

Deep State

Written by

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EXT. FEDERAL PRISON - DAY

A TV network VAN and a SEDAN enter through prison gates.

INT. FEDERAL PRISON - INTERVIEW ROOM - DAY

Journalist, BARBARA RIVERS, is sitting at a table set up for an interview. A DIRECTOR, LIGHTING TECHNICIAN, SOUND, and CAMERAMAN, are present.

Startled by a loud clang, a door opens and in walks, JAMES COMEY dressed in an orange prison jumpsuit followed by a PRISON GUARD. He moves around the room shaking everyone's hand before sitting at the table with Miss Rivers. They shake hands.

DIRECTOR

Okay, he's here. . . Nice to meet you. Thank you for this opportunity.

JAMES COMEY

Thank you. I thought I might be forgotten.

DIRECTOR

We're set up and ready to go.

JAMES COMEY

Thank you for this Miss Rivers.

BARBARA RIVERS

Thank you for choosing me. This must be the worst for you and your family.

JAMES COMEY

If it was not for family, it would be unbearable. My wife is my, our, rock.

BARBARA RIVERS

I know I spoke with them. They will be there for you when you get out and ready to pick up where you left off.

JAMES COMEY

I know.

DIRECTOR

Okay, this is good back and forth,
let's get this on tape, start
rolling.

BARBARA RIVERS

Good evening ladies and gentlemen,
We are at a federal prison located
somewhere in the United States. We
are not allowed to tell you where
for security reasons. We have been
given permission to interview
former FBI director James Comey. .
A former FBI director in prison
can't be easy?

JAMES COMEY

I'm isolated. The guards aren't too
hard on me. I still get a certain
amount of respect.

BARBARA RIVERS

How do you spend your time?

JAMES COMEY

In the law library, mostly. Keeps
my mind sharp.

BARBARA RIVERS

You must play it over and over in
your mind as to how you got here.

JAMES COMEY

That's for sure. Not much else to
think about in here. I appreciate
this opportunity to get my side
out.

BARBARA RIVERS

You didn't get it out in court?

JAMES COMEY

Well, a court is one thing, and
explaining it to you and the
American people is another.

BARBARA RIVERS

You were found guilty. It seemed
pretty straightforward.

JAMES COMEY

Well, I was guilty by the courts.
There are always circumstances.

BARBARA RIVERS

Some are calling this an attempt at voiding a presidency?

JAMES COMEY

I admit most of us were unhappy, but attempting to make a presidency illegitimate is ridiculous.

BARBARA RIVERS

What were you trying to do?

JAMES COMEY

Protect the country! We thought we had an election that was tainted by the Russians!

BARBARA RIVERS

But there was no evidence of collusion was there?

JAMES COMEY

But I, I mean, there was sure a lot of rumors.

BARBARA RIVERS

Rumors! I don't know the FBI operates on rumors.

JAMES COMEY

At times they do. We follow the leads wherever they lead us.

BARBARA RIVERS

But rumors?How do you think you ended up here?

He pauses and stares at the floor.

JAMES COMEY

Clinton. . . . I have led an exemplary life until now. I really don't know how this happened. I became tangled up in a world where the Clintons called the shots.

BARBARA RIVERS

Not Obama?

JAMES COMEY

It seems like it, but I think he became like all of us, going along with whatever the Clintons did.

BARBARA RIVERS
The Clintons, Bill even?

JAMES COMEY
Oh yes! The Clintons have this huge machine. They own it all, the DNC, the press. Obama walks hand in hand with the Clintons.

BARBARA RIVERS
And that's how you got here?

JAMES COMEY
It all became clear with a meeting at the White House on the upcoming election.

BARBARA RIVERS
Who was all there?

JAMES COMEY
Let's see, it was one of those open meetings with many campaign workers there. Mostly it was me and Hillary, Barack, Bill Clinton, and Debbie Wasserman Schultz.

BARBARA RIVERS
That's where it started?

JAMES COMEY
Not the Clinton corruption, that goes way back.

BARBARA RIVERS
What was said?

JAMES COMEY
Just, mainly election stuff. I was new to the group so I didn't contribute much.

BARBARA RIVERS
So, this is when the conspiracies started?

JAMES COMEY
No, actually, it was sometime before that. The FBI was covering for the Clintons for years. Before me. A tech over at the National Security Agency found something funny with the FBI surveillance of Americans.

BARBARA RIVERS
What does the National Security Agency do?

JAMES COMEY
They oversee the surveillance program in the States.

BARBARA RIVERS
Oh, to make sure everything is on the up and up?

JAMES COMEY
Yes.

BARBARA RIVERS
What did they find out?

JAMES COMEY
The director, an Admiral, Mike Rodgers, found out that the FBI was doing bad things.

BARBARA RIVERS
Like?

JAMES COMEY
Like their tie to Fusion GPS and the Clinton campaign.

BARBARA RIVERS
What did they do with them?

JAMES COMEY
Mike Rogers found out that the FBI was sharing information with these people.

BARBARA RIVERS
That's a big no-no?

JAMES COMEY
It goes against the courts. A big no-no!

BARBARA RIVERS
How did they find out?

JAMES COMEY
An audit. Admiral Rogers conducted an audit. This is something no one knew about. He took his finding to the "FISA" court. That's when things really started to unravel.

BARBARA RIVERS

Was that when everyone started to panic and cover-up.

JAMES COMEY

No, surprising, that's when they geared-up. More attacks on Trump.

BARBARA RIVERS

Obama and Clinton!

JAMES COMEY

Yes. The Admiral took his finding to Trump in November, that's when he moved all his transition staff out of Trump Tower. That's when he said he was being surveilled. . . He was right.

BARBARA RIVERS

This is such a hard story to believe. In this country, how does it happen?

JAMES COMEY

I've been asking myself that question. How did I get here?

He stares at the floor as he fades back in time.

FADE OUT:

FADE IN:

INT. WHITE HOUSE - OVAL OFFICE - DAY

President BARACK OBAMA is at his desk holding court to a roomful of young, energetic campaign workers. A meeting on the upcoming election is underway and everyone is upbeat.

HILLARY CLINTON, JAMES COMEY, and DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ are sitting in chairs next to the desk engaged in a conversation with the president.

BILL CLINTON is sitting on a couch with two young campaign workers. Several others are in small groups talking quietly among themselves.

BARACK OBAMA

(confident)

That was a fast seven years and now you can carry on where I left off.

HILLARY CLINTON

Has there ever been an election that was more assured? It's working out just as we talked about in "08." I backed you, it's my turn.

BARACK OBAMA

Your turn to eight years of continuing my policies. The medical thing still has to straighten out. You may have to do something about Obama Care.

HILLARY CLINTON

People aren't that unhappy. We'll keep telling them it's working and things just need to be tweaked. They'll buy it.

BARACK OBAMA

(chuckles)

And tell them what a great all-around job I've done. Keep telling them that. If we don't win and an outsider gets in, they might look into things we don't want to be seen.

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

Can't happen! We can handle most of the Republicans. And most of all we can handle the press.

BARACK OBAMA

(smiling)

Yes, we can.

HILLARY CLINTON

The Republicans are right where we want them, in a state of confusion. They won't be much. Just in case maybe Jim can keep an eye on some of them.

JAMES COMEY

Way ahead of you. We have our eye on some of them. Nothing much to see.

HILLARY CLINTON

I'm so glad I won't have to look for another FBI director when I take over.

Hillary and James exchange a smile.

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

The Republicans are running into each other. They have nothing for us to fear. I think the slate is up to twelve or fourteen now. . . . Let's see, we have the old guard, Ted Cruz, Jeb Bush, Marco Rubio, Chris Christy, Rand Paul, John Kasick, Rick Perry, and Bobby Jindal. All of them, losers. There are a few new ones, no one to be worried about.

BARACK OBAMA

No one to be too concerned about, great! How about Bernie Sanders, is he serious about running? Do you have an eye on him?

JAMES COMEY

No reason too. He's no threat.

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

I'll take care of Bernie. I'll get him to a meeting and make him feel important.
Like he has a chance!

BARACK OBAMA

Good idea. We need someone for you to debate and run against in the primary. Everyone knows you're a shoo-in but let's not let it look easy. Will, he put on a good show?

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

He's competent, good debater.

HILLARY CLINTON

Make Bernie feel important. That's what he wants. No one really believes in his socialist agenda anyway.

BARACK OBAMA

He may have a lot of followers. He's an old hippie from Vermont. I think that's where all the hippies went. Bernie Sander, king of the hippies!

They all laugh.

HILLARY CLINTON

Sure, offer free this and free that, of course, he has followers. Lazy losers who want it all handed to them!

BARACK OBAMA

You're going to have to counter his free college education with something of the same.

HILLARY CLINTON

I'll feed them granola.

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

And I'll keep an eye on him. I'll make him think he has a chance.

BARACK OBAMA

Looks like clear sailing from here on.

HILLARY CLINTON

Joe, what about Joe? Do you think he wants to run?

BARACK OBAMA

Not as long as he's not encouraged. Joe likes the spotlight, he likes to take it easy even more. I bring him out for a speech every so often and then he goes back to his cocktail parties, perfect vice president. Don't bring up the idea to him or anyone else. Anyway, he's with his son in Ukraine. Then off to China.

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

Fleeing the locals. He's making him rich.

HILLARY CLINTON

Nothing wrong with that.

Barack Obama leans across the desk and whispers.

BARACK OBAMA

How's Bill doing? Any problem there?

The trio looks over at Bill on the couch flirting with a campaign worker.

HILLARY CLINTON

(chuckles)

He's becoming more like an old toothless dog, he is seventy. Toss him a bone every once in a while and he's happy. He thinks he's still got it.

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

It's your spotlight now. He's arm candy. We need to keep him on a short lease.

HILLARY CLINTON

No problem.

(beat)

I wonder how I should redecorate this room? I think I'll keep the desk.

Into the room rushes a presidential aide.

AIDE

Mr. President, Mr. President!

BARACK OBAMA

Slow down, you're ruining our vibes. I hope you're not going to tell me some bad news. We're having a good day.

AIDE

No, Mr. President, just the opposite, I think! I heard on the radio that Mr. Trump is going to run for president!

The trio pauses for a second. All look puzzled.

HILLARY CLINTON

Donald Trump! From reality show-off to the President of the United States! What a laugh.

They all burst out laughing. This prompts Bill Clinton to approach the desk.

BILL CLINTON

What's so funny!

HILLARY CLINTON

Dear, you won't believe it, Donald Trump is running for president.

(MORE)

HILLARY CLINTON (CONT'D)

Our path just got easier. What a buffoon! Idiot Republicans!

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

It must be publicity for his show.

JAMES COMEY

That's an odd twist. I think you're right.

BILL CLINTON

Donald Trump, I know Trump. You could be right. Remember, Trump is smart, very smart. Is he a Republican now?

BARACK OBAMA

He's whatever gets him noticed. What he isn't is suited for this office. The people will know that. He's a joke what with that birth certificate crap. Humiliating him could be fun.

HILLARY CLINTON

The people aren't that stupid.

BILL CLINTON

No need to worry about nothing, I guess. There is a lot running, he'll be lost in the shuffle.

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

We have others to be more concerned about.

BARACK OBAMA

Looks like a slate of old reruns to me. All of these people have run before so we should know their weaknesses. They couldn't beat me how do they think they can beat you?

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

I think the world knows it's Hilary's time. She waited and supported you, everyone knows that.

BARACK OBAMA

Sell her as the most qualified candidate to ever run.

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

And don't forget the first women president. That's the big sale! We should get every women's vote.

(beat)

If not, we'll shame them.

BILL CLINTON

Sounds like a fun election. Can't wait to be back in this office. . . I think I'll show the kids around the White House.

A sly, knowing look is exchanged between Hillary Clinton, Barack Obama, and Debbie Wasserman Schultz. Bill Clinton returns to the campaign workers on the couch.

HILLARY CLINTON

(whispers)

I think he's more excited than I am.

BARACK OBAMA

You'll have to let him sit at the desk sometimes.

The trio laughs. Barack Obama leans back in his chair and puts his hands behind his head.

BARACK OBAMA (cont'd)

We are on our way to having the Democratic party put a stranglehold on this country. DACA will give us a million voters right away and now you can work on getting the other ten million new citizens. That will seal up the elections for decades to come.

