

RESORTING TO LOVE AND VIOLENCE

Written by

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Resorting to Love and Violence

Act One

FADE IN:

SUPER: It's early December, 2019, and in one month, Andrew Jackson will be replaced by Harriet Tubman on the United States \$20 bill. However, an organized team of counterfeiters at a fancy resort in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico, just couldn't bear to wait..."

INT. HOLLYWOOD LOFT - NIGHT

Smiling B-list movie actress, DANIELA (DANI) DIEGO (28), a stunning Latina beauty, holds a house key in one hand and a plane ticket in the other, as she rides an elevator to the top floor of a fancy apartment complex in Hollywood. She wears a sheer sun dress that hides little from the imagination, and pulls a small pink suitcase on wheels. She quietly opens the door, enters, and parks her suitcase.

DANI

Surprise, Rex. Thought we'd ride to the airport together tomorrow morning!

There is a flurry of activity in the bedroom. Dani examines the contents atop a small table containing keys, a plane ticket, and a scribbled note reading, "10 PM, Cabo, Rm. 7100. 5 gets you 40. La Mano."

DANI (CONT'D)

Rex, are you there? Everything okay?

She sees a pair of two-pound exercise weights on the floor and bends to pick one up.

DANI (CONT'D)

Working out I see. Good for you. Muscle beach?

She hears more rustling in the bedroom, and then a voice from REX WELDON (50), a wealthy, handsome, sleazy movie producer.

REX

Just a minute, Dani. I'm not decent.

Dani reaches the bedroom to see the backside of a Young Starlet (25; blonde) race to the bathroom. Dani pulls back the exercise weight like brass knuckles ready to punch Rex.

DANI  
No, you're not! I see what tiny muscle you were working out!

Dani punches Rex in the jaw, and knocks him out.

DANI (CONT'D)  
I'll be in your time-share suite in Cabo. I'm charging everything to your bill for a week. Don't bother to contact me.  
(beat)  
Asshole!

INT. AIRPLANE - DAY

Dani, wearing the same sun dress, sips white wine, while staring out of the window at the beautifully blue Sea of Cortez.

EXT./INT. RESORT - DAY

Dani waits patiently at the registration desk of the elegant Resort, while a female clerk, RITA (20s; cute) speaks on the phone.

DANI  
Is everything okay?

Dani reads her name tag.

DANI (CONT'D)  
Rita?

RITA  
Mr. Weldon is having trouble speaking. I think he said, "Keep Dani there, I'm coming."

DANI  
He had a tooth pulled. Terrible pain, and he takes too many painkillers. You know those Hollywood producers.

The Rita hangs up.

RITA

We have his credit card on file.  
I'm sure it's okay.

DANI

Mucho something, Rita.

RITA

A name like Daniela Diego, and you  
don't speak Spanish?

DANI

Five generations in L.A., I'm lucky  
I can speak English! Call me, Dani.

RITA

(laughs)  
Thanks, Dani. It's mucho gracias.

DANI

Mucho gracias.

RITA

I'll put everything on Mr. Weldon's  
card until we hear otherwise.

Dani collects her key as a Bellhop (16; male, overly eager to help) grabs her pink suitcase.

RITA (CONT'D)

You're up on the ridge. I'll have  
the bellhop take you, Ms. Diego.

DANI

Muchos gracias.

The Bellhop SMILES like a wolf.

RITA

Take Ms. Diego to the D-355, Mr.  
Wedlon's suite.

BELLHOP

First time in Cabo, Ms. Diego?

DANI

Yes.

They head off to the elevators.

DANI (CONT'D)

(mumbles)  
And maybe my last if Rex's  
painkillers wear off.

EXT. POOL - DAY

Dani stares out at an infinity pool beside a swim-up bar. She wears a tiny bathing suit and sunglasses. She has a half-empty cocktail glass next to an empty plate. She has a view of the Pacific Ocean, only slightly obstructed by a tall building with a magnificent penthouse suite. A waiter, RENALDO (35; handsome) stops by with another Miami Vice cocktail. He collects the plate and the half-empty glass.

RENALDO

On your room tab, again, Ma'am?

Dani sees his name tag, as he hands her a bill to sign.

DANI

Mucho gracias, Renaldo.

RENALDO

De nada.

DANI

That's got to be, "you're welcome."  
You'll see that Mr. Weldon is a  
generous tipper.

RENALDO

Si.

DANI

Yes! I know that one!

She toasts Renaldo.

DANI (CONT'D)

This is going to be easy. Keep 'em  
coming, Renaldo. I plan to be in  
this lounge chair all week!

EXT. POOL - NIGHT

Dani sits alone in the pool area. She has a full Miami Vice cocktail by her side. The pool-side bar is closed. She finally removes her sunglasses, and stands. She throws on a light swimsuit cover, and begins to walk away.

Minutes later, we HEAR a man SCREAM twice from the Penthouse across the way.

INT./EXT. RESORT - NIGHT

Dani, still in her bathing suit and wrap, frantically races across the deserted lobby, and up to Rita at the registration desk.

DANI

Rita, call the police. A man has fallen from the penthouse across from the pool! Call an ambulance too!

RITA

Will do! And I'll hunt down the night manager, Miguel.

Rita dials, as Dani RACES out the front entrance to toward the building with the penthouse. It's pitch dark.

Rita RACES out to Dani.

RITA (CONT'D)

Police are on the way. I can't find the night manager, but I can guess who he's with!

They HEAR a SIREN in the distance, as a white van shows up first at the resort's grand entrance. ERNESTO REYES (30; handsome, well dressed), an investigative reporter hops out of the van, followed by a female camerawoman (THERESA; 26, gorgeous, but heavy, Latina), who is parking the van.

RITA (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

Señor Reyes, this is Señorita Daniela Diego, from Los Angeles, who saw the whole thing.

ERNESTO

(in Spanish)

Tell me everything you saw, and lead me to the body, now!

Dani stands perfectly still with her eyes wide open.

RITA

(in Spanish)

She doesn't speak Spanish.

ERNESTO

(in English)

Tell me everything you saw, and lead me to the body, now!

(beat)

(MORE)

ERNESTO (CONT'D)  
And I'd be honored if you told me  
your name.

Theresa cringes.

DANI  
Dani Diego.

Rita and Theresa see an instant chemistry between Dani and Ernesto.

ERNESTO  
Quick! To the body, before the  
police get here.

DANI  
We should wait for the police.

ERNESTO  
Nonsense. Theresa, get the camera.

Dani leads Ernesto to the body, as a Police Car RACES up the road to the resort entrance. Dani stops.

DANI  
It should be right over there!

ERNESTO  
You're coming with me. You're a  
witness.

DANI  
I don't like violence.

ERNESTO  
Your right knuckles suggest  
otherwise.

Dani looks to her reddened knuckles.

DANI  
Boyfriend back home deserved it.

ERNESTO  
(laughs)  
I'm sure he did.

Theresa shows up with the camera.

ERNESTO (CONT'D)  
(in Spanish)  
Theresa, roll tape.

Theresa turns on the camera, and a small spotlight on Ernesto and Dani.

ERNESTO (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

Ernesto Reyes, Channel three news.  
I'm here with Señorita Daniela  
Diego from Los Angeles, who  
witnessed a terrible tragedy.

(in English)

Ms. Diego, what did you see and  
hear tonight?

An overly-portly, kind, Detective, ROBERTO (35), and thinner, elderly Chief Detective ALPHONSO REYES (64) hear the question as they arrive. Roberto speaks broken English. Alphonso can speak English, but as a die-hard traditionalist, he insists on speaking Spanish. Both men wear white shirts and slacks, with belt-badges, and black shoes. Dani points to the ridge pool.

DANI

I was just leaving the pool at the  
ridge, when I heard a scream. I  
looked over to see a dark shadow of  
a man falling and screaming from  
the penthouse there. He screamed  
twice.

Dani Points to the penthouse. Roberto translates to Alphonso by whispering in his ear.

ERNESTO

Any lights on the penthouse?

DANI

No.

ERNESTO

Two separate screams?

DANI

Yes. I'm sure of it.

ERNESTO

Any other witnesses?

DANI

Not from the pool. Maybe from  
somewhere else in the resort. I  
don't know. It was dark.



ALPHONSO  
 (in Spanish)  
 In Spanish, please?

Ernesto pulls Alphonso aside and repeats everything in Spanish, except he adds a piece:

ERNESTO  
 (louder in Spanish)  
 Ms. Diego is a private investigator  
 from Los Angeles.

Theresa is furious. Roberto looks puzzled. Alphonso shrugs.

ALPHONSO  
 (in Spanish)  
 Keep the tourists out of here. I'll  
 handle this.

Resort night manager, MIGUEL (50, cartoon-slick) and a maid, ANA (18, sultry) arrive at the scene, horrified by the death.

ERNESTO  
 (in Spanish)  
 What? You can't use help from a  
 private investigator from Los  
 Angeles?

MIGUEL  
 (in Spanish)  
 No cameras. No cameras. The resort  
 would like to keep this suicide  
 quiet.

ERNESTO  
 (in Spanish)  
 This was no suicide. The witness  
 heard two distinct screams from the  
 pool. One before the fall, one  
 during.

Miguel GLARES at Dani.

DANI  
 What? I didn't get any of that.

Roberto and Alphonso investigate the body. At first, they see nothing suspicious. Then they see the man has no wallet. Theresa zooms in with her camera. The man has had his fingerprints removed.

ALPHONSO  
 (in Spanish)  
 I'll need to see the penthouse, and  
 the lady will need to come down to  
 the station.

ERNESTO  
 (to Dani)  
 They'll need you to go down to the  
 station. We'll drive you.

Theresa rolls her eyes in disgust.

DANI  
 Can I get dressed first?

ERNESTO  
 I think that would be wise.

Ernesto goes to whisper to Alphonso. Alphonso turns and nods  
 'yes' to Dani.

INT. VAN - NIGHT

Ernesto drives. Dani is in the passenger seat, wearing tight  
 shorts, a revealing tank top, and flip-flops. Theresa is  
 upset to be in the back of the van with the equipment.

ERNESTO  
 I may have lied a little back  
 there.

DANI  
 Lied?

THERESA  
 He told the detective you were a  
 private investigator.

DANI  
 What?

ERNESTO  
 So he would believe you, and  
 (beat)  
 So I could spend more time with  
 you. I'll be your translator at the  
 station.

DANI  
 No, you won't. If you lied back  
 there, you'll lie again.

Theresa laughs, and slaps Ernesto on the arm.

THERESA

Finally found a smart one, el tonto!

DANI

What's el tonto?

ERNESTO

(laughs)  
A fool.

DANI

Theresa, will you be my translator?

THERESA

Brillante. Brilliant.

ERNESTO

I told him that so he wouldn't try to pin the murder on you.

DANI

Would he do that?

THERESA

(laughs)  
Detective Alphonso, We all love him, but he is not so smart.

ERNESTO

You've got no witnesses at the pool. You could've pushed him off the penthouse. And then run to the front desk.

DANI

That's nonsense!

ERNESTO

Do you want to find that out from inside a Mexican jail?

THERESA

Ernesto might be right.

ERNESTO

Just go along with it long enough that the detective starts looking for another suspect.

THERESA

I'm an actress! And not a very good one!

ERNESTO

You'd better act the part tonight!

Ernesto screeches to a stop in front of the police station.

EXT./INT. POLICE STATION - NIGHT

Detective Alphonso Reyes is screaming at his computer as Ernesto, Theresa, and Dani enter. The station is otherwise deserted. Alphonso speaks only in Spanish.

ALPHONSO

Piece of shit computer!

ERNESTO

(in Spanish)

What's wrong, Detective?

ALPHONSO

It never does what I want it to, only what I tell it to do.

THERESA

(to Dani)

He says he is having computer problems.

Dani puts an arm around Alphonso's shoulder, and he reluctantly smiles.

ALPHONSO

(to Dani)

Are you a famous private investigator?

ERNESTO

The detective wants to know if you are famous or not famous?

Theresa grimaces.

DANI

Not famous.

Alphonso laughs and pats her hand.

ALPHONSO

Me neither. The penthouse was not rented, and it was locked. How did the victim get in?

THERESA

(to Dani)

How do you think the victim got into the penthouse?

DANI

One: Invited by the killer who was already there. Two: a borrowed or stolen key; or Three: help from staff at the resort.

Ernesto translates immediately. Alphonso SMILES.

ALPHONSO

She's good.

ERNESTO

He likes you.

ALPHONSO

We begin the investigation tomorrow after Sunday Mass. I will see you at eight A.M. at Santuario de Guadalupe. You are a Catholic, aren't you?

ERNESTO

(whispers to Dani)

He wants to see you at Mass tomorrow morning to begin the investigation. You are Catholic, aren't you?

Dani nods 'yes' to Alphonso, while mumbling to Ernesto.

DANI

I can act that part, too.

Alphonso SMILES at Dani.

ALPHONSO

You have a gentle way about you, for a policewoman. Good night.

Ernesto begins to lead Dani away.

ERNESTO

My Papa says you have a gentle way about you.

DANI  
 (whispers angrily)  
 Your Papa?

ERNESTO  
 I'll drive her back, Theresa.

Dani and Theresa are clearly unhappy leaving the police station.

CUT TO:

INT. HOLLYWOOD LOFT - NIGHT

An ambulance team (two EMTs; 30s) wheel a gurney into the bedroom, where Rex is swearing up a storm from the bed. His jaw is still swollen. Rex is very difficult to understand with blood in his mouth.

REX  
 I'll kill her! Look what she's done to me! My meeting. My meeting!

EMT #1  
 When did this happen?

REX  
 Last night.

EMT #2  
 Why didn't you call us last night?

REX  
 Got knocked out. Today, my mouth won't stop bleeding. I'll kill her!

EMT #1  
 A woman did this to you?

EMT #2  
 We'll take you in, and they'll cauterize the wound. You'll be fine by morning.

REX  
 She won't!

BACK TO:

EXT./INT. RESORT - NIGHT

Ernesto slows to a stop in the white van at the grand entrance to the resort.

He hops out to get the passenger door, but Dani has already exited, slammed the door, and made it half way up the six steps. They whisper back and forth.

ERNESTO  
Harmless little lies.

DANI  
No lies are harmless! What have you gotten me into?

ERNESTO  
Out of. Out of. I'm keeping you out of prison. You have no alibi.

DANI  
And no motive.

ERNESTO  
Yes, but opportunity.

In the grand lobby, Dani stops to look into Ernesto's eyes, as Miguel and Ana look on from behind the registration desk.

DANI  
Why do I fall for smooth-talking handsome men who think they can toy with any woman's emotions, and turn their lives upside down?  
(yells)  
I can't do this again!

Dani storms away. Ernesto smiles shyly.

ERNESTO  
You really think I'm handsome? We do look very good together!

He hears Dani grunt and swear as she heads to the elevators.

ERNESTO (CONT'D)  
Pick you up for Mass at seven-thirty.

He hears more grunts and swearing. Ernesto WAVES weakly at Miguel and Ana as he leaves. Miguel and Ana whisper in Spanish. Ana flirts as she speaks, secretly rubbing her hand over Miguel's crotch.

MIGUEL  
Think she's a cop?

ANA  
Maybe!

MIGUEL

Or FBI!

ANA

Or CIA!

MIGUEL

We'd better watch her.

ANA

Keep her boozed up!

MIGUEL

Good idea. I'll tell the staff she has money to buy twenty time-share suites.

