

MY BROTHER'S KEEPER

Series Pilot
by
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PILOT EPISODE

TEASER

FADE IN:

A large motor yacht is cruising through crystal clear blue Caribbean waters.

INT. SHIP AT SEA - MORNING

Daniel Patterson, 50s, is eating breakfast and reading the Wall Street journal. A young female companion, **Monica**, 30's, sits across from him.

DANIEL

Something has come up. We'll be spending a few days in port when we get to St.Maartin.

MONICA

Is it anything serious?

DANIEL

No, just some regulatory issues with the I.A.E.C. I have to deal with. Senator Donaldson is back on his pulpit again and somehow that means I have to jump through more hoops. I swear, there's no bigger pain in the ass than a politician running for re-election!

MONICA

Bummer for you, lucky for me. I'll just have to stay busy doing some shopping.

DANIEL

I knew you'd find something to keep you busy darling.

MONICA

I think I'll go out and get some sun. Care to join me?

DANIEL

You go ahead. I'm just going to catch up on the news. I'll be out in a while.

She walks out of the main salon and onto the fantail of the boat. Daniel gets back to his reading.

Suddenly he looks up, startled by the presence of someone else in the room.

DANIEL (CONT'D)

Who are you? How did you get on board?

A cold, female voice responds.

STRANGER (O.S.)

If I were you Mr. Patterson, I would be less worried about who I am and more worried about why I am here.

DANIEL

What...why are you here?

STRANGER

I have a message from Martin.

A look of fear comes on Daniel's face.

STRANGER (CONT'D)

He says, "you are no longer my brother's keeper"

Daniel's expression changes from fear to distress. He suddenly can't breath and in a few seconds he slides off the chair and onto the floor, dead.

CUT TO:

EXT. SWISS CHALET - DAY

A gorgeous chalet sits at the head of an alpine lake framed by the surrounding Alps.

INT. CHALET - DAY

Andreas Steiner, 70s, sits at his desk in the study of his magnificent chalet. He is on the phone conducting obviously important business.

ANDREAS

...I understand that Dieter
...yes...yes, I agree but the timing
is still eight months too early...
well, you'll just have to explain
that to the ECB when you're in Geneva
next week...yes, well, I can handle
the Chancellor. He'll be up here on
Friday and I'm sure he'll come around
...good! You just handle the board
of governors and I'll take care of
Gerhardt.

He hangs up the phone and returns to papers on his desk. He is reviewing them when the door opens to his office. Andreas does not look up, assuming it is his assistant.

ANDREAS (CONT'D)

What is it Heinrich? I'm busy.

STRANGER (O.S.)

I'm afraid Heinrich is on a break just now.

ANDREAS

And who are you?

STRANGER (O.S.)

Martin sent me.

A look of resignation comes across Andreas's face. In a few seconds he is slumped over at his desk, dead.

INT. PENTHOUSE - MORNING

David Sokolov, late 40s, is in his penthouse overlooking Central Park. He is on his exercise bike while watching the morning news on a big flat panel T.V. mounted on the wall. He is watching CNBC and they are doing a feature on him. It includes a taped segment with Erin Burnett.

MARIA

Under David Sokolov's guidance Bethel-McCann has tripled its annual revenues and seen its stock shoot up a whopping 146% in the last twenty four months. I had a chance to sit down with David at his Manhattan headquarters recently.

As the taped interview starts David gets off his exercise bike, wipes his face with a towel, grabs a bottled water and sits down on the couch to watch.

MARIA (CONT'D)

Wall Street has certainly taken notice of your efforts since taking the helm at Bethel-McCann but I'm not sure our viewers are aware of your significant philanthropic endeavors. Tell us how you got involved building schools in Iraq.

DAVID

Well Maria, the only schools that were still functioning....

A soft female voice speaks up behind him.

STRANGER

It almost makes you sound like a saint!

He is startled but very quickly and coolly regains his composure. He does not turn around. He acts as if it is customary for young beautiful girls to show up unexpectedly.

DAVID

Don't believe everything you hear on T.V.

STRANGER

I don't.

DAVID

So which would you like me to be? saint or sinner?

STRANGER

How about you be the saint and I'll be the sinner?

DAVID

Sounds good to me.

STRANGER

By the way, Martin sends his regards.

The playful banter stops immediately and David turns to see the woman. She is walking around the couch and stops in front of him. Only a glass coffee table separates them. He is suddenly very nervous.

STRANGER (CONT'D)

He says you should have stayed out of Europe.

DAVID

Europe is a big place.

STRANGER

Apparently not big enough.

Without warning David kicks the coffee table forward, catching the stranger in the knees. She buckles and goes down. He is on her in one quick move but she is well trained and fends off his attack. She counters and a brutal fight ensues. The momentum shifts back and forth but eventually she gains the advantage. A brief moment for him to recover is all she needs to train her device on him and activate the beam. In seconds David is dead where he lies.

ACT I INT. GYM - MORNING

Jordan Ballard, late 30s, is at the gym lifting weights. He is an analyst for a very top secret government security agency. His cover is that he is a successful mystery writer. He receives assignments from and answers to Senator Helen Thompson (D) Connecticut, who is head of the Senate Intelligence Oversight Committee. His spotting partner is his best friend, **Peter Hamilton**, 40s, an investment banker and partner at Seyforth Hamilton, a large Wall Street investment bank.

JORDAN

So, what's new on Wall Street these days?

PETER

Same old same old. Everybody's pretty shook about the murder of David Sokolov.

JORDAN

Yeah, I heard about that. Any rumors?

PETER

None. Police are playing it really tight. They won't even release a cause of death. Kinda strange don't you think?

JORDAN

Any angry girlfriends?

PETER

Not that I know of. Maybe a jealous boyfriend of a girlfriend.

JORDAN

Strange. You'd think that would be all over the tabloids.

PETER

I know, right? Hey, you've got all kinds of back doors to go through. Why don't you see what you can find out?

JORDAN

Sure, I'll have a look when I get home.

INT. JORDAN'S HOME - DAY

Close-up of a chess board on a T.V. monitor. The game is well underway and many of the pieces have already been captured. The curser is blinking, waiting for input.

JORDAN (O.S.)

The Kalashnikov variation. Clever move Anatoly. I wasn't expecting that just yet. O.K., let's see...knight to a3.

The board on the Screen reflects the command and we see the chess pieces move.

We are in Jordan's home, which doubles as his office.

Jordan's home is elegant and modern but also very sterile with no sign of personal items, pictures, diplomas etc. There is lots of glass and open space. He lives in a wooded area, apart from other houses.

A glass table holds four large monitors. It sits at the head of the room just inside where it drops down from the kitchen area. Music quietly fills the room. A large home theater screen hangs on the far wall.

Jordan researches David Sokolov. He learns about him and his life and work. He tries to call up the coroner's report only to find that the information is blocked. He finds that very atypical. He searches else where and is blocked again. He hacks into the private, internal, police network and finds a preliminary report. We focus on one line towards the bottom of the document and clearly see the word "acute hyperthrombosis".

Jordan gets up from the table with the chess screen and goes over to the couch to watch the news on the big screen. He is watching BBC.

REPORTER

Germany moved quickly today to announce the appointment of Hans Preiter, formerly chairman of Deutsche United Bank, to be the new German Finance Minister in the wake of the sudden death late last week of Andreas Steiner. Steiner, whom many consider the architect of Germany's remarkable financial turn around over the last two and a half years, was found dead in his weekend chalet in Switzerland on Saturday afternoon.

(MORE)

REPORTER (CONT'D)

Police are not saying what the cause of death is but do say they are interested in the whereabouts of two members of the household staff. Steiner was 72 years old.

Jordan makes note of this and jots down on paper the few details proffered.

He clears a screen and begins his search on Andreas Steiner. He accesses the Interpol records on the Steiner investigation. He finds the reference to the blood. He sits back and ponders this for a minute. He moves to another screen and does a search on blood disorders and coagulation. He finds several medical terms for this condition. Among them is Acute Hyperthrombosis, and another term, Disseminated Intravascular Coagulation which is accompanied by an interesting note.

Jordan brings up the records on Andreas Steiner on an adjacent screen. He scans the documents in that case until he finds what he is looking for. The report is in German but he highlights a familiar looking Latin medical term. He moves the cursor to the translate function on the toolbar. A response comes on the screen and we see the words "Acute Hyperthrombosis".

EXT. ISLAND - DAY

A small inter-island twin engine airplane lands at a remote island airport of a very small Caribbean island. An official looking man disembarks from the plane and is met by a somewhat sweaty and unkempt but nice enough local man. The local is a doctor named Victor Dyala and the arriving passenger is Dr. Vincent Medina, a medical examiner from a larger island.

DYALA

Dr. Medina, Thank you for coming and welcome to San Sebastian. I'm Dr. Dyala. I appreciate you taking time away from your busy schedule to come here on such short notice.

