belt.

GATE GUARD (CONT'D)

Gate to House. Two FBI agents are at the front gate requesting entrance to the house. Over.

Shortly the radio crackles and Sal answers in his CALM DEEP VOICE.

SAL

(A smooth, deep voice comes over the radio) Of course, let the gentlemen in. Fran will meet them at the door.

The Agents park at the house. The housekeeper, FRANCIS (55) greets and takes them to Antonia's Office where Sal waits.

SAL (CONT'D)

Good Evening, Gentlemen. Please have a seat. Would you care for a cup of coffee?

SMITTY

(Wryly)

In case you haven't heard, your boss was killed today in an unfortunate accident.

SAL

Yes, I saw it on the news, but I hope you understand, Mr. Costellano may have been a boss here many years ago, but has not been a boss of anything since he was incarcerated.

SMITTY

You don't say. Aren't you Salvatore something who used to work for him?

SAL

My last name is Vinosa and, no, I did not work for Mr. Costellano, but I knew him as a donor to the Harlem projects when I was a volunteer counselor.

SMITTY

A donor, eh? What are you counseling now?

SAL

(Humbly)

After Mr. Costellano was imprisoned, his daughter engaged my counseling services to oversee her philanthropic activities.

SMITTY

Pretty fancy digs for a community organizer.

SAL

(Correcting)

Counselor, not organizer, and I do not live here, I am only visiting.

SMITTY

I need to speak with the daughter. Is she here?

SAL

(Remorsefully)

Having just lost her father in a tragic accident, I understand she has cut her Bahamas trip short and is coming home to process her grief.

SMITTY

(Breathing heavily)

Well, Mr. Counselor Salvatore Vinosa, thanks for your phony hospitality bullshit answers. We will be back.

Sal presses a call button on the desk and Francis appears.

SAL

I understand and am available anytime. Francis, Please show these gentlemen the way out.

SMITTY

(Exasperated, shaking

head)

Jesus, enough of this nicey-nicey shit! We are out of here Carmen!

22 INT. INTERCUT / SCOTT AND TOM - NIGHT

Tom watches television in his room at the Sausalito Hotel. His cell phone RINGS and the screen reads "Scott Adams".

ТОМ

And a good evening to you, Scott.

SCOTT

(Hesitantly)

I think I would like to meet tomorrow after all.

TOM

Where's your favorite breakfast place?

SCOTT

Fred's Coffee Shop. On Bridgeway.

TOM

See you at eight o'clock - sharp.

Scott hangs up, looks at Leilani and shrugs.

SCOTT

I wonder what his next surprise is.

LEILANI

(Smiling)

How could he possibly top this one?

23 INT. FBI FIELD OFFICE / SAN FRANCISCO. - DAY

Smitty O'Brien sits at a conference table in the Sacramento FBI office with his partner Carmen Lopez and HAROLD BOXER (57), the Special Agent in charge of Organized Crime.

SMITTY

You saw our old friend got popped yesterday after leaving Tehachapi?

HAROLD

(Dryly)

I watch the news, Smitty.

SMITTY

It's not him that interests me, Chief, it's the dough we never found.

HAROLD

You think it is in play?

Smitty shuffles the file folders on the conference table.

SMITTY

Let me find out who offed him and see if it leads us to the money.

HAROLD

That our new governor pardoned him does not smell good.

SMITTY

What if he planned to use that dough to rebuild the families?

HAROLD

How much we talking about?

SMITTY

Before the bust we figured Tony stashed between 30 to 40 mil. A broker told Carmen if invested wisely, it could a thousand times that today!

Carmen nods her head but remains silent.

SMITTY (CONT'D)

The bosses left their soldiers broke. They have waited 30 very lean years to put Humpty-Dumpty back together.

HAROLD

It could also reopen the war between the families and do our job for us.

SMITTY

If I am right, we need to find the money before they do.

HAROLD

We could sure as hell use it to regroup the Task Force. Whatever you need, Smitty, whatever it takes!

24 INT. FRED'S COFFEE HOUSE / SAUSALITO - DAY

Scott and Leilani sit at an outside table at Fred's Place. Shadow rests under the table beside the attaché case.

Tom walks up wearing khaki slacks and a bright Hawaiian shirt.

MOT

Morning, Scott. Aloha, Leilani. I saw you watching yesterday but we were not introduced.

LEILANI

Aloha, Tom. Been to the islands?

A WAITRESS brings menus and pours coffee.

TOM

(Ignoring her question.)
A great little town here, Scott.
Reminds me of a salty village on the Costa del Sol.

Tom reaches down to pet Shadow, who turns away.

SCOTT

You said you only had today to talk.

TOM

Only this morning, actually, then I fly. Have at it.

