

SwitchBack
an original screenplay by
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WGAW Registry
Documentation of Registration
Registrant
Registrant: Peter Roach
Author(s)
Author: Peter Roach
SwitchBack
Registration Number: 1763712
MATERIAL TYPE:
FILE NAME: SwitchBack-script.pdf
EFFECTIVE DATE: 2/8/2015
EXPIRATION DATE: 2/8/2020

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TEASER

INT. HIGH RISE CONDO - NIGHT

MILES OVERMAN late thirties, master of deals makes a phone call and leaves a long message. He is terse and authoritative, but with a hint of desperation.

MILES

Listen, Lowes, you said the science was good. You said this was going to be a breakthrough. You told us that the Lithium enhanced ions are the future of battery technology. Tell me this is just a delay.

Miles walks to the glass windows, looks out at the wonderful view that this type of money brings.

MILES (CONT'D)

Damn it, I raised \$50 million outside the mainstream, I, Lowes, me, I put my ass on the line.

Miles moves a photo from one corner of the window to the next.

MILES (CONT'D)

(beat)

No, no ,no, You can't tell me now about scientific theory or engineering delays. We are way past that. Listen, Lowes, I will be there before noon tomorrow.

Miles tosses the phone down, swears loudly.

MILES (CONT'D)

Shit, shit shit. Never outsource science, NEVER.

Miles looks for the phone again, he finds it where it bounced off the sofa on the floor, and dials.

MILES (CONT'D)

Larry, how are you? I know you said you never to call again, but we have a problem.

LARRY (O.S.)

Listen you self-centered arrogant prick. You fired me remember. You took my ideas, used me and fired me as soon as there was some promise.

MILES

Yes, we took your idea and ... No, we have a problem. Yes, I know I can kiss your ass Larry, but --

LARRY (O.S.)

No, no, you can kiss the other side of my ass. You made this project about you, you alone. Lithium this!

Phone goes dead. Miles looks at his watch, curses again more than once.

MILES

Do it your goddamned self, lesson number ONE, do it your goddamned self. Can't do anything till morning.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

INT. EXPENSIVE CONDO - NIGHT

Miles walks over to the bar, pours a drink, reaches under the bar and pulls out a joint and lights that too. Sits down and picks up bound engineering paper, leafs through and puts it down. Leans back and the door bell rings. He loosens his tie as he walks to the door. Miles opens the door and is surprised. There is a black man in an expensive suit but a no nonsense look. He is JAMES WELLMAN.

MILES

You are?

WELLMAN

Me, I deliver tidings, sometimes good, sometimes bad. May I come in Miles?

MILES

Tidings? And your name is?

WELLMAN

Tidings like the Christmas carol. The name is Wellman, James Wellman. Sounds like Bond, don't I.

MILES

Your name is not Wellman is it?

WELLMAN

Course not. But the people I work for are quite concerned that \$50 million of their investment may be very very lost. Is it?

MILES

You don't look like an accountant Wellman. Listen, I am sure this is just an engineering delay. There might be some losses but we can fix this.

WELLMAN

Miles, listen up. Bankers lose money, investors lose money, venture capitalists lose money. We don't, we collect, sometimes in an unconventional manner but we collect.

MILES

Listen, I am meeting the scientists and engineers in the morning. I am sure --

WELLMAN

Are you Houdini? Listen up Miles, we delivered our money to you. We expected results. We did not expect your top scientists to buy one way tickets to Russia.

MILES

Russia, what the hell you mean Russia?

WELLMAN

You know those Russians are damn sneaky, they had some nerd help, got into your accounts and flew to commie skies. Pour me a glass of whatever that expensive drink you have.

Miles walking to the bar. Wellman pays attention to Miles' condo, the art work, the expensive furnishings. Miles has a college wrestling photo and championship on display.

WELLMAN (CONT'D)

Aha, college wrestler. I prefer the WWE myself.

MILES

Ah Yes! That was then. Tell me how do you know all this?

WELLMAN

We keep an eye on things. People like me, pay attention to the details.

Miles hands Wellman the drink, takes a sip of his own.

MILES

The best there is. So you make things right.

Wellman takes a sip.

WELLMAN

Damn, this is expensive shit. Economics lesson number one. There are banks, then there is us, the we, a gathering of practical men, we lack your graces but we understand return on investment.

Wellman walks over and stares out at the expensive view out the terrace.

INT. TERRACE CONDO - NIGHT

WELLMAN

See Miles, nefarious men, with billions of cash dollars give it to us. We invest with people who need large sums of money outside of well worn paths. And we make more money. Nice eh?

MILES

Billions? You have billions? How?

WELLMAN

Yes, billions! Pay attention Miles. I am the lighthouse in the mist, the warning shot across the bow. If this is not resolved soon, men with funny accents and no remorse will come to have your final meal with you.

MILES

You said Grigory and Vasily went back to Russia. I can't bring them back.

WELLMAN

No problem. You see \$20 million of that \$50 million came from our Bolshevik comrades.

(looking at his watch)

Grigory and Vasily were given the chance to return to the land of the Free, or return to Mother Earth. They chose to return to your employ.

MILES

But if you are getting the money back, why are you threatening me?

WELLMAN

Dreams Miles. My employers and associates share your dream. This new battery thing works out, we will be riding electric cars, electric toys, all that high techie stuff, iThis, iThat, all the way to the good life.

MILES

So the money is really not the problem? Then why?

WELLMAN

Let me explain slowly why you still breathe. See criminal enterprise is hard, we have to work nights, bribe honest men and smuggle shit. That is old school. Investments like yours pave the way to respectability. Own some high tech, buy a sports franchise, respectable stuff. Wake up at 7AM, go to bed by 11PM. Got it?

MILES

So how much time do I have?

WELLMAN

Work on it. Good faith and due diligence. We are modern men, we understand that science takes time. If we see you giving the proverbial 110% then, who knows.

MILES

You mean that you will be keeping an eye on me. You?

WELLMAN

Smart, I am your pulling guard Miles, not an enforcer. My job is to make sure that you see no speed bumps on the road.

MILES

Do I call you? No, stupid question.

Wellman starts towards the door.

WELLMAN

Nah, we are buddies now, I will come by. Buy me lunch. None of that veggie shit though. Get to bed, you have an early meeting no?

INT. BATHROOM CONDO - NIGHT

Miles starts to undress, looks in the mirror, looks at the stress creeping into his face. The water is running, Miles is staring at himself in the mirror. Takes a pill.

MILES

Damn Miles, dancing with the big bad boys. This is the deep end of the outhouse. Shit. I could use a deserted island right about now.

INT. BEDROOM CONDO - NIGHT

Miles gets out the shower, walks over to the bed and simply falls in. Tosses and turns for a couple minutes, picks up the phone, decides not to call.

EXT. MONGOLIAN PLAIN - EVENING SETTING SUN

A low treeless plain with gentle hills covered with short grass in every direction and a meandering river in a valley with trees along the shore. Two white Yurts on the plain are the only dwellings in the entire landscape.

A lone rider is coming out the river valley up to the plain on a small sturdy horse. Two children are playing among the goats, turn and watch the rider coming. The boy is 8 years old, his name is BAT. The girl is six years old and called ERDENE.

The rider CHOLON comes up to the Yurt and dismounts. He pulls a short strand of rope off his saddle and ties the horse's two front legs to one hind leg, loose, so that the horse can move but not run.

He walks across to the children and picks them up, one at a time, smiles, says their name, and puts them down again. The children run off to play with the goats again.

There are TWO WOMEN milking the goats outside, he looks at them, nods and walks into the Yurt. They are both young, dressed similarly, one is strikingly beautiful.

The old man at the top of the hill is collecting two camels from grazing. He turns and walks down to the two women. His name is SUKH. Sukh has a face abused by a life in the wind and open sky. Surprisingly he is amazingly soft spoken. He looks at the younger woman KHONGI but speaks to the older woman ZAYA.

SUKH

Does he look happy?

ZAYA

No, he said nothing, when he says nothing, there is nothing to say.

KHONGI

Well I must know. I will ask.

ZAYA

You should wait.

KHONGI

I will ask.

INT. MAIN YURT - SUNSET

The Yurt abounds with color. Woven materials, warm woven jackets even though it is summer. Festive traditional clothes are sprawled across the furniture. There is a single large stove in the middle of the Yurt, with two large pots and a kettle. CHOLON takes his bag off his shoulder. He is putting it on down when Khongi strides in.

KHONGI

Well, what will you say?

CHOLON

Maybe tomorrow after the Naadam?

KHONGI

Are your games more important?

CHOLON

No, but business is easier when the belly is full and drink makes tongues loose.

Zaya comes in says nothing, but goes over to the stove in the middle of the Yurt and hands the kettle to Khongi. It is her way of getting Khongi to stop asking questions. The women take off the coats they wore when milking goats and begin making a meal. Khongi puts the kettle on, Zaya starts the stove.

Zaya is serving salted tea and yak butter.

The children look in, and run off again to play. But they are laughing excitedly outside. Sukh is chasing them.

SUKH (O.S.)

Come inside, come inside, wild children.

CHOLON

I will know tomorrow.

Sukh comes in lifting both children. They are still playing until Cholon taps his bench so they run over and sit next to him.

SUKH

What is the prize for the wrestling tomorrow?

CHOLON

A TV. Every year now it is a TV.

SUKH

In my day, I got two horses. Horses
are better.

INT. MAIN YURT - NIGHT

They are all eating with Zaya serving. It is a typical Mongolian meal. Meat and milk. At the end of the meal Sukh is telling a story of when he was a great wrestler. Only the children are listening. Khongi is not interested. She goes off to weaving, eventually the little girl joins her. She begins teaching her to weave. Khongi is very patient teacher. The boy walks over sits with Sukh.

SUKH

I remember in the year of the great rains, when I fought Ghulun Bat. He was very big, but not very smart. So I threw him to the ground very easily. I won a horse that year. I traded that horse for a camel. Good trade.

Cholon stands, picks up his bag, touches Zaya on the shoulder and walks to the door.

CHOLON

Father, I will sleep at your place.
(to Bat)
Son, do not keep grandfather up all night.

Cholon makes a face at the little girl and walks outside.

