

# **ABSENCE OF WAR**

by

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FADE IN:

Sunrise. A military helicopter flies over the jungles of Liberia.

MAN'S VOICE (ON THE RADIO)  
Target is a white male, sixty years  
old.

The helicopter descends into a clearing and hovers off the ground. Armed and camouflaged mercenaries exit.

MAN'S VOICE (ON THE RADIO) (CONT'D)  
Snatched in Monrovia seventy two  
hours ago. Condition unknown.

EXT. MILITARY JET - SUNRISE

A military jet, high above the jungle.

INT. MILITARY JET - SUNRISE

Command centre. On the monitors, GREEN markers highlight the advancing mercenaries on the ground.

ANALYST  
Target is a platinum asset, major  
influence at the White House.

On the monitor: Two images; an ID card, **MICHAEL RORKFORD**, 62, CEO 'Rork Industries'. The second image, Rorkford now hostage, held at gun point by masked soldiers.

A suited man, (can't see his face) watching his team at work.

EXT. LIBERIAN JUNGLE - SUNRISE

The mercenaries advance in pairs; two enter a stream, two crawl through thick shrub, two repel down a steep slope.

ANALYST (O.S.) (ON THE RADIO)  
Avoid fatality at all cost.

INT. MILITARY JET - SUNRISE

The suited man is approached by an analyst.

ANALYST  
We're ready sir. Please unlock the  
'SAW'.

The suited man moves to the **SAW**; a 3ft, black metal barrel shaped device and taps in a code on the numeric panel, with a small Oak Tree symbol.

EXT. JUNGLE, LIBERIA - SUNRISE

The mercenaries approach a prison camp ahead, hidden by the canopy. Liberian rebels guard the perimeter.

ANALYST (ON THE RADIO)  
SAW is armed. Payload inbound.

Lead mercenary, **NATHAN ROE**, 46, ex CIA, commanding presence.

NATHAN ROE  
Copy that.

Roe views a monitor strapped to his forearm, highlighting his team's position surrounding the perimeter.

NATHAN ROE (CONT'D)  
Birds?

Elsewhere. High up a tree overlooking the perimeter with a sniper rifle is mercenary, **JESSICA LIDEN**, ex Mossad, 37.

JESSICA LIDEN (ON THE RADIO)  
Nine birds external.

Liden adjusts a sensor on the rifle scope. Heat signatures illustrate people inside the prison buildings.

JESSICA LIDEN (CONT'D)  
Twelve internal.

NATHAN ROE (ON THE RADIO)  
Twenty one birds including asset.

Glimpse each mercenary holding position, waiting to strike.

ALL  
Confirmed.

The last mercenary, **GAVIN STUBBS**, 47, ex MI6, sees parachuted 'supplies' dropping into the camp.

GAVIN STUBBS  
Visual on the drop. Strap up.

Back to Roe, who puts on a SAW VISOR (thin face mask, covering the lower half of his face and ears).

NATHAN ROE (ON THE RADIO)  
 We've never used this weapon  
 before, so if it doesn't work,  
 breach fast.

The parachuted supplies land in the camp. Liberians run to inspect their goods and open the boxes.

A final supply box lands upright in the mud. CRACK. A small charge blows the hinges off the wooden box revealing the SAW.

The SAW opens, twisting and turning emitting a loud vibrating sound, which escalates to a **BOOM**.

The Liberians drop to the ground clutching their heads, they're conscious, yet completely unable to move.

The SAW closes on itself, returning to its original barrel shape as the mercenaries siege the compound, weapons raised.

Roe leads the way, entering the prison. Each guard is on the ground, incapacitated. He slams through each door searching.

Outside. Stubbs inspects a Liberian on the ground, jaw clenched shut, eyes shut tight, too tight, hands wrapped around his head, reeling from the SAW pulse.

Stubbs nudges him. He's unable to respond.

GAVIN STUBBS  
 Jesus.

High up a tree. Liden covers her team on the ground.

Back to Roe in the prison. Charges blow a lock off a cell door. The hostage, Rorkford incapacitated on the ground.

NATHAN ROE  
 Asset located. Exiting.

Outside. Stubbs turns, on hearing a noise. A Liberian child stands next to him, confused. The boy is *chewing a mouthful of food*. He's no threat.

GAVIN STUBBS  
 Go on. Get! Piss off.

The child leaves as Roe exits with the Rorkford on his back.

In the tree, Liden sees Stubbs and another mercenary carry the SAW out of the camp.

A camouflaged FIGURE. In the corner of her eye in another tree. Liden aims her rifle, searching, searching... nothing.

NATHAN ROE (ON THE RADIO)  
Retreat to extraction.

Later. The exhausted mercenaries board the helicopter in a clearing, with Rorkford and the SAW.

JESSICA LIDEN  
I've never seen anything like it.

GAVIN STUBBS  
You can bloody carry it next time.

Roe sits Rorkford down, the effect of the SAW wearing off.

NATHAN ROE  
Mr. Rorkford, you'll be ok in a few minutes.

Rorkford tries to regain his senses.

MICHAEL RORKFORD  
What happened? What was that?

The helicopter takes off.

NATHAN ROE  
There is a jet waiting for you in Lagos, which will take you back to the United States.

MICHAEL RORKFORD  
My security detail were taken out. I didn't think anyone was coming for me.

NATHAN ROE  
We have some mutual friends who'd rather see you alive.

MICHAEL RORKFORD  
Who are you? CIA? MI6?

Roe, an enigmatic smile.

NATHAN ROE  
Private sector.

**T I T L E - A B S E N C E O F W A R**

EXT. COUNTRYSIDE, GREENWICH - DAY

A well looked after GOLF VW pulls up to the Lawson Estate.

FEMALE VOICE (O.S.)

You ok?

INT. GOLF VW - CONTINUOUS

**EMMA GOODCHILD**, 27, beautiful yet understated holding flowers. Driving is **DOMINIC LAWSON**, rugged, handsome, 28.

DOMINIC LAWSON

I'm ok. You ok?

Emma nods with a smile.

DOMINIC LAWSON (CONT'D)

He won't be here.

Emma hands Dominic a pill from bottle.

EMMA GOODCHILD

Take one of these, it's holy basil extract, promotes calm.

DOMINIC LAWSON

I'm not taking your hippy pills. You know I can't swallow them.

EMMA GOODCHILD

What are you six?

Dominic pretends to swallow it but it's still in his hand. Emma stares at him, knowing he didn't take it.

DOMINIC LAWSON

What?

EXT. FRONT GATES, LAWSON ESTATE, GREENWICH - MOMENTS LATER

Emma standing at the gates, tapping in a code into the security panel, which has a small *OAK TREE* logo on it.

EMMA GOODCHILD

This is a new security system. He must have changed the code.

DOMINIC LAWSON

He's incapable of change. It's Mum's birthday. 11-13-62.

Emma inputs the code again. Nothing. Dominic exits the car and approaches. He taps in the same code, the gates open.

EXT. LAWSON ESTATE, GREENWICH - MOMENTS LATER

The Golf VW parked in the driveway. Dominic, a lingering, reminiscent look at the house, his childhood.

Emma moves toward the front door.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
I'm only here for mom.

They walk toward the garden instead.

EXT. GARDEN, LAWSON ESTATE, GREENWICH - LATER

Dominic and Emma stand by a tombstone under an oak tree. Emma puts flowers down. *'ROSE LAWSON - Died January 2001.'*

DOMINIC LAWSON  
After ten years, I thought this  
would be easier by now.

Emma holds Dominic's hand in support.

MAN'S VOICE (O.S.)  
Still knocking around in the old  
Golf I see.

They turn to see **EDGAR LAWSON**, Dominic's father, 60.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
It gets me from A to B.

EDGAR LAWSON  
If only you looked beyond B.

Dominic not surprised Edgar is already criticizing.

EDGAR LAWSON (CONT'D)  
You look in good shape.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
You don't.

EMMA GOODCHILD  
I'll wait in the car.

Emma respectfully shakes hands with Edgar and leaves. Father and son, face the grave, waiting for the other to speak.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
I'll be off then.

EDGAR LAWSON

You're off soon for three months,  
aren't you? The stressful life of a  
teacher.

DOMINIC LAWSON

Are you here to mourn the  
anniversary of mum's death, or to  
take shots at me?

Edgar concedes, but won't apologize. He faces the oak tree.

EDGAR LAWSON

Do you know what makes this tree  
special?

DOMINIC LAWSON

It can't run away from you.

EDGAR LAWSON

Everything you need to know about  
it, is within itself.

DOMINIC LAWSON

What do you want Dad?

EDGAR LAWSON

I'm dying son.

Dominic shaken, tries poorly to hide it.

EDGAR LAWSON (CONT'D)

There is a lot you do not know  
about my life since your mother  
died.

DOMINIC LAWSON

You buried your head in work to  
escape the fact that we lost her.  
Now I could, but, I don't blame you  
for her death anymore. I do for  
disappearing on me.

EDGAR LAWSON

You're right son.

DOMINIC LAWSON

Don't call me that.

Edgar loses his balance, swaying as if drunk. He leans  
against the tree. Dominic moves to help him.

EDGAR LAWSON

I'm ok. Listen, I took my anger and guilt and channeled it into something positive.

Edgar pulls out a pill box, takes two of them.

DOMINIC LAWSON

What is it? Your heart?

EDGAR LAWSON

Heart? You're a teacher! What effects balance?

DOMINIC LAWSON

Booze.

Dominic smiles. Edgar playfully shakes his head.

EDGAR LAWSON

It's tumor in my inner ear.

Dominic's smile quickly fades.

DOMINIC LAWSON

And it's killing you.

EDGAR LAWSON

I built a fortune in the pharmaceutical industry, you don't think I've tried to treat myself? You are my only son, I'm leaving everything to you.

Dominic helps Edgar stand upright.

DOMINIC LAWSON

The things I want can't be bought Dad. So gratefully, give it to someone who needs it. Emma and I get by just fine.

EDGAR LAWSON

It's more than just money. You have to start thinking rationally, with your head not your heart.

They walk back to the house together.

EDGAR LAWSON (CONT'D)

Come away with me, today, somewhere warm with a beach. Bring Emma.

DOMINIC LAWSON

How long?

EDGAR LAWSON

A week, maybe two.

DOMINIC LAWSON

To live?

EDGAR LAWSON

Long enough.

INT. HOTEL BEDROOM, BARBADOS - SUNRISE

Dominic lies in bed wide awake, deep in thought. Emma peacefully asleep next to him.

I/E. HOTEL BEDROOM, BARBADOS - SUNRISE

Dominic, in shorts and running shoes, leaves the beach front villa and goes jogging.

EXT. BEACH, BARBADOS - LATER

Dominic returning to the villa. He stops on seeing; **MAI XING** 60 and **CHEN LIN** 45, having breakfast with the suited Edgar.

Dominic covered in sweat approaches the formal breakfast.

DOMINIC LAWSON

You're working?

EDGAR LAWSON

Dominic, I'd like you to meet Mai Xing the Foreign Secretary of the Peoples Republic of China.

Mai Xing stands and offers Dominic her hand. Dominic shakes it briefly, but is more disappointed with his father.

DOMINIC LAWSON

I apologize for my tone, my father and I have some personal issues. Enjoy your breakfast.

Dominic leaving.

EDGAR LAWSON

Get yourself showered, you're coming with us.

E/I. HOTEL BEDROOM, BARBADOS - MOMENTS LATER

Dominic angrily enters. Emma, dressed for a day on the beach.

EMMA GOODCHILD  
What's wrong?

DOMINIC LAWSON  
He's here to work-

EDGAR LAWSON (O.S.)  
Of course I am and so are you.

Edgar enters.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
You'll never change will you?

EDGAR LAWSON  
Rather than talk about the things  
you'll inherit, I thought I'd show  
you.

Dominic wipes himself down and gets dressed.

EMMA GOODCHILD  
He doesn't care about your work-

EDGAR LAWSON  
I finally achieved something  
meaningful and he has to see it  
through for me.

EMMA GOODCHILD  
He's got his own life, you've had  
yours.

EXT. BEACH, BARBADOS - CONTINUOUS

Dominic and Emma leave followed by Edgar.

EDGAR LAWSON (O.S.)  
Stand up and be counted Dominic.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
Counted by who? You?

EDGAR LAWSON  
Yes me and your mother.

Dominic angrily approaches Edgar. The two of them toe to toe.

DOMINIC LAWSON

Don't you dare, not anymore. I'm wise to the old act. 'Do this, your mother would have wanted it', 'now do this, it'll make her proud.'

EDGAR LAWSON

I was guiding you-

EMMA GOODCHILD

You manipulated him. You changed his degree and then you pushed him into the army. He only agreed to it to keep you happy.

Edgar faces Dominic, who tries to calm Emma down.

EDGAR LAWSON

So you're consciously choosing an average life?

DOMINIC LAWSON

Mum died lonely Dad. Although she loved you in life, she wouldn't anymore, not for leaving me.

Edgar's impenetrable exterior is broken, he sways a little, then regains his balance.

DOMINIC LAWSON (CONT'D)

Good has come of it though, I know what my life stands for.

Dominic takes Emma by the hand. Edgar reaches for his pill box, chews two of them.

EDGAR LAWSON

One day, I hope you have the courage to care about more than those directly in front of you.

DOMINIC LAWSON

Go back to work. We'll be on the next flight home.

Edgar visibly shaken, something he's holding back.

EDGAR LAWSON

You leave me no choice then.

Edgar hugs Dominic, taking him by surprise. He pulls back and holds Dominic's hand, turning it palm up.

EDGAR LAWSON (CONT'D)  
 You are the key to all I hold dear.  
 Don't waste it. Good bye son.

EXT. BEACH, BARBADOS - AFTERNOON

Waves calmly glide up the beach. It's peaceful, rhythmic.  
 Dominic, lost in thought as Emma joins him.

EMMA GOODCHILD  
 Bags are packed, you sure you want  
 to go?

DOMINIC LAWSON  
 What do you think we should do?

EMMA GOODCHILD  
 We leave now and you'll look back  
 and regret it. For all his faults,  
 he's still your father. I don't  
 know what I do, if lost mine.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
 Our father's are very different.

EMMA GOODCHILD  
 Don't lower yourself. Stay,  
 reconcile your differences  
 sweetheart.

EXT. PIER, BARBADOS - SUNSET

Dominic reading a book, waiting for Edgar to return. Edgar's  
 speed boat approaches. Fifty feet out, it stops, the engine  
 failing. **BOOM.** It explodes.

Dominic helplessly watching on, as hotel guests run toward  
 the beach.

RABBI (O.S.)  
 Edgar James Lawson was an  
 extraordinary man.

EXT. GARDENS, LAWSON ESTATE, GREENWICH - MORNING

Funeral. Edgar's coffin lowered into a grave next to his  
 wife's. Dominic with Emma, as a Rabbi recites prayers.

RABBI (O.S.)  
 A loving husband and father. He was  
 renowned for his generosity,  
 intelligence and business acumen.

INT. LAWSON RESIDENCE, GREENWICH - MORNING

The Rabbi speaks to a room of mourners. Dominic at the front.  
 Emma close by, with her parents **ROY** 65, and **JUNE** 61.

RABBI  
 Let us take comfort that he has  
 been reunited with his wife in  
 heaven. I now ask Dominic Lawson to  
 say a few words.

Dominic moves forward, faces the crowd, a sea of strangers.  
 Amongst them, the mercenaries ROE, STUBBS and LIDEN.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
 That's a very romantic notion.  
 Thank you all for coming.

Roe listening to Dominic, whose speech is already over.

EXT. LAWSON RESIDENCE, GREENWICH - MORNING

View from a long distance camera lens as the mourners exit.  
 Each face is photographed, including Roe, Stubbs and Liden.

The camera passes Dominic who is embraced by Emma's parents,  
 the camera hovers over them both.

Out of camera POV. Dominic and Emma with Roy and June.

ROY GOODCHILD  
 Why don't you come stay with us?

JUNE GOODCHILD  
 Home cooked food will do you good.

EMMA GOODCHILD  
 Is that what you call it?

June and Emma smile. Roy puts his arm around Dominic.

ROY GOODCHILD  
 Police will catch the assholes who  
 done it.

DOMINIC LAWSON

The bomb wasn't meant for Dad. Some Asian militant group were after the Chinese minister he was with. What does it matter?