MEDINA

Thank you for your call. Anything to get out of the office once and a while. It's been some time since I last visited San Sebastian.

Looking across the airport grounds to the small harbor on the other side, he nods towards a beautiful 200' yacht moored to the dock.

MEDINA (CONT'D)

Is that the boat?

DYALA

Yes sir. Some fishermen found it adrift three days ago. It took them a day to tow it into port. The authorities documented everything before I removed the bodies. There's something you really must see.

INT. MEDICAL OFFICE - DAY

Dyala and Medina are in the back room of the office. A body is laid out on a table. Lights and medical equipment are on hand.

DYALA

The bodies are being stored in the cooler at the fish market. I had this one brought over for you. There were six in all, four crew and two passengers.

Dr. Medina makes a cursory exam of the body before him. It is a woman.

MEDINA

I see no marks on this body other than the ones you made. No ligature marks to indicate strangulation. Any water in the lungs?

DYALA

No sir, and she wasn't poisoned either. I've only run some very basic toxicology but there is no indication of drugs and stomach content is normal.

MEDINA

Well then, what killed her?

DYALA

Take a look at this sir!

The two peer into an incision in the chest cavity. They look at the heart and lungs.

MEDINA

Pro Diós!

DYALA

Exactly!

MEDINA

Her blood is completely coagulated!
And the others?

DYALA

The same! I have never seen anything
like this. I was hoping you might
know something I don't.

Medina studies the body some more. He ponders for a moment.

MEDINA

This is most puzzling...I want to
get these bodies to San Juan as soon
as possible.

DYALA

I'll start preparing the bodies for
shipment.

MEDINA

Excellent, and ah, for now, let's
keep this quiet. Why don't you put
out a statement saying they were all
poisoned.

DYALA

Yes sir.

Medina studies the body for another moment.

MEDINA

Most puzzling indeed.

EXT. VILLA - MORNING

Two men are seated at a table on the patio of a spectacular seaside villa in France. The owner is **Martin Van Der Leiden** 40s, a spectacularly wealthy European businessman. He is having breakfast with a German Government functionary named **Franz Konig**, 50s. A woman, **Annika Porikova**, 30s, comes out onto the balcony. She is the killer who attacked and killed David Sokolov and the others. She has just gotten out of bed. She is still dressed in bra and panties with only a very thin negligee which does a poor job of covering her. She is completely uninhibited and un-embarrassed by Franz's presence. She leans over and kisses Martin's neck.

MARTIN (CONT'D)

Good morning darling. How did you
sleep?

ANNIKA

Didn't have much time to sleep.

She looks at Franz and smiles coyly.

She sits down with the men and begins serving herself some breads and jams.

MARTIN
Un petit déjeuner?

ANNIKA
It looks delicious.

MARTIN
Franz here is an aide to the new German Finance Minister, Hans Preiter. He was just telling me that the minister may be considerably more amenable to our services than was Herr Steiner.

ANNIKA
It is good to see our efforts have not been in vain.

MARTIN
Preiter now holds the purse strings to the Kostrzyn Initiative. Franz could be a valuable resource for us. I'd like you to encourage him to consider our increased participation in the project.

ANNIKA
How much should I encourage him?

MARTIN
As much as it takes!

She smiles.

ANNIKA
Why, of course, darling, anything you say.

Martin looks out over the Mediterranean and takes in the scene. A satisfied look comes over his face.

MARTIN
(to himself)
It's good to be king.

INT. JORDAN'S HOME - EVENING

Jordan is continuing his research on Sokolov and Steiner, looking for a linkage. He now begins a background search on the lives of the two men to find the connection.

We watch as he clicks through various pages of information on Andreas Steiner. We see pictures of him, his chalet, and various articles chronicling his rise in European politics. He talks to the screen as he goes.

JORDAN

O.K. Herr Steiner, let's see what skeletons you hide in your closet.

He continues searching.

JORDAN (CONT'D)

Born in Germany. Mom died in childbirth. Well, look at this. I see you grew up in Argentina. Daddy was a Nazi huh? ¿Y quien eres tu papa?

Jordan's search soon shows photos of Andreas's parents, Deitrich and a much younger 2nd wife Uta Steiner. He continues the search and finds another, more interesting picture.

JORDAN (CONT'D)

Hello, what's this?

We see a picture on the monitor of several German officers posing with Adolf Hitler. The caption on the photo lists their names. Second from the left of Hitler is a young officer identified as D. Steiner.

More searching reveals D. Steiner was a finance official in the Third Reich.

JORDAN (CONT'D)

Huh? A money man for Der Führer eh? I wonder if you know what happened to all those billions in Nazi gold? And how bout you, Andreas? Could your skeleton be hiding in a very big vault?

He turns his attention back to Sokolov while keeping Steiner research up on the other screen.

JORDAN (CONT'D)

O.K. computer, cross reference these documents and show me the strongest connection.

He hits the enter button and waits. Within a second or two the computer presents an answer. The computer shows a split screen with a document on each half and a highlighted portion in each document. Jordan leans in and reads the section. We see the words **"KOSTRZYN INITIATIVE"**.

This sets off a new area of research for Jordan and in moments he has a full report on the vast Pan-European power project. He clicks on a video link of Andreas Steiner speaking at a conference about the project.

STEINER

(on video)

When completed in 2014 the Kostrzyn Initiative will replace 2 older generation dams and some 36 coal fired power plants with a network of 10 4th generation nuclear generating facilities and 3 new hydroelectric dams that will supply approximately 70% of the electrical power needs for 17 nations in Europe and Western Asia. This will result in an 93% reduction in the emission of greenhouse gases for a net reduction of over 850 million metric tons of Co2 per year. In addition, the dams will stabilize the availability of water for agricultural and personal use and should bring another 1.7 million acres into production. Ladies and gentlemen, I commend you for your spirit of cooperation in bring this massive initiative to fruition. All of Europe and Western Asia will be the beneficiaries of your wisdom and foresight for many decades to come.

Jordan makes notes about the project. He then does a Google search for the term "Kostrzyn Power Project". As he screens the hits his eye is caught by one headline by the Toronto Globe and Mail. It says "Prominent Canadian Industrialist murdered the in Caribbean".

A click on that link calls up a picture of Daniel Patterson and an article about the finding of his yacht adrift off San Sebastian. The article mentions that Patterson's company had just been awarded a contract to build the nuclear generators that will be part of the Kostrzyn Project. The story is accompanied by a picture of Patterson's yacht tied up at the dock in the port.

Jordan makes a call on his cell phone. While he is calling he saves that article and then switches the screen to Travelocity.com.

JORDAN

(on the phone)

Peter!

(MORE)

JORDAN (CONT'D)

I'm in need of a little beach time
and you've been working too hard.
Clear a few days on your schedule.
We're taking a trip.

In the destination box he types in "San Sebastian".

CUT TO:

EXT. SAN SEBASTIAN AIRPORT - DAY

The small plane comes to a stop and the passenger door opens.
Jordan and Peter get out. Jordan puts on his sunglasses and
the two walk across the tarmac.

INT. DYALA'S CLINIC - LATER

The two men come through the door to the small and rather
dirty clinic. They are met by the doctor.

DYALA

Good morning gentlemen, may I help
you?

Jordan extends his hand.

JORDAN

You are Dr. Dyala?

DYALA

Yes.

JORDAN

My name's Jordan Ballard and this is
Peter Hamilton.

DYALA

How may I help you?

JORDAN

I'm a writer, mystery novels and
true life crime mostly, and I've
come to talk to you about the
Patterson murders.

Dyala becomes a bit tentative but still polite.

DYALA

Oh?

JORDAN

Yeah, see, it has all the elements
of a great story; a wealthy
(MORE)

JORDAN (CONT'D)
industrialist, beautiful young
girlfriend, magnificent yacht,
Caribbean locale...perfect for a
book!

DYALA
I see. And what do you want from
me?

JORDAN
Well, you were the one who handled
the case weren't you? You were the
first to look at the bodies?

DYALA
Yes, that's true. But I turned the
investigation over to Dr. Medina in
San Juan.

JORDAN
Why's that?

DYALA
My office is very small I don't really
have the facilities to handle such a
case. We get a few drownings a year.
Maybe an occasional murder here or
there. This case was a little too
big for me.

JORDAN
I see. What can you tell me about
the case. Anything would help my
research.

DYALA
I really can't say anything. The
investigation is ongoing.

JORDAN
Nothing at all? Was there anything
particularly unusual about the deaths?
Anything about the blood?

Dyala's demeanor changes. He is suddenly uncomfortable and
a bit threatened by the two men. He does not want to talk
about this anymore.

DYALA
I'm sorry gentlemen. I have no more
for you. You will have to see Dr.
Medina for that information. Now if
you'll excuse me, I have patients to
attend to.

SENATOR THOMPSON
I'm sorry?

