

AMERICAN VIGILANTES

Chapter 1: "Play Ball!"

(Pilot)

Written by

Simba Dibinga

EXT. BOSTON SEAPORT DISTRICT - DAY

A large political rally is taking place in front of a raised stage. Hundreds of GUN CONTROL SUPPORTERS are holding up pro gun control signs.

Across from them is an equally raucous and large ANTI GUN CONTROL PROTESTERS. On the stage are almost a dozen POLITICIANS standing up and cheering on the crowd.

A sharply dressed, slick haired man in his 40's with eyes so cold they could freeze a waterfall and a smile that could seduce the Devil, D.A. RAMON LAWSON, is speaking on a mic.

LAWSON

Ladies and gentleman, I'm so proud of this amazing turn out. I know, I know. You're not here for me. Of all the people I've met in politics as your D.A., none have ever inspired me to have the guts to speak in front of so many people. I will always stand by my friends, Governor Randall Matthews and Lt. Governor Chelsea Sanchez! Let's go!

The crowd roars. Behind the stage, getting ready to go on, are two more figures. An earnest JFK type of fella in his late 40's, GOVERNOR RANDALL MATTHEWS, and a buoyant Latina in her early 30's dripping with intense optimism and youthful righteousness. This is LT. GOVERNOR CHELSEA SANCHEZ.

CHELSEA

Nervous?

RANDALL

Fuck yes. Speaking in front of juiced up crowds like this isn't as easy as I make it look, kiddo.

CHELSEA

Oh please. These people love you, Randy. You're inspiring millions of Americans to stand up for what they believe in. You're showing them there's still courage in politics.

RANDALL

You really mean that, huh?

CHELSEA

Yes! You even inspired someone like me despite my...history.

RANDALL

Our past shapes who we are. It's never something to run from.

CHELSEA

Yeah but you inspired me to add my voice to something greater than myself. That's what you do, Randy. You inspire people to become more than they are. With the Government shut down people really could use some hope right now. Now get your ass up there. Do what you do best.

RANDALL

What? Talk?

CHELSEA

Inspire.

RANDALL

Damn...You're pretty good.

CHELSEA

I know, right? Now go give em that "Future Leaders" schpeel. We're trying to abolish the second amendment here. We're trying to save the country! Show these people you got the guts to get it done.

RANDALL

Alright, kiddo. Here goes nothing.

They give each other a special handshake and they take the stage. The crowd goes crazy. They move around the stage, waving to the crowd. Chelsea and the other politicians sit down as Randall walks up to Lawson. Lawson gives him a bro hug, a mic and takes a seat.

RANDALL (CONT'D)

Thank you! My name is Randall Matthews and I'm here to talk to the future leaders of the world!!

The crowd goes crazier as some of them raise signs that say "FUTURE LEADERS OF THE WORLD". 20 Yards from the stage we see an athletic African American man in his late 30's surveying the crowd discreetly.

He doesn't necessarily WALK thru the crowd as much as he STALKS thru the crowd like a lion looking for prey. His swag exudes alpha male swagger and Jim Brown. This is DETECTIVE CADE CARTER.

He's holding his phone to his ear as if he's making a call. However on close up we see he's taking pictures of the crowd.

He turns around and sees a super model looking Chinese American man in his late 30's with a permanent Cheshire smile and a cape of enigma walking towards him.

He's eating cotton candy and holding two bottles of root beer. His attire looks like it's from "Gucci" as opposed to Cade's "Marshalls" get up. DETECTIVE KENNY WAN.

KENNY

Dude. You see they're giving out cotton candy? When's the last time you had cotton candy?

CADE

C'mon, man. We're not supposed to be eating on the job. Grown ass man eating cotton candy...

KENNY

But you want some don't you?

CADE

Yeah hook me up.

Kenny hands him the candy and root beer.

KENNY

Hey, you see Chelsea over there? You never should have fucked that up. Damn, Cade. She looks good.

CADE

She always looks good.

KENNY

When Maria dumps you maybe you can give it another shot.

CADE

...How's the perimeter, Kenny?

KENNY

We're good. Saw some jabroni wearing a Braves hat that looked kinda suspicious but lost him in the crowd. Keep an eye out for him.

CADE

You mean that guy over there?

A tall Mexican American man wearing a Braves hat, sunglasses and years of war and hard times on his face, walks by about 15 yards from them. This is BRIAN WELLINGTON. Cade looks for his hands and sees he's keeping them in his pocket.

CADE (CONT'D)

There's your "Jabroni". You see his pockets? Looks like he's holding.

KENNY

Damn, you can tell that from here?

CADE

Yeah I'm really good, dude. C'mon.

KENNY

Yeah you are.

Cade nods towards Brian and begins to follow him as we focus back to the stage.

RANDALL

What are YOU going to do to change the world?? I know what we're doing is risky. But we have to do something about the gun violence in our country and we only have 14 days to do it. But there are too many Newtowns! Too many Aurora Colorados! Too many cries on the streets of Chicago! We are going to abolish the 2nd Amendment and Save. This. Country!!

He pauses as the crowd of supporters cheers wildly. The protesters across the street jeer loudly.

RANDALL (CONT'D)

America we're better than this! I ask you to-

Randall doesn't finish his sentence as a bullet goes thru his eye. As the crowd erupts in shock and the politicians jump up frantically, another bullet goes thru Chelsea's shoulder and she falls.

The crowd's in a frenzy. Cade looks to the stage then back to Brian. Cade can now see he's holding a Heckler & Koch P30L. Cade draws his Standard Issue towards him.

CADE

BOSTON P.D.!!! FREEZE!!

As the crowd goes into a riotous frenzy, someone bumps into Cade and gives Brian a chance to run away. Cade looks back and sees Kenny with several OFFICERS rushing the stage.

KENNY

GO! We got this!

Cade runs after Brian and chases him out into the streets where the riot is starting to spread chaotically. Brian lifts his gun and fires back towards Cade.

Cade jumps to the ground and returns fire. Brian runs behind a car and the shootout continues. Cade peeks out over the car to where Brian's hiding.

He sees a light pole behind Brian and shoots the bulb. It shatters onto Brian. Brian moves away from it slightly and is shot in the shoulder, causing him to drop the gun.

Cade cautiously walks up to him with his gun out. He gets to him and sees Brian bleeding on the floor.

CADE

Put your hands u-

Cade turns around just as he's about to be punched from behind by a masked man clad in black camouflage. Cade dodges his blow but is taken aback by the mask.

It's a fox with a wide devilish smile. Cade and "SMILING FOX" exchange vicious blows. Brian gets to his feet as Cade starts to overtake him.

Cade's holding his own against both of them until Smiling Fox sprays him with mace. Cade automatically puts his hands on his face and Smiling Fox punches him, knocking him down.

Brian and Smiling Fox run off down the street and jump on the back of a pick up truck. Cade stands up and watches them drive off as Smiling Fox gives him the finger.

CADE

Fuck!!

Cade looks down and see a piece of Brian's shirt with blood on it. He takes out a small evidence bag and puts it in.

INT. WAREHOUSE - DAY

The pick up truck pulls into a warehouse. Brian and Smiling Fox jump out of the truck.

BRIAN

SHIT!! I gotta take care of this.

SMILING FOX

You really fucked up, you know that?

BRIAN

C'mon we're good. Don't sweat it

Smiling Fox takes off his mask. It's Kenny.

KENNY

All you had to do was lead him away from the crime scene. How the fuck did he catch up to you??

BRIAN

Guess I don't run as fast with a bullet in my shoulder, so maybe you can get the fuck off my back?

KENNY

Call Geppetto...tell him Cade's gonna be a problem.

INT. MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL HOSPITAL - DAY

Chelsea's on a gurney being rushed down a long hallway. She's bleeding out profusely from her shoulder area and she's surrounded by SECURITY and DOCTORS.

She's going in and out of consciousness, reliving the assassination attempt over and over again. She screams in silence.

INT. CADE'S POLICE CAR - DAY

Cade's driving and speaking on the phone through his Bluetooth. The streets are panicked in riots and looting.

CADE

Captain! Captain! Can you hear me??

INTERCUT:

INT. POLICE PRECINCT - DAY

An older white man in his 50's who seems like he's about done dealing with the worst of humanity but doesn't know what the hell else to do, is in the middle of a hectic police station on his phone. This is CAPTAIN ANTHONY WRIGHT.

CAPTAIN WRIGHT

Cade! I hear you.

CADE

Get me up to speed, Cap.

CAPTAIN WRIGHT

Governor Matthews is gone. Chelsea is injured but she'll make it.

CADE

Cap, it's the craziest fucking riot I've ever seen. I'm driving on over to you with my lights on but these fuckers aren't clearing out. I might have to get there on foot. Where the fuck is riot control?

CAPTAIN WRIGHT

They're on their way but don't come here! You gotta go meet Kenny at a warehouse on 10th Street-

CADE

-10th St...I was just near there.

CAPTAIN WRIGHT

Yeah we got an anonymous tip one of the shooters is holed up there.

CADE

You got a tip already?! Bullshit.