ROY GOODCHILD

You're not alone, we're your family now son.

DOMINIC LAWSON

You already were.

Back to camera lens POV spying on Dominic. *A conversation in Arabic.* Pictures are taken of Emma, Roy and June.

EXT. WALL STREET, NYC - DAY

Dominic and Emma enter a law firm.

GRANT LORN (O.S.)

In light of his condition, your father ensured his estate was in good order before he died.

INT. LAW FIRM, NYC - DAY

Dominic sits opposite **GRANT LORN**, 72 the family lawyer. Several files and paperwork lie across the board room table.

GRANT LORN

Your father had a number of assets.

DOMINIC LAWSON

What was he dying of?

Lorn finds the correct file.

GRANT LORN

Vestibular schwannoma-

EMMA GOODCHILD

It's an inner ear infection. I'm a sixth year med student.

Lorn impressed. Emma explains to Dominic.

EMMA GOODCHILD (CONT'D)

Your inner ear is what keeps you upright, but also impacts your other senses, sight, sound, vision.

(MORE)

EMMA GOODCHILD (CONT'D)

It has a tiny liquid capsule that struggles with vibrations or intrusions.

GRANT LORN

The intrusion was a tumour, diagnosed four years ago. Your father's biotech company surged ahead with R&D, but the tumor was growing too quickly.

DOMINIC LAWSON

How long?

GRANT LORN

He had less than a year.

Lorn uses a screen to highlight Edgar's different assets.

GRANT LORN (CONT'D)

So his corporations, all privately owned. Lawson Biotech being the largest. 48 offices around the world, thirteen thousand employees.

DOMINIC LAWSON

I'm not here for that.

GRANT LORN

Sixteen businesses outside the pharmaceutical industry. Four charities and-

DOMINIC LAWSON

Please stop. I don't want my father's businesses. I'm here because I don't want anyone to lose their job. These are my wishes. Use my inheritance to pay off Emma parent's mortgage.

EMMA GOODCHILD

Dom no! They won't have it.

DOMINIC LAWSON

Well they can't stop us doing it.

Emma gratefully concedes. Dominic stands over looking the screen with his father's assets.

DOMINIC LAWSON (CONT'D)

Grant, would you oversee the businesses? Keep them running.

Dominic takes over Lorn's computer and types in a web address, finding 'UNITED NATIONS - OUTREACH PROGRAMME.'

DOMINIC LAWSON (CONT'D)

All profits go to this foundation-

Dominic stops on seeing a photo of his mother, **ROSE LAWSON**, working for the UN in Kosovo. Lorn recognizes her.

GRANT LORN

Your mother was an incredible woman. Her murder in Kosovo changed your father's life. Are you familiar with the term NEXUS?

Nexus, a small company, on the chart is highlighted.

DOMINIC LAWSON

It's Latin for 'linkage', something that connects the dots.

Lorn passes Dominic a hand written sealed envelope.

GRANT LORN

In his will, Edgar left you a letter. I haven't read it.

Dominic unmoved, folds it and puts it in his back pocket.

GRANT LORN (CONT'D)

Death can galvanize Dominic.

DOMINIC LAWSON

It has, we're engaged.

INT. BOARDROOM, LAW FIRM, NYC - MOMENTS LATER

Lorn watches Dominic cross the street below and makes a call.

GRANT LORN

Over to you.

INT. LECTURE HALL, YALE UNIVERSITY - AFTERNOON

Dominic teaching a room full of students. On the auditorium screen an image of the deceased Dictator MUAMMAR GADAFI.

DOMINIC LAWSON

The rebels with the help of NATO forced the dictator into hiding.

The monitor: video footage of the war in Libya 2011.

DOMINIC LAWSON (CONT'D)  
 Where he was found hiding in a  
 drain pipe in Sirte.

The monitor: *Muammar Gadaffi being found in the drain pipe by  
 rebels on 20th October 2011.*

DOMINIC LAWSON (CONT'D)  
 Libya was the first Arab country to  
 overthrow its regime for democracy.  
 Your assignment over the holiday is  
 a 5000 word essay-

The students moan. Roe sitting amongst them.

DOMINIC LAWSON (CONT'D)  
 I said 5 not 15. On which could be  
 next. Syria? Egypt? Or even Iran?

The BELL chimes. The students leave. Roe remains seated.

NATHAN ROE  
 Do you really think the Libyans  
 rose up and fought for democracy?  
 Or perhaps the CIA found another  
 way to instigate regime change?

DOMINIC LAWSON  
 You're saying the US government had  
 a hand in the Arab uprising?

NATHAN ROE  
 The first elected President of  
 Libya spent twenty years being  
 educated in the US. Coincidence?

Dominic stares at Roe, unsure who he is.

EXT. GROUNDS, YALE UNIVERSITY - AFTERNOON

Dominic and Roe walking together.

NATHAN ROE  
 Dominic Lawson. Graduated with  
 distinction, from West Point  
 military academy, only to quit  
 without serving. I bet you did it  
 just to piss your father off.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
 You're a journalist?

NATHAN ROE

I thought your eulogy was rather brief.

DOMINIC LAWSON

So you worked for my father. What do you want?

NATHAN ROE

A man's greatest fear before he dies is judgement. Not from g-d but from those who carry his memory. Fortunately I had a chance to write my obituary, your father did not.

DOMINIC LAWSON

Oh yeah, when did you die?

NATHAN ROE

Eight years ago in Afghanistan.

Dominic realizes Roe isn't kidding.

INT. RANGE ROVER, YALE - DAY

Roe driving with Dominic.

NATHAN ROE

When your mother was abducted from the UNICEF outpost in Kosovo, your father tried every diplomatic solution he could.

INT. LIVING ROOM, LAWSON RESIDENCE, GREENWICH - AFTERNOON

Flashback. Dominic 18, enters. Edgar on the phone, also present is **RICHARD KLEIN**, 38, CIA and Lorn (family lawyer).

EDGAR LAWSON

(On the phone) How long until the next commission? Ok, thank you for trying.

Edgar puts the phone down and shakes his head to Lorn.

DOMINIC LAWSON

She's been gone for three weeks, we don't even know if she's alive. Try something else.

EDGAR LAWSON

My g-d damned hands are tied. I'm negotiating with three governments and the UN, none of them are moving fast enough.

DOMINIC LAWSON

You're accepting the excuses they're giving you. You think you know where mom is right?

RICHARD KLEIN

Yes.

DOMINIC LAWSON

Well lets go in and get her!

RICHARD KLEIN

It's not that simple. The UN is voting on a resolution, until then I can't send troops in.

DOMINIC LAWSON

You work for the CIA this is ridiculous.

EDGAR LAWSON

What else can I do son?

Dominic thinks, he has an idea.

DOMINIC LAWSON

Dad, you and me, together. Let's go to the bank, fill a load of suitcases with cash. Get on a jet and bribe, everyone! You give these guys \$20 million dollars, I'm pretty sure they'll give her back.

The simple idea, is a good one. Edgar turns to Klein.

RICHARD KLEIN

I can't go in with you.

EDGAR LAWSON

I'll go alone.

DOMINIC LAWSON

I'm coming.

EDGAR LAWSON

(To Dominic) NO! You stay here.

RICHARD KLEIN

I know a good man, a Navy Seal, who  
might go with you.

INT. RANGE ROVER, NEW JERSEY - LATER

Current day. Roe driving with Dominic.

NATHAN ROE

The biggest hinderance to the CIA  
and MI6 is the democracy they  
uphold. Agencies are governed by  
individuals whose motivation is re-  
election not morality. The system  
put in place to help your mother.  
Failed.

EXT. PRIVATE AIRPORT, GREENWICH - NIGHT

Flashback. Edgar and Klein waiting on the tarmac, as Roe  
departs a private jet. Roe and Edgar meet for the first time.

NATHAN ROE (O.S.)

So, I took my leave from the Seals.

INT. SHELTER, KOSOVO - DAY

Flashback. Edgar and Roe meet Kosovan soldiers.

NATHAN ROE (O.S.)

And got your father into Kosovo.

E/I. ALLEYWAY, KOSOVO - NIGHT

Echoing sound of mortars. Edgar and Roe (blind folded) are  
lead into a dark building by Kosovan soldiers, where they  
find a body, wrapped in dirty sheets on a table.

NATHAN ROE (O.S.)

But we were too late. Seals or the  
SAS could have gone in and got her  
but they didn't. We couldn't.

EXT. DOCKLANDS, NEW JERSEY - AFTERNOON

Present. Dominic following Roe through a construction site.

DOMINIC LAWSON

Someone should have killed them.  
She was delivering aid for god's  
sake.

NATHAN ROE

Vengeance is an emotive response.  
Whereas your father's, after some  
time, was objective. Rational.

INT. PENTHOUSE, LAWSON BIOTECH SKYSCRAPPER, NYC - NIGHT

Flashback. Edgar, unshaven, views the city deep in thought.

NATHAN ROE (O.S.)

He was aware that the system we  
relied on had broken. Morality had  
been overshadowed by motivation.

Morning. Edgar, in the same clothes, watching CNN footage of  
wars. Images of Dictators. Grief. Suffering around the world.

NATHAN ROE (O.S.) (CONT'D)

When those tasked with the  
protection of others fail.  
Civilians can complain.

The monitor: Footage of protests outside the White House.

NATHAN ROE (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Spectate.

The monitor: UN members vote on another resolution.

NATHAN ROE (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Or act.

**BOOM.** Edgar rushes to the window, in the distance the first  
WORLD TRADE CENTER is hit.

E/I. WAREHOUSE, DOCKLANDS, NEW JERSEY - AFTERNOON

Current day. Dominic and Roe approach a run down warehouse.  
Two builders casually reading a newspaper.

DOMINIC LAWSON

You mean privatized intelligence?

BUILDERS

(To Roe) Morning, Sir.

NATHAN ROE

We are your father's response to your mother's death. A private intelligence agency free of any government shackles.

The doors open to NEXUS. The interior is the opposite to the exterior, clean, modern with a main comms center in the middle. They walk together.

NATHAN ROE (CONT'D)

The US spends \$374 billion, annually, on private defense contractors. 70 percent of the CIA's workload is outsourced.

DOMINIC LAWSON

Why pay someone else to do a job you can do yourself?

GAVIN STUBBS (O.S.)

Accountability, cost, scrutiny from oversight committees. I thought you were a teacher?

Stubbs approaches.

GAVIN STUBBS (CONT'D)

Chen's waiting.

Waiting in a room is Chen Lin (who met Edgar in Barbados).

DOMINIC LAWSON

I know him?

GAVIN STUBBS

Chen Lin. Head of China's secret service. He's guarding his Defense Minister who has a week of meetings in the US and Canada.

NATHAN ROE

They've asked us to assist them.

They enter and greet Chen, who approaches Dominic and bows.

DOMINIC LAWSON

So who was it?

CHEN LIN

I don't understand.

DOMINIC LAWSON

The bomb that killed my father was meant for your Defense Minister. Who put it there?

CHEN LIN

We have many enemies.

DOMINIC LAWSON

You mean you don't know.

INT. GARAGE - UNKNOWN

TV monitor: news footage of MAI XING, China's foreign minister.

Behind the monitor, a wall of PHOTOS from Edgar's funeral including Roe, Stubbs and Liden. A stocky, silhouetted figure. A bomb being assembled.

INT. EMMA'S BEDROOM, GREENWICH - NIGHT

Dominic joins Emma in bed.

DOMINIC LAWSON

Sorry didn't mean to wake you.

EMMA GOODCHILD

You decided if we're moving into your dad's house?

DOMINIC LAWSON

This is our home.

A shouting match erupts between a drunken couple outside the window. A bottle smashes. Dominic and Emma laugh together.

EMMA GOODCHILD

Mom and Dad are looking forward to seeing you tomorrow.

DOMINIC LAWSON

I can't actually, I've got to see about one of Dad's businesses.

EMMA GOODCHILD

You've changed your tune?

DOMINIC LAWSON

You don't wanna know.

EXT. HOTEL, NYC - MORNING

Defense Summit. Security is tight on the door.

RICHARD KLEIN (O.S.)  
As Director of the CIA I would say  
the globalization of terrorism is  
the major concern.

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM, HOTEL, NYC - CONTINUOUS

International faces in the audience. On stage is Klein with  
Mai Xing. A presentation on a screen aids Klein's speech.

RICHARD KLEIN  
The erosion of individualism is  
evident; Al Qaeda has ties with  
ETA. IRA with FARC in Columbia.  
Team colors no longer matter.

Roe and Chen sitting in the audience.

RICHARD KLEIN (CONT'D)  
The US has led the moral compass of  
the West, so we embrace China's  
willingness to accept the burden in  
the East.

Stubbs and Liden standing to the side.

RICHARD KLEIN (CONT'D)  
I trust this encourages you private  
contractors to share intelligence,  
rather than bicker over the size of  
your tailored leather wallets.

Jeers from the audience. Dominic enters the back of the room.

SPEAKER  
The chair welcomes Mai Xing,  
Defense Minister for China.

Dominic is joined by MICHAEL RORKFORD, the rescued hostage  
from Liberia.

MICHAEL RORKFORD  
You're Lawson's son? I'm Michael  
Rorkford.

They shake hands as Mai Xing addresses the audience.

MICHAEL RORKFORD (CONT'D)  
 Nexus saved my life. I never had a chance to thank your father. Guess you're stepping into his shoes?

DOMINIC LAWSON  
 No, no, just observing. How do you fit into all this?

MICHAEL RORKFORD  
 Weapons. Everything from fire arms to helicopters. We're expanding into intelligence though. That's what three weeks locked in a jungle does for you.

Rorkford hands over a business card, his company: 'RORK'.

**SMASH** a waiter drops a tray of glasses to the side of the room. The audience turns away from stage.

MICHAEL RORKFORD (CONT'D)  
 Last time I'm not able to cover my own ass!

In the audience, Roe senses a threat. A waiter holding a coffee tray approaches the podium with Mai Xing.

Dominic with Rorkford.

MICHAEL RORKFORD (CONT'D)  
 I'll leave you to it.

Roe stands. The other guests oblivious as the waiter puts something under the podium.

Dominic with Rorkford.

MICHAEL RORKFORD (CONT'D)  
 If you ever need anything, anything at all, you call-

LIGHTS GO OUT. **BOOM.** A small explosion by the podium.

EXT. HOTEL, NYC - MOMENTS LATER

Guests evacuate as smoke billows out of the doors.

INT. CAR PARK, HOTEL, NYC - CONTINUOUS

Three blacked out Nexus Range Rovers. Roe and Mai Xing both covered in dust and debris enter, closely followed by Chen.

Stubbs and Liden enter with Dominic. Roe gets Mai Xing and Chen into one car.

NATHAN ROE  
(To Stubbs and Liden) Run parallel  
axis. Gavin take lead. Dom with me.

Stubbs jumps in the Range Rover with Chen and Mai Xing. Liden gets in another solo.

JESSICA LIDEN  
Use the imager decoys.

Roe gets into the third Range Rover, Dominic follows as two seated silhouettes suddenly appear in back seat window.

Dominic jumps in the front, expecting to see two people in the back. It's empty.

Liden's Range Rover windows projects the two same silhouettes in the rear seats... decoys.

I/E. NEXUS RANGE ROVER, CAR PARK - CONTINUOUS

Exiting. Roe's dashboard reveals a computer screen, high tech map and video monitor.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
Jesus.

NATHAN ROE  
Command.

NEXUS AGENT  
Sir.

NATHAN ROE  
Mark the hotel, all vehicles  
leaving in the last three minutes.

INT. STUBB'S RANGE ROVER - CONTINUOUS

Stubbs driving. Chen watching on as the dashboard reveals the same screen and Nexus agent on the monitor.

NEXUS AGENT  
Two vehicles exited. A Ford Focus,  
two adult passengers, one infant.  
Second vehicle a moped.

NATHAN ROE (O.S.)  
(On speaker) That's him. Jess, get  
after him.

INT. ROE'S RANGE ROVER, STREETS, NYC - CONTINUOUS

Roe driving, tracking the moped on screen.

JESSICA LIDEN (O.S.)  
(On speaker) On my way.

Roe spins through a corner. Dominic uncomfortable.

NATHAN ROE  
(Sarcastic) Shall I let you out?

