

CAMDEN

By Lucas Carter

EXT. BLUE RIDGE MOUNTAINS - DAWN

Virginia coal country.

The grey skyline comes to life as a bitter winter day begins.

A CRAWL BLEEDS IN --

23-year-old Sergeant Bowe Bergahl is the only known American prisoner of war.

Christmas, 2009, the Haqqani Network released video footage of a captive Bergdahl.

For three years, secret negotiations were ongoing between the State department, the family, and Haqqani over a proposed prisoner exchange.

In 2012, the talks stopped. The family, finally, broke their silence.

CRAWL FADES --

From the woods, a winding foot path runs towards the lens. A rusted mailbox sits to our immediate left.

MAN, 40's, emerges from the distant wooded path-- walks towards the mailbox. We never see his face.

CRAWL RESUMES --

"We are not using this as a proof-of-life video," Colonel Wayne Shanks, a NATO spokesman said.

"It's still to be determined when it was made, but it could have been made even several months ago. It has a lot of editing pieces."

-- WORDS FADE as Man reaches the mailbox.

Inside is a single, crisp letter. He stares at the return address: Fort Hood.

Muted, he grips the letter. Man stares at the skyline turning orange. Anything, but opening this letter.

CRAWL RESUMES --

"You don't leave something like this to government officials," Mr. Bergdahl, the POW's father, said in an interview with The New York Times.

"Why wouldn't a father do this? This is my job."

-- WORDS FADE OUT.

Man opens the letter, stares at the opening sentence: INITIAL CASUALTY REPORT.

Suddenly, Man collapses. As his body hits dirt --

BLACK.

TITLE: CAMDEN

INT. DORM ROOM - MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT

A box of a room with bleak, college-issued furniture.

THOMAS, 22, ripped, positions his feet between a closet mounted pull-up bar and the door frame.

He hangs upside down for several seconds.

Thomas begins doing INVERTED AIR CREW RSS SIT-UPS. He accelerates the pace -- upside down.

LATER --

Thomas does PYLOMETRIC PUSHUPS -- lifting himself upwards with one arm while landing on the opposite, which is now raised one foot off the ground.

LATER --

Thomas does a FULL PLANCHE -- holding himself inverted with just his hands. He is calm in this position.

This is ritual.

His phone buzzes with an SMS message:

Avi to Thomas: here

Thomas looks out the window to AVI, 22, his closest friend, a double Chemistry-Pharmacology major born to engineer dorm room RX and manipulate combustible chemicals.

Thomas to Eve: leaving

Thomas puts the phone down, fastens his SEALINE DRY SACK and silently repels down the rusty fire escape.

INT. DORMITORY BATHROOM - SAME TIME

EVE, 22, gets Thomas' SMS. Eve's a recluse, an insomniac, and the smartest person in the room.

With Eve is HALLIE, 22, always under the influence, chain smokes, often misuses vocabulary.

Hallie exits. Eve closes the window but slides a cigarette package cellophane under the pane so it's not fully shut.

EXT. IVY COVERED COLLEGE DORMITORY - NIGHT

A three story college dormitory sits atop a hill.

Tonight, however, this is anything but a quiet academic setting.

COUNTER ASSAULT TEAMS (CAT) patrol the grounds as PRESIDENTIAL PROTECTION DIVISION (PPD) marked patrol cars sweep campus roads.

INT. IVY-COVERED COLLEGE DORMITORY - FIRE ESCAPE - CONT'D

Eve and Hallie ascend the metal railings, drop three feet to the ground and skip into the woods.

EXT. TUDOR COLLEGE DORMITORY - CONT'D

Thomas and Avi wait in silence as a PPD PATROL CAR slowly circles the winding driveway.

They run into the woods as a second searchlight scans their path just after they disappear into darkness.

THOMAS (V.O.)

All the moments. Put them together.
They're meant to be something.
Memories enemies lies mistakes.
Love. All of it...into
something...But I can't.

Thomas disappears into the thick woods --

THOMAS (V.O.)

Because none of this ever happened
to me.

EXT. GREAT LAWN - CONT'D

Eve and Hallie slip down a wet grass bank which becomes a defacto SLIP N' SLIDE via sprinklers.

To their immediate right, a 50' drop to thrashing waves.

EXT. CAMPUS WOODS - CONT'D

Avi and Thomas quietly run alongside a creek's edge. The running water drowns out their footsteps as they jog to where the river seemingly drops off the horizon.

THOMAS (V.O.)

In 24 hours, I'll never see you again.

EXT. COASTAL BLUFF - CONT'D

From jet black --

-- Eve and Hallie emerge from the woods and carefully climb up the side of the rocky bluff which ends at the creek's mouth.

They pause as the lighthouse beacon illuminates the path at their feet.

EXT. CLIFF TOP - CONT'D

We follow the creek's water as it spills over the edge of a 75' SHEER ROCK FACE into the Atlantic Ocean.

Avi and Thomas reach the edge of campus, Avi very out of breath.

From behind them come Eve and Hallie-- who pause at the incredible distance to water.

AVI

Right...This is an awesome place to die.

HALLIE

People've been jumping off this rock since the Mayflower.

AVI

The same people believed women were witches if they couldn't walk on water...This exact body of water.

BEAT.

HALLIE

It's a big drop...

Thomas takes out the watertight clear bag and drops in his PETZL headlight, creating a waterproof lantern.

In the bag are two towels, boxed wine, and cigarettes. Thomas catches air in the bag before sealing it, now a glowing makeshift flotation device.

Hallie takes off her shirt and shorts, puts them in the bag.

Avi quickly follows, but also removes his boxer shorts and places them on his head-- commando.

HALLIE (CONT'D)

And that's entirely unnecessary.

She removes her clothes, as does Thomas, who slides on a wetsuit undershirt.

Thomas' tosses the bag over the edge-- it DRIFTS DOWN FOR FIVE SECONDS before hitting the water.

They take a step forward, leaning into the wind to keep from blowing backwards.

THOMAS

Three.

He takes Eve's hand.

EVE

Two.

Everyone locks hands, brace for the jump.

Eve looks at Thomas. Thomas looks at Eve, who smiles. There is nothing beyond them right now.

THOMAS

One.

In the blink of an eye, THEY DROP OUT OF FRAME --

THOMAS (V.O.)

Eve. For the record. This is who I am.

SILENCE --

-- We watch the four bodies, almost peacefully, charging towards point of impact.

Thomas crosses his arm and legs-- keeping himself streamlined, hitting the water with little resistance.

CRASH --

-- All we see is the swirling ocean for a beat until the kids surface.

Avi yelps as they swim towards the glowing watertight bag.

EXT. OCEAN SURFACE - CONT'D

Via SEAL COMBAT SIDESTROKE, Thomas solely propels the foursome towards a 12' O'DAY SAILBOAT in green and white Camden colors.

Thomas helps them onboard before hoisting himself over the bow with one arm.

INT. SAILBOAT DECK - CONT'D

Eve quietly raises the mainsail; catches wind and takes off into the night on open water-- zero ambient light.

EXT. ATLANTIC OCEAN/OPEN WATER - CONT'D

Thomas turns on a portable Xenon lantern. Hallie opens the boxed wine. Circulation is slowly returning to their limbs.

Avi lights a spliff, uses the cherry to ignite the wick of a homemade bottle rocket rubber banded to a chopstick.

In place of a bottle, Avi holds the firework in his hand as the fuse burns-- angling it parallel to the waves.

ZIP --

-- Just before it explodes, Avi releases the rocket which skims across the ocean surface. Seconds later, it explodes into a burst of white light.

It's pretty uneventful. Hallie takes the spliff, inhales.

HALLIE

Fail.

She exhales.

BEAT.

This is what they risked expulsion, if not broken bones for--
to float in silence, a final night together.

From darkness, GOLDEN HOUR BREAKS--

EVE

I'll never stop missing this. And I
won't forget everything you guys
did for me.

Thomas stares at Eve, she turns, stays on Thomas.

EVE (CONT'D)

Ask anyone in my family, any doctor
they sent me to...I was never
supposed to be here tonight.

FLASHBACK:

INT. DORM ROOM - DAY

First day of college. Four years ago.

EVE (V.O.)

You got me here.

Eve unpacks, all alone for the first time. The door is
partially open-- something passes by and knocks it closed.

She turns, opens the door revealing Thomas, with his parents
moving in down the hall.

He turns back, sees Eve, just a passing second.

Hold on that image-- the moment Thomas met Eve, and Eve met
Thomas.

END FLASHBACK.

EXT. SAILBOAT - GOLDEN HOUR

Pull back and reveal-- CAMDEN, MAINE, a small coastal city
that houses the elite liberal arts college CAMDEN COLLEGE,
enrollment 2,500.

Camden sits atop the shoreline, on a massive bluff with miles
of dense forest on all sides.

A new day has begun. Eve stares at her closest friends.

EVE

Let's never forget this.

And Thomas hasn't stopped playing that first moment back in his head.

Suddenly --

-- THREE BLINDING SEARCHLIGHTS FLOOD THEIR BOAT. A U.S. COAST GUARD CUTTER floats sixty yards away.

On the stern, SPECIAL AGENTS IN CHARGE (SAIC) TY and SMYTHE, 50's, career PPD agents.

INT. DEAN'S OFFICE - DAWN

Thomas, Eve, Avi and Hallie are seated on a coach mid-lecture.

With them are Ty and Smythe, steaming.

DEAN LYTLE (O.S.)

Page forty-seven. Security. Any student found in violation of the college's campus wide security protocol will be subject to immediate expulsion.

DEAN LYTLE, 60's, furious, just woken up, reading from the Camden Student Handbook.

LONG BEAT.

DEAN LYTLE (CONT'D)

The faculty voted against it. I voted against it. Four years ago. Why is it policy? One man.

Dean Lytle looks at Eve.

DEAN LYTLE (CONT'D)

Your father.

(BEAT)

This whole place was redesigned for you Eve, footed by taxpayers. This book was re-written to keep you safe from whatever never came for you.

EVE

I came here to get away from them. I never asked to be this person.

(MORE)

EVE (CONT'D)

But I deal with it, each day, and I'm finally done. Mark, we're sorry. It's my fault.

DEAN LYTLE

Apology accepted. But once printed, policy. You're all expelled.

BEAT. Lytle lets this set in.

DEAN LYTLE (CONT'D)

With everything on my campus-
(MOTIONS TO SAIC)
They file it first. Only then- did anything officially happen.

He approaches the door, looks back at Eve.

DEAN LYTLE (CONT'D)

In a few hours you graduate. I want my school back.

Lytle slams the door.

INT. EVE'S DORM ROOM - DAWN

ZOLPIDEM and VICOPROFEN pills are reduced to powder in the palm of a hand.

The contents are poured into a half empty Visine eye dropper.

A LINE OF DROPLETS land on Eve's eyeball. BLINK.

A SECOND LINE OF DROPLETS land on Thomas' eyeball. BLINK.

This is a sleeping and pain relief TINCTURE which effects the bloodstream faster than any other method.

Eve's eyes blink as we cut --

INT. THOMAS' DORM ROOM - DAWN

Thomas, catches his breathe as his eye blinks while his own Tincture takes affect.

Thomas and Eve are not together, but both does themselves to fall asleep each night.

Like Eve, Thpmas does not, and cannot, sleep. Unlike Eve, Thomas is staring at a tablet which shows us several camera angles inside Eve's dorm room.

Thomas mind goes to another place as he fixates on Eve-- still wide awake.

LATER --

Thomas sits in bed, staring. It's light outside.

ANGLE ON TABLET--

-- Eve stands, finally, turns off all her lights, takes her shirt off-- we can see very faint scar marks on her forearms.

As she unhooks her bra--

INT. THOMAS' DORM ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Thomas powers down the tablet-- he's not a peeping Tom-- he just has hidden lenses inside Eve's dorm room.

Thomas turns on a second tablet, opens a file labeled THESIS.

Inside are categorized audio files of Eve from Thomas' phone and dorm surveillance.

These are not official files-- but private mementos of Thomas' obsession.

Screen flashes a FULL DOSSIER on Eve--

-- GROTON SCHOOL. EXPULSION.

-- THE HOTCHKISS SCHOOL. EXPULSION.

-- MILTON ACADEMY. EXPULSION.

-- JOHN ADAMS PUBLIC SCHOOL. GRADUATE.

-- ACCEPTANCES LETTERS TO IVY LEAGUE UNIVERSITIES DESPITE HER HIGH SCHOOL HISTORY. FULL SCHOLARSHIPS.

-- LETTERS OF ACCEPTANCE INTO LAW SCHOOL, MEDICAL SCHOOL, BUSINESS SCHOOL. ALL DISCARDED.

-- STUDENT LOAN CORRESPONDENCE UNDER THE NAME "E. AUGUSTA STEVENSON." \$158,000 IN LOANS.

--RECENT DATES. VOLUNTARY ENTRANCE-- WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION, PORT AU PRINCE, HAITI. ALIAS: "E. AUGUSTA STEVENSON."

Eve is leaving the country in 48 hours. She is keeping this hidden from everyone in her life. Thomas knows her secret.

Since age 14, Eve walked away from a perfect life because it was handed to her. It's not who she is. Eve fights herself 24/7.

Thomas deletes every file but a single Wave file. He puts on headphones --

From static, crackling, filtered audio --

HALLIE (V.O.)

...And?

EVE (V.O.)

And a whole lot of nothing. If he can't tell me any part of how he feels, then he doesn't like me. I get it. It's my life.

(BEAT)

The me inside this doesn't exist. I have to leave myself behind.

The audio track ends.

Thomas cues just Eve's final line. Plays it back at half speed, dragging his finger across the touch screen.

EVE (V.O.)

The me, inside this, doesn't exist. I have to leave myself behind.

Thomas stares at the file. Plays it back again. Again.

Finally, he deletes the last secret audio file.

He clicks on a new folder titled SEMINAR.

Inside, we see endless entries with the only page breaks being dates. Four years of day logs scrambled in PLAINTEXT CODED SUBSTITUTION CIPHER.

These are Thomas' inner most thoughts, with tonight being the final entry.

Opening three words-- "ALL THE MOMENTS"-- our opening voice over is Thomas last diary entry.

Thomas inserts a FLASHDRIVE, transfers all the FILES off the laptop. Everything he's wanted to hide, now on a single drive.

He holds up the drive, stares at it. Knowing how much of himself is revealed on this one chip. Knowing what he needs to do next.

Thomas takes his ZIPPO, pensive, flicks it on, then shuts it.

FLICK. CLICK. FLICK. CLICK.

FLICK, lighter stays open. He must burn the drive and close this final chapter.

FLASHBACK:

EXT. SAIL BOAT - EARLIER THAT NIGHT

Playing the night back in his head, Thomas stares at Eve, toasting, staring at her friends, before resting on Thomas.

CLICK.

BACK TO PRESENT:

INT. THOMAS' DORM ROOM - CONT'D

Thomas shuts the Zippo, closing the memory. A man obsessed with what he can't say to someone he spends every day with.

FLICK, the lighter opens again, flame filling the screen as we go back to Thomas' memory pool:

EXT. SAIL BOAT - EARLIER THAT NIGHT

Eve raises her glass to Thomas, as if saying goodbye to him and him alone.

EVE (V.O.)
Never forget.

CLICK.

BACK TO PRESENT:

INT. THOMAS' DORM ROOM - CONT'D

Thomas pauses, debating. FLICK, lets the flame burn directly ONTO HIS KNUCKLES. The skin is calloused from previous burn marks.

Cautiously, he then lights the side of the drive which slowly starts to burn and melt. All his thoughts, melting before his eyes.

LATER --

Thomas takes out one piece of notebook paper. Begins writing and DOES NOT STOP OR BREAK FORM. He writes on both sides of the paper, no spaces, no breaks.

He holds today's entry, stares at it. We can make out a sentence beginning with "ALL THE MOMENTS." This is the only evidence connecting his psyche to Eve. This needs to be destroyed.

CLICK.

The Zippo opens.

Thomas holds the piece of paper near the flame, knowing he must burn these thoughts right now.

BZZZ, his Blackberry goes off.

Eve to Thomas: wake?

