JAVELIN

ΒY

Phil B

Philb822@yahoo.com 5/13/24

<u>JAVELIN</u>

FADE IN:

SUPER: And it came to pass that night - the angel of the Lord went out, and smote in the camp of the Assyrians an hundred fourscore and five thousand: and when they arose early in the morning, behold, they were all dead corpses.

II Kings 19:35

EXT. OLD CITY WALLS - JAFFA ROAD - JERUSALEM - NIGHT

A CITY BUS stops at JAFFA ROAD where THIRTY-FIVE YESHIVA FIFTH GRADERS board.

INT. CITY BUS - NIGHT

The Students begin singing "Shalom Aleichem" - Peace be upon you. The DRIVER beams with delight as he sings along off-key.

EXT. OLD CITY WALLS - JAFFA ROAD - JERUSALEM - CONTINUOUS

A BURNING CAR darts from an alley, blocking the path and bringing the bus to a SCREECHING HALT.

INT. CITY BUS - CONTINUOUS

Several Students tumble in the aisle while others peer out the front, watching the inferno. One Student, mouth-agape, sees TWO MEN curbside pointing MISSILE LAUNCHERS.

CUT TO:

INT. COHEN'S HOME - BEDROOM - NIGHT

JAKE COHEN, 50'ish, wakes from a vivid nightmare. Wife, HELEN, is asleep with a SPICY ROMANCE NOVEL resting on her chest. He rises out of bed and places the book on the nightstand, not before glancing at the cover's illustration of the passionate couple: a heartthrob Latino and a submissive blonde female resembling Helen.

CUT TO:

A Douglas FIR with all the trimmings brings Christmas cheer to CNN's somber coverage of the war in Ukraine.

CNN GRAPHIC - MAP OF UKRAINE - RUSSIAN ATTACKS AND TROOP LOCATIONS.

HELEN (O.S.)

Jake?

Jake stands to open the wood shutters. A burst of Florida sunshine brightens the lakefront home with a scenic view of the clubhouse overlooking the ninth hole.

JAKE

It's open.

Helen enters.

HELEN I didn't hear you get up.

JAKE It was still dark. You look nice.

HELEN I'll be at the Crystal Ballroom for the realtor's breakfast.

Jake turns up the remote.

CNN WAR CORRESPONDENT (TV) Russian war crimes? Over a thousand schools have been destroyed throughout Ukraine. The painted word "children" in bold letters on the buildings has been useless.

HELEN

Why watch it? It only upsets you. You're retired. Go hit the links.

JAKE

You're right. Any word on Dottie?

HELEN

The doctor said she could start exercising again next week. There are croissants from Publix in the fridge. Help yourself. I'm off.

Have a good time. Love you.

Jake leans in to give her a peck on the cheek.

HELEN Don't smudge me.

FADE OUT.

EXT. LOCKHEED MARTIN CORPORATION - DAY

Jake stops short at the front gate security.

SECURITY GUARD How's retirement?

JAKE It's overrated. A guy can only play so much golf.

SECURITY GUARD You're brutal.

JAKE Lunch is on Bill Jackson.

SECURITY GUARD Let him foot the bill for the Lobster Newburg. I heard it's delicious.

JAKE It's shellfish, I'm Jewish.

SECURITY GUARD So move to Maine - the locals will turn a blind eye.

CUT TO:

INT. LOCKHEED MARTIN CORPORATION - EMPLOYEE CAFETERIA - CONTINUOUS

BILL JACKSON, an intelligent-looking divorcee, mid-fifty-yearold, joins Jake.

> BILL I just got back from Meridian. The package is ready we're just waiting for the postage.

JAKE That ship has long sailed.

BILL State's dragging its feet.

JAKE State? What about Mark Reese at DOD?

BILL They want to err on the side of caution.

JAKE Whose bright idea was that?

BILL The Secretary personally.

JAKE Don't underestimate their ability to screw things up.

BILL You're preaching to the choir. I spoke with Franklin the other day.

JAKE How is he?

off?

BILL Samaritan's Purse has had a ministry foothold in Ukraine for years. They are distributing humanitarian aid faster than we send long-range ballistic missiles.

JAKE It's what we do to save the world.

BILL I'm taking the personal on Thursday. What time are we teeing

JAKE 7 am - with Father O'Reilly and Rabbi Heschel.

BILL By the way, how's Dottie doing? JAKE The cyst was benign. She and Helen will begin their walks again soon. BILL

Is she still single?

JAKE Fat chance. I'll see you Thursday.

Bill looks as if he has something else on his mind.

JAKE (CONT'D) What is it?

Beat:

BILL No. It's nothing.

JAKE A long pause with a check. Your Poker hand is weak.

BILL I may be out of line here.

JAKE It won't be the first time.

BILL No. This is serious. It's personal.

JAKE Get another girl in trouble?

BILL Come on. Stop with the jokes. This is between you and me. You can't tell anyone, especially Helen.

JAKE Helen? Tell Helen what?

BILL

I was in Miami for a Dolphins game a few weeks ago and met some friends for drinks afterward. I didn't know what to make of it.

JAKE Make of what? BILL

I saw Helen at the bar.

JAKE

It must have been the Sunday she was in Miami for the Watson Realtor's seminar. Probably there for lunch.

BILL She might have seen me. I think she did.

JAKE Didn't you say anything to her?

BILL When I went over she had quickly left. You can't let her know I told you.

JAKE Much ado about nothing.

BILL She left with another man.

JAKE

So. Another realtor, a client. I said she was there for the seminar - it was business.

BILL

I've been married three times. Trust me. I know what business looks like.

FADE OUT.

INT. COHEN'S HOME - OFFICE - NIGHT

Helen enters dressed for bed.

HELEN

I'm turning in. Did you lock the doors and turn off the oven?

JAKE

It's all good. Oh, by the way. Bill's taking the Naughty Lady boating to Miami two weeks from Saturday. Interested? HELEN

My weekends are busy. You know that. And I get seasick anyhow.

JAKE My early retirement was so that we could spend more time together.

HELEN

Not on boats.

JAKE Weren't you just in Miami for a seminar a few weeks ago?

HELEN It was canceled. I thought I told you.

CUT TO:

EXT. LAKE NONA GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB - DAY

RABBI ABRAHAM HESCHEL hits the ball with a three-wood with a shorter, more controlled swing. The ball travels two hundred yards, landing in the fairway and entering the scoring zone.

FATHER O'REILLY Holy Moses, Abe.

Father O'Reilly turns to Bill.

FATHER O'REILLY (CONT'D) I hope you brought your wallet.

EXT. LAKE NONA GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB - CONTINUOUS

RABBI HESCHEL

It hit me like a ton of bricks. First a little history lesson -King Hezekiah witnessed the Assyrians' aborted onslaught of Jerusalem in 701 BC. The Russian invasion of Kyiv is a present-day shadow and spiritual application of God's divine intervention during end-time Jerusalem - Kyiv's Valley of Megiddo.

JAKE Easy on the Manischewitz Rabbi.

FATHER O'REILLY

Abe are you trying to turn the world upside down? You're talking Biblical Typology.

RABBI HESCHEL Precisely.

BILL Biblical what?

JAKE

Biblical typology - modern-day signs of future events. You're getting ahead of the ball, Rabbi.

RABBI HESCHEL Am I? God is previous not catch up. It's what we teach our children from breast to book. Precept upon precept, precept upon precept, line upon line, line upon line; here a

BILL

little, there a little.

Ee-i-ee-i-o.

Rabbi shakes his head in contempt as Jake covers a slight smirk.

CUT TO:

EXT. LAKE NONA GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB - CONTINUOUS

Bill pockets his tee.

BILL One hundred eighty-five thousand dead? How?

RABBI HESCHEL An angel of the LORD, but actually, it's the Hebrew word "Malak," meaning Messenger.

Jake rolls his eyes.

FATHER O'REILLY With great debate, others say they died of the plague or a pestilence of rodents.

An anxious FOURSOME looks annoyed.

JAKE Let's rip roar; we have a group that wants to play through.

BILL Let them wait. (beat) Rabbi, how many Russian troops are in Ukraine now?

RABBI HESCHEL Well over 100,000 and rising.

FATHER O'REILLY Wars and rumors of wars - the beginning of sorrows. Abe might be onto something. Let it play out. Time and truth walk hand in hand.

EXT. LAKE NONA GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB - DAY

Bill searches for his ball in the rough from an errant shot. He finds it, looks around, and tosses it back on the fairway.

> RABBI HESCHEL (to Jake) We've airlifted thousands of our people out of Odesa. We've seen his type before - if it looks like a duck and swims like a duck.

> FATHER O'REILLY Abe. Here's one for you and your disciples. Four nuns are sitting in a bar. A Rabbi walks in and joins them...

INT. LAKE NONA GOLF AND COUNTRY CLUB - CLUB HOUSE - DAY

RABBI HESCHEL Jake, woe to him that fights with his Maker. Who has hardened himself

against God and has prospered?

JAKE

Rabbi, this Messianic Judaism thing. I'm with you if you say Christ was a good man and a great teacher. But once you say he's Lord of all, you've lost me. How can you get your head around the slaughter of children? contends with God correct him?

Bill pulls Jake aside.

BILL Lend me a C-Note? I'll pay you back next week.

JAKE I spoke with Helen about the Miami thing. Everything was on the up and up.

BILL You didn't mention me, did you?

FADE OUT.

INT. COHEN'S HOME - OFFICE - NIGHT

Jake watches a YOUTUBE VIDEO on the history of Jerusalem from his desktop while glancing at the muted CNN Cable News on the flatscreen.

YOUTUBE GRAPHIC - A MAP OF JERUSALEM - THE ASSYRIANS ENCOMPASS THE CITY FROM THE NORTHWEST.

HISTORIAN (DESKTOP) The Assyrian King, Sennacherib, laid siege to Jerusalem. The noose around King Hezekiah was tightening.

CNN NEWS GRAPHIC - MAP OF UKRAINE - RED DIAMONDS AND ARROWS REPRESENTING THE RUSSIAN OCCUPATION FORCES IN UKRAINE.

Jake turns up the remote.

CNN WAR CORRESPONDENT (TV) Today, the Russian troops seized the Chernobyl Nuclear Power plant.

Helen enters.

HELEN You're still up?

JAKE Did I wake you? I'm sorry. HELEN I came for some water.

JAKE Helen? Is everything okay?

HELEN Yes. Everything's fine.

JAKE I mean, with us? Is everything okay with us?

HELEN Of course, it is. Why would you ask that?

JAKE You know I love you. I always will.

HELEN What is it, Jake? What do you want?

JAKE To know if you still love me.

HELEN Jake, it's 2 am. I'm half asleep. Can we talk about it in the morning?

JAKE Sure we can. Good-night.

FADE OUT.

EXT. THE POLAND-UKRAINE BORDER - DAWN

The FIVE-TON MILITARY TRUCK crosses a two-lane bridge and stops midway. FOUR CIA PARAMILITARY OPERATIVES quickly exit the vehicle with the engine running and hurry back to the Polish interior.

TEN UKRAINIAN REBELS runs toward the bridge from the opposite end.

The RUSSIAN FLYING-TANK appears out of nowhere and wipes the ground with intense FIRE - laying waste to the Rebels.

CHECHEN FIGHTERS emerge from the pine forest, beheading the dead and wounded.

CHECHEN Strongman ASLANBEK YAKOV, 40ish, exits the Staff Car puffed-up, wearing his arrogance like a rightful heir. He wears a contemporary haircut that contrasts with his Amishstyle beard.

He opens the canopy-draped rear to expose EIGHT JAVELIN ANTI-TANK WEAPONS still in their crates.

With orders to stand down, the frustrated CIA Operatives vanish into the interior.

FADE OUT.

INT. COHEN'S HOME - OFFICE - NIGHT

There's a TAP at the window. Bill peers inside. He gets pricked by a splinter from a WOOD MANGER.

BILL Ouch! Damn it!

EXT. COHEN'S HOME - FRONT DOOR - CONTINUOUS

JAKE

What are you doing out here? Helen's sleeping, and you're stomping on her Nativity Scene.

BILL Your phone's off. I got bad news. The Javelins went tits-up.

JAKE

Say again?

BILL They've gone Elvis.

FADE OUT.

INT. COHEN'S HOME - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Jake's carry-on luggage sits by the front door. You can cut the tension between him and Helen with a knife.