CAPTAIN WRIGHT

Yeah I know it sounds like bullshit but it's a solid lead. Kenny says to park on the corner then meet him in the alley across the street.

CADE

Cap, there's no fucking way we got a solid lead less than an hour after the attack.

CAPTAIN WRIGHT

It's Kenny's lead. Said something about a guy with a Braves hat?

Cade whips around and starts driving the other way.

EXT. WAREHOUSE ALLEY - DAY

Kenny's kneeling in an alley holding his Standard Issue by his side. Cade jogs up to the alley as Kenny whips around and aims his gun at him. Cade puts his hands up.

CADE

Whoa! It's me!

Kenny holds his aim on him and begins to pull the trigger.

He smiles and puts the gun away.

KENNY

Hey my bad. Kinda jumpy. What took you so damn long?

CADE

This fucking riot, man. Our "Jabroni" is in that warehouse?

KENNY

Yup.

CADE

So it's obviously a set up.

KENNY

Well shit yeah it's a set up. But it's the only lead we got.

CADE

How many inside?

KENNY

Does it matter?

CADE

Well...when I'm shooting at people I like to know how many bullets I need.

KENNY

10. Light work for you, Shaft.

CADE

Fuck it, let's do it.

KENNY

Call the play.

CADE

Let's do a "Damsel".

KENNY

Heh. Yeah that'll work.

INT. WAREHOUSE - DAY

A dozen MASKED THUGS are packing boxes into the back of two large vans. They are armed, dressed in camouflage and wearing different animal masks. Kenny crawls in, panting heavily.

KENNY (CONT'D)

PLEASE!! HELP ME!!

The group aims their compensated Glock 17's at Kenny.

THUG #1

What the fuck are YOU doing here?

THUG #2

Kenny? Shouldn't you-

KENNY

-Guys please, you gotta help me!
There's some fucker after me!

THUG #2

Hey man what the fuck are you-

CADE

-BOSTON POLICE!! FREEZE!!

Cade's on the balcony behind them. They turn to him and open fire in Cade's direction. Kenny draws his gun out and opens fire as well. He runs behind a stack of boxes for cover.

The masked group scatters in different directions as the firefight ensues. Some of the thugs jump into the vans. The vans begin to drive off, leaving three thugs on the floor, shot and screaming in pain.

Cade shoots the tires out of one of the vans which causes it to spiral into a wall, knocking out the driver. He approaches the back of the van.

CADE (CONT'D)

FACE DOWN ON THE FLOOR!!

The van door doesn't open up. Cade and Kenny nod to each other. Cade turns his back to Kenny to open it. Kenny points his gun at Cade's back.

His hand slightly shakes as he prepares to shoot his friend in the back. Like a damn rat. Cade opens the door. Three thugs are in the back of the van, knocked out and bloody.

Cade ducks down as he hears three gunshots behind him. He turns around and sees Kenny standing over the three henchman that were already hurt and on the floor.

CADE

You killed them?? They were down!

KENNY

They were reaching for their guns.
I had no choice. Keep look out.

Kenny circles around the van and sees the driver.

He's wearing the same Braves hat Brian was wearing earlier.

CADE

Is he alive?

Cade looks around and there are unpacked assortments of guns everywhere. Kenny sees the driver's chest going up and down. He discreetly picks up a small piece of glass from his shoulder and slits the drivers throat.

KENNY (CONT'D)

No. No he's not but we got him.

CADE

Fuck, we needed him alive!

KENNY

We got these three fuckers in the back. We'll make them talk.

CADE

Yeah. Yeah let's do it. Something about all this stinks though.

KENNY

What? We made a huge bust! These crates are full of illegal guns.

CADE

I don't know...I don't know. Everything is happening too damn fast. Call in back up to bring these guys in. I'm going to have to make a run real quick after we interrogate these muthafuckers.

KENNY

Chelsea?

CADE

Yeah. I gotta go check on her. Just keep it between me and you, huh?

KENNY

Yeah don't worry about it. Go secretly meet your ex bedroom sparring partner in the middle of a national crisis. Totally cool. You know you can trust me.

Cade flashes an annoyed look and nods.

INT. MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL HOSPITAL/CHELSEA'S ROOM - NIGHT

Chelsea's resting, surrounded by two SECURITY GUARDS and a frenetic woman in her 20's. Her chief of staff, YANNA RUHLE. Chelsea has heavy bandages around her shoulder and her arm's in a sling.

Yanna opens the window curtain slightly and sees a MASSIVE CROWD of media, supporters and officers. Chelsea begins to stir and opens her eyes. Yanna turns to her.

YANNA

Hey!! How are you feeling?

CHELSEA

Hey. W-what's going on? Where am I?

YANNA

You're at Mass General, honey. They just did surgery on your shoulder. You were bleeding too much. How are you feeling now?

CHELSEA

It still hurts like hell. What's all that noise?

YANNA

You got a lot of supporters and media fuckers out there. The city is also going to hell with rioting. Pro-gun advocates are out there fighting with anti gun advocates all over the country. It's just so fucking crazy out there now.

CHELSEA

Randy! Who the fuck shot Randy?! Did they find who did it?!

YANNA

No...no they didn't. And these fucking vultures are down the hall trying to get a fucking quote from you right now?

INT. MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL HOSPITAL HALLWAY - NIGHT

Yanna storms out of the room to a crowded floor. There are more than a dozen REPORTERS with cameras flashing. Behind the reporters there are groups of supporters and more police officers are in front.

YANNA (CONT'D)

HEY!! Can you guys give her a little space!

(MORE)

(CONT'D)

She's just been thru a damn
traumatic event for fuck's sakes!
Leave her the hell alone!

The crowd just gets louder and more raucous. Yanna starts to yell back at them until Chelsea emerges from the room. The crowd gasps as she slowly walks out.

The supporters cheer loudly for her, she waves her good arm to them to thank them. She grabs a reporter's microphone.

CHELSEA

T-thank you for being here today.
To our supporters. Thank you for
coming here and showing our
opponents we are not afraid! Today
we lost a great, great man! A man
who inspired millions of Americans
to stand up and speak up for what
they believe in! To fight for what
they believe in! And make no damn
mistake. The fight will continue.
My name is Lieutenant Governor
Chelsea Sanchez and I want to speak
to the future leaders of the world!

The crowd starts to cheer loudly.

CHELSEA (CONT'D)

We're not going to let our
Governor's sacrifice be in vain! We
will fight harder! Fight smarter!

Chelsea's bandages are starting to get bloody as she begins to bleed out from her shoulder.

CHELSEA (CONT'D)

We will get down and dirty if we
have to but we will fight this war
and we will win! For Randy. For US.

Chelsea tosses the microphone back to the reporter. The supporters cheer like hell.

INT. MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL HOSPITAL CHELSEA'S ROOM - NIGHT

Chelsea walks back in her room with Yanna walking in behind her. She points to the window and walks over towards it. Yanna opens the shades and Chelsea waves to the crowd.

The crowd roars. She walks back towards her bed and Yanna closes the curtain. Chelsea faints before she gets to the bed. Yanna rushes to pick her up and yells to the guards.

YANNA

Get the fucking doctors!

INT. SCHOLARS BOWLING ALLEY - NIGHT

The place doesn't have a lot of PATRONS but the music is loud. An African American man in his 30's, ZACK BENJAMIN, is holding two beverages and walks over to two women of similar age bowling.

He's not a physically intimidating man but when he walks into a room he takes clear command of it. His self assuredness and earnestness drips like hell off of him.

One of the women is a very thin and frail white woman wearing a baseball cap. Though she's physically thin her personality adds 20lbs and 4 inches to her.

This is his wife, MICHELLE BENJAMIN. The other woman is a taller, alpha female, very fit Mexican American woman named DIANA WELLINGTON. Her whole demeanor lovingly says "back the fuck up". She rolls a strike.

DIANA

STRIKE! I don't know why you guys put yourself thru this. I'm absolutely too. Damn. Good.

ZACK

Yeah, yeah. I'm just trying to lull you into a false sense of security.

MICHELLE

That's right babe, you got this!

Zack gets up and picks up his ball. Michelle slaps him on the ass. He rolls the bowling ball and gets half of the pins.

DIANA

You got nothin, sucka!

MICHELLE

BOOOOO!!

ZACK

Hey we're married! You can't "boo"!

MICHELLE

I'm all about results, babe.

DIANA

Ok Michelle, you're up!

Michelle gets up and tries to pick up a bowling ball.

She struggles with the weight of it. Diana flashes a look of worry at Zack. He nods assuredly and slightly waves her off. Michelle gets the ball up and rolls it with all her might. She strikes. Zack and Diana jump up and scream in excitement.

ZACK

THERE YOU GO!!

MICHELLE

YES!! You see that, babe?

Diana's eyes start to water in joy.

DIANA

I see you coming for me, girl!

Diana turns and sees her brother walk in. Brian Wellington. He hugs Diana and Michelle and fist bumps with Zack.

BRIAN

Hey guys, sorry I'm late. What's going on? Diana abusing you guys?