INT./EXT. RESORT LOBBY - DAY

Dani, not fully awake, stumbles through the lobby in a tight sky-blue dress and heels. The clerk, Rita, snaps her fingers at seeing Dani, and a WAITER (21; male, uniformed) races up to her with a Mimosa (orange juice and champagne). Dani takes the drink, surprised as the waiter races away. Ernesto smiles as he strolls in the front entrance and sees Dani with the drink in her hand.

ERNESTO

Before mass?

DANI

They just brought it to me. For no reason.

Dani leaves the drink on a table as they leave.

ERNESTO

My heart sings to see you this morning. My Papa will be very pleased.

DANI

Had a nightmare I was sleeping in a Mexican jail.

ERNESTO

I knew you'd come around.

DANI

I'm still not talking to you.



EXT. CATHOLIC CHURCH - DAY

Alphonso, is in a suit, proudly leads Dani down the steps of the church, but he ignores his son. Alphonso speaks only in Spanish.

ALPHONSO

You have not been to mass recently,  
Miss Diego?

ERNESTO

My father noticed you have not been  
to mass recently.

DANI

(whispers to Ernesto)  
That's for damn sure.

ERNESTO

(in Spanish to his dad)  
She says she has been too busy with  
investigations and charity work.

ALPHONSO

We will go straight to the  
penthouse at the resort.

ERNESTO

(to Dani)  
My father would be honored if you  
would help him at the crime scene:  
the penthouse.

DANI

(whispers to Ernesto)  
Beats prison.

ERNESTO

(in Spanish to his Papa)  
She would be most honored.

Alphonso smiles at Dani, but pushes past Ernesto angrily.

EXT./INT. RESORT - DAY

Roberto waits at the entrance of the resort with Miguel, who smiles like a sly fox, as Ernesto drives up with Alphonso and Dani. Miguel speaks in Spanish to Alphonso and Ernesto, and English to Dani. Roberto steals several looks at Dani, but Dani looks right past Roberto as though he is invisible. Roberto frowns, but no one sees it.

MIGUEL

So happy to see you, Detective. We hope you can put this suicide behind us as quickly as possible. Bad for business, you know.

Miguel leads them to the elevator to the penthouse.

ERNESTO

(whispers to Dani)  
Suicide? Why the two screams?

MIGUEL

(in Spanish)  
People scream all the time.  
(in English)  
People scream all the time around here! Screams of happiness. Screams of joy.

DANI

Not before they jump to their death.

Ernesto whispers to his dad, filling him in on the conversation. Alphonso smiles at Dani as they board the elevator. Ernest must insert a special key into the elevator button for the seventh floor to access the penthouse. Alphonso points at Miguel's key.

ALPHONSO

How many people have such a key?

MIGUEL

(in Spanish)  
The owner, maids, and hotel staff, but the key-card for the door to the suite is changed weekly.

DANI

Who has the special access keys?

MIGUEL

(in English)  
The owners and the maids.

ERNESTO

And resort staff.

Miguel smiles.

MIGUEL

And select resort staff.

INT. PENTHOUSE - DAY

The elevator doors open to a palatial suite, fit for a millionaire. Alphonso sees that Dani's eyes open widely as she marvels at the luxury. Roberto sadly stands by the elevator, invisible to Dani.

ALPHONSO

I'd like to see the patio.

MIGUEL

Right this way.

Miguel leads the group to the patio/pool, and effortlessly unlocks and opens the sliding-glass door. Alphonso and Dani see this. Dani's eyes open widely again, and Alphonso takes note.

DANI

Over there. That's the pool I was sitting at.

MIGUEL

(in Spanish)

The ridge pool closes at nine.

DANI

I was late leaving. A little drunk, perhaps. Mucho cocktails.

Ernest whispers to his dad.

ALPHONSO

Where did the victim fall from?

ERNESTO

Where did the victim fall from?

DANI

It was dark.

Dani points to the pool on the other side of the ridge.

DANI (CONT'D)

I was at the pool on the ridge. Way over there!

ALPHONSO

Where do you think the victim fall from?

ERNESTO

Where do you think the victim fall from?

Dani walks to the edge of the patio. Part of the patio has a three-foot stucco balcony wall, while the hot tub is protected by a five-foot tall Plexiglas wall above the stucco wall.

DANI

I'd like to say, this short balcony area here.

ERNESTO

(in Spanish)

Maybe here, but she is hesitant.

ALPHONSO

Why do you hesitate?

ERNESTO

My father wants to know why you are hesitant?

DANI

The body was close to the building. If he fell here, the tile sub-roof would have propelled the body further from the building.

Ernesto whispers to his dad, translating into Spanish and waving his arms. Then he points to his head suggesting Dani is very smart.

ALPHONSO

A critical thinker.

Miguel STANDS close to the short-walled balcony.

MIGUEL

Easy for a suicide victim to jump. Maybe he accidentally fell?

ALPHONSO

But the two screams?

ERNESTO

Yes, the two screams.

Dani points at the higher Plexiglas wall.

DANI

Would have taken two people to push someone up and over this wall, but the body would land next to the building, as we saw.

Ernesto translates to his dad. Alphonso's eyes open widely. Alphonso examines the suite. Not a thing is out of place. It's perfectly clean.

ALPHONSO

When was the room cleaned last?

MIGUEL

(in Spanish)

It is cleaned weakly at the request of the owner.

ERNESTO

So, last month?

Dani examines the kitchen sink.

DANI

Cleaned this morning.

ERNESTO

(in Spanish)

Ms. Diego says it was cleaned this morning.

DANI

They use Axiom paste cleanser here, and it dries to a crust if it's left over-night. This is still moist.

Ernesto whispers to his dad, as Alphonso examines the sink. He wipes his finger on the side of the sink, and he smiles.

ALPHONSO

I'd like to speak to all the maids who have been in this suite in the past two weeks.

MIGUEL

That will take some time examining the records and gathering the staff.

ALPHONSO

Call me when you have them. Lock the suite. My officer will add crime tape.

Miguel's eyes open widely.

MIGUEL

Si, Señor.

ALPHONSO

I will want to see your file on the owner, and records of any guests in the past five years.

MIGUEL

(beat)

Si, Señor.

Alphonso raises an arm, signaling he is done.

ALPHONSO

I must see the view of this penthouse from your pool on the ridge, Señorita Diego.

Alphonso checks his watch, and races toward the door. Ernesto translates to Dani as they race to follow Alphonso out of the suite toward the elevator.

ALPHONSO (CONT'D)

Andele! Rapido!

They all race to the ridge at the resort. Roberto is badly out of breath. Alphonso checks his watch routinely as they pass the lobby, take the elevators, and maneuver through the buildings and causeways to the ridge pool. Midway, Dani takes the lead. She shows her advanced level of fitness to Alphonso and Ernesto.

EXT. RESORT - DAY

The infinity pool at the ridge is surrounded by deck chairs containing a half-dozen Sunbathers (21-40; youthful, tan), as Dani, Ernesto, Alphonso, and Dani stops to point out the penthouse across the way. Roberto can barely breathe. Miguel listens intently.

DANI

I sat in this chair. I heard a scream and looked over there. Then I heard a second scream and saw the man fall. No lights over there, so I didn't see much.

Ernesto is translating to his father, as Dani looks down sadly.

DANI (CONT'D)

First time I saw somebody fall like that. I was scared, but I couldn't take my eyes off the man.

(MORE)

DANI (CONT'D)  
His arms flailing. Screaming in Spanish. I was helpless.

Ernesto continues translating to his dad. He stops and puts an arm around Dani to comfort her, but she steps away.

ALPHONSO  
Can't see the ground from here.  
View blocked by the lobby.

ERNESTO  
Did you hear the man hit the ground?

DANI  
There was a "thud" sound, like a massive watermelon. Then eerie silence.

Ernesto whispers to her dad.

DANI (CONT'D)  
I ran to the lobby to report it.

Ernesto whispers to his dad.

ALPHONSO  
Don't leave town, Señorita Diego.  
Give me your passport and cell phone.

Ernesto looks stunned. Ernesto swears in Spanish.

DANI  
What did he say? What did he say?

ERNESTO  
He wants to hold your passport and cellphone for safe-keeping.

DANI  
Safe-keeping?

ERNESTO  
He insists!

Dani takes her passport and cellphone out her small purse. She reluctantly gives them to Alphonso. He RACES away. Miguel follows. Roberto struggles to keep pace. Ernesto turns to Dani and yells.

ERNESTO (CONT'D)  
Wait there! I'll be right back.

Dani sits on the edge of a lounge chair for a moment. Two large men, a uniformed POLICEMAN, and a RESORT STAFF member (30s; brutes), politely approach Dani. They speak in broken English. Dani sees the Policeman wears gray shoes.

RESORT STAFF #1

Dani Diego. Come with us. Little problem with your bill.

DANI

Can it wait until a little later?

The Policeman pats his massive pistol in a holster.

POLICEMAN

(broken English)

Identity theft, unauthorized credit card, grand theft. You come.

DANI

I'm sure there has been some kind of mistake.

Dani is led downstairs and away from the pool area in a different direction from the office.

DANI (CONT'D)

Where are you taking me? Wait, my friend will be right back.

POLICEMAN

Transport cart is out back. Not disturb the other guests.

The rush Dani away. Ernesto returns seconds later. Dani is gone!

ERNESTO

(in Spanish)

Why doesn't she like me? We look so good together!

INT. RESORT SUPPLY ROOM - DAY

Miguel paces. Ana unlocks the door, enters, and shuts the door quietly behind her, before facing Miguel. They whisper in Spanish.

MIGUEL

What now?

ANA

Cabo Wabo?



MIGUEL

What? Bills are being circulated at  
the Cabo Wabo?

Miguel grabs his head with both hands, worried.

ANA

What did you expect?

MIGUEL

It would take more time to get here  
from Mexico City.

ANA

Your fault!

MIGUEL

Start early, you said!

ANA

Who knew? Money spreads faster than  
disease!

MIGUEL

We are in trouble.

Ana opens the door slightly to leave.

ANA

You are in big trouble if you don't  
silence that FBI agent.

MIGUEL

Go check her room again!

ANA

What do I say?

(beat)

Housekeeping. I need to clean the  
documents in your safe!

MIGUEL

Say whatever you have to. You're  
just a maid.

ANA

Screw you!

Ana storms away as Miguel paces and thinks.

EXT./INT. RESTAURANT OFFICE - DAY

Dani is led to a restaurant on the lower level of the resort.

DANI

Why are you taking me here? Why not the office?

RESORT STAFF #1

No disturb other guests.

They lead Dani to the inside of a deserted restaurant, and to an office in the back. They rip the small purse from her hands and examine the contents. They look for her passport and cellphone, but do not find them.

DANI

I want to see the manager. Or the night manager, Miguel.

RESORT STAFF #1

After you answer questions.

POLICEMAN

Who you work for? L.A. Police?

RESORT STAFF #1

No badge?

DANI

You people are crazy.

POLICEMAN

F.B.I.?

RESORT STAFF #1

Undercover?

DANI

I'm on vacation.

The Policeman pulls his massive pistol.

POLICEMAN

Who working for?

Dani yells.

DANI

I'm unemployed. Too old for the B-list, too bland for the A-list, and on top of that, I'm a bad waitress and a lousy lay. But I know my rights, and you have to let me go!

The Policeman and Resort Staff look at each other, puzzled. The Resort Staff #1 takes out a small piece of paper.

RESORT STAFF #1

Who is Rex-ford Wel-don? CIA boss?  
FBI boss?

DANI

He's a movie producer, a scum-bag,  
and an idiot!

Resort Staff #1 nods his head as a signal to the Policeman, who forces Dani's hand on the table and pounds his massive pistol's butt hard on her index finger. Dani SCREAMS!

DANI (CONT'D)

I'm an actress, God damn it!

The Policeman holds Dani, while Resort Staff #1 places a wad of medical gauze in her mouth, then wraps gauze around her jaw and head to keep her from screaming. Dani screams to no avail. The Policeman and Resort Staff look at each other, more puzzled.

RESORT STAFF #1

You not policia?

Dani tries to scream, shakes her head 'no,' then appears to faint. Resort Staff #1 breathes in and smiles.

POLICEMAN

(in Spanish)

We need only a little gauze for her  
wrists.

Resort Staff #1 adds only a few strands of gauze to hold Dani's wrists together in front of her.

RESORT STAFF #1

(in Spanish)

Another tourist lost to the  
undertow and sharks.

The tone of Resort Staff #1's comments startle Dani, but she doesn't let on. The Policeman lifts Dani effortlessly, and loads her into the back seat of a golf cart outside the restaurant. He gets in beside her to restrain her. Resort Staff #1 starts the golf cart.

EXT. RESORT CART PATH - DAY

The transportation cart (golf cart) speeds along. Two Resort Guests (20s, cute couple in bathing suits) walk toward them on the concrete path. Resort Staff #1 speeds up, and motions the walkers to the side of the path.

RESORT STAFF #1  
 (Spanish and English)  
 Emergency, move aside.

The Policeman takes his arm from around Dani to wave the walkers to the side. Dani springs to life, pushes the Policeman off the cart, rips off the gauze around her jaw, rips out the gauze in her mouth, jumps off the moving golf cart and screams.

DANI  
 These men tried to kidnap me. Look  
 at their faces. Help!

Resort Staff #1 steps on the gas to get away. The Policeman races in the opposite direction. Dani sprints toward the lobby, holding her crushed finger, and yelling "Help!"

INT./EXT. CABO WABO BAR - DAY

Alphonso and Roberto examine a new U.S. twenty-dollar bill that a wary Bartender (30, cute female, in a Cabo Wabo tank top) shows them. The Bartender converses in Spanish to Alphonso, English to others.

BARTENDER  
 Mexican gave it to me, and I heard  
 the U.S. was making them, but I'd  
 never seen one.

Alphonso holds the bill up to the light.

ROBERTO  
 (in broken English)  
 Good thing you call.

BARTENDER  
 Is this for real? Who the hell is  
 Harriet Tubman?

ROBERTO  
 Looks like Oprah Winfrey.

ALPHONSO  
 Oprah Winfrey?

BARTENDER  
 I know, right!  
 (beat)  
 So, is it good?

ALPHONSO  
 (in Spanish)  
 Bill doesn't come out until next  
 month.

BARTENDER  
 What do I do?

ALPHONSO  
 (in Spanish)  
 Don't accept them, idiot!

ROBERTO  
 No take them.

BARTENDER  
 Too late. They're everywhere in  
 Cabo.

Roberto whispers to Alphonso, who places the \$20 bill in a  
 plastic evidence bag.

Alphonso's smartphone RINGS. He whispers.

ALPHONSO  
 (in Spanish)  
 Problem at the resort. Let's go.

Alphonso and Roberto RACE away.

BARTENDER  
 (yells)  
 Hey, what about our twenty bucks?

Alphonso and Roberto don't look back.

INT. RESORT FIRST AID CENTER - DAY

Dani is getting her finger wrapped in ice by a handsome FIRST  
 AID ATTENDANT (25, male; white smock) when Alphonso and  
 Roberto enter. Roberto quickly comforts Dani, and he  
 translates for Alphonso.

ALPHONSO  
 Who did this to you?

ROBERTO  
 Who did this to you?

DANI  
 I was kidnapped. A large man  
 dressed like a policeman, and a  
 hotel staff.

Alphonso looks stunned.

ALPHONSO  
No policia!

DANI  
Badge looked fake. His shoes were  
gray, not like Roberto's.

Roberto opens his eyes more.

ROBERTO  
(in Spanish)  
She knows my name.  
(in English)  
You think these men wanted to hurt  
you?

DANI  
I think they planned to kill me.

ROBERTO  
I tell my Chief Detective.