Thomas to Eve: cant sleep

Eve to Thomas: u never could

Thomas thinking of a response. This is in fact their final night.

Eve to Thomas: fast

Thomas to Eve: too fast

Eve to Thomas: sunrise

Thomas almost smiles for the first time.

Eve to Thomas: meet me

Oddly-- Thomas' smile quickly fades. He exhales, powers the phone down-- knows better, knows his boundaries.

INT. EVE'S DORM ROOM - CONT'D

Eve, awake in bed, stares at her phone-- wondering why Thomas doesn't send her this very message, let alone respond.

Eve, similar to Thomas, is closing a chapter on her life that she hopes wouldn't end unfinished. She is not sleeping tonight.

The phone buzzes, she quickly checks.

Hallie to Eve: adderall makes me gassy u up?

Hoping it was Thomas, she doesn't respond. Shuts her blinds.

INT. THOMAS' DORM ROOM - CONT'D

Thomas flicking the Zippo lighter again. He clicks it shut, puts it down for the night- SALVAGING THE LAST DIARY ENTRY.

Sunlight slowly fills the room now as we HOLD on a single, hand written word-- EVE.

EXT. CAMDEN PERIMETER WALL - MORNING

A hooded JOGGER tears along the fog-covered East wall of campus.

The Jogger passes an overhead map of the school-- 500 pristine, manicured acres in a square, resting on the coastline.

The Jogger reaches the campuses' landmark Lighthouse.

EXT. LIGHTHOUSE - MORNING

Thomas removes his hood and enters the frame. In the lighthouse, SAIC Ty and Smythe wait for him.

Thomas shuts the soundproof steel door behind him.

TY

You're human.

(BEAT)

Whatever you're feeling right now, whatever part of this you're not ready to leave. Stop. Last night never happened.

SMYTHE

Beacon does not know you. That's why this exists. For her own protection.

TY

Last night wasn't Thomas. You're the first. See. This. Through.

SMYTHE

Inhale. Exhale.

TY

Ninety minute rounds until Beacon's airborne.

SMYTHE
Do not lose your eyes.

EXT. CAMDEN COLLEGE - AFTERNOON

Caps, gowns, Class of 2012 banners. Today, however, includes massive media coverage.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAMS (ERT), COUNTERSNIPER UNIT (CU), and CANINE EXPLOSIVE DETECTION UNIT (K-9) blanket the campus.

A long line of guests pass through MAGNETOMETERS as hovering HELICOPTERS are overhead in the distance.

PRE-LAP:

DEAN LYTTLE
...Please welcome the Chief
Executive Of The United States Of
America, President William Stevens.

Special Agents form a human wall between POTUS and the media line.

President Stevens, 60's, kind face, walks up to the microphone.

PRESIDENT STEVENS
There's a motto at Camden-
Education, Integrity, Honesty.
(BEAT)
When Eve left home, we did not know
where she was headed in life. We
did not know what she would become
as an adult.

CAMERA'S FLASH. PPD TEAMS focused on everything in the grand stands.

PRESIDENT STEVENS (CONT'D)
I look at her now, I see a woman. A
woman ready for the world, a place
dangerous and opportunistic, a
world beyond this campus today. A
woman, I look up to. A woman, as a
father, we'll always want to
shelter from the storm.

Thomas looks around the stands filled with beaming families --

-- Everyone is here to celebrate the landmark day, save for Thomas.

PRESIDENT STEVENS (CONT'D)

It's now my pleasure to introduce
the student elect class speaker.

(BEAT)

Congratulations. Finally, you may
now have the last word over your
father. Thank you. God bless
America.

Applause.

Eve squeezes Thomas and Hallie's hands, stands and
approaches the podium. We take on her POV and see the massive
crowd, blinding camera flashes.

Eve's hands are shaking to the point where she can't read her
speech.

Eve looks up from her speech. Exhales. Faces the flashing
bulbs.

BEAT. Everyone staring. Awkward. Eve holds up her speech.

EVE

This is a well crafted speech from
the press secretary.

(BEAT)

But I did not write this. Today is
not about me. Today is not about my
father.

Flashing lights. That got everyone's attention.

EVE (CONT'D)

One look at this class, you think
we all just hit a hole in one. We
were born on the green and none of
us worked for it. It was handed to
us.

Thomas all but smiles. Avi and Hallie's jaws drop.

EVE (CONT'D)

Camden was built on a naval base.
Lives were lost on this very spot
so we could have today, and today's
privilege of walking away. Nothing
was ever handed to the men who died
for this moment. They had to fight
for it. Some, to the death.

Every network has a camera on Eve, as does every student in
the stands. Viral.

EVE (CONT'D)

That's the reason a senator's son never enlists.

(BEAT)

So what are we supposed to do about it? Let's hug our grandparents. Let's find jobs. But let's not forget what we owe to all the people not lucky enough to be here today...so we can be.

Total silence. Eve walks off. The President is burning, but smiles-- proud of this woman. Dean Lytle quickly approaches the podium--

DEAN LYTLE

...Congratulations to the class of 2012.

Applause, caps are half-thrown into the air.

EXT. GRADUATION TENTS - CONT'D

A small reception is underway for families.

-- A father taking a picture with his son.

-- A female graduate kissing her boyfriend.

-- Grandparents ear to ear with pride.

-- Avis hugging his parents, Hallie with hers.

-- Eve talking to her mother, trailing after her father.

-- Everyone has someone today. NOT THOMAS.

Thomas, however, is all alone, staring at the sea of families celebrating the milestone event.

Eve, from a distance, notices Thomas' solitude, gives him a smile from across the reception.

EXT. CAMDEN SOCCER FIELDS - CONT'D

President Stevens, First Lady Margaret and Eve are driven through campus in CADILLAC TWO (C2), the Armored Presidential Advance Vehicle (APAV).

INT. CADILLAC 2 - CONT'D

You could hear a pin drop.

Ty and Smythe jog alongside the vehicle, scanning the distance.

C2 reaches MARINE ONE, the President's "Oval office in the sky" next to two matching Helos. M1 flies in no less than three Helos, always changing lead position to hide POTUS.

EXT. HELOPAD - CONT'D

A long, painful silence as Eve walks her down the tarmac. President Stevens charges up the stairs.

As they board --

FIRST LADY MARGARET
Before we're wheels up.

She produces an antique PHI BETA KAPPA SOCIETY insignia gold medallion on a simple gold necklace. On the reverse, seven inscribed sets of initials and dates.

EVE
Dad's initials...

FIRST LADY MARGARET
Yours makes eight. We love you.

PRESIDENT STEVENS
Evie. Never stop being you. Why we love you. But you're an adult. Understand the impact of what you just did. Action doesn't cause- it forces a reaction. Everything we do has consequence.

He hugs her, deeply, proud, though livid. First Lady Margaret kisses Eve's cheek.

The President and the First Lady take off in M1.

Eve watches, her father looks at her as they accelerate off screen, split between joy and disappointment.

INT. DORM ROOM - AFTERNOON

Thomas packs-- underneath a faux shelf is a hidden compartment containing a finger print encoded LOCK BOX.

Inside, a SATELLITE PHONE, EARPIECE and UNIFORM DIVISION .380 CHAMBERED SIG SAUER. Thomas removes the laptop and places it inside a gym bag.

He discovers a small wrapped gift inside his graduation blazer pocket, pulling off the card:

Sophomore year. To the next adventure. XO -Eve

Thomas undoes the bow, revealing a framed picture. We only see his reaction, but we know it's from Eve and is meant to be a secret.

Thomas takes this in-- the single memento he ever existed at Camden.

INT. LOCKER ROOMS - CONT'D

A combination lock spinning open.

Thomas places a backpack containing the Laptop in his gym locker before sealing it.

A GYM PATRON is putting on running shoes, stretches his lower back. He looks to Thomas.

Thomas checks his watch, 414PM.

CLICK: 415PM.

To the second-- Ty and Smythe enter the locker room dressed in workout clothes. They do not acknowledge each other.

Gym Patron puts in iPod Earbuds. We hear what might be "Closing Time" by Semisonic.

GYM PATRON

Light it up!

He trots off.

With the room to themselves, Ty opens his locker on the opposite side of Thomas'.

Inside, he slides up the back panel and accesses Thomas' locker, pulling out his gym bag.

Ty places Thomas' tablet inside his gym bag and takes it out of the locker-- the contents now switched.

SMYTHE

Smile. You're a graduate for six hours.

Ty shakes Thomas' hand, leans in very close.

TY
Bandwidth worked. Agent.

AGENT

The one word Thomas has been waiting a lifetime to hear, now in the open. He made it, at great cost, with the void never feeling so giant.

The moment finally settling in; he is leaving Eve, and Camden.

Thomas pulls from his pocket the FINAL PAGE OF HIS DIARY-- the one he hand wrote last night.

EXT. ATLANTIC OCEAN - CONT'D

Marine One and the matching helicopters travel southbound over the freezing North Atlantic.

Underneath M1 --

-- LOBSTERMEN lay fishing pots with THICK NYLON RED AND WHITE ROPE.

MATCH CUT TO:

Budweiser 24oz "heavy" cans bob up and down in a massive cooler.

EXT. CAMDEN COAST - NIGHT

The 525 grads are having one last jump up.

Bonfires line the coastline, multiple bars, a massive sound system. Blaring music reverberates between the beach, cliffs, and water.

EXT. MAINE COUNTRY ROAD - CONT'D

Headlights illuminate a road sign with the CAP AND GOWN icon. The sign points towards the direction the headlights are going.

EXT. OCEAN - CONT'D

AN ANCHOR DROPS --

-- SIX Lobstermen leave the trawler and take off silently in a flat black rubber dingy.

EXT. CAMDEN GATE HOUSE - CONT'D

A brick building with a metal gate manned by TWO ARMED GUARDS.

A Highway Service crew cab pickup approaches the Gate House roughly one hundred yards away.

GUARD 1
SAIC be advised. Eleven fifty seven. Unannounced municipal vehicle approaching.

The Guard hits an EMERGENCY RELAY BUTTON before flagging the vehicle down with a Maglite.

The Truck isn't stopping.

Guard 2 flips the Gate House overhead FLOODLIGHTS.

Ten feet out, the perfectly normal Camden Hamlet Municipality truck comes to a slow stop. The engine rumbles.

INT. GATE HOUSE - CONT'D

Looking at a bank of monitors covering the campus, Guard 2 radios out:

GUARD 2
Gate house engaging eleven fifty seven. Prep for Beacon cover-evac. This is no exercise.

EXT. BLUFFS - CONT'D

Ty and Smythe hear the call.

SMYTHE
PASSKEY approved Gate House.
(BEAT)
Proceed with caution.

GUARD 2 (O.S.)
Intercepting.

EXT. GATE HOUSE - CONT'D

Guard 1 and the Truck at a standstill ten yards away.

GUARD 1
TURN OFF YOUR VEHICLE.

The driver side window slowly lowers.

We see a man in his late 40's wearing contractor clothes, yellow tinted Aviator glasses, and has a thick, overgrown beard.

This is DAVIS.

Guard 1 sees inside the truck --

-- THREE MEN, perfectly still, staring right back at him. They wear MATCHING CAMOUFLAGE BALACLAVAS and CARHARDTT CANVAS WORK WEAR.

A SPLIT SECOND-- Guard 1 registers--

CLAP.

--The bullet connects with the CHEST CAVITY of Guard 1 who collapses while screaming at the top of lungs.

Follow the line of sight to MASK 1-- holding the gun.

POP. POP.

INT. GATE HOUSE - CONT'D

Guard 2 calls out in panic.

GUARD 2
GUN! GUN! GUN! ALL UNITS!!! ELEVEN
NINETY NINE!!! OFFICER DOWN AT
GATE! EVAC BEACON! EVAC BEACON!

Guard 2 looks up to see Davis, staring at him from right in front of the safety glass, in no hurry.

Guard 2 is sealed within, safe.

Except for Mask 3 who is SPOT WELDING through the metal frame on the exterior of the building.

GUARD 2 (CONT'D)
GUN GUN GUN!!! HOSTILE AT GATE!!!
REMOVE BEACON!!!

INT. CAMDEN GATE HOUSE - CONT'D

From silence, suddenly, all the monitors start producing FEEDBACK that's deafeningly loud. Guard 2 covers his ears.

EXT. BLUFFS - CONT'D

Ty and Smythe draw their weapons and run towards the party.

TY

THOMAS EVAC BEACON!!! COVER COVER
COVER!!! GATE IS DOWN! GET HELO
NOW!!!

EXT. CAMDEN SECURITY OFFICE - CONT'D

Mask 1 drills a tiny hole into the side of the metal Gate House while the feedback continues to blare from within.

He quickly feeds the portable METAL INERT GAS (MIG) welding gas tank line into the Gatehouse walls.

INT. CAMDEN SECURITY OFFICE - CONT'D

Inside, Guard 2 can't hear beyond static rage.

EXT. CAMDEN SECURITY OFFICE - CONT'D

Mask 2 extracts the PVC tube and plugs the hole with the welding torch nozzle-- which sparks when compressed.

INT. CAMDEN SECURITY OFFICE - CONT'D

STATIC FEEDBACK --

-- Guard 2 losing his hearing in real time. He sniffs; smells the propane --

EXT. CAMDEN GATE HOUSE - CONT'D

Mask 3 presses down on nozzle.

BOOM-- the building blows inside only-- steel walls trapping the flames within.

Guard 2 burns alive as the Truck enters campus.

EXT. BEACH - CONT'D

Ty and Smythe only hear the piercing static coming from the Gate House radio.

Frantic, they run full speed to the party. The static runs through their radio channels causing breakdown of communication.

SMYTHE
REPEAT GATE REPEAT!!!

TY
IMMEDIATE HELO AIR-VAC TO NORTH
SHORE!!! THREAT LIVE THREAT LIVE
THREAT LIVE!!!

EXT. CAMDEN SHORELINE - CONT'D

The 6 Lobstermen beach the shoreline and tie off the dingy.

PULL BACK --

-- Camden, at night, isolated-- the Presidential Special Agent Task Force gone earlier that day.

TIME: 137AM

EXT. BEACH PARTY - CONT'D

At the party, Eve leads Thomas away from the main dance floor. He cannot take his eyes off of her.

Avi, drunk, follows them as Hallie stumbles forward as well.

EXT. BEACH PARTY - CONT'D

Panicked, Ty and Smythe get to the party.

TY
DOWN! DOWN! DOWN!

Kids hit the deck but it's a full-blown party and the music overpowers the Agents- causing confusion more than anything.

The Agents look around, frantically.

SMYTHE
THOMAS! WHERE IS BEACON!!!???

EXT. CAMDEN SHORELINE - CONT'D

Around the bluff from the main floor-- the after party begins.

EXT. CAMDEN POWER STATION - CONT'D

SPARKS-- Mask 1 & 2 shoot through a padlock and start ripping apart the campus ethernet, phone, and CCTV wiring.

EXT. CAMDEN MAIN LAWN - CONT'D

From the Lobster Trawler, Mask 4 and Mask 5 lay down intermittent spikes into the ground in two straight lines.

CLOSE ON SPIKES: \$3 Home Depot solar powered path lights modified with 9V batteries and backyard NITROCELLULOSE.

EXT. SMALL BEACH PARTY - CONT'D

Thomas is trying to enjoy this, but he's not one of these kids-- never was, and it shows when everyone else is having the time of their lives.

Except Eve-- who we now know is as much a loner as Thomas. She was never just a student either.

Hallie comes up to Thomas, grabs his arm, and drunkenly tries to make out with him. Thomas tries to politely pull away.

Eve watches, upset. She doesn't have the ability to just let go and try something bold like Hallie.

Thomas sees Eve turn away and dance closer with Avi. Eve sees Thomas staring.

EXT. CAMDEN CENTRAL QUAD - CONT'D

Mask 1 & 2 run in tandem-- leaving a line of the solar path spikes behind them.

EXT. SMALL BEACH PARTY - CONT'D

Bodies lit by strobe lights and bonfires.

Avi attempts "The Worm" near Eve and a group of kids. Hallie pulls Thomas to the middle of the dance floor.