Daughter and college student, JESSICA "JEZ" COHEN, enters. Helen gives her a big Motherly hug.

HELEN Oh, Jez! You must be exhausted. Your father has lost his mind. Jez and Jake embrace.

JAKE How was your flight?

JEZ I wish I had those thirteen hours back. I thought you were on the back nine.

JAKE I needed a project.

HELEN Not in a war zone!

JAKE It's Lviv, Ukraine, Helen. I'll be away from the fighting. (to Jez) Contact me through Samaritan's Purse. I'll be at their Emergency Field Hospital.

Bill enters.

HELEN This is all your fault!

Bill throws his arms in the air, submitting futility.

Jake walks Jez into the kitchen.

INT. COHEN'S HOME - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

JAKE Sorry for making a mess of your Christmas break.

JEZ

Helen's right. I thought you were doing a little consulting here and there, not full-throttle, Jason Bourne.

JAKE What's in the bag?

JEZ Nothing Rory McIlroy would carry.

JAKE Stop with the jokes. She opens the backpack.

JEZ (CONT'D)

It's a military-grade SAT phone
with a GPS chip. It syncs up with
my DOD Tracker, so it can't get
into the wrong hands.
 (beat)
Daddy, does this return to active
duty have anything to do with Jaffa
Road?

JAKE I think your mother is having an affair.

JEZ

What?

JAKE I think she's seeing someone.

He walks off.

JEZ Wait! Wait. Wait. How do you know this?

JAKE It's all I know. I'll handle it once I return. Take good care of her while I'm gone.

JEZ Just like that? As a matter of fact? Well, who is it?

JAKE I don't know. Don't confront her. Keep it sub rosa.

He turns to leave again.

JEZ Sub rosa? Who am I, Harpocrates? Your wife of twenty-three years is sleeping with someone, and you want me to keep it under wraps?

JAKE That's what I said. JAKE You neither - not even as a child.

FADE OUT.

INT. RAILWAY STATION - DAY

Hundreds of distressed and anxious UKRAINIAN REFUGEES, mostly WOMEN AND CHILDREN, flood the station with their life possessions inside UPRIGHT ROLLING LUGGAGE full to overflowing. Others clutch small PET CARRIERS.

CUT TO:

INT. COHEN'S HOME - JEZ'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

The bedroom has 60s collectibles and an AERIAL NASCAR POSTER/DAYTONA 500.

Jez sets down a bowl of COCOA PUFFS and sits before her laptop, clicking on a GPS SCREEN. Jake's CURSOR blinks in the city of Lviv, Ukraine.

> JEZ Drivers, start your engines.

INTERCUT PHONE CONVERSATION - JAKE and JEZ.

JAKE I'm heading to Samaritan's Purse. Is Helen still awake?

JEZ She's out with an old friend.

JAKE Who? It's after midnight there.

JEZ

Do you know Raye Cummings?

JAKE

Helen and she used to party together as flight attendants at American back in the day. She married and moved to Houston, then divorced and lost touch with her. JEZ She's back in the loop.

JAKE In Orlando?

JEZ No. Miami.

CUT TO:

EXT. SAMARITAN'S PURSE - EMERGENCY FIELD HOSPITAL - LVIV, UKRAINE - DAY

Jake enters a white HEAVY DUTY CANOPY TENT.

INT. SAMARITAN'S PURSE - EMERGENCY FIELD HOSPITAL - CONTINUOUS

FRANKLIN GRAHAM, 60'ish, is looking over a WALL-SIZED MAP of Ukraine. A STAFF MEMBER gives an update.

STAFF MEMBER The wounded are coming in mainly from this area from the east. We will need to shift and change soon.

FRANKLIN We go where the fighting is.

JAKE (0.S.) Into the fire comes the faithful.

Franklin turns and smiles.

CUT TO:

INT. SAMARITAN'S PURSE - COMMUNITY KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

FRANKLIN About 100,000 refugees are flowing in daily. We've set up a 58-bed Emergency Field Hospital. We're caring for the wounded, the sick, the elderly, the young, whatever there is.

REFUGEES line up for a hot meal.

FRANKLIN (CONT'D) Many of them have been hiding in bomb shelters and basements for weeks. Here, they can at least get warm food and a hot beverage.

JAKE Franklin, I need a lift.

FRANKLIN

Kyiv is about a seven-hour drive east. We have a convoy leaving tonight bringing humanitarian aid.

JAKE

Perfect.

FADE OUT.

INT. SAMARITAN'S PURSE - CARGO VAN - NIGHT

Jake's VEHICLE is the second in a caravan of FIVE. He sits between a crate of HUGGIES DISPOSABLE DIAPERS and CANNED DEL MONTE PEAR HALVES.

INTERCUT PHONE CONVERSATION - JAKE and JEZ.

JAKE

We're staying south of Kyiv due to the heightened threat. Any word on Helen?

JEZ She packed up a few things to stay with Raye for the weekend. Is she the likely instigator?

JAKE You didn't say anything did you?

JEZ No. But I got Raye's cell number.

JAKE

Don't you dare. Jez!

JEZ Hold on. I'm up. Jez minimizes the GPS window and HACKS into a Government website. Jez's logo, "JC," is screen/bottom/right.

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA/THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE - REAL-TIME RUSSIAN TROOP MOVEMENTS - UKRAINE

Jez's original software, DOD WATCH, identifies HACKERS unbeknownst to the countries of origin or the HOST.

JEZ (under her breath) The usual suspects.

DRAGON - THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

BEAR - THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION

LION & SUN - ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

She sets the timer on a second cell phone.

JEZ (CONT'D) (under her breath) Okay, anti-track. I got one minute then I'm naked in the rain.

A HACKER joins with its symbol - "R."

JEZ (CONT'D) Who's the rookie?

JAKE Jez! I don't want you...

Jez superimposes Jake's location with the DOD screen.

JEZ

Wait!

REAL-TIME DOD: SPY DRONE SURVEILLANCE TRACK INFRARED THERMAL IMAGES OF RUSSIAN TROOPS SOUTHWEST OF KYIV.

JEZ (CONT'D) Daddy! Red flag! Red Flag! Cut and shuck!

BOOM!

END: INTERCUT PHONE CONVERSATION - JAKE and JEZ.

CUT TO:

INT. SAMARITAN'S PURSE - CARGO VAN - CONTINUOUS

The LEAD VEHICLE is hit by a HAND-LAUNCHED MISSILE and blown to Kingdom Come.

POP, POP, WHIZ, ZING, POP, POP, ZING.

Jake's vehicle is riddled with SMALL ARMS FIRE.

The Driver slams the brakes and puts it in reverse - as the Third Vehicle rear-ends them. The crates shift. The Driver takes a bullet in the head, spattering blood and pear syrup.

INT. COHEN'S HOME - JEZ'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

JEZ Daddy? Daddy?!

Da.

LAPTOP SCREEN: A SLEW OF INFRARED THERMAL IMAGES SURROUND JAKE.

The cell phone CHIMES - one minute - abort. She quickly logs off. She stares at the phone as she paces the room. With bated breath, she places a call.

VOICE (Speakerphone - Russian accent)

FADE OUT.

INT. ABANDONED UKRAINIAN POLICE STATION - NIGHT

RUSSIANS occupy the abandoned Police station. The SPOILS of war stack the walls - Huggies, bottled water, and canned food.

Jake is shackled and surrounded by TWO GUARDS. COLONEL KUSTANOVICH enters. He puts down his HIP FLASK before searching Jake's wallet.

KUSTANOVICH What's Club Publix?

JAKE A supermarket loyalty program. Publix is an employee-owned supermarket chain.

Kustanovich nods.

KUSTANOVICH

Impressed.

He turns to the Guards.

KUSTANOVICH (CONT'D) Pyaterochka.

GUARDS (nodding) Ohhhhh - Pyaterochka.

JAKE In protest of the war, Publix recently pulled their Russian brand vodkas - Beluga, Ruskova, Russian Standard and Zyr.

ELDER GUARD (holds his nose) Zyr.

Kustanovich finds a PHOTO.

KUSTANOVICH Who are they?

JAKE That's my wife on the left.

KUSTANOVICH The other?

JAKE

That's Dottie.

KUSTANOVICH

Married?

JAKE

Divorced.

Kustanovich shares the photo with the Guards.

KUSTANOVICH

Dottie.

They raise their eyebrows and nod in approval.

KUSTANOVICH (CONT'D) What's your business in Ukraine? JAKE

I am a retired investor on a pension, and I wish to live here as a Jew in the twilight of my life.

KUSTANOVICH

I ask a serious question, and I get movie quote. The CIA disguises its hacking attack to make it look Russian.

JAKE

I don't follow.

Kustanovich reveals Jake's phone.

KUSTANOVICH

And this?

JAKE Apple Millenia - Orlando. Their customer service could be better.

KUSTANOVICH You're a real Yakov Smirnoff.

Kustanovich turns to the Elder Guard.

KUSTANOVICH (CONT'D) We move him to Belarus in the morning for further questioning. (to Jake) You see, funny man, it's very simple. It's not the killing that's the problem, but the disposing of the bodies.

Kustanovich raises his hip flask.

KUSTANOVICH (CONT'D)

L'Chayim.

CUT TO:

INT. UKRAINIAN POLICE STATION - HOLDING CELL - CONTINUOUS

Jake shivers from exposure as he removes his pants, revealing bare-leg tan lines.

ELDER GUARD

Underwear.

The Guard kneads the cotton fabric, wearing latex gloves.

The Guard lowers his head and peers in.

ELDER GUARD (CONT'D) Turn around.

He turns.

ELDER GUARD (CONT'D) Bend over. Spread your butt cheeks.

The gas lantern HISSES in contempt.

ELDER GUARD (CONT'D)

Cough.

Louder.

JAKE (breath frost) Kauf.

ELDER GUARD

JAKE (breath frost) Kauf! Kauf!

ELDER GUARD Turn around.

The Guard locks the cell door and leaves with the lantern.

CUT TO:

INT. UKRAINIAN POLICE STATION - HOLDING CELL - LATER THAT NIGHT

Stark naked and to stay warm, Jake breathes heavily, walking in place and rolling his shoulders to increase blood flow.

JAKE Huff, huff, huff.

MYKHAILO (O.S.) Can a guy get some sleep?

JAKE

Who's there?

MYKHAILO stands tall, dressed in camouflage green and is wearing a King Arthur-type sword at the hip.

He sizes up Jake, raising an eyebrow.

MYKHAILO Girt your fisher's coat.

He throws Jake a HIDE SKIN. Jake nods to the sword.

JAKE How did they miss that?

Mykhailo tosses Jake a jacket from his layered garment.

MYKHAILO You're an American. You reek of a prisoner swap.

JAKE I was helping with the civilian relief effort when we were ambushed.

Mykhailo moves to the cell door.

MYKHAILO

Let's go.

JAKE Go? Where?

Mykhailo pushes on the cell door, which creaks open.

JAKE (CONT'D) It was locked.

MYKHAILO Russian Reservists and young conscripts - their hearts are not in the fight.

INT. ABANDONED UKRAINIAN POLICE STATION - CONTINUOUS

They pass an iron gate into the second ward. The Guards of the door are fast asleep.

Mykhailo opens a locked desk drawer and finds Jake's phone.

MYKHAILO

Psst.

He tosses the phone to Jake.

JAKE

I need shoes.

Mykhailo peers down at Jake's bare feet and nods to one of the dozing Guards.

Jake slowly removes the shoes, which fit like a glove.

CUT TO:

EXT. ABANDONED UKRAINIAN POLICE STATION - CONTINUOUS

They make their way out of the town center.

JAKE

Jake Cohen.

MYKHAILO

Mykhailo. Follow the road southeast for about six kilometers. There, you'll run into a group of Ukrainian brothers.

JAKE Aren't you coming?

MYKHAILO I'm off to the Donbas. You'll need a password - it's tippy-toe.

JAKE

Tippy-toe?

MYKHAILO That's what I said. Now hurry. Southeast for about six kilometers.

He points southeast as Jake turns to follow his directions.

JAKE I got it - I got it - southeast -Tippy-toe.

When he turned back, Mykhailo had vanished.

CUT TO:

INT. COHEN'S HOME - JEZ'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

Jez's cell RINGS.

JEZ

Daddy!

INTERCUT PHONE CONVERSATION - JAKE and JEZ.