FIRST AID ATTENDANT  
It's not broken. Just ice it. Be  
careful.  
(very sincere)  
I'd hate to see anything more  
happen to you on your vacation.

Dani smiles at the First Aid Attendant. Roberto begins to  
translate as Ernesto RACES in with Theresa. He races to  
Dani's side, and pushes Roberto away.

ERNESTO  
What happened, Dani? I want every  
detail. Can we film this?

Alphonso pushes his son and Theresa out of the room.

ALPHONSO  
Go! Go home! Troublemaker. Leave  
this American alone! Go home to  
your wife!

The First Aid Attendant whispers to Dani, translating for  
her. Dani's eyes open widely when she hears that Ernesto is  
married. Ernesto turns his head to see Dani's angry face,  
before Alphonso slams the door. Dani confronts Alphonso.

DANI  
I want my passport and cellphone  
back. I'm going home today.

The First Aid Attendant translates to Alphonso.

FIRST AID ATTENDANT  
She wants to go home.

ALPHONSO  
Impossible.

Dani understands without a translation. She yells!

DANI  
I'm going home, now!

Alphonso moves nose-to-nose with Dani. The First Aid Attendant translates from a few feet away. Roberto looks on with a frown.

ALPHONSO  
(softly, in Spanish)  
First, you are my only suspect in an alleged murder case.  
(beat)  
Two, you are my only witness in an alleged kidnapping case.  
(beat)  
Three, the resort manager told me the room you have is not yours, but it belongs to a Mr. Rex Weldon in Los Angeles.

Roberto whispers a translation in Dani's ear.

DANI  
He was taking me here, but he got injured, so I came without him.

The First Aid Attendant whispers to Alphonso, who shrugs in disbelief.

ALPHONSO  
Maybe. Maybe not. I'll check.

FIRST AID ATTENDANT  
(to Dani)  
He'll check up on your story.

Alphonso pulls out the plastic bag with the counterfeit \$20 bill and shows it to Dani, who grabs it out of curiosity and examines it.

DANI  
What's this? Everybody knows these don't come out for a month!

ALPHONSO

Four, this showed up in Cabo right  
after you arrived.

(beat)

I may need your help.

DANI

But...

ROBERTO

(interrupting)

He needs your help. No passport.

Alphonso and Roberto begin to leave.

DANI

I can't stay here!

Alphonso whispers to Roberto. Roberto politely smiles and holds out his hand to Dani. He gently guides her with her good hand.

ROBERTO

You, come! Make our detective and  
me very happy.

Dani smiles.

DANI

You are a gentle giant, Roberto.

Roberto smiles shyly as he exits with Dani in tow, heading to an unmarked police car in the side of the resort's entrance. Alphonso sits low in the back seat, as Dani is pushed in beside him. Roberto sits in the driver's seat and begins to pull away as a black limousine is pulling up to the resort.

End Act One



Act Two

EXT./INT. RESORT - DAY

MR. BERNARD SHULTZE (A.K.A. ROMPE HUESOS, 60, with makeup to look 80; "Bone Crusher," a tiny, frail man with a walker) exits a black limousine with the assistance of a private NURSE (30, blonde, buxom, white uniform). The NURSE gets a walker from the popped trunk. BERNARD slowly makes his way with his walker up the stairs and to the front desk to check in. Miguel jumps over to greet the old man.

MIGUEL

Mr. Shultze, what a pleasant surprise.

BERNARD

Just get me checked in, you moron.

MIGUEL

We've been trying to call you, sir. There is slight problem with your penthouse suite.

BERNARD

Problem?

MIGUEL

Someone jumped from the balcony or the patio of the penthouse. Police don't know for sure. But your suite is closed as a crime scene.

BERNARD

Crime scene. That's ridiculous. I'm the only one with a key, and I'm just arriving.

MIGUEL

Ridiculous. That's what I said. But Detective Alphonso Reyes, closed the whole area.

(beat)

I can put you in a very nice penthouse facing the Pacific.

BERNARD

If I wanted to see the ocean, I'd be on my yacht! Nurse, give me my phone!

Bernard speaks into his phone.

BERNARD (CONT'D)  
 Contacts, Mexico City, Number one.

Bernard turns his head, and whispers in perfect Spanish. Then he yells.

BERNARD (CONT'D)  
 Detective Alphonso Reyes!

He presses the "end call" button on his phone, and he hands the phone to his Nurse.

MIGUEL  
 But, Sir...

BERNARD  
 (interrupts)  
 Uno momento.

CUT TO:

INT. UNMARKED POLICE CAR ON ROAD - DAY

Alphonso's phone rings an emergency tone, while Dani asks questions to Alphonso and Roberto.

DANI  
 Where are we going? What will I wear? All my clothes are at the resort.

Alphonso reluctantly answers his phone as Dani continues to ask questions.

ALPHONSO  
 Ola! Si!

DANI  
 What about my bath bag and makeup?

Alphonso is angry. His hand shakes his phone.

ALPHONSO  
 Si.

DANI  
 What about the safe? I have a few dollars in the safe?

ALPHONSO  
 Si!

Alphonso clicks "end call," and he glares at Dani.

ALPHONSO (CONT'D)

(in Spanish)

We must return to the resort and remove the crime tape. Guess who showed up, Roberto?

ROBERTO

Bernard Shultze?

ALPHONSO

Yes, the Bone Crusher!

ROBERTO

(in English)

The Bone Crusher!

Roberto makes a U-turn, and races back to the resort.

DANI

Where are we going? Who is the Bone Crusher? Where are you taking me?

ROBERTO

Back to resort.

BACK TO:

EXT./INT. RESORT - DAY

Roberto pulls up to the resort in the unmarked police car. Alphonso and Dani are in the back seat. Roberto gets out and leans into Alphonso's open window.

ALPHONSO

Go remove all the tape, Roberto.

ROBERTO

(in English, joking to Dani)

Yes, Master.

(in Spanish, serious to Alphonso)

Yes, I'll need the elevator key the night manager, Miguel, loaned you.

Alphonso searches for the key and hands it to Roberto.

DANI

Can I get my suitcase and bath bag?

ROBERTO

(in Spanish)

Can Ms. Diego collect her things?

DANI

I might spot the men who tried to kidnap me, or the couple who witnessed it?

Roberto whispers the translation to Alphonso.

DANI (CONT'D)

I could get another room here, that no one knows about. I could wear disguises. Maybe as a maid. No one makes eye contact with maids. I could move freely about the resort and report to Roberto.

Roberto whispers and translates.

ALPHONSO

Too dangerous. Bone Crusher.

ROBERTO

He says it's too dangerous. There is a retired crime lord here now. Bone Crusher. He owns the penthouse, where the victim fell. He's in poor health, but his connections made us remove the crime tape.

DANI

I can keep an eye on him for you, too.

Roberto whispers and Alphonso thinks.

ALPHONSO

Don't translate this to Ms. Diego. Maybe that will work. If she's guilty, Bone Crusher will have her killed. If she's innocent, we may find out what's going on around here. Tell her I will make secret arrangements with the resort owner, while you remove the tape.

ROBERTO

My Chief Detective will make arrangements with the resort owner, while I remove the tape.

DANI

Thank you, Roberto.

ROBERTO  
Don't thank me, Ms. Diego. I think  
it too dangerous.

DANI  
(smiles)  
Call me Dani.

Alphonso makes a phone call, and whispers, as Roberto  
departs.

EXT. PENTHOUSE - DAY

Roberto removes crime tape, as the Bone Crusher, Nurse, and a  
Bellhop (same) arrive with a luggage cart, filled with large  
suitcases. Roberto sees the sickly Bone Crusher (Bernard)  
walking with a walker, with the aid of the Nurse. Roberto  
then avoids eye contact as the Nurse opens the penthouse  
door. Bernard whispers to Roberto in Spanish as the Bellhop  
steps inside with the luggage.

BERNARD  
Tell your boss it was a suicide,  
and let it go!

ROBERTO  
Yes, Sir.

BERNARD  
He jumped from the floor below. He  
was never in my penthouse. Got  
that?

ROBERTO  
Yes, Sir.

BERNARD  
I'm very old, but I can still find  
your house, your family, and your  
friends. Got that?

Roberto's eyes open in fear.

ROBERTO  
Yes, Sir.

Roberto races to the elevator.

INT. ELEVATOR - DAY

Roberto holds the ball of crime tape as the elevator slowly  
descends.

The elevator doors open to see two large men (Policeman and Resort Staff #1; in beachwear like tourists). They avoid eye contact and step in the elevator, as Roberto steps out. Roberto turns to see them push the button for the sixth floor. The camera follows the two men in the elevator.

Once the elevator door closes, the Resort Staff #1 pulls out the special key needed for the penthouse. He uses it.

RESORT STAFF #1  
Bone Crusher will be disappointed.

POLICEMAN  
Good thing he's old.

The elevator opens at the penthouse, and the Bellboy waits for the two men to exit before he enters with the luggage cart.

The two men walk slowly to the penthouse door. They knock, and the Nurse opens the door. Both men gawk and smile devilishly at the nurse. They speak Spanish.

RESORT STAFF #1  
We're here to see Mr. Shultze.

The Nurse opens the door so they must brush past her.

NURSE  
Come in, please. Mr. Shultze is in the living room.

The two men squeeze by her, eyeing her like wolves.

EXT. RESORT ENTRANCE - DAY

Roberto sweats in the car, as Alphonso exits the resort and opens the passenger door, and smiles as he sits in the front seat. They speak Spanish.

ALPHONSO  
All set.

ROBERTO  
I'm worried.

ALPHONSO  
Don't be. She has a large suite they are painting, so the manager gave the painters three paid days off.

ROBERTO

But, Bone Crusher is here.

ALPHONSO

We have him on video. He's an old man. Ms. Diego will be in a maid's uniform, with glasses, a wig, and padding to make her look thirty pounds heavier. Her idea.

Roberto looks down at his stomach.

ROBERTO

It's too dangerous!

ALPHONSO

It's not dangerous because you'll be with her. Disguised as an American. Drive to the Mall. Tommy Bahama's!

INT. RESORT LOBBY - DAY

A heavysset maid (Dani), perfectly disguised, pushes a wheeled-bucket with a mop down a long hallway toward the lobby. She hides her face with her hands held high on the mop stick.

She sees Rex stomping across the marble floor holding an ice pack to his jaw. Dani turns quickly to hide her face. Rex never gives her a second look.

Rex gets to the registration desk, where Rita is waiting. Rita does not know Dani is in disguise.

RITA

Hello, Sir, how may I help you?

REX

Checking in. And according to my credit card receipts, I'm already checked in. Rex Weldon.

Dani hears this and rolls her mop and bucket about ten feet behind Rex and begins to mop a spot on the floor. Rita pays little attention to Dani.

RITA

May I see your registration?

REX

She took it. Dani Diego! Is she in my suite. I need a key.

Dani waves at Rita and winks. Rita finally makes eye contact with Dani. Rex turns, and Dani turns her face and mops. Rex turns back.

RITA

Dani Diego? I checked her in yesterday, but haven't seen her since.

REX

I'll surprise her then. Good. Give me a key!

RITA

If I could see your passport...

Rex tosses his passport at Rita and interrupts.

REX

I don't have time for this! It's my suite, God damn it! Give me a key.

RITA

Perhaps a complementary margarita.

REX

Just the God damn key! I'm expecting to meet a man about a movie. Has a Mr. Hidalgo Herrera checked in?

Rita checks her computer.

RITA

No one by that name has checked in.

REX

Least I didn't miss that meeting!

Rita gives him a key.

RITA

It's customary to speak with one of our time-share representatives upon checking into the resort. Ms. Villa is waiting for you.

REX

Just get my luggage to my suite!  
Now!

Rex heads to the elevator. Rita mops her way over to Rita.



RITA  
Is that you, Ms. Diego?

DANI  
Hi, Rita. I'm hiding out in another room. Rex Weldon cheated on me the night before we were supposed to leave.

Rita smiles.

RITA  
You hit him?

DANI  
Pretty good right hook with a two-pound weight in my hand. Ha!

RITA  
He seeks revenge?

DANI  
Or to make up! I won't have anything to do with him. I'm working undercover with the police, Detective Reyes.

RITA  
Very secret?

DANI  
Top secret. No one must know.

RITA  
I won't say a word. Your boyfriend Rex is dead to me.

DANI  
I'll be dead to you if he finds me. Who was Rex trying to meet with about a movie?

RITA  
Mr. Hidalgo Herrera. I know that name from somewhere.

DANI  
I'm in suite A-1214 if you remember anything or see Rex. Can you get me a Wi-Fi account? Detective Reyes returned my cell phone, but not my passport.

RITA  
I know the boy at the business  
center. Let me see what I can do.

DANI  
Thanks, Rita.

Dani mops her way to the side door and disappears.

EXT. FISHING BOAT - DAY

A small fishing boat heads out from the Cabo San Lucas harbor toward the open sea with a Captain (50; old salt), the Policeman, and Resort Staff #1 with their luggage. They all speak Spanish.

POLICEMAN  
To La Paz, Captain.

RESORT STAFF #1  
Before he changes his mind!

POLICEMAN  
Wasn't too angry when we said she  
was an actress.

RESORT STAFF #1  
Lucky us.

The two men laugh and drink beer, and the boat motors on.

Suddenly, two Henchmen (40s; brutes) appear from below deck and shoot the two passengers with tranquilizer darts. Within a few seconds, the Policeman and Resort Staff #1 are unable to speak. Their eyes remain open. The Henchmen speak Spanish.

HENCHMAN #1  
It's a muscle relaxer. You can  
still hear us.

HENCHMAN #2  
You just can't use your muscles.  
(beat)  
Captain, head for the Pacific.

HENCHMAN #1  
If the undertow doesn't get you,  
the sharks will.

HENCHMAN #2  
You disappointed the Bone Crusher.

Henchman #1 produces a sledgehammer.

HENCHMAN #1  
You know why they call him Bone  
Crusher?

The henchman swings into the Policeman's knees. Then he  
swings into Resort Staff #1's knees.

HENCHMAN #2  
Try swimming back, now!

Henchman #1 and Henchman #2 throw their victims overboard.

INT. POLICE STATION - DAY

Alphonso is on the phone, with Ernesto and Theresa waiting  
outside the closed door. Alphonso paces with a worried look.  
Ernesto opens the door a crack to listen in, but Alphonso  
sees this and stops talking.

ALPHONSO  
I'll call you back.

Ernesto barges in with Theresa in tow.

ERNESTO  
Papa!

ALPHONSO  
I don't have time for you.

ERNESTO  
Have they I-D'd the murder victim?

ALPHONSO  
He jumped from the sixth story  
balcony, not the penthouse.

THERESA  
But the two screams?

ALPHONSO  
One was an echo. The victim had no  
key to get to the penthouse. There  
was no key found on him or in the  
penthouse.

ERNESTO  
But Dani, Ms. Diego saw it.

ALPHONSO  
She was mistaken. She said it was  
dark.

ERNESTO

What is taking so long with the I-D?

ALPHONSO

No fingerprints.

ERNESTO

Yes. That's odd? Why?

ALPHONSO

I can't talk about it.

ERNESTO

You can tell me. I'm your son, and we need this story to propel my career.

Alphonso GLARES at his son.

ALPHONSO

You disappoint me. My only son is a bad husband.

ERNESTO

I want to live in the Mexico City, Papa. Be a big TV news star!

ALPHONSO

And leave your wife, Mamma, and me behind, is that it?

Ernesto pauses.

THERESA

One story is all we need?