She's trying to get him to leave with her, unsuccessfully. We see kids only with brief flashes of fire, timed to the music.

Eve and Thomas move towards each other. He sees her-- BLACK.

Ten feet away-- BLACK.

Eve's face fills the frame-- a younger version-- sophomore year. Laughing.

Five feet away-- BLACK.

Eve's face again-- new surroundings, same laughter-- junior year. Smiling right at us.

Thomas never stopped playing the tapes back in his head.

Two feet away-- BACK TO PRESENT:

EXT. CAMDEN BEACH PARTY - CONT'D

Eve laughing again, only with Thomas inches away from her. They grab each other within all the bodies.

Thomas is finally CROSSING THE LINE, as is Eve, four years in the making. Eve places her mouth within an inch of Thomas while dancing.

EXT. MAIN BEACH PARTY - CONT'D

Ty and Smythe sprinting on foot through the field of hundreds of students.

TY

COAST GUARD COPY! QUANTICO RELAY!
NO VISUAL ON BEACON! SURROUND
CAMDEN NOW!

The biggest fear, losing all contact with the First Daughter, is upon them. Thomas-- their Watchman-- gone.

EXT. CAMDEN AIRSTRIP - CONT'D

The Solar Charges are set in a long line leading from one end of the campus to a 100' STEEL PROPANE TOWER.

EXT. SMALL BEACH PARTY - CONT'D

Hallie, drunk, joins Eve and Thomas, aggressively forces Eve away from Thomas and places herself on him.

Eve is confused. Thomas unwinds Hallie's grip, people stare. Hallie turns to Eve, fuming, now embarrassed.

HALLIE
Christ. Just do it.

EVE
Hallie.

-- Who's already walking away.

EXT/INT. DEAN LYTLE'S HOUSE - CONT'D

BAM-- the front door to the Dean's campus home is kicked in.

Shotguns lead by barrel mounted flashlights fill the pitch-black hallway.

Racing up the stairs, down a hallway, through a bedroom until they find Dean Lytle and his WIFE trying to climb out the bathroom window.

Mask 4 throws them on the floor-- forces them to put hand towels in their mouths which are then duct taped shut around their heads.

Mask 5 duct tapes sleeping blinds over their eyes, wraps black towels over their heads, which are then sealed with tape.

BLACK.

EXT. WOODS - CONT'D

NIGHTVISION: Ty and Smythe rush back to their vehicle at the top of the bluff, above the party.

Crosshairs. Exhale, squeeze. PUFF --

-- Ty is shot at the base of his skull.

Smythe dives behind the vehicle for cover.

NIGHTVISION: Smythe low to the ground. The crosshairs fix right above Smythe's head-- hiding behind his patrol car.

The shooter targets the passenger rear door-- PUFF --

-- A bullet pounds through the side door.

EXT. BLUFFS - CONT'D

Smythe exposes his ankle while crawling away from the point of impact.

Smythe hears a quick PHIPPTT-- before CRACK-- as his shin EXPLODES.

EXT. WOODS - CONT'D

NIGHTVISION: Smythe screams, moving his head into range.

EXT. BLUFFS - CONT'D

We see from Smythe's POV a tiny FLASH half a mile away.

CLAP --

-- A shell connects with Smythe's lungs.

EXT. WOODS - CONT'D

The shooter, DAVIS, clicks off his nightvision hunting scope.

PULL BACK --

-- A tiny coastal campus, lit only by the bonfires from the party.

CAMDEN IS DARK.

EXT. SMALL BEACH PARTY - CONT'D

Eve leads Thomas away from the after party. Avi sees this, as does Hallie.

Avi drunkenly follows, Hallie pursues-- not about to let this moment for Thomas and Eve unfold organically.

INT. TUNNEL - CONT'D

FROM ALL BLACK-- fire fills the frame as Thomas lights a TIKI TORCH.

We see the tunnel which is apart of a closed network of drainage pipes running beneath campus. It's dark, crumbling, with wind blowing in all directions.

Eve sits next to Thomas. Finally alone.

BEAT.

AVI (O.S.)
Four way kiss!

Avi's holding a sand-covered champagne bottle.

HALLIE
Through everything, all the love
lost. To you guys. Why you never
hooked up I'll never know.

Awkward. Avi finishes the bottle in one go.

AVI
I'm joining the Army...Semper
Fidelity...

Avi starts mumbling to himself.

HALLIE
He's speaking martian again.

AVI
I know your secret Thomas. I saw
it.

THOMAS
Sorry...?

AVI
You love her. I know you do. Whole
school knows it but you never do
anything about it. Why?

EVE
AVI!?

HALLIE
Please. All I do is obsess over
Thomas and all you do is pretend
not to see how he stares at you. No
matter what- you finish first- but
at least finish it and hook up!

EVE
How is any of this about me!?
You're my best friend Hallie. STOP.
There's nothing here.

That registered with Thomas.

AVI

Only few hours til' we're sober
again and I don't have to pretend
to be friends with you.

THOMAS

You being an alcoholic is my fault?

AVI

Who else's gonna celebrate for you
two?

THOMAS

You should definitely join the
Army.

AVI

Admit it.

EVE

AVI. STOP.

AVI

We leave tomorrow morning.
Statistically, why make your last
night so lame.

Hallie gets up and starts towards the dance floor. Avi
doesn't move.

HALLIE

Stop pretending like we're never
seeing each other again. Go get
naked. We're done with this place.
We have the rest of our lives to
regret not doing something tonight.

Avi and Hallie walk off. Eve just stares at Thomas.

EVE

Serious. Tell me why. This is the
last night. Tell me.

THOMAS

Tell you what?

EVE

Why. Why you never get close to
anyone. Four years, every secret,
you know first hand. You know me.
You turned me down last night.

(BEAT)

I barely know you.

(MORE)

EVE (CONT'D)

Yet I'm closer to no one else in the entire world. Why. Why don't I know you the same.

THOMAS

I'm gonna tell you something. And I'm gonna tell you because you need to know. But you don't want to know. Once I start, you can't stop me.

EVE

OK.

Thomas takes out the hand written FINAL DIARY ENTRY from his pocket. Stares at the opening words, about to reveal the Bandwidth trial project.

THOMAS

Everything's about to change.

Eve's hand covers the letter. She leans in, faces a mere inches away.

Eve holds Thomas' jawline. She does the last thing Thomas expects. They lock lips for a second-- for the first time-- giving themselves to the moment.

SPRAY-- a DRUNK SENIOR suddenly appears and starts urinating at the mouth of the cave.

Eve freezes-- Thomas holds the paper back. The Drunk Senior continues urinating but puts both hands in the air, stumbles away midstream.

EVE

Ready...?

She walks off-- looks back at him-- he still has these last few hours with her.

Thomas pulls out his Blackberry-- the screen blinks 00:60:00. Check in time. He missed it.

He dials DAD (TY)- no signal. Dials SIS (Smythe)-- no signal. NO CELL BARS.

Thomas, worried, looks up as Eve disappears around the mouth of the cave.

EXT. CAMDEN BEACH PARTY - CONT'D

As the students rage and dance -- BANG --

-- EVERYONE FREEZES.

EXT. CAMDEN BEACH PARTY - CONT'D

The MILITIA OF 12 emerge- matching- all black- faces hidden-armed.

Davis is the only one exposed.

Mask 1 fires another round into the air.

The kids all duck as the other men in masks start to file them into two lines while flex cuffing their hands behind their backs.

Thomas is just around the cliff's edge. Eve frantically searches for him-- they lock eyes fifty yards away.

Thomas puts his finger to lips, "shhh." Eve's frozen in place.

Davis sees a figure in the distance and shines his Maglite. Thomas is scaling the side of the bluff, moving too quickly for Davis' light.

Davis trains his gun where Thomas was. He motion to Mask 12 to close in next to him. They approach the cave.

INT. CAVE - CONT'D

Thomas, frantic, looks around-- Hallie's champagne bottle and the burning Tiki Torch. An improvised Molotov Cocktail.

EXT. CAVE MOUTH - CONT'D

Davis and Mask 12 turn the corner, expecting to find a student in hiding. Instead --

-- WHOOSH-- the Champagne bottle flies at the rocks by their head.

Flaming torch oil explodes on Mask 12's neckline which ignites the neoprene Balaclava.

Davis' line of sight fixated on the location the bottle came from. From above --

-- A FIGURE flies off the side of the bluff into the black Atlantic.

Davis scans the waters. Nothing.

Mask 12 is running around trying to find the shoreline as his face burns off.

POP POP --

-- He falls.

Kids begin to scream-- thinking they're about to be executed one by one.

Davis continues scanning the waterline. Nothing.

Mask 1 approaches.

With his hands only, he flashes the numbers FIVE, TWO, FOUR. Repeats the number.

Davis holds up his pointer finger. Mask 1 nods. ONE PERSON IS MISSING.

Davis checks his watch- TIME: 142AM.

EXT. OCEAN SURFACE - CONT'D

Thomas, shirtless, finally emerges fifty yards from the coast line, undetected. The water is freezing cold.

In the distance, Thomas sees a MATTE BLACK CESSNA SEAPLANE.

The Lobster Trawler is anchored roughly 50 yards from the Seaplane-- THEIR EXIT. THIS IS AN EXTRACTION.

EXT/INT. GYMNASIUM - CONT'D

BLACK-- The gym lights are flipped on. The students, half clothed, are forced to sit down and their cuffs are then tied to another students-- linking all the kids back to back.

A large Kryptonite chain lock with wires running through it is weaved through the central cuffs and then tied on either side of the court-- secured to the backboard frames on opposite sides of the floor.

Mask 4 trips a switch which SLOWLY RAISES THE HOOPS-- forcing the students to stand. The same graduates from this afternoon are now helpless negotiating chips.

EXT/INT. SEAPLANE - CONT'D

The PILOT, dressed in civilian clothes, nervously sits in the cockpit, waiting for the radio call.

EXT. OCEAN SURFACE - CONT'D

Thomas swims towards the Seaplane, staying hidden from the cockpit's view.

Thomas attaches the end of the THICK RED AND WHITE buoy lines to the wing of the plane.

He drifts away, towards the Trawler-- the Red and White line runs from plane to ship.

INT. SEAPLANE COCKPIT - CONT'D

The Pilot turns the radio on and off and back on-- checking his signal with shaking hands.

With the thick fog blanketing the coastline, the Pilot turns on the windshield wipers-- it's soup outside.

THUNK-- the right propeller is RIPPED CLEAN OFF, causing the plane to spin clockwise on the water, sending him flying backwards. Pilot slams his forehead on the steering column.

Right eye already swelling, the Pilot leaves the cockpit to assess the damaged propeller.

He looks around-- SILENCE AND DARKNESS IN ALL DIRECTIONS.

Pilot scurries back to the cockpit. As he manages walking on the wet pontoons, he opens the metal fuselage and begins to climb in as--

CRACK-- the door is slammed on his spinal chord.

Thomas brings the door down repeatedly on the Pilot-- fracturing ribs, wrists, and cartilage with every chop.

He grabs the Pilot and falls back into the water with him in a headlock.

Underwater, Thomas wrestling with the Pilot-- lit only by the planes underwater landing lights blinking RED and YELLOW.

FLASHBACK:

EXT. JAMES J. ROWLEY TRAINING CENTER (JJRTC)- DAY

SILENCE. AQUAMARINE. Interrupted with splashes as Thomas, 20, crashes under the surface. He floats underwater, hands bound behind his back, holding his breath.

THREE RECRUITS float in the same body of water, almost placid.

FLASH-CUT:

Thomas, now dressed in standard SECRET SERVICE UNIFORMED DIVISION (UD) black and whites.

He sits across a desk from a group of OFFICIALS, whom we only see from behind, as they address Thomas.

We never hear the exact words-- they're presenting Thomas with a file.

Pictures of HIGH VALUE PROTECTEES: PRESIDENT STEVENS (then VICE PRESIDENT VPOTUS), with MARGARET, and EVE, 17.

EXT. UNDERWATER TRAINING POOL - DAY

A RECRUIT takes in water and forcibly surfaces. One by one they all fail, leaving just Thomas.

Close on his face, relaxed. Thomas would stay in this state forever.

INT. JJRTC OFFICE - DAY

Thomas is handed Eve's PSYCHOLOGICAL EVALUATION labeled DIAGNOSTIC STATISTICAL MANUAL (DSM IV-R) CODE 301.81-BORDERLINE PERSONALITY DISORDER.

Symptoms: suicidal behavior, identity disturbance, impulsivity, substance reliant, paranoid ideation, severe dissociative symptoms.

Eve's going to Camden.

They fear she will act out negatively against the next President, her father. She has cognitive disorders that need to stay secret. She is unstable.

MOTHER, the older woman addressing Thomas, speaks like a kind maternal neighbor figure, very matter-of-factly.

MOTHER (O.S.)

Lincoln created all this just to catch counterfeiters. Now we save President's lives. A job changes.

We now see Thomas' file. PRIVATE FIRST CLASS (PFC) U.S. MARINE at 18, applying to the U.S. SECRET SERVICE. He's about to be accepted in a single conversation.

MOTHER (O.S.) (CONT'D)
 Bandwidth. You are my first. You
 are the youngest. I need a ready
 canvas. Safeguard the candidate's
 daughter from herself. The biggest
 threat to Eve...is Eve.

Woman slides him a CAMDEN STUDENT IDENTITY BADGE. The alias
 on the ID-- Thomas Elsen.

EXT. UNDERWATER TRAINING POOL - DAY

Thomas, frozen, underwater, staring into space, taking in his
 new assignment.

MOTHER (O.S.)
 She's leaving home for the first
 time. Beyond radius.

HOLD on Thomas, nearly drowning himself underwater.

THOMAS (O.S.)
 Why me.

MOTHER (O.S.)
 Pragmatism. Physically you're the
 youngest we've got. Cognitively,
 you fit her world.

Within this state, once more, we FLASHBACK:

EXT. STARK CORNFIELD - DUSK

THOMAS, 6, runs through a grey field of broken husks with his
 SISTER, 8, until they reach their falling, single-story multi-
 family house.

The kids reach the front door-- locked. The windows locked,
 the curtains shut.

The children are shut out from whatever is happening within.
 It's freezing, they can see their breaths. Wearing only thin
 sweaters, they shiver uncontrollably.

For Thomas and his sister, they look out for themselves, and
 have done so since childhood.

Whatever happens on the inside of their family home, it is
 not something they want to witness.

Within the high corn stalks, Sister walks further and further
 away from young Thomas until she's GONE.

Frantic, he searches for her to no avail. The wind, the cold, the darkness-- envelope the boy.

What happened to his sister-- we're not going to find out just yet. She's disappearing.

Like meeting Eve on day one, he never left this field, this moment, even today.

MOTHER (O.S.)
Eve needs a watchman.

EXT. UNDERWATER TRAINING POOL - DAY

CLOSE on Thomas' placid face underwater, playing out that day in his head.

MOTHER (O.S.)
Welcome. Thomas.

Thomas exhales, darts to the surface of the pool. Hold on the empty body of water.

BACK TO PRESENT:

EXT. ATLANTIC OCEAN/UNDERWATER - CONT'D

GASP-- Thomas breaches. He swims to the Seaplane, gets inside the cockpit and wraps himself in an emergency fire blanket-- teeth clattering from the cold.

His hands and feet are turning blue from hypothermia. Thomas rubs them profusely to stop the process.

The radio crackles:

MASK 1 (O.S.)
Sky we are moving.

EXT. CAMDEN QUAD - CONT'D

Davis and Mask 1 are moving in the Pickup Truck. Eve, Lytle and his Wife are with them, blindfolded with duct taped sealed towels over their heads.

INT. SEAPLANE COCKPIT - CONT'D

Thomas hears the radio again--

MASK 1 (O.S.)
We're moving Sky.

THOMAS
(TO HIMSELF)
I stay here, they bring Eve...can't
isolate her. I hold them on campus,
backup arrives, we contain it.

MASK 1 (O.S.)
SKY. Pick up. ETA thirty seconds.

He reaches for the radio, fingers numb, presses the receiver
with his palm, exhales-

THOMAS
There is no pilot.

EXT. CAMDEN LAWN - CONT'D

Davis and Mask 1 freeze.