SCOTT

We saw most everything on the laptop, the money, and the video of the woman who claims to be my mother.

TOM

Claims to be?

SCOTT

(Weakly)

I have a mother. And a father. I remember them from birth. You still have the wrong quy.

TOM

(Firmly)

I think you mean your stepmother and stepfather. Your old man was Antonio Costellano and your birth mother is his former wife, that is, before she married me.

SCOTT

I saw the video. She and you could be anyone.

(Stubbornly))

I brought the computer back so you can give it to the right person.

TOM

Still not convinced, eh? Try this: I knew you as a babe in your Mama's arms and even wiped your backside when changing a few diapers.

Scott blushes, embarrassed. Leilani holds back a smile.

TOM (CONT'D)

Your stepmom sent us so many photos of you we ran out of wall space -- from the cute one on your pony, to your Eagle Scout uniform, all the sports you played, even one with you Leilani with a board on a Maui beach!

Scott starts to speak, but Leilani quiets him. Tom takes a cell phone from his shirt.

TOM (CONT'D)

Would you like to talk to your real mother? She will confirm everything!

SCOTT

No, please -- hell no! Not now.

TOM

You are the correct Scott Adams, my friend! I know you are in shock, but get over it so we can move on.

Scott remains silent, eyes down, shaking his head slowly. Leilani reaches across the table and grips his arm.

LEILANI

(Calming)

I think we just need to understand how all this fits together. You must admit, it is a lot to take in.

TOM

Fair enough, little lady. I'll tell you everything if you and Scott will swear to keep one little secret.

LEILANI

Secret? One? You mean another one?

TOM

Before we go any further.

Leilani and Scott exchange glances, shrug and nod to affirm.

TOM (CONT'D)

(Shaking head)

Nodding does not cut it. Say it! Swear it! And mean it!

SCOTT

(Demurely)

Isn't that a little old-fashioned?

TOM

Damn right. Swearing is an oath.

SCOTT

(Reluctantly)

Alright, we swear, damnit!

TOM

(Mischievously)

On your mother's grave?

Scott jerks back.

TOM (CONT'D)

(Chuckling)

Just kidding! Bad joke. Sorry. Your mother is alive and well.

The Waitress returns to take their order.

TOM (CONT'D)

Now, let's enjoy our breakfast, get to know each other a little, then walk over to that little park by the hotel where we can chat in private.

25 EXT. VINA DEL MAR PARK / SAUSALITO - DAY

Sitting on the grass in the corner of the park, Scott, Leilani and Tom talk quietly together, Shadow sits beside Scott, alert.

TOM

Look, Scott, I know it is a lot to deal with. It is a whole new world for you.

SCOTT

So why are you telling me this now, after all these years?

TOM

We had planned on telling you on your 30th birthday next year, but that changed when the Godfather was killed yesterday.

LEILANI

Godfather?

TOM

Scott's blood father, Antonio Costellano. The Godfather of the Sicilian Cosa Nostra.

SCOTT

(Erupts in anger)

Jesus Christ! You said he was a criminal. Now he's a goddamn Mafia Godfather?

TOM

One in the same.

SCOTT

Holy shit! Is the money his?

TOM

It was -- until he died. As I explained, it is yours now.

SCOTT

This gets crazier by the minute!
Now I'm the son of a goddamn Godfather -- a Godson?

TOM

(Pausing)

Well, yes and no. You were the son he never knew but always wanted...

LEILANI

(Interjecting)

I thought a Godson was a Godchild named by a family friend at birth?

TOM

(Blushing, deflecting)

There is one more concern....

Leilani sees that Tom is serious and reaches out to restrain Scott.

SCOTT

Now what the hell!

Tom clears his throat.

MOT

You may have a step-sister from another mother. Tony hated the kid but took her in when her Mama died.

So why not give the money to her, or at least half of it?

TOM

If she knew about it, she would want all of it -- and make damn sure you were not around to claim any of it.

LEILANI

(Gravely)

Exactly what do you mean, Tom?

TOM

To be straight, little lady, I hear she is a very dangerous person.

SCOTT

(Pausing)

Now I understand your goddamned oath.

Scott and Leilani exchange glances, pondering Tom's words in silence.

The Ferry Boat to San Francisco blows its LANDING HORN as it pulls into the Sausalito Landing near the park. The arriving passengers begin to disembark.

TOM

There's my ride. I've talked more in two days than the last two years.

SCOTT

So, I can do whatever I want with the money?

MOT

Whatever you fancy.

SCOTT

Any thoughts about what?

TOM

You can buy a yacht, a jet, an island or a whole goddamned country. Live like a king and enjoy a life of leisure, pleasure and peace!

