

A CHRISTMAS CON

ORIGINAL SPEC SCREENPLAY

John Scimeca

ACT 1

THE PLAYERS

INT. - JFK AIRPORT TERMINAL 1 - AFTERNOON

A bald man in a suit enters the terminal. He looks around - enters a bathroom - Grabs an empty stall.

Minutes later - He emerges, wearing a Port Authority Policeman's Uniform.

The mans name is MAREK, (51), he is a Con Man.

Marek reaches the Air France counter and asks for the Manager on duty. SIMONE, 62, is on duty.

SIMONE

Hello, Officer, how can I help you?

MAREK

I'm here to meet a VIP arriving on flight AF-006 named ISAAC Wassermann, (55).

SIMONE

(checking manifest)

Yes, he's on-board in business class.

MAREK

I'm parked in the departure area, can we bring him out upstairs?

SIMONE

Yes, no problem. I'll escort him through the VIP immigration lanes and you can meet him then.

MAREK

Thank you, I appreciate it.

SIMONE

My pleasure. The aircraft just landed, it will be about 15 minutes before they begin offloading. He has a carryon bag, so you don't have to wait for luggage.

MAREK

Perfect.

INT. JFK IMMIGRATIONS HALL - CONTINUOUS

Isaac and another VIP are expedited through the checkpoint.

He is handed off to Marek.

MAREK

Good day, I'm here to escort you.

ISAAC

To my Hotel?

MAREK

Wherever you want to go.

ISAAC

The JFK Hilton please.

MAREK

Sure thing.

EXT. - DROP OFF FOR DEPARTURE AREA - 2ND FLOOR - CONTINUOUS

Marek guides Isaac to a SUV outside.

The driver, RISHI, (40), Indian-American, holds the rear door open and reaches for Isaac's bags.

ISAAC

Just take this. I'll keep the case.
You police too?

DRIVER

Yeah, I'm a Detective.

Isaac stands by the SUV. Rishi carries the bag to the rear. Marek opens the front passenger door, and notices a police car pulling up behind their car.

A POLICEMAN gets out of the car.

He gazes questionably at Marek's unfamiliar face.

POLICEMAN

Hey, do I know you?

MAREK

I was just transferred from the bus terminal.

The policeman takes a step back and reaches for his handgun.

POLICEMAN

(anxious)

No, you don't. My wife works there,
I'd know you. Put your hands up.

One SHOT is fired from Rishi's gun... The policeman
collapses on the ground....

Isaac panics and starts to run...

Marek SHOOTS him in the back, twice...

Marek runs and grabs Isaac's briefcase.

He gets in the front seat of the SUV.

They speed away, blend with traffic and disappear.

EXT. JERSEY CITY, N.J. - NEXT DAY

DETECTIVE ALEX BAYO, (41), rushes to reach Port Authority
Police Headquarters. He is slowed by the early morning
sunlight blinding everyone.

He finds a parking spot, walks into the building, passes
security and makes his way to the Homicide bureau in a sub-
basement.

INT. HOMICIDE DEPARTMENT- CONTINUOUS

His Department Head, CAPTAIN FRANK MUELLER (55), is waiting
with a tall black man wearing FBI identification.

CAPTAIN MUELLER

Morning, Alex.

DETECTIVE BAYO

Good morning, Cap. Any word on
Officer Renaldi?

CAPTAIN MUELLER

He's stable, thank God.

DETECTIVE BAYO

Great!

CAPTAIN MUELLER

This is SPECIAL AGENT DERRICK TAYLOR,
(35), The Chief requested the help of
the FBI. They offered two agents to
assist in the investigation. You'll
be working with them on this.

They shake hands.

DETECTIVE BAYO

Nice to meet you. Am I still in charge of the investigation or is it Federal now?

SPECIAL AGENT TAYLOR

It's your investigation. We've done some preliminary work, but, I'm happy to support you in any way.

DETECTIVE BAYO

I'm thankful for any help I can get.

SPECIAL AGENT TAYLOR

I'll update you on everything we've done so far.

DETECTIVE BAYO

Yeah, thanks.

CAPTAIN MUELLER

Remember, this is personal. I want that son of a bitch caught.

DETECTIVE BAYO

So, do I, captain, so do I. I worked with Renaldi's wife years ago.

CAPTAIN MUELLER

I have to join a call in a few minutes. Gotta get going.

DETECTIVE BAYO

No problem, we got this.

The Captain departs.

Alex turns to SA Taylor.

DETECTIVE BAYO (cont'd)

I'm going to get a coffee, you want one?

SPECIAL AGENT TAYLOR

Thanks, light and 2 sugars please.

DETECTIVE BAYO

You got it.

He leaves and returns with 2 Port Authority Mugs.

SPECIAL AGENT TAYLOR
Thanks. I want you to take a look at
the video we compiled.

Alex watches.

SPECIAL AGENT TAYLOR (cont'd)
This is an overhead view of the Black
SUV arriving. See the driver in a
chauffeur's hat pick up Isaac's bag
and walk to the back. Now, watch as
Officer Renaldi pulls up and gets out
of his car. He approaches. Now, he's
taking a step back and reaches for
his gun. That's when he's shot by the
driver. Isaac runs and is shot twice
by the fake policeman who then grabs
Isaac's briefcase and jumps in the
car. By the way, the case contained
half a million in diamonds.

DETECTIVE BAYO
It looks like a murder rap for the
imposter and attempted murder for the
driver. Plus grand theft for both of
em.

The Video ends.

He hangs 8 x 10 photos on the whiteboard.

SPECIAL AGENT TAYLOR
We picked up a partial license plate
from the airport's cameras. You can
make out the Letters TC meaning it's
a taxi plate. And the numbers 7-2.
That's it, the rear of the vehicle
was blocking the camera. So far, we
haven't obtained any other photos of
the vehicle's plate.

DETECTIVE BAYO
Not a lot to go on.

SPECIAL AGENT TAYLOR
Yeah, I know. We tried to digitally
enhance them. This is the best we
have. And these are enhanced photos
of the PERPS.

DETECTIVE BAYO
You can't see either of their faces.

SPECIAL AGENT TAYLOR
No, but it looks like the fake cop is white and the other guy has a darker complexion. Both are approximately the same height.

DETECTIVE BAYO
What about the plate?

SPECIAL AGENT TAYLOR
There are almost 650 livery cars licensed by the NY Taxi commission which fit this vehicle's description.

DETECTIVE BAYO
A needle in a haystack, figures. Who's the other Fed that'll be working with us? The Captain said there were two of you.

SPECIAL AGENT TAYLOR
Yes, It's SPECIAL AGENT CAIN. She's an Intelligence Analyst in the Bureau. Top Notch. I've worked with her twice.

DETECTIVE BAYO
What's her role?

SPECIAL AGENT TAYLOR
She doesn't follow the playbook. They basically let her pick her assignments. You may never meet her.

DETECTIVE BAYO
No problem, I don't like crowds. I guess we start cross checking license plates with their owners. See if we get a hit.

SPECIAL AGENT TAYLOR
Have a lot of experience in Homicide?

DETECTIVE BAYO
Some, mostly Junkies OD'ing at the bus terminals.

SPECIAL AGENT TAYLOR
It's your investigation, so, I'm gonna follow your lead.

DETECTIVE BAYO
Let's get a printout of the vehicles
matching the description with TC
plates.

SPECIAL AGENT TAYLOR

Pulls a stack of paper from his briefcase.

Already got them.

DETECTIVE BAYO
Nice! I'll take half, you got the
rest. Let's dig into the owners...

ONE MONTH LATER - NOVEMBER 30TH

EXT. BROADWAY, BROOKLYN - MORNING - DRIZZLE

Store windows are decorated for Christmas. Window shoppers
hurry along. A train moves on the elevated tracks. Sparks
fall from above.

A man walks past a Spanish Luncheonette, enters the door
leading to the second floor offices.

A PLAQUE - STEPHEN SANTALVO - ATTORNEY AT LAW

INT. 2ND FLOOR - CONTINUOUS

Upstairs, subdivided into tiny offices, cramped,
claustrophobic. Fluorescent lighting. Smelling of the
restaurant downstairs.

INT. SMALL OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

It is FRANK'S (28) 1st day at work. He is being trained.
Sitting at a conference table. His hair gelled and stiff.

The Boss, his uncle, MAREK, Eastern European.

MAREK
Say you are calling from the NEVER
KILL ANIMAL SHELTER. It's written
down here. Just read it.

FRANK
What if they hang up?

MAREK

Call the next person on the list.

FRANK

Call people all day?

MAREK

Yup, and read it. People are suckers for animals.

Frank reads.

FRANK (V.O.)

Good day, I am calling from the Never Kill Animal Shelter. We are raising money to care for hundreds of needy animals. Can you please make a donation to a great cause?

MAREK

That's it. Good job.

FRANK

What then?

MAREK

If they want to donate give the call to Rishi. He'll take care of the payment.

FRANK

And, I get Five Bucks for each one?

MAREK

You get five percent. 5 bucks if they give \$100.

FRANK

Oh, okay.

MAREK

You're ready. Start calling...

Marek stands and taps CHAMP (36), Mexican-American, tattooed, on the shoulder. Champ rises and follows him to their small office and closes the door.

CHAMP

What's up?

MAREK

Want you to meet a potential partner.

CHAMP

Who?

MAREK

Her name's KEIRA, worked with the Pomerico crew.

CHAMP

I heard Bobby Pomerico is away.

MAREK

Yeah, he go too cocky.

CHAMP

What's her deal?

MAREK

She contacted me, has a big scam but doesn't have a crew to make it work.

CHAMP

When do we meet?

MAREK

Now, look up.

INT. GLASS DOOR - CONTINUOUS

Standing on the opposite side of the glass door is a tall, beautiful young woman. Dark hair, lovely complexion.

Marek motions for her to enter.

KEIRA, (31), walks in, poised. Designer clothes. Dripping in gold.

Closes the door.

INT. OFFICE

KEIRA

Hi, I'm Keira.

Smiles.

MAREK

Please have a seat.

They shake hands. She sits.

Champ rubs his hand.

CHAMP
Wow, Strong grip.

KEIRA
Thanks for inviting me.

CHAMP
You ran with Bobby in Vegas?

KEIRA
Yeah, for a while. I hear he's away.
Guess he got greedy.

MAREK
Worse things than greed.

CHAMP
Yeah, being broke.

KEIRA
We're in a recession.

MAREK
This is a recession proof business.
Lots of ways to scam. We ran pet
adoption ads from Africa. Never sent
any pets.

KEIRA
You worked in Africa?

MAREK
We placed ads from Poland. I was a
lawyer then.

KEIRA
You, a lawyer?!

MAREK
Yeah, when I was crooked.

He winks.

CHAMP
I hustled lab made diamonds. Half a
million in a year.

KEIRA
Now ya talkin'.

MAREK
What's your plan?

KEIRA

I'm planning a long con, and I need players. Been stringing along a chump. Works at a bank on Long Island. Got a list of rich women who run a book club. Infiltrated it.

MAREK

And?

KEIRA

Gonna rob them blind. Rich neighborhood on Long Island. 3 plus acre lots. With the right crew we'll clean up.

CHAMP

How ya gettin' in?

KEIRA

Already in. My name is Pamela Nichols, I work for Beautiful Homes magazine. We are interested in featuring their homes in our Christmas Holiday Light bonanza. It's a grand slam.

MAREK

What's the score?

KEIRA

Approximately \$300,000 from charity contributions alone. Plus, I intend on swapping their valuables with copies.

MAREK

Let Frank call them. Get it recorded. See if they bite.

KEIRA

Who's Frank?

CHAMP

The kid outside.

KEIRA

No way, it's my score. Hands off for the kid.

CHAMP

You gotta start somewhere. Don't you want to break his cherry?

KEIRA

Sure. He needs a woman like me.

CHAMP

No one needs a woman like you. You'd rob 'em blind.

KEIRA

Ain't that the truth.

EXT. MAPLE LANE, OLD BROOKVILLE, N.Y. - AFTERNOON

December 1st

Number 22, an older, center hall colonial, 3.5 acres. A wealthy, quiet, suburban Long Island neighborhood. 3 car garage in back. Tidy beds of shrubs. Wood colored Vinyl fencing and several trees.