SENATOR THOMPSON
Yes Jordan, I'm familiar
with the movie.

SENATOR THOMPSON
What are you talking
about?

SENATOR THOMPSON
Murdered?

SENATOR THOMPSON
I remember.

SENATOR THOMPSON
So then, how do you
murder someone with
that?

SENATOR THOMPSON
Show me what you've
got.

Jordan puts pictures on the screen as he talks.

JORDAN
1969, Michael Crichton,
the movie "The Andromeda
Strain."

JORDAN
Yes Ma'am. Well, we've
got a real life case of
Andromeda strain going on.

JORDAN
It's called 'Disseminated
Intravascular Coagulation'
and I've got three men who
were murdered by it.

JORDAN
In the movie a bacteria
wipes out a small town in
Nevada by coagulating all
the blood in the victims
bodies.

JORDAN
Problem is, that was
fiction. There is no bug
that does that.

JORDANE
That's the point. You
can't!

JORDAN
German Finance Minister
Andreas Steiner was killed
in his Swiss chalet last
week. Bethel McCann CEO
David Sokolov was killed
in his Central Park
penthouse on Friday, and
Daniel Patterson of Canadyne
Engineering out of Calgary,
was found dead on his yacht
a few days ago off the
island of San Sebastian.

SENATOR THOMPSON
What is their connection
to each other?

JORDAN
Sokolov and Patterson are
both contractors for the
big European power project
in Kostrzyn Czechoslovakia
Patterson's company builds
electrical generating
equipment, both nuclear
and hydroelectric. The
kind of stuff that goes in
dams and nuke plants.
Sokolov's company builds
those plants and dams that
old that equipment.

SENATOR THOMPSON
And Steiner?

JORDAN
The Germans are taking the
lead on the project. It's
massive. When it's done
it will supply power for
3/4 of Europe and Western
Asia. As Finance Minister,
Steiner controlled the
purse strings. We're
talking \$250 billion.

SENATOR THOMPSON
Sounds like someone
else wanted in.

JORDAN
There's one more thing.

SENATOR THOMPSON
What's that?

JORDAN
This woman.
(her picture pops up)
I've got her with all three
men. I have been trying
to identify her but so far
she's a ghost. I can't
find her anywhere. Odd
though, don't you think?
The same pretty lady running
in three completely
different circles?

Senator Thompson is surprised when she sees the picture of
the woman.

SENATOR THOMPSON
I'm sure the woman's
not involved. Just a
red herring there.

JORDAN
How can you say that?

SENATOR THOMPSON
 It's an intriguing
 mystery, I agree, but
 it sounds like a
 European problem to
 me. Let this one go
 Jordan.

JORDAN
 But Senator, Sokolov was
 killed on our soil!

SENATOR THOMPSON
 And the FBI and the
 local police can deal
 with that.

JORDAN
 I really think the woman
 is connected to this thing.

SENATOR THOMPSON
 Let it go Jordan.
 Take a pass on this
 one.

Jordan just sighs to show his disagreement with her.

JORDAN
 Yes maam.

The screen goes dark. Senator Thompson reaches for her phone. She dials a number herself rather than having her staff get it for her. We do not know who she calls.

SENATOR THOMPSON
 (to the person on the
 other end)
 We have a situation.

The scene fades out.

INT. JORDAN'S HOME - MOMENTS LATER

Jordan doesn't buy it. He doesn't want to let it go. After the call ends he sits at the computer and stews. He is frustrated. He gets up pours himself a stiff drink and sits back down at the terminal. He scrolls through some of the data he has collected thus far. Frustration sets in even deeper. To divert his attention he opens another file. It is the only place he keeps pictures of his family. He calls up a picture of his sister - only a year or two younger than he- a melancholy sets in. He reaches out and touches her face on the screen. He speaks softly and with great sadness.

JORDAN
 Happy birthday Sis.

JORDAN TAKES A TRIP - HAS AN ACCIDENT

This scene cuts back and forth between real time and an old memory. In both scenes he is traveling the same road. The flashback has his sister in the car. He is college age, she

may be a H.S. Senior. Both scenes travel the same road. It looks like a happy memory with his sister laughing. He is smiling and teasing her and she is responding by hitting him on the shoulder and things like that. Back to real time brakes are screeching as the car tries to avoid a woman standing in the middle of the road. She is silhouetted by the bright lights of some type of large vehicle behind her. Jordan tries to miss her and the car goes out of control. It leaves the road, rolls once and hits a tree. Jordan is trapped in the car and badly hurt. He goes in and out of consciousness.

From Jordan's POV we see bright lights and blurry flashes of people working to get him out of the wreckage and get him emergency medical care.

ACT II INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

Jordan awakes to a very strange environment. He is in a very modern room. It appears to be some type of hospital but the equipment is unfamiliar to him. He is confused. He takes inventory of himself and sees that, except for some bandages and some bruises, he appears intact. He slowly gets up and notices he is a bit stiff. He wanders around the room. Everything in it is very futuristic. He makes his way to a feature in the wall that looks like a window except that it is opaque. He searches and his hand somehow triggers a sensor that turns the window transparent. The scene that confronts him is right out of a science fiction story, with flying cars and elevated skybridges between startling buildings. He is in a very futuristic city.

JORDAN

(to himself)

What the hell? Where am I?

A voice behind him speaks.

WINSTON

Oz!

He turns. The older gentleman appears to be a doctor. He is **Winston Thatcher**, 70s.

JORDAN

Oz?

WINSTON

Well, for now let's call it Oz!

JORDAN

You the wizard?

WINSTON

(laughs)

No, I'm just Thatcher, Winston
Thatcher.

JORDAN

So just where is 'Oz' exactly?

WINSTON

Why, over the rainbow, of course.

JORDAN

Of course.

(beat)

What am I doing here?

WINSTON

You had a car accident. You were
quite seriously injured.

(looking at a monitor)

Let's see. You had a broken left
femur, a broken left arm, four broken
ribs, a punctured lung and a ruptured
spleen. You should be more careful
young man.

JORDAN

(confused)

But?

(looking at his limbs)

WINSTON

We have very good doctors here. You
should be ready to go home in a few
days.

JORDAN

Just click my heels huh?

Winston just smiles.

JORDAN (CONT'D)

Wait a minute. A girl! There was a
girl in the road! And a weird
vehicle.

He looks back out the window at the flying vehicles whizzing
by.

JORDAN (CONT'D)

Like those!

WINSTON

Sounds like you have the makings of
a good mystery novel.

Jordan is confused and still a bit groggy. He doesn't know what to ask next.

JORDAN

This place, this technology, out there! I don't understand.

WINSTON

You've stepped into a circle that you weren't invited into. As a result, you've entered a whole new world you can't understand. I could answer your questions but it wouldn't do any good.

JORDAN

Why not?

WINSTON

Because, Mr. Ballard, you're not going to remember much of this anyway.

He administers some medication and in a few seconds Jordan is out once more.

CUT TO:

INT. GRAND COUNCIL - CONTINUOUS

A gorgeous young woman is standing before a Grand Council of Elders. She is addressed, by the council, as **Taletta** and will be known elsewhere in the story as **Tally Reynolds**, early 30s. She is pleading her case against a man she identifies as Marsh.

TALLY

Brethren, Marsh has exceeded the limits of his domain. He has broken the universal code of the Fathers. His actions threaten to disrupt the advancement of our preparations.

ELDER#1

What you ask, Taleta, is not within our authority to grant. Killing is not the way of our side. We have had renegades before and we will continue to have them until the Gathering. You yourself have handled many such deviations in the past. Surly you understand this better than any of us on this council?

TALLY

Is it not true that it is better for one man to die than for a whole generation to perish?

ELDER#1

He is not yet as Hitler or any of the other monsters we have dealt with in the past. Restraint is still called for.

TALLY

I believe that his boldness this time is a message to all of us that he is ready to shed the restraints we have agreed to in the past. I believe many more people will die this time.

ELDER#1

We share your concern and we are not happy with what we are seeing. But order is never restored by anarchy. We cannot go outside the bounds that have been set. Your nobility sets you apart. You will find a way to defeat him without dropping to his level.

TALLY

I will do my best.

ELDER#1

You have our full resources at your disposal.

INT. JORDAN'S HOME - MORNING

Jordan awakes in his own bed. He sits up quickly and rubs his face. He is confused. He looks around the room and realizes he is at home. He gets up, puts on some comfortable sweat pants and goes to the kitchen where the automatic coffee maker has a fresh pot of coffee waiting. He pours a cup, still trying to shake the strange dream he had out of his head. He stretches his arms and flexes his fingers as he takes inventory of his physical condition. Suddenly he sees a small, fresh scar on his left forearm. He is shocked. Quickly he looks to his right leg and again sees a small clean scar just above the knee. He is now very confused. He goes to the door between the kitchen and the garage. He opens the door expecting to see an empty bay where his car sat. To his relief he sees the beautiful red sports car sitting right where it should be, clean and shiny.