ZACK

Your hustling ass sister is tough but Chelley just got a strike!

BRIAN

Shiit the "hustler" over here is Michelle! What's up girl? You still frontin' like you can't play?

MICHELLE

I just make it do what it do.

DIANA

Where were you anyway, Brian? You're always late these days.

BRIAN

It's crazy out there. Lucky I got here at all.

Diana picks up and puts on a Boston police jacket.

DIANA

Yeah I need to get back out there. This was my first break all damn day. I thought we had everything under control. Sorry, I gotta call it a night. Still can't believe the fucking Governor's been assassinated. It's fucking surreal.

ZACK

I mean when he started calling for making guns illegal I'm sure the threat level got pretty high, yeah?

DIANA

Yeah but it's still insane. I got a feeling this is just the start. What do YOU think Brian?

Brian hesitates to answer until Michelle goes into a coughing fit. Brian grabs her one of their beverages and hands it to Zack. Zack holds her and helps her drink it.

MICHELLE

Thanks, darlin. Sorry, guys.

Zack kisses her on the forehead.

ZACK

No, babe. You don't have to apologize for a damn thing, ok? C'mon. Let's get you out of here and back to bed.

BRIAN

Sorry I was late guys.

Diana walks over and hugs Michelle.

DIANA

I love you, Chelley!

MICHELLE

I love you too, Dee!

Brian comes over and hugs Michelle too.

BRIAN

Love you, Chelley.

DIANA

Hey I know you're single now but damn, soldier boy! At least wait until Zack isn't around!

BRIAN

(Mr. T. Voice) Hey woman. Hey woman! Why don't you come over and get with a real man!

ZACK

Man, please. Alright, we'll see you guys later. Be safe out there, Dee.

DIANA

Always.

Zack and Michelle walk out.

BRIAN

Damn, she looks so frail now. Hey sis, can I get a ride uptown?

Diana says nothing and keeps her back to him.

BRIAN (CONT'D)

Dee?

Diana turns around and tears are streaming down her face. Brian goes over and hugs her.

BRIAN (CONT'D)

Hey it's ok. She can get thru this.

DIANA

She's so amazing! Why does it have to be HER? She's literally the best person I've ever met in my life. Fuck, she even forgave me for...what I did with Zack. She's amazing and it's not right!

BRIAN

Hey c'mon. Get your head in the game. It's dangerous enough out there as it is. But if you're not focused, you can really get hurt. And shit, don't count Michelle out yet. I would never bet against that woman. So get out there and kick some ass, ok?

DIANA

Ok...ok.

BRIAN

So uhh about that ride?

She playfully pushes him but she hits him on his injured shoulder area. Brian winces in pain.

DIANA

Hey what's wrong with your shoulder? Is that padding?

BRIAN

Yeah I pulled something at the gym earlier. C'mon. Let's go.

Diana looks at him suspiciously and nods towards the door.

INT. ZACK'S CAR - NIGHT

Zack and Michelle are driving in their 2011 Honda Accord.

ZACK

You know you really are something,
right? You always surprise me.

MICHELLE

Thank you, darling. I'm sorry -

ZACK

-Hey babe, you don't have to-

MICHELLE

-for being SO amazing".

ZACK

HAHA! Damn I love you.

MICHELLE

I love you too, Z-Man.

ZACK

Hey do you have your house keys on
you? I think I left mine.

MICHELLE

You check the glove compartment?

She reaches for the glove compartment.

ZACK

Oh wait, don't-

She opens it and more than a dozen envelopes spill out. She
picks them up and sifts thru them.

MICHELLE

What's all this? Past due bills?? W-
why aren't these paid??

ZACK

You weren't supposed to-

MICHELLE

-Why aren't these paid?!

ZACK

It's ok, babe. I-

MICHELLE

-Oh my God it's because of me,
isn't it? I'm a fucking burden!

ZACK

No you-

MICHELLE

-It's my medication and treatment.
I don't want to be this burden!

ZACK

No, you're not a burden! Don't even
think that. This isn't your fault!

MICHELLE

But we can't pay these! What are we
going to do? Live on V.A. checks?

ZACK

I didn't want to tell you but the
Factory is cutting back on our
health insurance and overtime. It
doesn't cover everything anymore.
So honestly it's MY fault.

MICHELLE

Fuck! How the hell can they do that
to you?! You work 60 hours a week
for those fuckers! How much money
do you save them on a weekly basis?
You do the work of 10 muthafuckers
all by your self. This is bullshit!

ZACK

I know, babe. I know. But hey we'll
figure this out. You just focus on
getting better. Cool?

MICHELLE

...Yeah...

EXT. ZACK & MICHELLE'S CONDO - NIGHT

They pull up in front of their condo and park. Zack gets out
and opens the door for her. She rubs her forehead and slams
her hat in frustration.

She's completely shaven. She hands him her keys and puts her
hat back on. She struggles to get out of the car. Zack picks
her up and brings her inside.

INT. POLICE PRECINCT - NIGHT

Cade's at his desk going over footage of the assassination. He's rewinding over and over again. Talking to himself.

CADE

C'mon, c'mon. It's there. You're just not seeing it. There's always a "tell". Tell me something.

He starts to focus on Chelsea getting shot. His face melts. But then he notices something, until Kenny walks over to him.

KENNY

Hey. Mike Lowery. Cap needs you to take over the interrogation.

CADE

How come?

KENNY

Two of the yahoos aren't in any condition to talk but we got one of them cooking pretty good. Name's "Spider". Rollins isn't getting anywhere though.

CADE

Shit, Rollins is doing the interrogation? I thought the Feds-

KENNY

-Cap didn't let them know we got him. He's giving us a crack at him.

CADE

Hey, check this out.

KENNY

That's the assassination vid?

CADE

Yeah. Check this out. Look after the Governor's hit. What are the other people on stage doing?

KENNY

Well...it looks like they jump up, scared shitless.

CADE

Are you sure about that? Watch D.A. Lawson.

Cade rewinds the video and he shows that Lawson gets up halfway out of his seat but everyone else jumps up.

KENNY

So he gets up a little less than the other people. So what?

CADE

Yeah but watch this.

He shows the shot on Chelsea. Lawson jumps up shocked.

CADE (CONT'D)

Look at the difference in reaction. The first shot he barely gets out of his seat.

KENNY

Oooooook?

CADE

But compare that reaction to when Chelsea gets shot.

They watch that part of the video.

CADE (CONT'D)

I don't know the motherfucker but the second reaction looks way more natural than the first one.

KENNY

Sounds like a reach. How's Chelsea?

CADE

She's not ready for visitors yet.

KENNY

Alright. C'mon. Let's do this.

Kenny pats him on the back and walks away. Cade begrudgingly gets up to go to the interrogation room.

INT. INTERROGATION OBSERVATION ROOM - NIGHT

Cade and Kenny join Captain Wright behind the mirror looking in on the interrogation room.

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM - NIGHT

A shlubby ass, portly Irish Detective in his 40's who'd much rather be at the bar, CHUCKY ROLLINS, is sitting across from SPIDER. Spider is in his 20's with a bruised face, a dozen ear rings and a New Orleans accent.

ROLLINS

Listen. We don't want you.

(MORE)

(CONT'D)

We want whoever the hell you're working for. Tell us what we want. We'll go lenient on you.

SPIDER

Nah that's ok.

ROLLINS

You're diabetic, right?

SPIDER

Huh?

ROLLINS

You're diabetic. I see your hands are shaking a bit.

SPIDER

I'm not a diabetic, you idiot. I smoke crack.

INT. INTERROGATION OBSERVATION ROOM - NIGHT

Cade puts his hand over his face in embarrassment.

CAPTAIN WRIGHT

Cade, would you-

CADE

-Yeah I'm on it.

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM - NIGHT

Cade stalks in to the interrogation room.

ROLLINS

Detective Carter. Uh thanks for joining us but I got everything under control.

CADE

Hey, Chuck, you mind grabbing us some coffee real quick?

ROLLINS

Huh? Oh, huh, yeah sure. But I-

CADE

-Thanks, pal.

Rollins gets up to leave.

ROLLINS

But you know I can't -

CADE

-Hey thanks, pal. I appreciate it.

Rollins begrudgingly walks out. Cade sits down across from Spider and stares him down.

CADE (CONT'D)

Look, I really don't have time for this shit. Who hired you and what did they hire you to do?

SPIDER

I already told the ot-

CADE

-Yeah I know. But you know what I was thinking?

Spider says nothing.

CADE (CONT'D)

That wasn't a rhetorical question, muthafucka.

SPIDER

Oh...uh...no.

CADE

You probably DON'T know shit. But you do know SOMETHING. The problem is you're more scared of your boss than you are of us.

While Cade's talking he stands up and closes the window shades. He reaches up and unplugs the camera.

CADE (CONT'D)

You're probably thinking that if you talk he's gonna kill you later on, huh? And who are WE? We're the good guys so what the hell are WE gonna do, right? Yeah that's totally understandable.

Cade uncuffs him and sits across from him. Cade takes his gun out, screws a silencer tip on it and puts it on the table between them. Spider looks at it, tempted to take it.