EXT. MONGOLIAN PLAIN - NIGHT

Cholon walks over to his horse and removes the saddle and the bit, pats the horse. He stops looks up at the sky to the north, then west. Cholon turns and walks into his father's Yurt.

INT. FATHER'S YURT - NIGHT

Cholon is a tired man. He has ridden far today, he has traded well. He takes his boots off, throws his father's jacket off the sleeping mats, roughly tosses a mat to the floor, rolls it and literally tosses himself into the sleeping mat.

CHOLON

This woman's business. I wish I was
in the mountains.

INT. MONGOLIAN YURT - SUNRISE

Miles wakes and without opening his eyes he is reaching for something that should be on the side of his bed. It is not there. He opens his eyes, lifts his head up quickly, and slowly takes in the scenery with a quizzical look. He slowly becomes aware of the bleating of the goats and sheep outside. Miles stands up, he touches the cold stove in the middle of Yurt. Looks around and stumbles out the entrance into the early morning sun.

EXT. MONGOLIAN PLAIN - SUNRISE

Miles turns around, he does a 360 slow turn in silence. There are no mountains, no lakes, no roads. He is slowly turning trying to find a reference. The young woman KHONGI comes herding the sheep ahead of her.

He stands there and watches the scene. Khongi walks past him and gives him the "I am still pissed with you look" and a frown. He is staring at her walking as Sukh approaches him from behind.

MILES

(English)

Who the hell are you?

EXT. MONGOLIAN PLAIN - SUNRISE

Miles stares at Khongi walking behind the animals.

SUKH

Your wife made you the morning meal.

The Mongolian language comes to Miles in bits and pieces slowly, like listening to a bad cell phone call. What he understands is..

SUKH (CONT'D)

Blah wife blah blah blah.

MILES

(English)

Wife?

(Mongolian)

What wife old man?

Miles puts his hand to his mouth. He heard the words come out his mouth in a language he did not know how to speak and is surprised. He turns to look at Khongi herding sheep.

Sukh looks at Miles quizzically. Then says in a fatherly tone.

SUKH

You should get Khongi an answer.

Sukh talks to him about the day's events and Miles starts to get every other word and more as Sukh speaks.

SUKH (CONT'D)

We must leave in time to get to the Naadam. The women are almost ready and Bat must race.

MILES

Naadam? Race?

SUKH

Did you drink too much yesterday?

Miles understands "drink too much" so he nods.

SUKH (CONT'D)

Khongi cannot live with you forever. People already think she is like a fire woman. Too much fight.

MILES

(Mongolian)

Too much fight?

SUKH

Yes, growing up with you and me made her too much a boy. She walks forward. So you stop trying to find her the best husband in all the land.

MILES

Ok, Yes!

SUKH

I will get the horses. And put your boots on.

Sukh walks away in the direct of the second Yurt. Miles does not follow.

MILES

(English)

What the hell is happening to me?

Miles looks around once more then follows the old man into the Yurt.

INT. FATHER'S YURT - EARLY MORNING

There are a pair of boots next to a sleeping mat. Miles has a hard time putting the boots on.

Miles notices his hands, they are they hands of man who has worked outside, a man who has worked hard. They are not his hands.

Miles watches as Sukh puts a jacket on, takes a hat for the wind, tosses a bag over his shoulder and leaves.

MILES

Where the hell am I? Am I dreaming?
These goddamned people are real.

He slaps himself. He is looking through the clothing when two children come running in.

BAT

Papa! Mama said come eat.

The girl walks to him and hugs her father.

ERDENE

Mama says come eat.

BAT

Papa, today I will ride like you did.

MILES

Ride? Ride what?

BAT

The race. I will ride like you taught me.

Miles speaks slowly, finding the words as he speaks.

MILES

So what do you call me?

ERDENE

Papa!

MILES

What do I call you?

ERDENE

Erdene.

MILES

What does the old man outside call me?

ERDENE

Son!

MILES
What does the woman on the hill with
the goats call me.

BAT
(Laughing)
Idiot!

MILES
Why does Mama call me an idiot?

BAT
Mama calls you husband. Khongi calls
you many names.

MILES
So what does everyone else call me.

ERDENE
Don't know.

BOY
Cholon, Son of Sukh.

MILES
This place, where we live, what is
it called?

ERDENE
Home.

BAT
Teshig. Papa did you forget?

MILES
No, I was testing you two.

ERDENE
You talk funny.

BAT
Mama said come eat.

MILES
Ok, we eat.

Miles follows the children out the Yurt.

EXT. MONGOLIAN PLAIN - EARLY MORNING

Miles walks behind the children, looking around again at the
scenery.

MILES

There is no east, nor west, no trees,
where the hell is this Teshig?
Whoever is in there better have a
phone.

The girl stops and turn, and puts her arms up expecting to be lifted. Miles picks her up and continues walking. The boy runs ahead into the Yurt.

INT. MAIN YURT - EARLY MORNING

Miles steps into the Yurt. Zaya is cooking on a stove in the middle of the room. There are two beds. She is turning milk in a large pot, picking up a ladle full and turning the milk.

Zaya turns, glances at him and goes to get tea in a huge kettle in the center of the room. Miles does not know where to sit.

ZAYA

Will we be late?

MILES

Late? No.

She looks at him and pours him milk in a bowl then looks at him again. He understands that this is breakfast. He sits at the table in the middle next to the stove, and picks up a milk curd.

He eats as a man trying not to offend a host. Zaya brings a hot cup of tea. Miles takes a sip, but this is salted tea with (yak) butter. He is having a hard time eating.

ZAYA

I told you not to drink.

MILES

I did, too much.

ZAYA

Khongi will not wait. You find her a husband, get another Yurt or she will be gone.

MILES

I will find the Yurt.

ZAYA

You will find her a husband. She wants to leave this place. She wants the city.

MILES

Why not let her find her own husband?

Zaya hisses her teeth. She is annoyed.

ZAYA

If she goes I have no friend. And she cannot marry one of the city men. They live like insects in Ulan Baatar.

MILES

Then let her do what she really wants.

ZAYA

Shall we all go to the city? The mines in the south are killing our country. We cannot lose her.

MILES

We will not lose her. I will talk to her.

Miles attempts to get up.

ZAYA

Eat! Then go talk.
(To the children)
Finish!

Miles tries more of the milk tea on the bowl. It has cheese and lamb jerky. He sips it like a man taking medicine. It is very strange but very warm and very good.

He sneaks glances at the woman at the stove. When she looks away he gives the children more of the meal. The children smile but keep quiet.

Horse for the naadam is called "soih"

BAT

Grandfather said this year our soih is a special horse. We trained him well.

Miles knows nothing about horses, so he makes an excuse.

MILES

Yes, your grandfather knows a lot about horses.

Bat is eating quickly. He wants to leave, but Zaya without turning around says sternly.

ZAYA

Bat, will you choke on your tongue?

Miles puts his fingers to lips, telling the children to be quiet. Miles nods to Zaya and leaves.

EXT. MAIN YURT - DAY

Khongi removes the rope on the horses front legs.

KHONGI

Idiot. Did you feed this horse?

She spins and mounts the horse in one move.

KHONGI (CONT'D)

He needs water, I need a life.

Miles watches her ride away. Miles does not notice Zaya come up behind him.

ZAYA

Well she learned that from you and father! Come change, and do not let father wear his rags to the Naadam.

Miles follows Zaya into the Yurt.

INT. MAIN YURT - MORNING

Miles notices of the clothes on the other side of the Yurt and starts walking to pick them up. Mongol customs demand you walk clockwise in a Yurt with the door facing south. He starts the wrong way.

Zaya looks at Miles quizzically, makes clockwise circle with her fingers.

ZAYA

Why do you go the wrong way?

Zaya walks outside. Miles starts to change quickly and notices a mirror for the first time.

ZAYA(O.S.) (CONT'D)

Bat, Bat, Erdene.

Away from the door therer is an area with family photos on the wall with the two children. Sukh on horseback and a young man with horses. Miles recognizes photos of the Buddha and Genghis Khan.

MILES

Buddha. Genghis Khan.

As he picks up the one of the photos, he sees a mirror for the first time. Zaya approaches the doorway and watches him quietly. Miles is looking at the strange face staring back at him. He puts his hand to his face and feels the contours. He looks at the photo of himself on the horse.

MILES (CONT'D)

I am you. I am you.

Zaya turns away when the children approach. Miles has not noticed her.

MILES (CONT'D)

Jesus, I am a Mongol herder, in
someplace that fell off the back of
the nowhere. I can't be stuck here.

Miles has to put his hand over his mouth as he says this because the words flow in Mongolian.

MILES (CONT'D)

(English)

I CANNOT be STUCK here.

ACT TWO

INT. CONDO BEDROOM - MORNING

The bedroom is dark, the steady beep of an expensive alarm starts, the curtains pull back automatically and lets the light in.

Cholon is face down and reaches for his boots. He opens his eyes, quickly rolls over to a sitting position, then just as quickly jumps straight up. He is not at home. Cholon turns his head quickly like a bird. He runs out the bedroom, into the open space of the living room and sees the view from the 17th floor.

CHOLON

Zaya!

He is even more surprised when a woman approaches him from the kitchen. She is Miles's maid EVA.

EVA

(Spanish)

Whatever honeypot you brought home
Mr Miles is long gone!

Cholon goes from room to room, there is no one except him and this strange woman. He turns to Eva.

CHOLON

(Mongolian)

Khen?

EVA

Quien?

CHOLON

(Mongolian)

Khen?

Eva throws her hands up in the "what the hell" gesture. She put her hands on her hips.

EVA

(English)

What? You look like crap. I can't
understand why rich people take stupid
shit.

CHOLON

Stupid shit?

Eva points to the bathroom.

EVA
Yes. You look like it. Bathroom,
breakfast.

CHOLON
Zaya!

EVA
She must be real good!

CHOLON
Zaya, wife!

EVA
Wife? You married! Dios Mio.

CHOLON
Yes, Zaya wife. Sukh father, my
children.

He is holding two fingers, showing Eva again and again.

CHOLON (CONT'D)
Where is this place?
Why would you make me morning meal?

EVA
Because, you PAAAAY me! Not enough
for this crap.

CHOLON
I pay you?