He closes the door and returns to the kitchen, now confused even more about the scars. He walks over to his computers and finds that all his research is just as he last left it.

There is a chess game on one of the monitors. It is well under way and the cursor is blinking, waiting for his next move. The other monitors have information about the men he has been researching. On one of them is a picture of Andreas Steiner with a group of people including the mystery woman he now suspects is behind the grisly murders. He begins going through some of the data but his heart just isn't in it. He turns to the game and quickly enters a move.

JORDAN

(talking to the screen)

O.K. Tr350, if you're going to put your Queen out there like then I'll be happy to take her. King's Bishop to g5. Check!

The message line below the game suddenly comes alive with a message from his unknown opponent.

TR350

(on the screen)

Good morning!

In a moment he is shocked to see he has made a fundamental mistake. The opponent's rook is moved into position. A message - Checkmate!- appears superimposed over the board.

JORDAN

Damn it! What was I looking at?

He acknowledges his defeat with a few keystrokes. In disgust he puts down the keyboard and turns back to his white boards. He is interrupted seconds later by another alert. A second message has appeared on the screen. It says,

TR350

Really Jordan? Fooled by the Philidor Position? I expected more from you.

Jordan is surprised. Opponents don't normally use first names in matches.

JORDAN

(tentatively)

Sorry, a bit preoccupied I guess.

T350

I guess so! You should let it go!

JORDAN
(suspicious now)
Let what go?

TR350
Oh, I see. We're still playing.
(the cursor blinks
for a few seconds)
You really should follow orders
better.

JORDAN
(cautiously)
Orders?

TR350
Again, really Jordan?
(beat)
You should stay out of this! The
girl is none of your concern.

Jordan reacts visibly to this message. He sits back in his chair staring at the computer screen, pondering for a moment.

JORDAN
Who is this?

The cursor just blinks for an extra long time. Finally, two words appear.

TR350
The girl.

Jordan thinks for a minute before responding.

JORDAN
How did you know the men?

TR350
Not your concern!

JORDAN
They're dead! That makes it my
concern.

TR350
Let it go!

JORDAN
Not gonna happen.

The screen stays blank for a while.

JORDAN (CONT'D)
So, what's the next move?

TR350

You should answer the door!

JORDAN

There's no one at the door.

TR350

Checkmate!

Immediately after the message appears the doorbell rings. Jordan gets up tentatively, grabs a shirt lying across the back of the sofa, and grabs a gun from a drawer. He goes to the door. He opens it.

TALLY

Hello Jordan.

Jordan, surprised by the sudden appearance of his number one suspect at his front door, cautiously invites Tally into his house. She walks right in, confident but non-threateningly. He is leery.

TALLY (CONT'D)

We need to talk.

She walks over to his work area and looks at the data on the white boards and on the screens. One screen still has the picture of her and Steiner. She studies it. There is a very brief moment of sadness that crosses her face but it is quickly replaced.

TALLY (CONT'D)

Not a very flattering picture of me.

JORDAN

How did you know Steiner?

TALLY

We were...close.

JORDAN

And Patterson? And Sokolov?

TALLY

You were told to leave it alone.
Are you always this stubborn?

JORDAN

(surprised)
You know Senator Thompson?

TALLY

We speak on occasion.

JORDAN

Who are you?

TALLY

Someone you shouldn't be concerned with.

JORDAN

So how would you play it? Three men. Three murders. One woman connects them all.

T350

I'm not the person you want.

JORDAN

I don't know that.

Jordan stands defiantly. He folds his arms. His hand falls on the fresh scar which he subconsciously rubs with his fingers. Tally notices this.

TALLY

How's the arm?

JORDAN

This? Ah,
(stammering)
It's nothing.

TALLY

And the nothing on your leg?

JORDAN

Who the hell are you lady? Why are you here, standing in my house?

TALLY

First of all, you found me! You were told to leave it alone but you couldn't.

JORDAN

Yeah? Well, all I know is that I've got three very important dead people and pictures of you with all three of them, so you tell me why I shouldn't call the feds?

TALLY

Because I want to stop their killer and you're getting in my way.

JORDAN

Excuse me? Listen lady, I was nearly killed...wait a minute!

(realization sets in)

I was nearly killed! That was you!...on the road! What were you doing on that road?

TALLY

You look OK to me.

Jordan is confused once more. He searches his memory. The memories are faint but compelling. He subconsciously indicates towards the garage.

JORDAN

My car?

TALLY

Car's fine. Must have been a dream.

JORDAN

Oz?...and flying saucers?

TALLY

Dreams can be pretty vivid.

JORDAN

What's going on here?

TALLY

What's going on is I'm telling you to back off this case.

JORDAN

Not gonna happen.

She considers him for moment.

TALLY

I had hoped to avoid this.

She turns aside a little bit and speed dials her cell. In a moment she is connected.

TALLY (CONT'D)

You were right. ...O.K., but I'm not happy about this...alright.

She hangs up and directs his attention towards a device sitting on a coffee table. In a moment beams rise up out of the three nodes situated around the circumference of the device. They combine to form a holographic real time image of Senator Thompson.

SENATOR THOMPSON
Good morning Jordan. I hope you're
feeling well.

JORDAN
(surprised but composed)
Senator! Ah, good morning.

SENATOR THOMPSON
I see you've met Tally?

They haven't formally met till now. Tally extends her hand
out to Jordan.

TALLY
Tally Reynolds, hi

They shake hands.

SENATOR THOMPSON
Good. Now Jordan, since you wouldn't
listen to me the first time I'll try
again. Tally is not the one you are
looking for. Do you understand?

JORDAN
Yes Ma'am.

SENATOR THOMPSON
Tally, I know how you feel about
this but I think we've past the point
of no return.

TALLY
I can handle this on my own.

SENATOR THOMPSON
Yes. But I know Jordan and he never
leaves anything alone once he has
his teeth into it. I don't want you
two banging against each other.

JORDAN
That would be awful.

TALLY
Terrible.

SENATOR THOMPSON
Yes, well, Jordan is my best man.
He's a superb tactician and
strategist. Besides, he's a new
face and Martin doesn't know him.
That could work to your favor.

JORDAN
Who's Martin?

SENATOR THOMPSON
Tally will explain that later. Now
listen the two of you..

TALLY
(bristling a bit)
Easy Senator.

SENATOR THOMPSON
Hear me out Tally. You've been around
long enough to know that two great
minds working together are far better
than one. Jordan's mind is almost
as quick as your own.

JORDAN
Thank you.

SENATOR THOMPSON
Jordan, play nice and make it work!
Tally has all the resources you
need... And, she knows what she's
doing!

TALLY
(slightly annoyed)
We'll make it work.

SENATOR THOMPSON
Excellent. Then my work's done here.

The image fades and the beam retracts.

JORDAN
OK. That was weird.

CUT TO:

EXT. WASHINGTON MALL - AFTERNOON

Jordan and Senator Thompson are walking along the mall.
They re using this time to speak in private.

SENATOR THOMPSON
I'm bumping your security clearance
up a bit.

JORDAN
I thought 5 was the highest?

SENATOR THOMPSON
It is.

She smiles and waxes philosophical.

SENATOR THOMPSON (CONT'D)

You know, Shakespeare said "There are more things under heaven than dreamt of in man's philosophy."

JORDAN

Meaning what exactly?

SENATOR THOMPSON

This is off the grid. We're outside the Pentagon here. You've just moved into a world that few people even know of. This is the big leagues.

JORDAN

This is about Tally Reynolds?

SENATOR THOMPSON

Miss Reynolds is a very big player in that world.

JORDAN

How is it I've never heard of her?

SENATOR THOMPSON

You've never heard of her world.

They walk on while Sen. Thompson ponders for a moment.

SENATOR THOMPSON (CONT'D)

Have you ever heard the theory that there are really only 50 families that run the world?

JORDAN

Isn't that the opiate of conspiracy theorists?

SENATOR THOMPSON

Far from it my boy. Far from it. Oh, it's a little more than 50 families now but the idea is valid.

They walk on for a minute. Jordan is waiting for her to continue.

SENATOR THOMPSON (CONT'D)

Consider some of the extraordinary families of history.

JORDAN

The Rothschilds?

SENATOR THOMPSON

Good example. Yes, the Rothschilds have kept track of the world's money for a long long time now. Extraordinarily powerful.

JORDAN

The Medici's?

SENATOR THOMPSON

They were one of the most powerful families in the history of the world. In 15th century Florence the Medici family almost single-handedly initiated the renaissance. They gave us two Popes, and the movement that eventually broke the stranglehold of the church on Europe.

JORDAN

Ironic isn't it?