INT. 22 MAPLE LANE - CONTINUOUS

Cream walls, Pecan floor. Heirloom Farmhouse furniture, again trendy. Leather couch complete with sleeping 112 pound German Shepherd, CHIEF, (3).

LOURAINE MERLINO (68), 5 foot 6, in sweats, answers the phone.

LOURAINE

Hello.

FRANK (O.S.)

Hi, I mean, Good day, I'm from the Never Kill Shelter in Brooklyn. We're raising money to help care for needy animals. Can you please make a donation to a great cause?

LOURAINE

That's nice of you.

FRANK (O.S.)

Its tax deductible. How much can I put you down for?

LOURAINE

Fifty dollars.

FRANK (O.S.)

Thank you, hold on please, I am going to put my supervisor on the phone...

RISHI (O.S.)
Hi, my name is TOM, I will help
process your donation...

INT. BROOKLYN OFFICE - NEXT DAY

December 2ND

KEIRA
Are you crazy? That idiot called my
target!

CHAMP
We got fifty bucks!

KEIRA
Fuck Off! I TOLD YOU.

MAREK
Calm down, honey, it was training.

KEIRA
Don't call me honey. I ain't your
honey.

MAREK
Okay, we'll leave them to you.

KEIRA
Yeah, do that, I've got an
appointment to see the women
tomorrow. I need someone who knows
how to use a professional camera.

MAREK
Take Frank. He knows.

KEIRA
What is it with you and this kid?

MAREK
My sister's kid. He's a good boy.

KEIRA
Why the fuck are you involving him in
this shit business?

MAREK
His decision.

KEIRA
Whatever, yeah, he'll be fine. He
needs a sports jacket and tie.

MAREK
 Tell him yourself. He's yours now.
 Put him ta work.

KEIRA
 (getting up)
 Okay, I will.

Keira walks to Frank, wiggles her finger, he stands. She measures him from toe to head. Nods.

KEIRA (cont'd)
 You'll clean up nicely. Come on, got work to do...

She leads, he follows, out the door and down the stairs.

EXT. BROADWAY, BROOKLYN - CONTINUOUS

They continue along Broadway, avoiding shoppers loitering. Keira stops at a Male Barber Shop, motions to Frank. They enter.

INT. BARBERSHOP - CONTINUOUS

KEIRA
 (to the Barbers)
 I need him cleaned up. Facial, shave, haircut. Can you do something with his nails?

BARBER
 I'll get a girl from next door.

KEIRA
 Perfect, thanks.

Keira sits and checks her WiFi, gives instructions on how to cut his hair.

They finish with Frank.

KEIRA (cont'd)
 Better pay em.

She walks outside and puffs on an electronic cigarette.

EXT. OUT ON STREET - CONTINUOUS

KEIRA
 Do you have a suit and tie at home?

Frank shows Keira a photo of him in a baby blue suit, black shirt, black tie on his phone.

KEIRA (cont'd)
That won't do. Come on...

INT. CLOTHIER - CONTINUOUS

Frank is fitted with a new wardrobe - Gray slacks, light blue shirt, Navy blazer. Brown loafers. College tie. Hankie.

Keira walks outside again, leaving him to pay for his clothes. Frank uses his credit card.

INT. PORTOFINO RESTAURANT - DINNERTIME

KEIRA
Tomorrow we're going to visit wealthy homes in Old Brookville, Long Island. You are my photographer. I have a complete digital camera setup in the car. All you have to do is point and photograph everything, and I mean everything. Oh, and keep your mouth shut. Got it?

FRANK
Yeah, got it. Where and what time do we meet tomorrow?

KEIRA
You're not going anywhere. You're with me tonight. All night. You got a problem with that?

FRANK
No, no, not at all.

Keira pays the bill in cash. Leaves a nice tip.

She leans forward, bites Frank's lower lip.

They kiss...

FADE

EXT. - OLD BROOKVILLE - NEXT DAY

December 3RD

They drive a rental car past huge estate properties on a winding two lane roadway. Frank drives. Keira controls the music.

She puffs on her electronic cigarette.

Frank rolls down his window to vent the vapor out.

KEIRA
Sorry, does it bother you?

FRANK
I have asthma.

KEIRA
I'm sorry. It's a terrible habit, I know. I'll put it away.

She places the e-cig in her purse.

They enter Old Brookville.

Frank spots two cameras mounted on top of a traffic light.

FRANK
They photograph plates in this town?

KEIRA
They run the license plates, get the owners info.

FRANK
Really? Wow.

Their GPS leads them to a stone wall. They drive along the wall until they reach an opening with a metal gate.

Frank pushes a button on the stanchion.

A microphone crackles. We hear a woman's voice.

WOMAN (O.S.)
Hello

Keira leans over Frank, her palm grabbing his crotch as she leans out the window to speak.

KEIRA
Hello, Mrs. Hawley, this is Pamela
Nichols, I believe we spoke on the
phone...

WOMAN (O.S.)
Yes, I - I'll open the gate.

The gate retracts. They park in the circular driveway next
to a vintage Range Rover and a Mercedes convertible. Both
white.

FRANK
Holy Shit.

KEIRA
Stay cool. Mouth shut, remember. And,
your name is William Forster,
William, not Bill.

Two women dressed in designer clothes stand in the home's
doorway. This is REGINA HAWLEY's home, (62). She is a widow.
Her husband was in fashion. She is joined by neighbor, MARIE
BAKER, (69), University Professor.

INT. 9 MAPLE LANE- CONTINUOUS

KEIRA
We are excited to be featuring your
club in our Magazine's Winter
Edition. My photographer, William,
will be taking candid photos of you
and your homes. You will, of course,
have final say on which photos we can
use.

REGINA
I'm so excited. William, try and get
my right side in photos, please. I
don't look good from the left.

KEIRA
Nonsense, you're beautiful.

REGINA
Not compared to you. No, I favor my
right side. I have a scar on my left.

KEIRA
You can hardly see it.

REGINA
It brings back bad memories.

FRANK

No worries, I'll focus on your right side.

REGINA

Perfect, thank you so much.

KEIRA

Elizabeth Friedman mentioned that your club was interested in hosting a Charity Holiday Light Show. The Magazine is willing to partially reimburse your costs.

REGINA

I think poor Lizzy is reliving her childhood at times.

MARIE

That or she's too rich.

Keira and William (Frank) are given a tour of the home. One of Frank's new shoes squeaks as he walks. Keira give him a side glance. The sound is partially disguised by the constant click of the digital camera.

Keira makes a mental note of any valuables she sees.

KEIRA

How many members are in your club?

MARIE

We have 5 founding members, usually there are 6 or 7 women at our readings. Men are welcome, but rarely come.

Keira spots a lovely Ming style vase inside a glass cabinet.

KEIRA

Is this actual Ming?

REGINA

You have a good eye. Yes, it belonged to my grandmother.

KEIRA

It's lovely.

REGINA

Thank you.

KEIRA

The club meets every two weeks?

REGINA

Every two weeks, on Thursday, unless it coincides with a Holiday, then it's cancelled.

KEIRA

What types of books does the club favor?

MARIE

All types. Poetry, drama, history.

KEIRA

Where do you find the writers?

MARIE

Referral mostly. Some contact us. You will of course be joining us for Tea, won't you?

KEIRA

That would be lovely, thank you.

INT. DINING ROOM - TEA TIME

Keira pulls Frank to the side and whispers.

KEIRA

Don't make a pig of yourself.

He does anyway, load his plate to the brim, stuffs his face and drips food on his new clothing. The women exchange gasps, and funny looks.

AFTER TEA

KEIRA (cont'd)

I want to thank you for the wonderful tour and hospitality you offered. I can't wait to meet the other ladies.

REGINA

When can we see the photos?

KEIRA

Soon, they will be uploaded on our website. I'm excited to see you again on Tuesday.

REGINA

You're such a dear, it's been lovely. See you then.

They leave.

INT. SMALL OFFICE - NEXT DAY

December 4th

Photos of artwork, furniture and jewelry litter the table.

MAREK

Ok, got my attention. What's the job?

KEIRA

I need five men. With skills.

MAREK

What kinda con?

KEIRA

Three weeks, a month max. They will do anything to get in a magazine Christmas Edition.

RISHI

How many women are there?

KEIRA

There are five women in the club. Each of them is worth millions, but Elizabeth Friedman is by far the most affluent.

CHAMP

A month's work for what? Chicken shit?

KEIRA

Really?

She tosses a photo at him.

Hey, cowboy, see this watch, it's worth over two hundred grand. A fucking watch. They're loaded!

MAREK

I'll run with you on this. Got a good inside man, ENRIQUE, (29), knows alarms and security. And, I know a smooth operator, MIKEY, (37), he's run long cons. Plus Rishi and Frank makes 5.

CHAMP

What about me?

KEIRA

Not to be offensive, but I need a landscaper. Can you play one? The Magazine wants landscape changes for photos. Lots of changes.

CHAMP

No offense. Sure, I used to do that. I can borrow my brother's truck and crew.

MAREK

That's Six.

KEIRA

Can Mikey play an Art expert?

MAREK

I can do that.

KEIRA

Join me, and you will each get paid a hundred thousand dollars at the end of the con.

MAREK

You crazy?! Don't insult me. It's my crew. Now we know the marks, I don't need you.

KEIRA

It's My Con. I made exact copies of jewelry and artwork. I have the buyers lined up. You ain't doing it without me, and if you try, you're going to fuck it up.

MAREK

The only people who buy artwork are feds. You should know that. 50 Percent for us, 50 for you. I want to play. I can be useful.

KEIRA

I'm sure you can. 60/40, but only if you agree to fund the remaining ops. Plus there is a necklace at the Friedman's house which is mine, that's non negotiable. That's my final offer. We have a deal or what?

MAREK

You have a deal.

KEIRA

I need to have the contents of a storage locker picked up and brought somewhere secure.

MAREK

I have a house in Whitestone with a huge garage. The house is empty. If you want, you can stay there.

KEIRA

Thanks, nice of you. I'll move from my hotel. Do you have a place to store jewelry I borrowed for the con?

MAREK

There's a safe at the house.

KEIRA

Perfect, Here is a list of equipment we need.

Marek reads, squinting.

MAREK

That's a lot.

KEIRA

Don't get cheap on me.

He continues reading.

MAREK

It's fine, we're good. I can get all this. When do you need it? When we starting?

KEIRA

I'm going on Tuesday to have them sign releases.

MAREK

I'm coming.

KEIRA

No, you walk in Thursday to authenticate the artwork and valuables.

MAREK

Okay. Like that better.

Marek takes a key ring from his pocket, removes one key, hands it to Keira.

MAREK (cont'd)
Frank knows the address. Make yourself at home.

KEIRA
Thanks. Come on Frank, help me move my stuff.

They depart.

CHAMP
I think Frank has a thing for her.

MAREK
Let him have fun. Maybe she can teach him a few things.

CHAMP
Why you doing this Con?

MAREK
Just a feeling I have.

CHAMP
What kind of feeling?

MAREK
That the heat is getting close. It might be good to rent a house on the Island for a few months till everything blows over.

EXT. - THEATER DISTRICT, NEW YORK - LATER

A well dressed man, his wife, their daughter and her husband exit a show.

Mikey hands the FATHER a Music CD in a case. The man takes it without thinking and tries to hand it back.

Mikey won't take it.

MIKEY
That's Twenty Bucks.

MAN'S WIFE
Just give him the money.

The man opens his wallet, opens the bill fold and pulls out all of his cash.

Mikey GRABS it all, PUNCHES the father in his belly, shove the son-in law and escapes into the crowd.

He stops to buy a pack of smokes and catch his breath three blocks away.

HE GETS A TEXT.

MAREK (O.C.)

You available?

MIKEY

Yeah, wats up?

MAREK

Got a job. Come see me tomorrow.

MIKEY

Gotcha.

INT. BROTHERS AUTO BODY - BROOKLYN - AFTERNOON

Marek enters the building. There are two cars being worked on. He walks towards the back room. The door opens, a man in overalls walks out.

OVERALLS

Hey Marek. What brings ya round?

MAREK

Looking for Enrique. Seen him?

OVERALLS

Yeah, he's in the back. Gotta run, catch you later.

Marek proceeds further.

He comes upon a few men unloading plastic bags of detergents, liquid soaps, toothpaste and makeup onto a table. A young man stacks power tools on a shelf.

Enrique walks out from behind a curtain, counting money.

MAREK

Wanna play some cards?