EVA
Yes! Bathroom, breakfast, go!

INT. CONDO - BATHROOM

Cholon walks into the bathroom, and sees the figure in the mirror, he turns quickly thinking someone else is there. He turns back surprised.

CHOLON
(loudly)
Büi, Foreigner!

EVA (O.S.)
What you say?

CHOLON
Foreigner! I am foreigner.

EVA (O.S.)
Me too. Must be that foreign stuff
you took last night.

Cholon leans forward on the bathroom counter, staring at his western face.

CHOLON

I am Cholon, son of Sukh. I am not in Teshig. I am not dead. I am thinking in Mongol, my words are English.

Eva walks to the bathroom door and hands Cholon clothing.

EVA

Better shave. Your car will be here in 30 minutes. Blue suit, white shirt, tie on bed.

CHOLON

Car?

EVA

Yes, car.
(Spanish)
Rich people do weird shit.

INT. CONDO KITCHEN - MORNING

The condo is wide open, the living room open to a raised dining area. The entire dining area/living room has open glass windows with views of the city.

Eva has breakfast the dining table. Cholon walks in, sits and begins to eat. The coffee he likes, he puts three more spoons of sugar. He ignores the fruit eats all the sausages. Eva looks puzzled.

EVA

You don't eat the fruit?

CHOLON

Why?

EVA

Ok, I give it to the children.

CHOLON

Car, you said car! Why?

EVA

Because you don't like to drive, because you pay the man to take you to work? You forgot that too?

Eva walks over and fixes Cholon's tie, and walks back to the kitchen. Cholon stares out the window as a police chopper flies by says "LA Police Department."

CHOLON
Los Angeles, California!

EVA
You think?

CHOLON
So where...

Cholon stands and walks to the windows, paces and starts thinking aloud.

CHOLON (V.O.) (CONT'D)
So where is this man who I am. I am here, he is where?

Cholon turns and watches Eva in the kitchen.

CHOLON (CONT'D)
Lady, lady, I pay you, so we have money. Yes?

EVA
Lady? You have money. Too much. I don't.

CHOLON
So this man can buy a ticket to anyplace. To China, to Mongolia, to anyplace?

EVA
Mr Millionaire, you can probably charter the whole damn plane. But the only place you go today is to work.

CHOLON
Work. Yes! What work?

Just then the doorbell rings. Eva gets the door expecting the driver. Instead it is Wellman.

INT. CONDO FRONT DOOR

EVA
(Eva says Chez..accent)
Yes.

WELLMAN
Chez, Eva Yes !

EVA
I don't know you!

WELLMAN

Well I know you Eva, I know you used to be in Roller Derby. My name is Wellman.

(Louder)

Miles?

INT. CONDO KITCHEN

Wellman, walks to the breakfast table. Cholon is at the window. Wellman nods to Miles. Cholon nods back.

WELLMAN

I told your driver to relax. We have some time. I am going to ride along today to point the way north.

Wellman notices the breakfast.

WELLMAN (CONT'D)

Eva, my dear, may I?

Eva looks to Cholon, he nods his head yes.

EVA

Help yourself!

WELLMAN

See Miles, I am just here to make sure everyone, and I mean everyone, follow your lead.

CHOLON

Who will follow me? Are they lost?

Eva stands behind Wellman and shrugs her shoulders in the "I don't know shrug."

WELLMAN

Yes, they need inspiration, and today that is you. Make them fix the science Miles.

CHOLON

Ok, we will fix the science.

WELLMAN

Yes, Grigory and Vasily are most the motivated workers right now.

CHOLON

Russians? I can talk to them.

WELLMAN

You should have talked to your damn scientists before they ran off with our money. They needed to be TOLD.

Wellman is eating heartily.

WELLMAN (CONT'D)

(mouth full)

Damn Eva, this is the good stuff. See Miles, you got it made. Let us keep it that way.

Eva looks Wellman up and down looks him directly in the eye.

EVA

Would you like anything else. Mr Wellman?

WELLMAN

See Eva, my Mama worked for rich folks like Miles here. Always had to call them Mrs This, Mrs That. Just call me Wellman.

EVA

Ok, Wellman.

WELLMAN

See, friends!

CHOLON

Do I pay you too?

WELLMAN

Pay me? You are not so sharp this morning Miles. Problem? I thought we had an understanding last night?

CHOLON

We did. No problem. We fix the science.

WELLMAN

Stay on course Miles. Fix the damn batteries. Let's go get rich!

Wellman takes a last sip of coffee, gets up, starts walking to the door, still eating. Cholon starts to follow. Eva has to rescue Cholon.

EVA

Mr Miles. Checklist! Jacket, keys, phone, wallet.

Eva goes the bedroom and gets these things for Cholon, helps him at the door.

INT. CONDO FRONT DOOR

Cholon is walking out ahead of Wellman, but Wellman turns back to Eva.

WELLMAN

Any time he fires you, come work for me.

EVA

No, don't think so.

WELLMAN

Now, why would you say that to a friend?

Eva shuts the door as she says this to Wellman cannot answer.

EVA

Because I think your job is to make people afraid.

Wellman gives her the knowing smile and a small nod.

INT. CONDO LOBBY - MORNING

Wellman and Cholon walk to the lobby door. People greet Miles, the tenants call him Miles, the staff say "Good morning Mr Overman."

WELLMAN

Damn, they love you more than a rich uncle at a funeral. People skills, you should teach me that.

CHOLON

Yes! I think people do what you say!

EXT. CONDO LOBBY - DAY

It is a busy LA street. Cholon has lost a couple strides with Wellman. He gazing up at the buildings. Wellman waits at the limo door with a quizzical expression looking at Cholon.

LIMO DRIVER

Morning Boss, and the children thank you.

WELLMAN

What children?

CHOLON

It was nothing!

LIMO DRIVER

Nothing? No way! Mr Overman bought 200 books for my wife's after school program.

WELLMAN

Yup Santa Claus.

INT. LIMO - DAY

Cholon tries to see out front windshield, but has to give up and look through the side window.

WELLMAN

You are usually talking up a storm. Why the silent phase?

CHOLON

Thinking ..work...getting the batteries to work.

WELLMAN

You told us you had faith in your team. But you need to haul ass, cause you are a year behind.

CHOLON

They are workers, scientists, not kharash. They find solutions no?

WELLMAN

Kharash?

CHOLON

Old word my father taught me. In the army, the lowest, the guys at the bottom.

WELLMAN

The grunts?

The limo slows in front of a travel agency advertising travel to China. There is a large poster in the window of tours to Mongolia. Cholon looks intently out the window. Wellman notices what has caught Miles attention.

WELLMAN (CONT'D)

Vacation plans?

CHOLON

Yes, I must go.

WELLMAN

Just don't take our money with you.

EXT. INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX - DAY

The limo pulls up, the driver gets out, and opens the door for Wellman. Cholon does not wait, gets out himself.

DRIVER

Sir, when shall I return?

CHOLON

Return? What do you do when I am here?

DRIVER

I wait.

CHOLON

Perhaps today, you should help the wife with the two hundred books.

DRIVER

Thank you Sir.

EXT. INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX - DAY

Wellman and Cholon walk into the building.

WELLMAN

Stop being Mr Nice Guy. You are in the proverbial shit. Today you take names and kick ass.

CHOLON

I am not good at that. Maybe something else.

WELLMAN

Whatever you do, it better get their asses jumping.

INT. OFFICE LOBBY - DAY

There are security stations in the lobby and airport styled detectors. Cholon has never been through one. He gets in line with the other people entering the building. The FIRST GUARD motions Cholon to the second station.

SECOND GUARD

You know the drill Sir, hand on the scanner.

The first guard is deliberately searching Wellman. Cholon steps inside and waits for Wellman.

FIRST GUARD

Who are you going to see today Sir?

Wellman gives the guard the "don't mess with me look" and gestures to Cholon.

CHOLON

He is with me.

Wellman walks past the guard.

WELLMAN

You enjoyed that eh?

Cholon has no clue where he is going next. There are two banks of elevators and he does not know which. He gambles and pick one but is saved by a woman who comes out the first elevator fast, carrying a tablet and a pen stylus.

She looks business official and no nonsense. She heads straight for Cholon. She is Miles trusted Executive Assistant FIONA.

FIONA

Miles, conference. Every one thinks the project is over and we are out the damn door.

CHOLON

That is not going to happen. So you let them know...

FIONA

They are waiting for YOU!

WELLMAN

See, Captain Bligh, the mutineers await.

Wellman pauses to identify himself.

WELLMAN (CONT'D)

I am Mr Wellman, and you are Fiona.

Fiona does not look at Wellman.

FIONA

Yes.

CHOLON

Mr Wellman is here to protect us from something. I am not sure what. I think he talks people out of leaving suddenly.

FIONA
Welcome Mr Wellman.

Fiona points the way to Miles.

FIONA (CONT'D)
They are waiting.

Fiona turns and begins walking briskly to the elevator.
Cholon and Wellman follow.

INT. OFFICE BUILDING - DAY

Miles and Cholon are walking slightly behind Fiona down a long hallway. She stops just before large double doors and pushes the tablet in Cholon face, and gives Cholon the stylus.

FIONA
Check here, here and here.

CHOLON
(Checking)
What I am doing?

FIONA
Paying our suppliers. They panicked
when they heard we were in trouble.

WELLMAN
Can I have Fiona instead of Eva?

FIONA
Aaaah.. No.

Fiona opens the huge doors and walks in. Cholon and Wellman walk in behind.

INT. LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

Cholon is surprised. There are fifty people in there all looking at him, waiting. There are three chairs on stage in the conference room. Fiona expects him to go there, she gestures with her hands.

Cholon does not move. Instead he takes a deep breath and pulls a chair out, stands on the chair in front the throng of people. He has doubts.

CHOLON (V.O.)
I am Boss, these people will follow.

Cholon looks around at the group, put his hand up of them to listen. He begins softly.

CHOLON (CONT'D)

If we talk about the negative, we attract misfortune. So we will start again.

Some employees did not hear. Cholon notices and speaks louder. Cholon pauses and begins again.

CHOLON (CONT'D)

Today we will pretend that we have never met before. Yesterday did not happen. Last week did not happen, last month did not happen.