SCOTT

That would not work for me.

TOM

Then give it away, throw it away, burn it, toss the laptop in the bay. Whatever you want.

(MORE)

TOM (CONT'D)

(Pausing)

Or maybe do something good with it.

SCOTT

I'm not sure where to start. A lot of Vet buddies could use some help. Guess there's a lot of things broken that could use some fixing.

TOM

Well, you have a lifetime to figure it out, but I have a ferry to catch.

(To Leilani)

Aloha, U'i iki pau

Leilani blushes, surprised that Tom spoke in Hawaiian.

SCOTT

What did he say?

LEILANI

(Whispering)

It means "beautiful little flower".

Tom walks on the ramp toward the Golden Gate Ferry marked "San Francisco". He boards the vessel and looks back from the stern. Scott calls out.

SCOTT

How do we reach you?

Tom pulls a cell phone from his pocket and points to it. Scott and Leilani watch as the Ferry Boat turns and MOTORS LOUDLY toward San Francisco.

Tom stands on the aft deck and waves. Scott and leilani turn and walk away with shadow, talking excitedly.

SCOTT (CONT'D)

Jesus, Lei, in 24 hours our lives have changed completely - and forever!

LEILANI

Yesterday you were painting houseboats for rent.

SCOTT

And you were painting pictures for groceries.

They walk back to the park. Scott picks up a stick and throws it. Shadow takes off in pursuit and returns it to Scott.

LEILANI

It's like a dream---

SCOTT

-- Or a nightmare?

LEILANI

Okay, you want to look at the bright side or the dark side?

SCOTT

Let's look at the upside! How can we use it to make a difference?

LEILANI

I like the sound of that!

SCOTT

It doesn't make any sense if we can't do something good with it.

Leilani grabs the stick and runs with it, Shadow chases. She throws it to Scott, but Shadow catches it mid-air, then returns it to Scott, who throws it again.

SCOTT (CONT'D)

(Sighing))

I need to see Mom and Dad in Pebble.

LEILANI

I am sure they want to see you, too.

SCOTT

Let's go to the cabin in the morning and stop and see them on the way.

LEILANI

You pack while I go to the market.

Scott grabs Leilani by the waist and swings her around. Shadow brings the stick, BARKING, jumping and playing with them.

SCOTT

You know, I feel kind of free.

LEILANI

Who knows, Scotty, maybe we are!

SCOTT

(To himself)

Or maybe we just think we are.

26 INT. INTERCUT / LAKE TAHOE HOUSE / THE PENTHOUSE - DAY

Sal calls Antonia in the Penthouse from the office in Lake Tahoe.

SAL

We had a visit from the FBI last night, presumably the same Agents Tony said were at the prison.

ANTONIA

I assume you paid my respects.

SAL

You are processing your grief and coming back early from the islands.

ANTONIA

(Distracted)

Did you notice yesterday that Davino called Antonio "Boss" and teared when he said goodbye?

SAL

And the press photographed the driver when he helped Tony into the Limo.

ANTONIA

(Nodding)

You know what to do.

SAL

Any preference?

ANTONIA

A car over the edge at Donner Lake, that spot too deep to dredge.

SAL

Done by sunrise.

Antonia hangs up and leans back in the sofa, smiling as she listens to ZEN MEDITATION MUSIC. GINA, a Five Aces model, emerges from the bedroom in a flowing negligee.

27 INT. VALLEJO HOUSEBOAT / SAUSALITO GATE 5 - DAY

Shadow is excited as he watches Scott cinch up a backpack.

The ship's bell outside clangs randomly. Shadow BARKS, Scott opens the door and finds Leilani slumped against the building, disheveled, face scuffed and bleeding, her blouse torn and slacks soiled.

What the hell---

Scott carries her inside and lays her on the sofa. Shadow sits nearby, alert.

SCOTT (CONT'D)

What happened, Sweetheart?

LEILANI

I was riding home with the groceries ...on the path by the bridge ...two guys knocked me off my bike...dragged me toward that homeless camp under the bridge....

Scott holds her as she sobs uncontrollably.

SCOTT

Okay, just take it slow, take some deep breaths, look at me.

LEILANI

I screamed and fought, but they ripped at my clothes and pulled me toward those awful cardboard shacks.

SCOTT

Okay, just breathe...

Shadow lays on the floor beside Leilani, licking her hand.

LEILANI

Thank God, a couple of guys on racers cycled right up to them, scared them off and rode with me back here.

Scott listens, scowling, his eyes darken.

LEILANI (CONT'D)

(Crying))

Oh, Scotty, I'm so sorry, they took the groceries....

Scott gets a first aid kit, dresses abrasions and covers her with a blanket. Shadow sits patiently beside her.