EXT. UKRAINIAN COUNTRY ROAD - NIGHT

JAKE

It was a short diversion. I was questioned and released. I'm heading southeast. Get in the crow's nest and chart my way.

INT. COHEN'S HOME - JEZ'S BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Jez tracks the GPS.

JEZ You're near Uman, about 200 km southwest of Kyiv. Give me a sec.

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA/THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE - REAL-TIME RUSSIAN TROOP MOVEMENTS - UKRAINE

Jez's anti-track starts FLICKERING DETECT.

JEZ (CONT'D) Daddy, still there?

JAKE

Go.

JEZ Green flag to Uman. No significant troop movement. Gotta get.

END: INTERCUT PHONE CONVERSATION.

FADE OUT.

EXT. TWO-LANE ROAD - UKRAINE - PRE-DAWN

HIGH-BEAMS - a rogue RUSSIAN ARMORED TRANSPORTER navigates the winding road. Jake ducks into the forest as the Transporter continues past.

CUT TO:

EXT. PINE FOREST - UKRAINE - CONTINUOUS

APPROACHING FOOTSTEPS - Jake freezes.

VOICE (SUBTITLE) (Slavic accent) Parol. Password.

WEAPONS ARMING - CLICK, CLICK, CLICK, CLICK.

VOICE (O.S.) (CONT'D) (Slavic accent) Parol!

JAKE

Tippy-toe?

The footsteps advance. Ten UKRAINIAN REBELS with guns at the ready emerge from the morning fog.

YURI, mid-forties, rugged-masculine, steps forward and peers down at Jake's mid-waist tattered coat and makeshift hide-skin speedo.

YURI Is that badger skin?

CUT TO:

EXT. PINE FOREST - UKRAINE - CONTINUOUS

YURI

We got word of the ambush and left Kyiv immediately.

JAKE I was held and questioned until a Ukrainian, Mykhailo, broke me out.

YURI Where is he?

JAKE Off to the Donbas.

SASHKO, a 28-year-old Ukrainian, brings Jake a pair of PANTS.

YURI This is Sashko. He was studying at the International Culinary Academy in Kyiv before the war. SASHKO Try these on for size.

JAKE

Thanks.

SCOOTER, a MIX TERRIER, comes running out from the forest, yelping. BORYSLAV, a 50-ish Ukrainian Veteran, reins her in.

BORYSLAV Come on, Scooter. Come on, Momma. What did you see?

Yelp. Yelp.

BORYSLAV (CONT'D)

Z tank?

Yelp.

Boryslav whistles - everyone scatters, taking their positions in a well-coordinated effort.

Yuri settles in a sitting position as Boryslav places an AGED assault LAUNCH UNIT on Yuri's shoulder. He sets the power switch to DAY and connects the UNIT to the ROUND. Yuri sets his sites on the tank.

YURI

Clear.

The Flight Motor IGNITES and FIRES. The PROJECTILE veers a sharp right, missing its target by a mile.

Scooter turns to Yuri and looks dumbstruck.

JAKE That was one hell of a shank. Your body mass got ahead of your toe line.

At once, everyone looks down at Yuri's feet.

JAKE (CONT'D) Does no one golf?

CUT TO:

EXT. PINE FOREST - UKRAINE - CONTINUOUS

JAKE

They're holding the Javelins inside an abandoned warehouse in the Port City of Berdyansk.

SASHKO The warehouses were once popular with the rave culture.

YURI The Russians can't turn the tables on us.

JAKE I'm afraid that's their intention. They're looking for soft targets. The question is where.

CUT TO:

EXT. PINE FOREST - UKRAINE - DAY

JAKE (phone) It's the port city of Berdyansk.

CUT TO:

INTERCUT: PHONE CONVERSATION - JAKE AND JEZ.

INT. COHEN'S HOME - JEZ'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

JEZ That's southwest of Mariupol. I thought you were meeting your party in Kyiv.

JAKE (phone) An errant shot.

Jez tracks the GPS and DOD WEBSITE.

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA/THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE - REAL-TIME RUSSIAN TROOP MOVEMENTS - UKRAINE

Hacker, R pops up.

JEZ

Jeez, R.

JAKE (speaker phone) Who's R?

JEZ A secret admirer. Okay, I got you clear sailing until the town of Tokmak. A short pit - Russian troop movement south of the city refueling, making up time on the front-runners further north.

END: INTERCUT PHONE CONVERSATION.

R directs a message to Jez.

LATITUDE: 28° 32' 22.19" N - LONGITUDE: 81° 22' 13.19" W

TODAY - 13:00 HOUR.

Jez pops up the GPS Coordinates Finder and punches in the numbers.

JEZ (CONT'D) Lake Eola Park. I think R is asking me out.

CUT TO:

EXT. PINE FOREST - NEAR BUS - UKRAINE - CONTINUOUS

JAKE

We're cleared north of Tokmak.

The Rebels load up into TWO bullet-ridden CITY BUSES. TWO UKRAINIAN advance team speed off on a MOTORCYCLE.

FADE OUT.

EXT. LAKE EOLA PARK - DAY

Jez sits on a park bench like an inconspicuous spy waiting for a live drop with a cold-war agent.

A MIDDLE-AGED COUPLE pass is speaking Russian. An ELDERLY pushing a SENIOR WALKER stops and stares.

JEZ

- and then continues by.

R?

A MIDDLE-AGE MAN, pulling a wheelie on an E-BIKE passes.

R (O.S.)

JC?

Jez turns to the man on the bike, dropped-jawed.

JEZ

Reeve?!

CUT TO:

EXT. LAKE EOLA PARK - CONTINUOUS

REEVE

It's my modified E-Bike - Sting-Ray era 1968. Ignaz Schwinn emigrated from Germany to America in 1891. The company had its ups and downs over the last 131 years, but it's all about ingenuity and showing up for work. I'm bringing the manufacturing from Taiwan back to Chicago - wall to wall - where it belongs.

JEZ

So it was all about a bike company. You had the People's Liberation Army panties in a bunch. (beat) Where do you hang your hat while in Orlando?

REEVE Close to my chest. (beat) Sorry about that. I stay with friends. What's your trump card?

JEZ Something I developed between classes.

REEVE

Where?

JEZ Technion - Israel Institute of Technology.

REEVE Are you Israeli?

JEZ

No. Not that I didn't get plenty of offers here. I don't need to show the world how progressive I am. I'm looking for an education, not activism. My dad and I were in Boston last year. He wouldn't even set foot in Cambridge. I'm home for the holidays.

REEVE

I tip my hat to you. No relation to the private jet tracker, are you?

JEZ

We're all tracked. Not all of us own private jets.

REEVE

Touche'. I've been riding your coattails on anti-track. Can you shed some light?

JEZ

It dates back to the FBI bug keeping the subject talking to get a trace. I go undetected online for about a minute, keeping them bewitched, bothered, and bewildered.

REEVE

Gen Z. There's no middle ground. They're either brilliant or bare minimum Mondays.

JEZ

Do you want to hear my take on our world's standing on cybersecurity?

REEVE Sing is sister.

5

JEZ China takes gold.

REEVE The Dragon. JEZThe Bear gets silver. REEVE Vladimir. JEZ And Lion and Sun, the bronze. REEVE All enemies of the state. JEZ And there's Uncle Joe; he's amovin' kind of slow at the junction. REEVE Shady Rest Hotel. America has fallen hard in short order. (beat) The Chinese are on to you and your Russian troop movements. JEZ I keep my firearm pointed in a safe direction. REEVE

You should keep it loaded, too.

JEZ Thanks for the heads up. But why are you telling me this?

Reeve smiles as he mounts up.

REEVE

I love this country, but many don't. America is where great things are possible. I'm heading west to make a new acquisition. Can I interest you in a career?

JEZ

I'm a Sophomore. My father would have my head on a platter.

REEVE

When you graduate, promise me you won't pick spring onions on a kibbutz.

JEZ I like to keep all my options open.

CUT TO:

EXT. ROAD - TOKMAK, UKRAINE - NIGHT

The Motorcycle Scouts returns, waving down the buses.

SCOUT

Russians - two hundred strong.

The Rebels cover the buses with CAMOUFLAGE TARPS.

The sound of FOOTSTEPS from the pine forest.

BORYSLAV

Parol.

FEMALE VOICE (O.S.) (Slavic) Tippy-toe! Tippy-toe!

SIX Mariupol's Bowery Boys are armed to the teeth - ages 13-24. ANA is the oldest and the only female of the six. They shepherd REFUGEES out of the forest.

ANA Please. We need water!

CUT TO:

EXT. PINE FOREST - TOKMAK, UKRAINE - CONTINUOUS

ANA We came from Mariupol. The Azovstal Iron and Steel defenders surrendered to the Russians and were shot and thrown in mass graves. The invaders stole the metal from the factory and then bulldozed the city. (nods to the Refugees) They were the lucky ones. The Russians are south of Tokmak and heading north - they bring Ahiman. SASHKO Who can stand before the children of Anak?

JAKE Who's Ahiman?

SASHKO He's the youngest - one of three brothers - they're nine meters with their heads in the clouds.

JAKE That's 30 feet tall.

CUT TO:

EXT. PINE FOREST - TOKMAK, UKRAINE - CONTINUOUS Ana FIELD STRIPS her AK-74 rifle. JAKE Where did you learn to do that? ANA Who wants to know? JAKE I'm Jake Cohen. ANA Ana. You're an American. JAKE Yes. ANA CIA? JAKE A retired investor. ANA I used to hunt with my Tato. JAKE Used to? ANA Tato and Mama were killed during the Revolution of Dignity.

JAKE I'm sorry. Do you have any other family? ANA Somewhere in Poland. I'm not sure. JAKE What was life like before the war? ANA I was a student at Mariupol University - engineering. JAKE It must be tough supporting yourself - not having family and all. ANA You sound like a concerned father. JAKE Is it written all over my face? ANA As clear as day. A father holds his daughter's hand for a short while, but he has her heart forever. JAKE I can only hope. ANA You're not so bad. You ask me - how I do it - how I supported myself. JAKE I did. ANA I was a kept woman to a wealthy pro-Russian separatist. Here's your answer.

She turns and takes up cleaning the rifle.

CUT TO:

EXT. PINE FOREST - TOKMAK, UKRAINE - NIGHT

Jake tosses his MRE - Meals Ready to Eat. He sees Ana petting Scooter, staring at the fire.

JAKE May I join you?

She looks up and nods.

Long beat:

ANA

We were to be married. He told me he loved me and would leave his wife. It wouldn't matter. I was a clean girl - a shy girl. He made me feel different. I couldn't control it. It was like a shock straight to my head - I was on fire - cumming and crying hot tears.

Jake is taken aback.

There's a tenderness in her smile.

ANA (CONT'D) We cuddled that night; I could smell his neck, my breasts were warm against his back. My nipples seduced him.

She tears up.

ANA (CONT'D) How would I know I would fall in love with the man responsible for the murder of my Tato and Mama?

Scooter licks away her tears.

ANA (CONT'D) He slept there peacefully, safe like a child - not a care in the world.

Her eyes narrow and harden.

ANA (CONT'D) Such a crime, a heartless crime. I held the workmen's hammer in my right hand. Strike! Strike! I pierced the awl through his temple.

Scooter jumps out of her lap.

ANA (CONT'D) Oh, God. Forgive me.

Jake gives her a fatherly hug. JAKE Ana, I'm sorry. Yuri and Sashko join them. YURI (to Ana) We're off to Berdyansk. We're cutting out early under the cover of darkness. You're welcome to join us. Ana breaks from the embrace and composes herself. ANA Can there anything good come out of Berdyansk? SASHKO Come and see. She shakes her head. ANA No. We stay, set up a distraction, and then settle the score with Ahiman. YURI As you wish. Hit him hard and quickly get out. Ana looks back at Jake and smiles. ANA Thank you. JAKE Goodbye. Ana rounds up the Bowery Boys. ANA Let's go! Glory to Ukraine. YURI Boryslav, drive the civilians to Zaporizhzhya and get them on a train to Lviv. It should take about four to five hours to return. Take

this address. It's Danylo's.

37.

BORYSLAV Intelligence Service?

YURI See if he can shed some light on our lost American.

CUT TO:

EXT. PINE FOREST - TOKMAK, UKRAINE - CONTINUOUS

CONCERT SPEAKERS placed behind enemy lines - Hundreds of RUSSIAN CONSCRIPTS positioned in an open field raise TORCHES as in a rock concert encore.