SENATOR THOMPSON

The Habsbergs ruled the Austro-Hungarian empire for hundreds of years. And they are still around. But don't be fooled. There are many families without famous names. Much of the power in the world hides in the shadows.

JORDAN

What about Presidents and Prime Ministers?

SENATOR THOMPSON

Oh, Presidents and Prime Ministers are very important too. But they're not the one's wielding the real power. No, they mainly exist because people need someone to adore and to vilify. They need a face and an office they can praise or blame.

JORDAN

Seems a bit cynical.

SENATOR THOMPSON

(beat)

Someone has to do the bidding for those with the real power. Do you really think no one pulls the President's strings?

JORDAN

Well, there have always been power brokers.

SENATOR THOMPSON

Indeed. But we're not talking about politicians. Unorganized power is just raw energy, like lightning. It strikes but doesn't really do anything. No Jordan, real power carries real responsibility. It needs to be directed, focused. And it transcends generations.

JORDAN

I thought it's purpose was just to get rich.

SENATOR THOMPSON

Oh, my boy, wealth comes long before power. No, those who wield the real power in this world are after much more than money.

JORDAN

What's more than money?

She smiles at his comment.

SENATOR THOMPSON

The truly powerful are all bound by the imperative to keep the world functioning, through good times and bad. To keep the general direction on track and to move all of us forward.

JORDAN

It all sounds so altruistic.

SENATOR THOMPSON

You're being sarcastic. No, they're not all that altruistic. They're very protective of their own self interests. But if they, through their hubris and greed, ruined the rest of civilization, what would happen to their power?

JORDAN

What do they care. They're rich.

SENATOR THOMPSON

Yes, but it is better to be king
over a nation than prince over a
village.

Jordan considers this for a moment.

JORDAN

And Tally?

SENATOR THOMPSON

Miss Reynolds comes from old, quiet
power. But she is a woman of
remarkable talents and abilities.
Do not underestimate her!

JORDAN

But she's so young. How could she
be in that position?

SENATOR THOMPSON

Not so young as you suppose. You
will come to see that she has far
more worldly experience than you can
imagine. And, she's a genuinely
good person.

JORDAN

Saint Tally.

SENATOR THOMPSON

You too, are a remarkable person
Jordan. You have a quick and
brilliant mind and you have a good
soul. You have skills that Tally
could use.

They stop walking and Senator Thompson turns to look Jordan
straight in the eye.

SENATOR THOMPSON (CONT'D)

I know how you are. Once you get
something in your heard you won't
let it go. Tally did not want your
interference in this matter but now
that you are as far into it as you
are I see no other way but to get
the two of you together. You like to
work alone. So does she, but if
you're going to run with the big
dogs you need to make this work.

JORDAN

I don't really have a choice do I?

SENATOR THOMPSON
I'm serious Jordan!

They walk on.

SENATOR THOMPSON (CONT'D)
By the way, you do have a very nice
pay raise.

CUT TO:

EXT. SMALL AIRPORT - EVENING

A Gulfstream jet sits on the tarmac. Jordan walks up the stairs and into the cabin. Tally is sitting in the plane waiting for him. She is not overly cordial. He takes a seat across from her. The door closes and the plane begins to taxi. We see it lift into the air.

INT. AIRCRAFT CABIN - CONTINUOUS

TALLY
Make yourself comfortable.

JORDAN
What? No flying saucer?

TALLY
I mainly use that just to scare
hunters and fishermen in Louisiana.

JORDAN
We really need to talk.

TALLY
Maybe, but not now.

JORDAN
Then when?

TALLY
Later.

JORDAN
By the way, where are we going?

TALLY
London.

She pulls a sleep mask down over her eyes, reclines her seat and makes it clear that she intends to sleep across the Atlantic.

ACT III INT. ENGLISH ESTATE - MORNING

She picks up a remote and a drop down screen comes out of the ceiling. A picture of Martin comes up on the screen.

TALLY

This is Martin Van Der Leiden. He is the man behind the murders of our three victims. His public persona is that of a playboy but his private life is very well connected. He has the ear of the Queen and he carries Diplomatic Immunity for the Netherlands.

JORDAN

What does he do?

TALLY

Martin has his fingers into everything, but primarily shipping. He owns and operates a large fleet of tankers and freighters. He also owns a big part of the New York and New Jersey ports operations.

JORDAN

How does that tie to our victims?

TALLY

Martin has been branching out into construction and heavy engineering. I believe he has his eyes on a bigger piece of the Kostrzyn project. The method of the murders suggest he wanted this to be a message to stay out of his way on that front.

JORDAN

So how did he kill the victims?

She puts up a picture of Annika on the screen.

TALLY

This is Annika Porikova. She is his companion and chief enforcer. She is cold and ruthless. Do not underestimate her. She is very smart.

WINSTON

She used a device like this.

He holds up the same type of device that Annika used on the three victims.

WINSTON (CONT'D)

It is a Focused Frequency Positron Emitter. It emits a nasty little beam that causes blood to solidify.

JORDAN

Where did this come from?

TALLY

Martin has access to a lot of very advanced technology that you may not have seen before.

JORDAN

How do we stop a guy like that?

WINSTON

With even better technology.

Jordan looks at Winston seriously for a moment.

JORDAN

What are we talking here? Ray guns? Space ships?

WINSTON

What do you say Tally? Shall we show our boy here?

She thinks for a minute then nods her head for them to follow her. She turns and heads out the door. They walk towards an out building that looks on the outside like a large garage. As they approach she signals towards the building.

TALLY

This is Winston's kingdom. I'll let his show you but first, be warned, you are going to see some things that may startle you. I'm not ready to explain myself or all of this stuff right now. You have to be willing to trust us.

WINSTON

You are getting into the middle of a battle being played out on a field you have never seen before.

JORDAN

Does this have anything to do with 'Oz'?

Tally looks at Winston who nods to imply that he understands the term.

TALLY

OK, yes, all this stuff comes from Oz.

JORDAN

Do I want to know this?

TALLY

Just remember, you can't unlearn it.

JORDAN

OK, I'm ready.

They walk into Winston's workshop. The shop is filled with all sorts of futuristic things. As they work their way through all the various equipment the far end of the building becomes visible. It is a hangar like area with a hangar door on the back side. There, next to the door is a classic flying saucer. It is rather small - it looks like it could hold maybe 6 people comfortably.

He walks up to the craft and inspects it closely. He touches it tentatively.

JORDAN (CONT'D)

Really? Your own flying saucer?

Tally smiles sheepishly.

JORDAN (CONT'D)

OK, seriously, I was not expecting this! So, where do you really come from? Venus, Jupiter? Mars?

TALLY

Westport, Connecticut.

WINSTON

Just for the record, this is not a space ship. It's an aircraft. It just employs more creative aerodynamics.

Jordan looks around and takes everything in.

JORDAN

(mockingly)

So, that's it? That's all you got? A fleet of flying saucers?

TALLY

Just the one actually.

JORDAN

Well, I guess we'll just have to
make do with that then.

WINSTON

Yes, well, we may have a few more
surprises.

INT. TALLY'S STUDY - LATER

JORDAN

The way I see it, you've got hi tech
goodies and Martin has hi tech
goodies. Head to head you play to a
draw - with a lot of blood in between.

TALLY

That's why we don't play very often.

JORDAN

I would guess that Martin's ego is
as large as his empire?

TALLY

It is.

JORDAN

Do you know why David was able to
slay Goliath?

TALLY

I suspect Goliath didn't consider
David a serious opponent.

JORDAN

Exactly. Goliath knew he could swing
a bigger sword than David. He knew
he was bigger, stronger and scarier
than this puny little kid who dared
stand up to him.

TALLY

He was expecting David to lift a
sword against him. He wasn't worried
at all.

JORDAN

That's right. He never considered
that the kid would throw a rock at
him. That was a goat herder's tool,
not a weapon of war. Goliath never
saw it coming.

TALLY

You're saying pride goeth before the fall.

JORDAN

Proverbs 16. It's just as true today as it was three thousand years ago.

TALLY

Whatever you have in mind, it needs to cost him big time. We're talking billions, not millions.

JORDAN

Boy, you really don't like the guy do you?

TALLY

You've got to understand, a few million is nothing to Martin. This has to hurt him badly.

Jordan puts on an Iranian accent.

JORDAN

Does Martin have a moral objection to dealing with enemies of the state?

TALLY

As long as he can get away with it he thrives on it.

JORDAN

Then the stone is in the sling.

TALLY

How's your aim?

JORDAN

Dead on...Winston, are you as good with computers as your are with a screwdriver?

TALLY

We've got computer skills covered.

JORDAN

Good, then we're set. We'll need a couple more people to make this work.

TALLY

No problem.