LEILANI (CONT'D)

If those cyclists hadn't come along---

SCOTT

It's alright, Lei, you're safe now.

Scott brings her a cup of tea and kneels beside her.

SCOTT (CONT'D)

While its fresh, I need you to describe the two men.

LEILANI

The thin one had stringy hair, dirty red cap and a green checkered shirt.

SCOTT

Excellent. And the second?

LEILANI

He was huge, a full beard, combat pants. Filthy. I need a shower.

SCOTT

Just rest for awhile, Lei, then you can shower. I need to make a call.

Scott goes to the bedroom closet and opens his Army trunk. He puts a revolver under his shirt and a knife in his boot.

SCOTT (CONT'D)

(Calling out)

We're out of tea, Lei, will you be okay alone here for a few minutes?

LEILANI

I am fine, Scott, I just need rest

SCOTT

Everything is locked up, Sweetie. You are safe. Be right back. .

Leilani nods asleep as Scott motions to Shadow who follows him out the door.

28 EXT. MARIN BRIDGE / UNDERPASS - NIGHT

Scott and Shadow walk quickly down the ramp to the Scout.

Shadow, alert, sits beside Scott as he speeds through the Gate 5 parking lot to the Old Shoreline Highway. As he approaches the Marin Bridge, he drives over the dirt berm to the bike path and speeds along it toward the shacks in the bridge underpass.

Scott sees the two men at a campfire and skids to a stop thirty feet away. They freeze in the Scout's headlights as Scott and Shadow bolt out the door. The MAN WITH THE RED CAP pulls out a long knife. Scott commands:

SCOTT

Bite!

Shadow races for the MAN WITH THE RED CAP, leaps and sinks his teeth into his arm. The man SCREAMS, drops the knife and tries to shake off Shadow, who bites deeper, SNARLING.

Scott reaches the FAT MAN IN FATIGUES who raises a tire iron. Scott slams his revolver across his mouth, knocking him to the ground, bleeding and MOANING. Scott commands Shadow:

SCOTT (CONT'D)

Guard!

Shadow releases the Man with the Red Cap and runs to the Fat Man in Fatigues, hovering over him, SNARLING. Several homeless residents bolt from the shacks and disappear.

Muffled CRIES FOR HELP come from a nearby cardboard shelter. Scott calls Shadow.

SCOTT (CONT'D)

Search!

Shadow races into the maze of makeshift shelters of cardboard boxes and rusted corrugated tin sheets. He stops in front of one and sits, motionless, peering into the tent.

Scott calls out HERE and Shadow returns to the two men, one holding his arm and the other covering his face.

SCOTT (CONT'D)

Guard!

Shadow GROWLS, his curled flews bare is large teeth. Scott returns to the shack where Shadow had stopped and pointed.

Scott pulls away panels and finds two young girls, blindfolded and terrified, SOBBING, holding each other.

SCOTT (CONT'D)

(Gently)

It is okay now, you're safe!

Scott removes the girls' blindfolds, carries one in each arm to the truck cab and covers them with his jacket.

SCOTT (CONT'D)

(Softly)

Wait here for a minute. I'll be right back to take you home.

Scott returns to the Man with the Red Cap.

SCOTT (CONT'D)

I'm going to ask you this once, Pal. Why are you grabbing these girls?

Shadow gets close to the man's face, GROWLING menacingly with curled lips, his bare teeth menacing. Nearby the Fat Man in Fatigues lays on the ground holding his head, MOANING.

MAN WITH RED CAP

Hey, Man, we didn't ---

Scott pulls his revolver and pushes it under his chin.

SCOTT

Listen, asshole, you grabbed my woman an hour ago. I'm in no mood to chat. What the hell you doing here?

MAN IN RED CAP

We didn't do nothing, Man, we get them for SHRIMP BOY. We get four snowballs each, more if they're hot.

SCOTT

Where is this Shrimp Boy?

The man is visibly shaken, trembling violently.

MAN IN RED CAP

Don't know, Man, some antique shop in Chinatown. We call, he picks up, honest Man, here's the phone he gave us to call when we got chicks.

Scott pockets his phone, drags both men to the Scout, throws them in the truck bed where he ties them with rope.

SCOTT

(Glaring)

You, with fatigues on. Are you vets?

MAN IN RED CAP

Hell no, man. Salvation Army.

29 INT. SAUSALITO POLICE DEPARTMENT - NIGHT

The two young girls in Police blankets wave at Scott as a Matron escorts them to their parents waiting in the hallway. The DUTY OFFICER finishes his report.

DUTY OFFICER

Thanks, again, Mr. Adams, but next time you should call us.

SCOTT

Sure. What about the Chinatown guy?