HILLARY CLINTON

The Republicans are getting worn down. More are coming over to our way of thinking. Once we win, the wind will be out of their sails. That's the first thing I'll work on, citizenship for all!

BARACK OBAMA

That's what we need most of all to keep the power on our side. The power we will have will be unprecedented in the history of this country.

HILLARY CLINTON

With my presidency, we will have buried the Republicans for decades. We need to build a strong base of young people who will be our future. My daughter will lead the way.

BARACK OBAMA

Are you thinking of her for the next president after you?

HILLARY CLINTON

Maybe not right after me but soon after. Who could be more suited?

BARACK OBAMA

She should hold some public office. People will want to see a resumé. Maybe someday my kids will show an interest.

HILLARY CLINTON

We're working on her first run. Something local at first then on to the Senate.

BARACK OBAMA

Senator from New York?

HILLARY CLINTON

Should be an easy sell. What a story, mother and daughter both senators from New York and both presidents. We'll sell the historic angle.

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

We should send Bill to the black churches to make sure we have their vote. He could take Chelsea with him. Get her acquainted with the elders. We have the immigrant vote sealed up thanks to the anti-immigrant Republicans. Trump is heaven-sent.

(beat)

He wants to build a wall.

BARACK OBAMA

That ship has sailed. No one will build a wall.

HILLARY CLINTON

It's just a matter of time until we have a whole bunch of new voters. That will kill any thought of deporting those people.

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

New Democratic voters!

HILLARY CLINTON

That's right! How are we doing in the press? Any problems?

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

In our pocket as never before. They love you and they will support you no matter who you run against. Most everyone anyway, there is Fox.

BARACK OBAMA

They'll be dwarfed by the others. If anything we've made a lot of friends in the press.

HILLARY CLINTON

They protected us, they'll keep doing it. They will make tons off of the election.

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

We'll make it clear that they will have access to you as never before after the election. That will keep their money train moving.

HILLARY CLINTON

Really, they get me for free!

They all laugh.

INT. WHITE HOUSE - SWIMMING POOL - DAY

Bill Clinton and the two campaign workers from the couch are standing by the well lit White House pool.

BILL CLINTON

And this is the famous pool where JFK frolicked with his special friends. Word has it, Jackie almost caught him once. I swam in this pool all the time wondering what he was thinking. We are a lot alike.

MALE
(giggling)
Did Hillary catch you?

BILL CLINTON
Naw, she knows me, we've been
married a long time. She has her
own interest.

Bill gives the female a sly look and leans closer to her.

BILL CLINTON (cont'd)
And I have mine.

The female blushes.

BILL CLINTON (cont'd)
Follow me.

Bill walks over to a light switch on the wall across the
pool. The pair reluctantly follows a step behind him. Bill
reaches and dims the lights.

BILL CLINTON (cont'd)
I had this installed, much more
romantic.

An aide to the president enters the room.

AIDE
The campaign bus is leaving soon.

MALE
(tense)
We better get on the bus! Thank you
so much for the tour, Mr.
President.

He shakes his hand and grabs the female's arm and leads her
off.

BILL CLINTON
Anytime. Come back when we're in
the White House.

Out of earshot of the president.

FEMALE
Thank god! I thought he was going
to jump me there.

MALE
I hope they clean that pool.

INT. QUICKEN LOANS ARENA - DAY

The first Republican debate is underway. The candidates enter the stage as they are introduced by moderator Bret Baier.

BRET BAIER

Thank you for joining us this evening for the first Republican debate of the 2016 presidential election! Now let us welcome our debaters. Governor Chris Christy, Senator Rand Paul, Governor Jeb Bush, businessman Donald Trump, Governor Scott Walker, Governor Jim Gilmore, Governor Mike Huckabee, surgeon Ben Carson, Senator Ted Cruz, and Senator Marco Rubio.

Loud applause from the audience as the candidates enter the stage and take their places.

BRET BAIER (cont'd)

Our questions will be asked by CBS New's Megan Kelly and Chris Wallace.

More applause.

BRET BAIER (cont'd)

And why don't we start with Megan?

MEGAN KELLY

Thank you, Bret.

INT. QUICKEN LOANS ARENA - DAY

The debaters are sparing.

BRET BAIER

Before we restart the debate after our break, I would like all of you to raise your hand if you could not pledge to support the eventual GOP nominee and not run as an independent against the nominee.

Only Donald Trump raises his hand. All eyes turn to him.

DONALD TRUMP

I can not say that I have to respect the person, that's if it's not me, the person that wins.

(MORE)

DONALD TRUMP (CONT'D)

If I do win, and I'm leading by quite a bit, that's what I want to do. I can totally make that pledge, if I'm the nominee, I will pledge that I will not run as an independent. I am discussing it with everybody. I'm talking about a lot of leverage. We want to win and we will win. But I want to win as a Republican. I want to run as the Republican nominee.

INT. QUICKEN LOANS ARENA - DAY

CHRIS WALLACE

It appears that all of you at one time or another are opposed to Obama's Iran deal except Rand Paul who is open to negotiating with Iran. Mr. Paul, would you like to state your position more clearly.

RAND PAUL

I don't immediately discount negotiations, but you have to negotiate from a position of strength and I think President Obama gave away too much too early.

MIKE HUCKABEE

Iran has it in their constitution that they have to wipe Israel off the map and leaders who chant "death to America". When someone points a gun at your head and loads it, God you ought to take them seriously!

CHRIS WALLACE

Speaking of God, does anyone want to comment on the subject.

MARCO RUBIO

God has blessed us. He's blessed the Republican party with some very good candidates. The Democrats can't even find one!

The room laughs.

INT. QUICKEN LOANS ARENA - DAY

The debate has come to an end.

BRET BAIER

I want to thank all of the candidates for such a spirited debate. We have about two minutes left. Could we hear from someone we haven't heard much from, Dr. Ben Carson? Doctor, would you like the last word?

BEN CARSON

Well, I haven't said anything about me being the only one to do anything, so let me try that. I'm the only one to separate Siamese twins, the only one to operate on babies while they were still in the womb, the only one to take out half a brain although you would think if you go to Washington that someone had beat me to it.

The room erupts in laughter.

INT. DEMOCRATIC HEADQUARTERS - DAY

Hillary Clinton, JOHN PODESTA, Debbie Wasserman Schultz, and several others are gathered around a television watching the Republican debate. The television is turned off as the debate ends. All are quietly fidgeting as they nervously wait for Hillary to speak.

HILLARY CLINTON

Well! That Trump sure is a pompous ass! I'm not sure if I should be amused or concerned.

Nervous laughter from the crowd.

JOHN PODESTA

He's one hell of a fighter. I'm afraid he'll make his own rules. We would be better off with Rubio or Cruz. We know how they'll play the game. We have to be on our toes.

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

He's still a joke, the people will not vote for him, too brash.

(MORE)

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ (CONT'D)

This is him getting back at Barack for making a fool out of him at the correspondence dinner.

JOHN PODESTA

Could be. He doesn't take humiliation lightly. He's a counter puncher.

HILLARY CLINTON

Yeah, but him as president, come on!

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

It is hard to believe in a Trump presidency. What would it be like?

HILLARY CLINTON

No reason to think of that, can't happen.

JOHN PODESTA

We better see to it.

INT. DEMOCRATIC HEADQUARTERS - NIGHT

Hillary Clinton, Debbie Wasserman Schultz, John Podesta, and several others are crowded around a television set watching the Iowa Republican caucus. The crowd is active and happy.

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

A win for Cruz. Looks like we can focus our attention on him.

JOHN PODESTA

Puzzling how Trump keeps doing so well? He does draw big crowds.

HILLARY CLINTON

It goes to show you how desperate the Republicans are.

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

Pataki, Walker, Perry, Jindal, and Graham bailed out before the Iowa caucus.

JOHN PODESTA

And we can expect Huckabee, Paul and, Santorum to get out after that dismal performance. We might start keeping a closer eye on Trump.

HILLARY CLINTON

(laughs)

You must be kidding. That vulgar halfwit. The country is not that lame. It will be smooth sailing from here on. The Republican caucuses will be split. I expect Jeb Bush to win Florida.

JOHN PODESTA

Not Marco?

HILLARY CLINTON

I don't think we need to worry about him or any of those other rehashed wannabees.

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

We will probably have more trouble with Sanders. He does have a large following.

JOHN PODESTA

We have to keep him pacified. We do not want to anger his voters. We may need them.

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

They will come to our side as soon as we dispose of him. Where else will they go?

(beat)

I'll keep having meetings with Bernie, it makes him feel important.

JOHN PODESTA

This will be the easiest campaign in history. And after eight years of a successful Clinton presidency, and with Chelsea looking over your shoulder, people will see her as a president someday.

HILLARY CLINTON

That's right. The Bush dynasty will pale in comparison to the Clinton's, husband, then-wife, and then the daughter. Nothing like it will ever be seen again.

INT. DEMOCRATIC HEADQUARTERS - NIGHT

Hillary Clinton, Debbie Wasserman Schultz, John Podesta, and HUMA ABEDIN are now sitting alone in a room watching television. The results of the Iowa Democratic caucus are rolling across the television screen. The room is eerily quiet. After a brief silence, Hillary speaks.

HILLARY CLINTON

Well, it's been a long day. Looks like Bernie is going to be a bit more of a problem than we anticipated.

HUMA ABEDIN

What do they see in him? He's not much to look at.

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

That's for sure. You should sit across the table from him. He looks like he should be out on a farm, planting crops.

JOHN PODESTA

That's his appeal, earthy-down-home.

HUMA ABEDIN

He does make you feel like you are with your dad.

HILLARY CLINTON

That's what he's selling. People love it but there is no substance, no plan.

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

I'll get back to work on him, congratulate him on such an impressive win. That will make him think he has a chance.

HILLARY CLINTON

How should I prepare to debate him? I can't insult his followers.

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

Don't worry about the debate. We own the DNC. I'll get a copy of the questions from Donna beforehand. Bernie will be off guard and it will show. He won't look presidential.

HILLARY CLINTON

Good, I can use the help.

JOHN PODESTA

Make him look like he belongs back
on the farm.

HUMA ABEDIN

His wife sure doesn't look like,
first lady material.

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

Too much Mother Earth. Americans
don't want a first lady who looks
like she could pull a plow.

They all laugh.

INT. WELLS FARGO CENTER - NIGHT

The Democratic convention is coming to an end. The crowd is
loud and rowdy. The roll call has been completed and Hillary
Clinton is introduced as the next Democratic candidate.

STEPHANIE RAWLINGS-BLAKE

Thank you, thank you! What a night!
What a historic night! We are about
to nominate the first women to head
a major political party!

The crowd roars.

STEPHANIE RAWLINGS-BLAKE (cont'd)

And the first women to become
President of the United States! The
most qualified candidate to ever
run for the presidency and she's a
woman!

The crowd roars.

STEPHANIE RAWLINGS-BLAKE (cont'd)

Who has worked harder, been more
honest, showed she only cares about
you. Who is that?

The crowd roars, "Hillary!"

STEPHANIE RAWLINGS-BLAKE (cont'd)

Before we bring out your leader we
have a little surprise for you.
Here to endorse Hillary is her
friend, Bernie Sanders!

The crowd roars, "Hillary, Hillary, Hillary".

INT. WELLS FARGO CENTER - BACKSTAGE - NIGHT

Debbie Wasserman Schultz is speaking to Bernie Sanders before he goes on to endorse Hillary.

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ
 Okay, Bernie, you are on! Give us a good show. Remember you'll get our support in eight years. That's how it works.

BERNIE SANDERS
 And you'll pay off my campaign debt?

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ
 That's right! Now go out and give it a good show! Tell the people they made the right choice and you back her 100%!

Bernie enters the stage and the crowd erupts.

INT. QUICKEN LOANS ARENA - NIGHT

The Republican convention is coming to an end. The roll call has been completed and Donald Trump is the candidate. The crowd is mixed between Trump supporters and Trump haters. Making the announcement is Reince Priebus.

REINCE PRIEBUS
 Ladies and gentlemen with the last of the candidates bowing out, it is my honor to introduce and present to you the Republican nominee for president of the United States, Donald J. Trump.

The crowd roars as Donald Trump and Mike Pence take the stage.