A distant COWBELL.

BEGIN MUSIC CUE: BLUE OYSTER CULT - DON'T FEAR THE REAPER.

CHANTS!

RUSSIAN TROOPS (O.S.) Bolsze Kolokolchika! Bolsze Kolokolchika! (English translation) More Cowbell! More Cowbell!

AHIMAN comes crashing out of the forest, UPROOTING trees SNAPPING like toothpicks and dancing like a drug-crazed hippy at a lovefest. He stands 30 feet tall, with shoulder-length hair and beard, blue jeans, long-sleeve ill-fitted V-neck pullover rocking the beer gut revealing his navel.

He hammers the metal hand percussion with a hickory DRUM STICK.

RUSSIAN TROOPS (O.S.) (CONT'D) Bolsze Kolokolchika! Bolsze Kolokolchika!

Ana and the Bowery Boys flank the dancing bear.

CUT TO:

EXT. PINE FOREST - TOKMAK, UKRAINE - CONTINUOUS

The Motorcycle Scouts speed off, followed by the second bus.

CUT TO:

EXT. PINE FOREST - TOKMAK, UKRAINE - CONTINUOUS

Ana and the Bowery Boys light up Ahiman with rifle and smallarms fire. Ahiman expresses annoyance as he replaces the cowbell with a torch device of his own - a liquid fuel flamethrower.

The Bowery Boys scatter as Ana stands her ground, tears streaming down her face. She empties her banana clip and reloads with another weapon surge.

> ANA (under her breath) I will confess my sins unto you my Lord.

A torrid inferno engulfs her.

END MUSIC CUE:

INT. BUS - CONTINUOUS

JAKE

NO! ANA!

EXT. BUS - CONTINUOUS

The Motorcycle Scouts circle back.

SCOUT What happened?

Jake nods to Yuri as he points to the motorcycle.

JAKE Can you drive this?

CUT TO:

EXT. PINE FOREST - TOKMAK, UKRAINE - CONTINUOUS

Yuri skillfully pops a wheelie while Jake hangs on with one hand while clutching the aged Javelin in the other.

CUT TO:

EXT. PINE FOREST - TOKMAK, UKRAINE - CONTINUOUS

Yuri places the Javelin on Jake's shoulder as he settles into a sitting position.

Jake makes much-needed sight adjustments for elevation and windage. Yuri sets the power switch to DAY and connects the UNIT to the ROUND.

JAKE

Clear.

Jake sets on Ahiman.

JAKE (CONT'D)

Bastard!

The Flight Motor IGNITES and FIRES, decapitating the Behemoth Rock Star.

FADE OUT.

EXT. PINE FOREST - TOKMAK, UKRAINE - DAWN

Boryslav has returned and huddles with Yuri in conversation.

Jake shovels topsoil on the mass KNOLL as Sashko places a grave marker.

JAKE She was studying engineering.

Sashko kneels to pray.

SASHKO

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."

Yuri and Boryslav join them.

YURI Why pray on deaf ears?

SASHKO Not the God I serve.

YURI Look around you - the land is riddled with corpses. There's no method to this madness.

SASHKO The world exist with deep pain and sorrow to make a place for Christ to suffer and die. (MORE)

SASHKO (CONT'D)

The world became what it is so that the Son of God could enter and feel it all.

Yuri turns to Jake.

YURI Care to chime in, Javelin?

JAKE It seems God wound up the universe, got it in motion, and stepped away like an absentee landlord.

YURI That's from a Jew's lips to God's ears.

Jake gives Yuri a disapproving glance.

CUT TO:

INT. BUS - PINE FOREST - TOKMAK, UKRAINE - CONTINUOUS

Jake peers out, watching a pack of ravenous WOLVES tearing a wound into Ahiman's corpse, using their back teeth to crush bones and gnawing the flesh into smaller pieces.

CUT TO:

INT. COHEN'S HOME - JEZ'S BEDROOM - DAY

Jez watches a 1960s FAMILY SITCOM - THE BRADY BUNCH - from the laptop.

Two additional DESKTOP MONITORS are up: one displays COMPUTER-GENERATED DRAWINGS of an electrical grid and cooling tower the other a power station blueprint era 1970s.

Jez dials RAYE CUMMINGS' phone number on her software which displays her private phone APPS - FACEBOOK, TIKTOK, TINDER, HER, BE NAUGHTY, BUDDY BANG, HUD, PLENTY OF FISH.

JEZ Let's start with Buddy Bang.

JAN BRADY (LAPTOP) All I hear all day long is how great Marcia did this or how wonderful Marcia did that. Marcia, Marcia, Marcia! I'm tired of living under her shadow. HELEN (0.S.) It's probably Dottie.

INT. COHEN'S HOME - FRONT DOOR - DAY

Helen opens the door to the sunbeam smiles of Chinese realtor MAGGIE CHEN and her Assistant, CHARLES XU.

HELEN

Hello.

MAGGIE Hi, I'm realtor Maggie Chen. I wanted to drop off my card if you consider listing your home.

HELEN I'm a realtor, too.

MAGGIE Oh really? With who?

HELEN Watson. Please come inside. Let me get my card.

Maggie takes in the layout with the focus of a Chinese intelligence officer. Helen returns as they exchange cards.

MAGGIE

Helen Gomer.

HELEN I use my maiden name.

Jez enters.

JEZ Helen, is that Dottie? Oh.

HELEN This is my daughter, Jessica.

MAGGIE She's gorgeous.

HELEN She's home for the holidays from the Israel Institute of Technology. She's a software wizard. (MORE) HELEN (CONT'D) She helps with my CRSP-16 Residential Sale and Purchase forms. (whispers) She turned down MIT.

Jez shakes her head.

JEZ

Helen.

Maggie turns to her Assistant and speaks her native language. Jez's a keen ear.

HELEN I'm not familiar with Triple Eight Realty.

Jez peers at the card.

MAGGIE We handle high-end Chinese, but I work with many Americans in the Lake Nona area - Akers Custom Homes, DeVoe, and Issa.

HELEN My husband golfs there.

MAGGIE Does he? What does your husband do?

JEZ You're Beijingese.

MAGGIE How did you know?

JEZ

Your accent. Northern China. It says your office is in Tampa, and you're listing in Orlando.

MAGGIE Orlando is a fast-growing market.

HELEN It's gone crazy since the pandemic.

JEZ I have friends in Tampa. Do you live there? MAGGIE Yes. Southwest of the city.

JEZ Stategically located near MacDill Air Force Base.

MAGGIE I don't understand.

HELEN Would you all care for some coffee or tea?

MAGGIE Oh, no. We must leave. But thank you. It was nice meeting you both.

They exit.

Jez peers out the window.

JEZ Did you and Buddy Bang have a good weekend?

HELEN Excuse me?

CUT TO:

EXT. COHEN'S HOME - CONTINUOUS

Maggie turns to her Assistant as she sits passenger in the MERCEDES-BENZ GLS 580.

MAGGIE That snot-nosed brat.

CUT TO:

EXT. COHEN'S HOME - BACKYARD - DAY

Jez steps into the backyard wearing a HIGH SIERRA BACKPACK. She peers a couple of homes over to the SOUNDS of CHILDREN playing war.

BANG, BANG, BOOM! AHHH!

Jez WHISTLES. There's a cease-fire. A BOY climbs a tree.

SEAL TEAM SIX, ages 8-12, grasp the handlebars and ZIPLINE in tandem into the backyard. GEORGE S., the eldest of the six, commands the operation.

GEORGE S Jez, I thought you were in Israel.

JEZ I'm home for the holidays.

She looks over at the other five and sees a new face.

JEZ (CONT'D) Who's the new pup?

LISA, age 8, steps forward.

LISA I'm Lisa, and my pronouns are they and them. I am genderqueer and wearing digital camouflage green.

Beat:

LISA (CONT'D) I don't even know what it all means. It has a nice ring to it, genderqueer.

GEORGE S

I'm a jackass. My pronouns are Hee and Haw. Can you believe this crap? My mom is putting me in private school next year.

BOY #1 Mine in charter.

GEORGE S What's up, Jez?

JEZ I need you to take this backpack to Dottie's.

GEORGE S Dottie? Oh, heck yeah, Dottie's fine. What's the payload?

JEZ Two laptops and a couple of burners. Secret Squirrel, hush, hush.

GEORGE S Roger that.

SEAL Team Six shimmy up the tree with the backpack and take a second zipline out.

CUT TO:

EXT. COHEN'S STREET - DAY

Maggie Chen and her Assistant are parked in the SUV, monitoring the Cohen's as SEAL Team Six, on CAMOUFLAGE BICYCLES, speed past.

FADE OUT.

EXT. PINE FOREST - NORTH OF BERDYANSK - DUSK

Yuri, Jake, and Sashko cautiously walk through the thick Pine Forest.

FEMALE VOICE (0.S.) (Slavic) Parol.

YURI

Tippy-toe.

With weapons drawn, Eight REBELS rise from their prone positions wearing woodland GHILLIE camouflage clothing. They remove their leafy head cover to reveal - The DAUGHTER OF TROOPS.

CUT TO:

EXT. PINE FOREST - NORTH OF BERDYANSK - CONTINUOUS

Yuri have eyes for OLENA, mid-30s.

OLENA We left Mariupol but not before destroying two railway bridges used as Russian supply lines. Layla is our expert in C-4 explosives. Don't let that smile fool you.

LAYLA, 40'ish, Rubenesque.

LAYLA Olena expired three Generals with sniper fire within a week. (MORE) LAYLA (CONT'D) The Russians are calling her, The Punisher.

Yuri's ears perk up.

JAKE

Layla, are you career military?

LAYLA

No. School principal, secondary - level III.

JAKE

Olena?

OLENA I'm a lawyer. (she turns to Yuri) You don't remember me, do you?

YURI

(coy) Should I?

OLENA Osteria Pantagruel?

Yuri cracks a smile.

She SLAPS him.

YURI Ouch! That rings bells for me.

OLENA He was the jovial man dealing with serious matters in food and spirits - flirting in plain sight to the dismay of my dinner partner - my fiance.

YURI So that's who that was.

JAKE (to Yuri) Ever heard of the third wheel? (to Olena) I would have called the management and had him thrown out.

OLENA That would have been problematic. He was the Chef. JAKE

A Chef?

YURI We had lives before the war. (to Olena) As I remember, I prepared you the Ravioli with rabbit in white mushroom sauce and Madeira wine.

OLENA There are subtleties of romance when a man prepares dinner.

YURI I knew you would come around.

Sashko arrives with several dead wild RABBITS, while Boryslav holds bottles of VODKA and Ukrainian BLACK BREAD. Olena turns to Yuri, drop-jawed.

> YURI (CONT'D) Bon Appétit.

> > FADE OUT.

EXT. PINE FOREST - NORTH OF BERDYANSK - NIGHT

Boryslav BURPS.

JAKE I've suffered through selfcontained military meals when I could eat bon vivant.

Boryslav holds up a glass of Vodka.

BORYSLAV Jake? From forty percent wheat -Ukrainian wheat.

JAKE Strictly medicinal. But maybe one.

CUT TO:

EXT. PINE FOREST - NORTH OF BERDYANSK - CONTINUOUS Everyone is full of CHEER and telling JOKES.

(boozy) Four nuns are sitting in a bar. A Rabbi walks in and joins them.

CUT TO:

EXT. PINE FOREST - NORTH OF BERDYANSK - LATER THAT NIGHT

YURI

(bittersweet) So much Vodka, so little time.

OLENA

What's wrong, Yuri? No one asked if you cut your vegetables or spooned them.

YURI Mock on. I was thinking about a long-lost friend. I was devastated when I heard the news. He had his demons but didn't we all?

BEGIN FLASHBACK: ANTHONY BOURDAIN - UKRAINE - NO RESERVATIONS-SEASON 7 - EPISODE 14.

YURI (V.O.)

We ate Red caviar with Slavic pancakes for breakfast on a Kyiv park bench overlooking a statue of Lenin. Lunch of Green Borsch and Ukrainian brown bread. Tony loved his rye sourdough.

END FLASHBACK:

OLENA

Whose bright idea was it to visit the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Plant and the city of Pripyat?

YURI

That was all, Tony's. (reflects) That's what made him so enjoyable. Times like this. He would engage you in cultures, foods, spirits, politics, and the arts. He was every man's brother and every woman's lover.