ENRIQUE

Hey Bro. Like I could ever win playing against you. What's happening, man?

MAREK

I'm need a player. Long Con. One month. Wealthy estates. You can use your high tech toys.

ENRIQUE

I'm interested. Give me the details and we'll get together.

INT. BROOKLYN OFFICE - TWO DAYS LATER

December 6TH

Enrique and Mikey join the Crew.

KEIRA

...So, you ALL know your identities and your roles. Any Questions?

None. Silence.

KEIRA (cont'd)

You're Fucken' kidding, right?

MIKEY

What about credentials? I should have something showing who I am, who I work for?

KEIRA

I ordered company IDs and business cards. Coming tomorrow.

MIKEY

Who are the Marks?

KEIRA

Five women, Louraine Merlino, Regina Hawley, Marie Baker, Jennifer Riyas and Elizabeth Friedman. You have it printed out in front of you. Nothing special about them except they are rich. We are going to be doing swaps at three of their homes.

Keira places a large canvas bag on the table. She turns it over and burner cell phones spill out.

KEIRA (cont'd)

I need everyone's cell phones. From now on, we only communicate with these Burner phones.

FRANK
I need my phone!

KEIRA
You'll get it back when the job's done.

FRANK
Why do you need my phone?

KEIRA
Bobby Pomerico got put away because of a jacked phone. No taking chances.

MIKEY
Why should I trust you?

KEIRA
You got no choice. Play along or turn the fuck around and go home.

Marek lays his cellphone on the table, picks up a burner. The others follow his lead. Keira bags their old phones.

Keira then places a fabric shopping bag on the table.

KEIRA (cont'd)
Now, everyone put your guns in here. There are no guns on this job.

RISHI
Fuck you, bitch.

KEIRA
In your dreams, buddy.

MAREK
I'm okay with that. It's a con, not a robbery.

Marek pulls out a semi automatic, removes the magazine and ejects a shell from the chamber. He tosses the gun in the bag. Puts the shell in his pants pocket.

RISHI
You really a bitch to work for.

He tosses his Glock in the bag.

KEIRA
Don't forget the Walther on your leg.

Keira blows him a kiss.

Rishi unstraps an ankle holster and tosses it in the bag.

Mikey tosses in a revolver.

Keira point to Enrique.

KEIRA (cont'd)

What about you?

ENRIQUE

I don't use guns. No second story men do. Makes Breaking and Entering into Armed Robbery. Sentences are way longer.

KEIRA

Okay, No hardcore from now on. White glove service. You all dress sharp and smile at everyone you encounter.

INT./EXT. OLD BROOKVILLE - TUESDAY

December 7TH

INT./EXT - IN CAR - MORNING

Frank drives, Keira rides shotgun. Mikey, who is 6 foot 2, is squished in the back.

KEIRA

Did you do your homework?

FRANK

Yeah, we're going to the home of Mrs. ELIZABETH FRIEDMAN, (62). She's a widow and heir to the Friedman Kasher Pickle Fortune. She's eccentric and filthy rich.

KEIRA

Excellent.

MIKEY

I'm ready. I thought playing a lawyer would be boring.

FRANK

My uncle's a lawyer.

KEIRA

So I heard. How'd he ever wind up in this business?

FRANK

He grew up in Eastern Europe. Everyone was corrupt, police, lawyers, judges. Guess it was good training.

KEIRA

And what about you? You seem smart, why are you doing this?

FRANK

Money. What else is there?

KEIRA

There's many ways to make money legally.

MIKEY

How'd you become a criminal?

KEIRA

Same old story. I was young and stupid. Met a guy. Pretty soon, I was setting up suckers to swindle.

MIKEY

Do you like it?

KEIRA

It's a rush. Living every minute in the fast lane. But, this is my last con. I'm getting out when this is done.

MIKEY

That's what they all say.

KEIRA

Serious.

MIKEY

We'll see. It's hard to walk away. How you getting your rush, then?

KEIRA

Don't worry, I got plans. Unplug for a while, maybe a year, then do something creative with myself.

MIKEY

Wish you luck.

KEIRA

Thanks, I need all I can get.

They arrive at the Friedman's home, a sprawling mansion with manicured landscape.

MIKEY
Whistles. Wow, look at this.

EXT. FRIEDMAN ESTATE - CONTINUOUS

They drive through the two opens gates to the courtyard.
They Park and walk to the home.

EXT. FRONT DOOR - CONTINUOUS

Mikey rings the bell.

They are met by a large, black woman, KIMBERLY, (45). Mrs. Friedman's assistant.

INT. FRIEDMAN ESTATE - CONTINUOUS

Kimberly escorts them into a waiting room. They wait.

And wait.

An antique clock ticks and ticks and ticks.

Still, they wait.

Finally, a shapely blonde rushes into the room. Kimberly lingers in the rear.

ELIZABETH
So sorry to keep you waiting. I was stuck on a board call.

KEIRA
No need to apologize. I thank you for making the time to see us.

ELIZABETH
What is this about?

Keira presents a card:

PAMELA NICHOLS
SPECIAL EVENTS COORDINATOR

KEIRA

As we discussed via email, the magazine is excited to showcase the homes of your club members in our special Holiday edition. Your home will be our cover shot. And I want to thank you for suggesting hosting a Charity Light Festival for your neighborhood. It would tie in perfectly with the Photo shoot.

ELIZABETH

(grinning)

Oh, that's fabulous news! I'm excited. I believe it is a two and a half mile loop from my house to Louraine's and back. I'd like to cover it with the light displays and have people drive around after making a donation.

KEIRA

What Charity would you pick?

ELIZABETH

Not sure. Maybe something for animals this time. I do donate a million dollars to charity every year.

KEIRA

I'll make sure they mention that in our writeup.

ELIZABETH

I want to create a dazzling winter festival. Rides for the kids. Games and activities. Free hot chocolate and mulled wine for the adults.

KEIRA

Where are you putting all of this?

ELIZABETH

All the homes here are built on big lots. I have nearly five acres.

KEIRA

I can assist you make this all happen if you'd like. I have experience planning events.

ELIZABETH

Oh, that would be lovely. I can't thank you enough.

KEIRA

We work with professionals who I could recommend. Basically, you're looking to have a Holiday Light Festival I think.

ELIZABETH

Yes, I want my home to be a show stopper. With an illuminated giant ice sculpture and sled rides.

KEIRA

Okay, that could work. When are you looking to do this.

ELIZABETH

Starting December 8th through the 23rd.

KEIRA

That's ambitious.

ELIZABETH

Why, do you think it's too much?

KEIRA

Your neighbors will tolerate the intrusion for only so long. I would suggest a week, Saturday to Saturday.

ELIZABETH

You're probably correct. I am certain the others will be overjoyed to support a charity event.

KEIRA

I brought along our attorney to go over the paperwork with you. We will be asking the ladies in your group to sign releases.

ELIZABETH

Releases?

KEIRA

The magazine has asked for minor changes to landscaping and decor. They will, of course, reimburse you for the costs.

ELIZABETH

I'm not worried about the money. What changes do you want us to make?

Mikey steps up, introduces himself:

MIKEY

Hello there. Pleased to meet you. I am Michael... Michael Fischer. Here is my card. I am one of the magazines attorneys.

ELIZABETH

It's a pleasure.

MIKEY

For starters, they'd like to replace the damaged shrubs along the driveway. Tidy it for the photos. The contract states that you will be reimbursed 50% of the costs of the improvements. As long as you have receipts, of course.

ELIZABETH

Of course. That seems very fair.

He presents the documents in a brown leather folder.

MIKEY

Can I please ask you to sign and date here? -- And here, please. -- And initial here. Perfect, thank you. Pamela will email you copies for your tax records.

He closes the folder and steps back.

KEIRA

Is it possible for us to have a tour of your lovely home? This would give William a chance to get some photos.

ELIZABETH

Yes, of course, follow me.

The tour lasts over an hour, focusing on her home's architecture, her furniture, her rare book and fine art collections.

Frank photographs nonstop. Mikey walks a few steps behind, his eyes searching for security devices and cameras.

Elizabeth leads them to an oversized Secure Room. They walk through a huge steel bank door.

INT. SECURE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

On one wall is her dead husband's collection of military weapons.

ELIZABETH
I keep my prized objects in here.

She leads them to a glass case.

ELIZABETH (cont'd)
My rarest books are in this case.
Some incredibly so.

Inside the are two books. One book is covered in embroidered black leather, the other in white.

ELIZABETH (cont'd)
These are the books I referenced in my email, appropriately named; BENEFACTIS MALIGNUS, which is Latin for Good and Evil. This is the only set in the World. The Vatican only has one copy of the GOOD book and would love to get their hands on my set.

KEIRA
Amazing. Is it even possible to put a price on such things?

ELIZABETH
No, they're priceless. But, wait, let me show you something even more exceptional.

SHE WALKS TO ANOTHER GLASS CASE

Inside, an extraordinary Diamond, Carnelian and Pearl necklace.

ELIZABETH (cont'd)
This is my greatest possession. It originally belonged to Alexander the Great in the 4th Century. It was then passed down in the Lagides Dynasty until it was given to Cleopatra. Did you know that she was born into Macedonian royalty?

KEIRA
No, I always thought she was Egyptian. Amazing! William, make sure you get photos of this!

FRANK
Okay, no problem.

KEIRA
Can I call you Elizabeth?

ELIZABETH
Yes, of course.

KEIRA
The magazine will be sending a curator to examine your collection. I hope that is okay with you?

ELIZABETH
A curator? Marvelous, I hope he's impressed with my collection.

KEIRA
Oh, I am certain he will be.

INT. BROOKLYN OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Rishi is working the phones. Marek and Champ are on their laptops.

The door opens, DETECTIVE ALEX BAYO, (41), walks in.

DETECTIVE BAYO
(flashes his badge)
Hope I'm not interrupting anything.

CHAMP
We're working. What's up?

DETECTIVE BAYO
(looking at Rishi)
You want to talk alone?

RISHI
No, I got nothing to hide. What do you want?

DETECTIVE BAYO
You own a year old Black Suburban?

RISHI
Yeah, It was stolen.

DETECTIVE BAYO
When was that?

RISHI
Couple of weeks ago.

DETECTIVE BAYO
You did report it to the police?

RISHI
Yeah, all legit. I don't miss it one bit. Had back problems from sitting.

DETECTIVE BAYO
Guess you must have made a lot of trips to the airports.

RISHI
Me? No, I hate going to the airport. What's going on? What do you want?

DETECTIVE BAYO
You happen to look like someone who shot a cop. Where were you on Tuesday October 8Th around 2 pm?

RISHI
I was here. I work everyday.

DETECTIVE BAYO
And I'm sure your associates here will verify that.

CHAMP
Yeah, I remember.

DETECTIVE BAYO
(to Marek)
And what about you? Were you here too?

MAREK
Yes, officer, we were here working.

DETECTIVE BAYO
What do you do?

MAREK
We're Day traders.

DETECTIVE BAYO
Any hot tips?

MAREK
Yeah, marry well.

DETECTIVE BAYO

When the cop was shot, another man was murdered. Wanna know what he did for a living? He was a diamond dealer. Amazing, right?

MAREK

Saw it on the news. Hope they're okay.

DETECTIVE BAYO

One of them is dead. But, I guess you already knew that.

MAREK

Officer, I know the law.

DETECTIVE BAYO

It's DETECTIVE.

MAREK

Sorry, no disrespect. We deny any knowledge or involvement. Any further talk will need to be in the presence of our attorneys. So, you gonna charge us?

DETECTIVE BAYO

I wanna see you squirm for a lil' longer.

Turns to leave.

CHAMP

We're right here, DETECTIVE. You know where ta find us.

INT. BROOKLYN OFFICE - LATER

KEIRA

Why was a cop here earlier?

MAREK

Relax, he was following up on Rishi's stolen car. And how did you know?

KEIRA

I have my sources. You wouldn't be trying to pull a fast one on me?

MAREK

No, of course not. Everything is on the up and up.

He looks at Rishi and winks.

KEIRA
Good, because I don't need any complications.

MAREK
What's the next step?

KEIRA
Tour a few more of their homes, identify other valuables of interest.

MAREK
They agreed on the light show?

KEIRA
Yes. Elizabeth Friedman donates a million dollars every year. I told her she could double her donation by doing the Holiday light show. We are going to skim their donations.

