

EDGE OF THE CIRCLE

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FADE IN:

**EXT. RAILROAD TRACKS IN RURAL AREA OUTSIDE OF PARIS - NIGHT
(1942)**

On a cool night, accented by a dim light from a railroad signal in the distance, two figures appear out of the high bushes and approach the railroad tracks.

A man wearing a thin black leather coat surveys the area while his ACCOMPLICE, a woman, wearing a long coat and beret and carrying a STEN GUN, takes two THERMAL DETONATORS out of her rucksack and hands them to the man.

The RESISTANCE FIGHTER lays them down on the tracks.

RESISTANCE FIGHTER
(in French with English
subtitle)

This should teach them. They will
know we mean business.

The accomplice goes over to observe the position of the bombs.

ACCOMPLICE
(in French with English
subtitle)

Separate them by a meter. It will
be better that way.

He separates them.

THEN...

A military truck appears on the other side of the tracks. A search light is turned on, momentarily exposing the two as they turn to run. A Nazi SOLDIER jumps out of the vehicle.

NAZI SOLDIER
Halt!

The two are nowhere to be seen.

The soldier jumps back in the truck and they drive over the tracks.

The EXPLOSION IS DEVASTATING, sending the vehicle in the air with two bodies being thrown out onto the tracks.

The resistance fighters observe the aftermath for a moment... then disappear in the darkness.

**INT. OFFICE OF KLAUS BARBIE - SECOND FLOOR - HÔTEL PATRON -
DIJON FRANCE - DAY (THE NEXT DAY)**

KLAUS BARBIE, recently arrived and assigned by Hitler to be the Gestapo commander, sits erect at his oak desk, neatly dressed in his Nazi uniform with a defined look of authority etched on his face, and patiently waits for a senior officer to arrive.

The northern portion of France where Dijon is located is considered an OCCUPIED ZONE, where every move of Frenchmen is monitored.

LIEUTENANT SCHMIDT marches in and takes a seat.

DIALOGUE IS IN GERMAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES.

BARBIE

What are we doing about the
Résistants?

LIEUTENANT SCHMIDT

When we find them, we kill them.

This solicits a frown, and Barbie sits back in his chair.

BARBIE

How difficult is it to locate these
criminals?

LIEUTENANT SCHMIDT

There are too many of them... they
hide in the shadows, and are
committed to a free France.

BARBIE

The Führer will not accept our
incompetence to rid France of these
agitators.

LIEUTENANT SCHMIDT

I believe it will take time, but we
will take them down in the end.

Barbie leans forward.

BARBIE

I want operations to increase,
especially in Paris.

He pounds his fist on the desk.

BARBIE (CONT'D)

I want these horrid Résistants
erased from France... and then we
will deal with the Jews.

(abruptly stands)

Is that understood?

LIEUTENANT SCHMIDT

It will be done.

The lieutenant ceremonially departs.

**INT. BASEMENT IN A UNDISCLOSED LOCATION - PARIS - NIGHT (TWO
DAYS LATER)**

In a large basement of a building in the interior of Paris,
meetings have been taking place to try to formalize
resistance actions against the Nazis.

JEAN MOULIN sits at a small table reading Nietzsche. He is a
prior administrative prefect that now wants to help the
resistance movement in France to defeat the Nazi occupation.

He waits for two new resistance fighters to be brought in to
discuss what their objectives are concerning undermining the
Nazis.

One of his assistants, MARIA MARTEL, brings in SADIE
HEMMINGS, a British reporter, a Communist sympathizer, who
has decided to join the fight. With her is her fiancé, BEN
WESLING, who is actively working for the British Special
Operations Executive (SOE), as an intelligence agent.

Sadie (32) is an attractive woman, slim physique with long
blond hair she wears in a pony-tail most of the time.

Ben (40) is medium height, muscular with black hair and
mustache.

They take a seat. Maria pours red wine in four glasses and
sets them down in front of them. She takes a seat.

Both Maria and Moulin speak adequate English.

MARIA

Please enjoy our local wine.

Moulin places his book on the table.

MOULIN

We welcome outsiders who are
willing to fight for French
freedom.

SADIE

(smiles)

We are more than able to carry on the crusade.

MOULIN

I must say there are a number of fighters already making themselves heard.

He studies his guests for a moment.

MOULIN (CONT'D)

My goal in the future is to attempt to coordinate resistance operations.

BEN

We understand. We don't want to get in the way.

He looks over at Sadie before he continues.

BEN (CONT'D)

I'm here to support Sadie, but I'm also gathering intelligence that will be useful for the British. I hope you don't see that as a problem.

MOULIN

Not at all.

He drinks some wine.

MOULIN (CONT'D)

Are you two acting on your own?

Sadie takes a flyer out of her small canvass handbag and hands it to Moulin.

The header to the flyer reads THE CIRCLE followed by suggestions how to defeat the enemy.

MOULIN (CONT'D)

What is this?

SADIE

We have joined forces with Agatha Allard and several of her companions. We decided to create and distribute flyers that can be used for the benefit of the resistance.

MOULIN
But why The Circle?

SADIE
For us, it is simple... we are born
into this life, we struggle to stay
free and will fight for it... and
will die for it.

She looks over at Ben.

SADIE (CONT'D)
It's like a circle from where we
start and where we end.

MOULIN
(grins)
Interesting.

He appears to be in thought.

MOULIN (CONT'D)
Our motto is... to do is to be.

MARIA
Precisely... to be safe and sound.

MOULIN
Dying for one's country is accepted
as gospel, but dying for another
country is not the same.

SADIE
We take the risk.

MARIA
(abrupt)
All of us take the needed risks.

MOULIN
We believe in taking down the enemy
by quick and decisive sabotage
actions.

He takes another sip of his wine.

MOULIN (CONT'D)
This is a silent war.

SADIE
(laughs)
Not so silent. There are bombs
going off all around. Our bombs
permeate the air.

MOULIN

Those actions could backfire.

BEN

We must be prudent, but we need to make the Nazis think twice.

SADIE

We are committed.

MOULIN

Please be careful and stay in touch.

He raises his glass for a toast.

MOULIN (CONT'D)

Vive la résistance!

INT. BEDROOM IN AN OLD FARMHOUSE SOUTH OF LIMOGES FRANCE - NIGHT

After the last sighs of love making, AGATHA (AGGIE) ALLARD, slowly gets out of bed, puts on a sheer linen nightgown, ample cleavage revealed, and takes a seat.

She reaches for her Opium pipe and lights it and pours a glass of Brandy liquor and rests back in her chair.

She is a French Resistance fighter who is responsible for numerous sabotage operations, divorced, free spirited, amorous, and extremely attractive (late 20s). Aggie is tall, thin with short brunette hair.

Her lover, JAMES (JOCKO) CONWAY, a former British pilot, eases up on his pillow. Extremely fit, tall, movie star looks with curly blond hair (mid 30s), he joined The Resistance to avenge his French wife's death by the Nazis.

Aggie tosses a pack of Benson & Hedges and a small box of matches to him. He lights a cigarette and blows smoke in the air. Her accent is articulated by a soft voice. His is not quite as soft.

JOCKO

How long do you think it will be until the owner finds out we have confiscated his home?

AGGIE

I have no idea. He seems to have vanished.

JOCKO

And how long do you think it will be until Nazi stormtroopers march through here?

AGGIE

Not likely, we are out of the way, and they would have no use for this farmhouse now.

Jocko puts his pants on and sits across from Aggie. He lights another cigarette and pours himself a glass of Brandy liquor.

JOCKO

Where have Sadie and Ben gone?

AGGIE

They went to Paris to talk to Jean Moulin.

JOCKO

Do you think distributing these circle flyers is the right thing to do. I mean we are here to sabotage the Nazis into oblivion.

She savors the Opium pipe and takes a long puff.

AGGIE

Sadie named us The Circle for a reason, and yes we need to tell citizens how to become free from German bondage.

JOCKO

The Nazis think they're here to stay.

She stares at him for a moment and grins.

AGGIE

It has been two years.

She takes a sip of her drink.

AGGIE (CONT'D)

We need to step up our operations.

She smiles at Jocko.

AGGIE (CONT'D)

Where did you get the name Jocko anyway?

JOCKO
It was my callsign.

Jocko downs his drink. They smile at each other and lay back on the bed for another round.

EXT. SMALL BRIDGE OVER CANAL IN GRENOBLE FRANCE - NIGHT

In the dead of night, a lone figure places banana-shaped incendiary devices on a bridge heavily used by Nazi forces. After carefully placing them, the resistance fighter disappears from sight.

Seconds later, the bridge EXPLODES, sending debris in the air and against adjacent buildings.

EXT. LIMOGES FARMHOUSE - DAY

In the late afternoon, a 1941 black Citroen drives up the dirt road to the farmhouse and parks. Sadie and Ben get out and walk to the front door.

The century-old farmhouse is eroded by years of bad weather. The stone façade is now dark brown.

INT. FARMHOUSE COMMON AREA - DAY

They walk in to see members of The Circle sitting around a large oak table drinking Belgium beer and eating bread and stew.

Sadie throws her handbag on the table and takes a seat. Ben disappears for a few moments.

SADIE
Evidently, clairvoyance is a trait
we all possess.

JOCKO
Meaning?

SADIE
(grins)
We need to discuss an upcoming
mission, and you're all here.

AGGIE
We managed to stay busy while you
were gone. We distributed ample
flyers and even blew up a bridge.

Ben sits down next to Sadie. He sets his beer on the table.

BEN

Let's be honest, it will take more than that to bury the Nazis, but we are on the right track.

JOCKO

If we are on the right track, we need to ensure we blow it up like everything else.

BEN

(laughs)

I believe that's on the list.

Charles Leroux, (mid 40s) a new member, an artist and writer who despises the Nazis, offers some advice. A large specimen of a man, he has artist's hands, and a bald head.

CHARLES

Levity in the face of Nazi repression is fine, but we must develop a precise plan of action and go execute it.

SADIE

Sometimes defeating an enemy is not about precise planning, but surprise and shock.

Ben takes a sip of his beer.

BEN

If they're off guard, they'll surely fall.

Bridget Perl, very skinny, long frizzy blond hair (early 20s), a French Jew whose parents were murdered by Nazi soldiers, initially prostituting to make ends meet, then joining the Resistance to make a name for herself by luring Nazis to their death -- speaks up.

BRIDGET

I agree with Charles. There is certainly nothing wrong with accurate planning.

Sadie's voice now resounds as she takes over the conversation.

SADIE

We have a mission that will need accurate planning. So I thank Bridget for her timely words.

She canvases the group before she continues.

SADIE (CONT'D)

Ben and I have decided we must assassinate Klaus Barbie, the ruthless Gestapo commander.

AGGIE

I bet you didn't tell Moulin.

BEN

Sometimes you don't alarm the one who thinks he's in control.

AGGIE

(grins)

I'm sure he wouldn't approve.

SADIE

Barbie is a typical Nazi -- a terrible human being that must be stopped.

BRIDGET

Is that even possible? He must be heavily protected.

SADIE

That might be so, but Ben is in the position of collecting the intelligence we need to be successful.

No one says anything at first. Jocko raises his beer glass.

JOCKO

To the mission!

They all cheer: TO THE MISSION.

INT. SADIE AND BEN'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

That night, Sadie sits on a small chair. She reaches into a old wooden box and pulls out a few papers and a reporter's badge she wore during her many interviews. She thinks back.