Wellman turns to look at Fiona. She gives him the "I don't know" look. The people on the stage gesture again for Miles to come to the stage. He waves them off.

CHOLON (CONT'D)

What do we do? We do what we were meant to do. We solve the problems we came to solve. You are scientists, you fix the science.

Cholon pauses. He looks around and picks out a young man with glasses in a blue shirt.

CHOLON (CONT'D)

You in the blue shirt, I don't know you. What did you do yesterday?

BLUE SHIRT

I was trying different materials to the encase the batteries.

CHOLON

Are the materials working?

BLUE SHIRT

Yes, but I don't know which to..

CHOLON

Did I ask for a but? Make a choice! You chose to be here. Make a choice.

On the other side of the room is a man with long hair and a very loud Hawaiian shirt. He stands out from the others.

CHOLON (CONT'D)

You with the crazy shirt, What did you do last week?

CRAZY SHIRT

I sent you a report last Friday...

CHOLON

Do I know you? I said I don't know you.

The crowd finds that funny and laughs.

CRAZY SHIRT

We were working on detecting overheating and fire suppression if it happens, we are not sure of which sealant to use.

CHOLON

I am going to teach you a new word. "Temul" that my father taught me. It means take a leap of creativity, rush headlong into a new idea. What are you waiting on? Try something new.

Cholon notices an older man in the end of the first row.

CHOLON (CONT'D)

You, what did you do last week?

The group goes silent. Cholon has chosen Vasily. One of the repentant Russians.

Vasily does not know where to start, so he delays. Cholon notices his discomfort and asks again.

CHOLON (CONT'D)

What did YOU do last week, last month that did not work?

Vasily is more comfortable with this question so he starts to answer.

VASILY

(Russian accented)

We were testing inert materials but somehow the mix made the lithium unstable.

Cholon realizes that it is one of the Russians whose lives are in Wellman's hands.

CHOLON

(fluent Russian)

So it was unstable. So you had a failure, so you had 20, 30, 40 failures. So what will you do today?

VASILY
 (Russian)
 Try something new.

Vasily notices the group does not understand repeats.

CHOLON
 What will we all do?

GROUP
 (Enthusiastic)
 Try something new!

CHOLON
 Have you ever looked into the eye of
 a horse that wants to race? That is
 who were are, we are willing to run.
 We want to run. We are are the people
 who will fix the science. We are are
 the people who will...

Slowly so the group joins in. Cholon is lifting his hands
 urging the crowd.

CHOLON (CONT'D)
 Try... something... new!

The crowd breaks into applause. The employees mill around
 and shake his hands.

(Crowd)
 Good to be back Sir/ We never lost
 faith Miles.

Fiona taps Wellman gently on the shoulder and mentions for
 him to follow. She walks him into an empty rooms shuts the
 door.

INT. SMALL OFFICE - DAY

FIONA
 I know who you are. That \$800 suit
 does not hide your hard ass. You
 are an enforcer.

WELLMAN
 That is an unfortunate word Fiona, I
 don't like it much.

FIONA
 Don't take me for a fool Mr Wellman,
 Do you think I did not know this day
 would come.

(MORE)

FIONA (CONT'D)

We have fifty million in cash we did not borrow from the Bank Of America. We got it from people like you, Mr Wellman.

WELLMAN

Smart and attractive! We are just another lender, an investment group for risky projects.

FIONA

Vasily and Grigory are embarrassed to be back, But you scare them. I saw their faces when you walked in. You scared their nuts up to their spleen.

Wellman thinks this is funny.

WELLMAN

You don't miss much do you? I had a chat with them yesterday. Why worry? Miles has the troops singing the Battle Hymn of the Republic.

FIONA

You think that is your problem? You think that is OUR problem?

WELLMAN

Well, what is?

FIONA

Miles Overman is a fussy micro manager. Miles Overman does not know one word of Russian. Miles Overman does not know which end of a horse eats hay. Miles Overman's father was a drunk. Temul my ass!

WELLMAN

What the hell are you saying?

FIONA

That man out there, that man speaking Russian, that man is not Miles Overman.

ACT THREE

INT. STEPPE - MORNING

There are four horses tied to a post. A camel attached to an open cart with the family supplies and goods to trade, and two goats behind the cart.

Sukh is on horseback and has a long pole with a noose on the end, he picks an animal out the herd rides and skillfully forcing the horse out the herd and snags it with the noose.

The children are dressed in their very best clothing. Zaya has dressed in elegant Mongolian attire. She is carrying clothing.

Zaya walks to the second Yurt with Erdene. Bat calls the horse softly. Sukh talks to a man on the outside of the corral.

INT. FATHER'S YURT - MORNING

Miles is struggling with his boots. Zaya gives him the clothing.

ZAYA

For you.

She opens a trunk on the far end of the Yurt.

ZAYA (CONT'D)

For father.

MILES

You keep everyone in line, don't you?

ZAYA

Yes, or you will just drift like wind.

Miles lifts the Erdene.

MILES

So who is the prettiest girl in the world?

ERDENE

Don't know.

Zaya takes Erdene. Miles stays, get dressed as well as he can. He curses the boots.

EXT. FATHER'S YURT - MORNING

Miles steps out the door of the Yurt. He looks around, he is looking for Khongi. She is not there. The man in the corral gives a very friendly wave to Miles.

MILES

Whoever the hell you are.

Sukh brings the horse over to the group. Hands the reins to Bat.

SUKH

GanBaatar, ride like the wind.

BAT

We will ride as one. I will come back the winner.

SUKH

The horse wins Bat, remember that.

MILES

Ah, words of wisdom Bat, words of wisdom.

BAT

I will go easy out, and fast fast on the way back.

ZAYA

You will find my son if he falls.

MILES

He will never fall, he is Bat the magnificent.

ZAYA

(sternly)

Father!

SUKH

Aaah! I forgot.

MILES

Will we be ready then?

ZAYA

We will be ready when Khongi is ready.

Khongi steps out the main Yurt. She is dressed in a gold pattern tunic with gold braiding, wearing knee high boots under the tunic and carrying a large bow. She has a gold hat with black lining and a pair of dark glasses hung in the belt.

MILES

(English)
God damn!

ZAYA

You shoot your brother's bow, you
body will hurt the next day.

KHONGI

I will shoot, I will win, pain is a
prize.

Sukh returns, in a green tunic with a broad belt and a hat
like Khongi.

SUKH

Ready !
(To Bat)
Sing to your horse.

Khongi and Bat get their horses. They mount horses their
smooth and quick.

Sukh gets the next horse for Zaya. She takes hold of Erdene's
hand, steps on the horse in the same smooth motion then lifts
the child to her lap.

Sukh pulls the rein of the camel, walks to his horse and
leads the animals down the path. Miles manages to get on
the horse on the second try.

These are small horses with a wooden saddles. Miles does as
Sukh did, let the reins loose and the horse follows the group
out.

EXT. STEPPE - DAY

Miles and Khongi are riding together.

KHONGI

You ride like your ass hurts.

MILES

It does. I fell yesterday!

KHONGI

Fell? You?

MILES

Yes me. Why do you want to get
married now?

KHONGI

I don't. Sometimes yes.
(MORE)

KHONGI (CONT'D)

But I want to live. Maybe you think I should chase goats all day?

MILES

You should be what you want to be. You should be happy. Is Zaya happy?

KHONGI

Zaya is happy with you. You are one single person, walking in each other's shoes. I have no such person.

MILES

How will you know when you find this person?

KHONGI

I will know. He will know I have to be something other than what I am now. Then I will know.

MILES

What if this person is not like you, or not from here?

KHONGI

Who? We have never left the steppe! Are you selling me my brother?

MILES

No, no no. But you never know. One day a strange man may say "You Khongi, you are meant for me."

KHONGI

Only on TV. I bet you had too much vodka.

MILES

Zaya is afraid she will lose you in the city. Will you go?

KHONGI

Don't laugh. I want to try to be in fashion, but will you let me go?

MILES

You will be great. You are strong, confident, You are the most gorgeous woman in the land.

KHONGI

But you called me chicken legs all my life. You my idiot brother.

MILES
I believe in you, remember that.
Say after me.

MILES (CONT'D)
(english)
I believe...

KHONGI
(accented)
I believe.

MILES
In you.

KHONGI
In you.

MILES
(mongolian)
See, chicken legs!

KHONGI
What was that, more TV?

EXT. NAADAM - DAY

The group approaches the Naadam. It looks like a large county fair. There are Yurts in a rough circle across the steppe. There are tents of all colors. There are flags flying on tall poles. There are trucks and cars parked on both sides. Sukh is leading the group in, then Zaya.

MILES
(English)
Civilization at last!

KHONGI
What brother?

MILES
Nothing, just talking to myself.

Bat attempts to ride past Sukh. Sukh makes the sound through his teeth, and slows Bat.

SUKH
Keep calm little one, the race awaits.

Bat starts the low singing. He strokes his horse's neck, but the horse is excited. Bat calms him down.

Older men turn and recognize Sukh, They call to him and come walking over. Sukh turns the cart off the side of the Naadam.

MILES

Father, Do you need my help?

SUKH

No, we old men can still put up a tent.

The women get off the horses, the men greet them each. The men are gracious they take the horses reins. Miles gets off his horse and greets the men like they greet him, like old friends.

The men wave Miles and the women and children off.

SUKH (CONT'D)

You look at ease son. Go enjoy. We talk of old times. I will take Bat to the start the race.

KHONGI

Skinny Bat, you win the race or you sleep with the camels.

Sukh begins to unload the cart with the help of his old friends.

EXT. NAADAM (INNER PERIMETER) - DAY

Miles, Zaya, Erdene and Khongi walk into the circle of the Naadam. Men are greeting Miles and Zaya.

ZAYA

They all want to talk, they are matchmakers talking to father about marriage.

KHONGI

They can talk. But father will say let Cholon decide.

Khongi grabs Miles' arm.

KHONGI (CONT'D)

If you accept any white handkerchiefs, I will break your legs. Sister meet me at the Archery.

Khongi takes the sunglasses out her belt, puts it on and walk off with a lot of confidence. Erdene takes Miles hand. Miles takes her hand gently.

ZAYA

Husband, will you not wrestle?