INT. DEMOCRATIC HEADQUARTERS - NIGHT

Hillary Clinton, Debbie Wasserman Schultz, John Podesta, Bill Clinton, Huma Abedin, and several campaign workers are watching the Republican convention. The room is eerily quiet as Trump takes the stage.

HILLARY CLINTON

Turn that off!

The room remains quiet as an aide turns the television off. All are waiting for Hillary to speak.

HILLARY CLINTON (cont'd)

Well, I don't know if this is good or bad?

HUMA ABEDIN

How could anyone vote for him?

JOHN PODESTA

They can't! It's nuts! This shows you how messed up the Republicans are. They made it easy with McCain now they're making it easy with Trump. They don't have anyone!

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

We're going to have to get a new game plan. He's going to come at you with everything he can. Look at how he treated his fellow Republicans. So much for an easy campaign.

JOHN PODESTA

The Republicans already have a book on him. There has to be plenty that we can come at him with.

HILLARY CLINTON

But nothing political. He's never been in office.

JOHN PODESTA

That will work against us with the current climate. This could be why the people are reaching out to a non-politician.

HILLARY CLINTON

Start the smear! Get everything you can on him.
I still can't imagine him winning.

HUMA ABEDIN

Can't happen.

JOHN PODESTA

He can't. That would be almost impossible.

(MORE)

JOHN PODESTA (CONT'D)

The established Republicans hate him. Look at how he treated McCain. We can count on him and others attacking him. I'll find out what the Republicans have on him.

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

If they found out anything, we would know about it. They would have used it.

JOHN PODESTA

McCain hates Trump. He'll help us. If we can come up with anything, John will deliver it for us.

HILLARY CLINTON

We need to keep whatever investigation going. Add to it if we have to.

JOHN PODESTA

Debbie is right if they had something they would have used it.

HILLARY CLINTON

Still, we have to knock him out someday.

Hilary's phone rings. She stands up and starts to pace.

HILLARY CLINTON (cont'd)

Yes Barack, we're all watching.

(beat)

Hard to understand, yes, we're already on it.

(beat)

Destroy him, yes. We'll hit him faster and harder. There must be plenty we can use.

(beat)

If not, make something up! The Podesta group, don't worry the press will keep quiet. They are with us, always have been. Okay, Barack, don't worry. This could be good for us. Nothing has changed. We'll get the troops on it, don't worry.

Hilary hangs up the phone.

HUMA ABEDIN

Is he mad?

HILLARY CLINTON

Wouldn't care if he was. Really don't care. He's worried about the truth coming out. He's worried about his legacy.

JOHN PODESTA

We have our work cut out for us. My brother has been working with the Russians, he's our inside man. I'll get with him and see what he knows.

HILLARY CLINTON

Our contact with the Russians must never be disclosed. Let's make it look as if Trump is colluding with the Russians. Turn everything on him.

JOHN PODESTA

I've got to go. I'll get to work on my end. I'll call you when I have something.

HILLARY CLINTON

Thank you! Soon!

He departs and Hillary turns her attention to Huma and Debbie.

HILLARY CLINTON (cont'd)

Trump is just too damn close! This wasn't supposed to happen. This should have been an easy campaign. What the hell would we do if he won?

HUMA ABEDIN

I don't ever think of that.

HILLARY CLINTON

Maybe we better. He has huge crowds, I don't.

HUMA ABEDIN

It's almost over, what should we do?

HILLARY CLINTON

We have to watch our behinds. It's time to clean up. We can get around a subpoena from the justice department if they're our justice department, but not if they aren't.

HUMA ABEDIN
Clean up, how, what?

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ
The e-mails. We won't be able to stall the justice department any longer if we lose the election. Trump will put his own people in and we're screwed.

HILLARY CLINTON
If he gets rid of Comey, I'm screwed! What do you suggest?

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ
Get rid of everything.

HUMA ABEDIN
Even the subpoenaed e-mails?

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ
Especially them. And destroy the blackberries and the computers.

HUMA ABEDIN
We could get in big trouble.

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ
It would be worse if we don't. If we lose, this is our least of our troubles. I know an "I-T" guy that can scrub your hard drives.

HILLARY CLINTON
Can they fool the FBI?

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ
It's what they do.

HILLARY CLINTON
Huma, grab all the handheld devices from the staff and smash them.

HUMA ABEDIN
Smash them, you mean with a hammer.

HILLARY CLINTON
Yes. And put the parts in a dumpster. Scatter them.

HUMA ABEDIN
A hammer, I'll need to find a hammer.

HILLARY CLINTON

Debbie, you're in charge of the computers, scrub them clean. Destroy the e-mails. If that son-of-a-bitch Trump wins, we better scramble for our lives!

HUMA ABEDIN

I can't believe this is happening. We should be planning our transition.

HILLARY CLINTON

Don't give up. I'm still ahead. This is just a precaution. We could lose all our friends in the justice department if he wins. All our protection would be gone. No more control of the narrative.

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

We better have a word with Loretta. Make sure she has your back on the e-mail thing.

HILLARY CLINTON

I can't be seen talking to her. You should go.

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

I was thinking maybe Bill. You know how persuasive he can be. He can explain how important covering up is in the best interest of all of us.

HILLARY CLINTON

Good idea.

Hillary motions for an aide to approach.

HILARY CLINTON

How can we find out Loretta's schedule?

AIDE

Let's see, the attorney general, she is guarded by the FBI, and the only ones who would know her schedule would be people at the top.

HILARY CLINTON

Okay, thanks.

She takes out her phone.

HILARY CLINTON (cont'd)

James!

EXT. TETEBORO AIRPORT - DAY

On a windy day, Bill Clinton, bag in hand, enter a chartered airplane followed by two secret servicemen.

EXT. SKY HARBOR AIRPORT - DAY

Bill Clinton's plane lands and parks in an isolated area of the tarmac. He exits the plane followed by the two secret servicemen. They walk fifty yards and Bill boards a nondescript jet. The two men stand guard.

INT. UPSCALE OFFICE OF TONY PODESTA - NIGHT

A sign on the door reads "Podesta Group". TONY PODESTA and John Podesta are in conversation.

TONY PODESTA

So you think Trump will be that much trouble? He's such a big blowhard, can't keep it shut. He's going to destroy himself.

JOHN PODESTA

His rallies worry me. Clinton is not worried, but I am. She thinks as you do. We still maintain a lead in most polls.

TONY PODESTA

And you have the press on your side and you can outspend him two to one. And Barack Obama with the power of the presidency, how can she lose?

JOHN PODESTA

Hard to say. Trump's gotten so much press and that can be bad for us any way you look at it. It would be better if he was ignored.

TONY PODESTA

You can't ignore him. That would be a mistake, he's Trump!

JOHN PODESTA

I'm interested in the Republican's Fusion GPS investigation in Russia. Did they come up with anything?

TONY PODESTA

No, not really. We're going to have to invent some nice stories to beef it up. The least we can do is embarrass him and make his life miserable. I hooked us up with my guy from "MI6." He should be here any minute.

JOHN PODESTA

What can he do for us?

TONY PODESTA

He can put together a better dossier on Trump.

JOHN PODESTA

Not too crazy I hope. We have to sell it to our people.

TONY PODESTA

No, he'll put in some stuff that links Trump with a Russian businessman. And some good sex stuff with hookers. Sex is always a good sell.

JOHN PODESTA

That's what we need. Of course, the DNC and the Clinton campaign will pay for it. Make sure you get a big finders fee for yourself.

TONY PODESTA

Of course. The Russians have been good to my bank account for several years now, I might as well get some from this side too. We have something else in the works for the Trump camp. I'll let you know when it's completed.

JOHN PODESTA

Time to pull out all the dirty tricks. No election is for sure.

The intercom buzzes.

INTERCOM

(oc)

Your appointment is here, sir.

TONY PODESTA

Send him in. Get ready to meet our own personal spy.

CHRISTOPHER STEELE is led into the office. Tony jumps to greet him.

TONY PODESTA (cont'd)

Chris, I would like you to meet my brother, John.

They shake hands.

CHRISTOPHER STEELE

Nice to meet you.

TONY PODESTA

John is Hillary Clinton's campaign manager.

JOHN PODESTA

Same here. So, you're the guy who's going to help us?

CHRISTOPHER STEELE

I'm sure I can give you what you want.

TONY PODESTA

Chris is more than capable. He retired British intelligent, "MI6."

CHRISTOPHER STEELE

That's right, twenty-two years. I went into private practice.

JOHN PODESTA

So you've worked with our "CIA?"

CHRISTOPHER STEELE

Yes.

JOHN PODESTA

So, you must have taken some secrets and contacts with you?

CHRISTOPHER STEELE

Twenty-plus years in the business and working all over the world, I have many friends.

TONY PODESTA
Best fixer in the business.

JOHN PODESTA
Good, good. So you're going to
improve on the dossier?

CHRISTOPHER STEELE
Evidence has to be manufactured,
but yes.

JOHN PODESTA
Any problem with that,
manufacturing?

CHRISTOPHER STEELE
Not for over twenty years. Tried
and true.

TONY PODESTA
Trained by the best.

CHRISTOPHER STEELE
Keep everything vague. Back in the
past. Hard to trace. Everything
will come from Russia, who will
have the ability to reach that far.
It will look right.

JOHN PODESTA
Fool the courts?

CHRISTOPHER STEELE
Fool any court.

JOHN PODESTA
Good enough. Clinton, the "DNC",
will pay you. Don't worry about the
cost. We pay for quality.

CHRISTOPHER STEELE
Gentlemen, I must get to work. Nice
to meet you. I'll be in touch.

They shake hands as he departs.

JOHN PODESTA
The sooner the better.

INT. UPSCALE OFFICE - DAY

A sign on the door reads, "Fusion GPS". A sign on the desk reads, "Glen Simpson, vice-president". A meeting with Russian lawyer Natalia Veselnitskaya is underway.

GLEN SIMPSON

In a few hours, you're going to meet with the Trump people at the Trump Towers. I wanted to meet with you before your meeting. Make sure everything is understood. You're all set up to meet the Trump boy and whoever else he brings along.

NATALIA VESELNITSKAYA

(heavy Russian accent)

What do they think the meeting is about?

GLEN SIMPSON

They think you're going to give them information on Clinton.

NATALIA VESELNITSKAYA

What do I tell them?

GLEN SIMPSON

Anything, I don't care. All we want is for there to be a meeting.

NATALIA VESELNITSKAYA

How long do you want it to last?

GLEN SIMPSON

As long as you can. The longer the better. We want to make it seem like an important meeting.

NATALIA VESELNITSKAYA

Okay, and you will help with access to Hillary Clinton when she's president?

GLEN SIMPSON

Absolutely. Meet me back here when you're done. Let me know how it went.

INT. SUITE AT TRUMP TOWERS - DAY

Natalia Veselnitskaya is waiting, tapping her foot. Rob Goldstein, a publicist, along with an interpreter are present.

NATALIA VESELNITSKAYA
Where are they?

ROB GOLDSTEIN
They'll be here. They were receptive. I baited them with info on Clinton. They can't pass that up.

NATALIA VESELNITSKAYA
What do I tell them?

ROB GOLDSTEIN
Doesn't matter, we just want everyone to know there was a meeting.

The door opens and in walks Jared Kushner, Donald Trump Jr., Paul Manafort, and an aide. Rob Goldstein rushes to greet them.

ROB GOLDSTEIN (cont'd)
Donald, Donald it's been a long time!

DONALD TRUMP JR.
A long time, the Miss America Pageant. What do you have for me today?

ROB GOLDSTEIN
I want you to meet Natalia Veselnitskaya. She wanted to meet you.

DONALD TRUMP JR.
(cautious)
Okay. Nice to meet you.

She approaches and offers Donald Trump Jr. her hand.

NATALIA VESELNITSKAYA
Nice to meet you.

DONALD TRUMP JR.
How can I help you?

Awkward silence.

DONALD TRUMP JR. (cont'd)
Does she understand me?

ROB GOLDSTEIN
Yes, of course.

NATALIA VESELNITSKAYA
I'm sorry, I was just hoping we could meet so in the future we might do business.

DONALD TRUMP JR.
Don't you have anything on the Clintons?

NATALIA VESELNITSKAYA
No there must be a misunderstanding.