FLASHBACK:

**INT. SMALL CONFERENCE ROOM - MI6 HEADQUARTERS - LONDON - DAY
(1938)**

An older woman escorts Sadie into a small conference room. She is there to interview Ben Wesling, a brilliant MI6 agent who has been involved in some harrowing operations.

The older woman offers her a seat and departs.

Seconds later Ben accompanied by JOHN WEST, an American agent comes in the room. They sit and appear ready for the interview.

SADIE

I'm Sadie Hemmings. Thank you for your time. I thought I was just interviewing one individual.

BEN

I'm sorry, my name is Ben Wesling. I'm currently working an operation with the Americans. This is John West. He's an OSS agent.

Sadie takes out a notepad from her handbag and a pen.

SADIE

I understand.

BEN

Is there something you specifically want to know?

SADIE

You recently stopped the assassination of a government official. Can you share any details?

BEN

Only what was in the Guardian newspaper. You must understand, we don't discuss details of operations.

SADIE

Of course.

She looks over at John.

SADIE (CONT'D)

Are you assigned to MI6 temporarily or just here for your current operation?

JOHN
What's the saying? Some things are
best unsaid.

SADIE
(annoyed)
Is there anything you two can
divulge?

BEN
Sorry you were misled. Hope we
didn't waste your time. I have
another appointment. John here can
carry on if he wants.

Ben smiles and walks out of the room.

SADIE
I think we're done here.

JOHN
I have some information you might
want to know.

He grins at her.

JOHN (CONT'D)
But let's go out for a drink.

Sadie appears a bit embarrassed.

SADIE
Probably not very professional.

JOHN
What can it hurt?

They smile at one another.

RETURN TO PRESENT

Ben comes in the bedroom. Sadie looks to be distant.

BEN
Are you all right?

She puts the box on a dresser. She goes over to Ben, kisses
him and he throws her down on the bed.

EXT. GERMAN HEADQUARTERS - ARRAS FRANCE - NIGHT (15 APRIL 1942)

At dusk on a cool evening, Sadie and Ben, dressed in black clothing and wearing berets, stand across the street from the headquarters. They observe as German soldiers enter and leave the building.

Both fighters pull incendiary devices from their rucksacks and run across the street, throwing the devices in the entrance way.

They disappear quickly right before the EXPLOSION ROCKS THE BUILDING.

INT. LIMOGES FARMHOUSE BARN - NIGHT (A MONTH LATER)

The large wooden barn sits directly behind the farmhouse, housing a hay baler, a tractor, farm tools, and a Stella 175 motorcycle. The Circle uses the barn to create and print their flyers.

In the early evening, Ben is oiling the small printing press while Sadie reads the latest flyer, waiting for the rest of the team to join them.

SADIE

We need to expand our circulation.

BEN

We will need to expand the team.

SADIE

Never an easy chore. Trust is imperative.

The rest of the team arrive.

Jocko picks up one of the flyers and looks it over.

JOCKO

Well done.

He puts the flyer back.

JOCKO (CONT'D)

But I question whether French citizens already know what's going on.

AGGIE

Must I remind you we are in the Free Zone where many of the citizens think the Nazis just want to control the northern portions of the country.

SADIE

The Vichy government here are accommodating the Nazis the best we can tell and it won't be long before the Nazis take over.

AGGIE

(passionate)

Do not be fooled. The Vichy government can be more ruthless than the Nazis.

Aggie glances around at everyone.

AGGIE (CONT'D)

But the Vichy government lays down and heels to the Nazis in Paris.

Jocko paces around the barn.

JOCKO

These Vichy officials are scared little boys.

SADIE

(laughs)

That is one way to put it.

JOCKO

(grins)

They will drown in their own Vichyssoise.

This solicits a laugh from everyone but Sadie.

SADIE

Your sense of humor will get you nowhere. Believe me.

JOCKO

(annoyed)

That wasn't a joke.

Sadie doesn't look amused, and there is silence for a few moments.

BEN

The Vichy government caters to Barbie and that's why he needs to be eliminated.

BRIDGET

Is it really wise to attempt an assassination?

SADIE

Yes, but the planning is extensive and there can be no errors.

CHARLES

I have several friends in Lyon who could help.

BEN

Can they be trusted?

Charles smiles... then laughs.

CHARLES

Well, they hate Germans.

Sadie looks over several of the flyers to make sure they are professionally done. She puts them on the table and starts to walk out of the barn.

SADIE

Don't worry about Barbie. We have other things to do now. We are fortunate we have Ben here.

She stands in the middle of the group and smiles.

SADIE (CONT'D)

Those who can gather good intelligence are invaluable.

She begins to think back as she walks out of the barn.

FLASHBACK:

INT. HOTEL ROOM - MAYFAIR, LONDON - NIGHT (1938)

Sadie and John West enter the hotel room. He motions for her to have a seat. He goes over and pours red wine into two glasses. He hands one to Sadie.

SADIE
(subtle laugh)
I guess you can't discuss
intelligence matters in a café.

JOHN
(smiles)
I must admit, nothing gets past
you.

SADIE
So, what are you doing here?

JOHN
Enjoying a glass of wine with a
beautiful woman.

With a sarcastic grin, she sips some wine.

SADIE
Besides that.

JOHN
Tracking a spy who's believed to be
in London.

SADIE
Exciting. Do you have any idea
where he is?

JOHN
It's a woman reporter.

He slowly sips his wine.

JOHN (CONT'D)
(grins)
Maybe it's you.

She's not happy with the comment.

SADIE
Of course not.

She gives him an evil stare.

SADIE (CONT'D)
Is this why you brought me here?

JOHN
I just wanted to see the look on
your face.

She appears anxious. He looks at her with a sense of sensual desire.

RETURN TO PRESENT

EXT. OUTSIDE OF THE FARMHOUSE - NIGHT

Sadie begins to walk to the farmhouse when she notices a person approaching in the distance.

SADIE
(yells)
Someone is coming.

Ben runs out and looks, then goes in the house for a moment. He comes out with a Modèle 1935S pistol and stands next to Sadie.

The others stand behind by the barn.

The intruder slowly walks up to the farmhouse. It's obvious he's a German soldier by his uniform; displaying a rifle draped over his shoulder. He is LIEUTENANT FREDERICK BAENA, a Gestapo officer.

BEN
What do you want?

Baena, short with a Nazi style crew cut, abruptly stops and puts up his hands.

BAENA
(broken English)
I am not a threat... I am not a threat. My name is Frederick Baena. I need a place to hide.

SADIE
Why should we believe you?

BAENA
I left my unit in Tours a week ago, and have been on the run.

BEN
They must be looking for you. You need to move on.

BAENA
Please, I am tired and have not eaten in a several days.

Baena puts his rifle on the ground, and rips the shirt of his uniform off and throws it on the ground.

BAENA (CONT'D)

I did not ask to come to France. I have nothing against the French people. I tell you, I am not a threat.

Sadie and Ben confer with each other.

BEN

Can we trust this German?

SADIE

I'm not so sure.

INT. BASEMENT IN UNDISCLOSED LOCATION - PARIS - NIGHT

Jean Moulin is reading a file when Maria comes in and sits across from him.

Dialogue is in French with English subtitles.

MARIA

You wanted to see me?

He puts the file down. He pours red wine in two glasses and slides one over to Maria.

MOULIN

I believe too many resistance fighters can be self-defeating.

MARIA

That makes no sense. The more the better.

MOULIN

I am concerned about this group that calls themselves The Circle.

MARIA

Why so?

He sips some wine.

MOULIN

They seem overzealous.

MARIA

(laughs)

Shouldn't that be the trait of a committed resistance fighter?

MOULIN

I suppose, but I just don't trust them.

MARIA

We will never defeat the Nazis if we don't trust the people willing to lay down their lives to triumph over Hitler.

She gulps some wine.

MARIA (CONT'D)

No?

MOULIN

(sarcastic smile)

Someone must be in charge.

MARIA

(laughs)

Yes, there must always be a leader.

MOULIN

I am glad you agree.

MARIA

You really want to take that on?

She heads to the door, and turns around...

MARIA (CONT'D)

I congratulate you on your enthusiasm. We should devise a plan sooner than later.

INT. LIMOGES FARMHOUSE COMMON AREA - DAY

In the late morning, Ben and Sadie sit around the table with Frederick Baena. After two days of hiding him in the barn, they believe no one is looking for him.

They drink Belgium beer and smoke Benson & Hedges.

BEN

What is your former unit doing in Tours?

BAENA

They control most of the western part of the occupied zone.

SADIE

Before too long, we could become as occupied as the north. What do you know about that?

Baena takes a long puff of his cigarette, and takes a drink of his beer.

BAENA

All I now is Hitler wants to annex all of France.

Aggie and Jocko come in and sit at the table.

BEN

Why did you leave your post?

Baena again takes a long puff of his cigarette, and looks away for a moment.

BAENA

I don't agree with what they are doing.

JOCKO

I believe you will regret what you did.

BAENA

No... no... I will never regret it.

AGGIE

But you can never go home again.

She gives him a cold stare.

AGGIE (CONT'D)

That must bother you.

Baena takes a large gulp of his beer. He looks a bit uncomfortable.

BAENA

My parents are dead and I have no family there now. I will decide what to do when the time comes.

SADIE

We have made a decision. You can stay a while longer... in the barn.

Baena puffs on his cigarette, but doesn't respond.

BEN
You can help us make our flyers.

SADIE
You must decide what you will do next to evade capture.

JOCKO
I will tell you this...

He glances around the table.

JOCKO (CONT'D)
Not all of us here will ever trust a German. Is that understood?

BAENA
(unnerved)
I understand.

INT. 3RD FLOOR - WEST BANK HÔTEL - PARIS - NIGHT

Bridget Perl is screwing the hell out of a high-ranking Gestapo Colonel. When they are finished, she climbs off him and slowly puts her dress back on. He grabs for a cigarette and lights it while he props up in bed.

GESTAPO COLONEL
(in German with English subtitle)
You are good for a French whore.

BRIDGET
(in French with English subtitle)
Money... where is my money?

The colonel laughs and puffs on his cigarette.

GESTAPO COLONEL
(in German with English subtitle)
You weren't that good. Get out of here.

She immediately goes over to the chair where the colonel's clothes are. She grabs his pistol out of the holder.

He starts to get out of bed.

She fires, HITTING HIM IN THE HEAD. He falls on the floor... BLOOD SPATTERING over the sheets and walls. She grabs money out of his pants pocket and disappears out the door.

EXT. NATURE PARK - GRENOBLE, FRANCE - DAY

Ben and Sadie sit on a bench waiting for a Vichy contact Ben had known for several years after meeting him in London at a conference.

BEN

You must remember, my contact thinks we are neutral and have nothing to do with resistance here.

SADIE

Does he think we're sympathetic to the Vichy government?

BEN

He believes the British want to stay out of French politics.

The contact approaches in the distance. He is a tall man with a full beard, dark-rimmed glasses, and impeccably dressed.

PIERRE MONFILS joins them on the bench.

MONFILS

I was reluctant to come, but nevertheless I am here.

BEN

My colleague is Sadie Hemmings. She is a reporter covering the German occupation.

MONFILS

(slight frown)

Then I must be careful of what I say.

SADIE

I'm not here to expose your secrets or planned strategies. We just want to know how the Vichy government operates.