ERNESTO

Si, Papa.  
(in English)  
This one story!

ALPHONSO

There is no story. A suicide.  
That's all!

ERNESTO

A victim with two screams and no fingerprints, there's no story?  
(beat)  
There's a story, Papa. And I'm going to find it!

Ernesto and Theresa RACE out.

INT. PENTHOUSE - DAY

Bone Crusher sits on a comfortable couch. The curtains are closed. The Nurse brings him some soup and a bottle of water. He has the Nurse taste the soup. She does and smiled. He has the Nurse uncap the water and taste the water. She does, smiles, and exits to the bedroom.

Bernard presses a number on his phone, and listens.

BERNARD

I need the ID of the jumper.

Bernard listens. He takes a small sip of soup.

BERNARD (CONT'D)

Then visit the detective and the coroner.

Bernard takes a small sip of water.

BERNARD (CONT'D)

Did you find the girl?

Bernard waits -- checking his pulse rate.

BERNARD (CONT'D)

Find the girl and bring her to me!  
Now!

He ends the call.

EXT./INT. RESORT - DAY

Roberto, dressed in a huge swimming suit, Hawaiian shirt, flip-flops, large straw hat, and sunglasses, huffs and puffs up the long walkway to the entrance to the resort. He carries a romance novel in one hand, and a bottle of sunscreen in the other. As he gets closer, we see his nose is white with too much sunscreen. He has a small man-purse over his shoulder carrying his detective badge, binoculars, small pistol, and a smartphone.

He steps into the air-conditioned resort and sits in the first comfortable chair he sees. He breathes in and out deeply. He sees RITA at the front desk, alone, to the far left of the registration desk. He slowly makes his way to her.

RITA

May I help you?

Roberto opens his man-purse wide enough to show Rita his badge.

ROBERTO

(whispers)

I'm undercover. I need a resort towel and a key to get to your ridge pool.

RITA

(whispers)

Undercover! Like Ms. Diego?

ROBERTO

Si. I'm supposed to protect her too.

RITA

Top secret.

ROBERTO

Super top secret. That's why I'm in disguise.

RITA

I suggest you wipe that sunscreen off your nose, lose the hat and shirt, and walk like you own the place!

(beat)

And lose that stupid man-purse!

Roberto smiles.

ROBERTO

(in Spanish)

I thought it was functional and didn't clash with my outfit.

Rita hands Roberto a towel and an elevator key.

ROBERTO (CONT'D)

Really, I didn't look like a tourist?

RITA

American tourists are not afraid to show their...

ROBERTO

(interrupts)

Muscles?

RITA  
(laughs)  
Yes, muscles.

ROBERTO  
Thank you, Rita.

RITA  
There is a rest room just down the  
hall.

ROBERTO  
(in Spanish)  
You are a saint.

Roberto heads to the rest room. Once inside, Ernesto and Theresa RACE into the lobby. Rita sees them, and waves them over.

ERNESTO  
Have you seen Ms. Dani Diego?

RITA  
Not in many hours. She may have  
checked out.

ERNESTO  
Where could she go? My Papa has her  
passport.

THERESA  
She has to be here somewhere!

RITA  
I couldn't tell you.

ERNESTO  
You're no help.

Ernesto takes a step toward the exit, then he stops.

ERNESTO (CONT'D)  
What room was she in?

RITA  
I'm not allowed to give out that  
kind of information.

ERNESTO  
I could wait until Miguel comes on  
duty at four PM.

Just down the hall, Roberto exits the rest room wearing his bathing suit and flip-flops, and carrying everything else in the man-purse. Ernesto sees him and is shocked. He races down the hall to Roberto, who looks flustered. Theresa laughs and follows. They speak in English.

ERNESTO (CONT'D)

Roberto, what are you doing here?

ROBERTO

It's, it's my day off.

THERESA

You look like a bloated tourist.

Roberto looks nervously at the elevators to the ridge pool, and begins walking quickly through the lobby to the lower pools to draw Ernesto and Theresa away.

ROBERTO

Working on my tan. I know the management. They let me use the pools.

ERNESTO

Where is Dani Diego?

ROBERTO

Haven't seen her.

ERNESTO

But you're looking for her!

THERESA

And this is your disguise? Everyone will notice you!

Theresa laughs. Roberto, about to exit the lobby for the lower pools, STOPS. His eyes tear up. He looks into Theresa's eyes and speaks softly to her. Ernesto is behind Roberto.

ROBERTO

I always like you, but you look past me like a beggar on the road of life. You are pretty. Not know what it's like going through life not being seen. I don't care anymore. This is me. And I would rather see a happy me in the mirror than a disillusioned you.

Theresa turns angry.



THERESA

Disillusioned?

(in Spanish)

You live like a sad beached whale,  
a puppet to Ernesto's Papa. Be  
gone, Roberto. Be gone.

Ernesto's eyes open widely. Roberto trudges out to the lower pool. Ernesto turns on Theresa.

ERNESTO

You insulted my Papa's partner of  
two years.

THERESA

He looked like a fool.

ERNESTO

He was doing his job. Now, we can't  
find Dani.

Theresa is angry again.

THERESA

(in Spanish)

That's all you care about. The  
pretty American. Hope she can save  
your pitiful career.

Theresa storms out toward the main exit. Ernesto follows.

ERNESTO

(in Spanish)

Wait, Theresa. Wait.

Rita hears the whole thing. As Theresa and Ernesto exit the front of the Resort, Bone Crusher's two Henchmen enter the lobby from the side (the lower pool area where Roberto was waiting). Roberto sees that the two men look like goons, and he follows them inside. The Henchmen walk up to Rita at the registration desk. The Henchmen speak in Spanish, Rita speaks in English. Roberto stands nearby to listen, but he looks out to the pool area.

HENCHMAN #1

We're looking for Ms. Dani Diego.

HENCHMAN #2

She registered here?

RITA

We're not supposed to give out that  
information.

Henchman #1 shows he has a gun.

RITA (CONT'D)  
But I would be happy to check for  
you.

Rita checks the computer as Rex ambles into the lobby from the elevator (from the ridge pool). Rex sees Rita and stands in line behind the two Henchmen.

RITA (CONT'D)  
(in Spanish)  
I'm sorry, there is no one  
registered with that name for the  
past several months. And no one of  
that name scheduled to arrive this  
year.

Henchman #2 leaves a business card.

HENCHMAN #2  
Call this number right away if you  
see or hear of her in the area.

The Henchmen begin to leave, as Rex RACES up to Rita.

REX  
You seen Dani Diego lately?

The two Henchmen turn to eye Rex.

RITA  
(in English)  
No. But she must be very popular.

REX  
I'll just look around at down here.

RITA  
Be our guest.

Roberto sees Rex, and the two Henchmen looking at Rex. Rex heads to the lower pool area, followed by the two Henchmen, then Roberto.

EXT./INT. REX'S SUITE - DAY

Dani, disguised as a maid, wheels a housekeeping cart in front of Rex's suite, looks around, and knocks.

DANI  
Housekeeping.

She knocks again.

DANI (CONT'D)  
Housekeeping!

She enters with her key. She examines his room, in search of important notes, but doesn't find anything. Finally, she spots a "tip envelope" on the counter for the real maid. It's signed by Rex, so she opens it up. She finds a phony \$20 bill inside. She shoves the envelope in her bra, and begins to leave the room when the real Maid (30s; Latina, speaks a little broken English) KNOCKS on the door.

MAID  
Housekeeping.

Dani quickly grabs a towel from the bathroom, races to the kitchen counter, grabs the half-bottle of red wine, spills some on the towel, and opens the door, half-covering her face with the stained towel.

DANI  
Hmmm! Americano!

Dani pushes past the Maid and stomps away down the hallway. The Maid is perplexed.

MAID  
Hola?

Dani ducks down some stairs and out of sight.

EXT. RESORT - DAY

Outside the entrance, Ernesto and Theresa are whispering in a heated argument trying not to cause a scene. They do not see Alphonso strolling up the long walkway toward them. He is dressed as a Chief Bellhop, in light-tan pants and hotel uniform shirt, just as three other Bellhops (30-50) are dressed. Theresa and Ernesto speak Spanish. Ernesto grabs Theresa angrily by the arm.

THERESA  
No, No, No!

ERNESTO  
Si! You will do as I say!

Theresa shakes free of his arm.

THERESA  
No more!

Ernesto lunges at Theresa trying to grab her arm again, when Alphonso grabs Ernesto's arm.

ALPHONSO  
Go home, Son.

ERNESTO  
Papa?

ALPHONSO  
Go home to your wife.

THERESA  
Yes, go home to your wife. Beg her forgiveness many times for all your indiscretions.

Ernesto turns angrily to his Papa.

ERNESTO  
I have no home. We are separated.

ALPHONSO  
Separated. But the Church...

ERNESTO  
It is your Church, not mine.

THERESA  
I'm going home, where you are no longer welcomed. Goat!

Theresa stomps away.

ERNESTO  
I'm getting divorced!

The news makes Alphonso take a seat on the stairs. He covers his face with his hands. He uncovers his face to scold his son.

ALPHONSO  
Only child with college. Only child with a high-paying job. Only a miserable man can't make his marriage work, and can't make people around him happy.

Ernesto listens as he watches Theresa walk away.

ERNESTO  
I married to young, Papa. Eighteen.

ALPHONSO

So did I.

ERNESTO

Times change, Papa.

ALPHONSO

No, my son. Some people cannot change. That's why I'm here, and you must leave.

ERNESTO

What is it, Papa? A big story?

ALPHONSO

Maybe, but I cannot tell you what I don't know myself.

ERNESTO

But you and Roberto going undercover. Must be big.

ALPHONSO

For your safety, you must leave. Do not go home. Do not stay with friends. Just go away a while. Todos Santos, maybe.

ERNESTO

I can't go.

ALPHONSO

In lust, again? I know it isn't love.

ERNESTO

I don't know. But she has me. I'm hooked.

ALPHONSO

She left town.

ERNESTO

No, you haven't given Ms. Diego her passport. She is here. I feel her presence.

ALPHONSO

These people are ruthless killers. They will kill you, your family, and friends if you try to stop them.

ERNESTO

So they will already kill me if you try to stop them. I'm going to die anyway. I may as well help you stop them.

ALPHONSO

I can't allow it.

ERNESTO

And you are trying to stop them?

ALPHONSO

Get away, now. Ms. Diego is in great danger, but I need her to draw out the killers.

ERNESTO

I feel responsible in a small way. Maybe my cameras can help.

ALPHONSO

Your camerawoman stormed off, and I don't blame her.

ERNESTO

I'll apologize, and we will come back.

ALPHONSO

(whispers)

I planned to set a trap tonight. If you help, you would be in great danger. So would Theresa. I can't allow it.

ERNESTO

We could set *GoPro* cameras in strategic locations for you.

ALPHONSO

No, I will not allow it!

ERNESTO

I know.

(beat, sulks)

It will still be dangerous.

EXT. RESORT WALKWAY - DAY

Down by the beach, Twenty Sunbathers (20-40; males and females) wear tiny swimsuits, but wear large sun hats, pulled down. Rex is looking at each sunbather trying to find Dani.

Behind Rex, the two Henchmen stand under a shade umbrella, trying not to be seen. Behind them, in broad daylight in a lounge chair, is Roberto in a swimming suit and sunglasses looks over the top of a romance novel. He sees and hears everything.

Suddenly, Henchman #1 receives a text message. He reads it, and pulls his partner's arm before racing away up the long path toward the side lobby entrance. Roberto follows with a towel around his neck, and carrying his shirt, book, and man-purse. Roberto struggles in the heat. He's exhausted and stops to breathe.

INT. RESORT LOBBY - DAY

By the time Roberto reaches the lobby, the two Henchmen are gone, but Roberto sees Alphonso and races to him.

ALPHONSO  
(whispers)  
See or hear anything?

Roberto is catching his breath.

ROBERTO  
(whispering in Spanish)  
Two big men. Nicely dressed.  
Looking for Ms. Diego.

ALPHONSO  
Yes, I saw them. Don't worry, Ms.  
Diego is safe in her secret room.  
She texted me.

ROBERTO  
The two men were following an  
American who also knows Ms. Diego.

ALPHONSO  
Show me what he looks like.

Roberto takes a deep breath and heads back to the beach with Alphonso.

Miguel is now on duty as the clock reads 3:50 PM. He sees Alphonso and Roberto in disguise. He makes a phone call.

EXT. POOL - DAY

At the adults-only swimming pool at the ridge, Dani walks quickly on a walkway with a covered room service tray.

Ten Sunbathers (20s-40s) look to get her attention as Happy Hour is about to end, but Dani walks right past them. Dani turns a corner on a walkway, and walks right into the two Henchman, who grab her, cover her mouth with chloroform on a handkerchief. Henchman #2 grabs a laundry cart. He removes towels and sheets, while Henchmen #1 loads in Dani. They cover her with a few sheets, and push the cart to an elevator. When the elevator opens, Ana waits to take over for the two Henchmen.

HENCHMAN #1  
To the penthouse.

HENCHMAN #2  
Rapido!

Ana pushes the cart without a smile.

EXT. RESORT WALKWAY - DAY

Ana pushes the laundry cart past the laundry and along the back paths to the elevator at the bottom of the Bone Crusher's building. She pushes the button and waits.

Alphonso is twenty yards ahead of Roberto, and he barely sees Ana and the laundry basket. He looks more closely to see the laundry cart is over-flowing with laundry. The elevator opens, and Ana disappears before Alphonso can reach it.

At the side entrance to the lobby, Miguel is waving at Alphonso.

MIGUEL  
Señor! Señor! Ven rápido.

Miguel waves madly, drawing attention to them both. Alphonso stomps over to whisper to Miguel.

ALPHONSO  
Please, do not make a scene.

MIGUEL  
I see you are undercover. Good job.  
But isn't this unusual for a  
suicide investigation?

ALPHONSO  
There may be more at play here. I  
cannot say.

MIGUEL  
You must tell me so I can alert the  
night staff. It is my duty.



ALPHONSO

We don't want to alarm anyone.

Roberto finally makes it up to the lobby side entrance. He is breathing very heavily.

MIGUEL

Detective Roberto. I hardly recognized you. Are you okay?

ROBERTO

(struggling to speak)  
Fine. I'm fine.

ALPHONSO

Miguel, we are both undercover.

Miguel throws up his hands in surprise.

MIGUEL

What?

ALPHONSO

(whispers)  
We now get feeds from your security cameras at the station.

Miguel's eye's open widely. They all whisper.

ALPHONSO (CONT'D)

We spotted two know associates of a crime boss known as La Mano, passing through your lobby.

ROBERTO

Maybe they are the ones who kidnapped Ms. Diego.

MIGUEL

Kidnapped?

ALPHONSO

Don't worry. She's okay, but these two men typically check out a place a few days before La Mano checks in.

MIGUEL

No. He can't come here!

ALPHONSO

He goes where he wants. We've been tracking the spirit of an evil man for eight years, but we don't know what he looks like.

ROBERTO

Why would he come here?

ALPHONSO

Because the Bone Crusher is here.

MIGUEL

Mr. Shultze? He's so old and frail.

ROBERTO

Far too old for a power struggle.

ALPHONSO

Maybe, we don't know.

MIGUEL

Mr. Shultze needs a walker now. He must be retired from crime.

ALPHONSO

No one retires from a life a crime. The only way out is death.

ROBERTO

Maybe La Mano is coming to kill the Bone Crusher.

ALPHONSO

We don't know. But Miguel, don't draw attention to us, and don't tell the staff anything. Top secret. Understand?