CADE (CONT'D)

Now listen to me very carefully. Normally they call me in to do shit like this because I'm the best there is at reading people. I mean I'm really fucking good.

(MORE)

(CONT'D)

I've already "worked" you. That's what they call it when I pick up on things from a perp by just observing. And usually I have time to wow you with all this cool "Adrian Monk" type shit.

Cade looks him up and down.

CADE (CONT'D)

Like noticing you had braces up until very recently. Or that you're completely faking this bullshit ass accent. But honestly the Governor has been assassinated. On MY watch! The Lieutenant Governor, shot on MY watch! She...

Spider nervously looks back and forth to Cade and the gun.

CADE (CONT'D)

...The city is in chaos! I don't have the fucking time to fuck around here, you know what I'm saying? You know the most important thing I noticed about you?

Spider reaches for the gun but Cade reaches for it faster and shoots him in the shoulder. Spider screams out in pain.

CADE (CONT'D)

I noticed that you're bleeding.

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM OBSERVATION ROOM - NIGHT

Captain Wright flashes a pissed look as Rollins and Kenny listen to the screams they casually drink their coffee.

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM - NIGHT

SPIDER

FUUUCKK!!

CADE

Now me and you are going to talk. I swear if you lie to me you're gonna keep bleeding until you're a fucking red puddle on my floor.

INT. POLICE PRECINCT INTERROGATION ROOM - NIGHT

Cade walks in and Rollins hands him a cup of coffee.

KENNY

Good work. Yaaaay police brutality!

ROLLINS

Cade, what the fuck was that?! We can't be doing shit like that anymore!

CADE

He really doesn't know shit about his boss. He and the other people at the warehouse were also on stand by for a job happening today.

CAPTAIN WRIGHT

...Stand by for what?

CADE

He doesn't know. They were packing up guns in the vans and waiting for further instructions. You know who this sounds like?

CAPTAIN WRIGHT

"Geppetto"...

KENNY

Come on, dude, not your mythical puppet master again. There IS no organized crime in Boston lurking behind the scenes.

CADE

Most of the medium to large crimes committed here in the past year have less than 6 degrees of separation between them. This matches the pattern.

KENNY

So back to reality, people. We got nothing from THIS guy?

CADE

He said SOMETHING interesting. He said they were holed up in that warehouse overnight and never left.

KENNY

So what?

CADE

So if they were there all night,
(MORE)

(CONT'D)

that includes the guy with the
Braves hat in the van.

CAPTAIN WRIGHT

So he's not the guy you tangled
with. It WAS a set up after all.

CADE

The fucking "tip's" only purpose
was to clear us off the Jabroni's
trail. Got his blood though and
gave it to the lab.

KENNY

You get anything from it?

CADE

Not yet. It's contaminated.

CAPTAIN WRIGHT

Good shit, Cade.

KENNY

Yeah. Good work. I'll check out the
informant.

INT. POLICE PRECINCT - NIGHT

Cade walks out back to his desk. There's an African American
woman in her mid 30's waiting for him.

With the frantic precinct energy, her hippie like optimistic
energy stands out as an oasis of chill in a sea of chaos.
MARIA MARTELLO. Cade flashes a big smile when he sees her.

CADE

Hey, you.

She jumps up and kisses him passionately. Kenny walks out
into the hallway and freezes when he sees Maria. He is
looking on with envy. She speaks with a Cockney accent.

MARIA

I know. You're not a fan of PDA.

CADE

I am today. It's been fucking nuts.
Sorry I didn't check in with you.

MARIA

No it's ok. I get it. The schools
closed earlier today and everyone
was sent home hours ago. It's much
better outside now.

CADE

I'm sorry though. I won't be home tonight. They got us working overtime on this.

MARIA

I know. I just wanted to bring you some dinner.

She nods over to a Superman lunch box. Cade laughs.

CADE

You're a real breath of fresh air, you know that?

MARIA

Uuuhhh yeah?

She kisses him again as Kenny walks over to them.

KENNY

Alright, alright. Unless you're gonna let me watch, get a room.

MARIA

You are so nasty, Kenneth. HI!

She hugs him.

KENNY

How are you? You good?

MARIA

Yeah I'm good, just saying hel-

KENNY

-Dinner!

He pulls out a sandwich from the lunch box and starts eating.

KENNY (CONT'D)

Thanks babe!

Cade and Maria smile at each other.

CADE

This fucker, huh?

MARIA

Well I gotta go. Love you both!

Maria hugs Kenny. He closes his eyes lovingly for a moment.

MARIA (CONT'D)
You keep this cowboy safe, ok?

KENNY
Yes ma'am.

Maria kisses Cade again and she leaves.

KENNY (CONT'D)
You're so damn lucky she doesn't
have great taste, dude.

CADE
Tell me about it.

KENNY
So what's our next play? You really
want to start looking at Lawson?

CADE
Yeah but let's keep it between us
for now. Chelsea's been calling me
back. I'm gonna go check her out
then check the crime scene again.
Can you get the jabroni's samples
for me as soon as they finish?
That's our best lead.

KENNY
Yeah. Gotchu bud.

INT. MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL HOSPITAL - NIGHT

Chelsea's sleeping. The guards are standing outside her door
as Cade walks in. He looks at her, lovingly and starts to
stroke her hair. She wakes up and smiles.

CADE
How are you, darlin'?

CHELSEA
I feel like shit, Cade.

CADE
But you LOOK like a million bucks.

CHELSEA
You lie, sir.

CADE
I'm sorry you got hurt. Sorry about
Randall. I know you guys were close.

CHELSEA

Thank you...thank you.

CADE

Where's that great baby daddy of yours? Shouldn't he be here?

CHELSEA

Oh c'mon don't start. Please? He's coming back to town later today.

CADE

Ok. Fair enough. You need something from me though. Don't you?

CHELSEA

I need YOU to investigate the guy that's responsible for the assassination and the attempt on me. I know who did it.

CADE

Seriously?

CHELSEA

Yes. But you're not going to believe me.

CADE

Ramon Lawson.

CHELSEA

Fuck you. How did you know that?!

CADE

It jibes with a theory of mine from watching the assassination footage. What makes YOU say that?

CHELSEA

Remember when we met?

CADE

You mean the crack house? Yeah.

CHELSEA

When you and Anthony arrested me in the raid, you saved me that day. You even vouched for me and I went to rehab instead of doing time. But remember the girl that attacked you with the scissors when you tried to put the cuffs on me?

CADE

Uh yeah I think so. Chinese chick?

CHELSEA

Kelly Chan. I tried to do the same for her. She couldn't stay clean.

CADE

"Clean" ain't for everybody.

CHELSEA

Last year, she was escorting at a high end party for a guy named Harvey Graham. INSANE amount of drugs everywhere. She saw a guy she swore was Lawson walk in. The girls were told to leave but Kelly left last and could hear Harvey screaming after hearing thud after thud after thud. She ran until she got to me and told me everything.

CADE

She didn't want to go to the cops because she's still a junkie?

CHELSEA

I told her to lay low for a couple of days while I looked into it. I had just become LT. Governor not too long before. Lawson found out I was looking into him. I reached out to Kelly but no one had seen her for days. I still haven't heard from her. She's disappeared.

CADE

You think Lawson killed her?

CHELSEA

Yes I do. And he knows I know he's into some illegal shit. Ever since then he's been...unnerving to me. Being super nice every time he sees me. Trying to pry into my personal business. Not enough evidence to tell Randy though. I trust my gut. He gives me the fucking creeps. I think he did it.

CADE

That's a heavy ass accusation for weak ass proof. You sure you want me to go thru with this?

(MORE)

(CONT'D)

It will get messy. Your past could come to light. I scrubbed your record. You're clean now.

CHELSEA

I trust YOU, Cade. You do what you have to do to bring that bastard to justice. For Randy.

Cade kisses her on the forehead and begins to leave the room.

CADE

Yes ma'am. Hey did you notice anything strange at the rally? Did you see where the shot came from?

CHELSEA

No, the other cops already asked.

CADE

Maybe even subconsciously? Sometimes when people survive a traumatic event, clues can come up in all types of way. Anything strange at all?

CHELSEA

I mean...I've been having weird dreams about foxes for some reason. Does that count?

CADE

Foxes?

CHELSEA

Yeah, foxes. Is that helpful?

CADE

Oh absolutely.

INT. MILLENNIUM TOWER PENTHOUSE - NIGHT

Ramon Lawson is standing at a large window, over looking the city. He's drinking a glass of Bourbon and smoking Mary Jane.

LAWSON

Thanks for meeting me tonight. What we've begun today is going to change the course of not just this city, but this country.

He turns around to a board room table. Sitting there is Brian Wellington, Kenny Wan, a dangerous looking Latina in her 40's

that could and WOULD kill a man with her eyes named ANNETTE SANTIAGO, and Yanna Ruhle.

LAWSON (CONT'D)

I know I've asked you to do things that might cause you some sleepless nights. I know I've asked you to stretch the limits of your moral compass. I need you to trust me. Not only will all of this make sense...but it's going to make us all a lot of fucking money.