OLENA I never slept with him. Did you ever sleep with Anthony Bourdain, Layla? LAYLA Not that I recall. YURI You both would of if you had met him. Yuri raises his glass. YURI (CONT'D) To Tony. ALL To Tony. CUT TO: EXT. PINE FOREST - NORTH OF BERDYANSK - NIGHT Yuri and Olena cozy up around the fire. Yuri's generous with the vodka and cranberry juice. YURI Another snapper, sniper? OLENA Easy soldier. I'm not that kind of girl. YURI We're off to Berdyansk in the morning. Join us, Olena. Layla the whole lot. OLENA What's in Berdyansk? YURI A treasure trove of trouble. OLENA Armaments? Russian armaments?

YURI

Javelins.

OLENA What are Javelins doing in Berdyansk?

Yuri turns to Jake, sitting on the bus while talking on the phone.

YURI That's his story - a tragic one.

OLENA How's that?

YURI The Javelins vanished during a botched exchange.

Yuri nods toward Jake.

YURI (CONT'D) He's a Jew on a mission - going to help us take back what is rightfully ours.

OLENA Berdyansk is full of prowling Russians and Chechens.

YURI No one said it would be duck soup.

OLENA More like sitting ducks.

YURI Forget I mentioned it then. Return to your cushy office job preparing documents, assessing partnerships, negotiating deals, whatever you do.

OLENA Don't get so worked up. I'll come if you make me a promise.

YURI

Promise what?

OLENA I've heard rumors of your chicken cordon bleu. The recipe?

YURI Oh, no, you don't. Not that. Loose lips sink ships.

OLENA We're landlocked.

She comes in closer and gives Yuri a long, succulent kiss. They break. Yuri sings like a canary.

YURI

Butter and garlic base. Add flour and milk to thicken it. Seasoned with Dijon mustard, Parmesan cheese, and my pièces de résistance - my piquant Cajun spice mix.

OLENA You left something out.

YURI The boneless chicken breast?

OLENA The tragic story.

YURI Can it wait? I'm making inroads.

She kisses him again.

YURI (CONT'D) Does Jaffa Road strike a note?

OLENA Jaffa Road? Jerusalem?

YURI One of the same.

OLENA Are you talking about the bus bombing? What did he have to do with it?

YURI Everything, but then again, nothing.

OLENA You're drunk. You're not making sense.

YURI It was the largest shipment of Javelin missiles to any foreign army - the Afghans. (MORE)

YURI (CONT'D)

He was the point man - set up the program, from soup to nuts. The missiles vanished after the mass exodus and ended up on the black market. Two reared their ugly heads.

OLENA Hamas murdered thirty-five students.

YURI "For there's the rub. For in that sleep of death, what dreams may come?"

OLENA

Hamlet.

They peer back at Jake.

YURI The Jewish dilemma: are you God's people or not.

```
CUT TO:
```

INT. BUS - PINE FOREST - NORTH OF BERDYANSK - CONTINUOUS

JAKE (on the cell) What synagogue? Where? Kyiv?

Sashko enters.

JAKE (CONT'D) (on the cell) Gotta get.

Jake ends the call.

SASHKO Another blanket?

JAKE

Sure.

SASHKO You're Jewish.

JAKE That's right. Well, in name only. How unfortunate.

JAKE Why is that?

SASHKO

God made a covenant with your people. He took an oath by appealing to himself.

JAKE

Oaths and covenants and where are we now?

SASHKO God sent his only begotten Son. Christ the living Savior.

JAKE

There are seven million Jews living in Israel. Less than one percent are Christians. There are more Arab Christians than Jews. We've had two world wars with countless dead, not to mention the holocaust. When is it right to question our faith?

SASHKO

God promises the people of Israel that he will give them a new heart and spirit.

JAKE Stone cold promises four thousand years old.

SASHKO Don't give up on the living God.

Beat.

JAKE How many synagogues are in Kyiv?

SASHKO

Two. The Rozenberg and the Penuel. The Rozenberg was built in 1895 and closed under Stalin in 1926. It reopened after 1945. The Penuel Synagogue is a central distribution point for humanitarian aid. (MORE) SASHKO (CONT'D) It is a haven for Ukrainian refugees - orphans, widows, strangers - the ones who would have left but have nowhere to go.

JAKE Orphans? Children.

SASHKO Hundreds of them. From all over Ukraine. All religions. Why do you ask?

JAKE I ask. Thanks for the blanket.

Jake turns to sleep.

EXT. PINE FOREST - NORTH OF BERDYANSK - LATER THAT NIGHT

Yuri watches Olena from inside his waterfowl-down sleeping bag. She blows toward the pitch wood and birch bark, resurrecting the smoldering fire. She strips down as Yuri unzips the bedroll and SHOOS Scooter out.

CUT TO:

INT. BUS II - PINE FOREST - NORTH OF BERDYANSK - CONTINUOUS Scooter darts inside the bus.

BORYSLAV Come on, Scooter. Come on, Momma. Bedtime.

Scooter jumps inside the BACKPACK and snuggles beside a soiled DOWN BLANKET. She's all ears.

BORYSLAV (CONT'D) Breathe deep the gathering gloom. Watch lights fade from every room. Bedsitter people look back and lament - another day's useless energy spent. Impassioned lovers wrestle as one. Lonely man cries for love and has none. New mother picks up and suckles her son. Senior citizens wish they were young. Cold-hearted orb that rules the night. Removes the colors from our sight.

(MORE)

BORYSLAV (CONT'D) Red is grey and yellow, white. But we decide which is right. And which is an illusion.

Scooter is fast asleep.

FADE TO BLACK.

INT. COHEN'S HOME - JEZ'S BEDROOM - DAWN

POUND, POUND, POUND!

VOICE (O.S.) Federal Agents! Open the door!

Jez rises from her bed and looks out the window.

FBI VEHICLES, THREE UNMARKED BLACK DODGE SUVS, LOCAL POLICE, A RYDER TRUCK, and a slew of AGENTS swarm the residence. She makes a call.

JEZ Dottie. I'm at the house. I'm being arrested.

CUT TO:

EXT. COHEN'S HOME - DAY

A small NEIGHBORHOOD CROWD gathers in support.

PLASTIC STORAGE CONTAINERS are stacked on the sidewalk and loaded into the Ryder Truck.

The Local Police let pass a TESLA MODEL S. The car silently swoops in like a bird of prey.

DOTTIE - 40ish, tall with confidence and singleness of purpose, exits the vehicle and devours anyone who gets in her way.

DOTTIE Who's in charge here?

SPECIAL AGENT SIMMONS steps forward.

SPECIAL AGENT SIMMONS I'm Agent Simmons.

DOTTIE Is this show of force necessary?

SPECIAL AGENT SIMMONS How can I help you, Ma'am?

Dottie hands Agent Simmons her business card - printed on the card - "DOTTIE."

DOTTIE I'm an attorney representing Jessica Cohen. I want to see the

warrant and know what the charges are - now!

Agent Simmons hands Dottie the warrant. Dottie takes it and strides up to the house.

Several AGENTS huddle around Agent Simmons.

FEMALE AGENT

Hot damn.

MALE AGENT Bumper sweet.

FEMALE AGENT Who was that?

He looks at the card.

SPECIAL AGENT SIMMONS It says here, Dottie.

CUT TO:

INT. COHEN'S HOME - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

An AGENT carries an IBM PERSONAL COMPUTER MODEL 5150 outside.

Agent Simmons enters the house.

DOTTIE

Jez?!

SPECIAL AGENT SIMMONS Bring her out.

DOTTIE Where are you taking her?

He gives Dottie a business card.

SPECIAL AGENT SIMMONS To the field office, 850 Trafalgar Court, Maitland. It's on the card.

58.

CLANK, CLANK, CLANK.

AGENTS bring Jez out from the bedroom wearing HANDCUFFS and LEG IRONS.

DOTTIE Where's Helen?

JEZ On her way back from Miami.

DOTTIE Does she know?

JEZ

No.

DOTTIE I'll handle it. I'm following you over. You don't need to say anything to anyone.

CUT TO:

EXT. COHEN'S HOME - STREET - CONTINUOUS

An AMERICAN FLAG flaps in the wind. The Neighborhood Crowd swells to over two hundred strong.

Agents place Jez into a Black Dodge SUV with tinted windows.

MALE NEIGHBOR (O.S.) You bums!

FEMALE NEIGHBOR (O.S.) We love you, Jez!

Agent Simmons departs in the lead vehicle, a Black Dodge SUV towing a small AIRSTREAM TEARDROP BROADCAST TRAILER with the CNN logo.

As the Agents leave, the Crowd's silence is deafening.

FADE OUT.

BEGIN MUSIC CUE: CAN-D-MUSIC - NAVIGATOR - CLUB MIX - TECHNO-RAVE.

EXT. CITY OF BERDYANSK - ROOFTOP - WAR-TORN RESIDENTIAL HIGH-RISE - DAY

Yuri, Olena, Layla, Boryslav, and Sashko peer over the rooftop.

Jake joins them.

YURI

Any luck?

JAKE I can't reach my party.

SASHKO There's the entrance.

SOLDIERS stand guard. Yuri looks through FIELD BINOCULARS and grimaces.

JAKE What is it?

YURI Chechens. Boryslav, bring the bus in for cover as we blow the entrance.

Olena sets up her shot.

OLENA

They're too close to the building. I can't get a clear shot.

YURI Any closer is too risky.

OLENA I have a way of luring them out. I call it the Pied Piper.

YURI Olena, don't mess with this lot. Brutality to them is song.

CUT TO:

EXT. CITY OF BERDYANSK - STREET - CONTINUOUS

SUPER: Techno-Viking.

TALMAI grooves to the beat, cutting a swath with freestyle martial arts movements - standing 30 feet tall, bare-chested, muscle-bound with braided hair and beard - wearing fatiguegreen knee-high shorts with army boots and a Mjolnir pendant the hammer of the thunder god, Thor.

Following Talmai are rave-dancing URBAN YOUTH and Vodkafueled, bare-chested RUSSIAN CONSCRIPTS.

> YURI Looks like a zombie jamboree.

> > CUT TO:

EXT. CITY OF BERDYANSK - ALLEY - NEAR WAREHOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Layla, and Two Others dressed down and wearing BACKPACKS dance across the street and turn the corner. The CHECHEN GUARDS leave their post and follow them in hot pursuit.

Olena shoots them dead.

POP, POP, POP, POP!

Yuri's shocked.

Boryslav pulls the bus up as the Female Force load inside and dresses.

CUT TO:

EXT. CITY OF BERDYANSK - WAREHOUSE ENTRANCE - CONTINUOUS

Boryslav parks the bus in front of the warehouse entrance for cover. Layla begins packing the C-4 explosive.

LAYLA

Clear!

BOOM!

Yuri backs in the first bus.

CUT TO:

INT. CITY OF BERDYANSK - WAREHOUSE - CONTINUOUS

The dust and rubble settle.

INSIDE THE WAREHOUSE: EIGHT EMPTY JAVELIN SHIPPING CRATES.

CUT TO:

EXT. HIGHWAY - DAY

Aslanbek Yakov leads a convoy of ARMORED VEHICLES and a retractable canopy PERSONNEL CARRIER with RUSSIAN TROOPS armed with the JAVELINS.

CUT TO:

EXT. CITY OF BERDYANSK - WAREHOUSE STREET - CONTINUOUS

Yuri, Jake and Sashko take the lead as Boryslav and the Female Force runs cover in the second bus taking on intense enemy fire.

CUT TO:

EXT. CITY OF BERDYANSK - Y INTERSECTION - CONTINUOUS

Yuri makes a sharp left as Boryslav misses the turn and veers right, followed by a VEHICLE of CHECHENS.

INT. CITY OF BERDYANSK - BUS - CONTINUOUS

SASHKO We lost them!

- ----

Yuri's route loops him back downtown, where they find themselves face-to-face with an armed Talmai.

The bus comes to a sudden stop as they exit.

Talmai stands center divide. He FIRES - CLICK - the gun jams.

Yuri mounts the aged Javelin on Jake's shoulder, sets the power switch to DAY, and connects the UNIT to the ROUND.

JAKE

Clear.

The Flight Motor IGNITES and FIRES.

Talmai raises his right hand in a defensive motion as the projectile blows off four fingers.