MONFILS

We control the southern portion of France with the authorization of the Germans.

Ben takes out a cigarette and lights it.

BEN
I hope you don't mind.

MONFILS
(grins)
We are just trying to... what is
the expression... weather the
storm.

Ben takes a long puff of his cigarette.

BEN
What do you know about Klaus
Barbie?

MONFILS
He is the head of the Gestapo in
France. Why?

SADIE
How does interact with the Vichy
government?

Monfils looks askance at Ben.

MONFILS
He provides a loose leach.

Monfils looks away and stays silent for a moment.

MONFILS (CONT'D)
I think I have said too much.

BEN
We are not trying to make you
uncomfortable. We are simply
curious.

MONFILS
I must go.

He stands and looks at Ben.

MONFILS (CONT'D)
It was nice seeing you again.

He walks away.

SADIE
That didn't go well.

BEN

He doesn't suspect anything.

Ben puts his arm around Sadie.

EXT. BARON FIELD NEAR TOURS NAZI REGIMENT - NIGHT

Two Resistance Fighters move around slowly laying small thermal detonators. They are accented by a small search light in the distance.

They stand in the shadows and wait...

Three Nazi soldiers, wobbling back and forth from a night of drinking, begin to cross the field.

Suddenly, they are BLOWN TO BITS... the perpetrators running away in the distance.

EXT. OUT FRONT OF THE LIMOGES FARMHOUSE - DAY

In the late afternoon, Sophie and Ben sit at a small circular wooden table, drinking beer.

SADIE

We need to increase our circulation
in the north.

BEN

I agree, but of course it will
increase the odds of getting
caught.

They hear a commotion in the distance. Through the forest, they see a figure running quickly.

RAVEN D'ARNAUD, disheveled, and looking scared runs up to them... gasping for breath.

RAVEN

(in French with English
subtitle)
Please help me... please help me.

BEN

(in French with English
subtitle)
English, please.

RAVEN

My name is Raven d'Arnaud. I've been raped by Nazi soldier. I must hide before he finds me.

Sadie stands and looks in the direction she came.

SADIE

Was he chasing you?

RAVEN

No, but they have their ways of finding people.

BEN

Where did this happen?

RAVEN

In Vichy. This morning.

Ben goes to get a chair. He comes back and sets it down

BEN

Please sit.

He takes a gulp of beer.

BEN (CONT'D)

I detect an accent.

RAVEN

I am Belgian, but I moved to France two years ago.

SADIE

Are you employed?

RAVEN

A seamstress working in Vichy.

SADIE

You have nowhere else to go?

RAVEN

I can't go back there.

Sadie looks over at Ben and he nods.

SADIE

We have a spare bedroom. You can stay if you agree to help us.

RAVEN

What do you do?

SADIE
We will get you settled first.

EXT. VICHY TRAIN STATION - NIGHT

At dusk on a chilly night, Sadie, hair pulled back, wearing a beret, slowly walks along the platform among others waiting for the train to arrive.

Performing reconnaissance is not new to her and she surveys the crowd. She doesn't see any Nazi soldiers and is relieved.

Her concentration is broken by the sound of the train arriving. She begins to walk to the far end of the platform.

Passengers begin to get off the train.

Now a little darker, and through the steam walks a singular figure. Sadie steps back toward the station.

When the figure clears the steam, Sadie walks toward the man wearing a suit and fedora, realizing who it is...

SADIE
John, what ever could you be doing here?

JOHN
I never took you for a gal with a short memory.

SADIE
You must be here on some kind of business.

She motions for them to step to the side of the station to be out of the way.

SADIE (CONT'D)
I didn't know Americans were involved here.

JOHN
That's the way we want it.

Sadie looks around the area.

SADIE
We can't talk here.

INT. CAFÉ OUTSIDE OF VICHY - NIGHT

Sadie and John sit at a table in the corner of the café. There are only a few patrons and certainly no sign of any Nazis.

They drink beer.

SADIE

It is good to see you again, but why have you come?

He takes out a Nicaraguan cigar and lights it.

JOHN

What are you doing here?

SADIE

The Germans don't belong in France. I want to change that.

JOHN

A noble cause.

SADIE

You didn't answer my question.

JOHN

I'm on a secret mission, but I'm not the only American here.

Sadie glances around the café to make sure no one is within listening range.

SADIE

The Nazis control all of France now... this is a difficult time.

Sadie sips some beer.

SADIE (CONT'D)

We call ourselves The Circle.

JOHN

There must be a reason.

SADIE

We are born into this life, we struggle to stay free and will fight for it... and will die for it. That is our motto.

JOHN
(smiles)
We aim to restore independence for
France.

SADIE
I would say an act of God.

JOHN
We don't believe it will be easy...
not a sure thing... but we are
committed.

Sadie takes his hand in hers.

SADIE
Do you have a place to stay?

JOHN
My contact will accommodate me.

She downs some beer.

SADIE
I'm staying at a farmhouse in the
outskirts of Limoges. You're
welcome if you need another place
to hide.

JOHN
(smiles)
One always needs a backup plan.

SADIE
I assume you speak French.

JOHN
(in German with English
subtitle)
No, I speak fluent German.

Sadie smiles and nods her head.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - LIMOGES - DAY

Sadie and John have an liaison in the middle of the night.

They finish making love and lay in their arms for a few
moments.

JOHN
I missed your scent.

SADIE
(sarcastic)
How romantic.

She gets out of bed and disappears. She comes back fully dressed and sits down at a small table.

JOHN
So, you're going to marry Ben
Wesling.

SADIE
Well, he asked me. You weren't
around.

She gives a cold stare to John.

SADIE (CONT'D)
Don't get any ideas about tonight.

JOHN
(grins)
I would I?

John gets out of bed, gets dressed and joins her at the table.

JOHN (CONT'D)
He's here gathering intelligence.
Correct?

SADIE
The best he can.

John lights a cigar while Sadie smokes a cigarette.

JOHN
You know, it might take a while to
drive the Nazis out.

Sadie composes her thoughts.

SADIE
We are here for a bigger reason
than to just hand out fliers or
simple sabotage.

JOHN
To do what?

SADIE
We are going to assassinate Klaus
Barbie.

John takes a drag of his cigar and stares at Sadie.

JOHN
Why would you do that?

SADIE
We need to send a message.

JOHN
It won't change anything.

SADIE
You don't know that.

JOHN
You know how dangerous that is?

She puffs on her cigarette.

SADIE
Why are you really here?

JOHN
I love that trait in you.
(laughs)
You're so curious.

SADIE
I don't like on-way streets. Please
tell me.

JOHN
We have our reasons. Enough said.

Sadie is not amused.

INT. LIMOGES FARMHOUSE BARN - NIGHT

Baena is sitting on an old rickety chair watching Ben print a new edition of *The Circle* when Jocko walks in.

He paces around for a few moments.

JOCKO
You know, it seems to me, we spend
too much time working on these damn
flyers instead of trying to
sabotage the enemy.

BEN
That might be, but we are trying to
make sure Frenchmen know the Vichy
government is not their friend.

He looks over at Baena.

BEN (CONT'D)
What do you think?

Baena seems to be in thought before he replies.

BAENA
Frenchmen should fight back. If
not, Hitler will rule France.

JOCKO
I'm still not sure why you decided
to defect. There are dire
consequences.

BAENA
I cannot help if you do not believe
me. I will live with the
consequences.

Jocko walks closer to Ben who has just finished printing the
flyers. Ben picks them up and sets them on a small table.

Jocko picks one up and reads it.

JOCKO
Anyone caught with this will be
shot on the spot.

BEN
The French are smarter than to get
caught. I wouldn't worry about it.

JOCKO
I do worry about it.

Sadie walks in. Ben immediately addresses her.

BEN
Jocko doesn't like anything about
our flyers.

JOCKO
I thought we were a group of
resistance fighters.

SADIE
That is exactly what we are.

JOCKO
Then why are we wasting time with
these flyers?

SADIE

Helping people understand what the Germans are trying to do is not a waste of time. Is that understood?

She walks closer to Jocko.

SADIE (CONT'D)

Does Aggie know how you feel? She is completely committed to the cause.

She glances over at Baena.

SADIE (CONT'D)

It appears we even have a former Nazi on our side.

Jocko looks away, collecting his thoughts.

JOCKO

Look, I will do what it takes for us to be successful, regardless of the flyers.

Baena stands, heads to the exit, and disappears.

SADIE

I expect everyone on our team to think the same. Otherwise, we should be doing something else.

She walks out.

OUTSIDE BARN

Sadie is heading toward the farmhouse when Raven rushes out the door holding Baena's Nazi coat in her hands.

Out of breath, she runs up to Sadie.

RAVEN

(angry)

Why is this Nazi uniform in the farmhouse?

SADIE

You must calm down. I can explain.

Baena storms out of the farmhouse and approaches Sadie and Raven. He points at Raven.

BAENA

What are you doing with my coat?

Raven backs up.

RAVEN

You're a Nazi.

She looks over at Sadie.

RAVEN (CONT'D)

Why is he here?

SADIE

He's not a Nazi anymore.

RAVEN

(yells)

I was raped by Nazi.

She throws the coat on the ground and points at Baena.

RAVEN (CONT'D)

You stay away from me.

BAENA

I'm not a rapist. And... I am no longer a Nazi.

Raven points her finger at Baena.

RAVEN

You stay away from me.

She goes back to the house.

He picks up his coat.

BAENA

Sorry.

SADIE

If you are no longer a Nazi as you say, you need to get rid of your uniform.

Baena nods his head and walks toward the barn.

INT. SADIE AND BEN'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

That night, Ben sits at a small table drinking a beer and smoking a cigarette.

Sadie wearing a skimpy nightgown sits on a tiny chair combing her long blond hair. She goes over and sits across from Ben, and pours red wine in a glass.

BEN

If it wasn't for the fact Jocko and Aggie are lovers, I would question why he's even here.

SADIE

He means well. He's all about action, not paperwork.

BEN

Perhaps he's all mouth and no trousers.

(laughs)

I think our flyers are doing some good.

SADIE

The more Frenchmen we can educate, the better.

Ben swigs some beer.

BEN

Do you think Baena and Raven are going to cause problems here?

SADIE

I don't know.

BEN

I'm reluctant to let them stay.

SADIE

We should let it play out.

She sits back and sips her wine.

SADIE (CONT'D)

We need to start planning for Barbie's assassination.

BEN

It will take a lot of intelligence gathering and preparation.

SADIE

(grins)

Who better to be involved than you.

BEN

Barbie is heavily guarded, so we need to catch him off guard which will be difficult.

SADIE

I think we should make an attempt at blowing up the train station in Vichy first.

Ben takes a long puff on his cigarette.

BEN

We will need to stake it out and get an idea how we can best take it down.

SADIE

It is constantly used by the Nazis. It seems like a natural target.

BEN

(smiles)

We need to think this over.

He puts out his cigar, finishes his beer, and goes over, grabs Sadie and they fall on the bed.

INT. CAFÉ ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF VICHY - DAY

Several days later, in the late afternoon, Ben walks to the rear of the establishment, notices his contact and takes a seat. An older waitress brings them beers.

His contact is French and goes by TENENHOOP, a short man with a massive black beard.

TENENHOOP

(broken English)

My name is Tenenhoop. What do you want to know?

BEN

We mustn't stay long.