MILES

No, not this time. I will talk, watch Khongi shoot and wait for Bat to win the race.

As they walk people greet Miles and the group. He has to respond to each like he knows them, very friendly. They ask the same questions. It is like a ritual.

MONGOL WOMAN

How are your animals?

MILES

They are good.

MONGOL WOMAN

Is there enough grass?

MILES

Yes there is grass.

MONGOL WOMAN

Did many of them die in the winter?

MILES

No, we made it through the winter.

As the people greet him and asks the same question, Miles begins to answer by rote.

MONGOL MAN

How are your animals?

MILES (CONT'D)

They are good.

MONGOL MAN

Is there enough grass ?

MILES

Yes there is grass.

MONGOL MAN

Did many of them die in the winter?

MILES

No, we made it through the winter
OK.

ZAYA

You sound like matchmaker.

MILES

Why?

ZAYA

Husband, they want to know how many animals we have and how much dowry you can give for Khongi.

MILES

Ah, sneaky bastards. Well they have met the master.

MONGOL MAN

How are your animals ?

MILES

They are good.

MONGOL MAN

Is there enough grass ?

MILES

Yes there is grass.

MONGOL WOMAN

Did many of them die in the winter?

MILES

Yes, we had losses. Winter was bad.

Zaya leans into Miles.

ZAYA

Do not lie. The fish sees the bait not the hook.

MILES

But they will expect too much.

ZAYA

And I am sure you will not give it. Remember how long it took for my family to say yes to you?

MILES

Aaaah, I remember. Slow it is.

ZAYA

Come daughter, let us see our sister win.

EXT. NAADAM ARCHERY - DAY

Miles walks with Zaya. He holds Erdene's hand. He is letting her lead so he can follow, he has learned to smile broadly and greet everyone.

They walk in the crowd watching the archery competition. The targets are suspended between two sticks held by ropes; with black blue and green concentric circles and a red target area.

Khongi is shooting from the middle of the Archery row. It is windy so Khongi has tied a small ribbon on the bow. She waits until the ribbon is flat to shoot.

She is very good. The best male Archers turn to look at her technique. Miles and Zaya watches as she hits the target again and again. The first category is over, she has clearly won the contest and the crowd. The Archers all walk to the far end of the field to the horses.

The crowd watches her, she knows this, she is enjoying the attention. Erdene tugs at Miles hand, so Miles lifts her unto his shoulders. She is very excited.

ERDENE

Ride and shoot, ride and shoot.

The Archers ride and shoot at the targets. They start at the far end to the left and race past the crowd. The first rider keeps one arrow in his teeth and more in a quiver next to his right leg. This seems to be the popular style. They are good, some really good.

Khongi takes the quiver and hangs it off her saddle to the right and ties it to her right leg. She places one arrow in the bow and guides the horse with her knees.

Khongi shoots as she rides, she lets the first arrow go and lets the motion of releasing the arrow take her hand back to pick another arrow, It is smooth seamless and quick. She does this with the reins tied to the saddle. She does not miss.

ZAYA

You taught her well. You better hope she does not want to wrestle.

MILES

I would not want that. She learned from the best.

Zaya is cheering Khongi, waving excitedly. Erdene runs out to meet her sister. Zaya waves to her and turns away.

ZAYA

Husband, you seem not to be interested?

MILES

I am. I did not expect

Miles stops because a man in the crowd, pulls out a cell phone.

MILES (CONT'D)

A phone, I can call.

ZAYA

Call? You could have called on your phone.

MILES

I have a phone. Why not tell me. Where?

ZAYA

You did not bring your phone. Who will you call? All your friends are here.

MILES

I can call. I can call.

Zaya notices Miles relief about the phone. She is about to ask when a friend greets her, grabs her attention, and they begin talking of old times.

EXT. NAADAM - LATE AFTERNOON

A great roar comes from the crowd, people are running to the open area where the horse race finishes.

Miles and Zaya follow the crowd. Miles sees Sukh close to the finish line, so they run to meet Sukh.

ZAYA

Where is my son?

SUKH

Too far, too much dust.

MILES

Come on Bat, come on.

The horses come out the dust, there are three horses way ahead of the others. There are more than twenty five horses coming in across the plain. They are below on the steppe coming up slight uphill to the finish.

SUKH

Back in third place, in your yellow shirt. The last run is uphill. Good good.

MILES

Good? Why good?

SUKH

Up hill we win, we have a stronger horse, not a faster horse.

The crowd cheers wildly. Bat passes one horse into second place, he is gaining on the leader. The boys are all whipping their horses. Two of the horses are coming in without riders. Bat makes up the distance to the first horse and almost wins the race, but he comes in a second place by a head.

Miles and Sukh run to greet Bat as he brings back a sweating horse. Sukh wipes his hand on the horse sweat and licks the sweat off. Several other people do it to the winner.

Bat is upset. He is trying not to show it.

MILES

Son, there will be other races. You will win. Bat, you rode hard, you tried your best.

SUKH

Remember Bat, a winner has many friends, the loser has good friends.

MILES

You are an old wise man. You know that.

SUKH

Ha, I have seen many winters, and I will see more.

Zaya, Khongi and Erdene cheer for Bat. They stand on the side while the winner gets the ribbons and the attention. Finally the trainer of the winner comes over and shakes Sukh's hands. They go off talking about horses.

ERDENE

When do we eat?

MILES

Eat, we are too excited to eat.

EXT. NAADAM SUKH'S TENT - EVENING

Sukh friend's are making Mongolian BBQ. They have taken the goats, chopped the meat into pieces, and are heating rocks red hot in a stove. They then put the chopped meat and the hot rocks back goat skin and close the skin with a wire.

Miles watches this with interest. The men then take a blow torch and burn the hair off the goat. Sukh's friends are heating the skin carefully with two blow torches.

There is a semicircle of Mongols around the fire in friendly conversation.

KHONGI

Have you not done this many times?

MILES

Ah yes, but it still amazes me.

KHONGI

You show more interest in the goat than me.

MILES

Not true Khongi, I have been thinking of you.

Zaya waves Khongi over to her to talk to a group of women. As she leaves a man walks over to Sukh, he starts to speak but Sukh waves him to Miles.

The MATCHMAKER comes over and starts to give Miles a small gift as he greets him. Miles first reaches to accept the gift politely until he sees the small white handkerchief wrapped around something.

He reaches instead and grabs the man's hands at the elbows.

MILES (CONT'D)

How are you, my old friend?

MATCHMAKER

Good, good! Cholon, your father has wisely passed the decision to you. We have faith in you.

MILES

Some decisions need not be made today or tomorrow.

MATCHMAKER

I have been approached by more than one family. Some want to respect our ways and ask formally.

MILES

And some?

MATCHMAKER

Well the young men, are of the modern world, they will come to your door like in the city.

MILES

They will be told that Khongi will choose a husband for herself. That I will not agree to anyone she does not want.

MATCHMAKER

What words are these? In Ulaan Bataar, young people go astray. They lose the way of the Mongol. Here we keep our word.

Miles grabs the matchmakers hand in a friendly gesture, looks him in the eye.

MILES

Those are my words! These are the words I will keep.

Miles leads the matchmaker to where the meal of BBQ is served.

MILES (CONT'D)

Eat my friend, eat. There will come a time when Cholon may accept your gift you bring, but not today.

Miles joins the group around the fire. Khongi is enjoying the flirting. The young man are trying to get her attention.

Sukh's friends take the goat skin off the fire, cut it open and serve BBQ to everyone. Miles is at ease. He walks among the group talking. He acts like he belongs.

ACT FOUR

INT. SMALL OFFICE - DAY

Wellman steps around the small desk. It is a small office so he can't move far. He opens the door, changes his mind about walking out. He turns back slowly.

WELLMAN

What the hell are you talking about?
Listen lady, I get paid to prevent
surprises.

FIONA

Well, one just bit you the backside.
Do you know anyone that knows Miles
more than I do?

WELLMAN

As matter of fact, Yes!

FIONA

Well you better hope I am wrong.
But I am not. Ask that man out there
who is the VP of this company. Go
ask him. Ask him when he hired me.

WELLMAN

In private. Let us not scare the
troops. He just got them marching
again. If he isn't, I have to find
who sent him. Where is his office?

FIONA

Come with me.

INT. LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

Cholon is leaning against the conference table talking to a small group. The group includes the two Russians. Wellman stays at the door, Fiona walks over, takes Cholon gently by the elbow and walks him away from the group towards Wellman and the door.

FIONA

You have work, Miles!

CHOLON

Yes, what next?

FIONA

Lawyers, Patent protection. The
long boring stuff.

CHOLON

And you Wellman?

WELLMAN

Lawyers, Yes. We need lawyers to lock this deal up tighter than virgin in a nudist colony.

CHOLON

Lawyers and virgins. That happens often?

FIONA

You wanted protection from every variation of a copy that could be made.

INT. LARGE OFFICE - DAY

Fiona shows Wellman and Cholon to Miles' office. Cholon looks at Miles collegiate wrestling trophies when Wellman sits. Wellman gets impatient and motions Cholon to the big chair.

WELLMAN

Fiona is very capable. How long has she worked for you?

CHOLON

Very long time. Yes, she is very good.

WELLMAN

You attract good people, like Eva. How long has she worked for you?

CHOLON

Wellman, they wont work for you. I pay them. A lot of your dollars.

WELLMAN

My dollars? Oh I might take Fiona. Tell me her name and I will take her now.

Wellman's phone rings before Cholon can answer. Wellman looks at the number with concern, then answers.

WELLMAN (CONT'D)

Unexpected. Why?

WELLMAN (CONT'D)

When? I told you Herve, things are back on track. Who? Here, where?
OK. Damn!

WELLMAN (CONT'D)

Gotta see a man about a horse.

CHOLON

Are you going to buy a horse now?

WELLMAN

Making sure you still have a pulse.

Wellman walks out the door. Cholon sits in the big chair. He looks around at the photos on the wall. He recognizes a younger Miles in college wrestling photos. He shakes his head yes yes at those.

Cholon cups his face in his hands and says aloud.

CHOLON

I would like some of that coffee Eva made.

Cholon touches the computer keyboard, and is surprised when the screen lights up, with a schedule for the day a screen with a camera to the labs on a second monitor.