Scott reaches into his pocket and removes the cell phone he took from the Man with the Red Cap.

DUTY OFFICER

I will put the complaint on the Chief's desk.

SCOTT

What will he do?

DUTY OFFICER

He will investigate it with the others.

SCOTT

Others?

DUTY OFFICER

It's not uncommon, but we are working at it.

Scott pauses.

DUTY OFFICER (CONT'D)

Was there anything else, Mr. Adams?

Scott puts the cell phone back in his pocket.

SCOTT

No, we're done.

The Duty Officer sees Scott's Ranger cap.

DUTY OFFICER

Where did you serve, Sir?

SCOTT

Afghanistan. Enduring Freedom.

DUTY OFFICER

Good to be home?

SCOTT

(Nods)

You have no idea!

30 EXT. VALLEJO PARKING LOT / GATE 5 - NIGHT

Scott pulls into the Vallejo houseboat parking lot and turns off the engine. Shadow's head rests on his lap. He phones HANK (HAMMER) HARLAN (32), his former Ranger XO and friend.

SCOTT

Evening Ham, it's Scott Adams.

HAMMER

Hello, Captain, been awhile.

You working?

HAMMER

No, tried my uncle's garage, a tenwheeler, security gig. Nothing works.

SCOTT

I've been looking, too. Been painting a houseboat in Sausalito.

HAMMER

They trained us good, Captain, killing machines, dealing with death every day. But coming home don't much feel like being home.

SCOTT

We are the lucky ones, Ham.

HAMMER

Yes sir, we left the best behind. Just tough to get back, to be back.

SCOTT

(Pausing)

I could use your help.

HAMMER

Name it, I'm yours. Anything.

SCOTT

Two slime balls jumped Leilani --

HAMMER

God, no! Is she okay?

SCOTT

Shook up bad but unharmed. She was attacked by some creeps who are grabbing and selling girls to some scumbag in Chinatown for dope.

HAMMER

Jesus!

SCOTT

I need you to scout their location, so we can take them out and extract any girls they're holding.

HAMMER

Where and when?

Call HOT LIPS to help you find the target. Some antique shop in Chinatown. Couldn't be too many.

HAMMER

Consider it done.

SCOTT

Let me know where and I'll set it up. I'll pull in Slick and Carlos.

HAMMER

(Pausing, with emotion)
...Captain? Thanks for calling!

31 INT. INTERCUT / VALLEJO HOUSEBOAT / CHEN'S HOME - NIGHT

Scott and Shadow enter the Vallejo houseboat. Leilani is asleep on the couch. He carries her to the bedroom and tucks her in. Scott takes Shadow in the bathroom and cleans blood from his face and paws.

SCOTT

(Whispering)

Thanks, Pal. Just like old times.

You're the best!

(Commands gently)

Go to Lei.

Shadow dashes to the bedroom and lays down on the bed beside Leilani. Scott goes to the outside deck and phones CHEN PAO.

SCOTT (CONT'D)

Hope I didn't wake you, Chen.

CHEN

Oh, no, I'm just crunching numbers for a meeting tomorrow. Lily and the kids are asleep.

SCOTT

Chen, Leilani was assaulted today by some creeps in the Marin underpass.

CHEN

My God! Is she okay? Was she--

SCOTT

She's okay. Some dude in Chinatown is paying guys to snatch girls.

CHEN

Sick bastard!

I inherited some money today and need to know when it gets into my account tomorrow.

CHEN

I'll track it and call. Love to Lei.

SCOTT

One more thing. When you get the funds, bring me four envelopes, each with \$20,000 cash and a cashier's check for \$200,000.

CHEN

(Surprised)

What the hell, Scott? That's \$280 grand. Did you rob a bank?

SCOTT

I'll explain when I see you.

32 INT. INTERCUT / SCOTT ADAMS / JEANNETTE WATTEN - NIGHT

Jeannette lies propped up in bed, working on her laptop. Her phone rings. She reads Scott's name on the screen.

JEANNETTE

Good evening, Scott. Nice to hear from you. Working late?

SCOTT

I'm glad you are still up. Lei was attacked today under the Marin Bridge.

JEANNETTE

Good Lord! Is she--?

SCOTT

Just shaken and scared, but okay. I need you to do something for me.

JEANNETTE

Just ask.

SCOTT

Find out if the landfill under and around the Marin Bridge is for sale.

JEANNETTE

You want to buy a derelict camp?

Sort of. I inherited some money today and have an idea about cleaning up that God-forsaken mess.

JEANNETTE

Is this for real?

SCOTT

I know it sounds crazy, but I will explain when I see you, okay?

JEANNETTE

(Skeptical)

I'll call the recorder tomorrow and let you know when I have something.