Ben glances around the café.

BEN (CONT'D)

I was told you could tell me information about the Vichy train station.

TENENHOOP

It is a major hub for senior Nazis
visiting.

BEN

How often?

TENENHOOP

Frequently.

Ben gulps his beer.

BEN

Is it guarded?

TENENHOOP

Of course. If you have plans for
that station, I would be careful.

BEN

So... it's heavily guarded.

TENENHOOP

It will take detailed planning if
you want to take it down. That is
all I can say.

BEN

(smiles)

We must meet again.

Ben stands and quickly departs.

EXT. LIMOGES FARMHOUSE - DAY

In the late afternoon, Sadie and Ben drive up to the
farmhouse and park. They immediately get out and shocked at
what they see.

Attached to an upstairs window is a NAZI FLAG with the
SWASTIKA prominently displayed, blowing in the light breeze.

BEN

(angry)

What the hell is that?

SADIE

You mean what is it doing there?

BEN

It needs to come down.

They head to the front door.

INT. FARMHOUSE COMMON AREA - DAY

They walk in and see Baena sitting at the table drinking a beer.

BEN

What the hell are you trying to do?

BAENA

What do you mean?

BEN

Take the fucking flag down.

Baena downs some beer.

BAENA

Why?

He pauses and smiles.

BAENA (CONT'D)

Anyone who sees it will know we are sympathetic to the Nazis. That way they will leave us alone.

SADIE

We don't want to be noticed at all. The Vichy government doesn't know we're here. The Nazis are more concerned about resistance in the north.

BEN

Take it down and if you don't feel safe here, you are free to go.

Sadie disappears.

BAENA

Nazis could come through here at any moment.

BEN

This is still a free zone, but we will deal with it when it happens.

Sadie comes in the room with the flag and throws it on the table.

SADIE

Put it away.

Aggie comes in the room.

AGGIE
What is the matter?

BEN
You didn't see the Nazi flag
hanging from the window?

AGGIE
I thought you must have agreed to
it.

BEN.
Of course I didn't. It's a terrible
idea.

Sadie looks over at Baena.

SADIE
It won't happen again.

Baena doesn't respond, but takes a swig of beer.

Sadie walks over to Aggie.

SADIE (CONT'D)
Let's take a walk.

EXT. FOREST AREA NEAR FARMHOUSE - DAY

They slowly walk along a small path in a heavily wooded area.

AGGIE
Do you think Baena's trouble?

SADIE
I'm not sure.

She looks away for a moment.

SADIE (CONT'D)
He could have led Nazis to our door
with flying that flag.

Aggie stops and faces Sadie.

AGGIE
Do you think the Nazis hate us
Communists more than anyone else?

SADIE

You and I are not alone. We share a network of like-minded souls who believe in strong communist principles.

AGGIE

Not sure everyone in The Circle does.

SADIE

It doesn't matter. We all want to crush the Nazis regardless of our values.

They begin walking again.

AGGIE

I must say, you seem aloof often.

SADIE

Sometimes, I think I have too much on my mind.

AGGIE

No, you are haunted by something in your past.

Sadie looks away.

SADIE

Do you ever have thoughts that won't go away?

AGGIE

What's bothering you?

SADIE

Someone I can't get out of my head.

She thinks back.

FLASHBACK:

INT. HOTEL ROOM - MAYFAIR, LONDON - NIGHT (1938)

After making love, Sadie and John sit propped up in bed. Sadie smokes Benson & Hedges, and John enjoys a cigar.

JOHN

I need to tell you something.

She takes a puff of her cigarette.

SADIE

Please don't tell me you're married
and now feel horrible after romping
around in bed with me.

JOHN

(smiles)

Not married, but I have to return
to the States in a few days. Not
sure when I'll get back.

SADIE

(laughs)

That's how you treat a lady?

He blows smoke in the air.

JOHN

Of course not. I want to see you
again.

SADIE

I would hope so.

They put out their smokes and caress for another round of
sex.

RETURN TO PRESENT

They are now walking back to the farmhouse.

AGGIE

Sounds like you were infatuated
with this man.

Sadie stops and faces Aggie.

SADIE

He's come back in my life.

AGGIE

He's here in France?

SADIE

(slight laugh)

I never thought I would see him
again.

EXT. BEHIND FARMHOUSE - DAY

A week later, Charles is chopping wood when he's accosted by
Bridget.

BRIDGET

Sadie wants us to distribute flyers
in an area south of Tours and has a
mission in mind.

Still chopping wood, he responds.

CHARLES

To do what?

BRIDGET

Lay bombs down in an area
frequented by Nazi soldiers.

CHARLES

Haven't we done that before?

BRIDGET

It seems to work.

He puts his axe down and motions for her to walk with him.

OUTFRONT OF FARMHOUSE

They sit at the old wooden table.

CHARLES

Do you think we can drive the Nazis
out of France?

BRIDGET

I have no idea, but we must try.

CHARLES

They have all the cards and we have
none.

BRIDGET

My brother was a magician, and when
you thought he had no cards, he had
some.

She looks away for a moment.

BRIDGET (CONT'D)

The resistance will win in the
end... because we are magicians.

CHARLES

(smiles)

If you say so. When is our mission?

BRIDGET

Tomorrow.

**INT. OFFICE OF KLAUS BARBIE - THIRD FLOOR - HÔTEL TERMINUS -
LYON - DAY (NOVEMBER 1942)**

Barbie sits at a large ornate desk, dressed in his Nazi uniform. He has just recently arrived from Dijon in the Occupied Zone. Hitler decided that the FREE ZONE, the southern portion of France, is now designated as an OCCUPIED ZONE as well.

He is patiently waiting for a senior Vichy administrator to join him.

GABRIEL DUMAS enters and immediately takes a seat.

DIALOGUE IS IN GERMAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES.

BARBIE

You do speak German.

DUMAS

Yes.

BARBIE

I am now in charge here. This no longer is a free zone.

DUMAS

What is the responsibility of the Vichy government?

BARBIE

You will implement our polices and enforce them.

Barbie leans forward.

BARBIE (CONT'D)

Is that a problem?

DUMAS

I thought we have been doing that.

BARBIE

(aggravated)

This is a new day... a new time.

Barbie sits back abruptly.

BARBIE (CONT'D)

Is that understood?

DUMAS
(frustrated)
What do you expect from us?

BARBIE
You will be rewarded for your
loyalty.

DUMAS
Philippe Pétain sends his regards.

BARBIE
You tell the head of the Vichy
government, I want to talk to him.

DUMAS
He doesn't speak German.

Barbie speaks in a louder voice.

BARBIE
You will accompany him.

Barbie stands to signify the meeting has ended.

INT. LIMOGES FARMHOUSE COMMON AREA - DAY

Sadie walks in and sits next to Ben who is smoking a
cigarette and drinking a beer.

SADIE
We have a problem.

BEN
(grins)
I've heard that before.

SADIE
It's not good news.

She grabs Ben's beer and takes a swig.

SADIE (CONT'D)
Our free zone is now considered
occupied.

BEN
What?

SADIE
You know what that means? Nazis
could be breathing down our necks.

Ben takes a drag of his cigarette.

BEN
We need to sanitize this house.

SADIE
We will need to hide the printing
press and everything associated
with it.

BEN
(abrupt)
Where's Baena?

SADIE
I haven't seen him. Why?

BEN
We need to fly the Nazi flag.

Jocko walks in.

BEN (CONT'D)
Where's Baena?

JOCKO
In the barn.

BEN
We need to talk to him.

Jocko walks out.

A minute later, Baena comes in.

BAENA
Must be a new mission.

BEN
Where's the Nazi flag?

BAENA
In the barn.

SADIE
Put it back where you had it.

BAENA
Why?

BEN
We're no longer a free zone.

BAENA

It was just a matter of time.

BEN

(abrupt)

What did you say?

BAENA

I told you what Hitler wants to do.

He quickly departs.

EXT. STREET ADJACENT TO HÔTEL TERMINUS - LYON - NIGHT (MARCH 1943)

Ben and Charles stand in front of a small alley across from the hotel. They are doing preparation work for the assassination of Klaus Barbie.

As they patiently watch, Nazi soldiers enter and exit the hotel.

CHARLES

Supposedly, Barbie doesn't leave the hotel very often.

BEN

I understand, he frequents...

(he points)

the Lyon Cafe across the street.

CHARLES

It may be difficult to know exactly when.

BEN

It will take time to figure that out.

CHARLES

Assassinating him in a restaurant isn't the best option.

BEN

It may be the only one.

They notice two men walking along the sidewalk in front of the hotel. It is obvious by the YELLOW STAR OF DAVID BADGE on their lapels, they don't belong there.

CHARLES

They're Jews. What are they doing here?

BEN

We can't get involved.

A Nazi Jeep rushes down the street and stops. Two soldiers get out and confront the two men and they immediately start running away, only to be SHOT IN THE BACK... falling like bowling pins.

The Nazis get in their Jeep and depart.

Charles runs over to them. He checks their pulses, then runs back.

CHARLES

They can't be saved.

Several Nazi soldiers exit the hotel and stand at the ready position with guns aimed at the sky.

Ben and Charles move back into the alley.

Seconds later, a short man with black hair, dressed in uniform, exits the hotel and is escorted over to the restaurant.

BEN

I believe that's Barbie.

CHARLES

For a short son of a bitch, he has a lot of power.

BEN

(laughs)

So did Napoleon.

INT. LIMOGES FARMHOUSE BARN - DAY

In the late afternoon, Baena sits on an old chair in the area where he is staying. He is drinking a beer and smoking a cigarette.

Raven walks in.

RAVEN

I want to talk to you.

BAENA

(sarcastic laugh)

Now, you want to talk to me.

She stops and stares at Baena.

RAVEN
I forgive you.

BAENA
Forgive me for what?

RAVEN
For being a fucking Nazi.

Baena sips beer and takes a drag of his cigarette.

BAENA
(abrupt)
I'm not a Nazi.

RAVEN
You were.

She paces.

RAVEN (CONT'D)
I was fucking raped by a Nazi. Do
you understand me... raped.

BAENA
That is unfortunate, but I am not a
Nazi. You must learn to trust me.

RAVEN
Why should I?

BAENA
I thought you forgave me.

RAVEN
Trust is earned.

BAENA
Give me a chance. That's all I can
say.

She turns and walks out of the barn.

**EXT. SMALL GLEN NEAR RAILWAY VIADUCT - EYMOUTIERS FRANCE -
NIGHT**

Sadie, Ben, and Charles stand in a glen below a rail line
that moves across a river on a large viaduct. They've brought
bombs, but not sure how to proceed.

They are approached by a MAGUIS FIGHTER from the hills.

MAGUIS FIGHTER
 (in French with English
 subtitle)
 Are you here to help?

SADIE
 We heard about your effort.

MAGUIS FIGHTER
 (broken English)
 We are Communist Résistants and
 want to stop the Nazis using this
 bridge.

SADIE
 I am sympatric to your cause. How
 can we help?

MAGUIS FIGHTER
 We are prepared to plant a pipe
 bomb into a gutter that runs into a
 pier. If it works, it will bring
 down a whole column.

The fighter looks around.

MAGUIS FIGHTER (CONT'D)
 There is a road used by Nazis.
 (points as he talks)
 After we place the bomb, we will
 give you a signal. You need to blow
 up the road so they can't get to
 us.