RISHI
How you gonna do that with the whole neighborhood watching?

KEIRA
False bottoms in the collection baskets. When all is said and done, they'll get about twenty five percent of the proceeds, we'll get the rest.

MAREK
That's high tech stuff. Love it.

INT. - OLD BROOKVILLE - NEXT DAY

December 8TH

Frank and Keira visit the home of the Club's Secretary, JENNIFER RIYAS, (64), retired executive.

Note- She has two carved hippo ivory tusks in the form of bare breasted women. Valued at three hundred thousand dollars.

JENNIFER
When will the Holiday Tour run?

KEIRA
It'll run for a week, from Saturday December 16 to Saturday the 23rd.

JENNIFER

And what do you need us to do?

KEIRA

We need volunteers from the town to help collect the donations, assist stranded motorists, provide information and keep an eye on the collection boxes. We don't want anything happening to the charity money.

JENNIFER

Heaven's forbid. How many volunteers?

KEIRA

I think we need a minimum of ten people a day. So, if you can sign up Fifty, Sixty, we should be good. I expect this will be a lot of work.

JENNIFER

I will reach out to the community. I'm pretty sure we will get more than enough volunteers. Plus the schools will be out.

KEIRA

Excellent.

JENNIFER

What about permits?

KEIRA

Why, we need permission?

JENNIFER

You have no idea. We have the Town, the County, the Police and of course, the Fire Marshals.

KEIRA

You are right. I should have known.

JENNIFER

But, you said you've done other events before?

KEIRA

Yes, but the magazine has someone who takes care of those things.

JENNIFER

Oh, of course. No worries, I will pick up the applications and get things rolling. Whose name should I use?

KEIRA

Use the name of your club. List all the members.

JENNIFER

Will do.

She hands the Pamela Nichols card.

KEIRA

Please call me if you have any issues. I can be pretty convincing.

JENNIFER

You're so pretty, I bet you never have to buy a drink.

Keira smiles

KEIRA

Gee thanks.

INT./EXT. IN CAR - AFTERWARDS

KEIRA

Did you see those two carved ivory tusks? Each one of them carved into a beautiful bare breasted woman. They have got to be worth three hundred thousand dollars or more.

FRANK

I thought it was illegal to buy and sell Ivory.

KEIRA

There are buyers for everything. Ban something and it becomes more desirable, more expensive.

INT./EXT. - FRIEDMAN ESTATE - NEXT DAY

December 9TH

Enrique arrives in a white van.

On its side, a Decal: *Special Events Lighting*

Keira, Marek and Frank arrive in the rental.

They walk past Enrique towards the house with no acknowledgement.

Marek is dressed in Black. A white silk scarf hangs on his neck. He is playing the role of eccentric, Eric Lanci, an art conservatoire from Europe.

Kimberly answers the door.

KEIRA

Hello, Kimberly. Great to see you.

KIMBERLY

Hello miss, Pam. Please come in.

Kimberly eyes them suspiciously as they enter.

She leads them to the study.

KIMBERLY (cont'd)

Mrs. Friedman will be with you shortly.

The study is large and filled with books and fine artwork. Marek walks around examining the room.

Mrs Friedman enters. The women of the club enter behind her.

Marek hams it up for the women, kissing each one on the cheek 3 times with gusto.

He continues with the compliments. Swooning over them.

Kimberly returns.

KIMBERLY (cont'd)

MOISES from the Event company just delivered his estimates. He is waiting outside in case you have any questions.

ELIZABETH

Thank you, Let's look at them now. Please ask him to wait. Does he not want to come inside?

KIMBERLY

No, he has glitter on him from a job and doesn't want to spread it.

ELIZABETH
Please ask him to wait.

Kimberly leaves.

The group gathers around Marie who reads the estimate -

MARIE

ESTIMATE
Lighting: 6 million lights: - \$220
thousand dollars!

(For two and a half
mile route.)

Included will be two full time techs
during operating hours -

Elizabeth's Ice Fountain is \$25
thousand dollars more -

A Food truck serving Hot chocolate is
an additional \$2 thousand dollars a
night -

And, then we come to a petting zoo
and giant slide and other games for
the children. - \$40 thousand
dollars -

If generators are needed, the charge
is \$4 thousand dollars more -.

JENNIFER

My family does lots of business with
food trucks, we will pay for the
truck and will provide our own
churros and Mexican coffees, too.

MARIE

Do we really want all of this? That's
a great deal of money. What if no one
comes.

ELIZABETH

They will come. If we take a risk,
perhaps we can make twice as much for
Charity. That's a Win in my book.
Let's do it!

The ladies smile.

MARIE

I honestly think you are crazy
sometimes. Or is it too rich?

ELIZABETH

Wealthy people are eccentric, dear.
Never crazy.

Kimberly goes back to tell Moises the good news.

Marek continues his performance as an Art Curator.

He appears enthralled by the Rare Biblical Book, *BENEFACTIS
MALINGO* - (GOOD and EVIL).

Marek spends considerable time swooning over Cleopatra's
necklace as well as the Military weapons collection.

MAREK

My dear, Mrs. Friedman, you most
certainly have one of the finest
collections I have ever seen. When
this article is published, your phone
will never stop ringing.

ELIZABETH

That's so nice of you to say.

EXT. - VAN - CONTINUOUS

MULTIPLE SCENES

The moment Kimberly walks inside with the proposal, Enrique
sends an expensive camera drone into the air and has it
encircle the home, taping video to later examine.

When done, he lands the drone nearby and has it stored when
Kimberly returns.

KIMBERLY

Mrs. Friedman said that she accepts
your proposal and expects to see you
when the lighting is installed.

ENRIQUE

Please tell her thank you.

KIMBERLY

I will, y'all have a nice day.

ENRIQUE

You too.

He then drives to the Merlino house.

EXT. LOURAINÉ MERLINO ESTATE - CONTINUOUS

Enrique sends up the drone.

Watches the camera feed via his laptop.

The drone goes over a hedge and into the yard, searching for security devices, alarms, internet connections.

It makes a left turn around the house, descending to ground level.

It continues further.

Next Image - the Mouth of a German Shepherd SNATCHING the drone in mid air and THRASHING it around.

The camera goes BLANK.

INT. FRIEDMAN ESTATE - CONTINUOUS

JENNIFER

I spoke with the town council and they think its a great idea. They're even willing to cosponsor the Event.

ELIZABETH

Oh, that's great news.

JENNIFER

But the Town's Police Captain, CARL NEWCASTLE, (36), is against it. Says it's a stupid idea and inviting trouble.

KEIRA

There's always one.

JENNIFER

Well, this one has some clout. If he's against it then so is the Fire Marshall. You see how it goes in the Suburbs?

KEIRA

Same everywhere. Little men trying to be big.

JENNIFER

Well, they make the rules, so you have to play along.

KEIRA

I never follow stupid rules. Can I speak to him?

JENNIFER

I expected you'd say that. He said for you to stop by.

KEIRA

I'll go see him after our meeting.

INT. - OLD BROOKVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT - LATER

Across the street from the Village Hall, next to the Library.

Marek stays in the car. Keira and Mikey go in.

There is a Female Officer at the desk.

KEIRA

Hi, I'd like to see Captain Newcastle. My name is Pam Nichols.

They make eye contact. Keira unconsciously places the tip of her finger in her mouth.

The female officer smiles and blushes.

A man stands inside an office. He walks out. Tall, rugged and handsome.

CARL

Hi, I'm Newcastle. Let me guess, you're here to talk about running a Winter Light festival, right?

MIKEY

Yes, and we're told that you're standing in the way.

CARL

That's true. It's a crazy idea, so why don't you just forget it?

KEIRA

The Town Council is looking to cosponsor the event.

CARL
The Council's a bunch of idiots.

KEIRA
Why are you against it?

CARL
Look, my job is to protect the
citizens of the Town.

MIKEY
You know, I can get an injunction and
force your cooperation.

CARL
Don't threaten me Mister Attorney!

KEIRA
Down boys. Mikey, go get coffee. I'll
handle this.

Mikey makes an angry face and walks out.

KEIRA (cont'd)
Sorry 'bout that. Let's start over,
okay?

CARL
What's his problem?

KEIRA
He's a lawyer. They're all dicks.

CARL
So, you're the boss?

KEIRA
I like to think so.

CARL
I'm still not going to allow it.

KEIRA
You didn't even hear what I had to
say. Hey, not to change the subject,
but where can a girl get a drink
round here?

CARL
Out on Northern boulevard, about 4
miles. Nice place.

KEIRA

How bout you buy me a drink and we talk about the Christmas Light show.

CARL

What Charity did you say it was for?

KEIRA

I didn't, it's up to the ladies to decide which Charity or charities they want to give the money to.

CARL

And what do you get out of this?

KEIRA

Nothing, It's my job. Here's my card. I do events and special shootings for the magazine.

CARL

And this is all for a magazine article?

KEIRA

Not the Light show, that was Elizabeth Friedman's idea.

CARL

She's insane. How they going to power three miles of lights.

KEIRA

The neighbors all volunteered to use their electric and the town will connect overhead light displays from the street lights. They'll bring in generators if necessary.

CARL

I read your proposal. I can't visualize the route. It doesn't make sense. The way you have the vehicles traveling will have traffic backed up. It will take more policemen than I have to cover.

KEIRA

Elizabeth picked the route. You have a better one you can suggest?

CARL

You have ten minutes? I'll show you.

KEIRA
Sure, let's go.

Mikey is having a smoke as Keira climbs into the Crown Victoria front seat.

Carl is driving. They pull away.

INT./EXT. IN CAR - CONTINUOUS

CARL
Okay, your route would take you down this road. It's too narrow. The way I see it, you should start at this corner coming up instead.

Keira looks at him. Smiles

He continues driving.

CARL (cont'd)
And here, this is where you put the donation boxes. It's well lit and open. -- Now you turn right up here -- You drive past Elizabeth Friedman's house,-- and another right on Maple lane and we are back where we started.

INT./EXT. CAR - CONTINUOUS

They park in his reserved spot.

Keira leans over and places her hand on his arm.

KEIRA
You're right. Thanks for showing me.

CARL
Wow, you are different.

KEIRA
How so?

CARL
You said I was right.

KEIRA
Well you were. What's the big deal?

CARL
It's not, it's refreshing, that's
all.

KEIRA
What are you trying to say?

CARL
I like you.

KEIRA
Yeah, I like you too.

CARL
No, I mean I really like you.

KEIRA
Stick around, maybe we can have some
fun together.

CARL
Do you know how many policemen I have
to bring in to cover traffic and
provide security?

KEIRA
We'd pay for the extra police.

CARL
You'll pay?

KEIRA
Elizabeth Friedman and her club,
actually. But, they'll be reimbursed
much of it.

CARL
You want this for seven days,
correct?

KEIRA
Yes, the seventeenth through the
twenty third.

CARL
Best I can offer is three days.
Twenty first thru twenty third.

KEIRA
That would work. Thanks. How much for
the police?

She smiles

CARL

I'll authorize your application. No charge for the overtime. Let the Council pay.

KEIRA

Thank you. I gotta run, remember, you owe me a drink.

CARL

Stop by in a half an hour and I'll take ya up on it.

KEIRA

Sorry, can't, I got baggage.

CARL

Oh, yeah, the lawyer. Well, catch ya later.

EXT. STREET - CONTINUOUS

Keira gets ut of the car and walks away. She stops, turns to see if Carl is looking. She smiles when she catches his eye.

INT./EXT. IN CAR - CONTINUOUS

MAREK

Saw you getting friendly with the local policeman. I don't like having cops snooping around.

KEIRA

Got him to change his mind, didn't I?

KEIRA (cont'd)

Don't worry, honey, he isn't interested in you. I think I got me a cowboy.

MIKEY

What, you gonna go break lil Frankie boys heart?

KEIRA

Everything has a start and it has an ending. He'll be stronger for it. Can I get a cigarette, please?

MIKEY

(hands a packet over)
He ya go. Didn't know you smoked.

KEIRA
Trying to quit.

MIKEY
For how long?

KEIRA
Years.

MIKEY
It's tough, I know. I wish I had a dollar for every pack I tossed out the window only to go buy another one later.

KEIRA
Yeah, I know.

MAREK
Well, you better keep that cop far away from us.

INT. BROOKLYN OFFICE - THAT NIGHT

The Crew meets.