THOMAS (O.S.)
This is the U.S. Coast Guard. Your
pilot's in custody. The campus is
surrounded.

Eve hears Thomas' voice.

Davis clicks off the radio as he brings the truck to a skid
stop. He turns the truck back towards campus.

INT. SEAPLANE COCKPIT - CONT'D

Thomas looks at his hands and feet-- turned white-- no
motion. He forces the receiver down.

Using his teeth, he painfully clicks to AIRCRAFT EMERGENCY
FREQUENCY HZ 121.5

THOMAS
Mayday. Mayday. Mayday. Camden
College is a hostage zone. Hostiles
have taken the first daughter.
Anyone. Copy.

Radio silence.

THOMAS (CONT'D)
Mayday, Mayday, Mayday. Coast Guard
come in. Camden College's taken by
armed men.

Thomas crawls towards the door as the radio crackles to life--

COAST GUARD RADIO (O.S.)
Rockland Station Coast Guard copy.

Thomas almost smiles. Thomas looks at the campus in the distance. He presses the receiver--

THOMAS
This is Thomas Elsen. I am going
back on Camden. Armed men have the
First Daughter.

COAST GUARD RADIO (O.S.)
Do not move.

THOMAS
We need to secure the perimeter.

COAST GUARD RADIO (O.S.)
Thomas what is your location?

THOMAS
Get FBI HRT. Tell HRT Thomas Elsen
is not a hostage. I'm going back
for Beacon.

Thomas walks to the door, leaves the comfort of the cockpit.
With white limbs, it is a dangerous, long swim to shore.

COAST GUARD RADIO (O.S.)
Keep this line with me Elsen, medic
is on the way. Thomas?

-- Who jumps BACK INTO THE FREEZING WATER.

EXT. CAMDEN DRIVEWAY - CONT'D

Davis is flying towards the gate house to leave campus. The
speedometer reads 85, 90, 95MPH --

-- He SLAMS on the breaks, stopping inches before lines of
RAZOR TRAFFIC SPIKES.

Floodlights hit their truck. Four CAMDEN POLICE squad cars
blocking the exit, guns drawn.

POLICE OFFICER
OUT OF THE VEHICLE HANDS ON YOUR
HEAD! NOW!

Davis puts on an interior light-- takes off Eve's hood and walks her towards the police, who now realize they are POINTING GUNS AT THE FIRST DAUGHTER. They lower their guns.

Mask 1 backs the truck up and they floor it back onto campus.

EXT. OCEAN SURFACE - NIGHT

Thomas struggles to reach shore-- still a painful twenty yards away.

INT. DEAN'S OFFICE/MANOR HALL - CONT'D

A DOOR KICKED OPEN --

-- Eve is lead into a second floor office space which will now become Davis' headquarters.

Mask 1 takes Dean Lytle and his Wife, removes his blinder hood and puts the shotgun to his chin.

He makes Dean Lytle hold the barrel to his own throat.

Mask 1 duct tapes the shotgun barrel around Dean Lytle's neck, securing it into place so he can keep the gun trained with one hand (*Black Panther tactics from the 1970 courthouse hostage crisis*).

Davis ties Eve to the radiator and removes her blindfold. She is now staring at the architect of the evening-- Davis, who looks like any other desperate parent.

Davis hands Eve a 3X5 INDEX CARD with several typed sentences.

As she processes the text, Davis picks up a landline phone and dials out.

EXT/INT. THE NEW YORK TIMES HEADQUARTERS - NIGHT

A Times operator answers the incoming line.

TIMES OPERATOR
The New York Times.

INT. DEAN'S OFFICE - CONT'D

Davis hands the phone to Eve.

TIMES OPERATOR (O.S.)
Hello...This is The New York Times.
Hello?

Eve looks at the 3X5 card. Tears forming, jaw chattering, she begins to read her own ransom note.

EVE
My name is Evelyn Augusta Stevens.
I have been taken hostage.

INT. THE NEW YORK TIMES HEADQUARTERS - NIGHT

The Times Operator freezes.

TIMES OPERATOR
Eve Stevens...The first daughter.
(BEAT)
Who is this?

INT. DEAN'S OFFICE - CONT'D

Slowly, Davis hands her a second index card.

EVE
Five hundred and twenty-five
graduates from Camden College are
hostages.

TIMES OPERATOR (O.S.)
Stay with me- I'm getting security
on the line- stay on the phone!

Davis hands Eve the third index card.

EVE
Tell my father he has sixty seconds
to call this number, or these are
my last words.

CLICK --

-- Davis presses down on the receiver.

INT. THE NEW YORK TIMES HEADQUARTERS - CONT'D

The entire floor just lit up as every phone dials out.

EXT. CAMDEN BEACH - CONT'D

Heart rate dropping, Thomas crawls to the heat lamps, begins to get circulation back as he searches for student clothing to wrap himself in.

INT. THE WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM - CONT'D

Amongst the hysteria, a phone is placed in the hand of the most powerful man in the free world.

INT. DEAN'S OFFICE - CONT'D

RING. RING. RING.

Davis' heart pounds.

RING. RING.

Davis inhales/exhales, loosens his jawbone, holds his temple.

RING.

Finally, he picks up the phone-- the first time we hear his voice.

INTERCUT AS NEEDED:

DAVIS

If you speak while I am talking one student dies. Clear.

PRESIDENT STEVENS

Yes.

DAVIS

Alexandra Merrick. My Daughter.
Killed in action. I buried an empty casket.

Eve notices Davis' hands are shaking. There is something rehearsed and calculatingly slow about his delivery.

DAVIS (CONT'D)

Dying in war is an agreement with God. I can bear that guilt. It is a part of serving, and we serve our country.

EXT. FOOTBALL FIELD - MORNING

Autumn. A YOUNG GIRL runs through the field, looking back over her shoulder, smiling.

DAVIS (V.O.)
December 25th, 2010. A video is released by the Mujahideen Haqqani Council. Alex is being held. Alex is ALIVE.

Footage of the same Young Girl from above, now early 20's, fatigued, emaciated, captive. But ALIVE.

DAVIS
From that night, I have been in confidential contact with the State Department negotiating the prisoner swap of Alex for three Haqqani's release from Guantanamo Bay to the Republic of Cuba.

The footage of Alex dissolves into newer images where she looks less stable, to footage from six months ago wherein she's on death's doorstep. ALWAYS IN THE SAME LOCATION.

DAVIS (CONT'D)
Pentagon stopped negotiating. The deal for my daughter's life, died. But I was never told.
(BEAT)
I am now here as a father to continue the conversation. No one cares about Alex. Now you have to.

Davis looks to Eve, hands her the final Index Card. Trembling, she tries to speak to her father.

Eve breaking down. Davis places the card back into her hand.

EVE
Tonight is about fathers saving their children. If you don't find Alex. If you don't release the prisoners. This is the last time you will hear my voice.

CLICK --

-- Davis presses down on the phone receiver.

INT. WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM - CONT'D

The President faces ALAN, the CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF, 50's, a weasel, approaching with a bound dossier on the campus and Davis.

CHAIRMAN

Davis Merrick. Fifty-two. Career serviceman. Founded Fort Bragg Special Forces Underground.

PRESIDENT STEVENS

Who are they.

CHAIRMAN

Super patriots. Shenandoah Virginia compound. Man hasn't paid taxes in a decade. No living family outside SFU.

PRESIDENT STEVENS

A citizen soldier has my daughter and took the entire campus. I was there today. He didn't want me. He wants me to experience what he's become. Who's his daughter?

CHAIRMAN

FARM was negotiating, but the footage stopped. She's a ghost.
(BEAT)
We lost the dialogue.

PRESIDENT STEVENS

You mean you lost a US Marine. The one POW from Afghanistan and you left *her*...

CHAIRMAN

WE left her.

The President is about to choke this man to death.

CHAIRMAN (CONT'D)

Every POW house is a live site with FBI hostage rescue already airborne from Quantico.

PRESIDENT STEVENS

This doesn't leave the room.

CHAIRMAN

The Times will hold the call.

PRESIDENT STEVENS
They will also leak it and deny it.

CHAIRMAN
This is national security. It's
worth more to them as their
exclusive after we clear it.

PRESIDENT STEVENS
I have to tell my wife that our
daughter just read me her own
ransom note. Move the prisoners off
Gimto soil and onto Cuban land.
Now.

CHAIRMAN
If she's alive- we're just buying
time. Putting his daughter on a
line doesn't save Eve. We free
those prisoners- that's not proof
of life either.
(BEAT)
And your leverage becomes zero.

PRESIDENT STEVENS
Crystal clear Alan. I will lose my
presidency before my daughter
tonight. And right now, I am the
President.
(BEAT)
Open Gitmo. Get them airborne. Tell
Haqqani. I'm negotiating.

CHAIRMAN
Take a beat. There's a program you
don't know about. A Watchman. For
Eve.

PRESIDENT STEVENS
Play that back at half speed.

EXT. CAMDEN GYMNASIUM - CONT'D

Thomas silently running across dorm roofs until he reaches
line of sight to the gymnasium.

Thomas clocks the guards: Mask 2 by the front door, Mask 4 on
the roof, scanning the fields with Nightvision.

There's no safe, quiet way to Eve inside the gym.

INT. THOMAS' DORM ROOM - CONT'D

Thomas, barely able to use his hands, enters his dorm room.

Painfully, he loads his SIG SAUER, takes his MINIMAG LITE, puts on all black clothing and takes off.

INT. DEAN'S OFFICE - CONT'D

Mask 1 keeps the shotgun on Dean Lytle's throat. Eve stares at him.

EVE

You said this is about saving a life. You kill me. The class. That doesn't save your daughter.

Davis grabs her by the throat, covers her mouth with his hand and presses the 9MM to her temple.

Davis pulls the black hood over her head again. All she can feel is the barrel pressing against her temple.

BANG --

-- Everyone jumps. Davis shot the wall behind her head--
RING.

Davis pulls the hood off her head. He's an inch from her face.

Eve is shaking.

EVE (CONT'D)

What was the last thing you said to your daughter?

BEAT. Davis stumped.

DAVIS

That doesn't matter in these four walls.

EVE

The last thing my father said to me was everything we do has consequence.

(BEAT)

I can help you. You don't need anyone else but me. Let them go. I won't leave you until they find your daughter.

DAVIS
Not everything is about the first
daughter tonight.

He pulls the hood over her head.

INT. SCIENCE LAB - CONT'D

Thomas grabs potassium nitrate, a beaker, welder's glasses
and a mathematical protractor before slipping out the door.

INT. PHOTOGRAPHY DARK ROOM - CONT'D

Thomas turns on the RED SAFETY LIGHT and begins mixing a
cocktail of the acidic wash and film clearing bath in a large
plastic tray.

Thomas pours the final solution into a plastic gallon bottle
and takes off.

EXT. GYMNASIUM - CONT'D

MASK 4 waits by the main entrance to the gymnasium. On the
roof are the backup eyes via Mask 2. Nightvision goggles on
both.

Thomas has a one gallon jug in his hand. He mixes in the
nitrate powder, shakes it, throws it 25 yards away from Mask
4, who sees it land --

-- approaches gun extended. It's a jug for cleaning supplies.
One step closer --

POP.

It's not an explosion but a homemade FLASH BANG, BURNING HOT
LIGHT for 10 SECONDS-- which in turn-- blinds the man wearing
night vision.

Thomas emerges from the woods wearing welding glasses. He
tackles Mask 4 who takes out a Buck Knife and slashes Thomas'
arm.

Mask 4 turns Thomas over while raising the blade to his torso--
he FREEZES, EYES GO WIDE-- confused.

Protruding from his Trachea we see the mathematical
PROTRACTOR sticking out.

Mask 4's in shock as we hear SSSSSS, the last air leaving the
lungs through a hole in his neck.

DEAD-- collapsing on Thomas-- who's pinned under a blood gushing corpse.

You can train for this moment, but not the one of registering a human life was taken by your hands. The horrors of survival, full frontal. Thomas gags, struggles for air, shaking from head to toe.

Finally, he refocuses, slides the body off his torso. Thomas strips the man's radio, Nightvision goggles, and silently moves towards the gymnasium fire escape.

Thomas looks through a window and can see the student body. He sees a wire running from end to end through the Kryponite chain locks.

He locates Mask 5 inside, patrolling the student lines.

NO EVE.

EXT. GYM ROOF TOP - CONT'D

Mask 2's on watch on the roof of the domed structure.

EXT. TRACK AND FIELD HOUSE - CONT'D

Thomas surveys the Gym from afar-- there's no clear point of attack as there's nothing for 100 yards in every direction.

He opens a track and field locker-- three plastic tubes from a football Lineman running drill machine, two heavy metal SHOTPUT BALLS, and two METAL JAVELINS.

EXT. GYMNASIUM ROOF - CONT'D

Mask 2 scanning the distance. SNAP --

-- A contracting sound-- the plastic football cables launching something FAST.

Mask 2 turns as a JAVELIN WHIPS BY HIS HEAD. He turns just as THE SECOND JAVELIN lands in his rib cage. HE SCREAMS.

Thomas is running full speed up the side of the road-- hoping he can reach Mask 1 before he can take aim.

Thomas crests the roof as he lands a 17LB metal shotput metal right into the villain's nose bridge, CRACK --

-- Shattering the FOREHEAD BOSS and NASAL SPINE.

Mask 2 drops to his knees-- his body slowly slides down the roof before resting on the storm drain, convulsing.

Thomas, still shaking from the adrenaline, takes Mask 2's radio and holds it next to Mask 4's-- we can see ten lights, two of which are now blinking. The men he just killed.

Thomas compresses the radio's wrist receivers-- the lights STOP BLINKING.

THOMAS

It's a circuit...They're active
when on a live channel.

He turns the radio off.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

Blink when offline.

Checks the villains' watch as he removes it, syncing himself with the enemy.

Thomas drops to a knee-- vision blurring from what he just did. The impact. The gore. This is what he needs to do to live through the night. Thomas times his breathing back to normal --

TIME: 312AM

INT. DEANS OFFICE - CONT'D

Two lights are blinking on Davis' tablet.

DAVIS

Gym copy.

Radio silence.

EXT/INT. GYMNASIUM - CONT'D

From the skylight, Thomas locates Mask 5, patrolling the hostages. He scans the students once again--

THOMAS

Where are you Eve.

Thomas runs through the immediate wooded area until he reaches a rusty metal manhole cover.

INT. TUNNEL SYSTEM - CONT'D

Dropping into frame-- Thomas enters the "sealed" Pre-WWII evacuation tunnels.

A weathered map on the wall shows the tunnels running from building to building, forming a pitch-black catacomb of crumbling, century-old masonry work.

Wind swirls around him, debris kicks up everywhere, with only the MiniMag Lite as his guide.

INT. DEAN'S OFFICE/MANOR HALL - CONT'D

Davis checks his watch- TIME: 339AM.

Davis' looking at Eve's file on his monitors-- we see Thomas, Avi, and Hallie.

Davis points to Eve's friends. Mask 1 prints the image and leaves the room.

INT. MANOR HALL BASEMENT - CONT'D

Thomas emerges from the basement of the Dean's Office building, quietly lifts a metal grate and pulls himself out.

As he exits, he can hear faint voices through the air duct.

INT. DEAN'S OFFICE - CONT'D

Davis continues to scroll through student files.

He keeps coming back to Eve's friends. Specifically Thomas, who looks just like any another student. It's too perfect.

Davis' radio goes off --

MASK 1 (O.S.)
Two bodies.

DAVIS
Pull out those three kids. We're missing someone who was already on campus.

INT. MANOR BASEMENT - CONT'D

Thomas can hear faint voices through the vent but it's not clear from this distance.

He carefully ascends the old wooden stairs towards the first floor.

At the door, he silently turns the knob, slides it open a few inches, about to walk through when --

-- SLAM, the front door opens and quickly shuts, several pairs of feet fly by just on the other side of the door.

Thomas stays frozen, can see through a crack:

AVI. HALLIE. Marched by Mask 1 to the second floor.

INT. DEAN'S OFFICE - CONT'D

Mask 1 enters with Hallie and Avi, their mouths and eyes shut with duct tape.