TALMAI

AHHHHHH!

Talmai loses his balance tripping over a burnt-out curbside CITROEN, falling backward against electrical power lines - electrocuted.

CUT TO:

EXT. OUTSKIRTS OF BERDYANSK - RURAL ROAD/PINE FOREST - CONTINUOUS

The pursuit Vehicle fires, SHOOTING out the bus's rear tires. It starts to swerve, crashing off the side of the road. The Female Force exit for the Pine forest. Olena and Boryslav stay behind, laying down cover.

BORYSLAV

Get out! Go!

Olena exits the bus and turns toward the forest. Her RIFLE takes a direct hit, SHRAPNEL ricocheting, hitting her leg. She limps into the forest using her damaged rifle as a crutch. She hides, covering herself in decomposed leaves.

Boryslav is hit by a HAIL OF BULLETS. He STAGGERS to the back and falls to the floor. Scooter is hunkered down in the backpack under a seat, SHAKING. Boryslav looks at him and brings a finger to his lips.

> BORYSLAV (CONT'D) Ssshhh, Momma.

And dies.

CUT TO:

EXT. OUTSKIRTS OF BERDYANSK - PINE FOREST - CONTINUOUS

The Chechens overwhelm the Female Force. FOUR CHECHENS move in closer as Layla sitting unarmed, smiles. They peer behind her to see a lit fuse.

BOOM!

Olena watches from a distance, weeping.

CUT TO:

EXT. OUTSKIRTS OF BERDYANSK - RURAL ROAD/PINE FOREST - CONTINUOUS

The motorcycle Scouts wave Yuri over.

SCOUT They've crashed and taken cover in the forest. YURI We go back! JAKE We can't. We turn and burn. YURI The hell we do! JAKE The Russian are going to target the Penuel Synagogue. YURI What? We press forward for the sake of Jews? JAKE What did you say? SASHKO Yuri? No! You don't mean that! YURI (to Sashko) What about Boryslav? Olena - Layla? What about them? (points at Jake) They will always be singled out and persecuted. It's their fight. It always is. JAKE You're out of line cook: you and

your half-witted world of grills, fryers, and poached eggs on toast. Give me the keys!

YURI You'll have to take them from me!

Jake cocks his pistol.

SASHKO Yuri, stop! Give him the keys. Take the bike. You go back - we go on.

Yuri hugs and kisses Sashko.

I will. I'll go.

YURI

He hands Sashko the bus keys and mounts the motorcycle and speeds off nearly hitting Jake.

CUT TO:

EXT. OUTSKIRTS OF BERDYANSK - RURAL ROAD/PINE FOREST - DUSK Yuri cautiously pulls up to the crash site.

INT. OUTSKIRTS OF BERDYANSK - BUS - DUSK

He enters the bullet-ridden bus and finds Boryslav. He falls to his knees.

YURI

Oh, no!

Under the seat, there's movement. Scooter pokes his head out of the backpack.

YURI (CONT'D) Scooter, come here momma.

EXT. OUTSKIRTS OF BERDYANSK - RURAL ROAD/PINE FOREST - DUSK

Local VILLAGERS holed up in basements, and hiding places resurface to help.

YURI (to a villager) Olena. I don't see her. Layla too. Nor the others.

VILLAGER They could be hiding in the forest. You go. We will bury the dead.

Yuri, with Scooter in tow, enters the dense forest.

YURI (O.S.) Olena! Layla!

CUT TO:

EXT. PINE FOREST - NIGHT

Olena hobbles further into the forbidden forest. A red cloth cut from her jacket is used as a tourniquet.

An ALPHA FEMALE picks up a blood scent and gathers its WOLF PACK.

OWOOOOOOO. OWOOO, OWOOO.

Olena finds a dead tree limb. She removes a BOOT KNIFE from her sheath and sharpens off a pointed head. She sits against a two-hundred-year-old WHITE PINE in a defensive position and cycles a bullet into the chamber of her FORT 17 - semiautomatic pistol, realizing she's left with a single round.

OWOOOOOOO. OWOOO, OWOOO.

The Predators freeze on their prey - STALKING - GROWLING. A Brute Beast POUNCES at Olena's leg wound - POP - CLING!

The last round has proven deadly. The carcass falls into her lap.

The Wolf Pack creeps closer - jaw teeth like knives.

Olena thrusts the branch spear, keeping the Pack at bay. The Alpha Female lunges for it, snapping it in two with the force to crush a skull. Olena swings and thrashes with her boot knife, tearing predator flesh and bone. The knife slips from her hand and falls out of reach. She clutches her pistol barrel as a blunt weapon.

The Pack slithers closer; the hairs stand erect on their backs, ears flattened down - SNARLING.

Approaching FOOTSTEPS.

The moonlight reveals a silhouette of a Man. With whimpering, the Pack submissively dashes off into the abyss.

Olena tries standing, threatening to pistol whip.

OLENA

Parol.

Beat.

OLENA (CONT'D)

Parol!

BLEATING.

TWELVE LAMBS surround the Man. Olena faints in his arms from exhaustion — the Man - Mykhailo.

FADE OUT.

INT. FBI FIELD OFFICE - IT EVIDENCE ROOM - DAY

FBI ID CARD reads - SPECIAL AGENT CINDY WU-GLAZER.(aka Realtor Maggie Chen).

She joins SPECIAL AGENT KENNETH YANG.(aka Realtor Charles Xu).

Agent Wu-Glazer nods to the confiscated IBM PERSONAL COMPUTER MODEL 5150, which is encompassed with a slew of TECH SUPPORT.

AGENT WU-GLAZER This old relic?

AGENT YANG (perfect English) Probably modified. New engine with a hybrid delivering additional OEMs.

Special Agent Simmons joins them.

SPECIAL AGENT SIMMONS Good job, you two. REJIS has partnered with us to process data and check for her hacking techniques and malware.

SECRETARY MARK REESE enters, sucking the oxygen out of the room. He's in his late 50s, has a strong jaw, and wears wired-rim glasses.

SPECIAL AGENT SIMMONS (CONT'D) (under his breath) Oh, crap. DOD.

SECRETARY REESE What do we have here, a kid in the basement?

SPECIAL AGENT SIMMONS No, Mr. Secretary. Technion -Israel Institue of Technology -Haifa. A crack shot - computer architecture, AI, machine learning, communications systems. The list goes on. Israeli?

SPECIAL AGENT SIMMONS No. American studying abroad. Drone surveillance - real-time troop movements - undetected for up to a minute.

SECRETARY REESE Whose troops? Ours?

SPECIAL AGENT SIMMONS Russians. In Ukraine.

SECRETARY REESE Who is he?

SPECIAL AGENT SIMMONS He's a she.

SECRETARY REESE What does that mean?!

SPECIAL AGENT SIMMONS A biological female.

A Female Agent rolls her eyes.

SECRETARY REESE Does this biological female have a name?

SPECIAL AGENT SIMMONS Yes. Jessica Cohen, Sir.

SECRETARY REESE Say again.

SPECIAL AGENT SIMMONS Her name is Jessica Cohen, Mr. Secretary.

SECRETARY REESE Not Jake Cohen's daughter.

SPECIAL AGENT SIMMONS Ahh, ahh...

Agent Simmons looks around the room as Agents Wu-Glazer and Yang make themselves as small as possible.

TECH SUPPORT

We're up!

OLD SCHOOL DIAL-UP INTERNET SOUND - DOO-DOO-DOT - A WAVE OF WHITE NOISE FOLLOWED BY SQUEAKS AND SCRONKS - "YOU GOT MAIL."

Secretary Reese storms out.

SECRETARY REESE You fools!

CUT TO:

EXT. COHEN'S HOME - STREET - DAY

The TESLA MODEL S pulls into the driveway. Dottie and Jez exit the car.

DOTTIE Any word from Helen?

CUT TO:

INT. COHEN'S HOME- LIVING ROOM - DAY

Dottie and Jez close the curtains.

JEZ The place is a mess.

DOTTIE I'll start cleaning up. Try reaching your father.

CUT TO:

INT. PENUEL SYNAGOGUE - DAY

The synagogue's crowning dome beckons the REFUGEES. Jake pleads with the RABBI.

JAKE A mandatory evacuation. The site is targeted.

RABBI They have no place to go.

JAKE There must be. East of the city, anywhere. (he turns to Sashko) Sashko?

SASHKO

Rabbi?

RABBI There are over three hundred refugees here, Jews and Christians, women and children. "GOD is our refuge and strength a very present help in trouble."

JAKE What's the point?

FADE OUT.

EXT. ANTONOV AIRPORT - DAY

RUSSIAN SOLDIERS, TANKS, AND ARMORED VEHICLES surround the airfield. A CONCERT-SIZE LED VIDEO WALL arrives by a SEMI-TRAILER.

The CIVILIAN DEFENSE FORCE set up a perimeter around the synagogue.

A STAFF CAR, followed by several MILITARY VEHICLES, arrives, flying the WHITE FLAG of truce.

JAKE

(to Sashko) We have gatecrashers.

Aslanbek Yakov exits the Staff Car. He opens a RUSSIAN SCROLL and reads the decree.

ASLANBEK YAKOV

Hear the word of our Supreme Leader. I bring sound speech of salvation. We are the defenders of the Militia of New Russia and are in the fight against the Antichrist. Our special operation is to sear with a hot iron the Nazification of Ukraine and break the jaw of the wicked. What confidence is this wherein you trust in the Americans? They are a broken reed - weak and feeble vain babblers - a nation who castrate their children. Their tongues shall fall upon themselves, and their words will eat as a canker.

(MORE)

ASLANBEK YAKOV (CONT'D) God will surely deliver this city to the Defenders of the Motherland. Make your peace with your Master and lay down your arms. We will bring you to a land like your own, a land of bread and vineyards. Then, each of you will eat of his vine, drink the water of his cistern, and live. You have until tomorrow, 6 a.m., to decide your fate.

Yakov directs an OFFICER to deliver the mandate. They return to their vehicles and depart.

Jake juts his chin forward.

The giant SHESHAI, the elder son of Anak - green camouflage with a bulletproof vest and his SCAR- H(heavy) battlefield rifle, is towering behind the armistice lines with the Russian Elite Force. He is ready to inflict rack torment in revenge for the death of his brothers, Ahiman and Talmai.

Jake's phone rings.

FADE OUT.

EXT. KYIV - LYSENKA STREET - OSTERIA PANTAGRUEL - DAY

Sashko exits the shrapnel-scarred restaurant where he once worked. He HEARS Yuri arriving.

SASHKO

Yuri!

Yuri hops off the motorcycle and they embrace. Scooter pokes his head out of the backpack.

SASHKO (CONT'D) Scooter! (pleading) Boryslav?

With lifeless eyes, Yuri shakes his head.

CUT TO:

INT. COHEN'S HOME - OFFICE - DAY

INTERCUT PHONE CONVERSATION - JAKE, JEZ, and DOTTIE.

JAKE (speaker) Jez, there will be no jail time. We'll talk later. I need a few minutes alone with Dottie.

JEZ

Why?

DOTTIE You heard him, Hon. Go in the living room. I'll come and get you.

Jez shrugs her shoulders and exits.

JAKE (speaker) Have you heard from Helen?

DOTTIE

Jez says she's on her way back from Miami.

JAKE Does Helen know?

DOTTIE No. I was going to wait until she got back. The Bureau is playing its cards close to its chest.

Jez hacks the conversation - eavesdropping.

JAKE (speaker) I'm not worried about Jez. I've always been straightforward with you, Dottie. I think Helen is having an affair.

DOTTIE Are you sure?

JAKE I think she's going to leave me.

DOTTIE I'm sorry. What do you want me to do?

JAKE I need you to document a few things for me.

Sure. Give me a second.

Dottie checks on Jez in the next room and returns with a legal pad and pen.

DOTTIE (CONT'D) I'm back.

JAKE

(speaker)

Helen knows the safe deposit box at Chase Bank at Boggy Creek and Lake Nona. Help her navigate through it. Most of it is joint property, which is pretty straightforward. I own several properties alone, and they will revert to her estate.

DOTTIE

What are you saying? You're not staying there, are you?

JAKE I'm going to ride it out.

DOTTIE

Jake, it's not a hurricane. You don't ride this out. Make your way to Poland.

JAKE

Can't do it.

DOTTIE Jake, please. Even Belarus would be safer. Romania, anywhere, there are options. Just get out.