SADIE
 Okay.

She motions for her team to move out.

Moments later, the road explodes followed by the COLUMN
 COLLAPSING with a resounding noise.

INT. CAFÉ ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF VICHY - DAY

Ben sits with his contact in a corner table and they drink
 beer. Once again, the café is practically empty.

TENENHOOP
 Are you still infatuated with the
 Vichy train station?

BEN

We conducted reconnaissance and didn't see any soldiers.

TENENHOOP

They were there. They hide in the crevasses.

He takes out a cigarette and lights it, and smiles.

BEN

We prefer to stop the influx of Nazi soldiers.

TENENHOOP

You can limit their access by blowing up the tracks well before the station.

He sips his beer.

TENENHOOP (CONT'D)

No?

BEN

Well, we don't want to kill innocent citizens.

TENENHOOP

You must remember, concerted sabotage throughout this country will have an effect.

He takes another sip of his beer.

TENENHOOP (CONT'D)

We will wear down those fucking Nazis and their Vichy puppets. That is the answer.

BEN

(smiles)

We will certainly try.

INT. THIRD FLOOR - HÔTEL TERMINUS - LYON - DAY (MAY 1943)

Klaus Barbie paces in front of his desk waiting for his visitors to arrive.

Dumas and Marshal Philippe Pétain are escorted in by a young soldier. They take a seat. The soldier departs.

Barbie stares at them for a moment and takes a seat behind his desk.

BARBIE

(in German with English subtitle)

I am encouraged you could join us today, Marshal Pétain.

DUMAS

I must translate.

He leans over at whispers to Pétain who nods in acknowledgement.

BARBIE

(in German with English subtitle)

You must understand the Führer has decreed France become a German sovereign nation.

Dumas repeats in French to Pétain.

PÉTAIN

(in French with English subtitle)

I have supported you from the very beginning. I don't intend to change.

Dumas repeats in German to Barbie.

BARBIE

(in German with English subtitle)

We must continue to purge Jews from our sight. You will make every effort to see that through.

Dumas repeats in French to Pétain.

PÉTAIN

(in French with English subtitle)

We will eliminate the blight on our society.

Dumas repeats in German to Barbie.

BARBIE

(in German with English subtitle)

I believe we will.

Barbie stares at the both of them.

BARBIE (CONT'D)
 (in German with English
 subtitle)
 We will meet at intervals upon my
 discretion.

He stands to signify the meeting has ended.

Dumas and Pétain slowly walk out of the office.

INT. LEMOGES FARMHOUSE BARN - DAY

Sadie is cleaning the printing press and arranging the completed flyers on the table for distribution.

Baena sits on his chair smoking a cigarette, watching her labor and it annoys her.

SADIE
 Are you just going to sit there?

BAENA
 Why should I disturb you?

SADIE
 (cold stare)
 I certainly wouldn't mind.

A voice startles them.

JOHN (O.S.)
 Hello Sadie.

She turns around, looking shaken.

SADIE
 You found us.

JOHN
 That can't be much of a surprise.

SADIE
 (embarrassed)
 Of course not.

Baena lights another cigarette.

BAENA
 (addresses John)
 Who are you?

SADIE

He's an old friend, but he's here working for the American government.

BAENA

(sarcastic)

Doing what?

SADIE

It's none of your business.

Baena puffs on his cigarette, and walks out of the barn.

SADIE (CONT'D)

I really didn't expect you.

JOHN

(smiles)

I believe you did invite me.

(laughs)

Sort of.

SADIE

If you need to stay, we have a spare bedroom.

JOHN

My arrangement in Vichy didn't work out, so I'll take you up on that.

She paces around, thinking what to do next.

SADIE

Follow me.

OUTSIDE THE FARMOUSE

As they walk toward the farmhouse, Ben comes out the front door and approaches them.

BEN

John West, what the hell are you doing here?

JOHN

It has been a long time since we shared a beer. I'm on assignment.

He looks over at Sadie, grins, before he continues.

JOHN (CONT'D)

What about you?

BEN
We're resistance fighters.

He glances over at Sadie.

BEN (CONT'D)
And Sadie is my fiancée.

JOHN
I didn't know.

He looks over at Sadie.

JOHN (CONT'D)
Congratulations.

BEN
(abrupt)
How did you know we were here?

Sadie motions for them to go inside.

INT. LEMOGES FARMHOUSE COMMON AREA - DAY

They all three sit around the table drinking beer. John smokes a cigar while Ben chain-smokes cigarettes.

BEN
I would like an answer to my question.

JOHN
Sadie and I met at the train station when I arrived.

Sadie glances over at John with a slight smile.

SADIE
It was quite a shock.

JOHN
She told me about your endeavor.

BEN
You said you're on assignment. What are the Americans doing here?

JOHN
You know I can't answer that.

Ben gulps some beer.

BEN

We are here to save France from disaster. I have no idea what the Americans want.

JOHN

(smiles)
The same thing.

SADIE

We're all in this together.

BEN

Where are you staying?

John looks over at Sadie and puffs on his cigar.

SADIE

He's staying here. We have the room.

Ben stands and takes a drink of his beer.

BEN

(sarcastic grin)
No offense, but I hope it's only temporary.

He walks away.

Sadie follows him before he goes upstairs.

SADIE

What's the matter with you? He has nowhere to stay and is on a mission.

BEN

I don't trust him, but I suppose you do.

SADIE

He's not a threat to our operation, so get over it.

He turns and walks up the stairs.

INT. TOUTURE ROOM - BASEMENT - HÔTEL TERMINUS - NIGHT

In a darkened basement room, accented only by a small lamp in the corner, an older man, a Jew, wearing a yellow badge on his lapel sits strapped to a chair.

Dumas with a young Nazi soldier comes in the room.

The soldier rips the blind fold off while the OLDER JEW squirms.

ALL DIALOGUE IS IN FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES.

DUMAS

We know you are part of the resistance. Who are you working with?

OLDER JEW

I don't associate with the resistance.

DUMAS

We know you do, so tell us.

The older Jew fidgets in his seat.

OLDER JEW

I mind my own business.

The young Nazi soldier goes over and grabs the older Jew's hair and pushes his head back.

THEN...

Pours water on his face, and he reacts by throwing up phlegm.

DUMAS

You will tell us the truth.

The YOUNG NAZI SOLDIER walks in front of the victim.

YOUNG NAZI SOLDIER

You are a filthy Jew. You will tell us what we want to know or we will know what pain really feels like.

OLDER JEW

Please... I only care about my family... not the resistance.

The young Nazi soldier looks over at Dumas who nods, and walks out of the room.

ALCOVE ADJACENT TO TORTURE ROOM

Dumas meets with Barbie, as they hear screams coming from the torture room.

BARBIE

Did he name the resistance group?

DUMAS

No, but it doesn't matter. He's a Jew and must be eliminated.

BARBIE

We have orders to deport as many Jews we can find and send them to Auschwitz.

DUMAS

(grins)

It will be my pleasure.

INT. SECOND FLOOR - 48, RUE DU FOUR - PARIS - NIGHT

Jean Moulin is hosting a meeting between a couple of resistance fighter groups to try to develop common ground in how to succeed in defeating the Nazis.

Sadie and Ben maneuver around several people when a young lady carrying a tray of wine approaches them. They both take one. Symphonic music fills the air.

Maria sees them.

MARIA

Make yourself at home. There are other like-minded fighters here tonight.

She walks away. Sadie and Ben sip their wine and glance around the room.

Another couple comes up to them. DAPHNE and CHRISTIAN CHOPIN are resistance fighters who publish a flyer called Renegade, and speak impeccable English. They are both artists who share a hate of Hitler and Germans in general.

CHRISTIAN

(in French with English subtitle)

We are the Chopin's. Who might you be?

BEN

I am Ben Wesling and this is my fiancée, Sadie Hemmings.

DAPHNE

How nice to have Brits fighting
with us.

SADIE

We are not going to stand by and
let that maniac Hitler take over
France.

CHRISTIAN

Neither are we.

BEN

We publish a flyer called The
Circle.

Christian looks over at Daphne.

CHRISTIAN

(enthusiastic)

We publish one too. It's called
Renegade. I think between the two
of us, we can get the word out to
unsuspecting Frenchmen.

SADIE

They must know they need to fight
for freedom.

Moulin interrupts. He firmly puts his arm around Ben. He
addresses them in English.

MOULIN

Can we talk privately?

They follow him to a corner of the room.

MOULIN (CONT'D)

I understand you may be acting
irresponsibly.

SADIE

Who told you that?

MOULIN

It is immaterial.

He looks away for a moment.

MOULIN (CONT'D)

Subtle sabotage is our way.

SADIE
(slight laugh)
That will never work, and you know
it.

BEN
We can't tread lightly and be
successful.

MOULIN
You are warned. You will not
jeopardize our plans.

Sadie looks at Ben and appears to be in thought.

SADIE
What do you now about Klaus Barbie?

MOULIN
He's a despicable Nazi. Why?

SADIE
The Vichy government bows down to
him.

MOULIN
What are you trying to say?

BEN
Instead of tip-towing through the
flower garden, you should consider
broader action.

MOULIN
If you're saying what I think you
are, you are playing with fire.

He starts to walk away and then turns around.

MOULIN (CONT'D)
You two need to go back to England.
We won't be offended.

He abruptly walks away.

**EXT. OUTSIDE OF MICHELIN FACTORY IN CLERMONT-FERRANT FRANCE -
NIGHT**

Two weeks later, in the middle of the night, Sadie and Ben
stand at a distance away from the factory. They both carry
satchels full of small bombs.

Not far away, Bridget, Charles, Aggie, and Jocko are carrying bombs as well.

At an agreed upon time, they begin to creep up to the building.

Sadie whispers to the group.

SADIE

There are dozens of tires in there.
We don't want the Nazis to ever use
them.

BEN

There doesn't appear to be any
security, but be as careful as you
can.

They move toward the building.

MINUTES LATER...

AN EXPLOSION ROCKS THE GROUND AND LIGHTS UP THE NIGHT SKY.

INT. LOMOGES FARMHOUSE COMMON AREA - DAY

A week later, the bombers sit around the table discussing past and future plans.

They all smoke cigarettes and enjoy a carafe of wine.

SADIE

The word is we destroyed tons of
tires. The Michelin plant is now
basically kaput.

BEN

A sign of success.

AGGIE

There are other factories we can
target.

JOCKO

(laughs)

Isn't this better than handing out
flyers?

SADIE

No, but this is harder to
accomplish.

BEN
We must always consider other possibilities.

Bridget takes a huge drag.

BRIDGET
You never told us what Moulin said when you visited him.

SADIE
Apparently, he now thinks we are too violent for what he thinks resistance fighters should be.

BEN
(laughs)
He thinks small unobtrusive operations are the way to scare Nazis out of France.

CHARLES
I guess he means well.

He looks around at everyone.

CHARLES (CONT'D)
But isn't that misguided.

They are startled when an intruder walks in and stares at them.

He is BERNARD GOFFIN, tall, gray hair and beard (60), and is the owner of the farmhouse. He has a thick French accent, but speaks very good English.

SADIE
(unnerved)
Who are you?

Goffin looks around for a moment.

GOFFIN
This is my farmhouse. What are you doing here?

Sadie glances over at Ben.

SADIE
We are resistance fighters. We thought this house was abandoned.