INT. JESSICA'S RANGE ROVER, NYC - CONTINUOUS

Speeds across a junction. Police sirens ring out.

JESSICA LIDEN  
Command. Blues in pursuit.

NEXUS AGENT  
(On the monitor) Beta two this is  
Nexus command, call off tail  
license number-

EXT. JESSICA'S RANGE ROVER, NYC - CONTINUOUS

Liden speeds across another intersection, the police car  
behind her breaks, turning off its siren.

I/E. ROE'S RANGE ROVER, NYC - CONTINUOUS

The moped disappears from Roe's monitor, entering what looks  
like a building. Roe slams on the breaks.

NEXUS ANALYST  
(On the monitor) Hallstate Mall.

NATHAN ROE  
(To Dominic) Park the car love.

Roe sprints off into a mall.

INT. HALL STATE MALL, NYC - CONTINUOUS

Roe sprinting. He's on the upper level, wanting to get below. He pulls out a 'GLOBB' (black rubber ball) from his pocket.

Roe slams the GLOBB over the slide of a glass banister, it instantly melts, Roe holding on, as it quickly lowers him (like a stretched piece of gum) onto the lower floor.

Roe sprinting again, a glimpse up ahead of the moped in the underground car park. Roe enters a market, takes a cart off a shopper, runs it down an aisle.

Roe exits pushing the cart. The moped driver sees him and opens fire. Shoppers panic. Roe pushes the trolley into the moped's path and ducks behind a car.

**SMASH.** The cart and moped collide. The driver flips in the air, slamming into an oncoming truck.

INT. NEXUS HQ, DOCKLANDS, NEW JERSEY - AFTERNOON

Flurry of activity. Agents reviewing footage from the hotel. The moped driver's dead body on screen.

Dominic sitting, very much a spectator. Roe with Liden in the middle of the comms center.

JESSICA LIDEN

No match on prints, retinal or DNA.

Dominic joins Chen and Mai Xing.

JESSICA LIDEN (CONT'D)

We've scanned the databases of MI6, CIA, Mossad, FSS. Nothing.

*Intercut.* Dominic with Chen and Mai Xing.

DOMINIC LAWSON

Who do you think is trying to kill you?

MAI XING

A direct question for a spectator. Unless you are not one?

DOMINIC LAWSON

I just figured I'd ask.

MAI XING

China holds its hand out to new friendships very rarely.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
Sounds like someone's jealous or  
threatened.

Roe stands by the door, quietly impressed.

NATHAN ROE  
Correct.

INT. COMMS CENTER, NEXUS - MOMENTS LATER

Images of the deceased attacker in military uniform.

NATHAN ROE  
He's Iranian. Ex Revolutionary  
Guard. Died in the Gulf War of  
1990.

CHEN LIN  
What does that mean?

Liden and Stubbs watching on. Roe turns to Dominic.

NATHAN ROE  
Dominic. You've seen enough. Time  
to return to civilian life.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
What? Why?

NATHAN ROE  
I brought you here to show you what  
Edgar was doing. He was decent man  
and a friend. Now that you know,  
it's time to go.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
But I thought?

NATHAN ROE  
Absolutely not.

Dominic looks around the room. A sea of experienced,  
weathered faces, who have earned their place at Nexus staring  
back at him. Leaving, Dominic turns to Mai Xing.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
What was he like the day he died?

MAI XING  
Filled with regret. To know your  
place in the world, is to know  
where you've come from.

(MORE)

MAI XING (CONT'D)  
 I'd be lost if I were you. Only,  
 you're not anymore are you.

Dominic stubborn, yet conflicted. Mai Xing's right; his place should have been with Nexus.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
 Your assassin, the man who died in  
 the Gulf War. It means Iran has  
 entered the private sector.

EXT. LAWSON ESTATE, GREENWICH - EVENING

Dominic types in a code into the security system. As soon as his fingers touch the numeric pad the gate opens.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
 Damn thing.

INT. LAWSON RESIDENCE, GREENWICH - CONTINUOUS

Dominic walks upstairs. Approaches his bedroom door. Mix through... a hand reaches out and knocks on it.

E/I. DOMINIC'S BEDROOM, LAWSON RESIDENCE - DAY

Flashback. Edgar enters. Dominic, 18 watching TV. On the news, 9/11 footage. A survivor pulled from the wreckage.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
 I can't believe you were there when  
 it happened. They got another one  
 out!

Edgar is purposeful. His plan is formed to establish Nexus.

EDGAR LAWSON  
 You start your course at Yale next  
 month?

DOMINIC LAWSON  
 English Literature. Why?

EDGAR LAWSON  
 Change to politics and  
 international relations.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
 Why?

EDGAR LAWSON

Because the world just changed. Oh  
and I've enrolled you on a few  
extra courses. Help take your mind  
off your mother.

The roar of a car engine...

INT. BMW, RACING TRACK - DAY

Flashback. Dominic being taught extreme driving.

EXT. GARAGE, RACING TRACK - LATER

Flashback. Mid lesson. Dominic on a motor bike, an instructor  
holds down the accelerator, spinning the rear wheel.

EXT. MOTORBIKE, RACING TRACK - LATER

Flashback. Dominic on a race track, riding the bike.

INT. EDGAR'S STUDY, LAWSON RESIDENCE - EVENING

Present day. Dominic. Reminiscent. His graduation photograph  
from Yale. Another photo, Dominic then 24, the soldier.

INT. FIRING RANGE, WEST POINT MILITARY ACADEMY - DAY

Flashback. Dominic, the soldier, confidently firing rounds on  
the range. His supervisor impressed.

EXT. GROUNDS, WEST POINT MILITARY ACADEMY - EVENING

Flashback. Dominic marching, carrying equipment across the  
muddy fields, exhausted along with other trainee soldiers.

E/I. EMMA'S HOUSE, GREENWICH - NIGHT

Dominic exits his car and enters the house. Glimpse of the  
living room; Emma and her parents sat at the dining table.

DOMINIC LAWSON

Sorry I'm late. Emma, I do think we  
should move into the house.

Dominic hangs his things up. No reply from the living room.

DOMINIC LAWSON (CONT'D)  
I get it, you're all pissed at me.

Dominic enters. Emma, Roy and June are slumped in their seats, unconscious. Dominic rushes to Emma, checks her pulse.

MAN'S VOICE (O.S.)  
Sit down.

The man, bearded, stocky, bald, 47, thick Arabic accent, we'll call him STOCKY. He's with two Arabic colleagues. Dominic notices an injection mark in Emma's neck.

STOCKY  
Sit.

Dominic sits at one end of the dining table, STOCKY sits at the other. They face one another across Emma and her parents, all unconscious, slumped in their seats.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
Who are you?

STOCKY  
Irrelevant.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
What did you give them?

STOCKY  
Irrelevant.

One of the men moves towards Emma. He lifts her head and checks her dilated pupils. Dominic stands.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
Don't touch her again or I'll beat  
the life out of you.

The man drops Emma's head. Dominic swings a punch at him, but the man, expertly trained, puts Dominic in a wrist lock and sits him back down.

STOCKY  
You will instruct Nexus to pull out  
of the defense contract with China.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
They won't listen to me, I don't  
have that authority.

STOCKY  
They need your money.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
It's a business, they get paid to  
do things.

STOCKY  
No they do not.

Dominic unsure. Emma and her parents remain slumped in their  
seats.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
You put the bomb on my father's  
boat?

STOCKY  
Irrelevant. But, no.

SMACK. Dominic is clobbered by one of the men.

STOCKY (CONT'D)  
Every time we fail to take the life  
of the Minister from China, we take  
a life from you.

A gagged and bloodied Lorn, the family lawyer, is dragged in.  
Stocky executes him then looks at Emma, Roy and June.

STOCKY (CONT'D)  
I see three more attempts.

Dominic is injected with something. He's conscious long  
enough to see Emma and her parents dragged out of the room.

Fade to Black... And we're on a computer screen. A 3-D  
rendering of Stocky's face being drawn.

INT. COMMS ROOM, NEXUS HQ - MORNING

The finished 3-D image of Stocky.

DOMINIC LAWSON (O.S.)  
That's him.

Dominic wrist bandaged, with Roe, Stubbs, Liden and Mai Xing.

DOMINIC LAWSON (CONT'D)  
What did he mean, Nexus relies on  
my father's money?

NATHAN ROE  
It's the only way to guarantee  
impartiality. Actions governed by  
morality not financial reward.  
(MORE)

NATHAN ROE (CONT'D)  
Agencies outsource missions to us,  
we decide whether to accept or not.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
So he cash flows you?

NATHAN ROE  
Your father allowed us to remove  
the sole conflict of interest in  
the private sector. Payment.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
You're kidding me? You're a  
charitable intelligence agency.

Dominic turns to Mai Xing.

DOMINIC LAWSON (CONT'D)  
Is that why you hired them, because  
they are free?

MAI XING  
We own four billion dollars of US  
debt. Money is not a problem.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
We have to walk away.

MAI XING  
I understand. We'll remain here  
under the protection of the CIA.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
Why not go back to China, until  
things cool down?

MAI XING  
The last time China extended it's  
hand in foreign policy was before  
you were born. Think of us like  
your King Kong. China is bigger and  
stronger than the rest. But, if we  
go back into hiding, we become  
feared, misunderstood and  
dangerous.

Mai Xing and Chen leave. Liden, Stubbs and Roe face Dominic.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
I can't risk Emma's life for this.  
None of you know what it's like to  
lose your entire family.

GAVIN STUBBS  
You didn't 'inherit' us kid.

JESSICA LIDEN  
Walking away, it's what you do.

Roe on the computer, brings up a video file of young woman dropping her son off to nursery, she is:

**KATHERINE ROE**, 27, Nathan's daughter, with her son **JOSHUA ROE**, 4 years old.

NATHAN ROE  
My daughter Katherine, with my grandson who I've never met.

Roe turns to Stubbs and Liden.

NATHAN ROE (CONT'D)  
May I?

Both nod. Roe brings up two more files. Video: **AARON WOLKIS**, Israeli, handsome, 38.

JESSICA LIDEN  
We met when I was 15. We were engaged. He thinks I died in Gaza.

Video: **AMANDA STUBBS**, 44, English, Gavin's wife.

GAVIN STUBBS  
My angel who thinks I died in Yemen. She remarried six years ago, to my best friend. Divorced the cheeky bastard a year later though.

Stubbs laughs. The main monitor: brings up an image of 'Stocky' **WALID AKAWI**, former member of SAVAK, Iran's Secret Police.

NATHAN ROE  
Walid Akawi. Ex Savak that explains things.

GAVIN STUBBS  
How'd you hurt your hand?

DOMINIC LAWSON  
Tried to punch one of them.

JESSICA LIDEN  
So you're not always a pussy?

GAVIN STUBBS

Girls throw punches. Your wrist is one of the weakest joints in the body. Use your elbow.

Stubbs shows Dominic how to strike using his elbow. Dominic, thinks, then concedes.

DOMINIC LAWSON

If we're doing this, I want to help.

NATHAN ROE

Your motivation is compromised. This is no place for vengeance.

DOMINIC LAWSON

I'm not after revenge, I'm after preservation of life. Those who can act, should. I can add value here.

Roe, Stubbs and Liden share a glance, Dominic's ready.

NATHAN ROE

There's no point looking for Akawi, he's coming for Mai Xing. Who has two days of meetings in Vermont.

EXT. PRIVATE TERMINAL, VERMONT AIRPORT - DAY

Helicopter lands. Mai Xing and Chen depart. Range Rovers wait on the tarmac. Stubbs with Dominic are approached by Roe.

NATHAN ROE

Get yourselves to the safe house.

EXT. HIGHLANDS, VERMONT - DAY

A small safe house in the icy hills.

NATHAN ROE (O.S.)

Use the downtime well.

INT. GARAGE, SAFE HOUSE, VERMONT - DAY

Space has been made in the middle of the garage. Gavin shows Dominic how to manipulate joints; a wrist, an elbow and shoulder.

EXT. GARDEN, SAFE HOUSE, VERMONT - AFTERNOON

Dominic reloads an automatic rifle and aims. He already has a decent skill set. Liden corrects his stance, showing him how to balance.

EXT. RESTAURANT, VERMONT - NIGHT

Armed Nexus agents approach a van suspiciously parked.

INT. RESTAURANT, VERMONT - CONTINUOUS

Dominic and Roe, watching the inspection via live feed. The van door is opened... false alarm.

Behind Dominic and Roe, Mai Xing in a formal dinner meeting.

INT. KITCHEN, SAFE HOUSE, VERMONT - LATER

Mid game. Dominic playing chess against Gavin.

DOMINIC LAWSON

Why chess?

Gavin makes a move.

GAVIN STUBBS

Great way to train the brain in military tactics.

Dominic moves. He's won already.

GAVIN STUBBS (CONT'D)

You cheeky little bast-

EXT. GRAND ESTATE, VERMONT - DAY

Liden and Dominic mapping the terrain. They approach a clearing: a stately house with a frozen lake. Hills on either side.

DOMINIC LAWSON

Why aren't we calling in support for tonight?

JESSICA LIDEN

Combat isn't about quantity. I'd take an elite team over an army every time.

Liden shows Dominic the rifle on her back.

JESSICA LIDEN (CONT'D)  
 ASM-DT Modified Assault Rifle.  
 Fully operational in or out of  
 water. 100 rounds per mag. My kill  
 ratio's about 90%. Minute per mag.  
 That's 90 kills.

Dominic stares at Liden.

JESSICA LIDEN (CONT'D)  
 Yeah you're lucky I'm on your side.

Liden shows Dominic the house through a sniper rifle scope.

JESSICA LIDEN (CONT'D)  
 They'll hit us tonight.

Liden showing Dominic various points through the rifle scope.

JESSICA LIDEN (CONT'D)  
 The house is isolated, vantage  
 points on either side. Poor  
 visibility at night.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
 Good. I want them to come, I have  
 to get her back Jess.

JESSICA LIDEN  
 Come on. Let's prep the vault.

INT. BASEMENT, GRAND ESTATE - MOMENTS LATER

Liden and Dominic enter the basement, which is being used as  
 a pseudo freezer in winter. Frozen meats hang from the walls.

JESSICA LIDEN  
 This is the fall back position for  
 the minister when it kicks off.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
 Hope she's not a vegetarian.

Liden smiles and places weapons, warm coats and comms gear  
 around the room.

Water pipes from the house lead directly into the frozen lake  
 below, where a section of the floor has been cut away. Wet  
 suits and fishing rods hang from the walls.

JESSICA LIDEN  
 Want to see where you Dad's money  
 really goes?

INT. BEDROOM, GRAND ESTATE, VERMONT - MOMENTS LATER

Dominic with Liden who unzips a bag and pulls out a bodysuit,  
 which resembles a surfer's wetsuit.

JESSICA LIDEN  
 Arcolan suits. Thin layer of liquid  
 inside. Undetectable under  
 clothing. Bullet proof.

Three black discs are pulled out, along with a pair of boots.

JESSICA LIDEN (CONT'D)  
 Magno discs. An electric charge  
 reacts with metal soles in the  
 boots.

Liden puts a disc on the floor, turns it on, both boots  
 elevate up to the ceiling.

JESSICA LIDEN (CONT'D)  
 Takes a lot of balance.

Inside a metal box; what looks like a toy car 'Quad' and a  
 small helicopter 'Mozzy.'

JESSICA LIDEN (CONT'D)  
 The Quad and Mozzy. Both capable of  
 leveling this house. Hungry?

INT. DINING ROOM, GRAND ESTATE, VERMONT - NIGHT

Mid meal. Mai Xing sits at a dining table, with three NATO  
 members. Chen standing to the side.

MAI XING  
 Our mantra is peaceful coexistence.

NATO MEMBER  
 As is ours at NATO. Only, you  
 insist on a amicable relationship  
 with North Korea.

MAI XING  
 You can not change the way people  
 think, by ignoring them.

EXT. GRAND ESTATE, VERMONT - NIGHT

Establishing. On either hillside, pairs of Nexus agents patrol the perimeter.

INT. BEDROOM, GRAND ESTATE, VERMONT - CONTINUOUS

The bedroom has been turned into a comms center. Monitors highlight the surrounding area, heat signatures mark the Nexus agents locations.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
Anything yet?

Roe sips a cup of coffee. Stubbs on the monitors.