INT. DUTCH NIGHTCLUB - NIGHT

Martin is in one of his clubs. It is the trendiest club in Amsterdam. He is accompanied by several drop dead ladies. Peter Hamilton (Jordan's best friend), looking very rich and very American, occupies a place at a table within view of Martin. He too has an extremely hot young lady hanging on him. Rather than being flashy though, he is acting very discrete and just a bit nervous. They are enjoying a drink when Jordan and another beautiful lady come in. Looking around the room and sizing up the patrons, Jordan spies Peter and come over to him, acting as if they have not met before but have some business to transact. Jordan holds a sleek black briefcase at his side. They sit down at the table and the briefcase, clearly in Martin's eye line, is placed on the floor between Jordan and Peter. Peter's foot pulls the case closer to himself and more under the table. We do not hear what they discuss but they do it in discreet voice, though their actions look suspicious. This does not escape Martin's notice. He calls over one of his cutest servers.

MARTIN

See that foursome over there?

SERVER

Yes Mr. Van Der Leiden.

MARTIN

Go over there and take their order.
Then come back here.

SERVER

Yes Mr. Van Der Leiden.

She goes over to Peter, Jordan and the ladies.

SERVER (CONT'D)

Good evening. May I get you anything?

Jordan addresses Peter with an Iranian accent.

JORDAN

What is your pleasure?

Peter turns to the server and answers with his decidedly American accent.

PETER

Um, the lady will have a Champagne
and I'll have a Red Bull and Vodka.

Martin notices that Peter nervously rubs his left hand on his thigh under the table.

JORDAN
 (with an undefined
 Middle Eastern accent)
 A Rum and Coke for me and the lady
 will have..?

LADY
 (also with accent)
 Diet Coke lime.

The server leaves and quietly returns to Martin.

SERVER
 Middle Eastern on the left, American
 on the right.

Martin nods his gratitude and the server leaves. He leans
 over to Annika.

MARTIN
 The American is dirty.

INT. DUTCH NIGHTCLUB - LATER

Time has passed and Peter and Jordan's visit raps up. They
 stand. Jordan whispers something to Peter and he and the
 young lady with him leave. Peter and the briefcase stay
 behind. The server comes back to Martin's table and drops
 off the receipt from Jordan. Martin looks at it and smiles.

MARTIN
 Welcome to Amsterdam, Mr. Rahimi.
 (to Annika)
 Find out what he is up to.

Annika nods.

INT. HOTEL SUITE - DAY

Conversation between Jordan and Peter in character. We hear
 this through Annika's eavesdropping. She is taking te.

JORDAN
 You have read the proposal?

PETER
 I have. It's quite ambitious.

JORDAN
 His highness is anxious to put his
 new found wealth to the most
 productive use as soon as possible.

PETER

An investment of this size will take some time to fully place.

JORDAN

Can you do it?

PETER

It will take me a little time to set up accounts and front corporations. I will have to spread it around so as to not set off flags. 50 billion is a little Too big to go unnoticed. I'm thinking we can park it Bermuda, Anguilla and Cayman for the bulk of it. We can keep the rest of it right here in Europe till we need it.

JORDAN

But you can do it, yes?

PETER

Yes, I can do it.

JORDAN

Then congratulations are in order. You have just become a very wealthy man, Mr. Hamilton. Spend your 2% wisely.

PETER

Speaking of which, I will want to keep most of my money out of the U.S. Can you structure it with the Emir so that it stays in Abu Lafia?

JORDAN

That will be no problem.

Annika smiles, picks up her phone and dials. It connects to someone on the other end.

ANNIKA

You're going to want to hear this

INT. MARTIN'S HOME - MORNING

Martin is fencing with a fencing partner in his home gym. The contest attests to his expert skill with the Epee. Annika enters the room. Martin greets her between thrusts.

MARTIN

Dobro utro my dear.

He continues to battle his sparing partner while Annika dons the protective gear requires for fencing. When she is properly attired she taps the partner on the shoulder with her Epee.

ANNIKA

I'll take it from here.

The sparing partner leva the two of them alone in the room. A new match begins and we see that Annika is almost equally matched with Martin. They engage in clever banter while they exchange thrusts and parries.

MARTIN

I see your skills are as sharp as ever.

ANNIKA

Your not so bad yourself for an old man.

MARTIN

An old man with the heart of a lion. What did you find out?

ANNIKA

Rahimi came in yesterday on a jet registered to the Emirate of Abu Lafia. He's looking to invest a sizable portion of their Sovereign fund in the U.S.

MARTIN

Abu Lafia is on the terrorists nation list. Their money's not welcome.

ANNIKA

Exactly.

MARTIN

And the American is?

ANNIKA

He's Peter Hamilton, a Wall Street investment banker by day who is a major silent partner in a Private Equity venture that caters to some very big players.

MARTIN

How is he connected to Rahimi?

ANNIKA

It appears the two gentlemen share a nefarious heart.

MARTIN

How much are we talking about?

ANNIKA

\$50 billion.

Martin stops the match for a moment to do some quick mental calculating.

MARTIN

At 2% that's a \$1 billion a year...plus at least 10% of the return!

They start fencing again.

MARTIN (CONT'D)

Hum! A couple billion a year!

ANNIKA

And a foothold in the Middle East.

The very thought invigorates him and he fences with inspired fury. In a moment he tags her and the buzzer signals her defeat.

MARTIN

I like it!

He walks over to the rack and places his Epee in the holder.

MARTIN (CONT'D)

I want it!

EXT. STREET - DAY

Peter is walking down an Amsterdam street. A black land Rover SUV pulls up alongside him and the window rolls down. Annika is sitting in the passenger seat. She looks very hot and she puts on the charm.

ANNIKA

Mr. Hamilton.

She beckons him to the car window. Peter acts startled. He hesitates for a minute but then walks towards the car.

ANNIKA (CONT'D)

You are Peter Hamilton, the banker, yes?

PETER

Yes, I am. What do you want?

ANNIKA

I am Annika Porikova. My boss would like to meet you.

PETER

Who is your boss?

ANNIKA

He is someone anxious to meet you.

The door to the back set opens and a body guard type gets out and stands by the door.

ANNIKA (CONT'D)

Now please, get in.

Peter assesses the lady, the guard and the lady again. Her expression is still semi-sweet but determined. The guard's demeanor implies no nonsense. After a moment's hesitation Peter gets in and the guard follows him. The car then speeds off.

ACT IV EXT. DUTCH ESTATE - LATER

The Land Rover pulls through the gates of a large estate. It drives down the tree lined drive to the front entrance. The car stops the doors open and the occupants get out. Peter is led into the house followed by Annika.

INT. MARTIN'S HOME - CONTINUOUS

Martin is sitting in the living area enjoying a drink. Annika and Peter enter the room. He does not get up. He does not shake hands. He maintains a polite superiority in his demeanor.

MARTIN

Mr. Hamilton, welcome to my home.

Peter acts somewhat nervous but professional.

PETER

And you are?

MARTIN

Oh, I'm sorry. I assumed my assistant had told you. How rude of me. I am Martin Van Der Leiden. Please, have a seat.

He signals for Peter to sit on a sofa across from him.

PETER

What can I do for you Mr. Van Der Leiden?

MARTIN

It's what I can do for you Mr. Hamilton.

PETER

And what's that?

MARTIN

I want to help you invest that rather large portfolio you just acquired.

PETER

I'm sure I don't know what you mean.

MARTIN

Come now Peter. We're way past that. The Sheik's money is a sizable fortune. You are going to need some help placing an amount that large.

PETER

My relationship with my clients and the size of their holdings are private matters. I am bound by confidentiality agreements to be very discreet.

MARTIN

And so you are being. I admire your ethics.

He leans forward for effect.

MARTIN (CONT'D)

But you have a very large pot and I want to help you properly place part of it.

PETER

I'm afraid I can't allow that.

MARTIN

You see Peter, here's the problem. That money is dirty, you know it and I know it. I'm sure the SEC and your partners at Seyforth Hamilton would be very interested in hearing all about your ethical standards.

Peter shows disappointment that his actions and their legal ramifications are discovered.

PETER

What do you propose?

MARTIN

I want to help you invest that money. I have a great many holdings, including many in the U.S. these are places where unwelcome money could easily hide.

PETER

And what would you expect for this participation?

MARTIN

Peter, I'm not a greedy man. In fact, some think I'm positively generous. I'll tell you what. From now on you work for me. In return I'll give you 10% of whatever I make.

PETER

That's not going to work.

MARTIN

Oh, but it will. Don't worry, you can keep your day job. But all of this, it goes through me now.

INT. TALLY'S STUDY - EVENING

Tally, Jordan Peter and Winston are gathered in the study.

TALLY

Martin will probably wait until all the money has been committed before trying to remove Peter completely.

PETER

When you say remove completely..?

TALLY

Don't worry, we'll step in before that happens.

JORDAN

To make this work we need to direct where he hides the money. Peter, you've got to convince him to collateralize his U.S. operations. The port operation is the key to the whole deal.

PETER

He wants to meet you.

JORDAN

Set it up.