MIGUEL

(a little too loudly)  
Yes, Detectives!

ALPHONSO

Shhh!

ROBERTO

Yes, shhhh.

ALPHONSO

And we must find out more about this Rex fellow.

MIGUEL

Where are we keeping Ms. Diego?

ALPHONSO

It's top secret, too.

Alphonso leads Roberto away, as Miguel returns to the front desk, worried.

INT. PENTHOUSE - DAY

Dani Diego sits on a soft dining room chair, facing the corner of a room. Her hands are tied behind her, and her feet are tied to each leg of the chair. There is a plastic tarp on the floor below her. Her head is covered with a black cloth bag. Bone Crusher sits behind her with his two Henchmen. The Nurse is sunbathing in a tiny swimsuit on the patio. The Henchmen struggle not to look at the Nurse. The Bone Crusher has a small electronic microphone and speaker device that disguises his voice. Eventually, the black bag begins to shake.

DANI

Where am I?

BERNARD

That is unimportant. What is important is that if you scream or try to get away, you will be killed immediately. Is that clear?

DANI

Very clear. Why am I here?

BERNARD

I will ask the questions. Your fate depends on the answers.

DANI

I doubt that, but ask away.

BERNARD

Who are you?

DANI

I'm Daniela Diego. I'm an unemployed actress from L.A. Too old for the B-list, too bland for the A-list, and on top of that, I'm a bad waitress and a lousy lay. But I know my rights, and you have to let me go! And that's exactly what I told my first two kidnappers.

BERNARD

They did not work for me, and you will be pleased to know, they're no longer working for anyone.

DANI

Comforting.

BERNARD

Who is the man you are traveling with?

DANI

I'm not traveling with him. He's a two-timing Hollywood producer, Rex Weldon, who has a time-share here. I was using it. I didn't expect him to chase after me.

BERNARD

Chase after you?

DANI

I belted him pretty good before I flew down.

BERNARD

So you are hiding from him? Is that why you are in disguise?

DANI

He may want revenge, I don't know.

BERNARD

Are you working for the police?

DANI

No. I witnessed a man commit suicide. Must have jumped off a ledge. I was at the ridge pool and heard the screams. So, the police took my passport until they clear the case or whatever they do.

BERNARD

What did you see?

DANI

I told you. A small man went splat.

BERNARD

What did he look like?

DANI

He looked like a squashed watermelon. His body was all distorted. I couldn't look at it.

BERNARD

What nationality?

DANI

Couldn't guess. Not black and not Asian is all I can say.

BERNARD

Anything else?

DANI

I overheard the police said they could not I-D him, because he had no fingerprints.

Bone Crusher is stunned with that news.

DANI (CONT'D)

That's all I know honest. Can you let me go now? I don't want my ex-boyfriend to find me.

BERNARD

(in Spanish)

Kill her.

The two Henchmen go to Dani and tip her chair back onto the floor. She contains her scream.

DANI

Wait. That didn't sound good. Don't you want to know who the suicide victim was? When the police give me my passport, I'll find out and text you?

BERNARD

(in Spanish)

Kill her.

The two Henchmen take out switchblade knives.

DANI

Wait, I think my ex-boyfriend is down here to meet a powerful man.

BERNARD

What man?

DANI

A man named La Mano.

Bone Crusher and the Henchmen open their eyes widely.

BERNARD

La Mano? Are you sure? How do you know?

DANI

A note in Rex's loft in Hollywood.

BERNARD

What exactly did the note say.

DANI

Cabo, five gets you forty. La Mano.

BERNARD

Five gets you forty?

DANI

Rex is a big producer. A business man. I'm sure they are talking about millions of dollars, not thousands or hundreds.

Bernard stops to think.

BERNARD

Do the police know about this note?

DANI

No? I don't know what it means, and I don't speak Spanish.

Bernard puts his hand up to stop the execution.

BERNARD

So this Rex Weldon may know what La Mano looks like?

DANI

I could find out for you, if you let me go.

Bernard paces in the penthouse.

BERNARD

You know we can find you and pick you up anytime?

DANI

Of course.

BERNARD

And you will tell me what the police know or we will kill you.

DANI

Yes. I know.

BERNARD

You won't tell the police about this?

DANI

Of course not.

BERNARD

I will give you twenty-four hours to find out about this upcoming meeting with Mr. Weldon and La Mano. Or I will crush every bone in your body, slowly. Your police friends will die. Their families and friends will die; all very painful deaths.

DANI

I'll find out everything. I hate the bastard. But you must grant us all freedom if I provide the information.

BERNARD

We'll see.

DANI

Deal! I'll take it.

BERNARD

(in Spanish)  
Chloroform. Laundry.

Henchman #1 applies a handkerchief of chloroform.

DANI

That didn't sound too ba...

EXT./INT. RESORT SUITE - DAY

Ernesto whispers to a Maid (seen earlier) with Theresa in tow. He hands her two hundred pesos, and she hands him a key.

ERNESTO

(in Spanish)  
One hour. Yes. Many thanks.

Theresa follows Ernesto in, but she is clearly unhappy.

ERNESTO (CONT'D)  
We need a place to hide out a  
while. We're easily recognized.

THERESA  
I just want to get away.

ERNESTO  
From the resort? The case?

THERESA  
No. You.

ERNESTO  
You have nothing to fear. We'll be  
here an hour until the bar is in  
full swing with happy hour. Got the  
small cameras?

THERESA  
Right here.

Theresa pulls two small GoPro cameras out of her purse.

THERESA (CONT'D)  
I should charge this one.

She plugs one in by the counter as Ernesto sits on the couch.  
Theresa sits in on a dining room chair.

ERNESTO  
You can trust me.  
(pats the couch)  
Sit here. Comfortable.

THERESA  
I'm not talking to you.

ERNESTO  
I'm divorcing my wife. I told you.

THERESA  
So you can chase women.

ERNESTO  
I'm not like that.

THERESA  
You chased me.

ERNESTO  
That's different. We work together!



THERESA

Even more reason not to abuse the situation.

ERNESTO

I'm a young virile male.

THERESA

You're a goat. You don't take no for an answer.

ERNESTO

In Todos Santos, you wanted it as much as I did.

THERESA

I told you no. You took advantage of me. And you talked me out of reporting you.

ERNESTO

I talked you out of reporting me for your own good. We would have both lost our jobs.

Ernesto leaves the couch to hug Theresa, but he is standing and she is sitting, so his crotch is in her face.

ERNESTO (CONT'D)

You want it, don't you?

THERESA

No! No! No!

Ernest moves in closer, rubbing his crotch in her face. Theresa stands and pushes him away. Ernesto follows.

ERNESTO

We had great sex together!

THERESA

You had sex, I was abused.

ERNESTO

Stop talking that way, or I'll get you fired. Would you like that?

THERESA

Of course not. I have Mama to care for.

ERNESTO

So give in sometimes.

Theresa stands by the couch.

THERESA

It's not giving in. It's not consensual. No! Never bring it up again.

Ernesto, giggling like a devious young boy, chases after Theresa.

ERNESTO

You've got me excited. How do you do it to me?

(points to his crotch)

Look.

THERESA

Get away from me! No!

ERNESTO

We have an hour to kill, and you want to keep your job, don't you?

THERESA

No! Ernesto. I'll tell your wife. I'll tell you Papa and the police.

Ernesto's tone changes to a domineering.

ERNESTO

Take off your top, or I'll rip it off!

THERESA

No!

ERNESTO

So you want it like Todos Santos? Rough?

THERESA

No!

Theresa breaks for the door, but Ernesto catches her.

ERNESTO

If you want to keep your job, you'll do a little job for me!

Theresa begins to cry. We SEE the little GoPro camera catching it all!

EXT. RESORT WALKWAY - DAY

Ana is pushing a laundry cart to the laundry. She passes the disguised detectives, pretending not to know them. Roberto can't help but speak up to the pretty maid in Spanish.

ROBERTO

Hello. Good afternoon.

ANA

Hola! I hope you are enjoying your vacation, Sir.

Ana pushes the cart faster to avoid talking to Alphonso.

ALPHONSO

Idiot. Act the part.

ROBERTO

Sorry, Boss.

ALPHONSO

We have to find, Ms. Diego.

A moment later, Rex RACES past Alphonso and Roberto looking around frantically for Dani.

INT. PENTHOUSE - DAY

Bernard the Bone Crusher paces in his walker as he unleashes on his two Henchmen sitting on the couch. The Nurse is still sunbathing. The Henchmen SNEAK glances at her. Bernard is angry.

BERNARD

The suicide victim had to be La Mano's right-hand man. Why didn't you bring me his photograph?

HENCHMAN #1

Morgue locked up the body.

HENCHMAN #2

Police are guarding it.

Bernard stabs the two Henchmen with his walker.

BERNARD

La Mano will not be happy to lose three men.

HENCHMAN #1

He has many more.

BERNARD

Not the point. Did you find out anything?!

HENCHMAN #2

No I-D on the body yet.

HENCHMAN #1

Sent in DNA samples, but that lab in La Paz is slow.

HENCHMAN #2

We paid one cop to tell us first when the results get back.

BERNARD

When? When is that?

HENCHMAN #1

Tonight or tomorrow morning.

BERNARD

If La Mano is coming here, I need that information, or he'll kill us all.

HENCHMAN #1

What about his two men we killed?

BERNARD

They were sloppy. They failed. La Mano understands these things.

HENCHMAN #2

Have you ever met him? In person?

BERNARD

No one meets him. The big boss, Hidalgo Herrera, is a shadow. A spirit force.

HENCHMAN #1

It would be nice to meet such a man.

BERNARD

Those who see him, die sooner than most.

HENCHMAN #2

Maybe we won't meet him, then.

HENCHMAN #1

Yes, I don't need to see him.

BERNARD

More important right now is for you to check that La Mano's new money is safe! We can't afford any leaks, especially from that idiot, Miguel!

(beat)

I need a nap. But if I catch you looking at my nurse again, I'll crush your knees and elbows!

HENCHMAN #1

Si, Rompe Huesos.

HENCHMAN #2

Si, Rompe Huesos.

The Henchmen stand and do a slight bow of respect as Bernard walks toward the bedroom with his walker. The Henchmen look at each other to avoid looking at the Nurse. They RACE out of the penthouse.

INT./EXT. RESORT LAUNDRY/ RESORT WALKWAY - DAY

Dani wakes up in the Resort Laundry covered with towels and sheets in a large laundry basket. She shakes the laundry off of her, and stumbles out of the basket. One Laundry Worker (50, female, in uniform) pays her no attention. Dani stumbles on to her room.

INT. DANI'S ROOM - DAY

Dani opens the door to her room and sees Alphonso and Roberto sitting on a plastic covered couch. All the furniture in the room is covered and fresh cans of paint and two ladders show the room is being painted. Alphonso speaks in Spanish.

ALPHONSO

Where have you been?

ROBERTO

He wants to know where you been.

DANI

You tell me. Two big goons grabbed me and covered by mouth with a handkerchief.

Roberto translates to Alphonso.

ALPHONSO

Chloroform.

ROBERTO

He says it was chloroform. Very dangerous. I worry about you!

DANI

I was tied to a chair. Some guy in a disguised voice asked me questions, and let me go.

Roberto is shocked as he whispers the translation to Alphonso.

ALPHONSO

They went through a lot of trouble to let you go. Roberto better watch you. Bodyguard.

ROBERTO

He wants me to be your bodyguard.

DANI

They want information on Rex. I got twenty-four hours or we're all dead.

ALPHONSO

How far away did they take you?

ROBERTO

How far away did they take you?

DANI

How long does chloroform last? I traveled by laundry cart.

Roberto whispers, and Alphonso nods his approval.

ALPHONSO

Smart girl. Chloroform takes five minutes to work, and may only last on an active person for ten or twenty minutes. They must be very close. Likely at the resort. What did the voice sound like?

ROBERTO

He says you are very smart. He wants to know what the voice was like.

DANI

It was a killer's voice.

ROBERTO  
 (in Spanish)  
 A killer's voice.

ALPHONSO  
 What did you tell them, exactly?

DANI  
 I was an actress. Rex, my old  
 boyfriend was a big producer. And  
 Rex came down here to meet some big  
 shot named La Mano.

Roberto whispers a translation. Alphonso's eyes light up! He speaks, while Dani fumbles with her hand inside her bra.

ALPHONSO  
 (to Roberto)  
 La Mano never meets people! He  
 sends many advance people you have  
 to get by first. One of them may  
 have been our suicide or murder  
 victim.

Dani pulls out a bogus \$20 bill, and hands it to Alphonso.

DANI  
 Found it in Rex's room, in the tip  
 envelope for the maid.

Roberto whispers the translation. Alphonso examines the phony bill.

ALPHONSO  
 He could have picked it up in  
 change at a bar. Maybe even here at  
 the resort.

Alphonso looks suspiciously at Dani.

ALPHONSO (CONT'D)  
 Or she is involved.

ROBERTO  
 He say Rex maybe pick it up in  
 change.

Dani pauses to think.

DANI  
 Or Rex is a counterfeiter. I have  
 to find out.

ROBERTO  
(Spanish to Alphonso)  
She thinks Rex maybe counterfeiter.  
She will find out.

Alphonso examines the bill again.

ALPHONSO  
I can't use this to get a search  
warrant. Illegally obtained.

DANI  
I'll find out more. I have to.

ALPHONSO  
Roberto, she never leaves your  
sight. I have to get to the morgue.

ROBERTO  
He wants me by your side for  
safety. May I stay here?  
(beat)  
In the next room?

Alphonso stares at Roberto.

ALPHONSO  
Stay by her side. That's an order.  
Pistol ready.

Roberto pulls out a small pistol.

ROBERTO  
I've been ordered to stay by your  
side. Pistol ready.

Alphonso begins to exit. Dani grabs his sleeve.

DANI  
How am I supposed to sneak around  
with Roberto by my side?

Alphonso shakes free in anger.

ALPHONSO  
Bone Crusher and The Hand are two  
of the most dangerous men in  
Mexico, and you are somehow  
involved with both of them!

Alphonso exits and shuts to door. Roberto FROWNS at Dani.  
Moments later there is a KNOCK on the door. Roberto answers  
the door to see Ernesto.



ROBERTO  
How did you find Ms. Diego?

Ernesto strides right past Roberto.

ERNESTO  
I am drawn to her like a moth to a  
flame.  
(beat)  
I told Rita at the front desk that  
I was bringing you your diabetes  
medicine. She believed me.

DANI  
Inventive and handsome.

ERNESTO  
I'm just here to warn you. Our news  
sources tell us a crime boss named  
"The Hand" is on his way to Cabo  
for the first time ever.

ROBERTO  
Your news sources?

ERNESTO  
A computer guy from Mexico City.

DANI  
Very brave of you, Ernesto, but I  
have Roberto to watch over me.

Ernesto scoffs!

ERNESTO  
That ought to be good! How about a  
cup of coffee tonight? Maybe a late  
dinner?

Dani pushes him toward the door.

DANI  
We'll see!

ERNESTO  
I'll be in the bar for Happy Hour,  
if you want to join me.

Ernesto smiles, and reaches in his pocket, and pulls out a  
small GoPro camera.

ERNESTO (CONT'D)  
Oh, Theresa wanted me to give you  
this to document your fun vacation!

DANI

Huh! I know about GoPros. This should be exciting. Maybe it will land me an acting job!

Dani grabs the camera, kisses Ernesto on the cheek, and shoves Ernesto out the door.

ROBERTO

I want to be like Ernesto when I grow up.

DANI

I know what you mean. Gorgeous, confident, and full of charisma.