33 INT. INTERCUT / SCOTT ADAMS / SARAH MARPLES-DUNN - DAY

SARAH MARPLES-DUNN (31), answers her desk phone.

SARAH MARPLES-DUNN

Good morning. Oh, it's Mr. Scott Adams! What a pleasant surprise!

SCOTT

Hello, Miss Dunn. I apologize for being blunt, but I need your help.

SARAH

Indeed, I am here to serve, Sir!

SCOTT

Can you transfer five million to my checking account in California today?

SARAH

But of course. Your privacy code?

SCOTT

It L-E-I-L-A-N-I plus 01-20-92.

SARAH

Your funds will be in your account within the hour. Will there be anything else, Mr. Adams?

SCOTT

I didn't realize it would be so easy -- or so fast.

SARAH

It pleases me to serve, Mr. Adams.

34 INT. VALLEJO HOUSEBOAT / SAUSALITO GATE 5 - NIGHT

Scott goes to the bedroom where Leilani is resting with Shadow snuggled beside her. He slides quietly into bed beside her.

LEILANI

(Drowsy)

Night, Scotty, love you.

SCOTT

(Whispers)

My beautiful little flower.

Leilani does not hear him, rolls over and falls back to sleep.

SCOTT (CONT'D)

(Whispers to himself)

It sounds better in Hawaiian.

Shadow raises his head.

SCOTT (CONT'D)

Thanks, Pal. You were great tonight!

35 INT. INTERCUT / SAL AND THE GEEK - NIGHT

Sal calls LARRY "THE GEEK" TRIMBLE (36), the ACES DATA computer programmer. Geek sits at his operations desk in the Ace Hotel and Casino in Reno one floor below Antonia's Penthouse. He is surrounded by five computer screens, one for each of the five Aces Corporation Enterprises.

SAL

Good morning, Mr. Geek, Sal here. I have a challenge for you.

THE GEEK

(Typing)

Anything Sal. What have you got?

SAL

I need to find a guy who became a ghost fifteen years ago. Is that a can do?

Geek continues typing, eyes moving between screens.

THE GEEK

No promises. The details?

SAL

Name is Harper, or was, Tom Harper. Used to be Antonio's consigliere. Must be sixty, sixty-five-ish.

(MORE)

SAL (CONT'D)

Red hair, probably balding, medium height and thin. Smart eyes, I recall, plays it close.

THE GEEK

The Devil's in the details.

SAL

He was a Scottish lawyer from the Bronx, an outsider Tony hired to keep tabs on the casino skim room.

THE GEEK

When?

SAL

Mid-seventies to eighty-five in the Vegas joints but he disappeared when Tony went in.

THE GEEK

That's a start. No promises.

SAL

You said that. Don't disappoint us.

THE GEEK

Condolences to Antonia about her Papa. Saw on TV.

SAL

(Deadpan)

Devastating. How long will it take?

THE GEEK

I will get right on it, Sal.

36 EXT. INTERCUT / SCOTT AND HAMMER - DAY

HANK (HAMMER) HARLAN and LARA (HOT LIPS) LAMAR (30), Scott's retired Ranger teammates, dressed in gaudy tourist clothes, study a Chinatown map, pretending to be lost.

Hammer is a husky white man 6'5" tall and 280 pounds of muscle. He was Scott's XO in the desert and now his best friend.

Lara is a petit but stout black woman with large lips fixed in a permanent smile. She was the Ranger Team's computer tech who is a trained interrogator and speaks Arabic.

Hammer dials his phone.

HAMMER

It's me, Cap'n. Me and Hot Lips been trolling Chinatown all night. Looking like Big Bird and Minnie Mouse -- dumb lost tourists.

SCOTT

Any luck?

HAMMER

Activity and location confirmed. Wang's Antiques, 420 Grant, around the corner from the Catholic Church.

SCOTT

How many bad guys? Any girls?

HAMMER

Four Dudes, Asians. They off-loaded 3 girls at 0300, hooded and bound. All quiet since.

SCOTT

What's the AO?

HAMMER

A narrow side-alley. Tight, but will fit two SUVs. One way in, same way out. Basement stairs.

SCOTT

Good work. We'll hit them tonight. I'll pick up Carlos and Slick. Bring Hot Lips for the girls.

HAMMER

Tools?

SCOTT

Only side arms and knives. Dark civvies ... and some war paint. Let's scare the hell out of them.

HAMMER

Time?

SCOTT

O-twelve hundred at Old Saint Mary's. Park in front.

HAMMER

Lips and me will be waiting, Cap'n.

37 INT. VALLEJO HOUSEBOAT / SAUSALITO GATE 5 - DAY

Leilani reads a book on the sofa and drinks tea. Shadow lies on the floor near her. Scott studies the open laptop.