Avi and Hallie are seated in on the floor directly in front of Eve.

DAVIS

Who is Thomas Elsen.

Eve can barely get a breathe, let alone a complete thought out.

DAVIS (CONT'D)

We hurt you, they make us the monster.

CRACK-- Mask 1 cracks Avi on the wrist with the butt of his MagLite. Avi SCREAMS THROUGH THE DUCT TAPE.

DAVIS (CONT'D)

Why they're here.

A moment before the pain actually sets in, before everyone registers how casual this is for Mask 1.

DAVIS (CONT'D)

Eve. Who is Thomas.

EVE

He's just a student, we're friends,
he's friends with all of us. I'm
not lying! PLEASE!

Davis covers Eve's mouth with duct tape.

Mask 1 takes a clear plastic can liner and fastens it over Avi's head. Immediately, he starts gasping for air.

Davis stares at Eve, who can now only watch.

SECONDS GO BY SLOWLY --

-- Avi is suffocating before their eyes. Mask 1 lets Avi fight for three more seconds before removing the bag.

Davis takes the tape off Eve's mouth.

EVE (CONT'D)
STOP!!! HE'S A STUDENT!!! PLEASE
STOP!!!

Mask 1 places the bag back over Avi's head.

EVE (CONT'D)
PLEASE GOD JUST STOP!!! WHAT DO YOU
WANT????!!!

Avi is freaking out, the bag being sucked in his mouth, desperate for any air.

EVE (CONT'D)
I'VE KNOWN THOMAS FOUR YEARS. HE'S
A STUDENT!!! STOP!!!

Davis stares at the image of Thomas from Eve's student profile.

Avi is sucking in plastic only. Eve, crying, looks at her friend who's suffocating in real time.

Finally-- Davis pokes a tiny breathing hole in the plastic bag with a ballpoint pen.

Avi sucks in air as the bag sticks to his mouth.

Davis turns to Eve, pulls out his sidearm.

DAVIS
Their lives are on your shoulders.
Pick one.

Davis points to her friends and the Dean. Eve panicking, heart pounding.

EVE
Me.

That gets Davis' attention.

EVE (CONT'D)

He's just a student. Kill me then.
We can't find your daughter if you
kill us!

BANG --

-- Davis shoots Dean Lytle SQUARE IN THE CHEST. He falls on his side, writhing in pain, bleeding to death, crying through the gag.

His wife tries to scream --

BANG BANG --

-- Davis shoots her twice in the abdomen.

Eve is a state of paralysis. Like taking a life, witnessing two taken right in front of you is something you never come back from.

BLACKOUT as Davis covers Eve's head with the hood.

INT. MANOR BASEMENT - CONT'D

Thomas overhears everything, with no choice left, presses the RADIO OUT button.

THOMAS

This is Thomas. I surrender.

As he takes off into the woods outside-- away from the building.

INT. DEAN'S OFFICE - CONT'D

Davis and Mask 1's radios go off. Everyone freezes.

Davis looks at the monitor and sees Mask 6's light now flashing.

On screen, he can see the positions of the militia across the campus-- and now Thomas who's moving away from their position.

Davis signals to Mask 1 to cut the lights, look out the windows.

INTERCUT AS NEEDED:

DAVIS

Who are you?

THOMAS

Take me for them. I'll come
unarmed. Please.

DAVIS

Eve dies in thirty seconds if you
don't come to Manor Hall's entrance
and lay on the pavement.

(BEAT)

Twenty nine. Twenty eight.

THOMAS

Killing these kids means your
daughter never comes home. You came
here to burn down this school or
save your girl's life?

We can see Manor Hall behind Thomas now, as if he's drawing
out Davis and Thomas intentionally.

DAVIS

Twenty-seven. Twenty-six.

Davis has pinpointed Thomas' location to 100 yards from the
Hall where he is right now.

DAVIS (CONT'D)

Do not be the reason she dies
tonight.

Eve freezes at the sound of Thomas' voice. *Who is Thomas?*

EXT. WOODED PATHWAY - CONT'D

Thomas is running through the thick woodland path- AWAY from
the Dean's Office where Eve's being held.

Thomas takes his radio, rips off his sleeve and turns it into
a three foot line of fabric.

We see HIGH TENSION WIRES overhead, heading downhill, AWAY
FROM EVE.

EXT. MANOR HALL - CONT'D

Davis hops in his Pickup truck-- checks his GPS signal
indicator-- the dot-- Thomas, about 75 yards into the woods
and moving further away.

The truck accelerates out of frame.

INT. DEAN'S OFFICE - CONT'D

Mask 1 looks out the window, at Eve, at Avi's shattered wrist, Lytle and his wife bleeding out, the kids battered.

EXT. MANOR FIELDS - CONT'D

Davis is within 50 yards of Thomas' signal, nearing a Utility Shed.

INT. DEAN'S OFFICE - CONT'D

Mask 1 stares at the kids who's eyes are filled with tears.

Mask 1 walks towards Eve.

EXT. WOODS - CONT'D

Davis runs towards the location, gun trained, silent. He can feel it-- Thomas is here.

INT. DEAN'S OFFICE/MANOR HALL - CONT'D

Mask 1 walks to Eve, who's shaking, breathing in what could be her final breath with the turn of events.

MASK 1
God forgives.

Tears running down Eve's face. Mask 1 turns off his radio. De-holsters his gun.

EXT. WOODS - CONT'D

Davis now sees Thomas' radio suspended at the end of the high tension wires by the torn fabric Thomas fashioned.

He was drawn here-- away from Eve. Davis freezes.

Seeing the open manhole cover from the coordinate where he pinpointed Thomas-- Davis sees the end of the tension wires with the radio hanging.

Davis frantically grabs his wrist transmitter --

DAVIS
Lock down that office!

INT. DEAN'S OFFICE - CONT'D

Mask 1 cuts Eve's binds. She's trembling, confused.

EVE

Please. Why are you doing this?

Mask 1 points his shotgun towards Eve's head.

MASK 1

Because someone has to light the first match.

He pulls the trigger as BANG --

-- Eve's face is dusted with a blood spray.

Her eyes closed, dead. Gently, her eyes blinks through the blood. ALIVE. She looks up --

-- The right side of Mask 1's head is BLOWN OFF. His neural system registering the impact, he remains upright. His remaining eye blinks once.

From behind him, through the window, on the fire escape, is THOMAS-- gun smoking.

Eve CANNOT BELIEVE HER EYES. IN THE BLINK OF AN EYE--

-- THUD -- Mask 1's torso falls to the side which forces his gun to go off --

-- CLACK -- The second report FREEZES everyone.

Hallie looks at her torso-- BLOOD RACES from her rib cage, she registers the impact.

Thomas runs to her and immediately applies pressure to Hallie's wound where the buckshot ripped into lung tissue.

Hallie's screaming now. It's earsplitting, guttural yelling.

Thomas rips the duct tape off Avi's mouth, frees him and Eve, who rush to Hallie.

Quickly, Thomas pulls a thick cable TV line from the wall and cuts it down to a foot in length. He grabs a paperback book, pulls out Mask 1's knife and approaches Hallie.

THOMAS

This draws blood from your lungs.
It will hurt more than the
buckshot. It's this or you die.

Hallie barely nods, agonizing pain about to increase.

THOMAS (CONT'D)
KEEP BREATHING. Bite as hard as you
can. Once I start- we don't stop.

Hallie bites the book, closes her eyes.

THOMAS (CONT'D)
2. 1.

And turns the knife into Hallie's right rib cage while
feeding in the cable line to her lung cavity.

EXT. GREAT LAWN - CONT'D

Davis red lining towards Manor in the immediate distance.

INT. DEAN'S OFFICE - CONT'D

Thomas now has the cable in her lung, we now hear air come
out followed by blood-- it's working.

Thomas draws blood out with his mouth as air slowly starts to
escape the collapsed lung.

Eve is cradling Hallie's head as she drifts in and out of
consciousness.

THOMAS
Keep breathing. LOOK AT ME HALLIE.
DO NOT CLOSE YOUR EYES.
(To Eve and Avi)
We're moving.

EXT. MANOR HALL - CONT'D

Davis' truck skid stops as he jumps out in one motion--
rushing into the foyer.

INT. MANOR HALL DEAN'S OFFICE FLOOR - CONT'D

Davis kicks down the Dean's Office doors.

He stops in his tracks --

-- HOSTAGES GONE. Mask 1 dead.

DAVIS
 (INTO WRIST TRANSMITTER)
 There is a man on campus posing as
 a student. Any student outside the
 gym is a target. Put eyes on Eve-
 shoot on sight.

INT. TUNNELS BENEATH MANOR HALL - CONT'D

The only light source is his flashlight-- it's a perilous
 walkway, the kids band together, moving Hallie very slowly.

Eve processing who Thomas really is.

EVE
 THOMAS. WHAT IS HAPPENING?

She stops.

THOMAS
 I am getting you to the panic room
 in the Library. They are here for
 you.

EVE
 WHO? ARE? YOU?

Thomas stops, looks her in the eye.

THOMAS
 That's why you don't know me. But
 right now, we can't stop.

Eve is not moving.

THOMAS (CONT'D)
 I'm your Watchman. I'm the last
 line.

While Eve's alive because Thomas is a lie, she's never been
 more betrayed in her life.

Avi stops to catch his breath-- stares at the man he thought
 was just a student all these years.

THOMAS (CONT'D)
 Hallie will die if I don't get her
 blood pressure stable.

Thomas looks at his best friends, each of them in a complete
 state of shock.

AVI
HOW IS THIS HAPPENING?

THOMAS
AVI. Ty and Smythe are dead. I
don't know how many they came with.
We are it and we need to move.

AVI
There were ten at the beach.

THOMAS
We don't know.

EVE
Thomas. Right now. Tell me who are
you.

THOMAS
Who I am does not matter. I need to
get you to a panic room. Hallie
will die in our arms. I need to
cover and evacuate you. We need to
get to the library before they do.

BEAT.

THOMAS (CONT'D)
We have one chance tonight.

AVI
We can hide right here!

THOMAS
I am the X factor Avi and you must
LISTEN TO EVERYTHING I TELL YOU.
(BEAT)
We get to the south panic room.

Eve still not moving.

EVE
I'm the reason they came here. I'm
responsible. I can't leave the
class. If I run they die.
(BEAT)
We're going to the gym.

THOMAS
No. I evacuate you. Hostage rescue
comes back. I'll go back for them.

EVE

If I leave this campus, five hundred kids dying will be on my shoulders. I won't live with that.

THOMAS

I signed an oath and will die for you. You're getting off this campus alive. That's my job.

EVE

Those men are here for me. I won't let anyone die because of who I am and who my father is. My life isn't worth more than anyone else's. Not five hundred.

AVI

Eve. Thomas saved our lives. Listen to him.

EVE

We can't leave them.

Thomas never calculated for Eve to WANT to stay and risk her life for the class.

EVE (CONT'D)

The dean and his wife were just killed in front of my eyes. That class can't die for me. We can't leave them Thomas.

THOMAS

I'm trained to keep you alive. Not the entire class. I won't leave them. But we have to get Hallie to a panic room. That's first.

AVI

GUYS!

Avi signals in the cave, a flashlight is visible about 100 yards away.

THOMAS

Now.

He leads them into a separate tunnel-- Eve holds a beat-- stares at Thomas.

A SHOT RINGS OUT. A SECOND SHOT RINGS OUT.

They run into the darkness, full speed. Eve trips, Avi pulls her up with Hallie. Thomas turns and shoots four times down the tunnel.

The distant flashlight goes black. Thomas stops everyone, turns off their light.

THOMAS (CONT'D)
(WHISPERS)
Shh.

A THIRD SHOT RINGS OUT towards our team, bouncing off the tunnel walls.

Amidst the steady wind, we hear a foot step down the tunnel.

Thomas silently leads the group down a stone staircase, deeper into the catacomb. He points his gun towards the entrance.

No one makes a sound.

The steps get closer, closer, CLOSER.

Thomas' dripping sweat, gun poised, focusing on the target line.

WHOOSH --

-- we hear a figure run by. Thomas shoots in a triangle pattern to cover the entire tunnel space.

THUD.

We look down the tunnel. A flashlight rolls on its side less than fifty feet away. A figure in all black barely visible as-

-- ZIP -- a MASKED MAN swings a retractable lead baton at Thomas who blocks it with his forearm. The Masked Man lunges at the group, falling backwards into their small hiding space.

The struggle plays out visually with only Thomas' light and the Masked Man's headlight. We only see flashes of their hand-to-hand fight.

The kids are screaming, Thomas is shouting, it's impossible to see exactly what's happening when suddenly-- the Man goes limp.

The villain falls headfirst into a puddle, his headlight bouncing light off the water.

Motionless.

Panting, Avi holds a pipe-- what just cracked open the back of the villain's head.

PING-- Avi drops the pipe. Falls to his knees, shaking, covers his mouth. Everyone frozen.

The light pools around the villain's head turns from white to crimson as blood fills the water.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

Keep moving. Those shots will bring more.

EVE

We can't run Thomas. You know them too.

THOMAS

EVE- we don't know who else is around the corner. We die, that does fuck all for the class. We're trying to stay alive.

EVE

What else don't we know about this place.

THOMAS

The school's fitted for an emergency evacuation. The tunnels were opened, two panic rooms were installed, your classrooms have passages for evacuation routes.
(BEAT)
Your dorm was wired. Your phone was tapped. Your email...

Eve stops walking.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

Eve. This wasn't my design.

EVE

But you never said it was wrong. That's why you never responded to me. You work for my father.

THOMAS

I'm sorry.

AVI

STOP. Phones. If they can phone out from the Dean's office...we just need a landline. You have Eve.

(MORE)

AVI (CONT'D)

We call out, they storm the campus
right now?

THOMAS

Because if anyone comes on campus
our entire class dies. That's his
leverage.

(BEAT)

We're here.

Thomas pulls down a METAL HANDLE from the ceiling, revealing:

INT. LIBRARY - CONT'D

A service grate in the sub basement pops up and our gang
exit.

Hallie is barely able to stand upright-- her breathing
increasingly labored.

HALLIE

There's fluid.

Thomas lifts up her shirt from behind, places his hand on the
backside of her rib cage.

THOMAS

Breathe.

Hallie exhales. Thomas feels the vibration of liquid during
inhale.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

Your left lung is collapsing. I
have to go back in.

Hallie's eyes well up.

Thomas leads them down a long corridor to the original wing
from the 1800's.

EVE

Who else knows about you?

THOMAS

Not even your parents. It wasn't
meant to be all four years. Once I
contacted you, they had a direct
pipe for the first time. I started
controlling it.

Thomas takes Eve's hand.

THOMAS (CONT'D)
I altered the day reports. Kept
myself close to you, kept them
further away.

EVE
Why get close to me?

BEAT.

THOMAS
Because I never calculated for you.
Not the file. You. And no one
calculated for us.

EVE
I was an assignment.

Thomas pulls down a floor to ceiling bookshelf-- revealing a
steel vault the size of a walk-in freezer.

THOMAS
Every day I wake up knowing if a
bullet came, I step in front of it.
Who I am to you beyond the kid you
know doesn't matter right now.

Thomas spins in a code and pulls open the main latch. Inside
is a survival pantry with medical supplies.

THOMAS (CONT'D)
Very slowly.

Thomas opens a first aid kit, begins pouring Iodine on the
entry points across her chest. Hallie is trying not to scream--
- crushes Eve's hand.

THOMAS (CONT'D)
Hallie. STARE RIGHT AT EVE. Do not
look down.

HALLIE
Why?

She sees the wound-- blood and bile have caked around the
bullet holes.

HALLIE (CONT'D)
Please please please don't-

Thomas has to rip out the cable cord which hangs from her
lung.

CLICK-- The floodlights go out as blinking emergency lights come on.

THOMAS
Someone's here.

AVI
If no one knows this room exists.
They can't anticipate its contents.

They look at Avi, perplexed.

AVI (CONT'D)
Eight grams to three. Iron to
aluminum.

From the emergency pantry shelves, Avi grabs corn syrup, mustard, ionized water, and four D batteries.

