

THE WRONG TIME

by

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THE WRONG TIME

FADE IN:

INT. HOME OFFICE - EVENING

ADAM (38 years old, physically fit) works in his home office on the second floor. The desk and bookcase have various pictures of him in an Army and SWAT uniforms. and several framed certificates from the Army and FBI.

Adam works on a computer, reading an article on a news website.

News website: The article has a picture of a well dressed businessman in handcuffs with FBI agents. The caption reads, "Paul Henderson was arrested earlier today by FBI Agents on charges of international weapons smuggling and conspiracy to purchase nuclear weapons."

ERICA (12 years old) and JULIA (7 years old) run into the room wearing pajamas and tug at Adam's arms.

ERICA

Daddy, can you stop working and play with us?

JULIA

Play with us! We want to play tackle time!

Julia tries to climb onto Adam's lap.

ADAM

(teasing, smiling)

Play? Is that all you can think of?

Julia jumps down, both girls start to back away.

Adam jumps out of the chair and grabs both girls. The girls happily LAUGH and SCREAM.

ANNA (O.S.)

(yells)

Adam, stop winding them up.

FOOTSTEPS walk up the stairs.

ADAM

(whispers)

Uh-oh. Here she comes. Quiet now.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ANNA (O.S.)

(yells)

It's almost bedtime and you are getting them worked up.

Julia and Erica playfully tug at Adam's arms.

ADAM

I got you!

Adam picks up both girls, one under each arm.

ANNA (37 years old, physically fit) walks in.

The computer starts to ring like a telephone. Adam turns to see the screen blinking and the Skype program shows an incoming call.

Adam holds Erica close enough for Erica to push the mouse over, "Accept".

ERICA

Hello Nonna.

GRANDMA (60 years old) starts to show up on the video screen.

GRANDMA (V.O.)

Hello girls. What are you girls doing? Isn't it bedtime?

JULIA

No way, we are playing tackle time.

ANNA

No. It's bedtime.

(points out the door)

Adam, please put the girls in bed while I talk with your mom about next weekend.

ADAM

Alright love, come on monsters!

He leaves the room carrying the LAUGHING girls.

Anna sits down at the computer.

ANNA

Hello Nonna.

INT. ARMORY - AFTERNOON

The National Guard Armory is a large building. The majority of the space is empty, but the large doors are open to the rear of the building with SOLDIERS working on six 155mm towed howitzers. One corner of the Armory is set up with a computer projector and metal chairs. CAPTAIN (25 years old) is briefing a GROUP of OFFICERS using a large map of Iraq on the wall and a laser pointer.

Adam is dressed as a Lieutenant Colonel in the center of the front row of seats along with MAJOR (35 years old), CAPTAIN MURPHY (32 years old, African American), CAPTAIN PATEL (Indian heritage, 28 years old), and COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR (42 year old African American).

CAPTAIN

Sir, this concludes the current intelligence update.

Adam turns to Captain Murphy sitting next to him.

ADAM

Captain Murphy, you were with us as a battery exec during the last deployment to Iraq. Talk to me about the political atmosphere and intelligence update that the S - Two just briefed and how it will change your training schedule.

CAPTAIN MURPHY

Sir, we intend to spend an extra three days of Arabic language training and two days of Arab etiquette. One of our soldiers works with a Lebanese American and we hired him to teach some classes.

ADAM

Sounds like a good start. I would like you to add more time on the political factors and instill in our soldiers that the people are important.

MAJOR

It is going to be challenging for the unit to adapt to this deployment.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

MAJOR (CONT'D)

Changing from an artillery mission to a patrolling and security mission will require some new tactics for the soldiers.

COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR

You officers have got to let your NCOs interact with the locals, build trust with the people.

COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR

It's small unit leadership at the squad level that will make friends or enemies.

CAPTAIN PATEL

This briefing was very helpful, but what type of injuries should we expect?

COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR

Doc, you can expect everything from insect bites to extreme trauma. I think there are some new Army programs that will give you training at local emergency rooms.

ADAM

Captain Dunway, good briefing. Battery commanders, make sure you push copies down to your soldiers.

Looks at his watch: 5:45.

ADAM

Let's have the final formation so we can release the battalion by eighteen hundred.

Everyone rises to attention and salutes Adam.

EXT. WASHINGTON DC - LATER

Adam drives a pickup truck in his Army uniform through Washington DC on his way home. He passes the National Zoo which is packed with people.

He arrives at a nice townhouse with a new Honda Pilot SUV in the driveway. He waves to his daughters who are dressed in cheerleader outfits and practising.

INT. ADAM'S HOME KITCHEN - EARLY EVENING

Adam walks into the kitchen to find Anna wearing a doctor's uniform and preparing dinner. Erica and Julia follow Adam inside and walk to the living room and turn on the TV. The family dog gets up from a bed in the living room and walks to Adam.

On the kitchen table is a box of pictures and scrap book material. There is a large wedding portrait of Adam and Anna in front of the Duomo church in Piacenza, Italy.

ANNA

Hello, Honey.

Anna gives Adam a kiss.

ANNA (CONT'D)

Did you have a good day at the unit? Please fix the table. Just move those boxes out of the way for now.

Adam moves the material to an extra chair and sets the table.

ADAM

Yes, great day. The staff is coming along well and Captain Dunway gave a good briefing on Iraq.

Anna looks disappointed to hear the word, Iraq.

ADAM (CONT'D)

What's going on with our wedding pictures?

ANNA

Erica has a project for school and has to write about our family history. So, she needs pictures from Piacenza where we were married.

ADAM

Sounds like a fun project.