GAVIN STUBBS  
(To Roe) I hate baby sitting. When this is done, I need sometime in the field. Change of scene.

NATHAN ROE  
Conner's been asking for some help in Miami if you fancy it?

GAVIN STUBBS  
All that superficial tanned skin and silicon? Sounds atrociously wonderful.

Stubbs leaves with a smile. Roe and Dominic alone.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
How do you guys do this? You're ghosts. Dead soldiers moving from one job to the next. No recognition, no reward. How is anyone that selfless?

NATHAN ROE  
We are not. Recognition does come, from our colleagues.

EXT. AIRPORT, WASHINGTON - DAY

Flashback. Following the jungle rescue, Rorkford is reunited with his son **JONAH RORKFORD**, 18. Roe humbly watching on.

NATHAN ROE (O.S.)  
People we've helped reunite with their families.

INT. BEDROOM, GRAND ESTATE, VERMONT - CONTINUOUS

Present. Roe with Dominic.

NATHAN ROE

You ever stood on a packed commuter train first thing in the morning?

DOMINIC LAWSON

Yes, so?

NATHAN ROE

Well imagine you're on the train knowing that an hour earlier, you stopped some naive, uneducated kid from Pakistan from blowing it up.

Dominic take this in, then smiles.

DOMINIC LAWSON

I saved a spider once. Emma was freaking out trying to step on it, but I rescued it and put it outside the window.

They laugh together.

NATHAN ROE

You're some hero.

DOMINIC LAWSON

Big time.

INT. GRAND ESTATE, VERMONT - NIGHT

The NATO members ready to depart. Roe and Chen with Mai Xing.

NATO MEMBER

On behalf of NATO, your audience has been greatly appreciated.

MAI XING

I hope the small steps we are taking will set foundations for the future.

GAVIN STUBBS

(Into a mic) Departing now.

The NATO members head outside into the cold. The door closes.

MAI XING

Forgive me gentlemen, but I really must do this.

Mai Xing takes off her shoes with a sigh of relief.

Through the windows, the NATO car disappears up the driveway out of sight until **BOOM** it explodes.

INT. BASEMENT, GRAND ESTATE, VERMONT - MOMENTS LATER

Mai Xing being hurriedly escorted by Chen, Roe and Dominic.

NATHAN ROE

Dom, Chen, vault's yours. Keep comms open. (To Mai Xing) Make yourself comfortable.

INT. BEDROOM, QUEENS ESTATE, VERMONT - NIGHT

Comms center. Stubbs on the radio, as Liden gets changed into all white camouflaged gear.

GAVIN STUBBS

This is Vector six, respond.

No reply comes. The heat signatures on the monitor have all disappeared. A Nexus agent comes on the monitor.

NEXUS AGENT

(On the monitor) We lost them all within a second of each other.

JESSICA LIDEN

Sniper team. At least six of them.

Roe and Stubbs grab automatic rifles. Liden leaves.

NEXUS AGENT

(On the monitor) We tracked ten miles. No incoming heat signatures.

The lights suddenly go out.

JESSICA LIDEN

They're in ghillie suits. I'll be on the roof.

EXT. GRAND ESTATE, VERMONT - NIGHT

Liden throws three Magno discs on the ground and turns them on. Balancing like a surfer, they elevate her up the wall, onto the roof.

INT. BASEMENT, GRAND ESTATE - CONTINUOUS

Darkness. Dominic puts neon lights around the freezing room.

INT. FRONT AREA, GRAND ESTATE - CONTINUOUS

Roe moves into position, watching for movement outside. He sees an old fireplace. Looks up the chute.

EXT. ROOF TOP, GRAND ESTATE - CONTINUOUS

Liden's rifle scope POV. A target hiding in the snow. She fires, hitting him in the eye. Dead.

JESSICA LIDEN  
Target down. East hill.

INT. BACK AREA, GRAND ESTATE - CONTINUOUS

Stubbs armed, in position, sees two intruders in white combat gear approaching through the gardens.

GAVIN STUBBS  
Two incoming from the south.

EXT. ROOF TOP, GRAND ESTATE - CONTINUOUS

Rifle scope POV - Liden searching a hill, focusing on a pile of snow. Zooms in, hovering over the same spot, waiting, waiting. BREATH in the snow.

JESSICA LIDEN  
Firing.

Liden fires. A blood spurt turns the snow red.

INT. BASEMENT, GRAND ESTATE - CONTINUOUS

Dominic with Chen and Mai Xing, nervously waiting.

JESSICA LIDEN (O.S.)  
(On the radio) Target down. East  
hill is secure.

INT. FRONT AREA, GRAND ESTATE - CONTINUOUS

Nathan using a hand held remote flies the Mozzy up the  
fireplace chute.

NATHAN ROE  
Mozzy is airborne.

INT. BACK AREA, GRAND ESTATE - CONTINUOUS

Two intruders let themselves in through a window, Stubbs  
executes both, then grabs their radios.

EXT. ROOF TOP, GRAND ESTATE - CONTINUOUS

Liden on the roof as the Mozzy rises out of the chimney.

JESSICA LIDEN  
(Into headset) Take the Mozzy to  
the west hill. I have treeline.

A spray of incoming fire targets Liden's position.

INT. BACK AREA, GRAND ESTATE - CONTINUOUS

Stubbs watching three more intruders approach. They crouch  
behind a snow covered hedge row.

Stubbs drops the QUAD (remote control car) out the window,  
driving it with a handheld monitor.

INT. FRONT AREA, GRAND ESTATE - CONTINUOUS

Nathan operating the Mozzy, views the snow covered ground  
through its camera. Movement - a sniper lying in the snow,  
firing on Liden.

The Mozzy's POV cam, as it dives straight for the sniper.

EXT. ROOF TOP, GRAND ESTATE - CONTINUOUS

Liden taking cover. **BOOM.** Small explosion on the west hill.

EXT. BACK GARDEN, GRAND ESTATE - CONTINUOUS

Spray of snow as the QUAD drives up to the three intruders and stops. They duck for cover. Nothing happens.

An intruder inquisitively picks up the QUAD.

INT. BACK AREA, GRAND ESTATE - CONTINUOUS

Stubbs watching through the QUAD's camera.

GAVIN STUBBS  
(Mockingly) Hey look a little cute  
car in the snow.

Stubbs detonates it. A small explosion behind the hedge row.

EXT. ROOF TOP, GRAND ESTATE - CONTINUOUS

Liden rolling for cover, taking heavy fire.

JESSICA LIDEN  
Taking fire. Taking fire!

INT. BASEMENT, GRAND ESTATE - CONTINUOUS

Dominic listening in.

JESSICA LIDEN (O.S.)  
(On the radio) I can't see him on  
the ice.

INT. FRONT AREA, GRAND ESTATE - CONTINUOUS

Three intruders crash through the front door. Roe executes one. His gun kicked out his hand, as a brutal fight erupts lasting just three seconds.

SNAP. SNAP. Roe breaks both their necks.

INT. BASEMENT, GRAND ESTATE - CONTINUOUS

Dominic finishes putting on a wet suit and unloads a mag at the ice causing it to break.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
(Into the radio) Gavin come in.

INT. CORRIDOR, GRAND ESTATE - CONTINUOUS

Stubbs moving to Roe's position.

GAVIN STUBBS

Go ahead.

DOMINIC LAWSON (O.S.)

(On the radio) Launch flares over  
the frozen lake.

INT. BASEMENT, GRAND ESTATE - CONTINUOUS

Dominic in full scuba gear, drops into the icy water.

INT. BEDROOM, GRAND ESTATE, VERMONT - MOMENTS LATER

Stubbs loads and fires a flare gun. WHOOSH.

INT. UNDERWATER, GRAND ESTATE - CONTINUOUS

Dominic, swimming in scuba gear, beneath the ice. A flare  
passes overhead, revealing a dark silhouette on the ice.

EXT. ROOF TOP, GRAND ESTATE - CONTINUOUS

Liden tries to move, but is pinned down by incoming fire.

INT. UNDERWATER, GRAND ESTATE - CONTINUOUS

Dominic, weapon in hand, reaches the clear silhouette of a  
figure lying on the ice. Another flare passes overhead.

EXT. FROZEN LAKE, GRAND ESTATE - CONTINUOUS

The enemy sniper's POV scope. He has Liden in his sight. A  
spray of gunfire beneath him, as the ice gives way. And we...

INT. BASEMENT, GRAND ESTATE - MOMENTS LATER

SPLASH. The sniper is dragged out of water by Chen. Roe pulls  
Dominic out of the water. He removes his scuba mask.

DOMINIC LAWSON

This guy knows where they're  
keeping them.

Dominic moves to the shivering enemy sniper.

DOMINIC LAWSON (CONT'D)  
If he doesn't talk, he can go  
swimming again.

RICHARD KLEIN (O.S.)  
His name is Saif Mahmoud Al Wadi.  
Born 1974.

INT. OBSERVATION ROOM, CIA OUTPOST, VERMONT - DAY

Klein with Roe, Dominic, Chen and Mai Xing, looking at SAIF,  
being interviewed in the adjacent interrogation room.

Images of Saif and Walid Akawi together, working for Iran's  
SAVAK police on the monitors.

INTERROGATER  
Blacksun? What is Blacksun?

Saif speaks again.

INTERROGATER (CONT'D)  
Mercenary? And Blacksun is your  
employer. Were you paid to  
assassinate the Chinese minister?

Saif agrees with the interrogator. Klein turns to Roe.

RICHARD KLEIN  
This is not good. I warned the  
President this would happen.

INTERROGATER  
Who hired Blacksun?

Saif laughs.

RICHARD KLEIN  
Iran following our lead into this  
sector means privatizing terrorism,  
not intelligence.

NATHAN ROE  
If this 'Blacksun' is a real agency  
originating out of Iran. The CIA  
can't get involved.

RICHARD KLEIN  
I knew this day would come. When we  
have to sit back and watch the  
private sector go at it.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
Why can't you get involved?

RICHARD KLEIN  
If the CIA get involved, it will  
escalate to our military. Which  
means Iran's use of their military.  
War. Private sector conflict has to  
remain just that, private.

Mai Xing listening to Klein. Dominic's phone rings, incoming  
call from Emma.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
Emma? Emma's calling.

A CIA analyst plugs Dominic's phone into the mainframe.

WALID AKAWI (O.S.)  
Do you know how women are punished  
for disobedience in Iran?

MAI XING  
Do you know how enemies of the  
state are punished in China?

WALID AKAWI (O.S.)  
The 'prey' speaks. Your death is  
assured given the company you keep;  
the Jew whore sniper, the fat  
bulldog and the withered American.  
I trust Saif Al Wadi has been  
useful?

The 'click' of a switch. In the interrogation room, Saif  
suddenly falls over clutching his stomach in pain. He dies.

A CIA analyst has tracked Akawi's location. Liden makes a  
call.

WALID AKAWI (CONT'D)  
MI6, CIA, Mossad, FSS. All impotent  
in the new fragile world.

JESSICA LIDEN  
(On phone) 33 Brockhurst Street.

EXT. STREETS, VERMONT - DAY

Two black Nexus Range Rovers speed through the streets.

INT. OBSERVATION ROOM, CIA OUTPOST, VERMONT - DAY

Everyone listening to Walid. Mai Xing growing impatient.

MAI XING

You really want to start a war?

WALID AKAWI (O.S.)

Will you continue to seek an  
alliance with the West?

MAI XING

Yes.

Liden on the phone to Nexus HQ, makes a sign '2 MINUTES.'

EXT. APPROACHING GARAGE, VERMONT - DAY

A team of Nexus agents moving through a back street.

INT. OBSERVATION ROOM, CIA OUTPOST, VERMONT - DAY

Everyone listening to Akawi.

WALID AKAWI (O.S.)

Then I have business with Mr.  
Lawson. Three will become two. Pick  
one.

DOMINIC LAWSON

What? Wait.

WALID AKAWI (O.S.)

Will the consolation of Xing's  
beating heart ease your suffering?

Dominic faces the now guilt ridden Mai Xing.

DOMINIC LAWSON

No. Wait a minute. Please.

WALID AKAWI (O.S.)

Pick one. Or I will.

DOMINIC LAWSON

Wait. Her father, Roy. It's what  
he'd want.

Silence.

NATHAN ROE

Akawi. When I find you and I will,  
I'm going to break your neck.

EXT. GARAGE, VERMONT - DAY

The Nexus team breaches the garage. A toxic gas cannister is triggered, as it's poisonous fumes fill the garage. The Nexus team drop to the ground, choking.

WALID AKAWI (O.S.)

The only thing you will 'find' are  
the dead bodies of Nexus agents.

EXT. CHINESE EMBASSY, NYC - AFTERNOON

Police escort. Roe, Mai Xing and Chen arrive and are greeted by the anxious Chinese Ambassador.

CHINESE AMBASSADOR

Welcome back to New York. I have  
Iran's Intelligence Director on  
video uplink.

Mai Xing nods to Chen, who asks Roe not to come inside.

INT. CONFERENCE ROOM, CHINESE EMBASSY, NYC - CONTINUOUS

Mai Xing and Chen enter. On a monitor is live video feed of **KHALID YOUSEF**, Iran's Intelligence Director, behind him an Iranian flag.

KHALID YOUSEF

(On the monitor) Iran has nothing  
to do with the 'Blacksun' group. We  
condemn all terrorist activities,  
unless it is against Israel.

Another figure appears on the Iranian side.

KHALID YOUSEF (CONT'D)

Iran views China as a brother. Stop  
wasting your time with the West.

MAI XING

We build relationships with  
whomever we choose, including  
Israel. Now, Instruct Blacksun to  
stand down or become our enemy.

KHALID YOUSEF  
How dare you threaten us.

MAI XING  
Your bark is loud because you know  
the US can't afford war. Do you  
think China needs NATO or the UN?  
We could annihilate Iran in two  
days, leaving you to scurry the  
mountains of Pakistan, on the run  
from Mossad finest.

Yousef in this place, talks privately with the man next to  
him.

KHALID YOUSEF  
We shall help you. But first my  
Minister of Finance would like to  
discuss an increase in crude oil  
exportation.

Mai Xing, fed up, leaves the video call mid conversation.

INT. LAWSON RESIDENCE, GREENWICH - EVENING

Dominic alone, arrives home. The lights in the house are off.

INT. EDGAR'S OFFICE, LAWSON RESIDENCE, GREENWICH - EVENING

Dominic enters. His eyes trace Edgar's study, finding a  
crumpled LETTER.

INSERT: *Lorn giving Dominic the letter, it's Edgar's will,  
which he puts in his back pocket.*

Dominic opens and reads the letter.

EDGAR LAWSON (O.S.)  
Son I guided you as best I could.  
Forgive my absence, but know you  
were never far from my thoughts.

Dominic looks in the reflection of a mirror to see EDGAR  
outside the window, watching him.

Dominic turns quickly, there's nothing there. Dominic stands  
by the window, looking at his own reflection.

EDGAR LAWSON (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
The decision is yours, to continue  
what I started.

Dominic looks through his reflection, to see the Oak Tree in the garden, something hanging from a branch.

EDGAR LAWSON (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
A life in harm's way, is not an  
easy one.

EXT. GARDEN, LAWSON ESTATE, GREENWICH - NIGHT

Dominic holding a flash light, approaching the tree. Hanging from the branch, is ROY, Emma's father.

INT. LAWSON RESIDENCE, GREENWICH - LATER

Nexus agents move in and out the house. Dominic, solemn, now a bystander in his own home. Roe moves to him, but Dominic is lost in thought.

INSERT CUT: *Glimpses of Emma, smiling, happy.*

EDGAR LAWSON (O.S.)  
You are the best of your mother and  
I.

INT. GUEST BEDROOM, LAWSON RESIDENCE, GREENWICH - SUNRISE

Roe asleep. Dominic wakes him up with a hot coffee and a nod 'time to get up, work to do.'

INT. LIVING ROOM, LAWSON ESTATE, GREENWICH - SUNRISE

Furniture pushed aside. Dominic being trained by Roe in hand to hand combat.

EDGAR LAWSON (O.S.)  
Stand tall in our shadow.

EXT. GARDEN, LAWSON ESTATE, GREENWICH - SUNRISE

Dominic and Roe practicing switching between weapons.