AVI (CONT'D)
I'm a chem major with zero interest
in chemistry.

Avi cuts the side of the batteries open and pours the acid into a glass vinegar jar.

AVI (CONT'D)
But I've been perfecting homemade
thermite since third grade.

With Hallie looking away at Avi --

-- Thomas covers Hallie's mouth and rips out the cable from her torso. Off her scream --

INT. LIBRARY LOBBY - CONT'D

Davis pulls down a consumer grade gas mask while dropping two smoke grenades.

The first floor instantly fills with thick white smoke.

Davis points two fingers towards the stairwell. Mask 6 and 7 run to the second floor.

EXT. LIBRARY MEZZANINE - CONT'D

On the second floor-- Mask 6 and 7 spot Hallie's shoes sticking out from behind a desk, inadvertently lit by the blinking safety lights.

INT. LIBRARY - CONT'D

On the first floor-- backup safety lights flicker on and off every other three seconds.

An off screen sound to Davis' left --

-- Davis unloads shells in the direction and follows slowly, silently. Smoke curls around a series of floor to ceiling book cases.

Davis pursues in the direction of the curling smoke, leveling the shotgun in between every shelf.

As he turns to the final shelf, he locates the source of the moving smoke-- a cracked window, sucking out the fumes.

Davis spins and SHOOTS just as A SECOND SHOT goes off-- GRAZING HIM in the shoulder.

Across the floor we see Thomas, shot in the shoulder, laying on the floor-- trying to see where Davis is while sliding behind a book case.

Davis pulls off his Flak Jacket-- which the round did not pierce.

Ten feet away, Thomas is trying not to make a sound, while holding his bleeding shoulder blade.

INT. LIBRARY - CONT'D

On the second floor-- the Masked men site lock Hallie's shoes-- BANG-- and shred the toe beds.

Nothing.

Stepping closer, they can now see the shoes are just decoys.

Trapped, they look around as we hear a faint fuse-like sound. Follow the sound to--

-- The Thermite filled sneakers ignite as we follow a trail of the Napalm like substance snaking towards a metal cabinet.

BLACK. FLASH-- they run away at full speed.

BLACK. FLASH-- they reach the stairwell.

BLACK. FLASH-- BOOM--

-- A ball of fire combusts through the hallway and propels the villains into the cinder block walls.

INT. LIBRARY - CONT'D

Davis receives the burst of flames and is thrown through dry wall-- into a metal support beam on the main floor.

The blast's recoil topples the bookcases which in turn tumble onto Thomas-- pinning him.

Books are burning, embers dancing into the frame as the sprinklers go off, raining brown water throughout the building.

Davis tries to get to his feet but stumbles backwards, unable to stand.

The smoke quickly clearing, Thomas is 15 feet away from Davis-- pulling himself out of the dry wall.

Davis and Thomas lock eyes.

Thomas manages to roll over, reaches the gun and turns to shoot Davis --

-- WHO IS GONE.

EXT. DAVIS' MOUNTAIN COMPOUND - DAY

Back to where we started, deep in the Virginia mountains-- A CEMENT AND CAMOUFLAGE CABIN buried into the side of a rock quarry.

SWAT LEADER 1 (O.S.)
Team One motion.

From Off-Screen, SWAT MEMBERS, BOMB SQUAD K-9, and FBI HOSTAGE RESCUE AGENTS silently swarm Davis' compound exterior.

INT. DAVIS' MOUNTAIN COMPOUND - MOMENTS LATER

The front door is ripped off it's steel hinges and the teams rush the building-- guns drawn.

FBI HOSTAGE RESCUE 1 enters the bedroom-- empty.

FBI HOSTAGE RESCUE 1 (O.S.)
Clear.

SWAT LEADER 2 rushes the den-- empty.

SWAT LEADER 2 (O.S.)
Clear.

BOMB SQUAD 1 sweeps the kitchen-- empty. Davis' Compound is empty.

BOMB SQUAD 1

Clear.

Camera stays as Bomb Squad 1 leaves the kitchen-- we linger on a framed photograph of Alex Merrick and her father Davis.

Davis looks similar, but does not perfectly match the man, Davis, who has taken Camden hostage.

FBI HOSTAGE RESCUE 1 (O.S.)

Relay Quantico. Virginia is empty.

Hold on image-- Davis Merrick smiling with his daughter.

Off-Screen sounds of a Helicopter landing.

EXT. U.S. COAST GUARD CYCLONE CUTTER DECK - CONT'D

Marine One touches down on the helicopter landing pad on the stern of a metal hulled, 175' U.S. COAST GUARD CYCLONE CUTTER vessel.

The President, Margaret, and Alan walk towards the command center tower.

They are met by the FBI HOSTAGE RESCUE TEAM (HRT) COMMANDER 50's, a master strategist, shouting over the blades, while showing them their counter position on a tablet--

HRT COMMANDER

Hostage rescue and SWAT blanket the perimeter. No one's leaving.

FIRST LADY

And no one's entering- leaving the student's where they've been all night.

HRT COMMANDER

We broach Camden, he's licensed to kill everyone in the gym, even Eve...

PRESIDENT STEVENS

Then what is your idea?

HRT COMMANDER

Facts are what we work from. There's no clean way to extract Eve.

(MORE)

HRT COMMANDER (CONT'D)

The campus' three land borders are lined with PD. The shore's SEAL secured.

PRESIDENT STEVENS

All useless against his timeline. It's down to math. If Davis' compound just imploded...He's not walking away tonight...And if his daughter is dead, where do you think that leaves Eve?

NO ONE CAN ANSWER.

FIRST LADY MARGARET

Where's Thomas?

HRT COMMANDER

Thomas isn't an option less we hear from him at source.

(beat)

My only job is to protect your daughter. At all costs...We can risk the student body and go in for Eve.

FIRST LADY MARGARET

Listen to me. This is not a Monday morning quarterback moment. Because there is no morning after for those kids.

(beat)

Has it occur to anyone this is about something else?

They reach the COMMAND TOWER and enter.

PRESIDENT STEVENS

More and more, but there's no time to find Alex, and we can't assume this is anything other than a father and a death wish.

FIRST LADY MARGARET

...Why do all this if not to make us feel what it's like to be this helpless. To be in his shoes.

CHAIRMAN

Because you don't need Eve to get our attention.

HRT COMMANDER

A hijacked school bus gets undivided, national, attention.

(beat)

The First Daughter gets the President's undivided.

PRESIDENT STEVENS

This is about me. He's making me be a father. That's what I'm prepared to do.

CHAIRMAN

We have matching sites on Alex, but we can't anticipate she's alive.

HRT COMMANDER

The three prisoners in negotiation have moved to Holguin airport in Cuba. It's your word.

A BEAT.

PRESIDENT STEVENS

They're free. Tell Haqqani.

CHAIRMAN

I know this is your daughter. What happens now goes well beyond your resignation, which make no mistake, is a guaranteed outcome of this evening.

HRT COMMANDER

Once the U.S. day trades prisoners- it doesn't stop. You're not just a father right now. You're the elected President, and you can't do this to the country.

PRESIDENT STEVENS

Watch me. Be grateful they didn't pick your family. Eve, and that entire class are getting off campus tonight.

(beat)

You may be helpless, but I'll walk on that campus and negotiate her life for mine myself.

That freezes the entire room.

PRESIDENT STEVENS (CONT'D)
I am your Commander in Chief.
Where's our satellite above Camden.
I need to find Thomas.

EXT. LIBRARY WOODS - CONT'D

At the base of the woods our gang races for the tree line.

Eve notices the LINE OF THE SOLAR TRIGGERED C4 SPIKES. She pulls one out of the ground. The group pauses.

THOMAS
Grab the other end!

Thomas and Avi pull off a manhole cover as the group descends into the tunnels.

INT. TUNNELS - CONT'D

As the group runs, Eve grabs Thomas' arm-- holds up the solar spike. Thomas takes it, inspecting.

THOMAS
A solar powered path light...

He unplugs a plastic cable line.

THOMAS (CONT'D)
...Nine volt command wire.

AVI
Don't. Move. That's an IED.

Everyone locks up-- They're holding a bomb.

THOMAS
If this goes off by a light charge,
it would have happened already.

AVI
There's not enough light.

Thomas sees the 9V battery already unplugged.

EVE
They're all over campus.

THOMAS
What's his reasoning...He kills
everyone here, that doesn't bring
his daughter back.
(MORE)

THOMAS (CONT'D)

Just needs a threat to keep anyone from coming on campus?

EVE

Why kidnap me if you've got the student body and now all of campus rigged?

HALLIE

If he just needs hostages, you don't have to go this far to negotiate. He wants your father.

THOMAS

Play it out. He wants his daughter back. He was going to extract you Eve. There was a plane.

EVE

There are three prisoners we can exchange for her. He's here because they stopped negotiating.

THOMAS

Free the prisoners or find my daughter. Whichever comes first. Then why haven't they released them.

EVE

He made me read my own ransom. When he spoke to my father- every word was prepared. Why?

BEAT.

HALLIE

Wouldn't anyone if they were taking the President's daughter hostage?

THOMAS

...He runs light IED's across campus?

EVE

The propane tank. It's fenced behind barb wire for a reason. You reach it with enough heat- it's a fireball.

AVI

Too complicated if you only need one hostage. You.

THOMAS

Regardless of what we think he wants to accomplish, we have to evacuate, right now.

AVI

What are we doing about those two lines of path lights?

EVE

If the tower goes up, anything else, a car, a gas line, oil heaters, boilers- anything- explodes.

AVI

That's the entire campus.

THOMAS

We can release the propane into the air.

EVE

And if we can pull those spikes and get them into the water, they can't trigger anything to begin with. The tower's safe.

AVI

How long are we hoping that much propane stays in the air for?

Thomas checks his watch: 525AM

AVI (CONT'D)

Meaning, we don't get every spike into the water, just one goes off- catches a car's gas tank- it could reach the fumes and whatever's left in the tower. Combustion.

THOMAS

We have fifteen minutes.

EXT. PROPANE TOWER PERIMETER - CONT'D

Thomas and Eve come to a skidding stop in front of the 100' HIGH PROPANE TOWER.

Thomas rushes to find the EMERGENCY RELEASE VALVE. With their combined might, the valve opens --

-- SSS. Propane gas fills the air.

Thomas lets the truck drift in neutral. Once down the hill, he turns the engine over and floors it.

EVE

Every day, you were just doing a job. Why know me. Why get so close if all you're supposed to do is observe and report.

THOMAS

I came here to make agent. The job was to keep eyes on you. That's it. They told me you were at risk. Suicidal. Delusional. A threat to yourself, to your father, the country. Just watch you, curb future issues for them.

BEAT.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

Then I met you- not the file Eve. They wanted to cork what you might do when he took office. They lied to me. Bandwidth. It was a lie from inception.

Eve holds the sides of her head, processing.

EVE

If so...Why didn't you leave?

THOMAS

Because of you. And I didn't want to leave you to anyone else. I changed the reports to keep them away. I started keeping them away from you.

Eve slams her foot on the brakes.

EVE

And you knew after tonight I would never see you again and you didn't want to tell me. You were going to disappear.

THOMAS

I wrote it down, every day, everything. I was telling you tonight. I know you're leaving the country. Haiti. The alias. E. Augusta. I didn't tell anyone- which will cost me the agent title.

Eve stares at Thomas-- finally believes him, the full sacrifice he's making for her at the end of the day.

EVE

I may never know who you really are. But before these past four years, I was never myself with anyone. I never thought I'd meet you either. I did.

BEAT.

EVE (CONT'D)

For whatever that means to you and your file. Thank you for protecting me.

He stares at her, she at him. Four years of running through this exact dialogue in his head, finally, in the open. He is himself, only now, as:

THOMAS

Means everything.

EXT. SOCCER FIELDS - CONT'D

Avi's furiously pulling up the spikes one by one. He's got about 75 of them in the backseat of his truck.

We pull back-- another hundred charges leading straight to the coastline from the propane tower.

EXT. MANOR HALL - CONT'D

Hallie pulling the charges out of the ground, numbing pain, struggling to walk.

INTERCUT AS NEEDED: The different kids each see the skyline changing.

INT. CYCLONE CUTTER COMMAND TOWER - CONT'D

President Stevens and First Lady Margaret are being walked through the HRT rescue plan.

The complex plan is illustrated across a series of monitors.

HRT COMMANDER

FARM confirms that Alex Merrick is at one of three Haqqani houses. Nigeria. Tehran. Bogota.

CHAIRMAN

This is fifty fifty live
intelligence.

PRESIDENT STEVENS

This man didn't come on campus to
negotiate. He wants me to feel
loss.

FIRST LADY MARGARET

Release the prisoners.

BEAT.

PRESIDENT STEVENS

They're already on foreign soil.
(beat)
Silence from Haqqani.

HRT COMMANDER

They're free men and no group
confirms Alex. If she's alive.

CHAIRMAN

If we could find every missing
soldier in three hours they'd be on
Fox News nightly.
(BEAT)
We don't bet what we can't see. We
just did and you lost.

FIRST LADY MARGARET

If Alex is gone and that man on
Camden finds out, what's keeping
any of those kids alive right now?

HRT Commander spins a monitor-- three vehicles are assembling
in the center of campus. IMAGE EXPANDS-- Thomas, Eve, Avi,
and Hallie.

PRESIDENT STEVENS

EVE! Get a helicopter-- she's
alive!

HRT COMMANDER

ETA three minutes.

EXT. CAMPUS QUAD - CONT'D

The three trucks meet up. The sky is starting to lighten up
ever so slightly.

THOMAS

We're driving five hundred charges
that go off when light touches
them. Whatever you do- DON'T STOP
YOUR TRUCK. When daylight breaks-
JUMP.

The three trucks fly in a line towards the far east side of
the school-- towards the pier.

Each truck on the cusp of drifting out of control.

The cliff's edge is about 100 yards away.

But, LIGHT IS UPON US.

Thomas takes Eve's hand, ready for impact. Eve grabs Thomas'
arm-- locked together, he finally holds her in his arms--
they got this far tonight.

The sunlight creeps along the grass field, racing to catch
the flatbeds.

Ten yards. Five. Two. Sunlight overtakes the trucks --

THOMAS (CONT'D)

NOW!

Thomas and Eve jump and hit topsoil at 75MPH.

Avi and Hallie jump on cue-- screaming, crashing to the
ground on broken bones.

Each of the kids look up-- sunrays hitting their faces as:

EXT. CAMDEN QUAD - CONT'D

The trucks FLY towards the cliff. Thomas' truck SPINS OUT OF
CONTROL and BARREL ROLLS into Avi's.

SPIKES SPILL OUT ACROSS THE LAWN-- now in a concentrated
group.

THOMAS

RUN!!!

They bolt, following Thomas to the Cliff's edge, fifteen
yards away. They scramble, but you cannot outrun the Sun.

If they can make it off the cliff, the water will either save
them or kill them on impact.

EXT. GREAT LAWN - CONT'D

CLOSE UP: a single blade of grass as the sun brings it to life.

TIME RAN OUT.

INT. CYCLONE CUTTER COMMAND TOWER - CONT'D

Via Pave Hawk Helicopter camera, the President, First Lady and staff watch the kids run AWAY from the rescue helicopter.

EXT. CLIFF'S EDGE - CONT'D

The kids are but five yards to the edge- the SAME CLIFF THEY JUMPED OFF IN THE OPENING SEQUENCE.

EXT. GREAT LAWN - CONT'D

With the sunlight fully on the collection of solar charges, we are about to experience a massive IGNITION--

The solar charges implode into a single ball of concentrated energy. The blast fans out across campus in tandem across the lawn.

A MOMENT OF SILENCE.

The blast vanquishes in mid air. We track a single flare as it dissipates.

Nothing.

All it takes to ignite propane is a spark.

A single flare up reaches a lone propane pocket. SPARK--

THE PROPANE TOWER IGNITES the remaining gas clouds-- released by the kids through the EMERGENCY VALVE.

Camden is BLANKETED IN POCKETS OF PROPANE GAS, hovering invisibly. The symphony of destruction begins--

WHOOSH-- from the sky we see MINI BURSTS OF PROPANE GAS IGNITING.