KEIRA
It's game time! Where do we stand? Enrique, what's going on with the lighting.

ENRIQUE
I have 2 companies competing. One wants 60 grand. The other wants 75 thousand and will put our name decals on their trucks. I say, go with them. And, we can get a small circus to set up some attractions including a long slide and a petting zoo for twenty five thousand.

KEIRA
Offer the more expensive guy 70 grand. Elizabeth will like a circus, go with it and offer them twenty. Its off season. You and Marek make the deal and pay them.

MAREK
What are you talking about? I thought the women were paying for it.

KEIRA

Yeah, they're going to pay Enrique, I mean Moises, when everything is set up. They're good for it.

MAREK

Alright, I'll handle it.

KEIRA

And don't cheap out. We want to draw a bunch of people to this Event. Enrique, tell me about the homes' security systems?

ENRIQUE

The Friedman house has excellent security. There are a few back entrances which might be vulnerable but then you have to deal with the secure room and high tech alarm system. The other houses have generic systems or nothing at all. No problem. One of the women trains protection dogs. Her Shepherd ate my drone. Cost me five grand! I hate dogs.

RISHI

Poison the dog.

KEIRA

Fuck you! No animals get hurt on my jobs. What does she have of value?

Frank looks at a typed sheet.

FRANK

A tapestry. One hundred thousand estimate and some Samurai Swords worth twenty grand each.

KEIRA

Forget it then.

MIKEY

That's over a hundred grand!

KEIRA

It ain't worth it. Dogs are unpredictable. Draw attention. Frank, could you please?

Frank enters the closet and pulls out a mailbox sized rectangular object covered with a painter's cloth. It appears heavy as he is struggling.

Frank removes the cloth, revealing a nicely decorated donation box.

KEIRA (cont'd)
We are going to have two of these at
the entrance to the driving tour.

Keira pulls out several stacks of dollar bills from her purse, removes their bands...fans the money...and tosses the bills in the donation box.

She closes it.

Steps back a few feet - Pushes a key fob.

KEIRA (cont'd)
Marek, can you please remove the
money and place it on the table?

MAREK
What's the combination?

KEIRA
Your birthday.

MAREK
519? How'd you know that?

KEIRA
You don't think I checked on you?

He enters 519 into the combination. The box opens.

Marek pulls out the money and places it on the table.

Keira pushes another button on her fob.

A hidden door slides open in the base of the donation box,
revealing more money.

MAREK
That's great! They'll never know.
How's it work?

KEIRA
Vacuum. -
(MORE)

KEIRA (cont'd)

Now, everyone. This is the plan. I am going to have all of the ladies at the start line for the lighting ceremony. That gives Enrique time to switch the Ivory statues. Since we can't break into the Friedman house, we are going to bring in a film crew and cause a distraction and swap the necklace for a copy. Enrique, you studied the lock?

ENRIQUE

Yeah, I can open it.

KEIRA

Mikey, you need to change your look and be support from now on. That cop isn't a fan. I think he'll be sticking around.

MIKEY

How are we getting the money from these things?

KEIRA

At the end of the event. We pick up the bases and take them away. The light people will be picking up their stuff too. No one will know.

MAREK

Why don't we pick them up each night and empty them?

KEIRA

There will be police surveillance round the clock. No, we wait till it ends.

ACT 2

THE REVEAL

INT. 9 MAPLE LANE - SAME NIGHT

Regina walks through her empty house. She touches the photo of her recently deceased husband.

She looks up, gives a tight smile.

Regina walks down into the basement, opens a door, walks inside. The lights automatically go on.

INT. BASEMENT - CONTINUOUS

Regina sits at a large desk, facing two computer screens.

She touches the screen. It wakes.

Types a few words, touches screen. Selects one of many popup screens.

A Video - A drone flying around her property.

She changes the cameras and picks up a man standing next to a car down the lane. She magnifies it with her hand, rewinds, plays, stops when he reveals his face.

She touches his face on the screen. A square box flashes around it.

She touches the screen again. His photo is taken.

Open another screen: Top Secret- AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL ONLY.

She types again, waits, is allowed entry, uploads the photo.

It doesn't take long for ENRIQUE JESUS MIRANDA'S Full Criminal History is displayed.

BURGLARY - ORGANIZED THEFT - FRAUD

Regina opens her Tablet;

FACE TALKS the club members:

Regina's face is already on screen. Louraine joins next. Marie joins by cell in the car.

REGINA

Watch your pearls, ladies. We got us a burglar.

LOURAINE

How'd did you find out it so fast?

REGINA

You know I can't tell you what I do.

LOURAINE

Yes, of course, my neighbor, the spy.

REGINA

Stop it. You know better.

LOURAINE

Only messing with you. I certainly do know. What about the rest of them? I thought that lawyer was obnoxious.

REGINA

Checking on them now. Please send me whatever footage you have of them.

MARIE

Sending it now.

ELIZABETH

Do you think they are all in on it?

REGINA

They haven't asked any of us for money yet, have they?

ELIZABETH

I did have to sign releases for the magazine.

LOURAINE

Do you have copies?

ELIZABETH

Yes, I'll send y'all copies to read.

REGINA

I'm going to get back to my research. Jennifer, can you see if you can pick up their phone signals?

JENNIFER

Already on it.

REGINA
Thanks, talk soon.

INT. NUMBER 5 DOGWOOD PLACE - CONTINUOUS

Jennifer sits at a salvaged earthquake detector which she reconstructed into a radio frequency monitor.

It can pinpoint a cellphone's specific frequencies and track them.

She aids police in tracking runaways, lost elderly or disabled and crime suspects.

Touches screen on computer; Opens a program... Inputs the time when Enrique was seen walking around her property.

Data is processing.

Three cellular numbers are displayed, one is her own, one is her neighbor's.

The last one, a 646 number must be Enrique's.

JENNIFER
It's a burner phone. No problem, I can still track it.

INT. WHITESTONE - MORNING

December 11th

Keira looks for the copy necklace. They plan on swapping it for the real one.

KEIRA
Did you see the necklace.

FRANK
Yeah, I put it in the car last night so I wouldn't forget it.

KEIRA
You left it in the car?! It was freezing last night. Go get it, Now!

He leaves, returns moments later. Bag in hand. From the look of it is looks like the necklace fractured from the cold.

KEIRA (cont'd)
You fucking idiot! Look what you did.

She dumps the broken necklace.

FRANK
Maybe we can glue it back together.

KEIRA
Not in a million years.

She stands. Puts on her coat.

FRANK
Where ya going?

KEIRA
To see your uncle, someone has got to pay to replace this.

FRANK
He ain't gonna be happy.

KEIRA
Do I look fucking happy? You coming or what?

He gets up, puts on his coat, they leave.

INT. BROOKLYN OFFICE - LATER

Keira bursts into the room, steaming mad.

She walks up to Marek, sitting at the conference table and tosses the necklace fragments in front of him.

KEIRA
Look what your nephew did!

MAREK
Look, we tried your way. It didn't work out. Tough luck. But, I'm not walking away empty handed.

KEIRA
I can get another copy of the necklace.

MAREK
How long?

KEIRA
A few days, but, it's gonna cost twenty five Grand. You agreed to finance the remaining ops.

MAREK
It's not my fault.

KEIRA
Your nephew fucking broke it.

MAREK
I don't have the cash right now.

KEIRA
We had a deal!

MAREK
Come on, give me a break. You're staying in my house and don't think I don't know that you're fucking my nephew.

KEIRA
None of your fucking business who I sleep with. We had a deal.

MAREK
Okay, I'll tell ya what, you put up the money for the replacements and I'll give you five two carat diamonds worth fifty grand. Deal?

KEIRA
They Hot?

MAREK
What difference does it make?

KEIRA
So, they're hot. You know diamonds are laser branded these days. Makes them hard to move.

MAREK
Do you want them or not?

KEIRA
Oh, wait, are these from the JFK incident a while back? The one where the cop got shot?

MAREK
Listen, you either want them or you don't.

KEIRA
They are, aren't they? You dumb fuck.

MAREK

You came and found me, sugar, don't act like you were expecting a boy scout.

KEIRA

Okay, make it ten, two carat stones. It's gonna be hard but I might be able to move them.

MAREK

Alright.

KEIRA

When do I get the stones? I need them to pay for the copies.

MAREK

Two days. I can have them in two days. Come here in the morning.

EXT. IN CAR - CONTINUOUS

Keira dials her cellphone. Kimberly answers.

KIMBERLY

Good day

KEIRA

Hi, Kimberly, it's Pam Nichols. Yes, that's right, I'm sorry but we have an issue with the film crew, one of them is ill. We will need to reschedule today's shoot. I'm terribly sorry, I know how much Elizabeth was excited about it.

Elizabeth Friedman enters the kitchen.

ELIZABETH

Who's on the phone?

KIMBERLY

Pamela, the magazine planner. She called to reschedule the film shoot. Someone is sick.

ELIZABETH

Ah, that's a shame. Oh, well.

Elizabeth goes to her study.

Opens her laptop and signs on.

Images of Jennifer, Louraine and Regina appear on screen.

REGINA

I've sent each of you the dossiers of the gang targeting us.

Marie joins next.

MARIE

Sorry, I'm late.

REGINA

No problem. Please open the file I sent.

Elizabeth opens the file. The names, stats and criminal histories of Marek, Mikey, and Enrique appear on the screen. Nothing on Champ, Keira and Frank.

REGINA (cont'd)

So, basically we are dealing with con artists and thieves.

ELIZABETH

What do you think their plan is?

REGINA

Maybe to con us for the money for the light show. Have us pay and don't deliver.

ELIZABETH

It seems a lot of work to steal two hundred thousand dollars. There has to be something else.

MARIE

That is a lot of money for some people.

JENNIFER

Maybe they are planning to rob us.

ELIZABETH

My house is built like a fortress. I'm not worried.

ELIZABETH (cont'd)

I still wish I knew what it was that they wanted.

LOURAINE

I guess we'll find out. Best to be prepared I say.

REGINA

Let's all make sure our valuables are secure. I can help you all do that.

ELIZABETH

Regina, one of these days you are going to have to write a book about what you really do for a living.

REGINA

A best seller, guaranteed. But, my lips are forever sealed.

ELIZABETH

That's too bad.

INT. BROOKLYN OFFICE - MORNING

December 13TH -

Keira enters. She brings a box of cookies. Lays them on the table.

Rishi is busy doing day trading. He nods to her.

She sits opposite Marek. He reaches into his jacket and pulls out a clear plastic bag of beautiful two carat diamonds.

He slides the bag over to Keira.

She picks it up, holds the bag up to catch the morning sun light and reveal their dazzling shine.

Marek smiles and places the diamonds inside her purse.

KEIRA

Always a pleasure.

She pulls open the ribbon on the cookie box. It reveals Italian three colored cookies.

She takes one, takes a bite and sits back.

KEIRA (cont'd)

They make the best pastries in New York! Damn.

MAREK

Champ is doing landscaping at the Friedman's with his brother and charging her triple prices.

KEIRA

I guarantee you that the landscapers in these rich towns charge that much normally. He should charge more.

MAREK

Okay, I'll tell him. How we doing, so far?

KEIRA

So far, so good. As long as Frankie boy doesn't break something else.

MAREK

He's a good kid.

KEIRA

And he shouldn't be messed up with people like us.

MAREK

He's a man now. Can decide for himself.

INT. OLD BROOKVILLE - EVENING

December 15TH

Jennifer's tablet pings. She opens it to find the ladies live on her screen:

JENNIFER

Hi, what's happening?

REGINA

I was able to locate and hack into the criminal's computers. I found drone video of Elizabeth's house and Louraine's. Funny, I have video of Chief attacking the drone.

LOURAINE

Oh, okay. Send me that if you can. I found a bunch of junk in my yard. It was drone? Doing what?

REGINA

Surveillance I guess. They can attach all sort of thing to drones. Even make weapons from them. I'll send you the video of you dog, Chief attacking it. It's actually funny.

ELIZABETH

Could we be wrong about them?

REGINA

No, they're crooks.

ELIZABETH

What do we do?

REGINA

I'm going to crash their computers remotely. It should slow them up a little.

JENNIFER

I can crash their phones.

MARIE

Best leave them working. We can still track them now.

REGINA

I've created something theatrical in case they attempt to steal my Vase.