YANNA

Yeah but how many more people are we going to have to kill?

Lawson thinks it over. He smirks and sips his bourbon.

EXT. ORTEGA BASEBALL FIELD - DAY

There's a baseball game going on with young LITTLE LEAGUERS. The field's packed with SPECTATORS.

Brian's outside the fence watching his 9 year old son, ARNOLD WELLINGTON, walk up to the plate.

There's a player on 2nd and third and the score is tied. Brian looks over to the stands and sees a boss level Italian woman in her 30's, THERESA RIZZO, cheering him on.

THERESA

LET'S GO, ARNIE!!

BRIAN

C'mon, c'mon, it's a curve ball. You got this, slugger! Let's go!!

The pitcher pitches the ball and Arnold hits a double. He scores the game winning RBI. Most of the crowd goes crazy.

THERESA

WOOOOOOO! YEEEEAAHHH!

BRIAN

YEEES! You did it, Arnie!

Zack gets out of his car and runs up to him.

BRIAN (CONT'D)

You see that, Zee?!

ZACK

Yup! Got here just in time. WOW!

BRIAN

Fucking amazing. Let me catch up to him real quick before Theresa does.

ZACK

Oh boy. Here we go...

Theresa's hugging Arnold as Brian walks over to them. She rolls her eyes and Zack trails not too far behind.

BRIAN

Hey slugger!

ARNOLD

DAD!

BRIAN

That was fucking awesome, man!
Congrats! I'm so proud of you!

ARNOLD

Thanks, Dad. You see I kept my elbow higher like you taught me!

BRIAN

I did. I'm so fucking proud of you!

THERESA

Ok. Let's go.

BRIAN

Hey what the fuck? Let me get a few minutes. We're celebrating!

THERESA

Yeah well we're going to Chuck E. Cheese with the team.

BRIAN

Why do you have to rip him away from me like that? Can't I just get a damn moment?!

THERESA

You'll get a "damn moment" when I see your ass in court next.

BRIAN

So you gotta bring that up? Why do you always gotta do this shit?!

ZACK

Guys-

THERESA

-Do shit like what?! If you want rights to him then come bring your cheap ass to court and get them!

ZACK

Guys-

BRIAN

-Oh kiss my ass! I'm sorry my cash ain't flowing like that snooty muthafucka you're hanging out with-

THERESA

-Just shut the hell up-

ZACK

-GUYS!!!

Brian and Theresa look at Zack. Zack nods towards Arnold. He's crying. Brian bends down to hug him.

BRIAN

Uh, sorry, Buddy. I...I didn't mean to ruin your moment. Go celebrate with your Mom and your friends. I love you, kiddo! You did awesome today! I'll see you soon, ok?

ARNOLD

Ok...I love you too, Dad.

Brian walks away holding back tears. Zack nods and fist pounds Arnold. He walks away with Brian.

ZACK

Wow, that went well.

BRIAN

Fuck you, Zack.

INT. GOVERNOR'S MANSION - DAY

Chelsea's sitting across from the Governor's desk.

CHELSEA

What we're doing here is going to change the course of the country forever! We're trying to eliminate gun violence in this country forever. Are you ready for this?

We see she's talking to Randall.

RANDALL

Of course I'm ready. As long as you're with me.

CHELSEA

Of course I'm with you. I wouldn't be here if you didn't BRING me here. You knew everything about my past and you still brought me on. Campaigning with you is one of the highlights of my life. You inspired me to want to change the freaking world! How awesome is that?

RANDALL

Of course I'm ready. As long as you're with me.

CHELSEA

Do you really believe I can finish your legacy?

RANDALL

Of course I'm ready. As long as you're with me.

CHELSEA

Wait, what?

A man sized Fox wearing a long leather jacket kicks the door down. He's holding a large gun. He shoots Randall in the eye. Then the chest. Then the arm. Again and again and again.

She screams out in silence. The Fox turns and puts the gun to her chest. He opens fire. She wakes up from her trance. She's wearing a sling and sitting in the Governor's office, surrounded by three older Senators in their 50's and Yanna.

A slithery viper of a politician, SEN. TANYA LIVELY looks to Chelsea with disdain. SENATOR #1, SENATOR #2 look confused.

There's a monitor with an elder statesman Latino man in his 50's staring at her, This is PRESIDENT MARIO RAMIREZ.

PRES. RAMIREZ

Chelsea? Hey Chelsea, are you ok?

CHELSEA

Yes, Mr. President. I'm here. I was just...thinking. We've quelled the riots better than any other state. There are still pockets flaring up here and there. I'm proud of the work we've done these past 48 hours

PRES. RAMIREZ

You should be.

CHELSEA

That's what Randall would have wanted. I will NOT let his legacy fall with him.

PRES. RAMIREZ

Maybe it's not the best thing to go right to politics while the country is still mourning? Why not just take a few days to let the state heal? To let YOURSELF heal?

CHELSEA

It's not politics. It's personal. I believe in his work. Who ever did this WANTS us to slow down. We can't do that.

SEN. #1

I agree with Chelsea. We've sacrificed so much political capital into getting 45% of Americans to back us on our firearms ban. Right now, the balance can be swung in either way.

CHELSEA

We MUST keep going. We need to LEAD. We know your successor won't sign the bill. We know the stakes, sir. There are only 13 days left in your Presidency. This lame duck time could be the last chance we have as a nation to end this plague of gun violence. This is the best hope for this country.

PRES. RAMIREZ

Wow. You sound so much like Randy.

SEN. LIVELY

Well...Seeing as how I'm on the opposite side of this Un-American path you're on, I appreciate you inviting me here to make peace, Chelsea. No one admires the late Governor more than me. He was my friend. We served together in the Senate. But my constituents elected me to defend the Constitution no matter what.

CHELSEA

Here we go...

SEN. LIVELY

They're not going to sit back in a truce and risk the Constitution being defiled-

CHELSEA

-Fucking hell, we're not defi-

Ramon Lawson opens the door and slinks his way in. Chelsea freezes when he sits down across from her. They lock eyes for a moment before Lawson focuses on the President.

LAWSON

Sorry I'm late guys. I had to handle some more affairs for The Governor. He was my friend after all. Hello Mr. President.

PRES. RAMIREZ

I understand, Ramon. Look, I have somethings to attend to. I just want to say thank you for getting the State under control. I think you're doing an incredible job and I want you to know that the full power of the United States is here for you, Chelsea.

CHELSEA

Thank you, sir.

PRES. RAMIREZ

I'm trying to get the Government up and running and funded for the rest of the year and that hasn't been going well so I'll do my best to be available to you. We'll see. I'll talk to you soon.

CHELSEA

Thank you, Mr. President.

He hangs up.

CHELSEA (CONT'D)

Alright. If you guys will excu-

SEN. #2

-Chelsea, what the fuck are you doing?

CHELSEA

Excuse me?

SEN. # 1

You're supposed to have been sworn in by now. Why are you avoiding it?

CHELSEA

Because I'm NOT the Governor.

LAWSON

With all due respect Che-

CHELSEA

-Mr. Lawson, please shut the fuck up.

Lawson's fake smile goes away and he flashes a look of anger. She focuses back on the group.

CHELSEA (CONT'D)

I'll get sworn in soon enough. Right now I would really appreciate it if you guys would commit to participating in the vigil for Randall tonight. It's going to be a show of strength and hopefully unity. I'll be there. Will you?

SEN. #1

For Randall.

SEN. #2

For Randall.

Sen. Lively stands up to mull it over.

CHELSEA

Senator? Please. I would really like us to show some uni-

SEN. LIVELY

-No. No I don't think I will.

She walks out. Chelsea stands up as the other two Senators shake her hand and walk out. She looks over to Lawson. He's sitting down and staring her down.

He stands face to face with her, smirking like a sonofabitch. He walks away. She walks back to her desk.

Lawson slams the door and it startles the hell out of her. The room begins to spin. She hears gunshots go off in her mind.

She grips on the desk tightly, trying to keep from falling. The speaker phone makes a buzzing sound. She answers it.

CHELSEA

Yes?

SECRETARY (V.O.)

Governor, Mr. Reid is here for you.

CHELSEA

Please don't call me th...Let him in.

The door opens and a rugged, shifty looking man walks in. He's wearing construction clothes and seems like he's more comfortable in a firefight than a Governor's office. MARTIN REID. He's holding a 2 years old girl, JAZMINE REID.

MARTIN

Hey, honey. Sorry I'm late. I-

She grabs them in a strong embrace and starts crying. He kisses her thru the tears.

MARTIN (CONT'D)

Hey, I'm here now. I gotchu.

EXT. BEACON HILL - DAY

Cade's sitting in the back seat of his brown Ford Capri. He's looking out the back window thru his binoculars. He's looking at a high end residential apartment building.

A limo pulls up and CHRISTOPHER LOPEZ, an overweight Latino in his 50's, walks out of the apartment.

He gets in the limo and drives off. Cade puts on a New England Patriots baseball cap and sunglasses. He gets out of the car and walks over to the apartment building.