JAKE Unable. I'm gonna in the Hudson.

DOTTIE

Stop with the Sully stuff. It's no joke. It's not your war, Jake. (beat) Jake, please. Jake...you know how I feel about you.

JAKE

Dottie, no. Don't. I have the most tremendous respect for you, and I always will. That's the way it has to be. It's Helen. Dottie?

She composes herself.

DOTTIE

Go ahead.

JAKE

Helen is paid life insurance, pension plan, 401(k), annuities, and other contract rights. You'll find account passwords and two hundred thousand dollars in cash. There are accounts for Jez's tuition and expenses and charities such as Samaritan's Purse and SPCA. The mortgage and cars are free and clear.

CUT TO:

INT. COHEN'S HOME - LIVING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

SOUND of the FRONT DOOR KEYS.

Helen enters with a few U-HAUL BOXES. Jez squares off with her.

HELEN

I saw Dottie's car out front.

Helen looks around the disheveled room.

HELEN (CONT'D) What happened here? Was there a party?

Dottie enters, holding the legal pad.

DOTTIE No Helen. It was a police matter.

HELEN Police? Why the police?

JEZ What's with the boxes?

Helen lays the boxes against the wall.

HELEN I'll be staying with Raye for awhile.

JEZ Here's your head, what's your hurry?

HELEN

I'd prefer not to talk about it just yet.

Jez turns to Dottie.

JEZ You heard her, Hon. Go in the office. I'll come and get you.

DOTTIE

Fraid-not.

JEZ It's going to get ugly.

DOTTIE I've seen ugly.

Jez turns back to Helen.

JEZ

So you hitched your wagon to Raye Cummings. Did you know she's cozy with every resident pickleball player at the Senior Hamlet in Bal Harbour? If you can catch my drift, she doesn't do it for the love of the sport. What's your future?

HELEN

What are you saying?

JEZ

How would a junior college dropout with no real job prospects pay cash for an \$800,000 condo? A lot of pickleballing.

Jez makes a gesture.

HELEN

Don't be crude.

Helen walks to her bedroom. Jez follows.

INT. COHEN'S HOME - BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

Helen sees the mess.

HELEN Were the police in my room?

She opens a dresser drawer.

HELEN (CONT'D) They've handled my undergarments.

JEZ They wouldn't be the first.

HELEN You're vile. Get out!

Helen runs into the bathroom with Jez following her. Dottie stops short of the bathroom door.

INT. COHEN'S HOME - BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS

HELEN Quit following me! You're just like your father - stubborn.

DOTTIE Jez. Come on out.

JEZ

Oh, no. Hear me out. What about your husband? Do you find it strange that you don't even mention him? He promised to love you with his heart, mind, and soul. What about him? He could have had any woman - women of industry who are at the top of their game.

Jez glances at Dottie, who, for once in her life, averts her eyes.

JEZ (CONT'D) But no. He fell in love with the eager beaver flight attendant who redefined "something special in the air."

Helen SLAPS her.

HELEN I'M YOUR MOTHER! Jez BITES the bottom of her lip to restrain her anger.

She RIPS the legal pad from Dottie and throws it at Helen.

DOTTIE That's private!

JEZ

Well, Mother, your husband is in Kyiv in the thick of it, and there's a good chance that you'll never see him again. And all he can think about is his wayward bride. So, read it and weep.

FADE OUT.

INT. PENUEL SYNAGOGUE- DUSK

UKRAINIAN SOLDIERS and REFUGEES huddle from the frigid Slavic hawk. Jake enters.

RABBI

There's someone to see you.

INT - PENUEL SYNAGOGUE - CRYPT - CONTINUOUS

The Rabbi leads Jake to a stone chamber below the Synagogue. He lights the SHAMASH, the NINTH CANDLE of the MENORAH. It casts light and shadows over the stacked wood coffins. The Rabbi leaves. Standing alone is Mykhailo.

> MYKHAILO Zos Chanukah.

JAKE We need more than a miracle. (beat) Mykhailo, right?

MYKHAILO

Did you know the Penuel Synagogue was built on an early Tel dating back three thousand years? Notice the stone walls quarried from limestone beds. In 1929, it became an artist's club; in 41' during the Nazis, it was a horse stable; and in 55', a puppet theatre.

JAKE

Today, it's a haven for women and children whose fate is death.

MYKHAILO

Do you believe the Galilaeans, whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices, were sinners above all the Galilaeans because they suffered such things? No, I tell you, except ye repent, ye shall likewise perish.

JAKE

Were the thirty-five Yeshiva students such sinners? What was their crime? I'm fed up with sermons on the Sovereignty of God.

MYKHAILO

And who are you to bring a railing accusation? God will exercise his ruling power over his creation for his greater purpose.

JAKE

During the battle of Jericho, God instructed Joshua to destroy the Canaanites. Herem warfare - they fell by the sword: their infants dashed in pieces, their women with child ripped up. Who is the merciful one?

MYKHAILO

The Canaanites worship Baal and other graven images. It is written: Thou shall have no other gods before me.

JAKE

Enough with the jealous God. Move aside and let me pass.

MYKHAILO

I'm not through with you.

JAKE

Excuse me?

MYKHAILO

You call yourself a freethinker, not committed to God's existence or nonexistence - neither cold nor hot, but lukewarm - an Agnostic. You say I'm rich and need of nothing, but you know not that you are wretched, miserable, poor, and naked, mocking the living GOD in your world of jokes and smirks, wearing your spandex Galvin Green and spike shoes.

JAKE

At least someone golfs in this forsaken land. Now step aside!

Mykhailo blocks him.

MYKHAILO

You stiff-necked people. It is written, "I will spew you out of my mouth and snuff you out like a wick."

JAKE Is that a threat?

A push. A shove back.

A fight ensues. They wrestle to the ground when Mykhailo strikes Jake's right leg, knocking his thigh out of the joint. Jake tries standing and falls.

> JAKE (CONT'D) What the? What did you do?

Jake feels for his thigh.

JAKE (CONT'D) You just stab me! You're freaking crazy!

MYKHAILO

You're not stabbed. Get up! Listen and hear, children of Israel, for the Lord has a controversy with you. Surely as a wife treacherously departeth from her husband, so have you dealt treacherously with me, said the Lord. Let her, therefore, put away her whoredoms out of her sight and her adulteries from between her breasts. JAKE

What do you know of this? This is a private matter. Who put you up to it?

MYKHAILO

Go Israel. Love the woman loved by a lover - for you have gone a whoring looking to other gods. You have no truth of God. You've removed yourself from covenant loyalty. You break all restraint, Godlessness. The daughters of Zion are haughty and walk with stretchedforth necks and wanton eyes, walking and mincing as they go and making a tinkling with their feet.

JAKE

(under his breath) Isaiah.

MYKHAILO

Therefore, the Lord will smite with a scab on the crown of their head. The Lord will take away the bravery of their tinkling ornaments about their feet, and their chains, and the bracelets of the legs, and the headbands, and the tablets, and the earrings. And it shall come to pass, that instead of sweet smell there shall be stink; instead of well-set hair baldness. You will reject God; God will reject you. Consider it a bill of divorcement that God is giving to an adulteress nation. You are not HIS people, and HE will not be your God.

Jake starts to well up. Mykhailo steps away.

JAKE

Wait, wait, wait. Mykhailo, wait! Is there a door of hope? Does she return? Will she turn from her wanton ways?

MYKHAILO

She shall follow after her lovers, but she shall not overtake them and seek them but not find them. Then shall she say.

JAKE Yes. Say, say what?

MYKHAILO I will go and return to my first husband -

Jake gasps with joy.

MYKHAILO (CONT'D)

For then, was it better with me than it is now? It is written: I will ransom them from the power of the grave; I will redeem them from death. O death, I will be thy plagues; O grave, I will be thy destruction.

JAKE God have mercy on me. How do I do? How do I do?

Mykhailo hands the decree to Jake.

MYKHAILO

Jacob Cohen.

JAKE

Here am I.

MYKHAILO

You are from the patrilineal descent of King Hezekiah - of the tribe of Judah - the root of David. You will pray the prayer of your ancestors and intercede for a sinful nation. Their adversaries shall not come into their city, shoot an arrow, go before it with a shield, or cast a bank against it. By the way, they came - the same, they shall return. You will witness the Providence of GOD Almighty, for His fire is in Zion, and His furnace is in Jerusalem.

Mykhailo turns to leave.

Mykhailo! I will! I will, Mykhailo! Hear me! Hear me, Mykhailo!

FADE OUT.

INT. OSTERIA PANTAGRUEL - NIGHT

Yuri sits at a table with a bottle of vodka. Sashko enters.

SASHKO

Come with me to the synagogue. We'll say a prayer for Boryslav and the others.

YURI Not tonight. I can't.

SASHKO Then get some sleep.

FADE OUT.

INT. PENUEL SYNAGOGUE - NIGHT

RABBI "I will not be afraid of ten thousands of people that have set themselves against me roundabout. Arise, O' God..."

The Rabbi turns and nods to a wounded UKRAINIAN FREEDOM FIGHTER - a miserable wretch, emaciated, with a scruffy beard and tattered uniform - a shattered right arm held together with a cast and crude metal rods. He turns to the huddled mass and sings. Sashko enters and sits.

> UKRAINIAN FREEDOM FIGHTER (singing) "I thank you LORD for Galilee you walked and talked with men like me with fishermen and Pharisees we all like blind men need to see. LORD thank you for the MASTER'S touch oh thank you so much."

The purity and power of his voice equal that of the late tenor Luciano Pavarotti leaving the congregation open-mouthed and speechless.

UKRAINIAN FREEDOM FIGHTER (CONT'D)

(singing) "I thank you LORD for Calvary YOU bled and died for men like me nobody else could set me free that's what YOUR life has done for me. LORD thank you for the MASTER'S touch oh thank you so much."

CUT TO:

INT. PENUEL SYNAGOGUE - CRYPT - NIGHT

A candles of the Menorah lightens the crypt. Jake raises and steadies himself upon the pine coffin and unrolls Yakov's decree.

JAKE

GOD of Israel, enthroned above the cherubim - You alone of all the kingdoms of the earth; You have made heaven and earth. Incline your ear and hear; open your eyes and see; and listen as I stand on a plead and a promise - Intercede for your people. Words from the Supreme Ruler sent to blasphemy the living GOD and mocked you as their righteous savior. So now, O LORD, save our nation that all the kingdoms of the earth may know that you are GOD alone.

FADE OUT.

EXT. FOREST NEAR ANTONOV AIRPORT - HOSTOMEL, UKRAINE - PRE-DAWN

Jake sits under a camouflage PUP TENT in a FIELD of SHALLOW MAKESHIFT GRAVES. The dusting of winter snow has settled in - ambient SOUNDS move across the tarmac from the Russian camp - CHATTER, LAUGHTER, ENGINES IDLING.

FOOTSTEPS: Mykhailo walks near, stops, and turns with his sword drawn. With a dispassionate expression, he glances down at Jake's leg and continues into the forest.

Suddenly - there is a deafening silence.

CUT TO:

INT. OSTERIA PANTAGRUEL - PRE-DAWN

Yuri sits stoically at the table.

SASHKO

Coffee?

YURI Yes. I'll set on bread.

CUT TO:

EXT. FOREST ANTONOV AIRPORT - HOSTOMEL, UKRAINE - DAWN

RUSSIAN TANKS AND ARMORED VEHICLES surround the airfield - engines are shut down.

Yuri arrives with Sashko as he pours his flask into his coffee thermos.

SASHKO It's too quiet.

YURI The snow is porous. It absorbs the sound.

They see Jake alone, reflecting.

SASHKO

Jake?

Sashko rushes over and brings him coffee.

JAKE Any word on the others?

SASHKO Boryslav's and the others are dead. Olena and Layla are missing.

JAKE I'm sorry. Could you help me stand?

SASHKO Were you injured?

Sashko helps Jake up. Jake stands on his own.

JAKE My injury. It's gone. Sashko, God was in this place last night, and I didn't know it. SASHKO How shall we do?

YURI (O.S.) Sashko! Let's go!

Sashko hurries off. Yuri shakes his head in contempt.

YURI (CONT'D) (to Sashko) The deathbed confession of the dying thief. Have him steer clear of me.