INT. LIVING ROOM, LAWSON RESIDENCE, GREENWICH - MORNING

Fireplace. Dominic showered, fresh faced. Re-reading his father's letter.

EDGAR LAWSON (O.S.)  
As we watch over yours.

Dominic, empowered, puts the letter in the fire.

EXT. DRIVEWAY, LAWSON RESIDENCE, GREENWICH - MORNING

Roe, Stubbs and Liden in the Range Rover. Dominic joins them.

EXT. CONGRESS, WASHINGTON - MORNING

Establisher.

MICHAEL RORKFORD (O.S.)

The term war profiteering is  
misinformed and naive.

INT. CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE, WASHINGTON - DAY

Rorkford being interviewed by a panel of Senators.

SENATOR

You're not on trial, we asked you  
here for advice given your  
undeniable expertise.

SENATOR 2

Only your opinion is somewhat  
concerning. The privatization of  
war is-

MICHAEL RORKFORD

Inevitable. Since 9/11, the  
outsourcing of intelligence has  
given you the heads of Saddam  
Hussein, Kim Jon Il, Osama Bin  
Laden and Muammar Gaddafi.

SENATOR

This government was not responsible  
for-.

MICHAEL ROCKFORD

Please. I thought this was a  
private hearing. Intelligence is  
privatized, it's done, it works.  
The military is next.

The committee shifts uneasily.

MICHAEL RORKFORD

Think of your electorate. No more  
American troops dying overseas.

(MORE)

MICHAEL RORKFORD (CONT'D)  
You could halve your trillion  
dollar defense budget, allowing you  
to reduce your deficit and even  
lower taxes for your voters.

Chen enters at the back, watching Rorkford.

MICHAEL RORKFORD (CONT'D)  
The game is changing. Historically,  
you've bought your tanks,  
helicopters and weapons from me.  
Soon, you'll ask me to use them for  
you.

Moments later. Rorkford leaving is introduced to Chen.

INT. COMMS CENTER, NEXUS, NEW JERSEY - DAY

A flurry of activity. Monitors are full of data relating to  
SAVAK (Iranian Guard), Walid Akawi and Saif Al Wadi. Roe,  
Stubbs and Liden with Dominic watching on.

JESSICA LIDEN  
Bring up Orion. Key words, Mai  
Xing, China, Walid Akawi, Saif Al  
Wadi, Savak, Blacksun.

Nexus Analyst brings up the Orion system on a monitor, typing  
in the key words. Stubbs with Dominic.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
Orion?

GAVIN STUBBS  
Soft data source; emails, phones  
calls, text messages. Anything that  
isn't hard copy gets recorded at  
Orion.

Twelve hundred matches on the system.

NATHAN ROE  
Combine Orion with RS4.

Analyst brings up the RS4 system, which needs a log in. Roe  
stands over him, types in the key code. Stubbs with Dominic.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
And RS4?

GAVIN STUBBS

When Al Qaeda bombed London in 2005, MI6 bugged most of the Mosques in Europe. Every conversation's recorded, documented.

DOMINIC LAWSON

Is that legal?

GAVIN STUBBS

Course not dipstick. But, if Al Qaeda where a bunch of Christian fanatics, we'd happily bug churches, priests and choir boys if we had to.

Nexus Analyst using Orion and RS4 shows 480 matches.

JESSICA LIDEN

Any make calls to Iran and the US in the last few days?

Nexus Analyst shakes his head.

DOMINIC LAWSON

Try searching Emma Goodchild or Lawson.

Nexus Analyst types it in, nothing comes up. Roe in thought.

NATHAN ROE

Try Nexus.

RS4 System triggers '1' match.

EXT. DENLEIGH SCHOOL, NEWARK - AFTERNOON

Children playing soccer in the playground, as they wait for parents to pick them up. One child, **ALI**, 8 years old.

Stubbs, playing the parent starts playing with them. He kicks the ball over a fence, out of sight. The kids moan.

GAVIN STUBBS

No need to cry, I'll get it.

Stubbs returns with a slightly different ball. ALI looks at it, it's a better ball than the old one, he smiles.

EXT. STREETS, NEWARK - LATER

Ali and his father, **SAMIR ELSFAY**, 52 walking home from school.

INT. SAMIR BAKERY, NEWARK - LATER

Samir and Ali enter the bakery they own. They walk behind the counter into their home. Waiting in line for food is Liden.

EXT. REAR, SAMIR BAKERY, NEWARK - CONTINUOUS

Narrow lane, an old white van drives down one end. A second car enters from the other end.

EXT. FRONT, STREET SIDE, BAKERY, NEWARK - CONTINUOUS

An ice cream truck pulls up. Turns its music on LOUD.

INT. TOP FLOOR, SAMIR'S HOUSE, NEWARK - CONTINUOUS

Ali runs to the bedroom window, looking at the ice cream truck at street level. The soccer ball on the floor, starts moving, rolling itself into the living room.

EXT. REAR, SAMIR BAKERY, NEWARK - CONTINUOUS

Above the bakery, the second level of Samir's house. A brilliant bright light flashes from the windows.

Dominic and Roe lead a team of Nexus agents into the house.

INT. SAMIR'S HOUSE, NEWARK - CONTINUOUS

Agents climb the stairs, into the living room. Samir stumbles unable to see and is pinned down. Ali also blinded from the flash, is injected and dragged away. The room is secured.

Later. Roe, Stubbs and Dominic searching for intel.

Hundreds of fake American passports are strewn across the living room table. Stubbs finds cash stores.

GAVIN STUBBS

Lot of cash in here. Old notes,  
numerous sources.

Liden on Samir's computer, plugs in a Nexus fob.

JESSICA LIDEN

He sends out anti west propaganda emails, protests, nothing serious. Server history deleted regularly. Emails under two lines, cash deposits sub \$20k. He's educated.

Dominic finds a tool kit and work desk.

DOMINIC LAWSON

Is this a bomb kit?

Stubbs moves over. He puts the pieces of kit together.

GAVIN STUBBS

Bomb kit? Bloody TV remote.

Stubbs turns the TV on, showing the Playstation Game 'Call of Duty' on multiplayer (online feature).

NATHAN ROE

He's no terrorist, he's a facilitator.

Dominic views the TV monitor, anti West posters on the wall.

DOMINIC LAWSON

If you hated America, why let your kid play a pro US war game?

Dominic logs into the multi player and turns the volume up. DIALOGUE. Arabic conversations in the game chat rooms.

INT. DINING ROOM, CIA OUTPOST, NYC - AFTERNOON

Roe and Dominic escorted in by Klein. Having lunch with Mai Xing is Rorkford and **KARL PITT**, Head of RORK (Roe's equivalent at Nexus). Roe surprised to see them.

MICHAEL RORKFORD

Gentlemen.

Klein leaves them to it. Rorkford addresses Roe.

MICHAEL RORKFORD (CONT'D)

We have been asked to take over. But I declined. We have means but are new to the game. You're the elite, as long as you're in business, we'll take your lead.

Pitt embraces Roe with a smile.

KARL PITT

Good to see you old man.

DOMINIC LAWSON

Wait, you want us to stand down?

MAI XING

It's not my family they're holding ransom.

KARL PITT

Taking Nexus out of the equation won't work. Akawi will only keep the hostages alive if he needs them.

Rorkford turns to Mai Xing and Chen.

MICHAEL RORKFORD

Rork will support Nexus in any way we can. Intel, surveillance, weapons, you name it.

KARL PITT

This might be useful.

Pitt's uses his laptop. The monitor shows a series of offshore bank transactions.

KARL PITT (CONT'D)

You remember the ghost accounts Iran used during the Gulf War to pay off the Iraqis in Kuwait? They've been dormant, til now.

On the monitor a map shows funds leaving Iran for the Cayman Islands.

KARL PITT (CONT'D)

Several transactions totally 28.4 Million Euros sent to a private bank in the Cayman Islands.

NATHAN ROE

Stay on it. (To Mai Xing) Are you set for tomorrow?

MAI XING

I am. Are you?

INT. EUROPEAN UNION HQ, NYC - MORNING

Mai Xing is greeted by the Head of the EU. Roe, Stubbs and Chen close by.

EU STAFF

Foreign Minister, may I introduce  
the Head of the European Union.

INT. NEXUS HQ, DOCKLANDS, NEW JERSEY - MORNING

Dominic and Liden surrounded by screens, overseeing Mai Xing.  
Analysts cover every vehicle and civilian in area.

JESSICA LIDEN

Eyes up people. Monitor vehicle  
patterns, sudden changes in speed,  
if someone turns down the same  
street twice I want to know.

Dominic moves to the Analyst covering the online PS3 gamers.

DOMINIC LAWSON

Anything?

NEXUS ANALYST

Bit of chatter about the Rams. You  
see the game?

The Analyst has a newspaper next to him, headline reads '*St. Louis Rams beat Greenbay Packers 19-13*'.

EXT. EU HQ, NYC - LATER

Mai Xing emerges. Nexus agents guard the perimeter. Roe,  
Stubbs and Chen escort her into a Nexus Range Rover.

INT. NEXUS HQ, DOCKLANDS, NEW JERSEY - CONTINUOUS

High tech system tracks the departing Range Rovers and any  
vehicle in the area, showing registered owners etc.

NATHAN ROE (O.S.)

Asset is mobile. Taking alternate  
route. Maintain eye in the sky.

DOMINIC LAWSON

They're here somewhere.

The Nexus Range Rovers turns off the planned course.

NEXUS ANALYST PS3

Woh.

A flurry of activity on the PS3 console audio. Dominic watching on as the computer system shows key words: RAMS, GREENBAY, YELLOWS.

NEXUS ANALYST PS3 (CONT'D)

We got a couple of angry fans.

Dominic on the headset, speaks to Roe. Liden approaches.

DOMINIC LAWSON

Nathan turn off current path.

NATHAN ROE (O.S.)

Copy that.

The Range Rovers turn down another street. PS3 Audio signals flare up again. Key words: YELLOWS, RAMS, GREENBAY. D4959369, N8348030.

JESSICA LIDEN

Track that signal. Hack into Sony's mainframe if you have to.

INT. NEXUS WEAPONS ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Dominic and Liden gearing up; pistols, automatic weapons.

JESSICA LIDEN

They've eyes on Roe, so we got to do this ourselves. Take one of these, it's a natural stimulant.

Liden hands Dominic a pill.

DOMINIC LAWSON

I don't do pills, never been able to swallow em.

JESSICA LIDEN

When you miss a kill shot don't blame me.

Liden opens a vaulted room, both enter. A vast amount of strange weapons and devices inside, including the SAW.

JESSICA LIDEN (CONT'D)

Non lethal arms. If she's there, we got to take em out before they execute. Flash grenades and O2's.

DOMINIC LAWSON

O2's?

JESSICA LIDEN

Sucks the air out of a room, lasts about three seconds.

Dominic sees the SAW.

JESSICA LIDEN (CONT'D)

It's a sonic audio weapon. It sends out a sonic pulse of low frequency vibrations your inner ear can't cope with. Shuts down all your senses, causing temporary paralysis.

Dominic looks closer, a numeric panel on the SAW with an OAK TREE logo.

DOMINIC LAWSON

My father built it.

JESSICA LIDEN

Yes.

DOMINIC LAWSON

So this is the result of his research trying to heal himself. He ended up building a weapon.

JESSICA LIDEN

This thing could change the face of warfare forever. It's a NON LETHAL mass weapon. You could disarm an entire country with a hundred of these and not have to fire a single shot. No more casualties of war.

DOMINIC LAWSON

How many did he build?

JESSICA LIDEN

One.

DOMINIC LAWSON

Well let's use it.

JESSICA LIDEN

(Smiling) You want to carry it?

The roar of a motorbike engine. And we...

EXT. NEXUS HQ, DOCKLANDS TUNNEL, NEW JERSEY - MOMENTS LATER

Dominic and Liden on two sipped up Nexus motorbikes speed out of the HQ.

EXT. UNITED NATIONS HQ, NYC - AFTERNOON

A flurry of press taking pictures as Mai Xing arrives. Roe, Stubbs and Chen keeping watch. Nexus agents everywhere.

JESSICA LIDEN (O.S.)  
Command we're in pursuit of  
potential nest. Be advised you have  
eyes on.

Roe and Stubbs share a look.

EXT. STREETS, NEW YORK - AFTERNOON

Dominic and Liden speeding along the embankment.

INT. OFFICE, UNITED NATIONS, NYC - AFTERNOON

Mai Xing and the Secretary General sitting together. Standing to the side is Chen and Roe.

SECRETARY GENERAL  
If North Korea continues to develop  
it's Uranium enrichment facilities,  
then additional sanctions must be  
imposed.

MAI XING  
You can count on our support  
Secretary General. The non-  
proliferation of nuclear weapons is  
one of our highest priorities.

NATHAN ROE (O.S.)  
Status.

EXT. UNITED NATIONS HQ, NYC - CONTINUOUS

Undercover Nexus agents; news reporter, policeman, road sweeper, all report in. No activity.

EXT. RIVERSIDE DEVELOPMENT - CONTINUOUS

Dominic and Liden approach on their motorbikes.

NEXUS ANALYST (O.S.)  
Twelfth floor. East facing  
penthouse.

INT. RIVERSIDE DEVELOPMENT - MOMENTS LATER

Dominic and Liden, armed, climbing the stairs.

INT. PRESS ROOM, UN HQ, NYC - CONTINUOUS

Mai Xing and the Secretary General shake hands in front of  
the UN flag. Cameras flash.

INT. NEXUS HQ, DOCKLANDS, NEW JERSEY - CONTINUOUS

Nexus Analysts on the systems covering the area.

NATHAN ROE (O.S.)  
Asset preparing to exit.

EXT. UN HQ, NYC - CONTINUOUS

Undercover Nexus agents, waiting, expecting an attack.

INT. STAIRWELL, RIVERSIDE DEVELOPMENT - CONTINUOUS

11th floor. Liden exits. Dominic continues to the top floor.

INT. 11TH FLOOR BALCONY, RIVERSIDE DEVELOPMENT - CONTINUOUS

Directly beneath the Penthouse. Liden grabs an 'O2' pulls out  
a sticky string from it (like a child's yoyo).

Liden takes the end of the sticky string, attaches it to the  
roof of her balcony.

INT. UNDERGROUND CAR PARK, UN, NYC - CONTINUOUS

Mai Xing in the Range Rover with Roe and Chen, ready to exit.

JESSICA LIDEN (O.S.)  
On my mark. THREE.

INT. PENTHOUSE ENTRANCE, RIVERSIDE DEVELOPMENT - CONTINUOUS

Dominic poised at the entrance, automatic rifle in hand. He steadies himself, a deep breath.

JESSICA LIDEN (O.S.)

TWO.

INT. UNDERGROUND CAR PARK, UN, NYC - CONTINUOUS

Roe's Range Rover, with Mai Xing exits.

JESSICA LIDEN (O.S.)

ONE.

INT. 11TH FLOOR BALCONY, RIVERSIDE DEVELOPMENT - CONTINUOUS

Liden swings the O2 off her balcony, so it does a 360 onto the balcony above, smashing through the glass balcony doors.

**WHOOSH** the 'O2' sucks the air out the penthouse.

INT. PENTHOUSE ENTRANCE, RIVERSIDE DEVELOPMENT - CONTINUOUS

Dominic enters. To the left, two BLACKSUN terrorists at control desks, unable to breathe. TAP TAP. He kills them.

He enters the living room, another Blacksun terrorist, gasping for air, holding a pistol, Dominic kills him.

Two Blacksun terrorists raise their weapons at Dominic, Liden, now in the penthouse, takes them down.

INT. NEXUS RANGE ROVER, EXITING NYC - CONTINUOUS

Roe driving, has Liden's audio on speaker. Gunfire. A concerned Mai Xing and Chen in the backseat.

JESSICA LIDEN (O.S.)

CLEAR!

INT. PENTHOUSE ENTRANCE, RIVERSIDE DEVELOPMENT - CONTINUOUS

Dominic checks a room, two mattresses on the floor, both empty but clearly slept in.

DOMINIC LAWSON

She's not here!

INT. NEXUS HQ, DOCKLANDS, NEW JERSEY - CONTINUOUS

Analysts track Roe's Range Rover, heading towards a park.

NEXUS ANALYST

Take your next left, continue for  
200 meters to Greenbay Park.