The flames are a mix of PURPLE, ORANGE, BLUE, AND YELLOW-- lasting for a split second pending the cloud of gas.

Across the campus propane pockets are triggered, which in turn cause massive amounts of PROPAGATED ENERGY.

Quick bursts blast in every direction, as Thomas and the kids continue to run for the cliff.

Sections of the tree line are flash fried.

A parking lot of cars are ignited in unison.

A series of propane gas tanks from a line of BBQ's erupt in concert.

INT. GYMNASIUM - CONT'D

The windows shatter, showering the kids with glass before the flare burns off.

Then, in a split second it's all over-- leaving them bleeding, confused, terrified.

EXT. GREAT LAWN - CONT'D

The kids continue to run-- just yards now to the cliff's edge.

Suddenly--

Directly behind them, a LARGE PROPANE CLOUD ignites, sending a series of bright colored blasts behind them.

As the flames burn out in mid-air, the combustion sends our team flying towards the edge.

EXT. BLUFFS - CONT'D

The group free falls as various colored flames flare up and over the edge on their heels, before vanishing in the sky.

They drift through the air. A placid moment-- peaceful and innocent as the jump from earlier in the night.

They tumble mid-flight, but the water is now upon them.

EXT. UNDERWATER - CONT'D

Matching the JJRTC POOL training sequence, four bodies ROCKET INTO THE WATER. The kids stay submerged several meters beneath the surface.

Four pulse-less bodies drift underneath the current.

FLASH-CUT:

EXT. JJRTC TRAINING FACILITY POOL - DAY

We see Thomas' face, staring into nothing. Again, almost at peace with the moment, having finally knocked himself out, helpless.

The moment in his head he was always fearing the most. Now adrift.

EXT. GREAT LAWN - CONT'D

The campus continues to be singed from the sporadic propane clouds. Gradually they decrease in size, with the final bursts no bigger than a meter in diameter.

As the natural gas pockets burn off, the entire school has an eerie, orange glow to it as fumes continue to flare up at random.

INT. CYCLONE CUTTER COMMAND TOWER - CONT'D

From monitors, President Stevens and the First Lady can only watch in horror and confusion-- unclear what ignited across the campus.

FLASHBACK:

EXT. STARK CORNFIELD - DUSK

The high stalks sway in the hard winds. Six year-old Thomas searches for his older sister, who's vanishing, swallowed by the stalks.

Frantic, he runs through the field, cutting his face, hands, arms-- desperate to find her.

She is gone, but EVE IS NOT. He saved her. Job done. He can leave this world now.

EXT. JJRTC TRAINING FACILITY POOL - DAY

Thomas, still a recruit, closes his eyes, letting himself go. He got Eve off the campus-- he can leave her now.

BACK TO PRESENT.

EXT. UNDERWATER/ATLANTIC OCEAN - CONT'D

Thomas drifts deeper into the abyss, drowning, spent. A hand grabs his shirt, stops the descent.

It's Eve.

For the first time in Thomas' life, someone has SAVED HIM.

Eve, losing oxygen, breathes into Thomas' mouth, propels him towards the surface.

EXT. OCEAN SURFACE - DAYBREAK

They breach.

In Thomas' vision, he dies. His entire life until this moment-- no one comes back for Thomas.

Eve gasps for air, Avi and Hallie on shore, trying to find their breath. Eve sucks water out of Thomas' mouth.

EXT. GREAT LAWN - CONT'D

A tattered American Flag defiantly flies in the background, the sun now shining through the ripped red, white, and blue.

Everything from the surface to five feet above ground is a thick purple haze, now illuminated by the sunlight.

EXT. SHORELINE - CONT'D

Eve's face caked with dirt, holding onto her collar bone which is now piercing skin from jumping off the truck.

Avi's bleeding from his head-- can't stand. Hallie's wound re-opened, she clutches her rib cage.

Thomas looks around, tears in eyes. Coughs up more water. He grabs Eve and pulls her tightly against his body.

INT. CYCLONE CUTTER COMMAND TOWER - CONT'D

Looking at the bank of monitors at the aftermath of a campus ripped up by propane clouds, the President and Margaret pray.

An aid hands them enhanced satellite images showing their daughter, Thomas, Hallie, and Avi getting the charges into the trucks.

PRESIDENT STEVENS

Thomas.

FIRST LADY MARGARET

EVE.

EXT/INT. SHORELINE TUNNELS - DAY BREAK

Thomas and the group crawl towards the mouth of the tunnel-- the same one where Thomas let Eve out of his sight when Davis arrived.

THOMAS

In the library- he had a shot- at me. He didn't take it.

EVE

Why wouldn't he?

THOMAS

Because this isn't be about me.

EVE

It wasn't about Ty or Smythe either. Or Lytle or Anne.

THOMAS

I'm telling you. He didn't take the shot.

EVE

What if he just wants to make a point.

(BEAT)

He's leaving us to die while keeping my Dad at a helpless distance.

THOMAS

He wants you. Everything else is to make your dad feel what it's like to suffer. He never was going to let you walk.

(BEAT)

He wants us to know what it's like when no one can save you. And you know they've left you behind.

EVE

Like his daughter.

Thomas stops the group-- climbs up a metal ladder.

EXT. CEMETERY - CONT'D

We see the campus cemetery-- a small plot of land containing 25 gravestones and a decrepit Ground Keeper's Shed.

Thomas leads them to the shed, kicks off a small combination lock to reveal a digital switchboard, a second set of STEEL DOORS open.

They've reached "THE HAWK"-- the MOBILE PANIC ROOM modeled after RAVEN ROCK'S PRESIDENTIAL SAFE ROOM.

As the kids approach-- Thomas hears a distant CLICK.

Thomas looks at Eve-- the kids look at each other for a beat, confused-- sourcing the sound.

THOMAS

DOWN!

Thomas drags Eve to the ground as a lone .30-06 Springfield bullet zips by Eve's neckline, grazing her shoulder and cutting through a tuft of her hair.

A millimeter south, the FIRST DAUGHTER WOULD BE DEAD.

A MAGAZINE OF BULLETS fly from close range as the students crawl into the Panic Room, all seen from the kids' POV flying above them.

The door is sealed-- the kids safe within.

INT. THE HAWK - CONT'D

Thomas presses an EMERGENCY SIGNAL BUTTON.

THOMAS

You're safe, Eve. You're safe.

Exhausted, lucky to be alive, and unable to fully process what they've just survived.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

They'll airlift the vault...There's a man outside with a gun. He can still stop whoever comes for you.

EVE

Whoever comes for us. Second Davis, or anyone else he brought knows we're here, pinned, they use the kids as hostages.

THOMAS

I need to draw the gun away before
he can radio out.

EVE

I'm not leaving you.

THOMAS

EVE. You're not leaving this room.

EVE

Bullshit. I won't leave you again.
We need each other and you know
that.

HALLIE

Thomas. Please.

AVI

You can't do this alone.

EVE

And I didn't spend four years with
you just to let you walk into your
own grave.

Thomas knows he must make a decision right now to keep Eve
from putting herself in danger for him.

All eyes on Thomas.

EXT. THE HAWK - CONT'D

Mask 10 has the 1919 DLO aimed right at the panic room door,
which just cracked open for a split second.

A single bird lands and starts pecking at whatever was left
by the door. Trees rustle above.

More birds start descending on what was left by the door--
more birds-- THEN MORE-- eating crushed Fritos and Pringles.

The front door is now fully blocked by a PLAGUE OF CROWS-- he
pulls the trigger for a beat, scattering the birds.

INT. THE HAWK - CONT'D

The bullets hit the door, Thomas looks at the point of
impact, estimates trajectory.

THOMAS

He's west. Stay to my right. Get low. Don't stop running.

The trip safe in the corner covers a manhole, which takes them down to a second safe vault.

THOMAS (CONT'D)

I'm opening the door to let him shoot out a clip. Get in the sub room. Wait for my count, I open the door- we run.

The kids climb into a second tier sub room, which is accessible by a steel ladder.

Hallie goes, then Avi, and and Eve descends, she looks back at Thomas --

-- Who's already spinning open the door.

EVE

THOMAS!!!

Thomas stops, looks back as bullets slam into the exterior.

Intentionally, he drew his friends away from the door, to LOCK THEM INSIDE.

Thomas looks at Eve, frozen, he must leave her for her own good, despite knowing he's walking into a certain death.

She bolts for the door as Thomas SLAMS IT SHUT ON EVE-- SPINNING THE MAIN LOCK.

Just as the metal closes, they lock eyes.

Thomas leaves Eve behind for good. SAFE.

EXT. THE HAWK - CONT'D

Mask 10 unloads once again on the panic room exterior as Thomas jumps for cover.

MASK 10 (INTO WRIST TRANSMITTER)

She's inside the crypt in the cemetery!

INT. DAVIS' PICKUP TRUCK - CONT'D

A headlight flickers. At the bottom of the ravine we see Davis' smashed truck.

Davis' radio hangs from the passenger seat, the door open. We slowly follow the cable to an earpiece, which lies on the dirt ground.

A broken hand, slowly reaches for it as Mask 10 continues to shout through the transmitter.

MASK 10 (O.S.)
COPY! COPY! COPY!

The hand grabs the earpiece.

EXT. WOODS - CONT'D

Mask 10 finishes off another magazine. The older cartridges aren't smokeless and throw off a thick grey fog all around him.

He hears three steps in two separate directions; he turns the fresh barrel and lights the woods.

He steps forward and notices the thick metal SuperWinch Kit cable on his truck has been taken out.

He follows the cable with his eyes, guiding his sight by the crosshairs-- something is out there.

Thomas presses his thumb down on the electronic towing winch-kit pull button, pneumatically tightening the wire cable at full speed.

THWACK --

-- Mask 10 can only watch in wonder as a .25 inch metal wire rips through a tree trunk and around a second branch only to fly towards his collarbone at full force.

The wire literally cuts the collarbone in half and rips out part of his upper spleen.

SILENCE.

Mask 10 hasn't registered what just happened before the wire rips back around WITH THE TOW HOOK landing RIGHT INTO HIS CHEST and back through the other side.

Thomas releases the trigger which allows the Super-Winch kit to pull five tons at full force-- the towed object being the enemy's now-removed chest cavity.

INT. CYCLONE CUTTER COMMAND TOWER - CONT'D

A bank of monitors showing an HH-60G PAVE HAWK TRANSPORT HELICOPTER approaching The Hawk Mobile Panic Room.

HRT COMMANDER

Three minutes. We hook on to that box, your daughter leaves this behind.

President Stevens and First Lady Margaret are this close to bringing their girl home; their hands rock-solid interlocked.

EXT. GRAVEYARD - CONT'D

The Pave Hawk Helo circles back to the panic room, hovering 25 feet above.

PILOT

Visuals confirmed. Beacon in Hawk.

The CO-PILOT sees the unmanned utility truck next to the antique machine gun.

CO-PILOT

Unmanned threat. Engaging.

Two NAVY SEALS ascend ropes towards ground and begin latching magnetic teeth to the Panic Room's exterior.

The chopper slowly starts to raise altitude as the entire Panic Room is ripped from the earth.

INT. PAVE HAWK COCKPIT - CONT'D

PILOT

Beacon onboard. All alert.

INT. WAR ROOM - CONT'D

Everyone watches as the Panic Room is slowly getting airborne. Two cables holding the First Daughter over the thrashing waves.

EXT. CAMPUS QUAD - CONT'D

Marshall floors the engine towards the lighthouse. He can see the Pave Hawk in the distance, and now the Panic Room AIRBORNE.

EXT. ATLANTIC/CAMDEN COAST - CONT'D

FOUR NAVY SEALS surface from just beneath the campus shoreline.

SEAL TEAM LIEUTENANT JG (INTO EAR PIECE)
One in motion.

EXT. SOCCER FIELDS - CONT'D

Davis comes to a skid stop and jumps out of the truck, racing up the lighthouse steps to THE HIGHEST POINT ON CAMPUS.

INT. WAR ROOM - CONT'D

Everyone's holding their breath as the first daughter is suspended 25 feet above the Atlantic in a lockbox.

HRT COMMANDER
Fifty yards.

EXT. LIGHTHOUSE OBSERVATION TOWER - CONT'D

Davis aims, holds his breath in, we hear only what he does-- heartbeats-- takes aim-- squeezes --

-- Tracer shells projectile towards the Helo.

EXT. PAVE HAWK TRANSPORT CHOPPER - CONT'D

The bullets slam into the Rotor Blade, sending the Helo violently spinning 360 degrees.

INT. CAMPUS ACCESS ROAD - CONT'D

Thomas floors it towards the Lighthouse-- having led Davis to this specific point.

EXT. LIGHTHOUSE OBSERVATION TOWER - CONT'D

Davis reloads, aims, squeezes the trigger-- POP.

He then lightning fast chambers another bullet-- POP-- shooting two bullets within a split second of each other.

INT. PAVE HAWK TRANSPORT CHOPPER - CONT'D

The first bullet SLAMS into the PILOT'S CAGE-- killing the CO-PILOT.

The second bullet lands in the stomach of the PILOT. Hit, miraculously, he maintains altitude.

PILOT
CO-PILOT HIT!!! WE'RE DROPPING!!!

The helicopter's spinning out of control-- forcing the two cables to intertwine and toss the Panic Room END OVER in MID-FLIGHT.

The momentum from the massive steel room drags down the Pave Hawk's tail and begins to FLIP THE HELO.

From the Pilot's POV we see the Cyclone Cutter in the immediate distance-- the one place to land. There, or crash into the water and sink the First Daughter ALIVE.

No choice left. The PILOT GAINS ALTITUDE, then KILLS THE ENGINE.

The Pilot presses a RELEASE safety button which frees the wire cables from the chopper.

THE PANIC ROOM FREE FALLS DOWNWARDS- be it land or sea.

INT. PAVE HAWK COCKPIT - CONT'D

The bird is being tossed by its own force into the ocean where it smashes on impact-- water shattering the windows instantly.

The Pilot just made the ultimate sacrifice to get the Panic Room onboard. Safe. A hero, now dead, so Eve could live.

EXT. CYCLONE CUTTER DECK - CONT'D

WHAM-- the Panic Room collides with the Cutter's Deck. The metal box, miraculously-- IN ONE PIECE.

INT. CYCLONE CUTTER COMMAND TOWER - CONT'D

No one can exhale. The First Daughter is trapped inside a steel box just sitting on the ship's deck. President Stevens and the First Lady run towards their daughter.

EXT. LIGHTHOUSE - CONT'D

Davis can see the Panic Room on deck. This is now about revenge.

He quickly reloads and sees the Panic Room onboard the Cutter-- but 200 yards away.

Davis SEES THE PRESIDENT, one shot away-- instantly puts President Stevens in the crosshairs.

We see a flash-- instantly followed by punch to Davis' nose bridge which throws him against the ground.

Davis springs back up on his feet, nose broken-- eyes bloody-- completely caught off guard by --

-- Thomas, jumping to strike right away.

Thomas almost goes head over heels off the deck but he scales along the ledge and gets on top of the tower roof, with Davis now underneath him.

The roof is tumbling down under Thomas' weight-- he jumps off at the last second and brings down Davis in a chokehold.

Davis twists Thomas off his back, punching him square in the temple.

Davis frees himself and choke holds Thomas off of him. Davis holds his elbow and snaps the bone back under the skin.

EXT. CYCLONE CUTTER DECK - CONT'D

The Seals rushing to the panic room where Eve is trapped within.

AN HRT ENGINEER connects to the complex lock systems. CLICK. The gears spinning on the final set of locks.

The President and the First Lady standing right there-- ready for Eve to return to their arms.

ECU the metal lips catching each other on the verge of unlocking the massive doors.

The sound of metal dials turning slowly fades up as all diegetic audio fades down.

Each pan leaves the frame timed to the SLOW MECHANICAL CLICK of the lock gears turning.

The scenes cross cut with each CLICK/CUT TO:

EXT/INT. SAFE HOUSE - NIGERIA - NIGHT

ARMY RANGERS rush a Stash House holding U.S. Civilian detainees.

Two insurgents are shot as a Marine takes fire back. A stray dog barks at the soldiers.