DONALD TRUMP JR.
What! What is this Rob!

Rob Goldstein shrugs his shoulders.

ROB GOLDSTEIN
Maybe I misinterpreted it.

DONALD TRUMP JR.
Okay, this is nothing! We have other meetings to attend! Let's go!

Donald Trump Jr leads Jared Kushner and Paul Manafort out the door. Rob turns to Natalia.

ROB GOLDSTEIN
Good enough!

INT. UNIVERSITY OF NEVADA - DAY

The third presidential debate is coming to an end. The moderator is Chris Wallace. Hillary Clinton looks a little frayed after a long debate. Trump looks confident.

CHRIS WALLACE
As we come to the conclusion of what can only be described as a spirited debate between two very combative candidates. We will end with one last word from the candidates. You each have one minute. Ladies first, Miss Clinton.

HILLARY CLINTON

Thank you, Chris, and thank the audience here and at home. You know, I've been privileged to see the presidency up close. And I know the awesome responsibility of protecting our country and the incredible opportunity to try and make life better for all of you.

Donald Trump moves behind her. Hillary Clinton appears uncomfortable and distracted.

INT. DEMOCRATIC HEADQUARTERS - DAY

Debbie Wasserman Schultz, John Podesta, and Tony Podesta are sitting around the television set. Several campaign workers are moving about the crowded room looking at their phones. The mood is upbeat.

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

Not bad, she held her own. The people will see Trump as the bully he is.

(beat)

You can turn it off.

An aide responds as she stares at her phone.

TONY PODESTA

With what my guy Chris Steele came up with that dossier and the Billy Bush crap, I would say our work is done. What the "DNC" does with it is their business.

AIDE

All of the poles have Hillary winning the debate. Mostly by two to one.

JOHN PODESTA

There you go.

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

Let's not let up. We've got the money, let's spend it. We'll keep the Billy Bush ad on TV until every child in America hears it. And keep playing up that dossier as if was substantiated. Doesn't matter if it is.

JOHN PODESTA

Right, okay.

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

Keep hitting him hard! None of us.
Barack, you two, Hillary, me, we
all could lose big.

Debbie Wasserman Schultz's phone rings. She looks at the caller ID before answering.

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ (cont'd)

Quiet everyone, it's our leader.
Hillary! Honey, you were great! You
held your own with that bully! Yes,
all of the polls have you as the
winner! Most two to one! Women all
over the world are standing a
little taller. Okay, hun, I'll see
you tomorrow.

She hangs up her phone and addresses the crowd.

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ (cont'd)

Everyone, Hillary sends her love!

The crowd cheers.

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ (cont'd)

It's three weeks until the election
and we are going to hit that
misogynous, racist, sexist, pig,
with everything we have.

The crowd roars.

Debbie Wasserman Schultz takes John Podesta aside.

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ (cont'd)

Okay, John, you are up, make sure
we win this election. How is your
brother doing with the Fusion
people?

JOHN PODESTA

All setup. They set up one of the
Trump boys with a Russian lawyer
with connections to the Kremlin.
We're going to make it look like
something is going on.

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

Perfect! Nothing like a little
blackmail.

(MORE)

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ (CONT'D)

That's what we need to distract the people. Let's keep the Billy Bush video on the TV twenty-four-seven.

JOHN PODESTA

Got it! That's our connection to the Fusion people, working.

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

Can we trust them?

JOHN PODESTA

They are businessmen!

EXT. FBI HEADQUARTERS - DAY

A nondescript high-rise building.

INT. FBI HEADQUARTERS - HALLWAY - DAY

A hallway and an office door with the name Andrew McCabe, "Deputy Director."

INT. FBI HEADQUARTERS - OFFICE OF ANDREW MCCABE

Andrew McCabe is at his desk. A knock at the door.

ANDREW MCCABE

Come in.

Enters FBI agent PETER STRZOK.

ANDREW MCCABE (cont'd)

Peter, come in, have a seat.

PETER STRZOK

Did you want to see me?

ANDREW MCCABE

Yes, I'm getting concerned about Trump. We need to formulate a strategy. I wasn't impressed with Hillary's effort in the debate.

PETER STRZOK

She's stumbling to the finish line.

ANDREW MCCABE

More like falling. Lucky for her, she has many people holding her up.

(MORE)

ANDREW MCCABE (CONT'D)

It's not likely, but we best be prepared for a Trump win.

PETER STRZOK

I think I would eat my gun. That damn billionaire Hillbilly!

ANDREW MCCABE

A lot of us would.

PETER STRZOK

What do you have in mind?

ANDREW MCCABE

We need some sort of insurance policy. We need an attack plan. We need to get Trump tangled up in some sort of an investigation.

PETER STRZOK

Okay, a misinformation campaign.

ANDREW MCCABE

Yes. We need to get a story in a newspaper. It has to not lead back to us. Any ideas?

PETER STRZOK

I could have Lisa do it. She has a friend over at the Wall Street Journal.

ANDREW MCCABE

Can we trust her? Is she expendable?

PETER STRZOK

She's my girl, I've been dating her for a while. Expendable, I can always find a new girlfriend!

They laugh.

ANDREW MCCABE

I'll prepare something, you can handle the rest. I hope we don't need an insurance policy, but best to be ready.

PETER STRZOK

A Trump win, can't happen!

ANDREW MCCABE

Let's hope you're right.

INT. FBI HEADQUARTERS - HALLWAY

A hallway and an office door with the name Peter Strzok, agent.

A thirty-something, brown-haired beauty, LISA PAGE, opens the door and walks in without knocking. She is smiling and holding up a phone.

LISA PAGE

You wanted to see me, lover boy.
Your texts are getting me hot.

PETER STRZOK

You're always hot. My dream girl.
Just so no one finds out.

LISA PAGE

They won't, should I lock the door?

PETER STRZOK

No, work to do. I just spoke with
number two. He wants to get ahead
of the election. Just in case.

LISA PAGE

Just in case?

PETER STRZOK

Just in case Trump wins.

LISA PAGE

Oh, crap! That can't happen. The
red-neck hillbillies can't take
over!

PETER STRZOK

My feeling exactly.

LISA PAGE

So, what do we do?

PETER STRZOK

We want to send you over to the
Wall Street Journal with our
narrative.

LISA PAGE

Okay, but really, can the pig win!

PETER STRZOK

Not likely.

INT. KREMLIN - DAY

President PUTIN is at his desk. Sitting around him are three men, one in military dress. They are watching "CNN."

TELEVISION

(oc)

As this election winds down to its last few weeks, Hillary is leading in most polls.

Putin starts to laugh as the others join in. Russian is spoken.

PUTIN

Much fun watching the Americans go crazy! Their elections are so meaningless.

MAN 1

So stupid they are! Everyone knows Hillary will win. They are so easy to infiltrate. Thank you, Facebook.

The men laugh.

MAN 3

Thank you, stupid American people. They fix their own elections. They fool their people.

PUTIN

With this administration, we have gotten further into their government than ever before! They are so lax. With Hillary, it will be business as usual.

MAN 3

Obama called you Vlad!

They all burst out laughing.

PUTIN

My good friend Barack!

More laughter.

MAN 2

We could try and get more of their uranium.

PUTIN

That's on the list.

MAN 2

Should be easy after the first deal. Stupid idiots. We are making so much money!

The men laugh.

PUTIN

It's been a good eight years for us.

MAN 3

But, what if Trump gets in?

PUTIN

Let's hope that doesn't happen. The game would change. I am afraid we have been spoiled with Obama, we got everything we wanted.

MAN 3

The world got everything they wanted. I'm going to miss Obama.

The men nod and smile.

MAN 3 (cont'd)

Hillary will stay out of our way as long as we stay quiet. We have much on her.

MAN 1

That's what we want. We can keep feeding enriched uranium to Iran. They will have the bomb soon! Lots of money for us. Clinton will look the other way as Obama.

MAN 3

Hell, Obama helped Iran more than anyone with that treaty. I wonder what he's really up to?

MAN 1

And the money!

MAN 3

How did the American people get so strong?

PUTIN

They were mighty once, but no more. Eight years of Clinton policy will erode America even more.

MAN 3

Good work on that dossier.

MAN 1

That wasn't us.

MAN 3

Really, who then?

PUTIN

Totally American made! More of the Clinton dirty tricks. Clinton and Obama have so much to lose if she doesn't get elected.

MAN 3

How could she not, she's the mighty Hillary.

The men laugh.

PUTIN

Someday the American people will know Hillary as we do.

MAN 2

After the election, once elected, she will quiet everything. It will go back to business as usual.

PUTIN

And we'll offer to help and be her ally like we were with Obama.

The men laugh.

INT. WHITE HOUSE, OVAL OFFICE - DAY

Sitting around President Obama's desk are JAMES COMEY, SHAILAGH MURRAY, President Obama's policy advisor, and CIA director, JOHN BRENNAN.

BARACK OBAMA

I know the polls are showing Hillary ahead but we can't relax. . . We need to know what Trump's thinking. What's his next move?

JAMES COMEY

We need to get into Trump Tower.

BARACK OBAMA

As in?

JAMES COMEY

As in, bug the place.

BARACK OBAMA

How? I mean, I know you know how to do it, but undetected?

JAMES COMEY

Or, a legal wire-tap.

BARACK OBAMA

Legal, thru FISA? How do we get past a FISA judge?

JAMES COMEY

The dossier.

BARACK OBAMA

It's bogus. The Clinton people help put that together. They paid for it!

JAMES COMEY

Yes, but, the judge doesn't need to know that or maybe we could find a judge that would look the other way. A judge that doesn't like Trump is certainly possible.

JOHN BRENNAN

You'll have the backing of the CIA. I'll sign off on it. That son-of-a-bitch is not going to be president!

BARACK OBAMA

I see. Are we sure the dossier will work?

Comey turns to Shailagh Murray who has been sitting quietly listening.

SHAILAGH MURRAY

I don't think you know this, Sir, but my husband, Neil, is number two at Fusion GPS. He's good friends with Chris Steele. He helped Chris put the dossier together. They put together whatever we need to please a judge.

BARACK OBAMA

Oh, great! Keep it in the family.

JAMES COMEY

With the dossier, and with myself
and John signing off to a friendly
judge, we're in.

BARACK OBAMA

And all is kept quiet.
After the election, all of this
goes away. It can't trail back to
my White House. And it can't lead
back to Hillary and the DNC.

JAMES COMEY

It better die with us.

JOHN BRENNAN

Damn sure!

BARACK OBAMA

How do we get a friendly judge?

JOHN BRENNAN

We just need a judge who hates
Trump. Shouldn't be hard.

JAMES COMEY

The DOJ is loaded with Obama
people. It's not hard to find some
who hates Trump. I know a guy who
may know a judge. There's got to be
a judge who hates Trump and who's
indebted to Clinton.
I'll contact him.

JOHN BRENNAN

A lot of us are indebted to Clinton
for our careers.

BARACK OBAMA

Stupid of Trump! Surrounded by his
enemies.
If he only knew.

SHAILAGH MURRAY

Trump's easy to hate. Easy to
attack.

BARACK OBAMA

Looks like we have a plan. Trump
can't win. I think.

EXT. PARKING GARAGE - DAY

James Comey is standing inside the entrance to the structure. He's watching every car as they drive in.

As he spies his target driving in, he walks over to a parking stall and removes a parking cone.

The male driver, ROD ROSENSTEIN, parks in this spot. Comey enters his vehicle looking around. He offers the driver his hand.

JAMES COMEY

Hi Rod, it's been a while. How are things over at your end? People getting nervous?
Trump could win.

ROD ROSENSTEIN

No, our intelligence says differently. It could be close, but I can't see it.

JAMES COMEY

I can't believe it either. I want to be sure, stranger things have happened. Everyone was sure Dewey was going to win, remember!

ROD ROSENSTEIN

Scary! We could lose everything. We've been monitoring his crowds. I hate that imbecile and his stupid red-neck, bull-shit, crowd!

JAMES COMEY

I know. I can't get any volunteers to infiltrate his crowds. It gives me a chance to punish the agents I don't like.

ROD ROSENSTEIN

I hear that! Lousy assignment.

JAMES COMEY

We can't rest. My wife and daughter would hate me if I didn't do what I can for Hillary. The President is on-board to surveil Trump Tower.