INT. PENTHOUSE APARTMENT - DAY

Cade picks the lock and Bogarts in. It's a huge Penthouse apartment. Meticulously clean. He takes off his jacket and has recording equipment taped to the inside of the jacket.

CADE

Ok. Let's see what you're hiding.

EXT. BEACON HILL - DAY

Cade walks out of the apartment and back to his car. He gets close to his car and notices someone is sitting in the passenger seat. He pulls out his gun as he gets close to it.

It's Kenny eating a cheese burger and fries. Cade puts his gun away and gets in.

CADE

Dude, what the fuck?

KENNY

Hey you're blowing your cover, man.

CADE

Yeah no shit. What the hell are you doing here, man?

KENNY

I know what YOU'RE doing here. You're bugging Lawson's accountant's place, huh? I want in.

CADE

How did you know that?

KENNY

I saw that look in your eye when you were looking at the footage. You're a dog with a fucking bone when you get going. You've already pegged Lawson as dirty and you're gonna be all over him until you prove it. I want to help.

CADE

I promised Chelsea I wouldn't get anyone else involved.

KENNY

You "promised" her?

CADE

I did.

KENNY

You said the words "I promise"?

CADE

Well no, I didn't say those exact words.

KENNY

Oh so you didn't really "promise" then. You're just full of shit.

CADE

That's funny.

KENNY

What's funny?

CADE

I just realized why you're single.

KENNY

Funny.

Cade smiles and they drive off.

INT. RICHARDSON STEEL FACTORY - DAY

Zack and Brian are constructing a large metal beam. It's a small manufacturing factory and there are more than a dozen FACTORY WORKERS including BECK, RICO, MELINDA, SAMANTHA and BERG, working on different things.

ZACK

You sure you're good, man? Theresa really got to you this time, huh?

BRIAN

I'm just sick of this court shit. This bitch always has to hold custody of Arnie over my fucking head. Who the fuck does some shit like that? It's bullshit!! She knows I can't keep paying for these damn court appearances. She thinks she can bleed me fucking dry and I'll give up but fuck that. She doesn't get to hold him hostage against me. Fuck that.

A thin well dressed white man in 50's walks into the center of the factory. His arrogant air of superiority infects the joint. This is BOBBY MUNICHIN.

MUNICHIN

Ok guys listen up. As you should know, most of our money comes from Government contracts. Because this Government shut down has lasted much longer than any of us could have ever imagined we are not going to be getting enough revenue to cover our usual costs-

BRIAN

-So we're gonna get fucked is what you're going to say. Awesome. Hey at least you'll still have that sweet fucking mansion east side.

MUNICHIN

What the hell did you say?

BRIAN

You really going to pretend you give a fuck about what happens to people like US? Dude you live in a fucking space ship compared to the rest of us!

MUNICHIN

That's a cheap shot! You know what? You run your own company you can make all the decisions you want.

BRIAN

You don't have to tell me THAT.

ZACK

How much, Bobby?

MUNICHIN

What?

ZACK

How much are you cutting our pay?

MUNICHIN

Remember it's just temporary-

ZACK

-How much?!

MUNICHIN

40%

BECK

40 FUCKING PERCENT?

BRIAN

Are you serious, Mooch?!

SAMANTHA

Do you have any fucking idea how hard that's gonna be to live on? I just got a damn mortgage!

ZACK

Can't you do ANYTHING for us?

BRIAN

Yeah right, how much of YOUR pay are you cutting, Mooch?

MUNICHIN

You and I aren't the same.

BRIAN

Well THAT we can agree on. I actually had to WORK for what I got. I SERVED my country, my country didn't serve ME. But why don't you answer the question?

MUNICHIN

None of your damn business. Now get back to work. There's nothing I can do until the Government reopens. And don't call me that.

ZACK

You're going to sell the company.

BRIAN

Wait, what?

ZACK

I hear the rumors on the news. You're going to sell the company to some Saudi guy.

MUNICHIN

Where did you hear that? Actually it doesn't matter. What I do with this company doesn't concern you. Get back to work. Before 40% becomes the least of your problems.

He slithers away.

BRIAN

Did that muthafucka just say him selling the company doesn't concern us? This is absolute bull shit.

SAMANTHA

Guys I can't go long getting 40% less money. My kids are about to go to college. What the fuck am I supposed to do?

BRIAN

I hear you, sister. You know what I'm going thru with Theresa. That bitch is bleeding me dry.

MELINDA

Zack, what do YOU think we should do? Should we strike or something?

ZACK

No. No we don't have any leverage. Let's just get back to work. We're gonna have to penny pinch. Maybe pool our resources or something. Let's just get back to work for now and maybe we can come up with something in a couple of days.

The workers disperse. Brian stays with Zack.

BRIAN

Still got that leadership, shit huh?

ZACK

Hey that "leadership shit" got us thru Afghanistan, didn't it?

BRIAN

So what's it gonna do for us now?

Zack thinks it over. He nods back to the beam they were working on and he walks back to it.

INT. ZACK AND MICHELLE'S CONDO - DAY

Michelle's laying on the floor in pain. She crawls to her couch to a bottle of pills. She takes a few and lays back on the floor. The door bell rings. She looks over at the clock.

MICHELLE

SHIT!!

She crawls over to the couch and uses it to lift herself up.

EXT. ZACK AND MICHELLES CONDO - DAY

Diana's waiting at the door. She goes to ring the bell again but Michelle opens the door, smiling.

MICHELLE (CONT'D)

Hey! I forgot you were coming.

DIANA

Ugh YOU invited ME, right?

MICHELLE

Yeah, sorry I was masturbating. I put myself to sleep. C'mon in.

DIANA

You know I can't ever tell when
you're joking, right?

INT. ZACK AND MICHELLE'S CONDO - DAY

MICHELLE

Have a seat. Corona?

DIANA

Nah, I'm on the clock.

MICHELLE

Oh ok.

Michelle takes out a bottle of Jack Daniel's and pours it in two glasses. She hands a glass to Diana. Diana takes it, looks at Michelle and shakes her head. She smiles and downs it in one sip. Michelle sits on the couch beside her.

MICHELLE (CONT'D)

Thanks for coming, hon. I won't
take up too much of your time.

DIANA

Girl, please. I'd much rather hang
out with YOU than deal with this
craziness going on out there. It
feels like a war zone sometimes.
It's just...anyway. So what's up?

MICHELLE

Are the riots starting up again?

DIANA

Yeah things are crazy out there.
You can just feel the tensio-

MICHELLE

-I want you to take care of Zack
when I'm gone.

Diana says nothing.

MICHELLE (CONT'D)

Hello? You still there? Earth to
bimbo...

DIANA

Yeah...I just...what?

MICHELLE

I want you to take care of Zack
when I'm-

DIANA

-Hey don't even say that. Why are we talking about that??

MICHELLE

I have to be realistic, hon. I'm dying.

DIANA

Why do people only say "being realistic" when it's about negative things?

MICHELLE

Dee-

DIANA

-I'm being realistic too when I say you're going to be fine.

MICHELLE

You see that kind of naive optimism is exactly why I want you to take care of him.

DIANA

Chelley I-

MICHELLE

-When I met him he was a mess. He had just come back from the war. But the war never left HIM. He was consumed by so much rage and violence...fear. But underneath all of that I could see so much kindness and caring. He can do so many things. He can BE so many great things. He just needs help from time to time to remember that.

DIANA

Michelle, I-

MICHELLE

-I've never met anyone who cares so much for other people. Except you. I worry that when I'm not around he's going to revert to what he was when I met him. I helped him embrace his vulnerabilities and he showed me that anything is possible if you try.

DIANA

But how could you trust me at all?
After...after what I did to you??

MICHELLE

You mean after you two fucked?

DIANA

Uhh...well...geez. Yeah I betrayed your
trust and MY values and I'm so
sorry about that.

MICHELLE

Bitch...I already forgave you for
that a long time ago. I really did.

DIANA

But I just don't understand how you
could!! I wouldn't ever forgive my
friend if she did that. Why did you
forgive me??

MICHELLE

Diana you're right. I felt betrayed
and hurt. But you both were drunk
and vulnerable. Me and Zack were
having a lot of problems at the
time. We didn't tell you guys about
it but we went to marriage
counseling after that. I had to
relearn the power of forgiveness.
You're a good person, Dee.

DIANA

I'm glad YOU think so.

MICHELLE

The way you risk your life for
strangers every day? I couldn't do
that. No fucking way. You're a damn
hero, Diana. Even heroes fuck up
from time to time.

Diana's smiling thru tears.

DIANA

Thank you, for saying that.

MICHELLE

You love, Zack don't you?

Silence.

MICHELLE (CONT'D)
It's ok, Dee if you do. Honestly.

DIANA
Yes...Yes I do.

MICHELLE
Ok...Ok that's good. For some reason
it's a relief for you to say that.
It makes it a little easier. Will
you please promise me two things?
One, promise me that you will take
care of Zack?

Diana stands up and walks over to the window. As she stares
out the window, Michelle looks on nervously.

DIANA
Yes, I'll do it. But not just
because I love HIM...