GOFFIN
My family and I are in hiding.

SADIE

We have been operating out of here because it is out of the way.

GOFFIN

I have nothing against resistance fighters. If you can chase the Nazis out of France, I welcome it.

He walks over and takes a seat.

Bridget pours him some wine.

SADIE

If you want your house back, we understand.

GOFFIN

We are staying with a friend in Limoges.

He sips some wine, and stares at them for a moment.

GOFFIN (CONT'D)

I see you fly the swastika.

BEN

We want to show sympathy to their cause so they will leave us alone.

GOFFIN

You don't want to be interrogated by one. I can tell you it is not a pleasant experience.

Ben takes a drag of his cigarette.

BEN

Do you think they're come through here?

GOFFIN

We are an occupied zone, so I believe you must be prepared for the worst.

SADIE

We will take every precaution.

Goffin stands and smiles at them.

GOFFIN

I will stay in touch.

He walks out.

EXT. AREA NORTH OF VICHY TRAIN STATION - NIGHT

Ben and Charles stand in the shadows watching Nazi soldiers herd dozens of Jews into boxcars for transport to Auschwitz.

They quickly move to the north and begin to plant four small bombs on the tracks with a fuse set for several minutes.

They move back behind foliage and wait.

THEN...

A MASSIVE EXPLOSION completely destroys the tracks and surrounding area.

Ben and Charles begin to run away but when they reach a small road beyond the tracks, they are approached by two Nazi soldiers.

Ben moves back into the foliage, but Charles does not and is confronted by the soldiers.

THEY GRAB CHARLES AND MARCH OFF WITH HIM.

EXT. OUTSIDE LEMOGES FARMHOUSE - DAY

A week later, Ben is walking from the barn to the house, when Baena, dressed in white shirt and brown pants, drives up on the Stella 175 and gets Ben's attention.

BAENA

Four Nazis in a Jeep are coming this way.

BEN

How close?

BAENA

Several kilometers.

Sadie and Goffin come out the front door.

SADIE

What's the matter?

BAENA

Nazis are coming.

Sadie motions for Ben to go to the barn with her. They disappear.

GOFFIN
We don't have much time.

Beana drives the motorcycle around the house to hide it in the forest.

Sadie and Ben come out of the barn.

SADIE
The equipment is secure.

GOFFIN
Is it out of the way?

BEN
They won't find it.

GOFFIN
There is an area behind the house in the forest you can hide.

The rest of the team come out of the house.

AGGIE
We should stand our ground.

JOCKO
We can handle it.

SADIE
It's not worth it. We need to go...
NOW!

GOFFIN
This is my responsibility.
(points to the rear of the house)
It will be okay.

They rush to the back of the house.

Goffin stands in front and waits.

Moments later, the Jeep pulls up and a NAZI LIEUTENANT gets out and walks up to Goffin.

DIALOGUE IS IN FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES.

GOFFIN (CONT'D)
Can I be of assistance?

NAZI LIEUTENANT
Are you the owner?

GOFFIN
This is my farmhouse.

NAZI LIEUTENANT
Who else lives here in this big
farmhouse?

GOFFIN
I live alone. My wife died last
year.

The lieutenant looks around and focuses in on the flag.

NAZI LIEUTENANT
You fly the swastika.

GOFFIN
I am a Vichy supporter.

Two soldiers go into the barn, and one goes in the house.

NAZI LIEUTENANT
It is hard to believe you live in a
big house by yourself.

GOFFIN
I suppose.

The lieutenant again looks around the area.

NAZI LIEUTENANT
You wouldn't lie to me. Would you?

The soldiers come back and whisper something to the
lieutenant.

NAZI LIEUTENANT (CONT'D)
Your house seems cluttered for
someone who lives alone.

GOFFIN
I recently had a meeting with other
Vichy supporters.
(smiles)
They were not the cleanest.

The lieutenant steps closer to Goffin.

NAZI LIEUTENANT
If we find out you are lying to us,
you will be arrested and I will
ensure you are hanged.

GOFFIN
I will keep that in mind.

The lieutenant stares at Goffin for a moment.

NAZI LIEUTENANT
You are warned.

He then gets in the Jeep with the others and they depart.

INT. LIMOGES FARMHOUSE BARN - NIGHT

That night, Goffin enters the barn to talk to Baena.

Baena sits smoking a cigarette and drinking a beer.

GOFFIN
I want to talk to you.

BAENA
What do you want?

GOFFIN
You were a Nazi. How convenient.

Baena takes a swig of his beer.

BAENA
What do you mean?

GOFFIN
There was no reason for Nazi
soldiers to come through here.

BAENA
I had nothing to do with that.

He nervously puffs on his cigarette.

BAENA (CONT'D)
Why would I tell Nazis to come here
when I left my post?

GOFFIN
This occupation is a nightmare and
will end terribly for Hitler.

BAENA
The occupation is not my idea, and
I am not a Nazi.

GOFFIN

I've never trusted a German in my
life. I warn you, I will be
watching your every move.

Baena doesn't respond. Goffin immediately walks out of the
barn.

EXT. STREET ACROSS FROM HÔTEL TERMINUS - NIGHT

John West, dressed in a suit and looking like a Vichy
councilman, stands at the corner of the street, observing the
plethora of foot traffic in and out of the Hôtel Terminus. He
occasionally looks around to ensure he's not being watched by
Nazi soldiers.

He glances at his watch, and takes a piece of paper out of
his pocket and looks at it. He thinks back.

FLASHBACK:

**INT. OFFICE OF ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS -STATE
DEPARTMENT - WASHINGTON D.C. - DAY (SIX MONTHS EARLIER)**

In the late afternoon, RICHARD HORVAC. Assistant Director of
Foreign Affairs, skims through a file waiting for his
appointment to arrive.

John West walks in and takes a seat.

HORVAC

I understand the OSS is sending you
over to France to gather
intelligence.

JOHN

In a few months.

HORVAC

Have they established contacts?

JOHN

They're working on it.

Horvac refers to the file.

HORVAC

I believe we have a few.

JOHN

(smiles)

I guess the more the better.

Horvac rests back in his chair.

HORVAC
We have an assignment for you.

JOHN
I'm listening.

HORVAC
Do you know who Klaus Barbie is?

John takes a cigar out and motions to Horvac and he acknowledges it's okay to smoke.

JOHN
A Nazi. Right?

HORVAC
He is currently the head of the Gestapo in France.

Horvac glances at the file again.

HORVAC (CONT'D)
He has an interesting background.

JOHN
(laughs)
Okay... is this going somewhere?

HORVAC
We might want to utilize a man of his caliber in the future to help us counter communist aggression.

JOHN
You're kidding. Right?
(laughs)
He's a fucking Nazi who wouldn't think twice about killing an American. Why would we care?

HORVAC
Well, he hates communists for one, but he is a prime candidate for assassination. We want you to find out what resistance groups are willing to try.

JOHN
And do what?

HORVAC
Make sure it doesn't occur.

John stands and begins to depart.

JOHN
I'll do what I can, but I think
you're out of your mind.

HORVAC
(grins)
Missions don't always make sense.

RETURN TO PRESENT

John walks along the street one more time and quietly
disappears.

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM - MONTLUC PRISON - LYON - DAY

Jean Moulin, disheveled and appearing unnerved, sits in a
chair, hands tied behind his back.

Dumas comes in the room.

Dialogue is in French with English subtitles.

DUMAS
Do you know why you were arrested?

MOULIN
I can only guess.

DUMAS
You apparently are a major
influence on resistance groups
trying to undermine the Vichy
government.

MOULIN
A government that only answers to
the Nazis.

DUMAS
Out of convenience, I will tell
you.

Dumas walks around the prisoner.

DUMAS (CONT'D)
Klaus Barbie allows us the freedom
we need. He does not appreciate
your interference.

MOULIN
Where is he now?

DUMAS
He is indisposed.

Dumas walks around the prisoner.

DUMAS (CONT'D)
We want the names of resistance
leaders.

MOULIN
I don't know their names.

Dumas bends down in Moulin's face.

DUMAS
You will give us the names. Do I
make myself clear.

MOULIN
You can't stop the passion of these
fighters. There are more of them
than you know. They will win in the
end.

DUMAS
Do you really think you can stop
German resolve?

MOULIN
I think it's a matter of time.

DUMAS
Any final words before the soldiers
come in and find out what you do
know.

A look of fear comes across Moulin's face, but he says
nothing.

INT. CAFÉ ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF VICHY - DAY

Ben walks in the café and sees Tenenhoop sitting in the back
where they always meet.

He takes a seat as Tenenhoop slides a beer over to him.

TENENHOOP
(slight laugh)
You must enjoy my company.

BEN
(smiles)
Why else would I come.

TENENHOOP

I understand the Vichy train station attack was a debacle.

BEN

Well, it did slow down the deportation of Jews to Auschwitz.

TENENHOOP

One of your members was arrested.

BEN

He'll rot in prison unless I can get him out.

TENENHOOP

You won't.

Tenenhoop drinks some beer.

TENENHOOP (CONT'D)

Jean Moulin was arrested. Did you know that?

BEN

When?

TENENHOOP

It's not clear.

BEN

They'll be a ripple effect.

TENENHOOP

Initially, but in time the resistance movement will prevail. You must believe that.

BEN

What do you know about Klaus Barbie?

Tenenhoop lights a cigarette.

TENENHOOP

He's a horrible fucking Nazi. I wouldn't bother with him, if I were you.

BEN

I assume he's hard to get to.

TENENHOOP

He should never be your focus. If he is assassinated, he will be replaced by someone worse.

BEN

I was just curious... that's all.

Tenenhoop downs his beer, and takes a drag of his cigarette.

TENENHOOP

Stick to conducting sabotage operations. Over time, we will make the Nazi occupation a thing of the past.

Ben stares at him before he devours his beer.

EXT. NATURE PARK - WEST OF VICHY FRANCE - NIGHT

At dusk, John walks along a footpath to a designated position. He is meeting his OSS contact and will use his code name: COMBAT.

His contact is an American woman serving under cover and has been in France for several years. Her code name is FRENCHIE.

FRENCHIE (O.S.)

Combat?

COMBAT

You must be Frenchie.

She comes out of the darkness, dressed in dark clothes and a beret, accented by a lamp in the distance.

FRENCHIE

We mustn't linger long.

They begin to walk along the footpath.

FRENCHIE (CONT'D)

What have you encountered?

COMBAT

The resistance is very active.

FRENCHIE

We couldn't ask for anything better.

COMBAT

But, we have a problem.

Frenchie stops and faces Combat.

FRENCHIE

How can I help? The OSS sent me here several years ago and I have made many contacts.

COMBAT

A group called The Circle wants to assassinate Klaus Barbie.

FRENCHIE

You mean the Nazi we're trying to keep alive?

COMBAT

I don't pretend to understand the logic of it all, but that's our assignment.

FRENCHIE

How do you know The Circle?

COMBAT

It's a long story... but I'll take care of it.

They continue walking.

EXT. FOREST AREA NEAR FARMHOUSE - DAY

In the late afternoon, Raven and Baena enter a small glen within the forest.

BAENA

You still don't trust me.

RAVEN

Why would you denounce your own country?

BAENA

I love my country. I hate what the Nazis are doing to it.

RAVEN

That might be so, but they will kill you if they catch you.

BAENA

I can take care of myself.

Raven paces.