JENNIFER

Oh, good idea. Can you help me create something to protect my statues?

REGINA

We can lock them in my safe. I can make resin cast copies of them for you like I did for the Ming vase.

JENNIFER

Wonderful. That would be great. I'll bring them around in the morning.

MARIE

Do you think these people are dangerous?

REGINA

They are con artists. I don't think so, but you can never tell. We'll have to take precautions of course.

ELIZABETH

Kimberly was in the special forces before I hired her. But you are right, maybe all need to build up our security, just in case.

JENNIFER

Jut in case.

INT. BROOKLYN OFFICE - MORNING

December 16TH

Rishi and Marek arrive.

Champ is already there, rebooting his desktop computer.

Marek and Rishi try their desktops. Both show blank screens and appear to have crashed.

They reboot them.

No luck. All of the computers fail to start.

Marek removes his laptop from his bag. Turns it on.

Black Screen.

Marek calls Keira.

MAREK

We have a problem with our computers.
Can you please check yours.

She starts her laptop.

KEIRA (V.O.)

It's starting. Hold on, wait, the
screen is black!?

MAREK

Something is wrong. Looks like we all
picked up a virus.

KEIRA (V.O.)

No big deal, we can all buy new
laptops in a couple of weeks.

MAREK

You're not concerned?

KEIRA (V.O.)

No, we are filming at the Friedman
and Baker's houses in two days. It's
game on!

ACT 3 - THE PLAY

INT. FRIEDMAN ESTATE - DAY

December 18TH

Keira is joined by Marek. Frank is video camera man. Rishi and Enrique on lighting.

The camera follows Elizabeth as she guides them room to room, stopping to showcase each precious item.

INT. SECURE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

MAREK

These books are remarkable. I've never seen anything like them. Have you ever read them?

ELIZABETH

NO! That would be too dangerous. The man who wrote those books burned himself to death during an occult ceremony.

MAREK

Which only makes them more intriguing.

They move to the Carnelian necklace.

KEIRA

I was wondering if I might be allowed to wear it for the camera?

ELIZABETH

Why, yes, of course.

Elizabeth enters 5 numbers in a keypad unknowing that Frank is filming.

She lifts the thick glass lid set on a hinge.

Elizabeth puts on white fabric gloves, she picks up the necklace and places it around Keira's neck.

Frank takes a dozen photos of Keira wearing the necklace.

Elizabeth holds a hand mirror so Keira can see how she looks.

Once the photos are taken, Elizabeth wipes the necklace and secures it back in it's case.

Just then, a LOUD CRASH crash is heard in the hallway. Everyone rushes to discover what happened. They find Marek on the floor, entangled by an ancient suit of armor.

MAREK

I swear, I didn't even touch it!

ELIZABETH

That's quite alright. This old thing does that every now and then. You would think it was haunted. Are you sure you are okay? I can call a doctor?

MAREK

No, please, I'll be fine. Just hurt pride I guess.

While everyone else focuses on Marek, Frank gives Enrique the security code... Enrique enters the code... lifts the glass cover... switches the Carnelian necklace for the copy.

He places the necklace in the velvet pouch...shoves it inside his jacket's lining....lowers the lid and joins the others in the hall.

Marek asks to better examine the military weapons collection.

ELIZABETH

My husband only collected weapons made in the 19TH Century, his Civil War collection was revered by many.

MAREK

You husband had exquisite taste. I admire his achievement.
(Elizabeth smiles)

They finish the tour and depart for the Hawley residence.

After leaving the Friedman home, Enrique stashes the necklace in the car's trunk, under the spare tire cover.

INT. HAWLEY ESTATE - CONTINUOUS

The film crew tours Regina Hawley's home. An expanded English Tudor with an attached conservatory and greenhouse.

They are guided by Regina who shows them her prized possessions.

They finish filming the Ming Vase and begin walking towards another room. Rishi has a COUGHING - CHOKING FIT (Inhaling paprika through his mouth) in the hallway.

Everyone rushes to check on him.

Enrique removes his backpack and places it on the floor. He opens it and reveals the fake Ming Vase. He keeps the phony vase inside the open backpack.

He picks the lock on the glass display cabinet... He carefully lifts the heavy glass lid up on its hinge.

Suddenly, the heavy glass case's glass support legs fracture and collapse... The case tumbles onto the floor..., glass shattering every....

The Ming Vase is Destroyed!

Enrique zips shut his backpack and shouts.

ENRIQUE

Oh, my God, the case just exploded!

People run back.

Marie looks faint. She is made to sit down.

The filming Ends.

The Crew make a graceful exit.

INT./EXT. IN CAR - AFTERWARDS

ENRIQUE

I can't fucking believe it.

MAREK

You should have been more careful.

ENRIQUE

Sorry, brother.

MAREK

Fuck. Well, at least we got the necklace.

KEIRA

You guys just can't get it right. Where's the necklace?

MAREK

We have it.

KEIRA

It's mine. Hand it over. I made that clear from day one.

MAREK

Just holding it for security. You'll get it when the jobs done and we all settle up.

KEIRA

Bobby said you couldn't be trusted.

INT. PORT AUTHORITY POLICE HEADQUARTERS - MORNING

December 19TH

DETECTIVE BAYO

Renaldi's description of the fake cop and the driver match those two clowns in Brooklyn. I think we should take another look at them.

He and Special Agent Taylor drive to Brooklyn.

EXT. BROADWAY, BROOKLYN - CONTINUOUS

They pull into a spot across the street from the small office, just as Rishi pulls up in front of the building in a new SUV. More stores now have their Holiday decorations up.

He parks and runs inside the building.

Detective Bayo jumps out fo the car and follows Rishi inside.

Special Agent Taylor shuts the car. Walks to Rishi's car.

He bends over by the rear tire and attaches a magnetic tracking device in the wheel well.

He gets back in the car just as Rishi runs from the building, hops in his car and speeds off.

Detective Bayo comes out of the building seconds later.

SA Taylor toots the horn.

Bayo rushes over.

SPECIAL AGENT TAYLOR
Get in, I put a tracking device on
his car.

INT./EXT. CAR - CONTINUOUS

DETECTIVE BAYO
The Son of a Bitch shoved me and ran
out!

SPECIAL AGENT TAYLOR
Let's see what he's up to.

SA Taylor activates an app on his cellular, connects it to
the cars navigational system. It displays Rishi's car's
movements.

They follow along at a distance.

DETECTIVE BAYO
He's on the BQE heading North.

SPECIAL AGENT TAYLOR
Maybe he's heading to the airport.

DETECTIVE BAYO
Let's see what he does. We still
don't have enough evidence to link
him to the killing.

SPECIAL AGENT TAYLOR
He'll mess up. They always do.

EXT. - FRIEDMAN'S ESTATE - DAY

Dec 20TH

The Light Display trucks arrive early.

A team of techs led by a woman assemble and test the
features along the route.

Another crew is installing a gigantic multilevel fiberglass
slide in Elizabeth's yard. They are forced to overhang part
of the slides upper parts over Elizabeth's garage roof and
avoid a duck pond.

Carl arrives to check on the situation as a farm truck and
trailer arrive at the estate and begin setting up animal
corrals for the petting zoo.

A refrigerator truck arrives shortly thereafter, followed by a short Italian Ice Sculptor, GINO, (55). Two day laborers offload giant chunks of ice and stack them on top of blue tarps. They cover each layer with more tarps.

Keira arrives in the car by herself.

Gino begins arguing with the animal corral people over space to work.

CARL
 (to Keira)
 I can't believe what you talked me into.

KEIRA
 I promise, you're gonna love it when everything is finished.

CARL
 Do you always get your way?

KEIRA
 Yeah, I do. Don't like it?

CARL
 Never met anyone like you before. I just don't know how to process it.

KEIRA
 Just go with it. Let yourself go.

THAT AFTERNOON -

Volunteer meeting. Dozens of volunteers show up, mostly high school and college locals but some seniors and parents also.

JENNIFER
 (to the crowd)
 Thank you all for coming. Everyone should have gotten a sweatshirt to wear. If not please see me later. There is also plenty of food left in case anyone is still hungry. We have sixty five people here plus another seven who can't make it tonight but promise their support.

ELIZABETH
 We want to thank our High school and college student volunteers. Thankfully many are on break. You all are Great!

CROWD

CHEERS

Carl arrives, he makes his way to Keira, who is standing alone to the side.

He offers her a drink from a flask in his jacket.

She glances around to make sure no one is looking. She takes a sip. Makes a face, takes another.

KEIRA

I needed that. Thanks.

CARL

What you doing after this?

KEIRA

Been a long day, going to bed.

CARL

Too bad, thought I'd offer you that drink. How about you join me for just one?

KEIRA

It's Never just one. You know that. Sure, why not. I have to warn you, I haven't shaved my legs.

CARL

No worries, you honor is guaranteed with me.

KEIRA

Now you're making me think I should have said no.

ACT 3

THE PLAY

MULTIPLE SCENES

December 21

INT. FRIEDMAN ESTATE

Keira stops by and picks up Enrique's check from Elizabeth for the lighting. Kimberly has it ready when she arrives.

A large truck arrives and begins offloading two carriages and three horses on Marie's property across the street. She has a Carriage house and previously kept horses.

INT./EXT. IN CAR - CONTINUOUS

Keira Texts Marek.

KEIRA
Got check.

MAREK
Bring it to me.

KEIRA
No, Giv me wats mine, 1st.

A pause.

MAREK
K. I'll meet U.

KEIRA
Betta bring it.

MAREK
Yup

INT. WHITESTONE - LATER

Marek and Enrique bring the necklace and trade for the check.

Enrique drives to Elizabeth's bank and cashes the check.

EXT. OLD BROOKVILLE - 4:50 PM

LIGHTING CEREMONY

Louraine exits her front door with Chief, on a leash, just as the lights are momentarily turned on to test the circuit.

A Dazzling display of light. She stands in awe. Chief cautiously observes the many people lined up in their cars.

People cheer, whistle and honk horns.

She makes her way to the start line, in the street, in front of her home. The other club members are there.

Elizabeth throws the switch for the lights.

Frank and a local newspaper take photos.

The driving tour begins. Cars are lined up as far back as the eye can see.

Every car drives through the donation area where volunteers ask for donations. Suggested amount is \$20 but some cars give a hundred dollars or more.

The cash donations are flying in.

Volunteers are given hot chocolate and cookies by the neighbors. The local deli donated two sandwich platters and salads.

Elizabeth's yard is a festive party filled with people - On one side, overhanging her garage is a fifty foot long slide. Christmas music is played by the slide operators.

Next to that, is a petting zoo, filled with Llamas, Goats, Sheep, a Donkey, some rabbits and a Pony.

Standing in the center of her property, thirty five feet tall, is a huge illuminated ice fountain.

Horse drawn carts circulate the neighborhood, offering free rides.

EXT. UNDER THE LIGHTS - CONTINUOUS

Keira and Carl walk the illuminated route alongside the families in cars.

CARL

You done did a good job.

KEIRA
I'm surprised everything worked out.

CARL
So, what happens next?

KEIRA
There is the next two nights, then we shut it down.

CARL
And then?

KEIRA
And then what? Just ask me.

CARL
Where you going?

KEIRA
Take a week off. Maybe go someplace sunny and warm.

CARL
What if I asked you to stay for awhile?

KEIRA
And do what, be a cop's wife? No, I saw enough movies to know that isn't for me.

CARL
My father was a cop. He was like that. He drank. He beat my mom. That was until one day, me and my brother beat the shit out of him. He never touched her again and stopped drinking. I'm not like that.

KEIRA
Look, you're getting too serious. Let's just see where it all goes. Believe in reincarnation?

CARL
Not really.

KEIRA
If you did, what would you want to come as?

CARL
Ahh, maybe a dolphin.

KEIRA
Good choice.

CARL
And what about you?

KEIRA
I'd want to come as me, myself and do
it all over again.

CARL
Can you do that?

KEIRA
Damn if I know.

Keira pulls out her electronic cigarette.

KEIRA (cont'd)
Do you mind? I have been trying to
quit.

CARL
What's in that?

KEIRA
I guess Nicotine. But it has no tar.

CARL
You know, Nicotine is a poison,
right?

KEIRA
Yeah, I know. I'll put it away, okay?

CARL
Go ahead. I know what it is like to
need.