He is wondering what to do when woman younger than Fiona in business attire walks in. She is BETH and eager to please.

BETH

What type of coffee, Mr Overman?

CHOLON

You read my mind?

BETH

No, you asked for it.

CHOLON

You heard me?

BETH

Your microphone is on. You say it we get it.

CHOLON

What if I say "how much is a ticket to Mongolia?"

BETH

When do you plan to leave and when do you want to return? Hotel?

CHOLON (CONT'D)

That is it? You will buy me a ticket?

BETH

Yes, I will buy you a ticket. Oh and the coffee.

CHOLON

Sugar, lots of sugar. And something with cheese.

BETH

Cheese? Never seen you eat cheese.

CHOLON

Yes, pick something with cheese whatever you like, one for me and one for you.

BETH

You could ask your computer for the ticket.

CHOLON

How, can you do that?

BETH

Say inquiry and ask.

CHOLON

Inquiry?

Miles watches the computer screen change to an inquiry screen and a voice responds.

COMPUTER VOICE

Waiting!

BETH

Ask away. Coffee and cheese!
I knew you were messing with me.

Beth leaves and shuts the door behind her.

CHOLON

Mongolia.

COMPUTER VOICE

Political or geography?

CHOLON

Geography.

A map of Mongolia displays on another screen. Cholon leans forward.

CHOLON (CONT'D)

Bulgan, Teshig.

Computer zooms into Teshig. Cholon is engrossed watching the screen.

COMPUTER VOICE
People or tourism?

CHOLON
People.

The computer starts a slideshow show of the people of Teshig, showing the tourism, photos of archery, photos of the herders. Cholon is home. Cholon watches the screen so intently that he does not notice Wellman opens the door and come in.

WELLMAN
Where is that?

Cholon tries his best to act nonchalant.

CHOLON
Someplace in Asia.

WELLMAN
Says Teshig, Mongolia right there.
You not thinking of leaving us?
People who run from us don't get
very far.

CHOLON
Just looking at some place
interesting.

WELLMAN
You bother me Miles. You don't seem
to be yourself. Is there something
I should know?

CHOLON
No, just looking.

WELLMAN
Uh-huh.

Wellman is about to speak when Beth knocks and stands at the door.

BETH
Flights everyday to Mongolia through
Beijing or Tokyo, and there are tours
and first class hotels.

CHOLON
Thank You.

Wellman takes a long hard look at Cholon, leans forward in his chair and for the first time with true menace in his voice.

WELLMAN

Who are you? What are you? You better let me know. Because in five minutes the people I work for will be here. If you are not Miles Overman, they, we will remove your testicles one at a time and watch you die.

CHOLON

I don't know.

WELLMAN

What you mean you don't know?

Cholon points to a herder on the screen.

CHOLON

Yesterday I was that man.

WELLMAN

What man? That man? Some fucking herder off in camel land?

CHOLON

Yesterday I was that man. I live there.

WELLMAN

You wont live if you keep talking trash.

CHOLON

Yesterday I was there, today I am here.

WELLMAN

What language do they speak there?

CHOLON

Mongolian and Russian.

WELLMAN

What .. call that assistant in.

Cholon does not know how to call Beth, so he leans into the microphone.

CHOLON

I need coffee.

WELLMAN

Coffee?

CHOLON

She will come.

WELLMAN

You had that microphone on?

Wellman walks over and pulls the microphone out the computer. He still has it his hands when Beth stands at the door.

BETH

More coffee?

WELLMAN

How much did you hear?

Beth looks at Cholon and does not answer. She waiting for his approval to answer. They are saved by Fiona returning.

BETH

Nothing, I was not at my desk. I saw the light go on my console.

FIONA

Problem? I will deal with it Beth.

Fiona closes the door softly.

WELLMAN

Miles thinks he is some Genghis Khan space traveler.

FIONA

So who are you ?

CHOLON

Cholon.

WELLMAN

Cholon what?

CHOLON

I have one name Cholon. Cholon son of Sukh.

WELLMAN

Well Cholon horseman, I don't believe in flying monkey pies. So who sent you?

CHOLON

No one! This morning I woke up here.

FIONA
From where?

CHOLON
From there!

FIONA
Bullshit. You are some sort of
industrial spy. You came to steal
our battery research.

CHOLON
I don't understand industrial spy.
I don't understand batteries.

WELLMAN
Call the people you work for tell
them that you are done here.

CHOLON
Call? I only know you and Eva.

WELLMAN
Do you have a phone out there on the
prairie?

CHOLON
Yes.

WELLMAN
Then call.

CHOLON
Don't know how!

FIONA
For Christ sakes!
(to computer)
Inquiry telephone long distance
Mongolia.

COMPUTER VOICE
Dial 011 976 and an eight digit phone
number. Say or input number for
dialing.

WELLMAN
Get to it Miles !

Cholon slowly says his phone number to the microphone. The
three wait while the line is dialed. There is a wait, then
clicking then a connection then ringing.

WELLMAN (CONT'D)
So you are going to talk to yourself?

The phone rings and there is no answer finally a message.

TELEPHONE(V.O)

(Mongolian)

I am Cholon. Are you well? Leave a message.

FIONA

Well?

CHOLON

(Mongolian)

Zaya, I am here. I am in the USA.
I don't know how. I will come home.

WELLMAN

What was that?

CHOLON

I left a message for my wife. I told her not to worry.

WELLMAN

Bull.

Fiona phone buzzes. She picks it, looks surprised.

FIONA

Mr Wellman will be down. You have visitors.

WELLMAN

You, stay put, and Fiona find out who owns that number.

Wellman turns sharply and walks out the door to the elevator. Fiona takes a pad and writes down the phone number on the screen. She walks to the door and calls Beth.

FIONA

Everything!

BETH

I put Mr Overman's snacks are in the coffee room.

FIONA

Beth show him, and get to that.

Fiona holds the door open as Cholon walks out and follows Beth.

INT. OFFICE HALLWAY - DAY

Cholon follows Beth to the hallway to the coffee room. They get to the entrance of the coffee room. Beth stands outside.

BETH

Why am I showing you where the coffee room is?

CHOLON

I knew where it was.

BETH

No, you don't. You should go whoever you are. The men coming are not very nice.

CHOLON

You know these men?

BETH

Fiona works for them. Go now.

Beth turns and leaves, Cholon looks down the hallway left and right. There is an exit sign to the right. Cholon walks down the hallway to the door opens the exit door and disappears.

INT. OFFICE STAIRS -DAY

Cholon walks hurriedly down the stairs. He opens the door to the 2nd floor into a maze of electronic equipment. He is greeted by "blue shirt" with the battery casings.

INT. LAB WORK AREA - DAY

BLUE SHIRT

Hello Mr Overman. Nice speech this morning.

Cholon shakes Blue Shirt's hand but walks quickly.

CHOLON

Walk me to the elevator. Got an idea for the casings yet? Which way?

BLUE SHIRT

Yes! It will be more expensive, but fireproof. That will save us just in case there is a problem.

CHOLON

Save us?

BLUE SHIRT

Yes, insurance companies love to
hear the word fireproof.

When they reach the elevator Cholon pushes the button down.

CHOLON

What is your name?

BLUE SHIRT

Fred McFarlane.

Cholon replies as he is stepping in the elevator.

CHOLON

Good job Fred McFarlane.

INT. OFFICE LOBBY - DAY

Cholon steps out the elevator, walks past the security desk,
nods to the Security officer and walks out the door.

ACT FIVE

EXT. STEPPE - DUSK

The family leaves the Naadam late for the journey home. There is a vast sky with millions of stars. Khongi and Sukh are ahead, Khongi is carrying Erdene, Bat is riding alongside Miles.

Zaya holds her horse and waits for Miles and Bat to catch up. She comes alongside Bat and hits his horse gently with her hand. The horse speeds up and leaves Zaya and Miles trailing the group. They are riding slowly.

ZAYA

Husband, Are you OK?

MILES

Yes, I am Ok, We had a nice day.

ZAYA

Husband, what is my name?

MILES

Zaya?

ZAYA

Yes, but what is my name?

MILES

Would you like me to sing your names to the stars?

ZAYA

Husband, you do not ride well. Why?

MILES

Just tired.

ZAYA

You met my brother today. He stayed with our animals. What is his name?

MILES

Your younger brother?

Miles has guessed correctly, so Zaya continues.

ZAYA

Tell me Cholon, how old are our children?

MILES

They are wiser than their years!

ZAYA

Tell me son of Sukh, what is your
mother's name?

Miles is stumped he has no answer.

Zaya pulls her horse to a stop and leans over and pulls on
the reins of Miles' horse.

ZAYA (CONT'D)

Who are you? Stranger in my husband's
clothes?

Miles looks at her stern face.

MILES

You deserve the truth. Zaya my name
is Miles Overman. I woke up here
this morning. I woke up in your
husband's suit. I don't know how, I
don't know why.

ZAYA

Why do you have two names? Are you
Miles or Overman?

MILES

Miles, just Miles.

ZAYA

My name is Delgerzaya. My husband
calls me Zaya. So Miles where is
Cholon?

Miles has not thought about that.

MILES

Damn, damn, If I am here, he must be
there.

ZAYA

There where?

MILES

Los Angeles. I have some very bad
people to deal with, to handle. There
are millions of dollars at stake,
there are lives at stake.

ZAYA

I don't understand.

MILES

I have some bad people.

(MORE)

MILES (CONT'D)

People who do bad things for money.
Today is a bad day to be me...for
Cholon to be me.

ZAYA

So Miles, you are a bad man. Is my
husband in trouble?

MILES

Yes he is. He will be in trouble.
Why are you handling this so well.
I expected surprise and anger. Why
not?

ZAYA

You are here. My husband is there.
There is no time to wonder about
magic or mystery. How will you get
him back?

MILES

I do not know.

ZAYA

This you MUST know. You came here
in your sleep. Perhaps you should
sleep again.

MILES

I cannot sleep!

ZAYA

Maybe you should think of Khongi.

MILES

You know?

ZAYA

Men cannot hide their fluttering
wings.

MILES

Zaya, When this is over...when I am
me. I will come back to meet her.