NO ALEX MERRICK.

CLICK.

EXT/INT. APARTMENT COMPLEX - BOGOTA - DAY

SPECIAL FORCES storm a Safe House and meet heavy opposition.

We see SIX PRIVATE CONTRACTORS held as prisoners.

NO ALEX MERRICK.

CLICK.

EXT. LIGHTHOUSE - CONT'D

From Thomas' POV we're taking the beating of a lifetime. A plotted time buy, BY DESIGN.

Thomas intentionally drew out Davis to the campus high point to fight him solely to buy time so the Panic Room could leave Camden.

CLICK.

INT. SHIPPING CONTAINER - TEHRAN - NIGHT

MARINES kicking down several metal doors revealing different U.N. Peace Keepers-- emaciated, blindfolded.

NO ALEX MERRICK.

They rush towards a final door.

CLICK.

EXT. CYCLONE CUTTER DECK - CONT'D

The President and First Lady Margaret GLUED to the final turn of the vault door watching via the Seal's Helmet Camera. They pull back the door very slowly.

The only audio is that of the metal gears unlocking.

CLICK.

EXT. LIGHTHOUSE LAWN - CONT'D

SEAL Team One nearing the lighthouse.

EXT. LIGHTHOUSE - CONT'D

Thomas is about to be sailor tossed over the edge. All we can hear are the sounds of bolts slowly opening to --

CLICK.

INT. SHIPPING CONTAINER - TEHRAN - NIGHT

Bullets fly. A lone Marine kicks down the LAST DOOR- the final hope to finding ALEX MERRICK.

EXT. CYCLONE CUTTER DECK - CONT'D

The metal door is pulled back revealing interior of panic room. The President and First Lady's reaction-- COMPLETE HORROR.

EXT. LIGHTHOUSE - CONT'D

Thomas, on the verge of being projected off the structure as BANG --

-- EVERYONE FREEZES.

Neither Thomas nor Davis can locate the source of the shot, nor the point of contact.

INT. CYCLONE CUTTER DECK - CONT'D

The metal door finally opens.

The First Parents faces tell us everything. The Panic Room is EMPTY.

FLASHBACK:

INT. THE HAWK - DAYBREAK

Last moment between Eve and Thomas where we see Thomas lock Eve and the kids inside.

Thomas sealed Eve inside the panic room for her own safety-- against her wishes and their agreement. The final sacrifice, giving himself to save them.

REVEAL: Eve blocked the door from sealing, letting them leave the panic room to help Thomas. Against all odds, THEY CAME BACK FOR THOMAS.

BACK TO PRESENT:

EXT. CYCLONE CUTTER DECK - CONT'D

Diegetic sound returns. The question on everyone's mind--

FIRST LADY MARGARET
WHERE IS MY DAUGHTER?

EXT. LIGHTHOUSE - CONT'D

Davis tumbles to the ground, revealing --

-- Eve, shaking with fear, holding a smoking gun, next to Hallie and Avi.

THE KIDS NEVER LEFT.

Davis looks at Eve-- shocked, unable to stand.

Thomas, in a state of blood loss and confusion, now realizes he is not alone in this world. They SAVED HIM. AGAIN.

The NAVY SEALS emerge from the Lighthouse stairs-- guns trained on Davis-- who has rifle now aimed at Eve.

Eve never took her sight off Davis --

-- SEALS have multiple barrels on Davis as well.

SEAL LIEUTENANT JG
ON THE GROUND!

NO ONE IS BUDGING. Davis will kill the First Daughter right here.

SEAL LIEUTENANT JG (CONT'D)
I HAVE BEACON.

Davis' eyes locked on Eve.

SEAL LIEUTENANT JG (CONT'D)

DOWN!!!

Eve's line of sight locked on Davis.

EVE

We can find her. Please.

Davis looks into Eve, sees a moment of Alex in her-- a brave, defiant woman willing to make a sacrifice.

INT. SHIPPING CONTAINER - TEHRAN - NIGHT

CLOSE ON: The Marine wipes caked dust off a pair of DOG TAGS around the neck of a captive who is not breathing.

EXT. LIGHTHOUSE - CONT'D

Davis is perfectly still. The SEAL holds his earpiece tightly-- waiting for the go ahead from the White House.

SEAL LIEUTENANT JG

HANDS UP! HANDS UP!

Davis looks right at Eve-- neither moving an inch.

EVE

Your daughter. What was the last thing she said to you?

Everyone frozen.

Davis' face relaxes, looking at Eve, as if to thank her for her help.

The puzzle is suddenly fitting better for Eve. She has a split second to make one decision.

"DAVIS"

They are home.

A DIFFERENT ACCENT.

FLASHBACKS:

EXT. COASTLINE - NIGHT

Davis and Marshall hand signaling the student head count. No words are exchanged.

INT. DEAN'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Davis calmly handing Eve the typed Index Cards. He never speaks unless necessary.

LATER --

Before Davis speaks to the President he inhales/exhales, trains his jaw, REHEARSING A VIRGINIAN ACCENT.

LATER --

Eve staring at Davis. This man, a weathered father, beard wildly overgrown, almost looks too much the part. There's a reason he and Marshall speak only when they need to.

LATER --

Eve reads the typed index card to her father.

EVE (V.O.)
Tonight is about fathers saving
their children.

She just found the reason to everything they've been wondering up until this very moment.

BACK TO PRESENT:

EXT. LIGHTHOUSE - CONT'D

STANDOFF. Davis is pulling the trigger.

EVE
Your voice.

"Davis" nearly smiles. One girl figured it all out.

FLASH-CUT:

EXT. HOLGUIN MILITARY AIRPORT - CUBA - NIGHT

The THREE HAQQANI PRISONERS released in Cuba earlier this evening under cover of darkness.

EXT. LIGHTHOUSE - CONT'D

Eve not taking her eyes off this man.

EVE

If not your daughter, what is this
about?

His final line, spoken VERY SLOWLY, in his native NARI
accent.

"DAVIS"

We are inside.

This is not an American man.

"Davis" just bought a second, and a second is all it takes to
pull a trigger --

-- BANG.

-- BANG.

Eve's quicker to the draw.

A bullet enters "Davis"' larynx.

His expression-- victory-- frozen on his face as he crashes
to the ground.

Eve and Thomas stare at each other. She just saved them. Now
we see-- Thomas cannot breathe. His face, placid, staring
into Eve's eyes.

They did it-- but there was a SECOND BANG. "Davis" placed a
bullet into Thomas' chest.

Thomas exhales one last time. He saved the love of his life.
His eyes shut.

The SEALS fire a series of bullets into "Davis"' body to
confirm the kill.

SEAL LIEUTENANT JG

Beacon is secure.

Eve rushes to Thomas.

She stares at "Davis"-- The Architect-- who was never going
to leave this campus once he arrived.

It was all to free family. Intentionally placed prisoners
inside Gitmo-- now released.

Eve collapses onto Thomas as Avi and Hallie rush to them.

There will be no celebration. Thomas is not breathing.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAMS, EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIANS,
SEARCH AND RESCUE, SWAT-- converge on the campus.

EXT. GREAT LAWN - CONT'D

From the lighthouse, Eve emerges with Thomas hooked to life support devices. Avi and Hallie following right behind.

Avi and Hallie board a MEDIVAC TRANSPORT HELICOPTER. They each embrace the other kids, holding the moment, letting everything out. Lucky to be alive.

As the MediVac takes off, both Hallie and Avi look to Thomas-- the man they're lucky to have been so close to all these years-- the reason they survived-- dying before them.

Marine One touches down. President and First Lady in tears.

President Stevens and Margaret envelope their daughter. Stevens finally lets himself go into his family's arms.

Military guards and medical teams rush the First Family. As they get separated, Eve pushes her way through the lines of people, grabs Thomas' hand-- being carried away.

A man and a woman, dirt and blood covered- the nation's First Daughter and the man who saved her life, locked --

-- Eve still shaking as she's pulled away by her parents and EMT. Eve holds steady, grabs Thomas, and gives him THAT KISS.

EVE

(WHISPERS)

We leave together.

As she fights onboard Thomas' MEDIVAC HELICOPTER-- leaving this nightmare by his side.

Thomas' eyes are barely open, but we see the faint outline of Eve, staring back at him, crying, praying he lives through this.

FADE OUT.

EXT. WHITE HOUSE SOUTH LAWN - DAY

The President finishes addressing a wide audience of reporters.

PRESIDENT STEVENS
 THE CAMDEN ACT heralds a long
 overdue mandate for this
 administration's promise to leave
 no soldier behind.

FRAME CHANGES SLIGHTLY --

-- A CNN logo on the bottom of the frame now. We are watching
 a live broadcast through a television set.

PRESIDENT STEVENS (CONT'D)
 Margaret and I were within seconds
 of losing our daughter. No parent
 should ever be that helpless in the
 field of battle. It ends. Today.

CLICK.

Channel changes-- it's on every network.

ON SCREEN-- MUTE.

SILENCE. We now hear a faint BEEP. BEEP. BEEP.

Pull back-- we are:

INT. WALTER REED MILITARY MEDICAL CENTER - MORNING

As the camera weaves down a series of INTRAVENOUS lines until
 they reach Thomas' arm in a web.

Thomas is on Life Support-- his eyes are now closed.

BEEP. BEEP. BEEP.

Eve sits bedside, still bandaged from Camden. She finishes
 reading The New York Times "exclusive" report on the hostage
 situation --

-- Headline: "NATION POLARIZED OVER FIRST DAUGHTER HOSTAGE
 SETTLEMENT. SENATE DEMANDS PRESIDENT RESIGNATION."

Below the text-- an image of the Cuban Military Airport where
 the hostages were released, next to a photo of Eve speaking
 at graduation.

Eve continues scanning international and domestic news sites
 on her Smartphone-- the story-- not the full truth-- is
 global.

Eve reads to Thomas as though he can hear her.

EVE

No mention of the real tragedy. A marine and her father were killed- while the enemy was released.

(BEAT)

Virginia PD found the real Davis Merrick's compound empty. No forced entry. Gone. The enemy made him vanish.

Eve expands a Regional Virginia Times-Dispatch website.
Headline: "HUNT ENDS. MILITIA LEADER REMAINS MISSING."

EVE (CONT'D)

Why I need to do this. We can't forget them twice.

Eve's finishes drafting a lengthy email from her personal, locked address to a distribution list of media outlets.

QUICK CUTS:

-- ALEX, 23, U.S. MARINE, patrolling alongside an AM GENERAL H1 HUMMER.

EVE (V.O.)

Haqqani picked Alex Merrick specifically because her father had the background, and the means, to act. They selected her.

-- Alex's eyes go wide as an impact lifts the vehicle off the ground.

EVE (V.O.)

Took her alive. Started negotiating for their prisoners- who intentionally put themselves inside Gitmo.

-- A female body, wrapped in white cloth, burns in a barren crop field.

EVE (V.O.)

They cut six clips and delayed them for proof of life. While Alex was already dead.

-- Alex's Military Funeral with the empty casket.

EVE (V.O.)

Talks died, as orchestrated.
Haqqani started prying the father
to do something for his daughter's
life. Get the President's
attention.

-- Davis writes scores of letters to the White House, The New York Times, The Washington Post, and The Chicago Tribune.

EVE (V.O.)

While the terrorist who took Camden
shadowed her real father.

-- A man of Middle Eastern decent studies surveillance and public domain information about Davis Merrick, his career, the Virginia militia he founded.

-- The Architect "Davis" memorizes his new life.

EVE (V.O.)

Matches his new identity, mirrors
his face, but no one beyond campus
would ever know.

-- "Davis" shaves his long black hair, dyes it blond. Grows a beard, inserts green contact lenses. A homemade tattoo--
OTPOR (resistance) being laser removed.

-- The "Davis" from Camden stands before our eyes.

EVE (V.O.)

He became Davis Merrick. Assembles
a cell to pose as Davis' militia.
Why they wore masks the whole
time...They take me. Camden.

-- Initial siege of Camden wherein we see the "Militia" and "Davis" take the campus.

EVE (V.O.)

They hold the school hostage while
my father authorizes any and
everything to find the captive
marine.

-- The still-captive foreign prisoners swallow several microscopic pieces of written coded cipher-- Information they're bringing out of Gitmo.

EVE (V.O.)

As the three prisoners walked away
and he's forced to resign.

-- The Cuban skyline as the Middle Eastern Prisoners are driven off the Air Base.

INT. WALTER REED MILITARY MEDICAL CENTER - CONTINUOUS

Eve finishes typing her op-ed email. Before sending--

-- The door opens. Mother enters. We see her face-- 50's, exhausted, kind...an older version of Eve.

MOTHER

That won't change anything.

EVE

Who are you.

MOTHER

I created Thomas Elsen.

Eve looks at her tablet-- then to Mother-- who holds up a mirror tablet of Eve's screen-- this woman has eyes everywhere.

MOTHER (CONT'D)

You're not wrong. Camden was a four year, meticulously engineered prisoner release- with three prisoners they *intentionally* placed inside. They removed your father and split a nation.

Mother takes a seat across the bed from Eve.

MOTHER (CONT'D)

The ground charges before the propane blast...He was never letting you walk away. They were done once your father answered the phone. They won.

Eve hands Thomas' hand-- no response.

EVE

LEAVE.

MOTHER

You know what keeps me awake at night? If they're that sophisticated, if our enemy is that brilliant, what's inside Gitmo to make it worth it? Give it a shot.

EVE

If they placed three prisoners
inside that prison- where else are
they.

MOTHER

Damn. My boy was right...You are
smarter than even my files.

EVE

Just go.

MOTHER

All it took was to force the
President to act as a father. It
took you. That's a lot to carry.
(BEAT)
You're father's resigning in twenty-
four hours.

EVE

And the world is not black and
white. I get it. I lived through
that night. It's a very grey
fucking planet but now is when you
walk away from us.

MOTHER

Your account means nothing without
Dad in office. Remember you're
file. You're history. Haiti. E.
Augusta has no secrets with me.

BEAT.

MOTHER (CONT'D)

Stevens needs to collect the
sympathy vote to take back the
White House in two years. But
you're not the First Daughter
anymore.

Eve looks Mother dead in the eye as her index finger moves to
the SEND button.

EVE

And this isn't about me anymore...A
father and his daughter deserve to
have their story told.
(BEAT)
The truth still matters.

Mother leans forward.

MOTHER

Truth is we are losing. The enemy is everywhere and smarter than the woman sitting across from me. Mickey Mouse and the Yankees used to best the foreign option. No more. Our enemies have landed.

(BEAT)

They will win because an ethernet cable and a teenager do what my office takes years to dream of.

Mother moves next to Eve-- stares at Thomas. A HEAVY BEAT.

MOTHER (CONT'D)

They are architects. We play defense.

EVE

He can't move because of what happened. He is done.

MOTHER

While our country is collapsing. Camden was part one. They're coming back. They're now informed.

Eve turns to Mother --

MOTHER (CONT'D)

They still think you're the First Daughter. You're a bullseye. You're father doesn't have to resign. Help Thomas. Help your family.

BEAT.

MOTHER (CONT'D)

Sleep on it for me.

She walks towards the door.

EVE

Question.

MOTHER (O.S.)

Shoot.

EVE

What's his real name?

Mother stops in her tracks, turns, and faces Eve. She's got her.

Mother removes a blood caked, burnt, hand written letter. The LETTER THOMAS WROTE EVE. HIS FINAL DIARY ENTRY-- the one he wanted to give her before the Camden siege.

Mother hands it to Eve. Eve opens it, slowly looks up at Thomas' face, knowingly...

MOTHER (O.S.)

Thomas watched you twenty-four-seven. I watched him twice as close.

Eve turns to Mother.

MOTHER (CONT'D)

He conditioned you. That night at Camden you saw what no one else did. You saved lives because of a cognitive skill set you didn't know you possessed.

(BEAT)

He wanted to tell you. In his own words...

-- As the door closes behind Mother.

Eve stares at the words, as we hear Thomas' voice.

THOMAS (V.O.)

One day this will end. When it does we will be together. Until then, this is why we fight on. This is my story Eve. I am a recruit.

BLACK.

THOMAS (V.O.)

So are you.