ROD ROSENSTEIN

Really! Great! What do you have in mind?

JAMES COMEY

We have the dossier, all we need is a judge to approve a warrant.

ROD ROSENSTEIN

A dossier, on Trump, what's in it?

JAMES COMEY

Lot's of good stuff. Sex stuff and Russian business stuff. Whores pissing on him and shit like that!

ROD ROSENSTEIN

(laughs)

Are you kidding! I see you went all-out. Then your thinking about Judge Contreras.

JAMES COMEY

This judge is a friend of yours.

ROD ROSENSTEIN

Yes. I don't know how he feels about Trump, but he is Hispanic. He probably hates him like we do.

JAMES COMEY

I can't imagine Trump winning, but best not to take him lightly.

ROD ROSENSTEIN

His followers are a concern.

JAMES COMEY

It will be fun destroying him. I hate that bastard.

ROD ROSENSTEIN

We would all have to run and hide if he won. He's a vindictive son-of-a-bitch!

JAMES COMEY

No shit! He's a vindictive son-of-a-bitch, all right!

ROD ROSENSTEIN

He's easy to piss-off, so watch it.

JAMES COMEY

We're being careful, he can't win.

ROD ROSENSTEIN
No, it's going to be Hillary and it
will be business as usual.

JAMES COMEY
Our toughest job will be baby-
sitting Bill.

They both laugh.

Comey offers his hand.

JAMES COMEY (cont'd)
Contact me as soon as you get an
understanding from the judge. We
are rushed.

ROD ROSENSTEIN
In the next couple of days.

Comey exits the vehicle.

INT. UPSCALE BALLROOM - NIGHT

Backstage at a rally for Hillary Clinton. Debbie Wasserman
Schultz is coaching MICHELLE OBAMA before she gives a speech.
Michelle is scanning index cards.

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ
Okay, girl, go out there and give
them hell! Give them the old
sympathetic mother routine. Go out
and get the mother vote!

MICHELLE OBAMA
I'll give it my best.

The announcer can be heard backstage.

ANNOUNCER
Our distinguished guest Michelle
Obama!

Michelle Obama enters the stage to a loud roar.

MICHELLE OBAMA
Thank you. Thank all of you and
especially your Governor and soon
to be Senator Maggie Hassan.

The crowd roars.

MICHELLE OBAMA (cont'd)

The fact is that in this election, we have a candidate for president of the United States who, over the course of his lifetime and the course of this campaign, has said things about women that are so shocking, so demeaning that I simply will not repeat anything here today. And last week, we saw this candidate actually bragging about sexually assaulting women. And I can't believe that I'm saying that a candidate for president of the United States has bragged about sexually assaulting women.

The crowd applauds.

MICHELLE OBAMA (cont'd)

And I have to tell you that I can't stop thinking about this. It has shaken me to my core in a way that I couldn't have predicted. So while I'd love nothing more than to pretend like this isn't happening, and to come out here and do my normal campaign speech, it would be dishonest and disingenuous of me to just move on to the next thing like this was all just a bad dream.

She's holding her stomach.

INT. WHITE HOUSE - OVAL OFFICE - DAY

A camera is set up and Barack Obama is taping an ad for Hillary Clinton.

BARACK OBAMA

There has never been a man or a woman more qualified to be president than my former secretary of State, Hillary Clinton. Until you've sat at this desk, you don't know what it's like to manage a global crisis or send young people to war. But Hilary has been in the room, she's been part of those decisions. Even in the middle of a crisis, she listens to people and keeps her cool. Trump, what is he?

(MORE)

BARACK OBAMA (CONT'D)

He is just offering slogans, and he's offering fear. He is betting that if he scares enough people, he might score just enough votes to win this election. That is another bet that Donald Trump will lose.

INT. WHITE HOUSE - BACK OFFICE - DAY

The room has been converted into a small studio. Vice President Joe Bidden is on camera taping an ad for Hillary Clinton.

JOE BIDDEN

No nominee has ever known less or been less prepared to deal with our national security. This guy doesn't have a clue about the middle East. Not a clue, actually, he has no clue, period.

INT. DEMOCRATIC HEADQUARTERS - NIGHT

It's ELECTION NIGHT and Debbie Wasserman Schultz and John and Tony Podesta are among a large noisy crowd of Hillary Clinton campaign workers. They are watching several televisions. Each showing a different station.

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

(to John Podesta)

Florida is too close for comfort.

JOHN PODESTA

Don't worry, it's early. Are the Clinton's coming?

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

They are up in their suite. She won't come down until it's announced she won. She wants to make an entrance.

JOHN PODESTA

(chuckles)

That's the Clinton's.

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

Do you think she'll offer you the Attorney General job?

JOHN PODESTA

That's the plan. Tomorrow we need to start burying this election.

DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

Oh, we've been scrubbing and shredding for some time.

JOHN PODESTA

Good.

TONY PODESTA

I'll get my office in order. Make sure nothing leads back to us. . That dossier was brilliant.

JOHN PODESTA

It was. I would use Steele again.

TONY PODESTA

He's going to be our go-to guy. His dossier fooled the FISA court.

JOHN PODESTA

A great team effort!

INT. HOTEL SUITE - NIGHT

Chelsea and Hillary on the couch. Hillary is nervously clutching a throw pillow. They are quietly staring at a television. Bill Clinton and Huma Abedin are munching at a snack table. Several aides are roaming the rooms.

BILL CLINTON

Are you used to this yet, election night?

HUMA ABEDIN

Somewhat. This one's different somehow. It's historic.

BILL CLINTON

The Clinton dynasty continues! And you're witness to it all. Witness to greatness. You've been with Hillary for some time.

HUMA ABEDIN

Loved every minute of it. . . . This is a little tense, a little too close for me.

BILL CLINTON

It is!

HUMA ABEDIN

Weird if we don't win! We pulled out every dirty trick we could think of.

BILL CLINTON

Don't think like that. Too many careers count on this election.

HUMA ABEDIN

I don't know what I would do if that stupid New York red-neck won!

INT. DEMOCRATIC HEADQUARTERS, NEW YORK - NIGHT

The crowd has quieted. Some are slowly starting to tear and shake as the results are announced. The shock wears off and the crowd starts to explode into sobs and screams.

ANNOUNCER

(oc)

The unbelievable has happened, ladies and gentlemen, Donald Trump is your next president of the United States.

The crowd erupts into chaos. Some are hysterical.

INT. HOTEL SUITE - NIGHT

Cold, eerie silence. Hillary and Chelsea are on the couch, staring at the television. All in the room are standing, waiting.

BILL CLINTON

Maybe we should clear the room.

Hillary starts to shake. Chelsea starts to cry. Suddenly Hillary erupts, jumping up and ranting around the room as the others attempt an escape.

HILLARY CLINTON

Shut that, shut that shit off! He can't win! That god-damn mother-fucker! I will not be denied what's rightfully mine!

BILL CLINTON

Now honey!

HILLARY CLINTON
 Shut up! Shut up! Shut up! You
 stupid ass! Keep it in your pants!
 It's your fault! Oh, God! I have to
 call Obama!

BILL CLINTON
 (quickly)
 Okay, everyone let's get out.

Hillary runs to the bedroom and slams the door. Loud
 unintelligible sobbing comes from the room.

Bill puts his ear to the door.

BILL CLINTON (cont'd)
 (to Chelsea)
 Go call her doctor.

CHELSEA CLINTON
 Okay.

INT. WHITE HOUSE - LIVING QUARTERS - NIGHT

Michelle and Barack Obama are on a couch. They are staring at
 a television with the volume off. A blank look on their
 faces.

MICHELLE OBAMA
 What now?

BARACK OBAMA
 Shit hits the fan.

She curls up to Barack.

MICHELLE OBAMA
 I want to hide. How do we go on?

BARACK OBAMA
 We can't run and hide. A lot of
 people are going to be looking to
 us for comfort and guidance.

MICHELLE OBAMA
 How could this happen? We tried
 everything.

BARACK OBAMA
 We did things we need to cover-up.
 And keep covering up.

MICHELLE OBAMA

What a mess. How could she do this to us?

BARACK OBAMA

Hillary's ego. She wouldn't listen.

(beat)

Beaten by Trump! Could it be any worse?

(beat)

Well, the war is not over. It can't be over. So much for retirement.

MICHELLE OBAMA

We have to keep fighting for our reputations, hell, we may have to fight to stay out of jail!

Michelle starts to tear.

BARACK OBAMA

You're right.
You may be right.

MICHELLE OBAMA

Do you think Hollywood will still accept us? Do you think they will have us back on late-night TV?

BARACK OBAMA

They won't blame us. They'll blame her.

A light blinks on a phone. They both notice.

BARACK OBAMA (cont'd)

That would be the loser. I'll take it in the office.

MICHELLE OBAMA

(scoffs)

And don't forget, call and congratulate the winner!

BARACK OBAMA

Oh god! That's right!

(beat)

I've got the people in the Middle-East to deal with. I gave them as much of America as I could.

MICHELLE OBAMA

You gave them all that money. That should tell them something.

BARACK OBAMA

And I kept the DEA off their back.
Things are going to change with
Trump. And they're not going to be
happy.

INT HOTEL SUITE - NIGHT

Bill listens at the door as Hillary makes a phone call.

HILLARY CLINTON

(oc)(uncontrolled sobbing)
Barack, Barack, I'm so sorry!

INT. WHITE HOUSE - OVAL OFFICE - NIGHT

The room is dimly lit by a desk lamp and the light from television with the volume down. An aide in a dark suit stands next to the desk. A stern, menacing look on Barack Obama's face. He is smoking. He is on the phone.

BARACK OBAMA

(stern)

We have trouble now! Yes, shit, the
dossier! Damn-it!

(beat)

Yes, Michelle is disappointed! Just
calm down. You did your best.

(beat)

I don't know what I'm going to do,
but I'll do something. We can't
give up. Everything is at stake.

(beat)

Calm down, Hillary!

INT. HOTEL SUITE - NIGHT

Bill Clinton is still by the door, listening. Hillary's voice fades in and out, indicating she is pacing around the room. We hear an occasional crash coming from the room.

HILLARY CLINTON

(sobbing)

It's not my fault! Fuck, everyone
let me down! It was mine, mine,
mine!

Bill Clinton's hand goes toward the doorknob. He hesitates. Chelsea returns with a doctor. They all stand by the door listening and all look concerned.

CHELSEA CLINTON

(shaking)

She sounds bad. Maybe we should go in.

BILL CLINTON

She's on the phone. Let her get off first. Doc, I've never seen her like this, well, not lately.

DOCTOR

Too much of a letdown. Maybe I should sedate her.

BILL CLINTON

(to Chelsea)

Go downstairs and tell the crowd she won't be coming down. She won't be making a statement today.

CHELSEA CLINTON

Me, okay.

Chelsea walks over to an aide.

CHELSEA CLINTON (cont'd)

Why don't you do it, I'm too shook-up.

INT. WHITE HOUSE - OVAL OFFICE - DAY

President Obama is on the phone. The room is dimly lit by a table lamp. The conversation starts off calm but ends up heated.

BARACK OBAMA

Calm down, Abdullah! Anger won't help. She let us down. She's a dumb fool woman who wouldn't listen to anyone! Well, at least I got you a billion-plus for the cause. Don't forget that!

INT. RESIDENCE IN THE MIDDLE EAST - DAY

Abdullah is on the phone, standing at the head of a long table. Sitting at the table are several Sheiks.

ABDULLAH

Obama! We hold you responsible! You assured us! You said you had control of America!

INT. WHITE HOUSE - OVAL OFFICE - DAY

BARACK OBAMA

I did!

INT. RESIDENCE IN THE MIDDLE EAST - DAY

The Sheiks nod and talk among themselves.

ABDULLAH

We are so close to making America a Muslim country! A Clinton presidency would have brought many more to your shores. Many Syrians. You are useless to us now!

He pounds his fist on the table.

INT. WHITE HOUSE - OVAL OFFICE - DAY

An aide enters with a tray. Obama puts his hand over the phone and snaps.

BARACK OBAMA

Get out!

Shaken, he spills the tray as he backs out of the room.