INT. BATTERSEA REACH, RIVERSIDE DEVELOPMENT - CONTINUOUS

Dominic and Liden checking the intel on the Blacksun systems.

DOMINIC LAWSON (INTO HEADSET)

Wait. What? Say again Vector six.

NEXUS ANALYST (O.S.)

Command is approaching Greenbay  
Park.

Dominic, looking through images on the workstation, photos,  
maps, numbers: D4959369, N8348030.

DOMINIC LAWSON (INTO HEADSET)

Repeat the key words coming from  
the game chatter?

INT. NEXUS HQ, DOCKLANDS, NEW JERSEY - CONTINUOUS

Nexus Analyst checks the PS3 system coverage. Key words.

NEXUS ANALYST

YELLOWS, RAMS, GREENBAY.

INT. BATTERSEA REACH, RIVERSIDE DEVELOPMENT - CONTINUOUS

Dominic looking at the numbers on a wall: D4959369, N8348030.

DOMINIC LAWSON

Letter and seven numbers?  
'Yellows', 'Rams'. Jesus, they're  
in school buses-

EXT. GREENBAY PARK, OUTSIDE NYC - CONTINUOUS

**SMASH...** The Nexus Range Rover is pummeled by a hijacked  
school bus. It flips off the road, landing on it's roof in  
the park.

INT. NEXUS HQ, DOCKLANDS, NEW JERSEY - CONTINUOUS

Flurry of activity. On the monitors, Nexus Analysts watch on as not one, but two school buses surround the overturned Range Rover.

NEXUS ANALYST

Support, support. Location, echo,  
nine, forty degrees, south west-

The entire comms center; monitors, systems, everything shuts down. They're completely blind.

EXT. NEXUS HQ, DOCKLANDS, NEW JERSEY - CONTINUOUS

A cement truck picking up speed heading for the Nexus HQ.

Nexus agents (disguised as builders) open fire on the cement truck. It slams through a barrier, picking up speed.

NEXUS BUILDER

Incoming bomber!

NEXUS BUILDER 2

Take him down!

The Blacksun driver is killed, but it's too late. The cement truck heads straight for the warehouse.

EXT. PENTHOUSE BALCONY, RIVERSIDE DEVELOPMENT - CONTINUOUS

Dominic and Liden rush to the balcony and face east. The New Jersey on the horizon.

An explosion over the radio, then static. Dominic and Liden see a **PLUME OF SMOKE** rising in the distance.

INT. RANGE ROVER, GREENBAY PARK - CONTINUOUS

Overtaken Range Rover. Roe and Stubbs upside down in the front. Chen and Mai Xing in the back.

NATHAN ROE

We gotta move.

EXT. GREENBAY PARK - CONTINUOUS

The two school buses on either side of the overturned Range Rover. Blacksun terrorists in each window open fire.

EXT. STREETS, OUTSIDE NYC - AFTERNOON

Dominic and Liden speed dangerously through traffic on their motorbikes.

INT. NEXUS RANGE ROVER, GREEN PARK - CONTINUOUS

The bullet proof Range Rover taking a beating. Roe and Stubbs, crouching inside, get their bearings and grab their weapons. Chen injured in the back. Mai Xing can barely move.

Stubbs returns fire through a crack in the glass.

GAVIN STUBBS

Where's our damned support?!

EXT. APPROACHING GREENBAY PARK - AFTERNOON

Two Nexus Range Rovers speeding down the street, the park in the distance. A school bus stops at one end. Blocking their way.

INT. RANGE ROVER, GREENBAY PARK - CONTINUOUS

Flames break out. Chen pushes Mai Xing away from the immediate danger and is shot in the head. DEAD.

Roe, Stubbs and Mai Xing, surrounded by incoming gunfire, flames spreading, no escape. The roar of an engine. And we...

EXT. GREENBAY PARK - CONTINUOUS

Wheel spin across the grass as a BLACK HUMVEE driven by KARL PITT arrives.

Pitt exits with two Rork agents (smartly suited) and open fire on the Blacksun terrorists.

Roe and Stubbs scramble out of the overturned Range Rover.

Sudden spray of bullets. Roe is pinned down. Two Rork agents take out three terrorists but are then gunned down. Blacksun gaining the upper hand as Pitt dives for cover.

Roe and Stubbs, vulnerably exposed protecting Mai Xing, taking out one, two, three Blacksun terrorists. They're about to be killed. Roar of gunfire from Dominic and Liden arriving on motorbikes.

Dominic helps Stubbs as Liden leaps off her bike. TAP TAP TAP TAP TAP. Five Blacksun terrorists down, in different areas, in just a second.

Roe gets back into the Range Rover and drags out Mai Xing, passing her to Stubbs, who grabs Dominic's motorbike.

NATHAN ROE  
Get her out of here!

A Blacksun terrorist has clean line of sight to kill Mai Xing, but doesn't take it, instead targeting Roe.

Stubbs speeds off with Mai Xing, away from the fire fight. The Blacksun terrorists ignore him.

Roe isolated by the overturned Nexus Range Rover, coming under heavy fire. Police sirens ring out. They're incoming.

In the gun fight, Dominic recognizes WALID AKAWI dressed as a school bus driver. A Mercedes speeds to Akawi's position. He's thrown an RPG by the driver.

Dominic tries to take a shot at him, but comes under fire. Akawi aims the RPG at the exposed Roe.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
NO!

**AKAWI FIRES... BOOM.** Roe and the Range Rover blows up.

Akawi leaps into the Mercedes and speeds away. Several arriving police cars surround Pitt, Dominic and Liden.

Akawi's Mercedes disappearing in the distance. Dominic takes in his surroundings, the burning vehicles, Roe dead, Akawi getting away, Liden's motorbike close by.

Dominic leaps onto the motorbike, the police open fire. But he's already gone, speeding after Akawi.

EXT. STREETS, OUTSKIRTS NYC - MOMENTS LATER

Dominic speeding after the Mercedes. Faster, faster.

The back door of the Mercedes opens. A hostage, is dropped out of the car. HORROR as the body rolls on the concrete like a rag doll.

Dominic slams on the breaks and leaps off the bike.

The hostage... is JUNE, Emma's mum, barely alive, battered face covered in blood. Dominic shouts at a pedestrian to call an ambulance. He wipes the blood from her face.

DOMINIC LAWSON

June just hang on.

June losing consciousness, for a moment she recognizes Dominic and smiles.

DOMINIC LAWSON (CONT'D)

Mom.

June dies. Dominic holding her dead body in the road. Beat.

CNN NEWS REPORTER (O.S.)

Despite a rumored assassination attempt, China's Foreign Minister is set to continue her tour of the US today.

EXT. PRIVATE AIRPORT, NEW YORK - AFTERNOON

Mai Xing, puts on a brave face at a press conference.

MAI XING

I'm most satisfied with my visit so far and look forward to continuing my journey to Washington and Camp David.

EXT. NEXUS HQ, DOCKLANDS, NEW JERSEY - AFTERNOON

Firemen pack up to leave. Klein oversees a CIA clean up operation. Liden, Stubbs and Dominic watching on as body bags are carried away.

GAVIN STUBBS

That's everything.

JESSICA LIDEN

The equipment was destroyed, except for everything in the vaults.

GAVIN STUBBS

Now what?

DOMINIC LAWSON

Go home to your wife and kids Gavin. You too Jess.

GAVIN STUBBS

I'll just walk in the front door  
shall I?

DOMINIC LAWSON

She'll understand.

Liden thoughtful, quiet.

GAVIN STUBBS

I don't quit. Nathan never quit.

DOMINIC LAWSON

Nathan's gone. Retire Gavin, you've  
earned it. Go home and see your  
wife.

Stubbs, torn between a life of his own again or duty to  
others. Stubbs faces Liden, who offers to shake his hand.  
Liden wants out. Stubbs turns to Dominic.

GAVIN STUBBS

What about you?

DOMINIC LAWSON

They still have Emma, but with  
Nexus gone, maybe she stands a  
chance.

GAVIN STUBBS

And if they don't hand her over.  
You're gonna find her on your own?

Dominic looks at Stubbs, he has another option now.

INT. LAWSON RESIDENCE, GREENWICH - NIGHT

Dominic waiting. Pitt knocks on the door. Dominic grabs his  
things and leaves.

EXT. CITY AIRPORT, GREENWICH - NIGHT

Dominic and Pitt exit a black Rork Humvee and are greeted by  
Rorkford on the tarmac. They board his jet.

INT. PRIVATE JET - LATER

Dominic with Rorkford. Pitt shows the intel on a monitor.

MICHAEL ROCKFORD

There's been a withdrawal from the account in the Cayman Islands.

Pitt plays an audio recording of a phone call.

WALID AKAWI (O.S.)

(On phone) Highest denotations, in full 8PM.

BANKER (O.S.)

(On phone) I'm sorry sir but our policy is 72 hours for withdrawals of that size.

WALID AKAWI (O.S.)

Tell your manager the account number, he'll clear it.

Phone call ends. Dominic checks his watch.

DOMINIC LAWSON

We're too late.

Pitt turns on a marker on a map. A red dot flashes, showing Akawi's position leaving Cayman Islands arriving in CUBA.

KARL PITT

The bills were marked. A withdrawal of that size isn't payment, it's to regroup.

DOMINIC LAWSON

Why Cuba?

KARL PITT

Cuba and Iran have a decent relationship plus no one's looking for him there. He'll reorganize then try to complete his mission.

DOMINIC LAWSON

And Emma?

Pitt turns to Rorkford, 'how honest shall I be?'

MICHAEL RORKFORD

He's a grown man.

KARL PITT

She's either dead. Or will be used as leverage. Mai Xing trusts you, they know you can get close to her.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
I'm not killing Mai Xing.

KARL PITT  
You'll be persuaded otherwise.  
Iran's treatment of female hostages  
is brutal. Emma will suffer until  
you break. Which you will.

Dominic stands, tormented at thought of Emma being hurt.

MICHAEL RORKFORD  
We are not going to let that  
happen.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
Why are you helping me?

MICHAEL RORKFORD  
Beyond the fact that I'm alive  
because of your father? You're  
everything I want my son to be.

EXT. OUTSKIRTS, HAVANA, CUBA - MORNING

Suburb. Dominic in a jeep waiting by a store.

INT. STORE, HAVANA, CUBA - CONTINUOUS

Pitt dressed in local garb, bribes a shop keeper. They speak together in Spanish.

INT. JEEP, HAVANA, CUBA - MOMENTS LATER

Pitt gets in. Dominic pulls away.

KARL PITT  
Akawi's here. 40 miles east in the  
Baracoa rainforest.

EXT. GARDENS, COASTAL MANSION, CUBA - MORNING

Pitt talks to a unit of RORK agents, including Dominic.

KARL PITT  
Their camp is somewhere in this  
forty mile radius. It's a jungle  
terrain, so incursion will tough.

RORK AGENT  
Reaper mission sir?

KARL PITT  
Yes. Primary target is this man.

Images of WALID AKAWI on screen. Then images of Emma.

KARL PITT (CONT'D)  
Secondary is a hostage. A girl, 27,  
condition unknown.

RORK AGENT  
Permission to speak freely sir?

KARL PITT  
You know you can.

RORK AGENT  
I've done eleven tropical raids.  
Home advantage plays out every  
time. They'll know the terrain, the  
sounds, the smells. We'll put  
lights out for sure. But soon as  
they hear us coming, that girl's  
dead.

EXT. GARDENS, BEACH MANSION, CUBA - MOMENTS LATER

Dominic rushed, frustrated, stubbornly dials into a  
cellphone. Pitt follows him.

KARL PITT  
These are the best odds we got.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
No they're not. (Into phone)  
Jess I need a favour.

And we're... tight on an aircraft ramp being lowered.

EXT. AIRPORT, CUBA - NIGHT

The ramp lowers. Standing on board is Liden with the SAW and  
a nervous **AARON WOLKIS** (her old fiance).

Liden turns to Wolkis, who takes in the intimidating sight of  
several armed Rork mercenaries.

JESSICA LIDEN  
You ok darling?

Wolkis nods nervously.

E/I. COASTAL MANSION, CUBA - NIGHT

Rorkford enters with **ABE JUNG**, Rork scientist. The sound of video static. A crowd of people surround a monitor, including Dominic, Liden, Pitt and Wolkis.

On the monitor a home made VIDEO: *A figure tied to a chair, it's Emma, a shadow of her former self, bound and gagged.*

Dominic watching on, wants to turn away but can't.

ABE JUNG examines the SAW, in the back of the room.

VIDEO: *WALID enters frame, stands next to Emma.*

WALID AKAWI

You have 48 hours to kill Mai Xing.  
Failure will result in severe.

VIDEO: *Akawi slaps Emma hard across the face.*

WALID AKAWI (CONT'D)

Repeated.

VIDEO: *Akawi rips Emma's clothes from her body.*

WALID AKAWI (CONT'D)

Punishment.

The video ends.

ABE JUNG (O.S.)

What's the code?

Dominic visibly shaken, and Liden face Jung.

ABE JUNG (CONT'D)

There is an outer layer protecting  
the device, what is the code?

Dominic turns to Liden, she doesn't know it.

JESSICA LIDEN

The only person who knew was your  
father.

Frustrated, Dominic moves to the SAW, the numeric panel has an OAK TREE LOGO on it. Everyone waiting in anticipation.

Dominic thinks, then types in a code.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
Please work.

The SAW opens, twisting and turning. Everyone is overly relieved.

MICHAEL RORKFORD  
Good. Jung figure out how it works.

Liden takes Wolkis by the hand, leaving.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
You're not coming?

Liden exchanges a look with Rorkford, then faces Dominic.

JESSICA LIDEN  
They don't need me on this one.

Liden moves close to Dominic, she embraces him.

JESSICA LIDEN (CONT'D)  
When you get her back. Get out of the game and stay out.

KARL PITT  
(To all) Blades up in twenty.

MICHAEL RORKFORD  
Dom let's go.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
What?

MICHAEL RORKFORD  
I have a satellite feed in the Comms room. We'll watch the raid from there.

EXT. GARDENS, COASTAL MANSION, CUBA - NIGHT

An angry Dominic with Rorkford.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
I'm going you can't stop me.

MICHAEL RORKFORD  
Yes I can.

Pitt joins them.

KARL PITT  
Where's the shooter?

Dominic confused.

KARL PITT (CONT'D)  
You're under threat. Where's the  
shooter?

Dominic turns to the house. Top floor, second window from the left, a Rork Agent aiming his weapon. A red dot appears on Dominic's chest. Pitt gives a nod, the shooter stands down.

KARL PITT (CONT'D)  
Perception, instinct. They take  
decades to learn.

Pitt hands him an automatic rifle.

KARL PITT (CONT'D)  
As does mastering this. We have a  
higher probability of getting her  
out alive without you there.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
I am able.

KARL PITT  
Shoot the wind chime off the roof.

Dominic aims, fires, takes it down in a second. Pitt and Rorkford surprised.

MICHAEL RORKFORD  
You're STAYING.

EXT. GARDENS, COASTAL MANSION, CUBA - NIGHT

A Rork helicopter takes off. Dominic watching on, wanting to go with them.

INT. COMMS ROOM, COASTAL MANSION, CUBA - NIGHT

Dominic nervously watching the screen, which shows a satellite infrared image of the helicopter over the jungle.

Rorkford, a slight smile at Dominic's impatience.

RORK ANALYST  
Three minutes sir.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
Patch in the audio.

MICHAEL RORKFORD

No. Stay off the airways, the government doesn't know we're here.

On the infrared monitor: *The helicopter lands in a jungle clearing. Rork agents (marked in green) head into the jungle in pairs.*

RORK ANALYST

Here we go.

*The pairs approach a prison camp. Enemy targets in red, patrol the perimeter.*

RORK ANALYST (CONT'D)

That's our boys in green. Enemy targets in red. Payload is inbound.

*Flashing dot, highlights the SAW parachuted into the camp.*

*Rork agents in GREEN on the infrared, surround the camp. A prison block in the camp, in one of the rooms a hostage.*

DOMINIC LAWSON

That's a cell isn't it? That must be her.

*Enemy targets in RED, inquisitively surround the SAW, which fires.*

*Enemy targets drop to the ground. Rork agents enter the area, one heads straight for the prison cells and the hostage.*

DOMINIC LAWSON (CONT'D)

Who is that?