Roberto sulks.

ROBERTO

Yes, charisma.

INT. RESORT LOBBY - DAY

Miguel is behind the Registration Desk as Ana sneaks in to talk to him, just as Alphonso RACES by. Alphonso sees the two of them together before he leaves. They whisper in Spanish.

MIGUEL

Ana, where have you been?

ANA

The laundry. I have work to do. So do you!

MIGUEL

What do you mean?

ANA

The man who was killed worked for La Mano.

Miguel's eyes open widely.

ANA (CONT'D)

Bone Crusher will want assurances there are no leaks of the new money.

MIGUEL

We'll print more.

ANA

Idiot. That will draw more attention.

MIGUEL

No. No. We'll print enough to escape from here. Together.

ANA

Once you work for these bad people, there is no escape.

Miguel caresses Ana. Two other Registration Clerks (30s, male, in uniform) see this and smirk.

MIGUEL

I have a plan.

ANA

Señorita Dani Diego will find a way to ruin your plan. We must dispose of her.

MIGUEL

Together?

Ana grabs his balls and squeezes them tightly. Miguel squeals.

ANA

By we, I meant you.

Ana marches away, down the hall to the elevators.

Bone Crusher's Two Henchmen STOMP into the Resort Lobby, and, standing by the bar, they motion for Miguel to join them.

INT. RESORT LOBBY BAR - DAY

Sitting in the bar are Ernesto and Theresa (both in dark sunglasses) with a tiny GoPro camera aimed at Ernesto and the Two Henchmen. Four Resort Guests (late 20s; two couples) are enjoying Happy Hour with drinks and appetizers. Ernesto and Theresa whisper in English.

ERNESTO

Thanks for joining me, and forgiving me.

THERESA

I have not forgiven you, cabrone!

ERNESTO

We'll be famous. Those two men with Miguel look very suspicious.

THERESA

No more suspicious than you.

ERNESTO

I bet they are discussing the murder. Zoom in on them.

Theresa zooms in with the tiny camera. Miguel and the Two Henchmen speak in Spanish.

HENCHMAN #1

Is the money safe?

MIGUEL

Yes. Absolutely.

HENCHMAN #2

No leaks?

MIGUEL

No leaks.

At the bar, a loud American tourist (Rex), is drinking up a storm with a Young Woman (25; in a bikini). Everyone hears him.

REX

Bartender, another round.

Rex holds up a phony \$20 bill. Rex staggers and struggles to sit on his bar stool. The Young Woman drops from the bar stool onto the floor. The Two Henchmen, Ernesto, and Theresa turn to look at Rex. Miguel slips away. Ernesto smiles. It is all being recorded.

THERESA

What you did to me was inexcusable.

ERNESTO

Not now. We have work to do.

THERESA

You're really a goat!

Ernesto ignores the comment again.

ERNESTO

The rumors from Cabo Wabo are true. Those bills are phonies.

THERESA

The girl. A knockout drug. Probably  
the kind you use for your affairs.

Ernesto ignores Theresa

ERNESTO

Him too, it looks like he was given  
the same thing!

THERESA

You must tell your Papa. Let's go.

Theresa stands, but is pulled down by Ernesto, as the Two Henchmen pass their table on the way to Rex. Henchman #1 reaches down to the Young Woman and picks her up, while Henchman #2 stands behind Rex with a massive pistol in his back.

HENCHMAN #1

Too much sun. I'll take her back.

Rex tries to speak, but he stutters and staggers. Henchman #2 shoves the gun further in Rex's back.

HENCHMAN #2

You, come with us.

HENCHMAN #1

No speak.

Rex is frightened, and stands. Henchman #2 grabs the phony \$20 bill off the bar and pockets it. Henchman #1 carries the Young Woman out. Ernesto and Theresa hide their faces as the Rex and the Two Henchmen pass.

ERNESTO

(whispers)

Where are they taking them?

THERESA

Who cares?

Two Goons (40s, huge, business suits) stand up from the far side of the bar. They follow the Two Henchmen. Theresa films then, but she is shaking in fear. Ernesto HUGS Theresa and the two Goons leave the bar.

ERNESTO

We need Papa.

Ernesto pulls out his phone, makes a call, and whispers in Spanish. Ernesto hangs up.

ERNESTO (CONT'D)

Keep it rolling toward all of them,  
but avoid eye contact with them at  
all times.

THERESA

I don't like this. They'll kill us.

ERNESTO

I'll make it up to you. Everything.

Ernesto pulls Theresa out of the bar.

ERNESTO (CONT'D)

Come on. That's an order!

EXT. RESORT WALKWAY - DAY

Ernesto and Theresa follow the Two Goons, who are following  
the Two Henchmen. Henchman #1 carries the Young Woman, while  
Henchman #2 holds a gun on Rex who is stumbling.

ERNESTO

I need to put my arm around you, so  
they don't get suspicious. If they  
turn around, we should kiss so they  
don't see our faces.

THERESA

A likely story. When is your father  
coming?

ERNESTO

Soon.

Goon #1 turns to see if they are being followed. Ernesto  
turns and kisses Theresa.

Behind Ernesto and Theresa, Dani and Roberto enter the  
walkway. Dani is dressed as a maid, but has a belt on with  
GoPro camera attached. Roberto is in swimming trunks with his  
small pistol in his hand hidden by a towel. Dani sees Rex,  
and she sees Ernesto and Theresa kissing. Dani yells to  
Ernesto.

DANI

Ernesto!

Roberto, seeing the Goons and Henchmen, steps in front of  
Dani to shield her from view. Ernesto breaks off the kiss.

ERNESTO

Dani?

The Goons turn to see Roberto (Dani is hidden behind him), and hearing the name "Ernesto," they stare at, and recognize Ernesto from TV. Also, Henchman #1 (carrying the Young Woman) STARES at Ernesto, and sees the Goons following them. Henchman #1 sets the Young Woman down, and punches Rex, knocking him out. The Two Henchmen begin to carry Rex to the elevator leading to Bone Crusher's Penthouse.

Dani pops out from behind Roberto to see where Rex is being taken and capture it on the GoPro camera. Henchmen #1 shoots at Dani, but misses. Roberto throws Dani to the lawn nearby and dives atop her, pulling his piston from his man-purse. He bravely returns fire. He hits one of the Goons in the leg.

The Two Goons pull automatic weapons from their jackets, and spray fire at Roberto and Dani, as they quickly apprehend Ernesto and Theresa, and pull them down another pathway at gunpoint. One of the Goons is limping.

Roberto pulls himself and Dani up as Alphonso arrives (in his detective suit) with Two uniformed Policemen (30s). Dani points after the Goons.

DANI

They took your son and Theresa that way.

(points to the GoPro)

I have video.

ROBERTO

(in Spanish)

They took Mr. Weldon to the penthouse. Ernesto and Theresa are being taken toward the restaurant. These policemen are out matched. We need back-up.

Alphonso gets on the phone, while the young Policeman shake as they pull their small pistols. Dani turns to HUG Roberto.

DANI

Roberto, you saved my life.

ROBERTO

I have more work to do, or you will be in much more danger.

(to Alphonso in Spanish)

Those were La Mano's men. I'm going after them!

Roberto charges after the Goons. One of the Policemen follows. Dani HUGS Alphonso.

DANI

Your son will be okay. We can look  
at the video to plan our next move.

Alphonso understands and NODS "yes," while biting his lip.  
Alphonso turns to the lone Uniform Policeman.

ALPHONSO

The Guard is coming. Have them  
surround the resort. No one enters  
or leaves. Clear the Resort guests  
from the pools and open spaces.  
Tell them it's a crime  
investigation. Stay in their  
suites. This is going to be a war  
zone. Get me a computer to view the  
video, and an interpreter for  
Señorita Diego.

(beat)

Get the night manager, Miguel to be  
my interpreter.

Ten heavily armed members of the Guard RACE on the scene,  
securing the area. Alphonso motions for Dani to follow him to  
the lobby. They RACE away.

End Act Two



## Act Three

INT. RESORT LOBBY - NIGHT

The lobby looks like a command post. Alphonso and Dani stand behind a female police officer, ANITA (30, uniformed) with three heavily-armed Guards (30s) with automatic rifles and camouflaged uniforms. Dani is now dressed in a black athletic cross-training outfit.

They hear a SIREN, and a black SUV pulls up to resort. One nicely dressed FBI AGENT HENDRICKS (40; blue suit, semi-dark glasses) stomps up to Alphonso.

AGENT HENDRICKS

Agent William Hendricks, FBI, here  
on behalf of our Joint US-Mexico  
Mérida Initiative.

Hendricks flashes his badge. Alphonso examines it, then goes back to studying the Map of the resort on the computer.

AGENT HENDRICKS (CONT'D)

Did you hear what I said?

ANITA

Detective Alphonso Reyes doesn't  
speak English.

AGENT HENDRICKS

Tell him that we have reason to  
believe that the crime boss known  
as La Mano is coming here tonight.

ANITA

He knows.

AGENT HENDRICKS

Tell him I'm here to help.

ALPHONSO

(in Spanish)

Did he come alone?

ANITA

Did you come alone?

AGENT HENDRICKS

Yes, I'm here in an advisory-only  
role, but I brought a stationary  
drone.

Agent Hendricks pulls out a tablet computer from his inside blue blazer.

It shows the resort Map with humans as green dots. Alphonso and Dani looks on with interest. Hendricks points at Dani.

AGENT HENDRICKS (CONT'D)  
Can she be trusted?

ALPHONSO  
My assistant from California,  
Señorita Dani Diego.

Dani takes out a pen and points at Hendricks's tablet computer.

DANI  
Let me break it down for you.

Dani points to the restaurant on the map.

AGENT HENDRICKS  
What do we have?

DANI  
We have two of La Mano's men  
holding two hostages in the  
restaurant. I'd make these two  
dots, red.

Dani points to two moving dots in the restaurant. Alphonso looks on with interest.

AGENT HENDRICKS  
Why?

DANI  
The two other dots are not moving  
around, presumably the hostages  
tied to chairs.

AGENT HENDRICKS  
Oh. Right. I'll code the hostages,  
yellow.

DANI  
One of the hostages is Detective  
Reyes's son.

AGENT HENDRICKS  
Oh, my!

Dani moved her pen to the penthouse.

DANI  
In this penthouse is a crime boss  
named Bone Crusher.

AGENT HENDRICKS  
Bone Crusher? Rompe Huesos? You're  
shitting me?

DANI  
He has two henchmen, a nurse, and  
one hostage: Rex Weldon from L.A.

AGENT HENDRICKS  
What's he doing here?

Dani studies the tablet. All the dots in the Penthouse move  
from time to time.

DANI  
Some kind of meeting. But look at  
this! They're all moving! Maybe  
he's not a hostage at all!

Anita translates for Alphonso, as Roberto RUNS into the  
lobby, still wearing a swimsuit with a towel wrapped around  
his neck.

ROBERTO  
(in Spanish)  
I've got to change. I keep having  
to show my badge to everyone.

ANITA  
(in Spanish)  
Go change. Please!

ALPHONSO  
(in Spanish)  
Tell us what you saw!

ROBERTO  
(in Spanish)  
I hear the voices of Ernesto and  
Theresa. They are still alive.  
(in English)  
Ernesto and Theresa are still  
alive. Hear voices.

AGENT HENDRICKS  
Who's this?

DANI  
Roberto, the detective who saved my  
life.

Roberto smiles shyly, and races off to change. Dani turns her  
attention to Alphonso.

DANI (CONT'D)

Detective, what if Rex set up the meeting with a crime boss. To do a movie about him.

ANITA

(in Spanish to Alphonso)  
She asks, what if Rex set up the meeting with a crime boss to do a movie about him.

ALPHONSO

Like El Chapo?

DANI

Who met with Sean Penn.

ALPHONSO

My murder victim may have tried to prevent the meeting.

Anita translates.

ANITA

His murder victim may have tried to prevent the meeting.

DANI

But who was the meeting with? La Mano or Bone Crusher?

Alphonso seems to understand.

ALPHONSO

They were rivals.

ANITA

They were rivals.

DANI

Then which one is the counterfeiter?

AGENT HENDRICKS

Counterfeiter?

Alphonso produces two phony \$20 bills. Agent Hendricks examines the bills.

AGENT HENDRICKS (CONT'D)

These don't come out for a month.

(beat)

Looks like Oprah Winfrey.

No translation is needed. Dani PACES back and forth.

DANI  
We've got to save Ernesto first.

Dani STARES at, and POINTS to, the Agent's Tablet Computer. A dozen red dots surround a tank-like truck coming toward the resort from the northwest.

DANI (CONT'D)  
We've got company!

Alphonso STARES at the Tablet Computer, as Roberto RACES in wearing his detective suit and white shirt (un-tucked).

ALPHONSO  
La Mano's army!

ROBERTO  
La Man's army!

DANI  
Is that a tank?

AGENT HENDRICKS  
I'm here only in an advisory role,  
but I'd say yes.

Roberto pulls and stares at his small pistol.

ROBERTO  
They have a tank?

The sounds of gunfire erupt toward the restaurant.

ALPHONSO  
Ernesto! We're coming. Roberto,  
follow me!

Alphonso and Roberto march into battle.

DANI  
You'll be killed.

Roberto turns to Dani before leaving.

ROBERTO  
La Mano will do anything to save  
his men.

EXT. RESORT - NIGHT

A fierce FIRE STORM erupts around the restaurant. Dani and Agent Hendricks look on from a vantage point above. They monitor the movement of the dots.

DANI

Make the new dots white, so we can track them.

Agent Hendricks does as he is told.

AGENT HENDRICKS

They are protected by the tank.

Three members of the Guard (30s; camouflaged) are shot dead. A Policeman (25) falls dead. Bullets fly all around Alphonso and Roberto.

DANI

It's a slaughter. You've got to take out that tank with your drone.

AGENT HENDRICKS

Advisory only, sorry.

DANI

(furious)

Then use an advisory-only missile!

Another member of the Guard (30s) is shot. A bullet singes Alphonso's arm!

DANI (CONT'D)

Now! God damn it. Now!

Agent Hendricks taps on the Tablet Computer, enters a long code, and hits, ENTER.

AGENT HENDRICKS

I'll have a lot of explaining to do.

The Agent and Dani are fired upon. The bullets miss. They duck. Suddenly, a BRIGHT LIGHT (missile) descends on the tank. KABOOM. La Mano's army is exposed, and his Ten heavily armed soldiers (20s-30s) are shot dead.

Alphonso and Roberto return to Dani and Agent Hendricks. Alphonso has a large amount of blood on his upper left arm sleeve.

DANI  
Are you okay? Are Ernesto and  
Theresa safe?

ALPHONSO  
It's a stand-off.

ROBERTO  
Mexican stand-off.

DANI  
(to Alphonso)  
We need first aid for that arm.

We HEAR a helicopter in the distance.

ALPHONSO  
They'll try to spring Bone Crusher.

ROBERTO  
The penthouse!

They all RACE to the Lobby.

EXT./INT. RESORT LOBBY - NIGHT

Anita has a map of the resort on her screen as Alphonso, Roberto, Dani, and Agent Hendricks reach the lobby. Dani races to the bar to grab a napkin off a table, races back, and wraps it around Alphonso's bloody arm.

ALPHONSO  
Helicopter?

DANI  
Penthouse, I bet!

Agent Hendricks looks at his Tablet Computer. Alphonso smiles at Dani in appreciation.

AGENT HENDRICKS  
Approaching the penthouse.

DANI  
Can you shoot it down?

AGENT HENDRICKS  
It's not an aggressive enemy target  
like the tank, so, no.