BARACK OBAMA (cont'd)

Useless! Now, Abdullah, I'm still president! I know, not for long. I promise you, Trump's presidency will not be an easy one. I still have influence! I've made friends! I have friends in the press, in the Republican party, hell I have Royals who I'm close too! I'm just getting started! Not one of them suspects a thing! Fools! And haven't I protected our friends? I have proven myself!

INT. RESIDENCE IN THE MIDDLE EAST - DAY

ABDULLAH

You have been effective in certain areas. Your power is soon gone. How will we get another in the White House, Hillary was our last chance. You should of went with Biden, got rid of that woman!

The Sheik's nod approval.

ABDULLAH (cont'd)
America thinks too much of its
women.

INT. WHITE HOUSE, OVAL OFFICE - DAY

BARACK OBAMA
We were stuck with Hillary! I can
still be effective! Do you think
we're going to give Trump a pass?
The fight has just begun! My people
are still in place! His presidency
will be over before it starts and
then we'll have the presidency
back! This is a mere setback. Now,
I have business to tend to.

He hangs up the phone, pauses, picks it up again.

BARACK OBAMA (cont'd)
John Brennan, please. . . .Yes,
John, unbelievable, I know. Make
yourself available in the next
couple of days, yes.

He hangs up the phone. He is sweating and tense. He picks up
the phone and his cigarette.

BARACK OBAMA (cont'd)
Yes, Oprah. It's a really bad day.
Surreal, unreal. It's not the time
to quit. We can't quit. I'm calling
a meeting in a few days, I'll let
you know.

He hangs up the phone, takes a deep drag on his cigarette,
and lets out a deep breath, stares.

BARACK OBAMA (cont'd)
(to himself)
This could be bad.

EXT. OPRAH'S YACHT - NIGHT

The sun is setting and a party is underway on the deck. Among
Oprah and the Obamas are several recognizable celebrities
from the entertainment, business, and political world. People
are dancing, drinks in hand.

Barack and Michelle are dancing close.

BARACK OBAMA

Do you believe this? Look at all these powerful people. Even after losing the election.

MICHELLE OBAMA

They don't blame you. They blame her.

BARACK OBAMA

I think you're right.

MICHELLE OBAMA

They're here for you. You can still be their leader. They love you.

BARACK OBAMA

They're here to preserve their way of life. The rich and powerful will not be denied.

MICHELLE OBAMA

And you could be their leader. They need a leader. . . . Do you think they'll kill him?

BARACK OBAMA

Trump! No, that's out of the picture, for now. An all-out assault on his presidency and his personal life, that's where we start.

MICHELLE OBAMA

He deserves it! I hate him!

BARACK OBAMA

We all do honey. We all do.

Barack Obama motions for an aide. He whispers in his ear before taking Michelle's hand and disappearing downstairs. The aide moves around the room whispering to several other men.

INT. OPRAH'S YACHT - NIGHT

Barack Obama is standing at the head of a long conference table. He sits as he begins to speak. The mood is somber.

BARACK OBAMA

Thank all of you for being here in this desperate time.

(MORE)

BARACK OBAMA (CONT'D)

The unimaginable has happened. No need to point fingers.

MAN 1

Well, someone's to blame. Damn Clinton!

BARACK OBAMA

We were stuck with her, not anymore.

MAN 2

Hell, it's all over!

BARACK OBAMA

We need to stay united and fight with everything we have. The war is not over, it just started! We can't let his presidency go forward! All we worked for will be for nothing! America will never be the country I, we, envisioned.

Murmuring of agreement.

MAN 1

But, what can we do?

MAN 2

I thought we did it all. We sure spent enough.

BARACK OBAMA

(agitated)

What can we do! What can we do, hell, a lot! Look around the room! The heads of the major networks, several editors of major newspapers, come-on, what can't we do!

Several at the table nod and murmur approval.

MAN 1

I'm so damn mad, hell, I've never given so much bad press to a candidate in my life! How could this happen!

MAN 3

Every talk show host, every early morning show on every station except Fox, and we couldn't stop him.

BARACK OBAMA

(tense)

We have to try harder! What do we do, give up? This is war!

Seated at the far end, TOM HANKS leans over to and whispers to RITA WILSON.

TOM HANKS

(whispers to Rita)

What? What war?

RITA WILSON

(whispers back)

I have no idea.

BARACK OBAMA

I am calling on all of you to not give up the fight!

Barack Obama jumps up and paces at the front of the table. He is agitated and sweating.

Rita leans over to Tom.

RITA WILSON

(whispers)

He's serious.

TOM HANKS

(whispers)

Why are we invited to this meeting?

RITA WILSON

(whispers)

I don't know. Let's get out as soon as we can.

TOM HANKS

We're trapped, we're staying the night!

Barack is pumped, pacing in front.

BARACK OBAMA

This is a real disaster for us! We didn't anticipate this!

MAN 2

Why didn't the dossier work? A lot of money was spent.

BARACK OBAMA
It served its purpose. It got us
the FISA warrant.

MAN 3
That was money down a crap hole!

BARACK OBAMA
Who was to know, Trump is clean.

MAN 3
What now?

BARACK OBAMA
We must call on all our allies in
the press and politics. An all-out
assault on his presidency!

The group reacts with approval.

MAN 1
But didn't we do that during the
election?

MAN 2
Obviously not, he won! And we had a
handicap,Hillary!

Several at the table exchange a look of disgust.

BARACK OBAMA
We have no choice! We either fight
or run!

EXT. OPRAH'S YACHT - NIGHT

The party has ended and some of the guests are departing.
Barack and Michelle Obama along with Oprah are saying their
goodbyes.

OPRAH
Nite-nite, all. Those who are
staying on board, I'll see you at
breakfast. Later, we'll go on a
bicycle ride and site-seeing
afterward.

BARACK OBAMA
Thanks for coming! We'll be in
touch when we have a plan.

Barack Obama takes Oprah's hands.

BARACK OBAMA (cont'd)

This is a good start. We need to enlist everyone we know. Every radio-TV station. Every newspaper, every blog, we have to control everything!

OPRAH

Are we doing the right thing?

BARACK OBAMA

Of course. We have to stay united. We have to stop his presidency before he can dismantle what the elite built over the last decade. It's up to us to stop him.

INT. UPSCALE OFFICE - NIGHT

Barack Obama is at his desk in his new office. He is on the phone. His image reflects on a large window. A city at night is in the background. A cigarette burns in an ashtray.

BARACK OBAMA

(angry)

Damn-it Podesta! Sloppy, very damn sloppy! Why did we lose! I will never give in! We can't, we do, we lose everything!

He slams the phone down and lets out a heavy sigh. He pauses a minute before taking a drag and picking up the phone again.

BARACK OBAMA (cont'd)

Yes, Mr. Farrakhcan, it's Obama.

(beat)

Lewis! Stop yelling! We never give up, Lewis! Things look bleak now, we were blind-sided! I know, I know your mad so are our friends in the Middle-East.

(beat)

Clinton's out of the picture now. I'm back in charge, god-damn-it!

(beat)

Okay, okay, you're pissed, I get it! So am I! . . . I'm not done!

Barack Obama hangs up the phone and stares. He picks up the phone, pauses, and dials.

BARACK OBAMA (cont'd)
Damn Hillary! Get me
Brennon.

INT. UPSCALE OFFICE - DAY

Barack Obama is at his desk. Across from him are John Brennan and Rod Rosenstein.

BARACK OBAMA
We're all in deep shit unless we
can come up with something.

ROD ROSENSTEIN
I'm sure Trump's going to clean
house over at the DOJ. I'm sure I'm
on the block.

JOHN BRENNAN
No one's jobs are safe with a new
administration. This one for sure.
Expect to be canned.

BARACK OBAMA
(mocking)
Drain the swamp, drain the swamp!
Trump doesn't know how big the
swamp is. . . More like drain an
ocean and end a lot of careers.

JOHN BRENNAN
Or worse.

ROD ROSENSTEIN
We're helpless, if he replaces our
guys, we'll lose our control of the
DOJ.

JOHN BRENNAN
And we need to maintain control of
the intelligence community. Lucky
for us, Trump's not popular. We
have many things to keep quiet, the
least being the dossier and where
it came from.

BARACK OBAMA
So, what do we do? We need a plan.

A pause as they each wait for the other to speak.

JOHN BRENNAN

Hit Trump with the same things he could hit us with.

BARACK OBAMA

Like what?

ROBERT MUELLER

How about the Russians. They have been screwing around our politics for years. They always try something.

ROD ROSENSTEIN

Okay, I got it. Junior met with a Russian. She was feeling him out to see if she could get influence. Didn't work. But we could make it anything we want to.

BARACK OBAMA

So, how do we get started? How do we start an investigation of Trump?

JOHN BRENNAN

He'll have to do something to warrant an investigation.

ROD ROSENSTEIN

He's bound to go on a firing spree. If we could get him to fire Comey, that would do it. Fire the head of the FBI, that would look like obstruction. That would give a reason to call a special counsel.

BARACK OBAMA

Do you want Comey's job?

ROD ROSENSTEIN

Not really.

(beat)

He's just not my favorite person.

JOHN BRENNAN

He's expendable. With that crap speech he gave before the election, people will be expecting it. He's Clinton's boy anyway. He's been covering for her for years. Hell, everyone is calling for his firing! It gives Trump a reason.

ROD ROSENSTEIN

If we could get Sessions to recuse himself, I could recommend he be fired for not going after Clinton on the e-mails.

BARACK OBAMA

That's good. Will he do it?

ROD ROSENSTEIN

Yes, he wants no part of this. He has his own skeletons to keep hidden.

BARACK OBAMA

And you know these skeletons?

ROD ROSENSTEIN

And others. Comey let Loretta Lynch talk him into changing the wording in his report from "investigation" to "matter". That changed the whole ball game.

BARACK OBAMA

Another reason to fire him. That would give Trump the confidence to fire him.

ROD ROSENSTEIN

Trump would think I'm his ally. I could make nice with Trump.

BARACK OBAMA

That's good, that's good! That's what I want! Fuck Trump! He's not that smart! I'm sure he's done business with the Russians in the past. There has to be something there.

JOHN BRENNAN

I know some of his associates have.

BARACK OBAMA

Trump won't know what hit him. We'll throw everything at him we can!

JOHN BRENNAN

Trump doesn't know Washington. He doesn't know where the power is! He doesn't know who he's fucking with!

(MORE)

JOHN BRENNAN (CONT'D)

He thinks he can show up and change decades of ingrained tradition. The investigation community watches its back. No one-term president is going to change that.

(beat)

We'll do a Kennedy on him if we have to.

Beat

BARACK OBAMA

We'll do what we have to. We can't let him succeed. He succeeds, we lose, big time.

ROD ROSENSTEIN

We can't let him finish his term. Hell, we can't let him get started!

BARACK OBAMA

I have most of the media, that includes the major networks, they'll keep him on the ropes.

JOHN BRENNAN

In a lot of countries, we would hang for what we're about to do, what we've done.

A quiet look between the men.

BARACK OBAMA

Because of her, we have no choice.

INT. UPSCALE OFFICE - DAY

Barack is at his desk. A cigarette burns in the ashtray. The intercom buzzes.

INTERCOM

(oc)

Mr. President, Mr. Comey is here.

BARACK OBAMA

Show him in.

Barack stands and greets him as friends.

BARACK OBAMA (cont'd)

Thanks for coming! Would you like something to drink?

JAMES COMEY

No, I'm fine.

BARACK OBAMA

What a mess.

JAMES COMEY

I'll say. We couldn't come up with much with that FISA warrant. Not what we needed, anyway.

BARACK OBAMA

We're not done just because he's president. The dossier still helped us get the warrant. Keep playing it like it's real.

JAMES COMEY

The problem was we couldn't substantiate any of it.

BARACK OBAMA

Too damn bad! We're going to hit that bastard with everything we got! We're going to make him look like a fool and a liar! Just like the Good Day tape, I'm going to make sure everyone on this planet knows he was pissed on, true or not!

JAMES COMEY

Maybe we could scare him?

BARACK OBAMA

Scare him, scare Trump? How?

JAMES COMEY

I have to, it's my duty, to tell him about the dossier.

BARACK OBAMA

You can't! He can't find out about Hillary paying for it! That would be a disaster!

JAMES COMEY

I will leave that part out.

BARACK OBAMA

Can you do that?