MICHAEL ROCKFORD

Pitt.

DOMINIC LAWSON

Come on, come on.

*Rork agent grabs the hostage, puts 'her' onto his shoulder and evacs.*

DOMINIC LAWSON (CONT'D)

Go go go!

*A small figure, unaffected by the SAW, approaches one of the 'Rork' agents.*

DOMINIC LAWSON (CONT'D)

Warn that guy! There's someone behind him.

EXT. LIBERIAN JUNGLE - MORNING

Flashback. Jungle raid opening sequence.

Stubbs turns to see a Liberian child next to him, confused. The boy is *chewing a mouthful of food*.

GAVIN STUBBS  
Go on. Get! Piss off.

INT. COMMS ROOM, COASTAL MANSION, CUBA - NIGHT

RORK ANALYST  
It's ok, it's just a child.

Rorkford smiles, an all knowing smile. (*Dominic is watching a recording of Rorkford's Liberia rescue - opening scene*).

EXT. HELIPAD, HAVANA - SUNRISE

The actual Rork helicopter lands. Pitt exits and is greeted warmly by WALID AKAWI. They embrace.

MICHAEL ROCKFORD (O.S.)  
Everything's under control.

Rork agents carry the SAW into the building. Jung with them. Akawi looks at the SAW 'so that's it'.

INT. BUILDING, HAVANA - SUNRISE

The SAW is open. It's black, exterior shell is being delicately taken apart by Jung. He sees beneath the numeric panel with the Oak Tree. Several red lasers point at it.

Jung shakes his head in awe, an amazing device.

ABE JUNG  
That's why we couldn't open it.  
There is no code, the numbers are  
irrelevant. Clever, clever man.

Pitt's men lift the SAW, minus it's black exterior shell, onto a table. The weapon looks 'naked', a hive of discs and wires.

Pitt checks his watch. Time to go.

EXT. HELIPAD, HAVANA - SUNRISE

Rork agents spray themselves with water and dirt, faking a 'sweaty' look. Akawi's men carry Emma, unconscious into the chopper. Akawi and Pitt embrace.

EXT. GARDENS, COASTAL MANSION, LIBERIA - SUNRISE

Dominic, excitedly waiting as the Rork helicopter lands.

Pitt exits, with Emma on a stretcher.

KARL PITT

They've had her sedated for some time. She's fine, we just need to get some fluids in her.

Rork agents pass Dominic and break into arrogant smiles.

DOMINIC LAWSON

I can't thank you enough. Did you get him? Akawi?

KARL PITT

He's dead.

Pitt hands Dominic a BLACK PILL. Dominic hates pills.

KARL PITT (CONT'D)

She got traces of Malaria in her blood. She's had one of these, you should take one as well.

Pitt gives him a water bottle, Dominic does his trick of pretending to swallow it and takes a swig of water.

EXT. PRIVATE JET - DAY

Establisher. Rockford's jet.

CNN NEWS ANCHOR (O.S.)

Anger today from Iran, who have accused China in playing a part in the disappearance of their Intelligence Director.

INT. BEDROOM, PRIVATE JET - CONTINUOUS

Monitor. CNN News broadcast, images of KHALID YOUSEF, Iran's Intelligence Director (same from video call earlier).

CNN NEWS ANCHOR  
 Khalid Yousef has been missing for  
 three days. This comes as  
 China's Foreign Minister, touches  
 down in Washington-

Dominic turns the TV off with a satisfied smile. Emma wakes.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
 Hey love.

EMMA GOODCHILD  
 Dom? Oh thank god. Where are we?  
 Where's Mom, where's Dad?

Dominic sits on the bed, holds her hand. Emma knows from his reaction they didn't make it. Dominic holds her as she cries.

INT. PRIVATE SECURITY, CITY AIRPORT, GREENWICH - AFTERNOON

Emma and Dominic going through private security checks. The alarm sounds for both of them.

A handheld metal detector swiped across Emma. It BEEPS over her stomach. She is patted down, nothing. She's let through.

Dominic is checked, the metal detector BEEPS over his pocket. The BLACK PILL he didn't swallow.

INT. TAXI, GREENWICH - NIGHT

Emma asleep on Dominic's shoulder. Dominic, a sudden thought, he takes the BLACK PILL from his pocket.

INT. OBSERVATION ROOM, CIA OUTPOST, VERMONT - DAY

Flashback (earlier scene). Klein with Roe, Dominic, Chen and Mai Xing, looking at SAIF through the glass.

WALID AKAWI (O.S.)  
 I trust Saif Al Wadi has been  
 useful?

The 'click' of a switch. In the interrogation room, Saif suddenly falls over clutching his stomach in pain. He dies.

INT. TAXI, GREENWICH - NIGHT

Present. Dominic thinks, then wakes Emma.

DOMINIC LAWSON

Babe. Wake up. Did you take one of these? Did you take any pills?

EMMA GOODCHILD

I don't remember.

DOMINIC LAWSON

Driver nearest hospital please.

EMMA GOODCHILD

What's going on?

DOMINIC LAWSON

Just a precaution.

INT. WAITING ROOM, HOSPITAL, GREENWICH - NIGHT

Dominic alone in the waiting room. A DOCTOR enters.

DOCTOR

You were right.

He hands Dominic a glass tube with the BLACK PILL in it.

DOCTOR (CONT'D)

It's definitely metal. Easy enough to swallow. Difficult to get out though, it had latched onto her stomach lining. Could have stayed in there for years.

INT. LAWSON RESIDENCE, GREENWICH - NIGHT

Dominic carrying Emma inside.

Later. Dominic puts logs on the fire and covers Emma with a blanket on the sofa. Dominic goes to move.

EMMA GOODCHILD

No. Stay, stay close to me.

Dominic sits with Emma who falls back asleep. Dominic stares at flames in the fire. And we...

EXT. COASTAL MANSION, LIBERIA - DAY

Flashback (earlier scene). Pitt gives Dominic the BLACK PILL to swallow.

INT. LIVING ROOM, LAWSON RESIDENCE, GREENWICH - NIGHT

Present. Dominic stares at the fire. And we're visualizing his thoughts.

INT. RANDOM - DAY

Dominic's imagination. Akawi gives Saif Al Wadi a BLACK PILL to swallow with water.

INT. LIVING ROOM, LAWSON RESIDENCE, GREENWICH - NIGHT

Present. Dominic in thought.

INT. RANDOM - DAY

Dominic's imagination. Pitt gives Akawi a load of equipment, including a box of BLACK PILLS. Akawi with Pitt and Rorkford. All three of them face Dominic (camera).

INT. HOTEL, NYC - DAY

Flashback (earlier scene). Rorkford talking to Dominic.

MICHAEL RORKFORD  
We're expanding into intelligence.

INT. LIVING ROOM, LAWSON RESIDENCE, GREENWICH - NIGHT

Present. Dominic in thought, realization.

INT. DINING ROOM, CIA HQ, NYC - AFTERNOON

Flashback (earlier scene). Rorkford addresses Roe.

MICHAEL RORKFORD  
You're the elite, as long as you're  
in business, we'll take your lead.

INT. LIVING ROOM, LAWSON RESIDENCE, GREENWICH - NIGHT

Dominic in thought.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
Why go to all this trouble?

INT. RANDOM - DAY

Dominic's imagination. Akawi, Pitt and Rorkford face Dominic (camera). Now MAI XING is standing with them.

INT. LIVING ROOM, LAWSON RESIDENCE, GREENWICH - NIGHT

Present. Dominic in thought, he rubs his eyes.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
No. That makes no sense.

Dominic holds the black pill. Thinking.

DOMINIC LAWSON (CONT'D)  
Why not kill me ages ago?

EXT. BEACH, BARBADOS - DAY

Flashback. Earlier scene. Edgar hugs Dominic. He pulls back and holds Dominic's hand, turning it palm up.

EDGAR LAWSON  
You are the key to everything I  
hold dear. Don't waste it.

INT. COASTAL MANSION, CUBA - NIGHT

Jung standing by the SAW. Dominic just finished watching the video of Akawi/Emma.

ABE JUNG  
There is an outer layer protecting  
the device, what is the code?

Tight on the OAK TREE logo on the device.

EXT. FRONT GATES, LAWSON ESTATE, GREENWICH - DAY

Flashback (earlier scene). Emma at the gate typing a code into the security panel, with the OAK TREE logo. The code doesn't work.

EXT. FRONT GATES, LAWSON ESTATE, GREENWICH - NIGHT

Present. Blustery night. Dominic with a flash light, running toward the gate.

The panel on the security system. Dominic holds his hand down on the panel, without typing in a code. The gate opens.

Dominic rips the front off the security panel. A series of red lasers, pointing at where the numeric panel used to be. Dominic puts his hand in them. The gate CLOSES.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
DNA! Dad, you locked it with our  
DNA.

INT. MANSION, HAVANA, CUBA - AFTERNOON

Dominic unlocks the SAW for Rockford and Jung.

DOMINIC LAWSON (O.S.)  
And I opened it for him.

INT. KITCHEN, LAWSON RESIDENCE, GREENWICH - NIGHT

Dominic dials a number on the phone. On the kitchen table, the glass box with the two black pills.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
(On the phone) It's me. I want to  
get the team back together. We're  
going to rebuild Nexus.

Dominic puts the phone down and stares at the black pills.

Sunrise... Dominic wakes up, still sitting at the table. He looks at the black pills; both have secreted their poisonous liquid.

DOMINIC LAWSON (CONT'D)  
Bitch.

E/I. LIDEN'S HOUSE, NEW YORK - MORNING

Liden carrying groceries arrives home and enters. In a split second she withdraws a pistol and points it at Stubbs in the doorway.

DOMINIC LAWSON (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
Ah ah ah. Put that down.

She hasn't seen Dominic in the living room, pistol pointed at Aaron Wolkis who is gagged and tied to a chair.

GAVIN STUBBS  
Now we all know how good you are  
with a gun.  
(MORE)

GAVIN STUBBS (CONT'D)

So put that down before you make me  
panic and I shoot you in your two  
faced cunt.

INT. LIVING ROOM, LIDEN'S HOUSE - AFTERNOON

Liden sits talking to Dominic and Stubbs. Aaron Wolkis still  
gagged, tied to a chair.

JESSICA LIDEN

It's war, just on a smaller scale.  
He tested our capabilities in  
Liberia. We showed him our arsenal.  
Then they took us out, one by one.

DOMINIC LAWSON

Mai Xing wasn't the target, Nexus  
was.

JESSICA LIDEN

She is now. Create a problem in one  
hand with Blacksun. Provide the  
solution in the other with Rork.  
And remove the competition from the  
largest defense contract of all  
time. China.

Dominic, emotion getting to him. Angry.

DOMINIC LAWSON

Why Emma? Why kill her parents?

JESSICA LIDEN

He needed you to open the SAW.  
Willingly.

GAVIN STUBBS

I trusted you. Nathan trusted you.  
We've bled together.

Liden stares at Wolkis in the chair.

JESSICA LIDEN

I wanted out. A life again, a  
family, children.

DOMINIC LAWSON

You could have just quit.

JESSICA LIDEN

No one walks from this. You know,  
you know already, you're in it for  
life.

(MORE)

JESSICA LIDEN (CONT'D)  
 Rorkford gave me the push I needed.  
 A life in Israel, anonymity for us  
 both. I didn't know it would  
 escalate to this.

Stubbs has heard enough. He loads his pistol. Liden stares at  
 Wolkis, she shakes her head crying.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
 You love him? He's your family yes?

Liden knows what's coming, she cries nodding.

JESSICA LIDEN  
 (To Wolkis) I'm so sorry.

**BANG BANG BANG.** Dominic shoots Wolkis in the chest and kicks  
 over his chair. Liden cries.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
 Now you know what it's like. And I  
 know, you won't tell Rorkford we're  
 gunning for him.

Dominic cuts her binds and leaves. Liden rushes to Wolkis,  
 there's no blood; beneath his clothes an Arcolan bullet proof  
 suit.

EXT. GARDEN, KLEIN'S HOUSE, NEW JERSEY - AFTERNOON

Emma playing in the garden with Klein's two young sons. Klein  
 with Stubbs gives Dominic and Emma a private moment.

RICHARD KLEIN  
 Come on kids, supper time.

Dominic and Emma together, Emma trying to hold it together.

EMMA GOODCHILD  
 I don't agree with this. In fact  
 you're not going, I won't allow it.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
 He's a good man. You'll be safe.

EMMA GOODCHILD  
 He's in the CIA why isn't he going?

DOMINIC LAWSON  
 That's what Rorkford wants. To  
 start a war.

EMMA GOODCHILD

You're a professor, what are you gonna do, lecture them to death?

Dominic smiles.

EMMA GOODCHILD (CONT'D)

Don't you smile at me Dominic Lawson. I'm going to be your wife, you will do as you're told.

Dominic kisses Emma, her guard falls. Her eyes well up.

EMMA GOODCHILD (CONT'D)

I have lost my Mom and Dad. You're all I have to live for. It's not your responsibility.

DOMINIC LAWSON

That's the whole point.

EMMA GOODCHILD

You know who you sound like?

Dominic smiles, happy with the comparison to his father.

GAVIN STUBBS (O.S.)

Come on you two we got the world to save.

Klein's children run back into the garden.

GAVIN STUBBS (CONT'D)

Maybe we should recruit these two.

RICHARD KLEIN

You can't afford them.

GAVIN STUBBS

Be useful against that machine.

DOMINIC LAWSON

What do you mean?

GAVIN STUBBS

It doesn't work on kids.

EMMA GOODCHILD

The 'SAW'? It has to. (To Dominic) You said it works by sending out a low frequency vibration right?

Dominic nods.

EMMA GOODCHILD (CONT'D)  
 Children have the same liquid  
 capsule in the inner ear as adults  
 do.

And we're... On a laptop. Google: Fassama Jungle, Liberia.

GAVIN STUBBS (O.S.)  
 That's the place.

INT. LIVING ROOM, KLEIN'S HOUSE - DAY

Dominic, Stubbs and Emma on a laptop.

EMMA GOODCHILD  
 I'm telling you, it would affect  
 children the same way it would  
 adults.

INSERT CUT: The unaffected child in Liberia. A *MOUTHFUL OF  
 FOOD*, holding plant leaves.

GAVIN STUBBS  
 Well maybe just fat ones with a  
 mouth full of food.

Emma thinks, she types into Google: Images of local children  
 eating leaves from the **FICUS ELASTICA** 'Jungle RUBBER TREE'.

EMMA GOODCHILD  
 Ha. I'm a genius.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
 Yes you are.

Emma turns to Stubbs, still confused.

EMMA GOODCHILD  
 The vibrations from the SAW are  
 transferred through your teeth to  
 your inner ear. Teeth can't absorb  
 shock, there's no give. But, those  
 kids were chewing rubber plant  
 leaves.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
 You know what they say. A mouthful  
 of rubber, stops a billion dollar  
 weapon from working.

GAVIN STUBBS  
 Smart arses the pair of you.

EXT. HOTEL, WASHINGTON - MORNING

A fedex delivery man, enters the hotel holding a parcel.

INT. HOTEL, WASHINGTON - MORNING

The parcel addressed to MAI XING, is opened and checked by a Rork agent. He lets it through.

INT. HOTEL ROOM, WASHINGTON - MORNING

Mai Xing in a bathrobe receives the package. Hanging on the wall an elegant dress. She reads a greeting card:

*Cartoon Image of KING KONG on top of the Empire State building. A hand written note on the card:*

**'If only he had sat still and watched the world go by.'**

Mai Xing holding the package labelled oral hygiene. Binocular POV, spying on Mai Xing as she opens the package.

INT. EMPTY HIGH RISE OFFICE, WASHINGTON - MORNING

Dominic and Stubbs, with binoculars watching Mai Xing.

DOMINIC LAWSON

She's got it. You sure your man can get us in?

GAVIN STUBBS

Trust me it's covered. It's Camp David not the bloody Oscars.

Dominic and Stubbs have maps of Camp David laid out.

DOMINIC LAWSON

What's Rorkford's play here? Kill Xing on US soil, blame it on Iran, China retaliates?

GAVIN STUBBS

Whatever justifies a military response. We'll just have to see how it plays out.

EXT. WASHINGTON - AFTERNOON

Dominic and Stubbs load a jeep. Stubbs checks his watch.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
Let's get on the road.