ROBERTO  
We can't let Bone Crusher get away!

DANI  
Can you scare it off?

AGENT HENDRICKS  
Maybe. We do have spotlights. They  
might fall for it.

Agent Hendricks taps away on his Tablet Computer. Dani, Roberto, and Alphonso race outside to look up. Shots rain down on them from the penthouse, so they retreat into the lobby. They hear the helicopter above the penthouse. Seconds later, the helicopter takes off.

AGENT HENDRICKS (CONT'D)  
It worked.

ALPHONSO  
They'll try to escape by boat!

ROBERTO  
He say's they'll try to escape by  
boat.

Roberto grabs a radio from Anita.

ROBERTO (CONT'D)  
(Spanish then English)  
Double the guard below the  
penthouse and at the harbor.

Agent Hendricks STARES at his Tablet Computer in shock. Meanwhile, Alphonso gets a cellphone call; we see that it's from the "Morgue."

AGENT HENDRICKS  
Must be a hundred of them!

ALPHONSO  
Got an ID?  
(pauses to listen)  
La Mano? Are you certain?  
(pause)  
DNA match!

Red dots light up his Tablet. Everyone stares at the agent's computer.

ROBERTO  
The dead man, or victim, was La  
Mano himself?

ALPHONSO  
Yes!



Dani's eyes light up. Alphonso sees this.

AGENT HENDRICKS

Hundreds are marching toward the restaurant. They'll murder every guest in the resort!

DANI

Can't we just tell them that their leader is dead?

Roberto whispers to Alphonso. Alphonso whispers back.

ROBERTO

They will never believe it. Hidalgo Herrera, La Mano, is a spirit warrior. He can never be killed.

DANI

Bring the body here. Get me a bullhorn! I'll show them their spirit warrior!

Alphonso understands and calls the morgue.

ROBERTO

This is crazy!

DANI

It's the only way to save Ernesto and Theresa.

ALPHONSO

The body is on the way. What do the men holding my son look like?

ROBERTO

Alphonso says the body is coming. He wants to know what the men holding his son look like.

DANI

I recorded them on Theresa's GoPro camera.

Dani hands the camera to Anita, who plugs it into her computer. She rewinds the video. They sit in horror as they see Ernesto abusing Theresa.

DANI (CONT'D)

I didn't know this was on there.

Dani reaches to pull out the GoPro, but Alphonso grabs her hand. There are tears in his eyes, and anger in Dani's eyes.

Then the video advances to the two men holding guns on Theresa and Ernesto. Alphonso recognized the two men.

ALPHONSO  
Martinez and Garza.

ROBERTO  
La Mano's number two and number  
three men. They must not know La  
Mano is dead!

They HEAR an Ambulance SIREN approaching. Two EMTs (30s;  
uniform) and the CORONER (60; man in a gray suit) lift La  
Mano on a gurney into the lobby. We HEAR gunfire.

CORONER  
It's La Mano.

ALPHONSO  
Yes. Now what? Show the mob the  
body, Ms. Diego?

ROBERTO  
He wants to know how you intend to  
show them the body?

Dani paces.

DANI  
Just the head! Get a butcher knife  
from the kitchen.

CORONER  
Impossible!

DANI  
I'm kidding. I could never do a  
thing like that!

ALPHONSO  
I could. If it will save lives. Get  
me the butcher knife.

ROBERTO  
He says he could do it. To save  
lives.

DANI  
Fine! Get him the knife.

AGENT HENDRICKS  
The mob is approaching.

ROBERTO  
I'm with you, Ms. Diego.

Roberto RACES to the kitchen and returns with a large butcher knife. Agent Hendricks stares at his Tablet Computer.

AGENT HENDRICKS  
Hurry, the mob approaches.

CORONER  
No! I won't allow it. Sacrilege.

ALPHONSO  
I'll do it. To save my son.

ROBERTO  
He says he must do it to save his son.

Dani's eyes meet Alphonso's eyes. He grabs the butcher knife from Roberto's hand, and whacks off La Mano's head in one chop. Dani grabs the head in one hand and the bullhorn in the other.

DANI  
I'm going to end this!

ROBERTO  
I'm coming to. You'll need a translator.

ALPHONSO  
I must be there.

Dani and Roberto begin to RACE out. Dani yells.

DANI  
You two make sure Bone Crusher doesn't escape. He's next on my list!

EXT. RESORT - NIGHT

Dani and Roberto race to the street below the restaurant. They can be seen by the Two Goons, Ernesto, and Theresa. Dani carries the severed head behind her, as the Mob approaches [dozens of old and young men; with rifles and pistols]. The mob fires SHOTS in the air. The mob stops a few yards from Dani and Roberto.

Dani triumphantly holds up La Mano's head. The mob members GASP. She yells.

DANI

It's over! La Mano is dead. The man who terrorized your country for years. He threatened each of you, your family, and friends. It's over!

Roberto grabs the bullhorn and translates. The Goons stare down from the restaurant in disbelief.

ROBERTO

(in Spanish)

It's over! La Mano is dead. The man who terrorized your country for years. He threatened each of you, your family, and friends. It's over!

The Two Goons march out holding pistols Ernesto and Theresa in front of them. The Goons examine the severed head. They see the resolve in Dani's eyes. The Goons point their weapons at Dani and Roberto, then drop their weapons.

DANI

La Mano está muerta!

Roberto's eyes meet Dani's eyes. Ernesto notices. Dani smiles lovingly at Roberto, and he smiles back. Ernesto attempts to hug Dani, but she shuns him and hugs Theresa. Roberto picks up the Goon's pistols, and marches them to the lobby. Two Policemen (30s) handcuff and take the Two Goons away. A third Policeman takes the severed head from Dani. Ernesto RACES ahead to the lobby, pulling Theresa by the arm.

ERNESTO

Theresa, get your camera!

THERESA

No.

ERNESTO

We have the head of La Mano, and Bone Crusher is trapped. Are you crazy?

THERESA

Crazy to have worked with you, and I have a video to show our boss to prove it!

ERNESTO

We'll see about that!

INT./EXT. RESORT LOBBY - NIGHT

We HEAR shooting from the Bone Crusher's Penthouse, as Ernesto and Theresa reach Alphonso, Anita, and Agent Hendricks.

ERNESTO

(in Spanish)

Papa, it's a miracle. I'm okay. I need to get Theresa's camera from our van.

Alphonso hugs his son, then steps back. Alphonso points to a rear office.

ALPHONSO

Theresa may film. You may go sit in the office until this is all over. Go!

Ernesto hesitates.

ALPHONSO (CONT'D)

I said, go!

Ernesto trudges away. Theresa shows Alphonso her GoPro camera.

THERESA

(in Spanish)

Thank you, Mr. Reyes. I can get along with this one.

ALPHONSO

I apologize for my son.

THERESA

He will pay.

Roberto and Dani return to the lobby. They are holding hands. There is silence.

ALPHONSO

They stopped shooting.

ANITA

They stopped shooting.

Agent Hendricks checks his Tablet Computer.

AGENT HENDRICKS

Where did they go?

Dani RACES over to check the agent's Tablet Computer.

DANI

Does it only sense the top floor of buildings?

Anita whispers translations to Alphonso.

AGENT HENDRICKS

Yes, a limitation of the thermal sensors.

ROBERTO

How could they escape?

DANI

Through the floors below?

ALPHONSO

Storm the building now!

DANI

The bottom floor! Get everyone to the bottom floor.

Everyone races to the Resort entrance.

EXT. RESORT LOBBY - NIGHT

Outside the entrance to the resort, they hear the footsteps of soldiers and policemen, but no shots being fired.

THERESA

They couldn't have vanished!

ROBERTO

We have roadblocks everywhere.

ALPHONSO

The harbor!

ROBERTO

The harbor?

DANI

A tunnel!

Alphonso RACES to a police car, but with a bad arm, he can't drive. Roberto drives, and Dani, Theresa, and Agent Hendricks all pile in.

DANI (CONT'D)

Dark clothing? A tunnel? How did they get to the harbor?

Roberto RACES away.

EXT. HARBOR - NIGHT

The Cabo San Lucas harbor is deserted when Roberto, Alphonso, Dani, Theresa, and Agent Hendricks arrive. Theresa narrates the events with her GoPro documenting the scene.

THERESA

Gunfire has sent everyone fleeing.

Dani and Alphonso scan the shops, restaurants, and bars at the harbor. Alphonso looks back to the Resort.

ALPHONSO

A tunnel to where?

DANI

Agent Hendricks, can you detect warm bodies?

Agent Hendricks types away on his Tablet Computer.

AGENT HENDRICKS

I have to reposition the drone.  
Takes time!

Dani points to the marketplace.

DANI

Is the marketplace closed every night?

ROBERTO

Yes.

Roberto translates for Alphonso. Dani points to a bar.

DANI

The bars? Closed in the mornings?

ROBERTO

Mornings closed.

Roberto translates for Alphonso. Dani points to a small restaurant.

ALPHONSO AND DANI

The restaurant!

They RACE to the restaurant. Roberto lags a little behind.

ALPHONSO

Only open when a cruise ship is  
docked!

DANI

Big kitchen to work with!

ALPHONSO

Roberto, break down the door!

Roberto TRUDGES to the locked front door and breaks it in.  
Agent Hendricks looks up from the Tablet Computer.

AGENT HENDRICKS

Two people inside. Maybe. The drone  
isn't fully repositioned.

DANI

Maybe?

Alphonso rolls his eyes in disgust.

AGENT HENDRICKS

Hard to tell.

Theresa films, and narrates in Spanish.

THERESA

We're going inside a restaurant at  
the harbor. The detectives believe  
two people may be inside.

EXT./INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT

They barge into the restaurant. Alphonso and Roberto pull  
their pistols. The others are right behind.

Alphonso and Roberto storm the kitchen. The others follow.

THERESA

No sign of anyone.

DANI

Look for a tunnel.

Everyone examines the kitchen. Dani sees one large  
refrigerator on wheels and pulls it out herself. Alphonso  
witnesses her feat of strength. Under the fridge is a large  
steel grate, which looks like a drain.

THERESA

We see a drain. A tunnel perhaps.



Dani lifts the heavy steel grate from the drain. Again, Alphonso sees this. Below the grate, they hear MOANING. We SEE the tops of the heads of Miguel and Ana. They have duct tape on their mouths, they are tied together, and they are holding a BOMB.

Dani jumps back.

DANI

It's a bomb. Miguel and Ana are alive.

Alphonso pushes Dani back to investigate.

THERESA

We located two employees of the resort, strapped to a bomb, in a tunnel probably leading to the Resort.

Alphonso removes the duct tape from Miguel and Ana.

MIGUEL

It's set to go off any second.

ALPHONSO

Where is Bone Crusher?

ANA

Get us out of here!

ALPHONSO

Where is Bone Crusher?

MIGUEL

All the money! The boat!

ALPHONSO

Everybody out! Now!

THERESA

Everybody out!

Dani, Agent Hendricks, Theresa, and Roberto get out first. Seconds later, Alphonso exits as the restaurant EXPLODES. They are all knocked to the ground. They all look behind them to see the restaurant in FLAMES. Dani looks out to the harbor. A lone Black Yacht with no lights on is leaving the harbor.

DANI

They're getting away!

ALPHONSO

The Coast Guard will get them.

Two small Coast Guard gun boats with SIRENS and LIGHTS track the Black Yacht.

Alphonso, Dani, Theresa, Agent Hendricks, and Roberto stand and dust themselves off, and stare at the Black Yacht.

The yacht takes evasive action, but the gun boats fire. The Black Yacht EXPLODES into a fireball.

THERESA

We have just witnessed the fiery death of an old crime boss known as Bone Crusher.

ROBERTO

It's finally over!

ALPHONSO

Roberto, send the Guard and police at the resort home.

Roberto makes the call. Agent Hendricks, Alphonso, Roberto, and Theresa congratulate themselves. Alphonso sees that Dani is not happy.

ALPHONSO (CONT'D)

It's over?

DANI

I don't think so.

Everyone stares at Dani. Alphonso GLARES at Dani.

DANI (CONT'D)

He's too smart. He would have predicted this. He's hiding.

ROBERTO

Nonsense.

ALPHONSO

What did she say?

THERESA

(in Spanish)

She says he's hiding. Bone Crusher is not dead.

ALPHONSO

Have the Coast Guard ID the bodies  
on the yacht. We're off to the  
penthouse.

THERESA

Have the Coast Guard ID the bodies  
on the yacht. We're off to the  
penthouse.

Roberto makes the call as they RACE to the police car and  
drive off.

EXT./INT. RESORT - NIGHT

The Guards and Policeman are gone. The Resort is deadly  
quiet, as Roberto SCREECHES to a stop at the entrance.  
Everyone RACES through the lobby to the elevator leading to  
Bone Crusher's Penthouse. They CRAM in the elevator, and  
Roberto produces a key to gain access to the Penthouse.  
Theresa is recording the whole thing on the GoPro.

THERESA

Why we are going to the Penthouse,  
I do not know?

DANI

He's too smart!

Alphonso OBSERVES everyone in the elevator closely.

EXT./INT. PENTHOUSE - NIGHT

Alphonso turns to Agent Hendricks.

ALPHONSO

Anyone inside?

ROBERTO

He want to know if anyone is  
inside?

DANI

Check for red dots.

Agent Hendricks madly types on the Tablet Computer.

AGENT HENDRICKS

It will take a minute to reposition  
the drone.

Alphonso's rolls his eyes in disgust, produces a key, and opens the door. They listen, but do not hear anything.

ALPHONSO  
Crime scene. Don't touch a thing!

ROBERTO  
Crime scene, don't touch anything.

They tiptoe in. Agent Hendricks is still monitoring his Tablet Computer.

THERESA  
We are now in Bone Crusher's penthouse. Bernard Shultze, Rompe Huesos, is a small old man with a walker, but he was a giant of a crime boss back in the day.

Roberto whispers a translation to Alphonso.

ALPHONSO  
How does a feeble old man with a walker escape in a tunnel?

Theresa translates and records video.

THERESA  
How does a feeble old man with a walker escape in a tunnel?

Dani is searching closets. Alphonso turns angrily at her.

ALPHONSO  
I said, don't touch anything!

ROBERTO  
Do not touch.

Agent Hendricks looks up from his Tablet Computer.

AGENT HENDRICKS  
No one's here.

DANI  
We have to find him before he really escapes.

THERESA  
(in Spanish)  
We have to find him before he really escapes.

ALPHONSO  
That's it!

DANI  
He's one floor down!

ALPHONSO  
He's not here?

ROBERTO  
He's not here?

AGENT HENDRICKS  
I told you that!

DANI  
Ah! He knows the limits of the  
thermal detectors in drones. He's  
below us.

Alphonso seems to understand.

ALPHONSO  
Si. One floor down!

DANI  
Quick, before he gets away!

They race out and to the stairwell next to the elevator.

ALPHONSO  
Roberto, call for back-up.

Roberto struggles to talk into the radio while running.

THERESA  
The detectives are requesting  
backup.

EXT./INT. SUITE - NIGHT

Alphonso, Dani, Agent Hendricks, and Theresa reach the door to the sixth-floor suite below the Penthouse. They pause to wait for Roberto.

AGENT HENDRICKS  
Drone can't help here.

Theresa translates for Alphonso who smirks. Roberto reaches them and pulls out his small pistol again.

ALPHONSO  
Bust it down, Roberto.

They stand back as Roberto busts down the door.

DANI  
Great job, Roberto!

Roberto weakly smiles at Dani. She pats Roberto on the back.