The Ship's Bell rings outside. Scott opens the door.

SCOTT

Morning, Chen. Coffee?

CHEN

You bet. Hi Lei. Hey, Shad.

Leilani and Shadow greet Chen. Scott brings coffee.

CHEN (CONT'D)

Well, your account is miraculously loaded this morning! Here's your four bundles of funny money and a cashier's draft for two hundred K.

Chen hands him an envelope and four zippered bank bags.

LEILANI

(Rising from the sofa)
Sounds like you had a busy night
with your new inheritance, Mr. Adams!

SCOTT

You must be a little curious, Chen.

CHEN

(Teasing)

Me, curious? But why? One day my best friend is a pauper painting water shacks and the next he is millionaire. What's to be curious?

SCOTT

A windfall, of sorts. I inherited some money, that's all.

CHEN

Just another day in the dull life of my struggling painter friend, eh?

LEILANI

(Chuckling)

He may have seen the last of those!

SCOTT

Chen, I have a proposition for you. I know you're happy with your job, but what if you could earn more and take care of your family for life?

CHEN

Would I need to sell some of my body parts? My first born? Part of my soul? Or maybe all of it?

SCOTT

Chen, you are a friend I can trust. I am going to need a financial manager and I would like it to be you.

CHEN

(Taken aback)

Well, okay, can you spell it out?

SCOTT

I can offer you, say, one million dollars a year, more if you need it, a home, couple of cars, all expenses.

CHEN

Only if you will tell me which bank you robbed yesterday.

SCOTT

But I will need your complete confidence and total discretion.

LEILANI

(Interjects)

Your absolute secrecy.

CHEN

(Looking at both)

You are serious, aren't you! On my mother's Bible, as long as you two did not kill someone, your secrets are mine to the grave. When do you want an answer?

Scott looks at his watch.

SCOTT

Why not now?

CHEN

Alright, Scott, I trust you, but you better not be kidding me or I will lose my job and Lily will dump me for her old boyfriend. So if it is for real, It's a deal. I'm in. When do I start?

SCOTT

Today, now!

(MORE)

SCOTT (CONT'D)

Call Jeannette and work with her to buy the landfill under and around the Marin Bridge. I want to build a recovery center for the homeless.

CHEN

I will give my notice, but they will probably throw me out the door.

SCOTT

Welcome to our new world, Chen.

As Chen leaves, Leilani confronts Scott.

LEILANI

And what, dear Knight, have you set into motion in our new Kingdom?

SCOTT

Just a small draw on our new account.

LEILANI

I still can't imagine what you are going to do with all that money.

SCOTT

Maybe imagining what we can do is the best way to start doing something with it!

LEILANI

You have a wonderful imagination, Sweetie, but I doubt you will ever imagine a way to spend it all.

SCOTT

Okay, so if we don't start spending it now, we will never spend it all!

38 EXT. CHINATOWN / OLD SAINT MARY'S CHURCH - NIGHT

In front of the Old Saint Mary's Church in Chinatown, Hammer and Lara, wait for Scott in an SUV with Rangers CARLOS ("THE JACKAL") RIVERA (28) and BRUCE ("SLICK") RANDALL (29).

Scott arrives and knocks on the church door. A PRIEST comes out and they exchange words. Scott returns to the vehicles.

The five Rangers and Shadow huddle in Hammer's SUV.

HAMMER

The target is around the corner at 420 Grant in the basement.

Back the SUVs into the alley. Lara, stay with the rides, eyes on. Once in, we four work in pairs, room by room, clear and call.

CARLOS

How many bad guys, Captain?

SCOTT

Hammer and Lips ID'd four for sure, maybe more. They counted three girls, bound and scared, maybe drugged.

SLICK

Weapons?

SCOTT

Close quarters, side arms only.

CARLOS

ROE?

SCOTT

Shoot if shot at. Aim to wound. Subdue, tape, interrogate and evac.

LARA

Bring the girls to me, front SUV.

SCOTT

Ham and I will search with Shad. Carlos and Slick, hold and tape. In and out in ten. Let's do it.

39 EXT. CHINATOWN / WANG'S ANTIQUE STORE - NIGHT

The two black SUVS back into the antique store alley. Four Rangers rush down the stairs and smash through the door. They move quickly, silently, perfectly coordinated.

Two THUGS play Chinese Go at a table. Carlos and Slick take them down. Shadow stands over them, GROWLING menacingly.

Scott and Hammer find one thug asleep on a matt, another eats noodles, watching TV. Hammer takes them to Slick and Carlos who tape them tightly. From another room, Scott SHOUTS.