RAVEN

For all I know, you could be a spy.

BAENA

If I was a spy, no one in that
farmhouse would be alive...
including you.

RAVEN

They're keeping their eyes on you.

BAENA

Now that I'm here, I'm willing to
help.

RAVEN

You're willing to kill fellow
countrymen?

BAENA

Nazis are not real Germans and they
will pay for what they're doing.

Raven stops and glares at him with a sense of understanding.

RAVEN

Somehow, I believe you.

BAENA

That's a start.

INT. LIMOGES FARMHOUSE COMMON AREA - DAY

A week later, the group sits around the table, drinking and
smoking, discussing current issues.

SADIE

The word is that Jean Moulin is
dead.

AGGIE

How?

SADIE

It's unclear, but he was probably
tortured to death.

JOCKO

What does that mean for the
resistance movement?

BEN

He was a figurehead, so the movement will still march forward.

He takes a drag of his cigarette.

BEN (CONT'D)

He wasn't fond of The Circle. His death doesn't really affect us.

John drinks some beer, and lights a cigar.

JOHN

Do you honestly believe you're making a difference?

SADIE

We can't do it alone... but we are contributing to the whole.

BEN

And that makes the difference.

JOHN

(grins)

Danger sometimes finds its prey.

SADIE

We are more than aware.

JOCKO

Does anyone know what happened to Charles?

BEN

I'm afraid we'll never see him again.

Ben goes over and gets a few bottles of beer out of the small refrigerator.

He sets them on the table.

Aggie takes a long puff of her opium pipe.

AGGIE

(abrupt)

I appreciate what we've done here, but are we going to try to assassinate Klaus Barbie?

SADIE

That's the plan.

AGGIE
(sarcastic)
Do we have one?

BEN
We're working on it.

John blows smoke in the air.

JOHN
(emphatic)
I believe it's lunacy to think you
can murder a high-ranking Nazi and
get away with it.

BEN
I know you're here on some American
assignment, but you need to stay
out of our operations.

JOHN
(grins)
I'm trying to be the voice of
reason.

SADIE
I understand, but we're fine.

No one says anything after that. John slams down his beer and
walks out of the room.

INT. FARMHOUSE BARN - NIGHT

Bridget walks into the dimly lit barn and looks around. She
notices an open beer bottle on a small table, but no one is
there.

She walks around to the back of the barn where Baena lives,
and stares at the mess.

She hears a noise...

BAENA (O.S.)
Looking for me?

Taken by surprise, she nervously turns around.

BRIDGET
Why would I be looking for you?

He walks closer.

BAENA

I don't know, but I think you were.

She stares at him with a sense of anger.

BRIDGET

You don't fool me. Once a Nazi,
always a Nazi.

BAENA

If I was still a Nazi, you would be
dead by now.

She moves several paces back.

BRIDGET

We are going to kill Klaus Barbie.
Are you going to help?

BAENA

(laughs)
You don't need my help.

BRIDGET

I think you should be the assassin.

BAENA

I'm not going to be as foolish as
to kill a senior Nazi commander.

BRIDGET

One you still revere.

He moves closer to her.

BAENA

I told you, I am not a Nazi
anymore.

He looks her over.

BAENA (CONT'D)

You're a beautiful woman.
(grins)
I heard you like to bed Nazi
soldiers. I can be one if you like.

She backs up and looks around for anything she can use to
defend herself.

BRIDGET

You need to back off.

He unbuttons his shirt and starts toward her.

He grabs her and pushes her down.

She plays along at first, and moves to get on top of him.

THEN...

She grabs the gun leaning against the wall, jumps to her feet.

BRIDGET (CONT'D)
You Nazi pig.

She shoots him in the chest at point blank range, BACKING HIM INTO THE WALL... the noise echoing throughout the barn.

Seconds later, Ben runs in the barn.

BEN
What the hell happened?

A disheveled and distraught Bridget responds.

BRIDGET
(hyperventilating)
He tried to rape me.

Ben runs over and checks the body.

BEN
He's dead.

BRIDGET
I never trusted him. He was still a
Nazi... we're better off now.

BEN
We need to get rid of the body.

INT. LYON CAFÉ NEXT TO HÔTEL TERMINUS - NIGHT

In the early evening, Aggie and Jocko sit at a table in the rear of an uncrowded café. They enjoy apple strudel and Cognac. They talk in soft tones so no one can hear.

AGGIE
For a Wednesday night, it's not too
crowded.

Jocko looks over at a private room.

JOCKO
I think that's where Barbie dines.

AGGIE
I wonder what his security is like.

JOCKO
Enough to deter an attack, I
imagine.

AGGIE
There must be another way to do
this.

JOCKO
It was never going to be easy.

The commotion at the entrance startles them.

Ten Nazi guards with rifles enter followed by Barbie. They
immediately go to the private room.

A NAZI GUARD approaches them.

NAZI GUARD
(in German with English
subtitle)
Who are you?

AGGIE
(in French with English
subtitle)
Vichy supporters.

The guard points to another table.

NAZI GUARD
(in German with English
subtitle)
You must move.

They move to a table further toward the front.

The guard goes in the room and shuts the door.

AGGIE
Perhaps we should reevaluate our
plan.

Jocko sips his Cognac.

JOCKO
(smiles)
Perhaps.

EXT. OUT FRONT OF LIMOGES FARMHOUSE - DAY

A day later in the late afternoon, Bridget sits at the small table drinking a beer and smoking a cigarette.

Raven appears out of nowhere and confronts her.

RAVEN
Where's Baena?

Bridget puffs on her cigarette, and blows smoke in the air.

BRIDGET
Why do you care? Weren't you raped
by a Nazi?

RAVEN
He said he's not a Nazi anymore and
I believe him.

BRIDGET
He was nothing but a Nazi pig.

RAVEN
(emphatic)
Where is he?

BRIDGET
He's not here anymore.

RAVEN
What do you mean?

She paces out of desperation.

RAVEN (CONT'D)
What did you do?

BRIDGET
He tried to rape me.

RAVEN
(angry)
Where the hell is he?

Bridget sips some beer and takes a puff of her cigarette.

BRIDGET
I shot him.

RAVEN
He's dead?

Bridget nods her head yes.

RAVEN (CONT'D)
Where is he?

BRIDGET
Buried in the back of the barn.

Raven storms away.

EXT. NATURE PARK - GRENOBLE, FRANCE - DAY

Sadie and Ben sit on a bench waiting for Monfils to arrive.

BEN
We should be careful what we ask
Monfils.

SADIE
He must know something about
Barbie.

BEN
(smiles)
We are just Vichy supporters
concerned about his welfare.

They see Monfils coming toward them. He quickly sits.

MONFILS
I don't have much time.

BEN
Have there been threats against
Klaus Barbie?

MONFILS
Not that I'm aware. Why do you ask?

SADIE
We overheard a conversation that he
was a target of assassination.

MONFILS
He survived one over a year ago.

BEN
Where?

MONFILS
In Paris.

Monfils glances around the area.

MONFILS (CONT'D)
I'm not comfortable with this
conversation.

SADIE
We understand.

MONFILS
There are many resistance groups
wanting him dead, but he is
surrounded by ruthless Nazi guards.

He stands.

MONFILS (CONT'D)
Please be careful.

He slowly walks away.

EXT. OUT FRONT OF LIMOGES FARMHOUSE - NIGHT

In the early evening, John comes out of the farmhouse and
takes a seat at the table, lights a cigar and sits back.

Ben comes out of the barn and approaches John.

BEN
(sarcastic)
You're not on a mission today?

JOHN
It's time to rest.

Ben abruptly sits.

BEN
Why are you really here?

JOHN
I don't know what you mean.

BEN
You seemed to come out of nowhere.

JOHN
The Americans have a stake in this,
so I wouldn't worry about it.

Ben takes out a cigarette and lights it.

BEN
You don't think I know?

JOHN
Know what?

BEN
That you're in love with my
fiancée.

JOHN
I think you assume too much.

BEN
I see the way she looks at you.

JOHN
Imagination can play terrible games
on people.

BEN
(angry tone)
I want you to leave her alone. Is
that understood?

John takes a long puff of his cigar.

JOHN
We're all professionals here.

BEN
(angrier tone)
I want you to leave.

JOHN
Your fiancée welcomed me here, so
that's not going to happen.

BEN
I don't care what she said.

He stands and approaches John.

John puts cigar down and stands toe-to-toe with Ben.

BEN (CONT'D)
I don't trust you. You need to
leave... today.

JOHN
I don't answer to you.

Ben grabs John and throws him to the ground. John gets back
up and they start fist fighting.

The black Citroen drives up, parks, and Sadie and Aggie get
out and run up to the table.

SADIE

Stop!

She runs toward them.

SADIE (CONT'D)

You need to stop now.

They separate and stand apart.

SADIE (CONT'D)

What the hell is wrong with you two?

BEN

(points his finger)
He doesn't belong here.

SADIE

We are here for purpose.

She walks closer to Ben.

SADIE (CONT'D)

A common purpose.

BEN

I know about the two of you.

SADIE

Nothing is as it seems.

By now, John is sitting again smoking his cigar.

Ben dusts off his clothes and goes back in the farmhouse.

INT. OFFICE OF KLAUS BARBIE - THIRD FLOOR - HÔTEL TERMINUS - LYON - DAY

Klaus Barbie and Dumas are conversing in a hastily called meeting.

DIALOGUE IS IN GERMAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES.

BARBIE

Where is Pétain?

DUMAS

He is unavailable at the moment.

BARBIE

He should show more respect.

Dumas doesn't respond, but nods his head.

BARBIE (CONT'D)

I want every Jew in every Lyon ghetto to be rounded up and sent to Auschwitz. We are under orders from the Führer.

DUMAS

It will take time.

BARBIE

You tell Pétain I will not allow this to stall.

DUMAS

We will not fail.

BARBIE

If it does, I will hold you accountable and then deal with Pétain.

Dumas stands, salutes and immediately departs.

EXT. AREA NORTH OF LYON TRAIN STATION - NIGHT

Ben and Jocko stand in the bushes and observe Nazi soldiers assembling Jews in a staging area.

They place males in one line and females in another, including children.

Jocko lowers his rucksack and takes out several pipe bombs.

He gives two to Ben and keeps the rest.

JOCKO

These should work.

BEN

We need to act quickly.

They move covertly to several boxcars and place the bombs underneath, and light them.

They quickly move to the bushes and back out of the way.

THEN...

Seconds later, the bombs explode, COMPLETELY DESTROYING FOUR BOXCARS.

Nazi soldiers try to respond, but are hampered by debris.

EXT. FOREST AREA NEAR FARMHOUSE - DAY

In the early afternoon, Sadie and John are in a clearing in the forest near the farmhouse, away from members of The Circle.

SADIE

Are your missions complete?

JOHN

Not quite.

SADIE

It wasn't the best idea inviting you here.

JOHN

I don't mean to get in the way.

SADIE

Other members of the group don't feel that way.

JOHN

I can't help that.

Sadie appears apprehensive, as she paces around.

SADIE

We are ready to finalize our planning to assassinate Klaus Barbie.

She steps closer to John.

SADIE (CONT'D)

Are you on board?

JOHN

Of course not. It will never work.

SADIE

How do you know that?

JOHN

You know how I feel.

SADIE

Perhaps you should leave.

JOHN
(grins)
I want to know what you have to
say.