She walks to Michelle and kneels down. She holds her hand.

DIANA (CONT'D)
...but because I love YOU too.

Michelle wipes away tears as they hug each other.

MICHELLE
YESS!!

DIANA
Wait, what was the other promise?

Michelle flashes a devilish smile.

EXT. ON THE ROAD - DAY

Michelle's driving Diana's cop car. Diana's sitting in the
passenger seat as Michelle is driving with her head out of
the window, with the sirens glaring.

MICHELLE
WOOOOOOHOOOOO!!!!

DIANA
HOW DID I LET YOU TALK ME INTO
THIIIIIS?!

INT. RICHARDSON STEEL FACTORY - EVENING

Zack and Brian are welding a steel beam in place. The other
workers are there doing their own tasks. Zack notices a
balance beam is loosening near a wall of chemical containers.

ZACK
 HEY! EVERYONE GET BACK! THE BEAM IS
 LOOSE!

The workers scramble. Munichin walks out from his office speaking on his phone, oblivious to the steel beam. Zack runs towards him.

ZACK (CONT'D)
 MOOCH! MOVE!!

Munichin's ignoring him as he's on his phone.

BRIAN
 ZACK! GET THE FUCK OUT OF THERE!!

Zack tackles him out of the way of the collapsing beam. The beam slams into a balcony, taking it down and the wall of chemicals behind it. A fire breaks out as Zack is shielding Munichin on the floor. Munichin's unconscious.

BRIAN (CONT'D)
 ZAAACKK!!! Let's get out of here!!

ZACK
 Brian! Get the fuck over here and help me with Mooch!

BRIAN
 Fuck him! Let's go!

ZACK
 C'MON!

Brian looks around at the spreading fire and shakes his head. He begrudgingly runs to help Zack. Brian hustles and helps Zack carry Munichin out.

EXT. RICHARDSON STEEL FACTORY - EVENING

All the workers are outside, looking at the flames. Brian, Zack and Munichin are the last ones out. Brian drops Munichin on the floor like trash. Munichin starts to get up.

MUNICHIN
 Sonofabitch, who did this?!

BRIAN
 YOU did this you sick fuck. You've been skimping on high quality material! I told you a long time ago this could happen!

MUNICHIN

Fuck you. You hear the sirens?
Clear the fuck out. We got
chemicals in there. They can
interview you guys tomorrow. That's
the protocol.

BRIAN

Hey fuck you! That's our livelihood
going up in fucking flames and
you're telling us to just go home?!

MUNICHIN

That's the protocol!

BRIAN

Maybe you could ACT like you give a
fuck about your workers for a
change?! Are we going to get our
full pay? Are we still going to get
the same insurance while we're
closed?? Can't you just act like
you give a damn for a minute?!

Munichin turns to walk away.

MUNICHIN

I don't owe you shit.

BRIAN

DON'T TURN YOUR BACK ON ME!!

Brian grabs his shoulder and punches him in the face. Zack
grabs Brian as Munichin is spitting out blood and is picking
up his teeth on the floor. He's coughing blood wildly.

MUNICHIN

Y-Y-You're f-fired!! G-Get the fuck
out of here!!

Brian pushes Zack off of him and kicks Munichin in the mouth,
knocking him out. Zack goes to grab him again but Brian gives
him a hard look. Zack waves him off and Brian walks away.

INT. STATE HOUSE - NIGHT

Chelsea's at her desk, looking at pictures of her and
Matthews laughing and other pictures of the Governor. She
holds back tears but manages a smile.

She turns around to a window and opens the shades. She looks
outside and sees a large group of supporters holding candles.

EXT. STATE HOUSE - NIGHT

Chelsea walks outside with her security guards and Yanna. Yanna hands her a megaphone and a candle as Chelsea stands in front of the supporters. Senators #1 and #2 walk up to the front of the crowd.

CHELSEA

Thank you for showing up tonight.
Tonight you've shown that we will
stand up to fear. We will not stand
by while our fellow Americans are
being slaughtered every day.

The crowd roars wildly.

CHELSEA (CONT'D)

We will not respond to violence
with more violence! We will not
respond to fear with more fear! We
will show our strength in numbers
and believe me there are more of us
than there are of them!! Let's
march in peace for our country.
Let's march in peace for our dear
friend Governor Randall Matthews.

She joins the vigil and they march. As they march there are some protestors lining the streets shouting at them. As they march quietly, more people join their walking vigil.

Chelsea and the Senators are walking arm in arm along with Yanna. Chelsea and Yanna share a smile. She smiles until she hears a scream behind her.

Then another. Then another. She turns around and sees her supporters are being shot one by one from above.

They start screaming and it begins a riotous stampede. Some supporters run into protestors and a large brawl breaks out.

CHELSEA (CONT'D)

WAIT! NO! STAY CALM! STAY CALM!

FLASHBACK:

EXT. BOSTON SEAPORT DISTRICT - DAY

Gov. Randall's shot thru the eye and she in the shoulder.

END FLASHBACK

Chelsea shakes and goes into a panic attack. Her security guards grab her and the Senators and run off with them. We see on a nearby roof, Smiling Fox standing with a sniper rifle, picking off people one at a time. It's chaos.

INT. CADE'S CONDO - NIGHT

Cade's making love to Maria. He gets off when she has an orgasm and they cuddle.

MARIA

How come you didn't cum?

CADE

I don't know. Got a lot on my mind
I suppose. But it's ok, as long as
I get to please you I'm happy.

MARIA

Yeah I know but I want to take care
of you too, you know?

Cade's phone rings and he answers it.

CADE

Shit, it's like on fucking cue.
Carter. Shit...ok...how's Che--ok, I'll
be right there.

He hangs up and starts changing.

CADE (CONT'D)

Fucking, sniper attack downtown at
the vigil! More fucking rioting.

MARIA

Seriously? Wow. Maybe it IS time to
take all the guns away. Be careful,
baby, Ok? I love you.

CADE

I love you too. Stay safe, here.

Maria watches him holster his gun.

MARIA

Interesting.

CADE

What?

MARIA

That all this crazy is because
someone was trying to eliminate gun
violence in this country. Then he
gets taken out by a gun.

CADE

So?

MARIA

So now there's a sniper stoking
fear with a gun and you cops, our
supposed "protectors", arm yourself
with guns to make us feel safe.
It's a never ending cycle of
violence. When's it all going to
end? IS it ever going to end?

Cade takes in what she says. He opens his mouth to answer but
says nothing. He puts on his jacket and walks out.

INT. BRIAN'S CAR - NIGHT

Brian drives Zack up to Zack's condo and parks.

ZACK

You good, man?

BRIAN

You know the way society is now
we're never allowed to be angry.
Everybody wants us to kiss ass and
be "kind" to everyone. Be
politically correct. They tell us
to be ourselves unless being
ourselves means punching a
muthafucka in his face when they
disrespect your manhood. This...this
leash society puts on us. I'm done
with it.

He bangs on the steering wheel in frustration.

BRIAN (CONT'D)

Nah they don't have to like us but
I'm gonna make sure they got to
deal with us. Let's see how that
goes for them.

Brian looks over at Zack and he's crying.

BRIAN (CONT'D)

Hey man what's up?

ZACK

Man how the fuck am I going to
explain this shit to Michelle? Dude
we're damn near bankrupt with all
these fucking medical bills.

BRIAN

She knows about that now, huh?

ZACK

I'm not even going to talk about our Condo fees. We just can't go on pay check to pay check. This shit is fucking embarrassing, man! When the fuck did this happen, B? We should have got more help when we came back. We shouldn't even have these bullshit ass jobs. I'm supposed to PROVIDE, man!

BRIAN

You're being too hard on yourself!

ZACK

I fucked up somehow. I owe Chelley, B. She doesn't even know but she saved my fucking life when I came back! Now she needs me and I'm just...I'm just fucking up, man.

BRIAN

Listen to me, Zack. I'm your brother. I'm with you. You got me? Me and you didn't do shit wrong. You're the best man I fucking know. You saved my ass more times than I can count over there. None of this shit is our fault. Society failed US! Chelley knows that. She knows what kind of man you are.

ZACK

Yeah...yeah man. Alright. Yeah I'm good man. I'm sor-

BRIAN

-YOU ain't got shit to apologize for either. Neither of us do. WE'RE the ones who are owed an apology.

Zack nods his head. They pound fists and Zack gets out of the car. He walks up to his door and takes a deep breath. He unlocks the door and walks in. Brian starts to drive off until he hears Zack screaming.

ZACK (V.O.)

NO, NO, NO, NO, NO, NO!! CHELLEY!!!

Zack runs back outside.

EXT. ZACK'S CONDO - NIGHT

ZACK (CONT'D)
BRIAN, GET BACK HERE!! HELP ME!!

Brian jumps out of the car and follows him inside.

INT. ZACK'S CONDO - NIGHT

Michelle's laying out on the floor. She's holding an empty bottle of pain killers. Zack rushes to her and cradles her. Zack's crying excessively.

ZACK
CHELLEY?! C'mon, baby, please?
PLEASE?! CALL A FUCKING AMBULANCE!!