INT. JENNIFER'S HOME - 6:15 PM

Enrique gains entrance into the house through a sliding
patio door. He pries the bottom of the door up and forces it
open.

He disarms the alarm. Walks to the living room.

INT - LIVING ROOM - GLASS CABINET.

He touches the cabinet handle and is jolted with an electric
shock but his Neoprene gloves provide some protection.

He switches the 2 ivory statues with copies, not knowing that they are already copies.

He puts everything back as he found it and departs.

EXT. OLD BROOKVILLE - 10:15 PM

The donation boxes are sealed and the upper boxes removed from their bases and escorted by Police to the Friedman house to be placed in her secure room. The bases remain in place, secured by cables to traffic lights to prevent vandalizing.

Carl is in his car talking to Keira. He notices the men struggling to separate the donation box tops from their bases.

CARL

They should just take the whole thing.

KEIRA

Won't fit in the car. The bases are weighed down and secured, they aren't going anywhere.

CARL

I guess so. What happens to you when the event is over? Do you just move on to the next event?

KEIRA

I've got nothing and no one to tie me down.

CARL

Would you consider settling down if the right offer came along?

KEIRA

Boy, are you relentless! Are you proposing to me, dear Sir?

CARL

It's a lil soon for that, don't ya think?

KEIRA

There is a movie I never saw, it's name is Just Tell Me What You Want.

(MORE)

KEIRA (cont'd)
That's how I wanna live my life,
that's the kind of relationship I
want. No lies, just tell me what you
want.

CARL
What do you want, Keira?

KEIRA
For you to grow a pair and kiss me.

He leans forward and their lips meet.

INT. FRIEDMAN ESTATE - NEXT DAY

December 22ND

It is Snowing. An inch has already fallen.

A Police box truck arrives with two uniformed policemen.

Carl arrives in his car.

He goes to the door and speaks to Kimberly.

KIMBERLY
Hello Officer Carl, good to see you.

CARL
Same here, Kimberly, how's things?

KIMBERLY
As good as can be expected.

CARL
Good ta hear. I saw them struggling
last night trying to separate the
money boxes, so I sent this truck to
fix the problem.

KIMBERLY
That's very kind of you.

Carl assists in steadying the heavy donation boxes as they
are wheeled out on hand trucks.

The boxes are secured in the truck.

CARL
You have a good evening now,
Kimberly. And, Merry Christmas to
you.

KIMBERLY
Merry Christmas to you, too!

Carl turns and sees cars lined up for miles.

He walks out onto the street where a POLICEWOMAN, (28) is directing traffic.

CARL
How's it going?

POLICEWOMAN
Hi captain. It's slippery. Some people just can't drive in snow. We've been asking everyone to keep to five miles an hour to help cut down on the wait time but we've already had a couple of fender benders. And you've got escaped goats roaming around, making it worse.

CARL
Goats?!

POLICEWOMAN
Yeah, from the petting zoo. They keep getting out.

As they stand there, one car slides off the roadway into a light display.

The snow is now falling heavier.

Carl stops a car with a family in it. He directs them to park on the right side of the road, get out of their car and walk the route.

The policewoman does the same with the next two cars in line.

Drivers get out of their cars, walk over and start complaining that: - they cannot walk the distance - they have elderly passengers - they aren't dressed for it.

CARL
You have to turn left on the corner and drive the back side of the event. This part is now for pedestrians only. It's a safety issue.

Keira walks up as Carl is explaining the new route changes to his officers.

KEIRA
Hey, Everything good?

CARL
I've shut down this side of the route to vehicles. We're going to divert traffic to the wider road and only drive half the loop. Only pedestrians on this street.

KEIRA
Cool, that's smart. It's slick out here.

CARL
Who operates those horse drawn carts?

KEIRA
They converted them to sleds due to the snow. Why?

CARL
Can we get them to ferry people who have a difficult time walking in this?

KEIRA
Sure thing, I'll go tell them.

A police car blocks the street for vehicles. They place wooden traffic dividers on either side of the car.

People begin exiting their cars and start the walk. Some vehicles turn left. In the distance, other walkers join the procession.

Christmas Carolers appear on the sidelines and sing.

Hot chocolate, Mexican coffee and churros are handed out at the food truck to everyone for free, thanks to the generosity of the Town Council and Jennifer Riyas family.

Charity Donations are being collected at a record pace.

At the end of the night, the box truck picks up and transports the donation boxes to the Friedman residence.

INT. BROADWAY, BROOKLYN - MORNING

MAREK
So, now what? How we gonna skim our money with the cops all over it?

KEIRA

Stick to the plan. We'll pick up the bases holding the money tomorrow night.

RISHI

I don't trust it. We haven't made shit so far.

KEIRA

You'd have half a million dollars if butter fingers didn't drop the imitation Vase. But Enrique came through with the statues.

RISHI

What's that necklace of yours worth?

KEIRA

I told you, that's mine.

RISHI

Sixty forty remember?

KEIRA

What's wrong with y'all? Grow a pair. We wait till tomorrow after the event ends.

EXT. OLD BROOKVILLE - NIGHT

December 23rd

It's still snowing. About four inches has accumulated. The streets and grassy areas all covered. The lights are dazzling.

In the Friedman's yard, an eight lane, fifty foot slide is a kid favorite as is the ice fountain.

Adjacent to the slide is a large petting zoo area. The goats continue causing problems by escaping from the temporary fencing.

People are lined up as far as the eye can see. In small groups they walk the snow covered street, gazing at the lights and the lovely decorated houses.

Horse drawn sleds travel up and down, carrying happy people.

A few teens race about on their ATVs.

EXT. OLD BROOKVILLE - 10;15 PM

The Donations are halted.

The Festive lights are to remain on till 0100 hrs by town permit and people are still arriving.

A police box truck picks up the donation boxes and transports them to to the Friedman's home. The officers help wheel the boxes into the secure room. They further assist in separating the donation boxes from their bases and placing them on a table.

INT. FRIEDMAN ESTATE - CONTINUOUS

Enrique and Rishi arrive to pick up the Donation box bases.

Kimberly escorts the men to the Secure Room.

She stands by as they wheel the bases to their SUV and struggle loading them inside.

INT./EXT. IN SUV - CONTINUOUS

The men drive to a nearby town.

They stop at a motel where they have a rented room.

They wheel the two donation box bases into their room.

INT. MOTEL ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Marek, Frank and Mikey are waiting inside.

Rishi has a diagram from Keira on how to open them.

He slides the front door to the right and lifts it, revealing a hidden button. A second button is just above the base on the rear of the fiberglass box. He pushes both the buttons together and the hidden cash box is revealed.

RISHI

There's only two twenties and a ten
in this box!

MAREK

Open the other one.

He does. He takes out the money and does a fast count.

RISHI
This one only has three hundred and
twenty dollars in it!

ENRIQUE
We got scammed!

MAREK
Yeah, but we know where it is.

ENRIQUE
Do you think Keira ripped us off?

MAREK
I don't know, but I'm too heavily
invested to just walk away.

ENRIQUE
What do you want to do?

MAREK
We're going to steal the charity's
money from the Friedman house plus
whatever else we can get.

RISHI
Home Invasion?

MAREK
That's the only way. No gets hurt if
they play along. We need guns.

RISHI
I can get them in a half an hour.

MAREK
Get them. We need zip ties too.

ENRIQUE
I have those.

EXT. OLD BROOKVILLE - CONTINUOUS

Tow trucks are freeing cars parked on the main road which
were plowed in.

A mile away, hundreds of people are walking under the
lights, drinking hot chocolate and eating churros.

Llamas, Goats, and a Donkey are being chased all around the
neighborhood by children and the animal handlers.

INT. FRIEDMAN ESTATE - CONTINUOUS

Elizabeth does the honors of opening the first box. Inside is a large pile of money. The women help her carry it all to a table.

They open the second donation box. Also filled with bills.

Three of them sit down and start sorting / counting the money. They have a sorting machine which makes it quick.

They are in shock.

ELIZABETH

There seems to be well over four hundred thousand dollars here!

MARIE

Our Charity gets a nice check.

ELIZABETH

I don't know how to thank all of you.

MARIE

Look outside and see the faces of the children and their families. It's worth every penny.

ELIZABETH

You are so right, dear.

INT./EXT. FRIEDMAN ESTATE - CONTINUOUS

A Dark SUV arrives.

INSIDE THE CAR

Frank is the driver. Next to him is Marek.

Enrique, Mikey and Rishi are in the back.

MAREK

Champ, go around back and enter through the service door. I don't want anybody hurt, we just came for the money.

Frank, Stay in the car. Keep it running. We may be leaving in a hurry. Keep it unlocked.

FRANK

Okay.

ENRIQUE
I brought a jammer. It'll stop
cellphones and wifi

MAREK
Good, let's go.

They get out of the car and hide on the side of the doorway.

Rishi, in a uniform, carrying a package, rings the bell.

Kimberly answers the door.

Rishi points a pistol at her head. He pushes her inside.

Marek, Enrique and Mikey enter, each holding a handgun.

Enrique pulls out an apparatus with multiple antennae.

MAREK (cont'd)
Where is everyone?

KIMBERLY
In the study.

MAREK
Show me.

He pushes her ahead. She leads him to a door.

They burst in.

ELIZABETH
Please, don't hurt anyone. You can
take whatever you want.

MAREK
We intend to. Where is the money?

REGINA
Don't tell them anything.

Marek walks over to her

MAREK
I don't know what's going on, but
we're not leaving empty handed.
Where's the money?

ELIZABETH
In the secure room upstairs.

MAREK
Mikey, you and Enrique get the cash.

MIKEY

Mrs. Friedman show us where it is.
Kimberly, you come too.

Mikey and Enrique take Kimberly and Elizabeth to the secure room to get the money.

The donation boxes are sitting empty next to stacks of currency piled on the table next to them.

Mikey dumps all the money he can squeeze into one of the boxes and tries to carry it.

The weight of the box shifts as he is carrying it, causing him to lose balance. Mikey trips and falls down the stairs. He breaks both his legs. The cash pours out of the destroyed case.

Kimberly kidney punches Enrique, he grimaces in pain. She pushes Elizabeth into the Secure Room, shuts the steel door.

Enrique inspects the lock on the door. Checks the door hinges.

He tries the keypad. Nothing.

EXT. RESTAURANT - CONTINUOUS

Keira and Carl finish eating dinner together.

KEIRA

I have to get back to Elizabeth's house. I want to get photos of them with the charity money.

CARL

Come on, I know the back roads.

KEIRA

In weather like this?

CARL

I'll take it easy.

KEIRA

Better.

They drive a few minutes and reach Elizabeth's home. Pull into the driveway. People are still walking the tour.

The horse drawn sleds race by in opposite directions.

They get out of the car and walk to the door.

A Goat is eating a shrub with Christmas lights on it.

Keira notices the running SUV and recognizes Frank in the drivers seat. She turns to Carl just as the door opens and Rishi points a gun in Carl's face.

The two of them are brought inside.

Carl is disarmed.

They zip tie his hands behind his back and shove him back on the couch.

Rishi attempts to zip tie Keira. She knees him in the groin.

KEIRA (cont'd)
No one ties me up unless I want to.

MAREK
Leave her. Tie the rest.

KEIRA
What are you planning on doing?

RISHI
Take the Charity money and split.
What do you care, you got what you
wanted?

INT. LIBRARY - CONTINUOUS

Marek heads into the Library. He locates the Rare Religious BENEFACTIS MALIGNUS (GOOD and EVIL) Books.

He breaks the protective glass cover, reaches in and picks up the EVIL Book.

Marek's Skin begins to burn from a viscous substance covering the book... His hands swell.., his skin becomes red and inflamed... The inflammation begins spreading up his arms...

Marek feels his face burning... his vision, blurry. He drops the book and runs, looking for something to wash it away with.

He spots an outdoor patio with a large fountain.

Marek runs outside and shoves his upper body in the fountain's icy waters. He rubs his skin. His skin is red and swollen. His eyes are swollen. He begin shivering. Rushes inside.

INT. STUDY - CONTINUOUS

Rishi stands, holds a gun to Regina's head.

RISHI
Everyone sit down. Now!

Keira sits next to Carl. They are joined on the couch by Regina and Jennifer.

Louraine stays standing, her back to the wall.

Marie sits on a side chair.

Marek returns, his face and arms swollen and red.

MAREK
We need to get the other donation box.

RISHI
I thought Enrique was getting it.