INT. FARMHOUSE COMMON AREA - DAY

Members of The Circle sit around the table with John who
tries to keep his distance and just listens.

Sadie and Aggie put bottles of beer on the table and take a
seat. They all smoke in a hazy room.

SADIE
It is time to accomplish the
mission we set out to do.

BEN
Barbie is vulnerable.

JOCKO
He is protected by a dozen or so
soldiers. There could be more.

BEN
We will be all armed, and more than
that, we will create a diversion
away from the café.

Ben lights a cigarette.

BEN (CONT'D)
Perhaps we set some vehicles on
fire.

JOCKO
They will have to be close enough
so the guards will get distracted.

AGGIE
If we create chaos, I think we can
pull this off.

Sadie drinks some beer, and glances over at John.

SADIE
We must remember why we are here...
we are here to uphold a duty... a
duty to kill... to kill any German
who thinks they are more important
than French citizens.

AGGIE

(laughs)

Brilliantly said for a Brit. Their occupation will not stand.

BRIDGET

Seems dangerous to me.

BEN

That attitude alone will get you killed.

BRIDGET

(smiles)

I can just work my way into the inner circle and kill him myself.

SADIE

(sarcastic grin)

We can't wait that long.

Not amused, Bridget looks away.

RAVEN

I'm not sure I'm ready for this.

BEN

You can stay here.

Sadie downs some beer, and lights another cigarette.

SADIE

This is what we need to do. We set up the distraction, wait until soldiers respond to it, and storm the café. If there is a guard at the private room door, we will kill him, then we will burst into the room and kill everyone there, including Barbie.

BRIDGET

We will all have rifles. Correct?

BEN

Of course.

SADIE

Ben, Jocko, Aggie and myself will storm the café.

She points at Bridget and Raven.

SADIE (CONT'D)
You two will act as lookouts.

BRIDGET
What about innocents in the café?

Before she can answer, Goffin walks in.

GOFFIN
I see you're still here.

SADIE
There's more work to be done.

BRIDGET
(abrupt)
We're going to assassinate Klaus
Barbie.

Goffin gets a disillusioned look on his face.

GOFFIN
Why would you do such a foolish
thing. I don't want any trouble.

SADIE
If we're successful, we will change
our location.

GOFFIN
(empathic)
You are making a mistake. When are
you going to do this?

SADIE
In two days.

No one says anything else. Goffin stares at them in
disbelief. John sits back and lights a cigar.

EXT. NATURE PARK - WEST OF VICHY FRANCE - NIGHT

The next night at dusk, COMBAT makes his way to the meeting
spot with FRENCHIE.

When he sees someone coming, he stops.

FRENCHIE
Do you have information to share?

COMBAT
They're going to try to assassinate
Barbie tomorrow night.

FRENCHIE

Where?

COMBAT

At the café he frequents, next to the hotel.

He moves closer to her.

COMBAT (CONT'D)

We can't let it go forward.

FRENCHIE

I will take care of it.

COMBAT

Look, I want them chased away from the scene. I don't want them arrested or killed.

FRENCHIE

(steely look)

Hopefully, it works out that way.

EXT. STREET ACROSS FROM THE LYON CAFÉ - NIGHT

The Circle stands around the corner of the street, outfitted with STEN guns, dressed in dark clothes.

Ben and Jocko disappear.

TWO TRUCKS PARKED NEAR THE CAFÉ

Ben and Jocko plant pipe bombs quickly and move away.

BACK ON THE STREET

They are now back with the others.

They wait for Barbie to come out of the hotel en route to the café.

BEN

We can't make a mistake.

SADIE

We need to get in and out quickly.

Barbie comes out of the hotel with his usual escort. They start to walk toward the café.

BUT THEN...

A black Mercedes staff car races around the corner and stops. Barbie is shoved into the car and it takes off in the opposite direction... right before the bombs go off.

The soldiers point across the street and pursue.

The Circle immediately run away and are out of sight when the soldiers round the corner of the street.

INT. LIMOGES FARMHOUSE COMMON AREA - DAY

Late the next morning, Ben comes in and sits across from Sadie.

BEN
That didn't go well.

SADIE
(angry)
They had to be tipped off.

BEN
Where's John?

SADIE
On a mission, I suppose.

BEN
I never trusted him.

SADIE
He would never sabotage our operation. It had to be someone else.

BEN
Then who?

SADIE
Where has Goffin been?

They go outside.

OUT FRONT OF FARMHOUSE

Ben sits at the small table.

SADIE
I'm going over to the barn.

Ben takes a cigarette out while he watches Sadie go into the barn.

While casually smoking his cigarette, he can hear what sounds like several vehicles approaching the house.

Before he can react, they drive up and park.

Six soldiers from two vehicles get out with their rifles raised.

The SENIOR COMMANDER walks over to Ben.

SENIOR COMMANDER
(in German with English
subtitle)
Who are you?

BEN
Ben Wesling, a British reporter.

SENIOR COMMANDER
(broken English)
You are a liar. Where are the
others?

BEN
(unnerved)
I don't know.

The commander points to his men to go into the barn and house.

SENIOR COMMANDER
We will find the ones you are
hiding.

Seconds later, soldiers bring Raven, Bridget, and Aggie out the house.

Soldiers bring Jocko out of the barn.

SENIOR COMMANDER (CONT'D)
Where is your leader?

No one responds.

SENIOR COMMANDER (CONT'D)
Where is Sadie Hemmings?

Ben appears confused... looking around.

SENIOR COMMANDER (CONT'D)
 (angry)
 Where is she?

BEN
 I don't know.

SENIOR COMMANDER
 Trying to assassinate a senior Nazi
 commander is punishable by death.

Raven, hearing that, starts to back away and begins to run.

A soldier moves forward and shoots her in the back and she
 falls to the ground... SILENT... STILL... DEAD.

BRIDGET
 Please let us go. I can make it
 worth your while.

SENIOR COMMANDER
 You must be that Jew whore we have
 been looking for.

BRIDGET
 No... please!

One of the soldiers walks over and shoots her at POINT BLANK
 RANGE, sending her against the house.

SENIOR COMMANDER
 The rest of you will come with us.
 (discernible smile)
 Auschwitz awaits.

Resisting, they are shackled and crammed into one of the
 vehicles, and slowly depart.

EXT. VERANDA - HOUSE IN COCHABAMBA BOLIVIA - DAY (1955)

John West sits a large oak table with Klaus Barbie, now using
 the last name of Altmann.

They drink Bolivian wine and eat freshly caught fish.

German music plays in the background.

JOHN
 The American government wants to
 thank you for your assistance in
 conducting anti-communist
 operations.

Altmann takes bite of his fish and washes it down with some wine.

ALTMANN
(broken English)
I hate communists. They are
worthless.

JOHN
Have you always felt that way?

ALTMANN
(slight smile)
Who do they think they are? They
are nothing.

He drinks some wine.

ALTMANN (CONT'D)
You Americans are not high on my
list either. You kidnapped my son
so you could use me for your
purposes.

JOHN
It wasn't up to me. I'm sorry, but
you have been a valuable asset.

Altmann rests back in his chair.

ALTMANN
I knew about The Circle. I guess
you never realized it.

JOHN
How did you know?

ALTMANN
We had our ways.

JOHN
What they tried to do was foolish,
I admit, but I can't believe they
perished.

John sips some wine and looks out over the veranda in
thought.

FLASHBACK:

EXT. NATURE PARK - WEST OF VICHY FRANCE - NIGHT

COMBAT and FRENCHIE exchange information in a hastily arranged meeting.

FRENCHIE

I'm sorry things didn't go your way.

COMBAT

What the hell happened?

FRENCHIE

I'm not sure.

COMBAT

They killed Bridget and Raven and arrested everyone but Sadie. Where the hell is she?

FRENCHIE

My understanding is she is safe, but I have no idea where she is.

COMBAT

We need to find her.

FRENCHIE

Not sure that's possible. You need to get out of the country.

COMBAT stares at her with a look of anger.

RETURN TO PRESENT

Altmann pours John another glass of wine.

ALTMANN

Occupying France wasn't meant to be a game. Hitler believed we could be there forever.

John takes out a cigar and tries to offer one to Altmann, but he refuses.

JOHN

He miscalculated the resistance he would receive. That made the difference for France.

ALTMANN

I am not tempted to argue with you.

John puffs on his cigar.

JOHN
 (abrupt)
 What ever happened to Sadie
 Hemmings?

ALTMANN
 The leader of The Circle?

John nods his head yes.

ALTMANN (CONT'D)
 Apparently, she made it out of
 France, but several years later was
 tracked down by Fascists and
 killed.

JOHN
 There's no mistake?

ALTMANN
 I was told by a reliable source.

JOHN
 She didn't deserve that.

Altmann slowly drinks some wine, and stares at John for a moment.

ALTMANN
 I knew what Hitler was. When you
 deal with the devil, sooner or
 later your life will belong to him
 somehow.

John doesn't respond, but rather takes a long puff of his cigar and gazes out over the veranda.

EXT. HAMPSTEAD CEMETERY - LONDON ENGLAND - DAY (1995)

On an overcast afternoon, a cab drives to a corner and stops.

John West, aided by a cane, gets out and begins to walk up a short concrete path.

John, now 86 year old, looks thin, haggard, and a bit disheveled.

He steps on the grass and heads up a small hill to several graves.

He stops when gets to the one is trying to find.

The headstone reads:

SADIE HEMMINGS

BORN 1910 - DIED 1950

BORN TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

HERO TO THE FRENCH

MURDERED BY FASCISTS

John stares at the tombstone for a moment.

JOHN

Sadie, this is John. I don't know if you can hear what I have to say, but here it goes... I am terribly sorry for what I did... for betraying you.

He looks down at the ground for a moment.

JOHN (CONT'D)

Like you, I had a duty to perform. I never meant for your comrades to be killed. That was never my intention. The American government had plans for Barbie and I was there to protect him... I'm so sorry.

He glances around the area to ensure he's alone.

JOHN (CONT'D)

I remember what you said, and how passionate you were.

FLASHBACK:

INT. CAFÉ OUTSIDE OF VICHY - NIGHT

Sadie sips some beer.

SADIE

We call ourselves The Circle.

JOHN

There must be a reason.

SADIE

We are born into this life, we struggle to stay free and will fight for it... and will die for it. That is our motto.

RETURN TO PRESENT

John steps closer to the tombstone.

JOHN

I know that now. You were right. I was blinded by ambition. I panicked when you brought up Klaus Barbie.

FLASHBACK:

INT. HOTEL ROOM - LIMOGES - DAY

Sadie composes her thoughts.

SADIE

We are here for a bigger reason than to just give out fliers or simple sabotage.

JOHN

To do what?

SADIE

We are going to assassinate Klaus Barbie.

John takes a drag of his cigar and stares at Sadie.

JOHN

Why would you do that?

SADIE

We need to send a message.

RETURN TO PRESENT

It begins to lightly rain.

JOHN

Sadie, I truly regret my mission back then. I never meant to hurt you... I never meant to put you in harm's way... never... I ask for your forgiveness.

He walks up to the tombstone.

JOHN (CONT'D)

Perhaps we will meet again.

He places his hand on the tombstone for a moment.

THEN...

A frail man repentant about his past slowly walks away into
obscurity, feeling the weight of his horrible transgression.

FADE OUT.

THE END