ZAYA

You met her this morning. She thinks
you are her older brother. What
will you tell her?

MILES

I cannot tell her or Sukh, They may
hate me.

ZAYA

Sukh is a very wise man; he does not hate. Perhaps he knows. Do you have children?

MILES

No! I am not married. I live alone, in a very tall building on the 17th floor. All I have is my work.

ZAYA

You live alone, and you do not touch the earth. You are incomplete. You live half a life, Miles with two names.

Zaya looks up and sees Bat coming back for her.

BAT

Mama, Papa, you are slow.

EXT. MONGOLIAN STEPPE - NIGHT

It is June in Teshig. The vast sky is red and orange as the group arrive in single file. Sukh shouts out a greeting. The call is returned from the hill.

Zaya and Khongi dismount and take Erdene inside. Sukh gives the reins to Bat and walks up the hill. Bat has work. He is in charge of taking the saddles off the horses and taking them to the corral. Miles walks over to Bat.

MILES

You raced well. I will help. Tell me what to do.

BAT

But you taught me how to do this when I was five.

MILES

Well tonight you will teach me.

BAT

That is funny Papa, me teaching you. Take the saddles off the horse like this.

MILES

Ok, and then.

BAT

We takes the bit out of his mouth like this.

Miles follows Bat's instructions.

MILES

Then?

BAT

Then we put him in the corral.

MILES

That was easy! Do you get paid for that?

BAT

Paid?

MILES

Yes, I think you deserve a million dollars.

BAT

Is that a lot?

MILES

For some people not enough.

Miles tussles Bat's hair.

MILES (CONT'D)

Tell Mama you can stay with me and grandpa.

Sukh comes off the hill, and checks the wooden gates on the corral.

SUKH

One of the mares wandered off. Delger went to get her.

MILES

Zaya's brother!

SUKH

You are like a man drowning in water while running from fire.

MILES

Drowning? Aaaah. Yes!

Zaya comes over and hands Miles a phone.

ZAYA

Bring me my husband.

Bat comes running towards them excitedly.

BAT
I will stay with you tonight.

SUKH
Bat you left the women alone! What
if wolves take them in the night?

Bat pokes his grandfather in the stomach.

BAT
There are no wolves. You said you
last saw one when you were young.

SUKH
Fine then. Wolves will eat our women.
See who will make you a meal tomorrow.

INT. FATHER'S YURT - NIGHT

Bat jumps on his grandfather's bed. Miles sits on the other
bed and tugs at the boots.

MILES
Time for bed Bat!

Miles looks at his Mongolian phone.

MILES (CONT'D)
Time, what time, LA, Hawaii plus
two, Tokyo plus nine, Mongolia
plus fifteen or sixteen.

SUKH
Dawn will come with or without the
clock!

Miles calculates the time in LA. He counts his fingers.
Bat and Sukh watch him.

MILES
Five AM in LA, in two hours he will
be awake.

BAT
Who is waking up father?

SUKH
Your father is waking up.

Bat does not understand so he lays down to get to sleep.

MILES
You are a damn Mongolian Plato.
Wise man Sukh.

SUKH

Does not a take a wise man to ask
why his son wears his father's boots.

Sukh picks up a pair of boots from behind a bed in the Yurt
and puts them at the feet of Miles.

MILES

Ah, so that is why....So, why not
tell me?

SUKH

A man knows his horses and his boots.
What is it you fear?

MILES

To be lost and not put things right.
I don't know how.

SUKH

If you fear it, do not do it. When
you do it, do not fear it.

MILES

I don't know what must be done,
whatever it is.

SUKH

Delger needs rest. I will watch the
animals.

As Sukh leaves the Yurt, he stops at the door and turns.

SUKH (CONT'D)

Maybe you search at night for what
was lost during the day.

Sukh shuts the door of the Yurt. Miles gets up opens the
door and leaves it open and walks outside.

EXT. FATHER'S YURT - NIGHT

Miles has problems calling. He paces back and forth, then
finally has a bad connection.

MILES

Fiona...Fiona!

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Fiona rolls over sleepily. She is awake and pissed.

FIONA

It is 5AM. Who the hell is this?

INTERCUT BETWEEN MILES AND FIONA - EVENING

The line is so bad they can barely hear.

MILES
(Mongolian)
Fiona.. this is Miles.

FIONA
I can't hear you. What?

MILES
(English shouting)
Fiona, it is Miles. The man that
looks like me --

The line goes dead.

MILES (CONT'D)
Shit, shit, shit.

INT. BEDROOM - NIGHT

Fiona goes back to bed. Then sits up suddenly.

FIONA
He said Miles. He said Miles!

INT. FATHER'S YURT - LATER

Miles walks to Bat, checks if he is sleeping. He sits on the floor, back resting on the bed, throws his head back and tries to shut out the voices in his head.

ACT SIX

EXT. INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX - DAY

Cholon has to decide which way to go. He walks towards the line of cars. He first starts right then turns left. A Security Officer comes towards him from down the street. Cholon turns to avoid him, but the Security officer follows, smiling.

OFFICER

Need a car Sir? Going downtown?

CHOLON

Yes! Thanks! Don't tell them it is for me.

The Officer reaches into his belt, pulls out a radio.

OFFICER

Car 4, front please! Where shall I tell them you have gone?

CHOLON

Downtown remember?

The Officer points to the car turning pulling to a stop.

CHOLON (CONT'D)

Thanks!

The Officer walks Cholon to the car opens the door for Cholon, leans in the front passenger window.

OFFICER

Silent run!

The driver nods.

INT. CAR - DAY

Cholon sits in the back looking out the window. The driver is Eva's son VICTOR.

VICTOR

Where to?

CHOLON

Have you ever taken me home?

VICTOR

Yes Sir.

CHOLON

Then take me home!

Cholon is fiddling with his phone. He is looking for Eva's number. He finds the number and dials.

CHOLON (CONT'D)

Hello Eva. I am on the way back.
Yes, I need you to be there.

(to driver)

How long?

VICTOR

Seventeen minutes Sir.

EXT. INDUSTRIAL COMPLEX - DAY

Wellman comes running out, followed by two men have the same ex-military no nonsense look like Wellman. Wellman runs up to the Security Officer.

WELLMAN

Did Miles just leave in that car?

OFFICER

Sir, you are not an employee of this company, so I don't have to answer.

WELLMAN

Look! Will you answer if Fiona asks?

OFFICER

Yes.

WELLMAN

Then get on your god damned radio.

OFFICER

Don't have to do that either.

Wellman is frustrated, so he calls Fiona on his cell.

WELLMAN

Fiona, tell you loyal security officer to cooperate.

Wellman hands the phone to the Security Officer.

OFFICER

Yes Ma'am. He went downtown.

Wellman grabs the phone rudely.

WELLMAN

Downtown, where?

OFFICER

Downtown is where he goes when he does not want anyone to know where he is going.

WELLMAN

Call the damn car!

OFFICER

Can't, radio is off.

Wellman is angry, He spins on his heels, and makes two fists with his hands.

WELLMAN

Damn you, call me another car.

EXT. CONDO HIGH RISE - DAY

The car pulls up to the front of the building. Eva is waiting. She has a anxious look on her face. She is carrying a small suitcase with her. Cholon is about to get out, but Eva passes the bag through the window.

EVA

Wellman called, they are on the way.
I told them I have not seen you.
(to the driver)
Son, hide him until I call!

CHOLON

Son?

EVA

You are really not Miles are you?
Miles gave him this job because I asked. Now go!

CHOLON

You knew?

EVA

Yes, since breakfast. You don't have a clue. Whoever you are, you are not the pompous ass Miles.

CHOLON

Eva, my name is Cholon, One day I will call. What will you do when Wellman gets here?

EVA

Ever see my crying old lady face?
Go!

Eva stands outside and watches them leave.

INT. CAR - DAY MOMENTS LATER

VICTOR
In a bit of trouble?

CHOLON
Yes. What is your name?

VICTOR
Victor. You gave me a job when I
got out the pen.

CHOLON
I bought you a pen?

VICTOR
I was in a bit of trouble myself.
You helped me out.

CHOLON
So how are you going to help me?

VICTOR
I know a lot about not being found.
Toss that cell phone out the window.

EXT. CONDO HIGH RISE - DAY

Wellman comes out his car fast. Eva is waiting. Wellman is
very annoyed.

WELLMAN
Well where did he go?

EVA
Don't know. I did not ask.

Wellman turns to the car and calls one of the guys.

WELLMAN
You stay here in case he returns.

Wellman is trying to contain his anger at Eva.

WELLMAN (CONT'D)
Listen Eva we will find him. And
yes we know your son is driving.
And yes they will get hurt.

EVA
And chez, you have no damn clue where
they are.

EXT. WAREHOUSE - DAY

Victor pulls the car into a warehouse entrance. The doors roll up and Victor drives the car inside.

INT. WAREHOUSE - DAY

That are three guys working on a classic Chevy Bel Air. They take no notice of Victor until Cholon steps out the car.

VICTOR

He is with me. He stays.

No one challenges Victor. The guys go back to fixing cars. Victor walks Cholon to the back of the garage.

VICTOR

There is a room back here, TV, food, bathroom. Wait until we call.

CHOLON

Ok.

VICTOR

Hey, Michu. Take the car, drive 10 minutes, then turn my phone on and the radio on.

MICHU

Anyplace in particular?

VICTOR

Nah, just keep moving. You will be followed.

MICHU

Found an original fuel pump. Will need a rebuild though.

VICTOR

We will keep it all original. Resale value is \$70,000 on that puppy.

Michu nods to Cholon, and walks towards Victor's car.

VICTOR (CONT'D)

Man, you look exactly like my boss. But you sure don't act like him. We stay low, they will be following Michu.

CHOLON

Yes, stay low.

Victor walks over to the group, leans over the car, takes a look at the repair work. Michu backs the car out and leaves.

INT. WELLMAN CAR - LATER

Two hours later. Wellman is on the phone.

WELLMAN

So he was in a gang? Look for cars, motorcycle clubs. Low rider stuff.

Wellman makes another call to Fiona.

WELLMAN (CONT'D)

Just tell them Miles will be found. Tell me what days Victor does not show up for work.

Wellman slams his hand against the door.