TALLY

Winston and I will see to your security.

Winston picks up two belts from a table.

WINSTON

I want you to wear these belts from now on. It's important. They will save your lives.

PETER

(joking as he takes
the belt)

Hey Jordan, now I'm a black belt like you.

WINSTON

The device Annika used to kill Steiner, Sokolov and Patterson emits a focused frequency of positron emissions that caused the victims blood to instantly coagulate. The devices hidden within the buckles of the belts emits a canceling frequency that reaches a harmonic resonance..

TALLY

(interrupting)

The point is, the belts will protect you from the device.

WINSTON

Precisely

EXT. ESTATE GROUNDS - AFTERNOON

Tally and Jordan are walking through her garden talking.

TALLY

You have to realize, Martin's been here before. He is no amateur.

JORDAN

I'm counting on that.

TALLY

Just be careful. I will do what I can to protect you but he knows me so I have to stay out of the picture until it's time.

JORDAN

I'll be able to take care of myself.

TALLY

You sound like a school boy on the
playground.

Jordan stops and turns to look at her in the eye.

JORDAN

Look, I understand that I'm the new
kid on the block here. I know I am
playing on a whole other level, but
the bottom line is that Martin, for
all his wealth and all his power, is
still just a thug. No amount of
power or money can change that. And
that, Miss Reynolds, is why we will
beat him.

TALLY

You seem pretty sure of yourself.

JORDAN

It's just a big Chess match.

TALLY

With very high stakes.

JORDAN

That just makes the victory sweeter.

They walk on for a few seconds. Tally changes the subject.

TALLY

You like being lonely?

JORDAN

Who says I'm lonely?

TALLY

Please, you live alone, your best
friend is a guy ten years older than
you. Your house is devoid of any
personal mementos... when is the
last time you went on a date?

JORDAN

I've dated.

TALLY

This year?

JORDAN

What about you? You live all alone
on this giant estate.

(MORE)

JORDAN (CONT'D)

You've got money and youth and all the toys and yet your best friend is a lot older than mine.

TALLY

I've dated plenty. I could have a date any time I wanted!

JORDAN

Seeing anybody now?

TALLY

I am very busy. I have different priorities at the moment.

JORDAN

I see. So, what you're saying is...no.

TALLY

A time and a place.

JORDAN

Couldn't agree more.

CUT TO:

EXT. MARTIN'S YACHT - DAY

Jordan and Peter board Martin's yacht. A crew member shows them to the main salon where Martin and Annika are waiting. As they enter Martin stands. Annika remains seated.

MARTIN

Mr. Hamilton, thank you for coming.

PETER

Mr. Van Der Leiden, this is Mr. Farwad Rahimi.

MARTIN

Mr. Rahimi, it is a pleasure to have you on board. This is my associate, Ms. Annika Porikova.

Jordan only nods.

MARTIN (CONT'D)

I am anxious to work with Mr. Hamilton on your project.

JORDAN

Yes, well, we will see.

Martin takes control of the discussion and manifests an attitude of confidence.

MARTIN

Yes, we will.

Martin turns his attention to Peter.

MARIA

I wonder, Mr. Hamilton, if you were aware that Mr. Rahimi here is acting on his own, without the Sheik's knowledge?

JORDAN

His highness has tasked me with overseeing the productive employment of his vast resources. The methods are of lesser concern to him than the results.

MARTIN

So we can assume that he also does not know that you are putting his money at risk by trying to launder it in the U.S. where it is subject to seizure?

JORDAN

Mr. Hamilton has solved that problem, which is why I have retained him.

MARTIN

And now you've retained me as well.

JORDAN

Why should I include you in our dealings?

MARTIN

Well, for one thing I know what you are up to. I'm sure Peter does not want that knowledge disseminated. In addition, You need someone with connections in high places. Someone who can make officials look the other way. Someone who can make your money, oh, excuse me, I mean the Sheik's money, look clean.

JORDAN

What do you propose?

PETER

We funnel the money through his holdings by collateralizing his shipping operation and his port operation in New York and New Jersey.

MARTIN

I have a special arrangement with several private banks here and in the U.S. We can put the money on deposit there and I will have the banks issue notes on my ships and the New York port operation. We'll do about \$5 billion at a time. We simply issue new notes as needed and I have the banks quietly forgive the old ones. They disappear and you have clean money.

PETER

That money then goes into several private equity funds I have set up. We'll use Martin's name to buy up equities around the world and the Sheik's name will never be divulged.

Jordan acts intrigued as he thinks about this.

JORDAN

I see you are a man of formidable resources and talents.

MARTIN

And you sir, are a man of formidable wisdom and grace.

JORDAN

Very well then. I'll make the arrangements for the transfers. You'll provide me the account numbers?

MARTIN

We can move immediately.

JORDAN

Then we are set.

They get up, shake hands and leave as they came. When they are gone, Annika turns to Martin.

MARTIN

As soon as the deal is done they're all yours.

Looking towards the retreating men.

MARTIN (CONT'D)

This will be almost too easy.

INT. TALLY'S STUDY - NIGHT

Tally Peter and Jordan are assembled in her home.

TALLY

You can expect Martin to move as soon as the money is in the bank.

PETER

The bank will issue a note against the ports in the name of Kingdom Holdings to you "Farwad". They will deposit the funds into accounts at Seyforth Hamilton in behalf of Sand Castle Partners with Martin as a partner.

JORDAN

We use the money to buy holdings in the U.S. Once each investment settles Martin signs over his shares in Sand Castle to Kingdom Holdings and he gets his management fees.

TALLY

That should be \$100 million with each transaction. I don't see the con. If Martin were honest it would be a very nice payday.

JORDAN

Too bad that's not in his nature.

INT. MARTIN'S HOME - DAY

Martin and Annika are in the room.

MARTIN

We'll wait till Hamilton has closed the transactions in New York. When the money has settled I want you to visit Rahimi. You know what to do.

ANNIKA

Aren't you worried about the Sheik?

MARTIN

That's the beauty of this deal. We eliminate Rahimi and we eliminate all links between the money and the Sheik. He may not even know the money is gone for a long long time.

ANNIKA

You're as brilliant as you are hot!

She grabs his tie and starts pulling him closer.

ANNIKA (CONT'D)

Now come here and take your mind off
of business for a while.

He smiles and complies. He puts his mouth to her ear and
whispers.

MARTIN

My dear, it's all business.

She backs off a little bit and looks at him. She smiles.

ANNIKA

Well then, let's get down to business!

They kiss passionately.

INT. PETER'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Peter is on the phone to Jordan and Tally.

PETER

It's done. Papers were filed with
the SEC and the funds will settle in
the morning.

JORDAN

OK. Now it's time for you to
disappear. Winston has made
arrangements. He'll pick you up
first thing in the morning. Oh, and
take your fly rod. We'll join up
with you in a few days.

INT. TALLY'S STUDY - CONTINUOUS

It is early morning in London. Tally and Jordan are in her
study. Jordan put the phone down.

JORDAN

Time for us to get to Amsterdam.
Are you sure you're up to this?

TALLY

More than you know.

JORDAN

I'll set up the meeting with Martin.

INT. HOTEL SUITE - MORNING

Tally and Jordan are in Amsterdam in a beautiful Hotel suite.

TALLY

I've got some things to do for a little while. I'll be back in an hour.

JORDAN

Just don't be late for the show.

TALLY

Not a chance.

She leaves. We follow her to the elevator and down to the lobby. She stops at a patisserie and orders a croissant. As she gets it she turns and sees Annika striding across the hotel lobby towards the elevator. The elevator doors open and Annika enters. The doors close and Tally watches the floor counter count up till it stops on the floor where their suite is. She throws down her Croissant and runs to the elevator bank. She is highly agitated and she nervously pushes the elevator button as if that will call the elevator more quickly.

INT. HOTEL SUITE - MOMENTS LATER

A knock at the door gets Jordan's attention. He opens the door and Annika is standing there.

ANNIKA

Good morning Mr. Rahimi.

JORDAN

Good morning! Please, come in.

She steps into the room. Jordan closes the door behind her and follows her into the main area.

ANNIKA

Martin sent me to make final arrangements.

JORDAN

I thought everything was set. We're good from our side.

ANNIKA

Yes, well Mr. Van Der Leiden has decided that your services will no longer be needed!

JORDAN

I don't understand?

ANNIKA

You don't need to!

She raises her hand which is holding the same type of device that was used to kill the first victims. She activates the trigger but nothing happens. A look of shock comes over her face. She definitely did not expect Jordan to have a protective device.

ANNIKA (CONT'D)

Who are you and who are you really working for?

JORDAN

You seem surprised!

ANNIKA

No one can defeat this device.

He points to the belt buckle.

JORDAN

Don't you mean no one from this world?

ANNIKA

Where did you get it?

A voice from behind her speaks up.

TALLY

From me.