EXT. ANTONOV AIRPORT - HOSTOMEL, UKRAINE - DAWN

The VIDEO WALL quickens as SENIOR RUSSIAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS and MILITARY BRASS appear as active participants on the three-by-three grid. They open briefcases, fidget with their papers, and drink from their STARS COFFEE.

The RUSSIAN SUPREME LEADER takes center grid sipping with raised pinky, his HERBAL TINCTURE from a LOMONOSOV PORCELAIN TEA CUP.

Panic ensues as the virtual Military Brass gesture frantically in their respective grids. Several of the Grids go offline.

EXT. FOREST ANTONOV AIRPORT - HOSTOMEL, UKRAINE - CONTINUOUS

YURI Something went south.

Sashko looks at his watch.

SASHKO

One minute.

A Scout edges over to Yuri.

SCOUT The tank hatches are still open.

YURI (to Sashko) Hand me the glasses. SNOW COVERS THE RUSSIAN MILITARY VEHICLES AND THE PRONE-POSITIONED CONSCRIPTS.

YURI (CONT'D) It smells like an open sink trap.

EXT. ANTONOV AIRPORT - HOSTOMEL, UKRAINE - CONTINUOUS

A TOP BRASS GENERAL joins the Supreme Leader's grid. A onesided reproach commences as the Supreme Leader flies off the handle, breaking his fine china. ELITE GUARDS arrest the General as the remaining grids go offline.

EXT. FOREST ANTONOV AIRPORT - HOSTOMEL, UKRAINE - CONTINUOUS

YURI Are we seeing a Coup d'état in realtime?

Yuri again peers through the field glasses.

The giant, Sheshai, is on the outermost tarmac, kneeling, vomiting.

SASHKO

It's time!

EXT. ANTONOV AIRPORT - HOSTOMEL, UKRAINE - DAWN

The Supreme Leader's single image is across multiple displays. He contemplates the battlefield and orders the attack.

SUPREME LEADER (VIDEO WALL) (subtitled) RUSSIANS COMMENCE! COME FORTH!

REAL-TIME DOD: SPY DRONE SURVEILLANCE - RUSSIAN TROOPS AND EQUIPMENT FROZEN IN TIME.

EXT. FOREST ANTONOV AIRPORT - HOSTOMEL, UKRAINE - DAWN

The Scouts rushes back to Yuri.

SCOUT

Nothing.

Yuri eyes the battlefield again.

EXT. ANTONOV AIRPORT - HOSTOMEL, UKRAINE - CONTINUOUS

SUPREME LEADER (VIDEO WALL) (subtitled) ARISE! RUSSIANS ARISE!

Agitated, the Supreme Leader fidgets a SMALL METAL BINDER CLIP with his fingers.

CLICK, CLICK, CLICK.

SUPREME LEADER (VIDEO WALL) (CONT'D) (subtitled) RUSSIANS, COME FORTH!

The giant, Sheshai, weak in the knees, stands and retreats off the battlefield.

The Video Wall goes DARK.

EXT. FOREST ANTONOV AIRPORT - HOSTOMEL, UKRAINE - CONTINUOUS

JAKE What just happened?

The Ukrainians cautiously rise from their dug-in positions.

The Scouts cautiously climb the crest of the open tanks, peering inside and examining the Russian OPERATORS.

SCOUT They're dead!

Empty MREs - MEALS, READY TO EAT litter the area the deceased occupies.

SCOUT (O.S.) (CONT'D) More Dead!

Jake stumbles over heaps of BODIES as he examines a ranktossed meal - expiration date, 2015. Yuri looks heavenly, mocking God.

> YURI Foil-pouched botulism?! Too many cooks spoil the broth? I like your sense of humor! Spare the butler, but hang the baker. 2015 was a good year for wine but crappy for K-Rations. The jokes on me!

BARRRR-RRAAAHHHH! BARRRR-RRAAAHHHH!

YURI (CONT'D)

What the?

JAKE

Set the trumpet to thy mouth.

Yuri cautiously climbs a Z TANK and stands on the gun turret. It oscillates in Jake's direction. Yuri spreads his arms wide, encompassing the massive Killing field.

> YURI JAVELIN! BEHOLD YOUR KING!

BARRRR-RRAAAHHHH! BARRRR-RRAAAHHHH!

CUT TO:

EXT. KYIV - ROOFTOP - WAR-TORN RESIDENTIAL HIGH-RISE - CONTINUOUS

BARRRR-RRAAAHHHH! BARRRR-RRAAAHHHH!

Silhouetted by the sunrise, Mykhailo sounds the SHOFAR.

CUT TO:

EXT. HIGHWAY M02 - NORTH TO RUSSIA - CONTINUOUS

BARRRR-RRAAAHHHH! BARRRR-RRAAAHHHH!

RUSSIAN CONSCRIPTS STAGGERING in their vomit, looking back at the trumpet blast and then continuing their walk north to the border. One DESPERATE CONSCRIPT stops and BLOWS his brains out.

BARRRR-RRAAAHHHH! BARRRR-RRAAAHHHH!

A RAM IS CAUGHT IN THE THICKETS OF THE FOREST BY HIS HORNS. BARRRR-RRAAAHHHH! BARRRR-RRAAAHHHH!

FADE OUT.

EXT. KYIV - OSTERIA PANTAGRUEL - DAY

Jake walks up to the restaurant with his carry-on bag as Yuri and Sashko bring out the salvageable. Yuri and Jake make eye contact - no love lost between them. Yuri returns inside. Jake nods and smiles at Sashko as he leaves to an awaiting Samaritan's Purse van.

FADE OUT.

INT. U.S. AIRFORCE E-4B MILITARY AIRCRAFT - DAY

Jake looks out the window, reflecting while nursing a glass of ORANGE JUICE. AIR FORCE COLONEL DR. REYNOLDS joins him.

JAKE

Hi Doc.

DR. REYNOLDS

I reviewed the CT scan. It's the Popliteal Fossa - a muscle strain behind the knee joint - the hollow of the thigh. Weren't wrestling with God, were you? Ha ha.

Jake forces a laugh.

DR. REYNOLDS (CONT'D) When did the injury happen?

JAKE

A few days ago.

DR. REYNOLDS It's strange. There wasn't anything unusual. Maybe it was an old high school football injury that flared up. I don't see any restrictions on your mobility. Go hit the links when you get back.

JAKE Will do. Thanks, Doc.

Doctor Reynolds leaves as Defense Secretary Mark Reese joins Jake.

SECRETARY REESE Anything serious?

JAKE Oh, hey, Mark. He didn't think so.

SECRETARY REESE

Well, that's good news. We will be touching down at Andrews in a couple of hours. We have you on a flight home out of Reagan National.

JAKE

I appreciate it. I wanted to spruce up a bit.

SECRETARY REESE

You bet.

(beat) Jake, military meals generally have three to seven years of shelf life. They're not as bad as you think when you add a little Tabasco, but they're not known to kill an entire army corps.

JAKE Then what.

SECRETARY REESE

The Russians came through the ghost town of Pripyat and Chernobyl. Over 80,000 were confirmed dead in and around Kyiv of acute radiation poisoning. Another 100,000 or more making their trek back to Moscow will probably die within weeks or months. All toll, nearly 200,000 dead without firing a shot.

JAKE

How can this be?

SECRETARY REESE

We're not sure. The Russians had security and safeguards on the site, but it was vulnerable to sabotage and cyberattacks. Jake, may I ask you something?

JAKE

Sure, Mark, ask me what.

SECRETARY REESE Would Jessica have any knowledge of the matter?

JAKE Jessica? My Jessica? Jez? (nervous laugh) (MORE) No.

(dead serious) What are you saying?

Reese notices Jake is having trouble steadying his orange juice.

SECRETARY REESE It's nothing. Rest up. We'll talk later. Let me drum up a razor for you.

Reese walks off and then turns.

SECRETARY REESE (CONT'D) Oh, the Big Guy's inviting you and Helen to boating at Rehoboth Beach one weekend. Helen boats, right?

JAKE Sure she does. Thanks, Mark.

CUT TO:

SUPER: The Trail of Tears.

EXT. HIGHWAY M02 - NORTH TO RUSSIA - NIGHT

Under darkness, RUSSIAN HAZMAT deposes the contaminated CADAVERS into mobile crematoriums. The wheel loader of the Russian Earthmover hoists the corpse of the giant Sheshai and trashes it into the furnace. A veil of smoke, ashes, and embers shoots Heavenly.

CUT TO:

EXT. MOSCOW STREET - NIGHT

The MOTHER'S OF RUSSIA protests the war holding photographs of their dead at a CANDLELIT VIGIL. A RUSSIAN STREET MUSICIAN sings.

BEGIN MUSIC CUE: O HOLY NIGHT

RUSSIAN STREET MUSICIAN O svyataya noch'! Zvezdy yarko svetyat. Eto noch' rozhdeniya dorogogo Spasitelya.

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. ESTABLISH A PALATIAL PALACE BEDROOM DESIGN OF KATRINA ANTONOVICH - NIGHT

A ROARING floor-to-ceiling FIREPLACE. The SUPREME RULER lay in fine EGYPTIAN SILK BEDDING staring in terror as a bloodless hand writes FIERY ARAMAIC LETTERS on the palace wall - MENE MENE TEKEL UPHARSIN (God has numbered your kingdom and finished it).

> RUSSIAN STREET MUSICIAN (V.O.) O svyataya noch'! Zvezdy yarko svetyat. Eto noch' rozhdeniya dorogogo Spasitelya.

> > FADE OUT.

INT. ORLANDO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT - DAY
CONTINUE MUSIC CUE: O HOLY NIGHT - HIGH SCHOOL GLEE CLUB.
A burst of Florida sunshine brightens Terminal B.

DOMESTIC TRAVELERS file past security. Jake, shaved and shipshape, less a razor nick, walks out with his carry-on bag.

Jez, Dottie, and Bill Jackson are there to greet him.

JAKE (To Dottie) Where's Helen?

DOTTIE She didn't come.

Jake turns his attention to Jez and sets to square off.

JAKE Say it ain't so.

JEZ She said it. She's not here.

JAKE That's not what I mean.

JEZ Say what? That your daughter is a mass murderer. It's finished, Daddy - checkered flag.

Jake gasps and then moves in to embrace her.

JEZ (CONT'D) What's this?

JAKE They're called tears, baby.

Jake swells up with emotions from over Jez's shoulder as he sees Helen standing alone in an IVORY SATIN BUSINESS SUIT.

He rushes over and hugs her.

HELEN What have I done? Will you ever forgive me?

Jake nods and kisses her.

JAKE Never again you shall be for another man: so will I also be for you.

Bill Jackson notices Dottie is moved with emotions watching Jake and Helen. He dashes his mouth with a breath spray, and walks over to her.

CUT TO:

EXT. PENUEL SYNAGOGUE - DUSK

CONTINUE MUSIC CUE: O HOLY NIGHT

CONVOCATION(0.S.) (singing) O Holy night! The stars are brightly shining. It is the night of the dear Savior's birth.

INT. PENUEL SYNAGOGUE - CONTINUOUS

The Tenor Ukrainian leads the CHRISTMAS HYMN with the convocation of UKRAINIAN SOLDIERS, REFUGEES, ORPHANS, and KYIVANS.

Yuri enters the synagogue with Sashko. They sit on a long wooden pew.

CONVOCATION (singing) Long lay the world in sin and error pining.' Til He appeared, and the soul felt its worth.

Yuri peers around wearied.

A SAMARITAN'S PURSE STAFF brings a WOMAN down the synagogue aisle sitting in a WHEELCHAIR wearing a HOSPITAL GOWN.

Yuri does a double take - he tears up drop-jawed.

SASHKO

(singing) A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices. For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.'

Yuri stands and jumps over several pews, crashing into the CONGREGATES, apologizing profusely until reaching and passionately embracing the Woman.

YURI

Olena!

OLENA

Yuri!

He kisses her with uncontrollable crying mixed with tears and nasal mucus.

YURI How is it possible?

Olena faces the front as she continues singing. Yuri kneels a broken man.

CONVOCATION (singing) Fall on your knees. O hear the angel voices.

YURI (singing) O night divine. O night when Christ was born.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. PENUEL SYNAGOGUE - CONTINUOUS

THE CAMERA CRANES UP THE SYNAGOGUE TO A RUGGED CROSS.

CONVOCATION (0.S.) O night divine. O night, O night divine.

END MUSIC CUE:

FADE OUT.

THE END