HAMMER

Three Vics here, all safe.

Scott and Hammer remove bindings from the three girls, SOBBING HYSTERICALLY. They carry them up the stairs to Lara's SUV.

SLICK

(Calls out)

Six minutes, Captain.

Scott and Hammer return to the basement. Shadow guards the bound men cowering on the floor, eyes and mouths taped.

Scott strips tape from one of the thug's mouth.

SCOTT

Which one is Shrimp Boy?

THUG

No Shrimp here.

SCOTT

Sorry, Pal. Which one?

THUG

So, solly, no know, no here.

Scott re-tapes him, pulls a cell phone from his pocket and dials. A phone rings in the jacket pocket of a nearby thug.

SCOTT

Well, hello there, Mr. Shrimp Boy.

Scott rips the tape from SHRIMP BOY's mouth but not his eyes.

SCOTT (CONT'D)

Your girl-snatching friends under the Bridge said to say hello.

Shrimp Boy is surprisingly composed and speaks perfect English.

SHRIMP BOY

(Calmly)

I have no friends under any bridge.

Hammer grabs Shrimp Boy in the groin and squeezes.

HAMMER

He didn't hear you!

SHRIMP BOY

(Louder)

I know nothing about girls or a bridge.

SCOTT

What about the girls in here?

SHRIMP BOY

Tourists, needed a place to stay.

Hammer squeezes and Shrimp Boy CRIES OUT. Scott's cell phone rings, he nods, ends the call and gives a wrap up signal.

SCOTT

(Whispers)

Local cops just rolled by.

HAMMER

But Captain --

Scott points to Shrimp Boy's cell phone in his hand and motions to the stairway.

HAMMER (CONT'D)

Next time I will serve them with your noodles.

Hammer re-tapes Shrimp Boy's mouth. The Rangers move quickly up the stairs to the SUVs and drive away.

40 EXT. CHINATOWN / OLD SAINT MARY'S CHURCH - NIGHT

The two SUVs move in tandem and take right turns at four intersections, then stop at Old Saint Mary's Church.

The priest and four nuns rush out and the nuns quickly escort the frightened girls into the Church.

SCOTT

Father, call the police and tell them a stranger brought you the girls.

PRIEST

We had no idea what they were doing over there, and so close to us. I pray we come to no harm.

SCOTT

If you have any trouble at all, just call my cell.

PRIEST

Thank you and God Bless you, my son.

Scott hands him an envelope.

SCOTT

From a patron, Father. Divide it with the girls and the church.

PRIEST

May God's blessings be with you.

Scott returns to his crew waiting on the sidewalk.

Anyone thirsty?

41 INT. OLD SHIP SALOON / SAN FRANCISCO - NIGHT

The four former Rangers are relaxing with beers.

LARA

That was a cool Op, Captain. Any more action coming up?

HAMMER

You ever get enough action, Lips?

Everyone agrees with CLAPS and WHISTLES.

LARA

(Countering)

Depends on the action, Ham.

Hammer flushes. The Rangers laugh and make wisecracks.

SLICK

Can you believe we were in and out in nine minutes?

SCOTT

You Guys always were the best shop team in the field.

Scott tosses four bank bags to his Ranger Team.

SCOTT (CONT'D)

Thanks from a fan for doing the right thing.

Another round of TOASTS explodes from the table. Scott stands to leave, Shadow at his side.

LARA

(Serious)

Those girls were terrified, Captain. What would have happened to them if we had not gotten them out of there?

HAMMER

(Musing)

Makes you wonder how many girls these animals grab and where they go.

Scott tosses a cell phone to Lara.

SCOTT

Find out where these animals hang out and maybe we will go on Safari!

The Rangers bang on the table, shouting Oorah!

42 INT. INTERCUT / ANTONIA AND SAL - DAY

Antonia and Gina lay sleeping in a luxurious bed with satin sheets. Antonia's cell phone RINGS.

ANTONIA

(Sleepy)
Morning, Sal.

SAL

(Intense)

The Geek just called. He said what was 30 million could be 30 billion.

Antonia bolts upright. She puts on a robe and quickly walks to the penthouse veranda and steps into the hot tub.

ANTONIA

How did he get that number?

SAL

Said he wrote an algorithm using the Dow's average annual earnings of 100 dot-com stocks over the last 30 years.

ANTONIA

(Thinking)

Jesus, Sal. That could fund our plans for Europe!

SAL

If we find the money, will you shut down the people peddling gig?

ANTONIA

Quit bitching at me about that.

SAL

Chinatown reported some pros raided them last night and stole three girls. It's time to get out.

ANTONIA

(Ignoring)

Order Geek to drop everything. Find Tom. Find him and we find my money.