JAMES COMEY

As long as he doesn't find out.

BARACK OBAMA

You did keep it from the "FISA"
court.

JAMES COMEY

That was easier than I thought.
Not all judges are ethical. It was
just a matter of finding one that
hated Trump. Easy, really.

BARACK OBAMA

We are calling all the Trump
haters.

JAMES COMEY

Easy to find Trump haters in my
department too.

BARACK OBAMA

You need to suck up to Trump. Make
him think you are his ally. Make
him think he has the FBI at his
disposal. He'll fire your ass if he
feels different. Then we would lose
our inside man.

JAMES COMEY

I'll have to bite my tongue.

BARACK OBAMA

Maybe we can embarrass him. Women
pissing on him should do it.

JAMES COMEY

Would you want your wife and child
to hear that?

INT. WHITE HOUSE, OVAL OFFICE - DAY

President Trump is at his desk. An aide shows Comey in.

AIDE

Mr. Comey, sir.

Trump stands and they shake hands. All are smiles, friendly.

DONALD TRUMP

Come in, come in, Jim!

JAMES COMEY

Thank you, Mr. President.

DONALD TRUMP

I thought we should have a little talk and see if we're on the same page.

JAMES COMEY

Yes, sir.

DONALD TRUMP

You're an Obama man. Can you get over the election?

JAMES COMEY

First and foremost I am an FBI man. I serve my country. I can not, nor do I, choose sides.

DONALD TRUMP

Good to hear.

JAMES COMEY

Who appointed me has no bearing on how I do my job.

DONALD TRUMP

Good to hear.

JAMES COMEY

And that is why I have to fill you in on something that has come across my desk. Something rather unpleasant.

Trump looks puzzled.

DONALD TRUMP

Something to do with the election?

JAMES COMEY

Yes. There is a dossier going around that may show collusion between your camp and the Russians.

DONALD TRUMP

(shock)

No way! I have had no interaction with the Russians during my campaign! None of my people have either. Where's this coming from? Hell, it's Clinton who's in bed with the Russians, what with that uranium deal.

JAMES COMEY

I'm not sure, I'm looking into it. You can't keep an eye on everyone in your camp.

DONALD TRUMP

Get to the bottom of this, will you? I want to know if anyone in my campaign was in bed with the Russians. I want a thorough investigation!

JAMES COMEY

Yes, I'm on it. There's one more thing in this dossier.

DONALD TRUMP

What?

JAMES COMEY

It has to do with hookers in Moscow.

DONALD TRUMP

You've got to be kidding! No way never happened.

JAMES COMEY

There is concern that Putin videotaped the acts and may blackmail you. The acts were pretty horrific.

DONALD TRUMP

Like what!

JAMES COMEY

You paying and watching prostitutes urinating on a bed the Obamas slept on.

Trump stares.

DONALD TRUMP

(angry)

You've got to be kidding me! What kind of bull-shit is this? No damn way! Watch a woman piss on a bed, god, no way! Not anything I would ever consider. What kind of evidence have you seen?

JAMES COMEY

Well, I haven't been able to verify any of it. It's unsubstantiated.

DONALD TRUMP

(angry)

Where did it come from?

JAMES COMEY

We are still looking into it. I know you wouldn't want any of this to get out, especially to your wife. That's why I came to tell you.

DONALD TRUMP

I knew if I ran it could get nasty, this nasty I didn't see. . . . How about the Clinton e-mails, any progress on that.

JAMES COMEY

You're looking for an investigation.

DONALD TRUMP

She did destroy several thousand e-mails that were subpoenaed.

JAMES COMEY

I'm looking into all of that. She did lose the election, it's kind of moot.

DONALD TRUMP

Get back to me on that.

JAMES COMEY

Yes, sir. I just want to say I love my job and am looking forward to serving your administration.

DONALD TRUMP

Okay, nice to know. Maybe you could think about ending the Flynn thing? He is a General who served his country.

JAMES COMEY

(stares)

I would like to do what I can.

DONALD TRUMP

Well good, we're on the same page then.

INT. FBI HEADQUARTERS - OFFICE OF JAMES COMEY - NIGHT

James Comey is at his desk typing a memo. The heading reads, Meeting in the Oval Office with President Trump. January 07, 2017

INT. WHITE HOUSE, OVAL OFFICE - DAY

President Trump is at his desk. An aide enters followed by Rod Rosenstein. Trump jumps up to greet him. They shake hands, all smiles.

DONALD TRUMP

Rod, come on in. Can I get you anything?

ROD ROSENSTEIN

No, thank you, just had lunch. I've been looking forward to meeting you.

The aide departs as the two men sit.

DONALD TRUMP

I like to get to know the people around me. I imagine we will be working together.

ROD ROSENSTEIN

Yes, sir.

DONALD TRUMP

I find it's good to talk to the second in command. Many times I've learned what's really going on behind the scenes.

ROD ROSENSTEIN

Yes, sir.

DONALD TRUMP

So, what can you tell me that I should know?

ROD ROSENSTEIN

I really don't think I have any information for you.

DONALD TRUMP
How about the e-mails? Do you think
Comey with go after Clinton?

ROD ROSENSTEIN
(smirks)
No, sir.

DONALD TRUMP
No, sir! Why?

ROD ROSENSTEIN
Comey is attached at the hip with
the Clintons.

DONALD TRUMP
He didn't mention that. Do you know
about the dossier?

ROD ROSENSTEIN
I haven't seen it, but I know of
it.

DONALD TRUMP
Is it as bad as Comey says?

ROD ROSENSTEIN
Yes, sir.

DONALD TRUMP
Damn lies! Why didn't they use it
during the campaign?

ROD ROSENSTEIN
It couldn't be verified.

DONALD TRUMP
Comey said he would look into the e-
mails.

ROD ROSENSTEIN
He's been ordered to kill the
investigation.

DONALD TRUMP
(angry)
What! Who the hell has the
authority to do that!

ROD ROSENSTEIN
Clinton. She and Comey are attached
at the hip. He's Clinton all the
way, always has been. He's been
covering for her for years.

DONALD TRUMP
That explains Benghazi.

ROD ROSENSTEIN
And other things. That's just the start.

DONALD TRUMP
Tell me, what I need to know is, are you loyal.? Can you be loyal to me?

ROD ROSENSTEIN
Yes, sir! Absolutely sir!

DONALD TRUMP
Good, good.

ROD ROSENSTEIN
You will find I am loyal to any current administration.

DONALD TRUMP
Good, then God-damn-it! What should I do? Can I fire Comey?

ROD ROSENSTEIN
I would. He's a direct link to the Clintons. I would recommend it. Inaction on the e-mail scandal should do it. I'll send you a memo, suggesting it.

DONALD TRUMP
Great! That would make it clear sailing. No one would question it, coming from you.

ROD ROSENSTEIN
With so many calling for his resignation, hell, Hillary called for his resignation. Who would question it?

DONALD TRUMP
I think your right. A memo from you would give me the ammo I need to get rid of him. Thanks, it's good to know you have my back.

ROD ROSENSTEIN
Yes, sir.

INT. UPSCALE OFFICE - DAY

Barack is at his desk watching television. A knock on the door and an aide shows Rod Rosenstein into the office.

Barack turns the television off and springs from his desk, greeting Rod with a smile and a slap on the back. Both men are happy.

BARACK OBAMA

I just saw it on T.V. Great job! He fell for it!

ROD ROSENSTEIN

And best of all, he thinks I'm on his side! Comey is going to be pissed! He thought I was his friend.

BARACK OBAMA

He gave good cause to be fired. Everyone agrees on that. How did you get Sessions to recuse himself?

ROD ROSENSTEIN

That was easy, he was happy to get out of the way. He has skeletons in his closet as far as the Clinton's and the Russians go.

ROD ROSENSTEIN (cont'd)

Still, when Comey sees I turned on him, he'll turn on me. And he knows things.

BARACK OBAMA

Things he can't divulge. We're all in this to the finish. However, it ends up. He'll understand he had to be sacrificed. We must win!

ROD ROSENSTEIN

I don't want to lose my pension.

BARACK OBAMA

I'd worry more about our freedom. We can always find money. . . .

ROD ROSENSTEIN

I will be made Deputy Attorney General.

BARACK OBAMA

Good, I need you on my side.

ROD ROSENSTEIN

What's our next move?

BARACK OBAMA

We will have to help dig something up.

ROD ROSENSTEIN

Don't forget the dossier. That gives us the Russian and sex angle.

BARACK OBAMA

We'll bury Trump! We will keep him jumping so he won't get anything done. And we can count on the press digging up more shit on him!

ROD ROSENSTEIN

Let me know what you want to feed the press, we have our people.

BARACK OBAMA

An all-out assault with everything we have is what is needed!

ROD ROSENSTEIN

Let me know what you want me to do next.

BARACK OBAMA

I will. I need to think.

ROD ROSENSTEIN

What about Debbie? What are we going to do about her? She has her own set of troubles.

Barack shakes his head.

BARACK OBAMA

"I-T" people from Pakistan, how could they be so stupid. Hiring a family of crooks for their computer people!

ROD ROSENSTEIN

All part of sneaky Hillary. Everything the Clintons do has to be covert. They could control these "I-T" people, fellow crooks.

BARACK OBAMA

Damn Clintons, that's the life they live and we're caught up in it.

ROD ROSENSTEIN

True. We started covering for her from the start.

BARACK OBAMA

You know, if we don't win this war, the Benghazi thing will come out.

ROD ROSENSTEIN

The "I-T" thing, the Benghazi thing, the dossier thing, we are screwed!

BARACK OBAMA

Have faith. I'm still in charge.

ROD ROSENSTEIN

How did we get here? I've had such a stellar career until now. What happened?

BARACK OBAMA

Clinton!

A light on the phone blinks. Barack pushes a button.

BARACK OBAMA (cont'd)

Yes.

INTERCOM

(oc)

Yes, sir, Mr. Michaels is here.

BARACK OBAMA

(suddenly upbeat)

Lorne! Send him in! . . . Have you met Lorne Michaels?

ROD ROSENSTEIN

From Saturday Night Live, no.

An aide shows Lorne Michaels in. Barack jumps out of his seat and rushes over to greet him. They hug like old friends.

BARACK OBAMA

Great to see you! Thanks for coming!

LORNE MICHAELS

You said it was important. We're all still in shock from the election. Mourning really.

BARACK OBAMA

Yes, we are. First, meet, our second, soon to be number one at the DOJ, Rod Rosenstein.

LORNE MICHAELS

Nice to meet you.

They shake hands.

BARACK OBAMA

Same here, I like your show.

LORNE MICHAELS

Thanks. Did you want to talk about when you're guest hosting?

BARACK OBAMA

Sure, love to! Maybe let some time pass. The election is still raw. I do need your help. We need your help. Trump is a nightmare!

LORNE MICHAELS

I'll say.

ROD ROSENSTEIN

Our worst nightmare.

BARACK OBAMA

We have to do something. We can't let this stand!

LORNE MICHAELS

What, though?

BARACK OBAMA

An investigation will be started into the election, Rod is taking care of that.

ROD ROSENSTEIN

Hopefully, we'll come up with something to impeach him on. Right now, we need all the help we can get.

LORNE MICHAELS

I knew it, the election was rigged! Hillary couldn't lose on her own!

BARACK OBAMA

We have that yet to prove. We'll come up with something.

(MORE)

BARACK OBAMA (CONT'D)

What I need from you is an all-out assault on Trump.

LORNE MICHAELS

What can I do?

BARACK OBAMA

Not sure, but I am enlisting all my friends from T.V. All my late night friends.

LORNE MICHAELS

I see. Make Trump look like a fool. That shouldn't be hard. . . We could do a skit. We will need a good Trump. I'll work on it.

BARACK OBAMA

Do what you can, my friend. Everything we can throw at him helps.

LORNE MICHAELS

I'll get the writers on it.

BARACK OBAMA

So when do you think I could host? How much time should pass? Who could we get as a musical guest? Maybe Michele and I could host together?

INT. UPSCALE OFFICE - DAY

Barack is on the phone. A cigarette burns in the ashtray.

BARACK OBAMA

(upbeat)

Jimmy, hope I didn't get you in the middle of tapping?

INT. TELEVISION STUDIO - DAY

Jimmy Kimmel is off to one side of the set. Speaking on the phone.