WELLMAN (CONT'D)

People have habits, Ex-Cons all hide in the same place. Back of a warehouse, chop shop, with cousin Pepe.

Wellman phone rings.

WELLMAN (CONT'D)

Whatcha got? Found the car, where? Forget the car, he is the rabbit. Where was he before that? Did he stop? Classic cars eh?

WELLMAN (CONT'D)

Guy rebuilds classic cars.
(to driver)
6th and Lansbury.
(to the tough guy)
You don't say much, do you?

TOUGH GUY

No.

WELLMAN

Well I know guy who will know anyone that fixes classic cars. Any good at kicking ass?

TOUGH GUY

That I do.

INT. GARAGE - DUSK

Victor's guys are work on the car. There is a knock on the door. Victor walks to back to the room where Cholon sits. He looks at the Security CAM. Wellman is outside. Victor open the back door.

VICTOR

You, Listen, this is number seven,
go out the back, turn left walk into
number six and say Victor sent me.
Go!

Victor waits till Cholon leaves, turns to the guys.

VICTOR (CONT'D)

Incoming!

The two mechanics reach to the car and pull out two Glock pistols and lay them in the tool tray.

VICTOR (CONT'D)

Be cool until he moves.

Victor walks to the front door, opens it and lets Wellman in.

WELLMAN

Where is he Victor?

VICTOR

Sent him on a car ride.

WELLMAN

He can't run all day!

VICTOR

He wont need to.

EXT. WAREHOUSE BACK ALLEY - DUSK

It is getting dark. Cholon is walking fast. The warehouse complex is large. He slows at an open door, there are very tough looking guys inside.

Cholon decides to walk past looking for number six. When he leaves one of the guys step outside and closes the door. The sign on the door says "6." Cholon walks faster until he comes to another door. It is number five. He turns.

Wellman's tough guy turns the corner and pulls his gun. The tough mentions with his hand to come then dials Wellman's number on his phone.

TOUGH GUY
Out back number five.

INT. WAREHOUSE GARAGE - DAY

Wellman puts his phone in his pocket smiles at Victor.

WELLMAN
Car ride did not get very far!

Wellman whistles at the Bel Air.

WELLMAN (CONT'D)
Nice car! How much?

Wellman turns and walks towards the door.

EXT. WAREHOUSE BACK ALLEY - DUSK

The warehouse alleys are lit by security lights. Cholon did not move. The doors to number six open and several of the guys walk out. They are surprised to see a man standing there holding a gun pointing it at another man. They back up, retreat inside. Tough Guy turns back to Cholon.

Wellman approaches from the behind Cholon.

WELLMAN
Told ya I would find you.

Wellman looks past Cholon. The door to number six opens and five guys step out joined by Victor. They are all armed. They begin walking towards Cholon.

WELLMAN (CONT'D)
Victor, you took a jump too far for someone you don't know. There will be consequences.

VICTOR
Not today though. You whoever you are, leave. Mr Wellman will be here for a while.

Cholon takes off running past Wellman turns left and runs across the street.

INT. DINER - NIGHT

Cholon sits eating a meal. Steak and Eggs. The waitress hands him the bill.

WAITRESS
Can't sit here all night.

CHOLON

I will pay you.

Cholon reaches into his wallet. There is no cash. He is worried about paying. The waitress hovers over.

WAITRESS

Yes you can. Pull out that platinum card you have there.

Cholon reaches into the wallet and gives the waitress the card. She walks over to the register. Talks a long look at the card and looks back trying to ID Cholon. She swipes the card and it is approved. She walks back to Cholon.

WAITRESS (CONT'D)

There all paid. You gonna tip me for my kind attention.

CHOLON.

Tip sure, big tip?

WAITRESS

OK then. So why are you here, like you have no place to go?

(shaking the card)

With this kind of dough you can afford anyplace.

CHOLON

Anyplace?

WAITRESS

Yup, get out there, take the street car two stops. Big building green lights, nice hotel.

INT. EXPENSIVE HOTEL ROOM - MORNING

A man is asleep in the bed, head covered. Wellman sits in the chair next to the bed, kicks the bed gently, and then harder. The sleeping man turns and sits up.

WELLMAN

Rich folks and comfortable hotel rooms. Just can't rough it can you. Had to use the card eh?

MILES

Wellman, what the hell are you doing in my room? And where the hell is this?

WELLMAN

Whoa! Sure got your balls back.

Miles gets out the bed and looks out the window.

MILES

Balls? Goddamn. I am here. I am back. No, no no!

WELLMAN

Back here? Were you dreaming Camel man!

MILES

Wellman. It's me, Miles. How the hell did I get here?

WELLMAN

Stop the twilight zone shit. Miles, like the real Miles? I chased you here.

MILES

Why the hell would you chase me? Wait wait wait! That was not me. That was not me.

WELLMAN

So which one are you? Tell me, explain to me, where you think you have been. And why you sent an impostor yesterday.

Miles walks back to the bed and sits down.

MILES

Cholon!

WELLMAN

Thought you said you were Miles? Yesterday you were Cholon.

MILES

Yes he was, yes he was. I am Miles, goddamn, goddamn yesterday I was him. I think he was me.

WELLMAN

Stop saying everything twice. You don't seem too happy to be back. Why?

MILES

There was this woman...

WELLMAN

Woman?

(MORE)

WELLMAN (CONT'D)

Who the fuck do you think you are?
You have \$50 million of our money
riding on you making it right. I
have been chasing you across LA all
night. There are people who have
orders to put a hole in you. You
tell me a WOMAN!

MILES

Yes! Damn damn, The meeting is today,
We have to go.

WELLMAN

The meeting was yesterday. We are
back on track. You, the smart YOU
fixed it.

MILES

Cholon fixed it? Cholon is a simple
herder from --

WELLMAN

Teshig?

MILES

How the hell did you know that?

WELLMAN

So yesterday you were this Mongolian
dude, and he was you. Right? So
did you guys do that mind melt crap
where he knows everything you know?

MILES

No, don't think so. It was like, I
went there, he came here, I was in
his head. But I know nothing he
knows. Goddamn it was weird.

WELLMAN

So where were you? On vacation?

MILES

No, I was him, I was riding horses,
I.. I was eating this weird ass BBQ,
I was smelling some rank horse's
ass, I was..

WELLMAN

Happy?

MILES

No, I was satisfied.

WELLMAN

Vacation is over. Back to the real goddamn world. No body snatching bullshit to anyone. Listen, you were under stress to finish. You went a little bonkers there. You do any yoga?

MILES

Yes!

WELLMAN

Well yesterday you took some time, did some yoga and found yourself. The typical weak ass excuse you sensitive people do when you freak! All right!

MILES

All right!

WELLMAN

Well let's show your face, and soothe our investors. And the next time you start acting weird, I am going to be proactive and shoot you in the damn leg.

TAG

INT. OFFICE HALLWAY - MORNING

Wellman and Miles get off the elevator on the third floor. Fiona waits at the glass doors. Miles pushes the doors with two hands, wide.

INT. OFFICE FOYER

MILES

What we got Fiooonaaa?

FIONA

Now that sounds like Miles Overman,
Mr Know It All.

MILES

Is that what I am? Was I that
arrogant?

FIONA

You are a self centered driven SOB,
but you built all this on confident
arrogance.

MILES

I am your Boss or what? Can you do
without me?

FIONA

Please you could not find the bathroom
without me.

Wellman steps right in front Miles.

WELLMAN

Don't go all soft full of wisdom on
us Miles. We still have to produce!
Stick to the story.

Wellman turns and walks away to towards the door.

MILES

When will we see you.

WELLMAN

I will be here. Right now I have to
go see a man about a car.

Miles takes Fiona by the elbow and starts to his office.
Opens the door and lets Fiona in first.

INT. MILES OFFICE - DAY

Miles reaches over and pushes the microphone on mute.

FIONA

So I hear there was a woman. Not like you "Mr rent em by the weekend."

MILES

Yes Fifi. She thinks I am an idiot. She thinks I am her brother.

FIONA

But you like her. The only woman that does NOT like you. Is she this guy Cholon's sister?

MILES

Yes, and she is like alive with attitude, takes no guff, and would totally kick ass.

FIONA

So you finally found someone just like you. How you gonna sell this Miles to her?

MILES

Zaya will help me. Ok, Ok, Zaya is exactly like you. She is Cholon's wife. All efficient and smart and pick up you up when you fall stuff. Like Super Mom. I told her I would be back.

FIONA

I am not your Mama. Anyway Beth bought something for you.

Fiona hands him a airline ticket.

MILES

Beth?

FIONA

Yes, our Beth. Not right away Senor, That flight is in ten days. And you better give Eva a raise for saving your ass!

MILES

Mama Eva, I love her.

FIONA

So you are going to tell a woman who has never seen you that you like her. All before she puts one of them arrows she shoots through your left ear and out your right?

MILES

Yes, that is the plan.

INT. FATHER'S YURT - NIGHT

Cholon sits on the floor with his back to the bed. Bat sleeps on the bed next to his father. Cholon jerks awake. His eyes shift left and right. He gets to his knees and pats Bat on the head.

Cholon reaches to his boots and puts his boots quick. He runs out the Yurt. Sukh looks at Cholon put the his own boots on, smiles, and closes his eyes again.

EXT. MAIN YURT - NIGHT

Cholon is running towards the main Yurt.

CHOLON

Zaya!

INT. MAIN YURT - NIGHT

Zaya and Khongi sit on the floor weaving mats. Erdene sleeps on the bed on the other side. They both hear Cholon calling from outside.

CHOLON

Zaya!

KHONGI

Why is the fool screaming? Why is he so loud?

ZAYA

That is my husband.

Cholon rushes to the entrance and stops and smiles at Zaya. He is excited, breathing sharply. Zaya gives him her Mona Lisa half smile.

KHONGI

Pffft! Always noisy.

ZAYA

Did you eat?

CHOLON

Yes!

Zaya looks down and goes back to her weaving. She casts a long slow sideways glance at Cholon.

FADE TO BLACK

THE END

Episode 2 Preview: Miles returns to Mongolia as himself trying to win a woman who does not know he exists.

Another pair of complete stranger's lives is switched in another part of the world. What is the connection?