Brian whips out his phone and kneels down to check Michelle's pulse. He looks up at Zack with tears in his eyes.

BRIAN
She-sh-she's gone, Zack.

ZACK
SHUT THE FUCK UP AND CALL THE
AMBULANCE!! HURRY THE FUCK UP!!

Zack starts CPR as Brian steps outside to call 911. Zack finishes CPR and just holds her tight and cradles her as tears keep streaming from his eyes.

INT. RAMON LAWSON'S PENTHOUSE - NIGHT

Lawson is painting an incredible Alex Ross type painting of Annette stabbing him thru the chest with a Katana. He smiles to himself as his phone rings. It's a video call from Annette and he answers it.

LAWSON
Hey, babe.

ANNETTE (V.O.)
Hey you. Find out who took the shot
on Chelsea yet?

LAWSON
Working on it. Where is he?

ANNETTE (V.O.)
He's at his apartment now.

LAWSON
Do it.

INT. KENNEDY TOWERS - NIGHT

Three obnoxious DUDE BROS in their early 30's are "partying" with three HOOKERS with lines of cocaine and loud music. One of the men, HARVEY GRAHAM, goes to the bathroom.

He washes his face and fixes his slicked back hair in the mirror then throws up in the sink. When he looks back up he sees Annette standing behind him in the mirror.

She grabs the back of his head and rams it in the mirror several times until his face is a bloody mess. She takes a piece of the mirror and shanks him in the stomach.

She walks out of the bathroom, still holding the glass in her hands. One of the men turn around as she walks up on them. She shanks him in the stomach then slits his throat.

The hookers panic and run for the door. Annette takes out a silencer and shoots each of them in the backs of their heads. Harvey crawls out of the bathroom.

HARVEY

Who-who- what- WHO ARE YOU?!

ANNETTE

Geppetto really hates loose ends.

He stands up and charges at her. She side steps him and slits his throat in one motion. She looks around and admires her work. She smiles to herself, walks out and closes the door.

MONTAGE - VARIOUS LOCATIONS

-Captain Wright is speaking to a crowded conference room to his officers in the Precinct.

CAPTAIN WRIGHT (V.O.)

After last night's vigil attack I spoke to the Lt. Gove-the GOVERNOR personally. I told her it's time to increase our methods. The Feds are keeping us in the game thankfully but these are OUR streets that are under attack...

-A dozen police officers in tactical gear are breaking down doors and arresting SUSPECTS in a dingy apartment complex.

CAPTAIN WRIGHT (V.O. CONT'D)

Our citizens are being slaughtered in the streets!

-A dozen officers with POLICE DOGS are storming a Jewelry Exchange building. Two SHADY LARGE MEN run out to escape. The dogs chase them down and jump on them.

INT. POLICE PRECINCT - MORNING

CAPTAIN WRIGHT (V.O. CONT'D)
THIS IS OUR CITY!! I want you to
hit every lead. Every tip. Call
your informants. Let's remind these
mutherfuckers who we are and what
we stand for! Whatever it takes.

END MONTAGE:

EXT. BEACON HILL APARTMENTS - MORNING

Cade and Kenny park across from Christopher Lopez's
apartment. They get out and walk up to the main door.

KENNY
You sure about this?

CADE
I haven't gotten shit from my
surveillance of this guy so far.

KENNY
Think he knows he's bugged?

CADE
Nah.

They get to the main entrance door. Annette walks out of the
building and holds the door for them. Kenny checks her out.

CADE (CONT'D)
Thank you.

ANNETTE
Danada.

KENNY
Hi. I'm well hung.

CADE
Focus.

INT. KENNEDY TOWERS - MORNING

They get to Lopez's door and draw their guns.

KENNY
You positive he's still inside?

CADE
Last surveillance I checked from 20
minutes ago says yeah...

KENNY

Alright so what's the play, Blade?

CADE

"Power Play".

KENNY

Now we're talking.

Kenny nods to him and Cade kicks the door down.

INT. CHRISTOPHER LOPEZ'S APARTMENT - MORNING

CADE

BOSTON PD!! HANDS THE FUCK UP!!

The apartment is a mess and there's a trail of blood from the couch to the bathroom. No sign of Lopez. Kenny nods over to the bathroom and they walk slowly to it.

Blood's dripping out from under the door. Cade kicks the door open. Lopez is bleeding out from his throat and wrists, slumping over the bath tub. Cade checks Lopez's pulse.

CADE (CONT'D)

He's still warm.

Cade looks at the blood trail and sees small circles in them. Cade bends down and gets a closer look.

KENNY

What are those?

CADE

...Heels...the woman at the door! Did you notice any bloody shoes??

KENNY

Dude, I was looking at her ass not her feet! Just like you!

EXT. BEACON HILL APARTMENTS - MORNING

Kenny and Cade run out of the building. They look both ways on the street but they don't see her. They run over to their car but the tires are slit.

Cade turns around and sees a van coming towards them. The windows roll down and THREE ARMED MEN stick their arms out of the windows, holding guns.

CADE (CONT'D)

Take cover!!

The men open fire. Cade slides over his hood and tackles Kenny to the floor, saving him. They duck behind their car as the van parks a few yards from them.

The thugs in the van continue to shoot. Cade crawls to the back of the car. Six more armed men get out, still shooting. Cade and Kenny return fire.

They're engaged in a full fire fight now. Cade looks inside the van and he sees Annette behind the wheel driving off.

CADE (CONT'D)

It's the woman!!

KENNY

GO! I Got this!

Kenny starts to pick them off as Cade chases down the van. He's running as fast as he can, firing at the van. He shoots the tires, causing the van to skid into the side of a building and he catches up to the damaged van.

He keeps his gun out and gets to the drivers side. Annette's not there. He turns around and she's behind him.

She punches him in the face and stabs him in the stomach with a long knife, causing him to drop his weapon.

They engage in a brutal back and forth. She's faster with her kicks, punches and knife attacks.

She dodges most of his attacks but not all. He finally subdues her by choke slamming her to the concrete. Kenny catches up to him.

KENNY

You punch a woman that fine in the face? Fuck is wrong with you??

CADE

You call in back up?

KENNY

They're on their way. You good?

CADE

Vest took most of the knife. I'll patch up later.

KENNY

Let's bring her in once the clean up crew gets here. We gotta lock this area down.

INT. SENATOR LIVELY'S OFFICE - MORNING

Senator Lively is sitting in her office, going over a stack of papers on her desk. She answers her desk speaker.

SECRETARY

Mr. Lawson is here.

SEN. LIVELY

Let him in.

Lawson walks in with a brief case. He puts it on the desk.

SEN. LIVELY (CONT'D)

Ramon. How are you?

LAWSON

Senator.

SEN. LIVELY

Ok let's cut the bullshit. I know we agreed to use your methods on this. You're willing to go further than I ever could. But last night's incident was a bridge too far. You need to tone down the violence.

LAWSON

Why the hell would I do that?

SEN. LIVELY

Innocent people are getting hurt!

Lawson chuckles.

LAWSON

Thanks. I needed that.

SEN. LIVELY

Tone it the hell down. I'm trying to SAVE this country! I'm not trying to hurt people!

LAWSON

One million dollars, cash. How are the votes looking?

She would love to shiv this arrogant sonofabitch.

SEN. LIVELY

...We're holding on our side. I'll give Randy this. He was smart to build Congressional alliances to get the bill passed in the-

LAWSON

-Everyone has a price. As YOU know.

SEN. LIVELY

I do. I learned MY price in Iraq.
There IS no price I'm unwilling to
pay to protect our freedoms.

LAWSON

I need dock 2401 cleared tonight.

SEN. LIVELY

Didn't you get a shipment the other
day? How many guns do you need?

LAWSON

None more than necessary.

SEN. LIVELY

Fair enough. By the way, I heard
about your accountant. It looks
like the police did capture the
susp-

LAWSON

-I've already taken care of it.
Call me when the dock is cleared.

He gets up and walks out on a carpet of jackassery.

SEN. LIVELY

Lovely chatting with you, you
fucking bastard.

INT. KENNY'S NEW POLICE CAR - MORNING

Kenny's driving Cade in a police car. Annette's handcuffed in
the back seat. Cade's pressing for the sirens.

CADE

This is taking too long. Of all the
cars you could've taken you get the
one with the fucked up lights??

KENNY

How the fuck was I supposed to know
the lights weren't working?

The car stops behind a bit of traffic. Annette looks around
outside until she catches Kenny's eyes staring at her in the
rear view mirror. He nods slightly to the left.

She looks to her left down the street and sees a red pick up
van with a shiny light emanating from the back window.

She looks closer and sees Smiling Fox waving a small flashlight. She smiles and leans back.

He opens fire on the police car with a custom AR-15. Cade jumps out to take cover and peeks around the car to see Smiling Fox aiming at them from a distance. The screen goes black as we hear several gun shots. Cade screams in pain.

KENNY (V.O)

Cade?! Caaaddee!!! Shit...I didn't
want this...I...shit...

END CHAPTER 1