JIMMY KIMMEL

No. I always have time for you, Mr. President.

INT UPSCALE OFFICE - DAY

BARACK OBAMA

The election was a wallop to all of us.

INT. TELEVISION STUDIO - DAY

JIMMY KIMMEL

It sure was. Don't know if we will survive. My wife and I haven't stopped crying. How did it happen?

INT. UPSCALE OFFICE - DAY

BARACK OBAMA

I sensed things were starting to turn at the end. She was a perfect candidate, well, maybe a few flaws It's hard for all of us.

INT. TELEVISION STUDIO - DAY

JIMMY KIMMEL

(choking up)

She was our savior. How will we carry on without her?

INT. UPSCALE OFFICE - DAY

BARACK OBAMA

We have to stay focused. . . .
We're not going to let this stand!
That's why I called! We fought hard to win the election, didn't work out, we'll have to work harder to stop his presidency! . . . I need you to hit him with everything you got! I need you to smash him every night with your monologues.

INT. TELEVISION STUDIO - DAY

JIMMY KIMMEL

I sure will Mr. President. You can count on me.

INT. UPSCALE OFFICE - DAY

BARACK OBAMA

Thank you, I'll get Colbert and the other to join in! Okay, I'll let you get back. And I look forward to being on your show! Give my love to Nancy and the kids.

INT. UPSCALE RESTAURANT - BACKROOM - DAY

Barack Obama is sitting alone at a table set for a meal. Bread is at the table and he is drinking ice tea. A secret serviceman is standing by the sliding partition.

The partition starts to open. The man steps aside and in walks ANDREW MCCABE and another secret serviceman.

MAN 1

Mr. McCabe, sir.

BARACK OBAMA

Andrew, come in! Sorry, we have to meet this way. I thought it best if we weren't seen together. I did not want anyone to see you come into my office.

ANDREW MCCABE

These are strange times. We went from having total control of the country to chaos.

A waiter enters to take their order.

BARACK OBAMA

What are you going to have? I'm having the veal.

ANDREW MCCABE

Sounds good. Baked potato and blue cheese on the salad.

BARACK OBAMA

Same here with thousand island.

ANDREW MCCABE

And coffee.

SERVER

Very good. And a fresh tea for you Mr. President.

BARACK OBAMA

Yes, thank you.

He departs as do the two secret servicemen. Barack waits for them to leave before starting to speak.

BARACK OBAMA (cont'd)

These are tense times.

ANDREW MCCABE

What is Trump going to do? Makes us all nuts. He's surely not one of us.

BARACK OBAMA

You would think, a billionaire would know how the world works. You would think he would know that there are them and us. And his money makes him one of us.

ANDREW MCCABE

I guess we will have to teach him that. The Haves and the have not.

BARACK OBAMA

We have at least half the population is on our side, almost all of the press not to mention most of Hollywood. We just have to spread doubt. All we need is an investigation, any investigation.

ANDREW MCCABE

Then this is where we get more use out of the dossier.

BARACK OBAMA

We want to embarrass him. We want to put doubt into people's minds. Make them regret voting for him. That will get us the mid-terms.

ANDREW MCCABE

As second at the bureau, I can get away with it. It's been leaked to a friend of mine at the Wall Street Journal.

BARACK OBAMA

A good friend?

ANDREW MCCABE

Yes.

The server enters with drinks and salads. They stop talking until he leaves.

BARACK OBAMA

That's what we need. Were you surprised by Comey's firing?

ANDREW MCCABE

No. Many blame him for the election.

BARACK OBAMA

He screwed up with that e-mail server. He should have kept his mouth shut!

ANDREW MCCABE

Yes, that's not his style. He likes being in the press, too much.

BARACK OBAMA

That is a problem.

INT. HOME OFFICE - NIGHT

The home office of James Comey. James is in his office sitting behind his desk. A desk lamp is the only light in the room except for the defused light coming from the open door.

The sounds of his family filter thru.

James is shuffling thru a stack of memos. We see the heading of one reads, "Meeting with President Trump". He places them into a manila envelope as a small child runs into the room.

CHILD

(excited)

Daddy, daddy, come and have ice cream!

He kisses her tenderly on the top of the head.

JAMES COMEY

I'll be right in.

She runs off. He slowly follows with the envelope in hand. He enters the kitchen where his wife is scooping ice cream. She is solemn. He kisses her on the cheek. She does not respond.

JAMES COMEY (cont'd)

None for me. I'm going out.

PATRICE COMEY
When will you be back?

JAMES COMEY
I won't be long.

PATRICE COMEY
Are you all right?

JAMES COMEY
Yes, I was half-way expecting it.

PATRICE COMEY
He's a monster.

JAMES COMEY
Yes, we have a monster for a president.

Patrice starts to tear.

PATRICE COMEY
I can't believe she lost. Our life was so great. We would be going to parties at the White House, now what!

JAMES COMEY
None of us can believe it. Maybe it's good I'm out. . . . Gone but not forgotten. I'll not be too late.

He kisses her as he departs.

EXT. COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY - PARKING LOT - NIGHT

James parks his Mercedes in a teacher's parking stall. He walks into a nondescript door on the side of a dark building.

INT. COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY - NIGHT

James approaches a door, knocks, and enters.

He enters thru a side door into the office of Law professor Daniel Richman. He looks up from his desk, expecting James.

DANIEL RICHMAN
Hi Jim. How are you getting by? How is the wife?

JAMES COMEY

It was a big shock for both of us. We'll get by. My wife and daughter were devastated by the election, now this.

DANIEL RICHMAN

Are we in trouble with the Clinton thing?

JAMES COMEY

I can't tell you. No one knows how this will play out.

DANIEL RICHMAN

This election will be a study for eons to come.

JAMES COMEY

What will my legacy be? I'm afraid to think of it.

DANIEL RICHMAN

Anything I can do?

JAMES COMEY

Yes, that's why I'm here.

He hands him the envelope. Daniel opens it and slides the memos out.

JAMES COMEY (cont'd)

These are memos I produced after my meetings with Trump.

DANIEL RICHMAN

Why?

JAMES COMEY

Thought I better, knowing who I was dealing with.

DANIEL RICHMAN

The enemy.

JAMES COMEY

That's what I'm afraid of. No one knows what this guy is going to do.

DANIEL RICHMAN

He fired you.

JAMES COMEY

Those damn e-mails. Clinton and her making her own god-damn rules!

DANIEL RICHMAN

What do you want me to do with these?

JAMES COMEY

Take them to our friend over at the New York Times.

DANIEL RICHMAN

Okay.

JAMES COMEY

He will know what to do.

DANIEL RICHMAN

So, you're going to fight back?

JAMES COMEY

That's right. I'm joining the war against Trump!

INT. UPSCALE OFFICE - DAY

Barack Obama and Rod Rosenstein are quietly watching the nightly news on television.

TELEVISION

(oc) "Jeff Sessions"

I have terminated the employment of Andrew McCabe immediately. The FBI expects every employee to adhere to the highest standards of honesty, integrity, and accountability! All employees know that lacking candor under oath results in dismissal and that our integrity is our brand!

Barack clicks off the television. Silence before Barack speaks.

BARACK OBAMA

First Comey and now McCabe.

ROD ROSENSTEIN

Now what?

BARACK OBAMA

We still have you, Trump's buddy. You're in charge now.

(MORE)

BARACK OBAMA (CONT'D)

You're the Deputy Attorney General,
you call the shots.

ROD ROSENSTEIN

Trump wants me to investigate the
Russians. Me and the new FBI
director.

BARACK OBAMA

Why don't you appoint a special
counsel, it is within your power.

ROD ROSENSTEIN

I could be called as a witness.

BARACK OBAMA

Then recuse yourself from
overseeing the investigator.

ROD ROSENSTEIN

Like Sessions? I need to find
someone acceptable.

BARACK OBAMA

I've been thinking about that. How
about your predecessor.

ROD ROSENSTEIN

Mueller, he would work. He's
respected.

BARACK OBAMA

He's one of us. He's tangled up in
the uranium deal.

ROD ROSENSTEIN

I didn't know that. It was before
my time.

BARACK OBAMA

Hell, he knew about the Clinton
bribes from the Russians on the
uranium deal. We had him flying a
sample of uranium to Moscow to seal
the deal. He has a lot to lose.

ROD ROSENSTEIN

Like all of us. Sounds like our
man.

BARACK OBAMA

You better be ready for Trump
freaking out.

ROD ROSENSTEIN
He'll hate me.

BARACK OBAMA
So. You can explain it to him. Make
him believe this is best.

ROD ROSENSTEIN
Won't work, but what the hell, it's
this or let him be president.

BARACK OBAMA
He won't have a choice. Appoint
Mueller without discussing it with
him.

ROD ROSENSTEIN
Got it. Holly shit! Trump will be
so pissed.

BARACK OBAMA
(angry)
Good, god-damn-it! He's not going
to destroy what I started! He needs
to know we won't let up!

ROD ROSENSTEIN
I will get a hold of Mueller right
away.

BARACK OBAMA
Tell him to crush him, crush that
bastard!

INT. WHITE HOUSE - OVAL OFFICE - DAY

President Trump and Ivanka Trump are watching Rod Rosenstein
on a television. He is announcing the appointment of a
Special Counsel.

IVANKA TRUMP
What is this about?

DONALD TRUMP
It's a surprise to me.

TELEVISION

(oc Rod Rosenstein)

I am appointing Robert Mueller as special counsel to investigate any links and or coordination between the Russian government and individuals associated with the campaign of President Donald Trump as well as any matters arising directly from that investigation.

President Trump clicks the television off. He stares at the television before looking at Ivanka.

DONALD TRUMP

He lied to me. He lied to my face!

IVANKA TRUMP

Yes! You have trouble. You're surrounded. Clinton has people everywhere. Dad, this is bad, McCabe, Comey, Rosenstein, all of them, Clinton people.

DONALD TRUMP

How can they do this to their country? They have figured out a way to attack me.

IVANKA TRUMP

Yes, they have. They are going to find some way to destroy your presidency.

DONALD TRUMP

There's nothing! No collusion, no nothing! This is all going to backfire thanks to one good man, Mike Rodgers. They don't know about him.

IVANKA TRUMP

It only takes one.

INT. FEDERAL COURTROOM - DAY

The courtroom is packed with an enthusiastic crowd. Sitting between three lawyers at the defendant's desk is James Comey, handcuffed and dressed in an orange prison jumpsuit. Comey's wife and children are present.

A judge enters the courtroom.

BAILIFF

All rise.
The honorable Judge Jonathan Hodges
presiding. . . Be seated.

Beat

JUDGE

We are here today to pass sentence
on James Comey. Mr. Comey, you were
found guilty of

INT. FEDERAL COURTROOM - DAY

The courtroom is packed with an enthusiastic crowd. Sitting
next to his attorney is Rod Rosenstein. Dressed in a suit, he
is handcuffed. His family is upfront.

A judge enters the courtroom.

BAILIFF

All rise, the honorable Judge Mary
Weller presiding. . . . Be seated!

JUDGE

I see all are present in the matter
of sentencing for Rod Rosenstein.
Mr. Rosenstein was found guilty of
.

INT. FEDERAL COURTROOM - DAY

The courtroom is packed with an enthusiastic crowd. Andrew
McCabe is sandwiched in between two attorneys at the
defendant's desk. Dressed in a suit, he is handcuffed. His
family is not present.

A judge enters the courtroom.

BAILIFF

All rise. . . Judge Richard J.
Kramer presiding!

JUDGE

(angry)
What a sad day for this country. We
are here today to sentence one of
America's leading law enforcement
officials for corruption far beyond
what any of us could imagine. A
group of conspirators set out to
void an election.

(MORE)

JUDGE (CONT'D)

Not unlike the conspirators who
assassinated Lincoln.! You sir were
right in the middle!

INT. FEDERAL COURTROOM - DAY

The courtroom is empty except for four attorneys sitting at the plaintiff table. A bailiff and two attorneys enter. The bailiff places a folder on the judge's desk as the side doors open.

In comes, Hillary Clinton walking with a cane. She is assisted by an aide. She sits between the attorneys at the defense table.

The judge enters.

BAILIFF

All rise for Judge Carolina Reed!

(cont'd)