MAREK
Damn fucking house, I can't reach him by text or call him.

MARIE
It's your jammer, idiot.

MAREK
Shut it off.

RISHI
I don't know how, it's Enrique's.

MAREK
Just flip the fucking switch.

Rishi shuts off the jammer.

Marek calls Enrique. He answers.

MAREK (cont'd)
Where are you?

ENRIQUE (O.S.)
Outside the secure room.

MAREK
What's going on?

ENRIQUE (O.S.)

Mrs Friedman's assistant hit me when Mikey fell and then ran into the room and locked it.

MAREK

He fell? Where is Mikey?

ENRIQUE (O.S.)

He fell on the stairs.

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Marek leaves the study and finds Mikey sprawled out on the bottom of the stair case.

Marek drags Mikey into the study.

He returns to pick up the spilled cash from the ruptured donation box.

EXT. - OUT BEHIND THE HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Champ walks the perimeter of the house. He's cautious not to be seen. There are still many people about.

The giant slide backs up to Elizabeth's garage. Its highest part extends over the garage's roof.

Champ walks under the slide to avoid being spotted. It's tough going, there are large piles of snow covered dirt and torn out shrubs that he dumped while landscaping. Snow clumps fall as people run up the stairs and slide down.

The ground alternates from shrubs to snow to slush to mud. He falls several times on the slippery uneven ground.

Champ tries several house doors. None open.

BOOM - Champ is bumped into by a runaway Llama and goes sliding down an icy drainage ditch. He lands with a splash in a koi pond.

He crawls out of the pond, wet and shivering.

He rushes to a large steel door, turns the knob and opens it.

It's a Kennel. Two Doberman Pinchers are sitting on the other side. They rise and charge from the room. The dogs bite Champ and tear his clothing.

He jumps into the room and shuts the door, keeping the ferocious dogs on the outside, barking. He looks around, the kennel has no other exits.

INT. STUDY - CONTINUOUS

They hear the dogs barking through the window.

LOURAINÉ
Oh, I think RAMBO, (3) and Caesar, (2)
got out.

MAREK
Dog! Where are the dogs?

LOURAINÉ
In the yard now, I know them.

Enrique returns.

MAREK
Enrique, take her and lock the dogs
up.

ENRIQUE
What dogs?

MAREK
Just get them.

LOURAINÉ
Come, I know the way.

Enrique follows her.

They walk down several corridors in the massive home. They turn a corner and open a door. They find the dogs waiting.

LOURAINÉ (cont'd)
RAMBO, CAESAR STAY.

The dogs sit.

LOURAINÉ (cont'd)
Rambo, Caesar, Come.

The dogs stand and begin walking towards them.

ENRIQUE
Stop, what are you doing?

LOURAINÉ
 It's okay, I trained these dogs. Now
 give me your gun or I'll have them
 tear you apart.

The Doberman's stand within striking distance.

ENRIQUE
 I'll fucking shoot them. I mean it.

LOURAINÉ
 You can't! Your safety is ON. - RAMBO
 GO!

One of the dog grabs Enrique's arm, biting down hard,
 forcing him to drop the gun. Louraine bends over and picks
 it up. The dog clamps down leaving him with little he can
 do.

LOURAINÉ (cont'd)
 RAMBO - DROP.

The dog releases Enrique.

It sits. Locked on target.

LOURAINÉ (cont'd)
 Your gun doesn't have a safety,
 Shmuck.

She locks Enrique in a supply closet and leaves the dogs to
 stand guard outside.

She runs out the home's service door, runs past the slide in
 the snow, falling twice, and rushes up to the first adult
 she sees.

LOURAINÉ (cont'd)
 (panting)
 It's an emergency. Can I call the
 Police on your phone?!

The woman hands it over.

Police dispatch answers.

911 DISPATCH
 What's the Emergency?

LOURAINÉ
 Home Invasion

911 DISPATCH
 Home Invasion?

LOURAINE
Number 4 Maple Lane, Old Brookville.

911 DISPATCH
How many intruders?

LOURAINE
Four.

911 DISPATCH
We will send help...

LADY WITH PHONE
Come with me.

LOURAINE
No, I have to go back in.

INT. KENNEL - CONTINUOUS

Champ slowly opens the door a crack. No dogs appear.

He opens it further, no dogs.

He steps out and walks out into the snowy night.

Take a few more steps. Stretches.

He hears shouting behind him:

MAN
Look Out!!

A Horse and Sleigh runs Champ over.

He lays in the snow.

The sled slides to a stop. The driver rushes back to check on Champ.

MAN (cont'd)
You got pretty messed up, buddy. I'll
get help for yer.

INT. STUDY - CONTINUOUS

CARL
Take whatever money you have and just
go. It isn't worth it.

RISHI
Why don't you ask your little
girlfriend here what she got out of
it?

Carl looks at Keira

CARL
What's going on? You aren't part of
this, are you?

KEIRA
It's not what you think.

CARL
I don't know what to think.

Rishi pushes his face within inches of Keira. He sneers.

Carl leaps forward and head butts Rishi. Knocking him back.

Marek tries to fire off a warning shot, but his fingers are
badly burnt. His shot ricochets off the granite floor and
breaks a window.

MAREK
Everybody stop! Where the fuck is
Enrique and Champ?

A voice from behind him.

LOURAINE
They're a bit tied up.

She circles the room. Marek and Rishi each have guns pointed
at her. She sits next to Regina and shoves the handgun
behind her back to Regina. Regina moves to enable the
switch.

MAREK
Where are my men?

LOURAINE
I only saw one, and he disappeared.

RISHI
Boss, let's take the money and split.

MAREK
No. We got unfinished business here.

He points his gun at Marie's head while speaking to
Louraine.

MAREK (cont'd)
You, go get my men and bring them
here or she's dead.

Louraine leaves the room to retrieve Enrique.

KEIRA
Why don't you just take the money and
go?

MAREK
Maybe it's time you and I settle up.
This has been a fucking disaster
since day one. From now on, consider
yourself a pigeon just like them.

KEIRA
Bobby always said you couldn't be
trusted.

CARL
What the fuck is going on here? Who
are you people?

RISHI
Boss, that room is a fucking vault.
You gotta get them to open it from
inside.

MAREK
Okay, everybody, come with me.

INT. HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

Marek exits the study first, then stands back. pistol in
hand, as the captives come out, one by one.

Regina, leads. the rest follow.

Rishi walks behind at a distance.

Mikey remains, moaning and in pain.

Marek slowly climbs the stairs. Grimacing with pain every
step.

INT. LANDING - CONTINUOUS

The captives huddle on the landing.

Marek walks to the secure room's door. He looks up at the
camera and touches the COMM button.

MAREK

I know you can hear me in there. We don't have a lot of time. If you don't open this door I am going to start shooting someone every 2 minutes until you open it. There has to be someone you care about more than the money.

Rishi walks to the group. Force-ably grabs Marie by her arm.

He drags her in front of the camera.

Points his gun to her head.

INT. LANDING - CONTINUOUS

Carl is backed to a corner, rubbing zip tie binding him against the molding. It breaks, freeing his hands.

MAREK

You have 30 seconds.

MAREK (cont'd)

10, 9, 8 7, 6, 5...

The LOCK on the Secure Room releases. The door begins to open.

Rishi lowers his gun.

Carl charges at Marek, tackling him. He knocks the gun from his hand...

Rishi points his gun at Carl.

A GUNSHOT

Regina holds a smoking gun... Rishi SHOT in the abdomen... Marie kicks the gun from his hand.

EXT. IN SUV - CONTINUOUS

Frank spots a POLICE SWAT VEHICLE rapidly approaching.

He puts it in Drive and Hits the gas.

He speeds away, catches an ice patch and loses control, skidding and crashing into the ice fountain.

Water and ice flies everywhere.

INT. FRONT DOOR - CONTINUOUS

The SWAT TEAM bursts through the front door, four armed team members rush into the house followed by Detective Bayo and Special Agent Taylor.

They secure Marek and Rishi.

SWAT
How many are there?

CARL
Four men total.

SWAT
We have a driver in custody.

Keira frowns.

Louraine brings out Enrique, guarded by the dogs she trains.

The swat members locate and arrest Champ who's knee is busted up. His clothes; soaked and torn.

The Crew are checked by paramedics.

SPECIAL AGENT TAYLOR
Hello Agent Cain, Merry Christmas.
Good seeing you again.

KEIRA
Hi Derrick. Merry Christmas to you too. You must be Detective Bayo?

They shake hands.

KEIRA (cont'd)
I just made your job a bit easier, Detective. I've got the murder weapons and some of the diamonds that were stolen at JFK. Plus, I have their cell phones which track them to JFK on the day of the murder.

SPECIAL AGENT TAYLOR
You outdid yourself. Great job!

DETECTIVE BAYO
I'm curious, was this all part of an elaborate plot to take them down?

KEIRA
Regina Hawley is my Aunt. I've known these women my whole life.

(MORE)

KEIRA (cont'd)
I saw that they were getting bored
and I asked if they wanted to play
victims. They jumped on the chance.

DETECTIVE BAYO
You should write a book on crime
prevention. Wow!

EXT. FRIEDMAN ESTATE - LATER

The Perps are lined up in a row as Keira reads them their
Miranda Rights:

KEIRA
You have the right to remain silent
and refuse to answer questions.
If you give up your right to remain
silent, anything you say can and will
be used against you in a court of
law.

MAREK
Hold on! I know my rights! You can't
do this. You're a fucking Thief! You
took the necklace!

Keira opens her purse, pulls out the black velvet bag and
removes the necklace.

KEIRA
Oh, this old thing? They cost forty
nine dollars online. The Ivory
statues you swiped are nothing more
than epoxy fakes.

MAREK
That's Entrapment. This whole fucking
thing was a setup! I can beat this.

DETECTIVE BAYO
Maybe, but not a murder rap.

MAREK
I want a lawyer.

SPECIAL AGENT TAYLOR
You'll get one. Take them away.

Mikey and Champ are wheeled out on stretchers. Keira hands
Mikey her e-cigarette.

KEIRA

You may be needing this more than me
from now on.

The remaining villains are led out in handcuffs.

Keira walks out to the vehicle where Frank is held.

She opens the door and peers in.

KEIRA (cont'd)

I told the arresting officers that
you just came along for the ride and
weren't aware of what they had
planned. You'll be questioned but I
doubt you'll be charged with anything
serious. You're a nice guy. Do
yourself a favor and get a real job.

FRANK

But, what about us?

KEIRA

It was fun, but it's over. Trust me,
you'll be better off without me. I'll
be checking up on you. Better make me
proud.

FRANK

It was fun. Thanks.

She slaps him on the cheek lightly.

Smiles sadly, closes the door.

The ladies all gather on the porch and watch the men being
loaded into police vehicles.

Background - Families walking the light show route.

A Tow truck is pulling the Dark SUV out of the Duck Pond
which was turned into an ice fountain.

A young girl rides the pony down the driveway past a half
dozen rabbits.

Carl walks up, takes Keira's hand and leads her away from
the group, walking towards the lights.

The walk past a llama being untangled from a Christmas
display by it's handler.

Carl spots a distant police light.

It draws closer. Other vehicles following behind.

The police car is leading a procession. TV News and Film trucks followed by SUVs.

Carl waves down the police car. They stop.

CARL
What's all this?

POLICEMAN 2
Gina Cross, the news journalist is here to cover the event.

KEIRA
That's great, I wasn't sure she'd make it with the weather. The ladies will be excited.

CARL
You did this, too?

KEIRA
Yeah, I contacted her.

CARL
So, basically this entire disaster is all your fault, right?

KEIRA
You know my name isn't Keira?

CARL
Doesn't surprise me. What is it?

KEIRA
It's Pam, Pamela. Pamela Cain.

CARL
Yeah, that's better.

KEIRA
I'm a fed.

CARL
Figures. Will you ever tell me the truth?

KEIRA
I am now.

CARL
You interested in starting a relationship?

KEIRA
We already have a relationship. Why
don't you tell me what you want?

CARL
You. I want you.

KEIRA
See, all ya had ta do was ask.

CARL
But, wait. What do you want? Just
tell me.

She leans forward and rests her head on his shoulder.

KEIRA
This will do.

Elizabeth and the women gather on the porch, smiling, ready
for their big moment with the TV and Film people...

FINI - FADE TO BLACK