DANI (CONT'D)  
We're going to be okay.

Alphonso, with pistol in hand, examines the kitchen, living room, and first bathroom, and the first small closet.

ALPHONSO  
Are you sure about this, Ms. Diego?

ROBERTO  
He wants to know if you're sure  
about this?

DANI  
I'm sure.

THERESA  
We are still looking for Bone  
Crusher.

Alphonso and Dani burst in the bedroom of the suite. There, tied to the bedposts, is Rex. He is mostly covered by an aluminum blanket, and he has duct tape over his mouth. Alphonso pulls off the aluminum blanket, and we see a BOMB strapped to Rex's shirt. His eyes look toward the balcony. Roberto begins to enter the room, but steps back, as Theresa and Agent Hendricks charge in.

Alphonso and Dani RACE to the balcony, where they see a ROPE dangling. They PEEK over the balcony to see an old man dressed in black spandex athletic gear repelling down the rope with a pistol in one hand. He SHOTS up at Alphonso and Dani.

Alphonso returns fire.

ALPHONSO  
He'll head to the beach!

THERESA  
He'll head to the beach!

ALPHONSO  
Let's go!

Alphonso, Agent Hendricks, and Theresa start to exit the suits. Roberto points to Rex.

ROBERTO

What about him?

Dani RACES to the kitchen, grabs a knife, and begins to cut the bomb duct taped to Rex's shirt. She does not remove the duct tape from his mouth. When the bomb is cut loose, she tosses it over the balcony. We hear an EXPLOSION.

Dani RACES down the stairs rather than take the elevator. Roberto waits for the next elevator.

EXT. RESORT WALKWAY - NIGHT

Alphonso, Theresa, and Agent Hendricks speed-walk down the walkway toward the beach. Dani RUNS up behind them. Agent Hendricks stares at a black screen.

AGENT HENDRICKS

Got to reposition the drone again.

ALPHONSO

Shit! Shit! Shit!

DANI

I'll get that son of a bitch!

Dani passes them like an Olympic track star.

ALPHONSO

You have no weapon. Wait. That's an order.

Theresa begins to translate.

THERESA

You have no weapon...

Dani is gone. Roberto begins to RUN to the beach. It's not pretty.

EXT. BEACH - NIGHT

Dani reaches the beach. She looks south and sees nothing. She looks north and sees an athletic man (Bone Crusher) running in a black Spandex jogging suit. She flips off the shoes as takes off running like a track star. The man is fifty yards away, but she is gaining on him. Bone Crusher turns and shoots twice. He misses.

Alphonso, Agent Hendricks, and Theresa reach the beach.

AGENT HENDRICKS  
Advisory-role only.

Alphonso swears as he and Theresa races after Dani and Bone Crusher. Hendricks yells.

AGENT HENDRICKS (CONT'D)  
There is a fishing boat with two  
people off shore.

THERESA  
Then call the Coast Guard, you  
idiot! And track them all.

Dani is 25 yards away when Bone Crusher turns to fire. Dani Dives into the water. The undertow begins to take her but she shakes free as a wave pushes her in. She charges after Bone Crusher, who turns and fires again. Then she hears a CLICK sound. Bone Crusher tosses his spent weapon in the ocean.

Dani RACES with all her might. She turns to see and HEAR Roberto yell.

ROBERTO  
Lo siento.

Dani feels her shoulder get hit by the bullet, before she HEARS the shot. The bullet knocks her off her feet. But she gets up, and keeps running after Bone Crusher. Theresa and Alphonso turn to see Roberto aiming at Alphonso.

ALPHONSO  
No!

Before Roberto can squeeze off a shot, he is tackled from behind by Ernesto. Roberto loses his pistol, and they fight.

Dani, with one good arm, races up behind Bone Crusher, and she pulls him down. Alphonso FIRES at the fishing boat and it turns around out to sea.

When Alphonso and Theresa reach Bone Crusher, Dani is sitting on his back. Bone Crusher is too tired to speak. Dani's shoulder is bleeding, so Theresa attends the wound as Alphonso handcuffs Bone Crusher. Alphonso stands up Bone Crusher and begins to march him back to Ernesto and Roberto.

ALPHONSO (CONT'D)  
(in English)  
You are an amazing athlete, Ms.  
Diego.



DANI

What? You speak English? You've heard me all along? Son of a...

ALPHONSO

(interrupting)

Things aren't always as they seem. Bone crusher hardly needed a walker! He faked being old for twenty years so the police would not trouble him.

THERESA

Twenty years?

DANI

Is your camera off?

THERESA

Yes.

DANI

Then do me a favor, Detective Reyes. Break his trigger finger for me. Bastard tried to kill me!

Alphonso reaches behind Bone Crusher and breaks his left index finger. Bone Crusher YELPS.

DANI (CONT'D)

I meant his other trigger finger.

Bone Crusher GLARES at Dani. Then he YELPS in pain, again.

ALPHONSO

Must have happened when he fell down on the beach.

They reach Roberto, who is face down on the beach with Ernesto, with a bloody nose, on top of him.

ALPHONSO (CONT'D)

Thank you, my son. And you, Roberto, may rot in hell. That is why they knew our every move!

Roberto looks away.

ALPHONSO (CONT'D)

Roberto, you fool. I knew you were bad when you produced your own key to the penthouse in the elevator. You'll find that a few extra pesos is a poor trade for prison.

DANI

Hey, Roberto. Lo siento! I was falling for you.

ERNESTO

I'm not all bad, Papa, Theresa, and Dani. I've been a fool. I'm so sorry.

ALPHONSO

I'll always love you, my son. But You're still an asshole.

THERESA AND DANI

Si, asshole!

There is a quiet moment. Then they laugh. Four Uniformed Policeman (30s-40s) arrive to secure the two convicts.

INT./EXT. RESORT LOBBY - NIGHT

The Four Uniformed Policeman are escorting Roberto and the Bone Crusher out of the lobby, while the Resort's handsome First Aid Attendant finishes bandaging Dani's shoulder. Alphonso whispers in Spanish on his phone glancing back intermittently at Dani. Dani smiles at him. He smiles back. Alphonso ends the call.

FIRST AID ATTENDANT

You're good to go. Just a scratch, but on such very beautiful and soft skin.

Dani SWOONS.

DANI

You're kind. And you help people every day. I like you. Can I buy you breakfast tomorrow?

FIRST AID ATTENDANT

I'd be honored. I'm a doctor, actually, so it will be my treat. My name is Mateo Ybarra.

Their eyes meet. Time slows for both of them. The First Aid Attendant smiles, waves, and exits. Alphonso smiles at Dani.

ALPHONSO

I'm happy now. Will you join me for a nightcap at the pool on the ridge, Señorita Diego?

DANI  
If you promise to call me Dani.

ALPHONSO  
Si, Señorita Dani.

They walk slowly to the elevators.

DANI  
It's been a long couple of days for me. I could use a drink.

ALPHONSO  
(laughs)  
Me, too. Me, too.

EXT. POOL - NIGHT

Alphonso and Dani lay on lounge chairs with a table between them. There is an empty tall cocktail glass next to Alphonso, and a half-full glass on the table next to Dani, as a lone bartender, Renaldo, brings them two more white and purple cocktails. In a wider angle, we see Rex sitting, handcuffed, between two Uniformed Policeman (30s), who are drinking coffee and eating fish tacos.

ALPHONSO  
What do you call these fancy drinks?

REX  
It's a Miami Vice, you idiot, half piña colada, and half strawberry daiquiri.

DANI  
Shut up, Rex.

ALPHONSO  
Mr. Weldon, are you going to tell us about your scheduled meeting with La Mano?

REX  
I told you. He contacted me. He sounded like every other egomaniac, who thinks his life story deserves a Hollywood movie with Ben Affleck playing him.

DANI  
Or a much smaller, angrier actor in his case.

ALPHONSO

And the money to produce this blockbuster.

REX

Like I said, I was supposed to raise four million. He would toss in forty million.

ALPHONSO

And what about that phony twenty-dollar bill you had in the bar?

REX

What phony bill?

DANI

With Harriet Tubman on it?

REX

Who the hell is Harriet Tubman?

Dani leans to Alphonso to whisper.

DANI

He's a fool.

ALPHONSO

Counterfeiting is a very serious crime, Mr. Weldon. Twenty years hard labor.

REX

I want my lawyer.

ALPHONSO

In time. Did you see any other American twenty-dollar bills featuring Ms. Tubman associated with this visit?

REX

I told you, I wanted to tip the maid twenty bucks for cleaning my suite, but all I had was a hundred, so she gave me five twenties for it.

ALPHONSO

Describe this maid.

REX

Cute, young, nineteen or twenty,  
nice figure, dark hair, and sultry,  
but she looked very mean.

DANI

That's Ana.

REX

She went to a guy, a slick-willy  
type about fifty, for change. The  
night manager, she said.

ALPHONSO AND DANI

Miguel.

REX

That's him. So what?

DANI

So they gave you bad money, you  
idiot!

ALPHONSO

One more question, and you can go.

REX

What?

ALPHONSO

What did you and Bernard Shultze  
talk about?

REX

That nut job. I told him about  
trying to meet La Mano about a  
movie, and he went crazy. He said  
he deserved a movie more than La  
Mano. I had my GoPro with me, so I  
shot a few minutes, and he went  
nuts seeing himself on the TV.

ALPHONSO

You still have the video?

REX

He made me put it down the garbage  
disposal. That's when all the  
shooting started. There was a bunch  
of yelling and screaming. The nurse  
was hysterical.

(MORE)

REX (CONT'D)

Next thing I know, I'm gagged and tied to the bed with a bomb strapped to me, and an aluminum blanket covering me. I shit my pants.

ALPHONSO

(In Spanish)

Take him to the station. Lock him in with Bone Crusher.

The two Policemen lead Rex away.

REX

What's going to happen to me?

DANI

Whatever it is, it will make a great movie.

REX

(scoffs)

He said he liked you. I told him I did too. Then he started the bomb going. Damn! Everybody here was resorting to love and violence.

Rex and the Two Policemen disappear.

DANI

We have to get into that penthouse one more time. Let's go.

ALPHONSO

I'm off duty, and drunk. I'm going home.

DANI

None of these places have garbage disposals! Let's go!

Dani pulls Alphonso by the arm as they RACE from the pool.

INT. PENTHOUSE - NIGHT

Dani pulls Alphonso into the Penthouse and directly to the kitchen. Alphonso inspects the sink.

DANI

See!

ALPHONSO

Must be stuck.

Dani reaches under the sink and rips out the Gooseneck. Inside is the tiny GoPro camera. We see the words: Water Resistant."

DANI

I'll owe you for the repairs. I hated that asshole!

Alphonso's phone rings. He answers.

ALPHONSO

Reyes.

(beat)

Si.

(beat)

Si.

(beat)

Si. Buenos noches.

DANI

What was that?

ALPHONSO

Loose ends. The black yacht contained three bodies; the nurse, and two bodyguards. They also found a fancy 3-D printer used to make money, and enough paper and ink to make millions. But, the boat is not registered to Bone Crusher.

DANI

Of course not. He's too smart. But I'll bet he bragged about it on camera. And, one of his dining room chairs has my fingernail scratches.

Alphonso investigates and finds one chair with scratches.

ALPHONSO

Si.

DANI

My DNA will be there.

Alphonso walks slowly out to the deck. Dani follows. Alphonso looks over at the pool on the ridge as he speaks.

ALPHONSO

Shall I tell you how La Mano died?

DANI

We were just drinking Miami Vices from the ridge pool, where I heard screams and saw a body fall. I reported it immediately.

ALPHONSO

And Ernesto and Theresa find the body. Is that it?

DANI

Why do you ask?

ALPHONSO

I'll tell you what I think happened.

DANI

I'm listening.

Alphonso points to the ridge pool.

ALPHONSO

You arrived in the afternoon, and ordered Miami Vices all afternoon and evening.

DANI

I was pretty tipsy.

ALPHONSO

I don't think so. You barely touched your drink tonight.

DANI

I wasn't thirsty.

ALPHONSO

Last night in this penthouse, you convinced me that two people would be needed to push a body over the Plexiglas here.

DANI

I just suggested it.

ALPHONSO

Yes, but since last night, I checked on your membership at the Cross-Training gym in Los Angeles, and you appear on their website as their strongest, most competitive member.



DANI  
I work out a little.

ALPHONSO  
And, I saw you move a refrigerator,  
lift a heavy steel grate, and run  
like a track star.

DANI  
I hated that asshole.

ALPHONSO  
And you had no love loss for this  
producer, Rex Weldon.

DANI  
He wronged me.

ALPHONSO  
So you took his meeting with La  
Mano, didn't you?

Dani is silent.

ALPHONSO (CONT'D)  
Maybe you tried to stop his deal.

Dani remains silent.

ALPHONSO (CONT'D)  
Maybe La Mano doesn't take no for  
an answer. Maybe he threatens you.  
Maybe he was going to set Bone  
Crusher on you. He wanted to be a  
movie star! Do you know how  
important that was to him?

DANI  
Or to me!

Dani hangs her head.

ALPHONSO  
Maybe your anger, stress, and  
despair got the best of you.

DANI  
He was such a jerk. Yes, he  
threatened me. He threatened Rex.  
He threatened our families and  
friends. He said we would all be  
dead in a week.

ALPHONSO  
So you killed him?

DANI  
Yes, I tossed him out like the  
garbage he was!

ALPHONSO  
No, Señorita Diego. Vanity killed  
him. He saw himself as a hero and  
movie star, not a villain. But he  
was a cold-hearted killer.

DANI  
You're not mad?

ALPHONSO  
No, I am closing a case, and will  
process the papers for the reward.

DANI  
Reward?

ALPHONSO  
For the most-wanted man in Mexico  
the government offered over three-  
point-eight million dollars U.S.

Dani smiles.

DANI  
Dead or alive?

ALPHONSO  
Dead or alive! You are a smart  
woman. You didn't fool me. You knew  
about the reward before you got on  
that plane. But no one knew what he  
looked like, and you were afraid  
you killed someone else, maybe La  
Mano's bodyguard, so you needed my  
protection.

DANI  
I wasn't positive. And I was scared  
Bone Crusher would kill me. I was  
in over my head.

ALPHONSO  
(in Spanish)  
I understand.

DANI  
And a reward for Bone Crusher?

ALPHONSO

Another million, maybe more for the counterfeiting ring. You may have to change your name and disappear.

DANI

What will happen to Rex?

ALPHONSO

We'll get his statement. If he gives us the video, we'll send him home with a big purple sombrero and a bottle of tequila.

Dani wanders into the penthouse. Alphonso follows.

DANI

And what will happen to your son?

ALPHONSO

He'll lose his job, his wife, and his house, but he may learn the value of tradition and respect.

Dani sits in the middle of the comfortable couch.

DANI

What about Roberto?

ALPHONSO

Police corruption is not taken lightly. He will be dealt with harshly, but I'll try to help him.

DANI

I liked him. In fact, I was falling for the big guy. I sure can pick 'em.

ALPHONSO

He could have killed you at any time. But he fell in love.

Dani smiles, and looks away.

DANI

I assume this place will be for sale. Maybe I'll hide in plain sight.

Dani stands and hugs Alphonso.

ALPHONSO

I don't think anyone would want to mess with the woman who killed La Mano and captured Bone Crusher.

DANI

You've taught me so much, Detective Reyes. How will I ever repay you?

Alphonso kisses Dani on the cheek.

ALPHONSO

Do me one favor, Señorita Dani. Take your new doctor friend and retire in Hawaii!

End Act Three

FADE OUT.

THE END