GAVIN STUBBS  
Patience.

DOMINIC LAWSON  
I just can't wait to get going. The two of us, against the US military, Rork mercenaries and a few suicidal Iranian terrorists. Best of all, you're my date to the ball.

A second jeep arrives. Stubbs smiles as someone exits.

GAVIN STUBBS  
I don't think so kid, my date's just arrived.

EXT. CAMP DAVID, MARYLAND - SUNSET

Guests in black tie exit the house into the gardens for a cocktail reception. Rows of chairs lined up facing a stage.

Rork agents (all in black shirts and black ties) and Navy Seals (in military uniform) guard the perimeter.

Mai Xing and Rorkford are greeted by the US Secretary of Defense **KIMBERLY MONROE**. Pitt, close by.

MICHAEL ROCKFORD  
Secretary of Defense, may I introduce the Foreign Minister for China.

MAI XING  
Thank you so much for your hospitality.

KIMBERLY MONROE  
Oh please. Given what happened in New York, I figured you could do with a night off. We'll save the mess that is Iran for breakfast.

And we're hearing a grand Chinese Opera...

EXT. CAMP DAVID, MARYLAND - NIGHT

The seated audience watching a Chinese opera on stage in the gardens. Mai Xing and Kimberly Monroe in the front row.

INT. SECURITY ROOM, CAMP DAVID, MARYLAND - NIGHT

High tech security room. Pitt, holding a coffee mug, overseeing security with several Rork agents and CIA agents.

EXT. CAMP DAVID, MARYLAND - NIGHT

The Opera drawing to a close, the performers reach their crescendo. Extras in chinese OPERA MASKS and costume get on stage for the big finale.

INT. SECURITY ROOM, CAMP DAVID, MARYLAND - NIGHT

Pitt exits. Leaving his coffee mug on a desk.

EXT. CAMP DAVID, MARYLAND - NIGHT

WHOOSH. Pyrotechnic flares on stage. The audience 'wows' in appreciation. Mai Xing applauds with Kimberly Monroe.

INT. SECURITY ROOM, CAMP DAVID, MARYLAND - NIGHT

An EMP blasts from Pitt's coffee mug. Everything shuts down.

EXT. CAMP DAVID, MARYLAND - NIGHT

The MASKED EXTRAS stop performing and reach into the sets on stage, finding weapons.

The lead tenor belts out an enormous note. The crowd applaud. **BANG BANG**. He's executed. In a split second, three of the masked extras have leapt off stage and grabbed MAI XING.

Rork agents leap to MAI XING's defense, but are unable to do anything as she's dragged on stage at gun point.

Rorkford watching on as commotion spreads throughout the audience. SPRAY OF GUNFIRE. The lead MASKED EXTRA ushers the audience to be quiet.

Two Rork agents are gunned down. Rorkford watching on, this is his playbook. The lead MASKED EXTRA has MAI XING on stage, a gun to her head. Three Navy Seals approach.

KIMBERLY MONROE

Wait!

They stop, knowing Mai Xing will be killed. A stand off. The crowd watching on.

Rorkford finds a SAW VISOR under his seat and puts it on.

KIMBERLY MONROE (CONT'D)  
What do you want?

MASKED EXTRA  
To punish my enemy.

Elsewhere. Behind a jeep in the grounds. Jung activates the SAW (minus it's exterior covering). Pitt with several Rork agents, all wearing SAW visors.

Back to Rorkford, SAW visor on.

MASKED EXTRA (CONT'D)  
For the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The escalating hum of the SAW, which reaches it's peak and fires.

Everyone drops to the ground clutching their heads, except for Rockford and the lead masked extra on stage, who removes his mask, it's Akawi wearing a SAW VISOR beneath his mask.

Pitt and Jung approach. Jung checks a member of the audience on the ground, reeling from the SAW pulse.

ABE JUNG  
Optimal effect. They can't hear or see you.

MICHAEL ROCKFORD  
Comms?

INT. SECURITY ROOM, CAMP DAVID, MARYLAND - NIGHT

The comms are down from Pitts EMP coffee mug. US staff and CIA agents on the ground, incapacitated by the SAW pulse.

ABE JUNG (O.S.)  
They're down too.

EXT. CAMP DAVID, MARYLAND - NIGHT

A black Mercedes JEEP enters the area, driven by several Rork agents wearing an SAW VISORS.

KARL PITT  
We have complete blackout for fifteen minutes.

MICHAEL RORKFORD

Let's get to it. Pack the car. Kill the rest.

The RORK agents pick up MAI XING and several MASKED EXTRAS, putting them in the jeep. In the back seat, unconscious, is KHALID YOUSEF, Iran's 'missing' Intelligence Director.

Akawi executes his fellow Blacksun terrorists, unable to move from the SAW, dressed as masked extras on stage.

Pitt gets in the JEEP with MAI XING and KHALED YOUSEF, drives it twenty meters across the grass and hand break turns, so it flips on it's side. He leaps out of the overturned car.

Rorkford watching on. The puppet master in his element. Akawi approaches Kimberly Monroe on the floor.

WALID AKAWI

This one?

MICHAEL RORKFORD

Kill her.

DOMINIC LAWSON (O.S.)

I wouldn't do that.

Dominic wearing a SAW VISOR stands from the middle of the incapacitated audience. He removes his visor.

MICHAEL RORKFORD

The prodigal son returns.

Stubbs, wearing a SAW visor has quietly made his way to the overturned jeep. Unseen by Pitt, he drags MAI XING out through a smashed window.

DOMINIC LAWSON

So this is modern war?

MICHAEL RORKFORD

Yes it is. I wish I could take full credit for it, but orchestration has been around for centuries. The Saxons invented it, pay someone to attack you, so retaliation is justified. The British mastered it in India in the 19th century. We used 9/11 to invade Iraq.

Rorkford puts his hands in the air, playing the victim.

MICHAEL ROCKFORD

'We're just defending ourselves.'

Pitt aims a grenade launcher at the overturned JEEP. Rorkford gives the nod. He fires. BOOM. It explodes.

MICHAEL RORKFORD

There are 8 million Israelis that will cry tears of relief, when China takes down Iran.

DOMINIC LAWSON

With you at the heart of it.

MICHAEL RORKFORD

The future is private warfare. I'd rather my client was the Chinese, than the Americans who can't afford to feed themselves. Patriotism is dead, there's no more them against us. North Korea? I'll deal with them. Syria? I'd have democracy installed in an afternoon. The giant mess that is Africa? Congo? Somalia? Sierra Leone? Decades of murder, rape and torture. It'll all change when boys go in.

Akawi about execute Kimberly Monroe.

DOMINIC LAWSON

WAIT. I have a trade for you.

MICHAEL RORKFORD

You have nothing I want, not anymore.

DOMINIC LAWSON

Monroe for your son. Jonah.

EXT. AIRPORT, WASHINGTON - DAY

Flashback (earlier scene). Following the jungle rescue, Rorkford is reunited with his son **JONAH RORKFORD**, 18.

EXT. CAMP DAVID, MARYLAND - NIGHT

Present. Rorkford eyes Dominic, is he serious?

MICHAEL RORKFORD

Don't test me boy.

DOMINIC LAWSON

I leave with Monroe and I'll tell you where he is. Tell your gym monkey to head south west.

Rorkford, frustrated nods at Akawi who leaves. Rorkford aims a pistol at Dominic, who points up, toward the sky.

DOMINIC LAWSON (CONT'D)

Satellites. I've learnt a lot about espionage, but this trick I got from you. Everything you're doing is being relayed to a comms room, where your son is unconscious, surrounded by evidence linking you to Blacksun.

MICHAEL ROCKFORD

Evidence? You have nothing.

DOMINIC LAWSON

I didn't say it was real evidence. What was that long word you just used? Orchestration?

Dominic throws Rorkford his phone. A video file: *JONAH, bound and gagged, sitting in front of a comms center.*

MICHAEL RORKFORD

Where is he?

DOMINIC LAWSON

Four Seasons. Room 140.

A Rork agent dials a number, instructing Akawi where to go.

Pitt approaches Rorkford. Dominic moves to pick up Kimberly Monroe.

MICHAEL RORKFORD

That's the thing about a 'trade', you're meant to do it at the same time.

DOMINIC LAWSON

I've got what I needed.

Rorkford turns to Pitt.

MICHAEL RORKFORD

Kill him, then kill her. We've wasted enough time.

Pitt aims his pistol at Dominic.

DOMINIC LAWSON

You're under threat. Where's the shooter?

**BANG.** Pitt is shot from behind, by a very conscious MAI XING.

**TAP TAP TAP.** Three RORK agents are gunned down by Stubbs. Rorkford, stunned, he looks at MAI XING, the entire audience still paralyzed from the SAW pulse.

MICHAEL ROCKFORD

What?! Why didn't it work on you?

E/I. FOUR SEASONS HOTEL - NIGHT

Akawi arrives and runs through the lobby, heading upstairs.

EXT. CAMP DAVID, MARYLAND - NIGHT

Mai Xing, Dominic and Stubbs. Mai Xing pulls out a clear, rubber set of denture covers from her mouth. Rorkford watching on confused.

DOMINIC LAWSON

You must have a set of denture covers given your age? Rubber ones, very good shock absorbers I hear.

EXT. FOUR SEASONS HOTEL - NIGHT

Police cars speed into the area. Officers exit their vehicles and head toward the hotel.

EXT. CAMP DAVID, MARYLAND - NIGHT

Mai Xing, Dominic, Stubbs and Rorkford, who backs away from the group, heading into the surrounding woodland. Stubbs takes out two arriving Rork agents.

Dominic follows Rorkford.

MICHAEL RORKFORD

I have something else to trade. You want to know what really happened to your father?

WHOOSH. A firework display set on a timer, lights the sky.

INT. ROOM 140, FOUR SEASONS HOTEL - NIGHT

Akawi enters the room. A hostage, tied and gagged sitting in front of the comms system. Akawi puts his hand on the hostage... It's NATHAN ROE, face heavily scared.

NATHAN ROE

I said I'd break your neck.

**CRACK, CRACK, CRACK.** Roe slams several strikes into Akawi. In lightening succession, Akawi is nailed with strike after strike, until Roe sweeps his legs, slamming him to the floor.

Akawi face down, Roe drops his knee into the back of Akawi's neck. **SNAP.** He's dead.

EXT. CAMP DAVID, MARYLAND - NIGHT

Fireworks light the sky. Dominic weapon raised at Rorkford, both entering the woods.

MICHAEL RORKFORD

That's what you want? To know who Edgar really was?

INT. CORRIDOR, FOUR SEASONS HOTEL - NIGHT

Police sprinting up the stairwell. More exit the elevators.

INT. ROOM 140, FOUR SEASONS HOTEL - NIGHT

Roe hears the footsteps. He smashes the glass wall panel, over looking the city below. Roe uses a controller on his forearm and leaps out, just as the police enter.

EXT. FOUR SEASONS HOTEL - NIGHT

Mid air. Roe, balancing like a surfer, his fall to the ground is slowed. On the ground, several MAGNO DISCS. Using the controller, he lands safely and casually walks off.

INT. ROOM 140, FOUR SEASONS HOTEL - NIGHT

The police find Akawi dead with a comms system full of intel.

EXT. WOODS, CAMP DAVID, MARYLAND - NIGHT

Dominic with Rorkford. The fireworks, momentarily light their faces in the woods.

MICHAEL RORKFORD

You think your father's little crusade to save humanity was all because of your mother?

DOMINIC LAWSON

Careful now.

MICHAEL ROCKFORD

He and I used to be friends, way back when you were in diapers. Then he disappeared on me. But I knew, I knew he would leave me to die in some jungle. You see, he owed me.

DOMINIC LAWSON

What are you talking about?

MICHAEL ROCKFORD

You really think he made all his money selling Aspirin? His hands were bloodier than mine. And that's why they took your mother.

Dominic taken a back. He lowers his weapon.

DOMINIC LAWSON

What?

Rorkford's hand reaches behind his back, finding a pistol.

MICHAEL ROCKFORD

Your mother was taken in Kosovo because of him. The people he betrayed wanted payback so they took her. And now, he has you, running around the world, making up for the things he's done.

Rorkford has his hand on the pistol. Dominic, unaware.

MICHAEL ROCKFORD (CONT'D)

He was a bad man who, in the end, merely adopted morality. But, I haven't made that mistake-

**BANG.** Rorkford goes to shoot Dominic, but is shot from behind. The echoing sound of a long distance rifle.

A red sniper dot. Hovers over Rorkford's dead body. Then moves toward Dominic, onto his chest. Dominic raises his hands. He can't see the shooter.

DOMINIC LAWSON

Thank you Jess. You're out now.  
Stay out.

The red dot moves onto Dominic's open palm. Then disappears. The fireworks continue. On the final bang, we...

INT. BAR, GREENWICH - DAY

Three pints of beer are slammed down on a table. An empty bar. Roe, Dominic and Stubbs drink together in a comfortable silence.

The bar door opens. We follow a set of elegant high heels to the table. A bottle of SAKI is put down with four shot glasses. Mai Xing dressed casually pours each of them a shot.

MAI XING

Well gentlemen. You have some  
rebuilding to do.

GAVIN STUBBS

(To Dominic) And training, I don't  
work with Rookies.

Stubbs and Dominic smile. Dominic faces Roe.

NATHAN ROE

It's your decision.

DOMINIC LAWSON

We'll rebuild.

INT. KITCHEN, LAWSON RESIDENCE, GREENWICH - AFTERNOON

Emma and Dominic preparing a roast dinner.

DOMINIC LAWSON (O.S.)

With a few improvements.

INT. LIVING ROOM, LAWSON RESIDENCE, GREENWICH - AFTERNOON

Emma enters holding a roast chicken. Roe and Stubbs waiting to take their seats. Four extra places laid out.

GAVIN STUBBS

Who's joining us?

The door bell chimes.

INT. FRONT DOOR, LAWSON RESIDENCE, GREENWICH - CONTINUOUS

Dominic opens the door to Klein, who has with him:

Roe's estranged family: his daughter **KATHERINE**, holding her son **JOSH**.

Stubbs's estranged wife: **AMANDA**.

They enter, unsure why they are there. Stubbs and Roe emerge and are shocked to see their families. Beat.

Dominic and Emma watch on, as Roe and Stubbs embrace their loved ones who cry happy tears of joy and confusion.

KATHERINE ROE

You're alive?

Stubbs, so full of bravado is reduced to a teary eyed husband, holding his wife. Dominic with Emma, proudly watching on.

DOMINIC LAWSON (O.S.)

Nexus was founded on morality.

INT. EDGAR'S BEDROOM, LAWSON RESIDENCE - AFTERNOON

Flashback. Dominic and Emma unpacking their things into Dominic's parents bedroom.

DOMINIC LAWSON (O.S.)

Always choosing to do the right thing.

INT. EDGAR'S STUDY, LAWSON RESIDENCE - AFTERNOON

Dominic stands in front of the family portrait. His parents.

DOMINIC LAWSON (O.S.)

So why turn our backs on that which guides morality?

INT. DINING ROOM, LAWSON RESIDENCE - NIGHT

Present. Roe, Stubbs, Dominic with their families, eating, drinking.

DOMINIC LAWSON (O.S.)  
Family.

EXT. DRIVEWAY, LAWSON RESIDENCE - NIGHT

Stubbs and his wife drive away. Roe's car has Katherine and Josh inside.

Dominic and Roe together. Roe stares at Dominic, proud, appreciative. No need to say anything, they simply nod at one another.

INT. EDGAR'S BEDROOM, LAWSON RESIDENCE - EARLY SUNRISE

Dominic and Emma in bed. Emma asleep. Dominic awake, deep in thought. He looks at the palm of his hand, sits up, then looks out the window towards the Oak Tree.

INT. KITCHEN, LAWSON RESIDENCE, GREENWICH - MORNING

Emma in a dressing gown, puts water in the kettle. She sees something in the garden under the Oak Tree.

EXT. GARDEN, LAWSON ESTATE - MORNING

Emma approaching the tombstones. Dominic, sitting, motionless by Edgar's grave. A pile of earth. Dominic has dug the coffin out of the ground.

Emma, concerned, reaches Dominic. He doesn't move, he can't.

Edgar's coffin is empty.

THE END.

A B S E N C E   O F   W A R