Annika spins around to see Tally standing at the door.

ANNIKA

(with contempt)

You!

TALLY

That's right. Hello Annika, I see you are still doing Martin's dirty work. Time for that to stop.

Annika lunges at her. She deflects the initial blows. A vicious fight ensues and though Annika is well trained, Tally's experience and years of training serve her well. Suddenly, Tally seems much more formidable than she has let on heretofore. Annika pulls out a knife and begins slashing wildly. Tally gets a good slash on her upper left thigh. It doesn't slow her down. She increases the intensity of her assault. A vicious blow to Annika's throat crushes her windpipe and she goes down, suffocating. In a moment she is dead. Tally stands over her, breathing deeply. Martin is speechless at the spectacle he has just witnessed. His eyes pan from Annika's now lifeless body to Tally.

Tally quickly composes herself, wipes a bit of blood from her face and sigh's deeply.

JORDAN

It seems I have underestimated you!

TALLY

(coldly)

Life is sacred...but sometimes taking one is the only way to save many others. I've lived with death for far to long and I'm sick of it.

She turns away and starts for the bathroom to clean up.

JORDAN

What do we do about the body?

TALLY

I'll make some calls. I've got people to take care of that.

JORDAN

Hey, your leg!

She looks down and sees that her thigh is opened up. Instead of blood and tissue we see some kind of high tech gel and blue lights and circuitry.

TALLY

Oh dear.

Jordan draws closer and checks out her wound.

JORDAN

What the hell? You're bionic!

TALLY

No, it's just an artificial leg. I lost mine long ago in an accident.

JORDAN

That's like no artificial leg I've ever seen. Does it play music and stuff too? Oh, I get it. It's a Thighpod!

TALLY

(plaintively)

Jordan please. No time to fix it now.

JORDAN

When this is all over we really need to talk.

TALLY

I promise.

(pause)

Right now we need to get me cleaned up and get to Martin's.

INT. MARTIN'S HOME - LATER

Martin is feeding the fish in a large saltwater aquarium in his study. He does not see that Jordan and Tally have entered the room.

TALLY

Hello Marsh!

Martin stops instantly. He does not turn around, trying to maintain his cool. He puts down the fish food container, wipes his hands and then, suavely turns while speaking.

MARTIN

Taletta! It's been...

He stops when he see her standing next to who he thinks is Farwad Rahimi. Suddenly he is speechless.

JORDAN

(to Tally)

I guess he didn't expect to see me with you, or at all for that matter.

She smiles at Martin and waits for his response.

MARTIN

(at a loss for words)

I, ah, Mr. Rahimi. I didn't know you were acquainted with Miss Reynolds.

Jordan drops the accent.

JORDAN

We've been friends for a while now.

Martin walks slowly over to his desk.

TALLY

It was a clean deal we offered you.

MARTIN

I'm sorry?

JORDAN

All you had to do was be honest, take the 100 million, and it would have been a clean deal.

TALLY

You know the saying Marsh, you can't con an honest John.

MARTIN

Come now Taleta, we were dealing with dirty money from the start. Mr. Rahimi here was playing with someone else's money without their permission.

TALLY

What, you mean the Kingdom fund? I think you've got it all wrong. That is my fund. You were playing with my money.

Jordan leans over and offers an aside to Tally.

JORDAN

I may have misled him on that.

MARTIN

But I checked you out! Everything was verified.

(pause)

Winston?

TALLY

Afraid so.

JORDAN

Oh, and it's Ballard, Jordan Ballard.

Martin sits down at his desk. A degree of resignation comes over him but he still has some fight left.

MARTIN

So, what's the play here? I've got the 5 billion. You'll have a hard time getting it back. The bank is making sure the note disappears as we speak.

TALLY

Oh, I'm afraid not, you see, we purchased the note as soon as it was issued. The deed to your ports now sits safely in one of my banks.

MARTIN

I don't understand.

JORDAN

Really Martin? You signed the deed over to me when you were planning to steal the Sheik's money. Don't you remember?

MARTIN

But the money you used to buy the ports. That was invested in my name. You have no claim on it.

JORDAN

You were one of the investors. That is true.

MARTIN

What do you mean one of the investors?

JORDAN

Remember Peter telling you about the funds?

Flashback to the dialogue between Peter and Martin

PETER

"That money then goes into several private equity funds I have set up."

Back to real time.

JORDAN

Peter set the money up in several funds. Unfortunately for you, the fund that bought your ports only had minimal participation on your part. It turns out Miss Reynolds here is the majority holder of the Sand Castle fund.

TALLY

Don't worry Martin, you still have 10%. I'll cut you a check as soon as the deal closes.

MARTIN

What deal?

TALLY

Oh yes, I forgot to tell you. I had a deal already set to sell the holdings to a major Asian P.E. group.

Martin suddenly looks pale.

MARTIN

Singapore?

Tally smiles as she confirms his worst fear.

TALLY

And it turns out Sand Castle is going to make a billion and a half on it! Oh, don't worry though. You made 150 million on your investment. I guess that doesn't make up for billions you just lost? Ironic isn't it? I guess it's just proof that what goes around comes around.

MARTIN

But why?

TALLY

Because you killed Andreas. I can't forgive you for that. You're just lucky that the council won't let me do to you what you really deserve.

MARTIN

He was in the way.

TALLY

In the way, of a construction project? Marsh, your greed has finally consumed you completely. You better keep one eye open from now on!...oh, and by the way, you need a new girlfriend.

She turns defiantly and walks out with Jordan following her. When they are gone Martin sits in muted disbelief. As the enormity of what has just transpired sets in he yells out.

MARTIN

Nooooo!

TAG EXT. WASHINGTON MALL - AFTERNOON

Tally and Jordan are walking through the mall talking.

JORDAN

I'm glad Senator Thompson was able to get the SEC to work with us to get your money back.

TALLY

It was a brilliant plan Jordan. Martin never saw it coming.

JORDAN

He was looking for swords. We threw a rock at him and he forgot to duck.

(beat)

It was kind of fun though wasn't it?

TALLY

It wasn't so bad.

They walk on in silence for a moment.

JORDAN

So tell me about Andreas Steiner.

TALLY

He was special to me.

JORDAN

His father was a Nazi.

TALLY

His father was a very good man.

JORDAN

Why did he run to Argentina?

TALLY

To keep up the ruse.

He looks questioningly at her.

TALLY (CONT'D)

Hitler's gold came from the people he killed and the towns he looted. Most of those people were Jews. Deitrich wanted that money back in the hands of it's rightful owners.

JORDAN

How could he do that?

TALLY

Where do you think all those billions in gold are?

JORDAN

At the bottom of several Austrian lakes.

She smiles.

TALLY

That was his plan.

(MORE)

TALLY (CONT'D)

He needed to make everyone think the gold was sunk in the lakes. In reality, he concocted one of the most elaborate ruses in history. The only thing at the bottom of those lakes is gold plated lead.

JORDAN

So where's the gold?

Tally measures her words.

TALLY

Israel was established in 1947. It became a country in 1948.

JORDAN

True. They wanted Einstein to be their first president.

TALLY

Albert was such a character - a real ladies man. Did you know that?

She smiles at the thought (or memory?).

TALLY (CONT'D)

Anyway, he turned it down. But the real question for you is, how do you fund a completely new country? Where does the capital come from to support the new currency and build the economy?

JORDAN

I just assumed the U.S and Europe pitched in.

TALLY

Please. The war had drained most of the coffers in Europe. They didn't really like the Jews anyway. Israel was the perfect solution for them. The U.S. was saddled with huge debt that took the post war boom to settle.

JORDAN

Hitler's gold?

TALLY

Deitrich and the Americans worked secretly to get all that gold to Israel. He was a hero.

(MORE)

TALLY (CONT'D)

He had no future in Germany and the American public smelled blood for anybody associated with the Nazis. Argentina was the perfect place.

JORDAN

Makes sense really.

(pause)

So who was Steiner to you?

TALLY

You have the answer in your files.
You just need to look a little deeper.

INT. JORDAN'S HOME - NIGHT

It is late. Jordan is going back through his research on Andreas Steiner. We cut back and forth between Jordan's home and Tally's home where she has some photos and other objects spread out on a table.

She holds a German Maltese Cross in her hand and fondles it lovingly.

Jordan is going through pictures on his computer.

Tally puts down the medal and picks up a picture. She smiles and a slight tear forms in the corner of her eye as she remembers.

Jordan brings up the picture of Andreas as a young teenager in Argentina. He squints and looks closer. The picture of Andreas, his father and his beautiful young stepmother is on the screen. He looks at the stepmother. Her hair style is 40s and her clothes are 40s but the person in the photo is unmistakably - Tally Reynolds.

She wipes the tear from her eye, puts the objects back into a lock box, puts the box back into it's place and turns out the light.

FADE TO BLACK:

THE END