ANNA

We found some old pictures of my parents in Milan when they met.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Anna shows Adam a B&W photo from WW II of an Army doctor and young woman in front of the Duomo.

ADAM

(smiles)

Nice. That reminds me. We have a new battalion doctor.

ANNA

What does that have to do with my father?

ADAM

Your father was an Army doctor. Anyway, Doctor Patel is new to the area and looking for work at a local E.R.

ANNA

I can give him the number for the hospital administration, no promises.

Anna sets down a basket of bread on the table.

ANNA (CONT'D)

I would rather not talk about Iraq. I don't want to upset everyone again about you going away for another deployment, we had a nice day and want to stay happy.

(Yells)

Girls, dinner is almost ready, come help daddy fix the table.

Julia and Erica enter and help Adam put the last drinks on the table.

Anna sets the large pot of spaghetti on the table.

Everyone sits down to dinner.

ANNA

I took the girls to their football games, but was called into work for about two hours after the game. Mister Stanstead suffered another mild stroke and I had to check on him.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ADAM

I am sorry to hear about that, hope he gets better. Girls, how were the football games?

ERICA

The football game was great. We crushed them thirty-five to twelve.

ADAM

(to Julia)

And how about you, Sweetie?

JULIA

We did great! We cheered and cheered and everything.

ADAM

Did your team win?

JULIA

I don't know? Mommy, did my team win? It doesn't matter, we had a great time and Mary Beth and Angela and I did a special cheer that we made up for Josh.

ANNA

Dear, your team lost, but Josh scored a touchdown.

Adam laughs.

ADAM

As long as everyone had fun.

ERICA

Mommy, can we watch a new movie tonight?

ANNA

Yes, after dinner and everyone showers and is ready for bed.

ADAM

Did you get the tickets for Christmas?

ANNA

This week. Do you mind if we splurge and use the frequent flyer miles to go business class?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

ADAM

Sounds great.

JULIA

I hope Santa knows we are going to be at grandma's house for Christmas?

ANNA

Don't worry, we will write a nice letter and tell him all about your trip.

ADAM

Young ladies, have you been practicing your Italian?

ERICA

Si Papa, parlo piccolo Italiano.

JULIA

Vorrie una chocolatta calda.

ADAM

Va bene. Larry sent me an email about a possible conference in Paris, the dates will depend on our meeting this week.

ANNA

Don't be surprised if we jump in your suitcase.

Oh, before I forget, a week from Wednesday, the girls are off from school for Fall Break. I have an important appointment in the afternoon. Can you get off from work to take care of the girls?

ADAM

Sounds like fun. If it's nice out, maybe we can go visit the zoo?

JULIA

Yea! Go Daddy, Go Daddy!

INT. ADAM'S OFFICE - MORNING

Adam and LARRY (35 year old African American, built like a football player) are getting coffee from an office kitchenette. Adam's office is decorated with University of Michigan football posters and National Guard posters.

LARRY

You know, Northwestern is going to kick ass next weekend.

ADAM

What have you been smoking? It might affect your security clearance.

HENRY (23 years old, thin) walks into the office area.

HENRY

(cheerful)

Good morning.

ADAM

Hey Henry, what's up?

HENRY

I have a question for you this morning.

LARRY

Were you watching Discovery Kids again last weekend?

HENRY

I was watching Jeopardy over the weekend and heard an excellent question. I bet Mary ten bucks that you won't know the answer this time.

MARY (45 years old, heavysset) is sitting behind Henry at a desk shaking her head.

LARRY

Henry, you should know better, how much money have you lost so far?

HENRY

I am going to win this time!

ADAM

What have you got?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

HENRY

In what year was the Suez Canal opened?

ADAM

That is a good one.

(cocks his head)

Let me think. President Grant visited it after it was opened, so it was in the eighteen seventies. But, I think it was the same year the Trans Continental Railroad opened. So, it must have been in eighteen sixty-nine.

HENRY

Man! I thought I had you this time.

Larry shakes his head.

Henry hands a ten dollar bill to Mary.

LARRY

I told you, don't you ever learn?

ADAM

Nice try, maybe next time.

Adam and Larry walk away.

INT. FBI CONFERENCE ROOM - MORNING

The FBI conference room has plaques and photographs on the walls of famous arrests. The table and chairs are wood and leather.

Adam and Larry enter with coffee mugs.

LARRY

You coming over for the game next weekend?

ADAM

Yea, we'll will be there. The girls are looking forward to seeing Brent. It's your weekend for him to stay with you?

LARRY

He'll be there. Saturday is pretty busy.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LARRY (CONT'D)

He has a soccer game on Saturday morning, then we are going to the Air and Space Museum, out at Dulles.

ADAM

Sounds like fun. Is he going to try out for football next year?

LARRY

No, he likes soccer too much, scored two goals last weekend.

ADAM

Speaking of soccer. Here is our favorite British Interpol agent and Manchester fan, William.

WILLIAM (32 years old, British accent, Jamaican) enters.

WILLIAM

Morning, Yanks. I know you were watching Manchester United whip Tottenham Hotspurs.

ADAM

(teasingly)
What's a Tottenham Hotspur?

MARCEAU (43 years old, heavysset, French) walks into the room.

MARCEAU

Bon jour. It's some silly little girls soccer club.

WILLIAM

Bonjour, Chief Inspector Clouseau, I mean Marceau.

LARRY

That's cold.

WILLIAM

Good thing the French are here, hope you brought the only good French food, croissants.

HANS (32 years old, German) enters the room.

HANS

Guten tag.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Everyone shakes hands.

ADAM

No problems, let's have a seat.
Looks like Henry and Mary are
following you with coffee.

Henry and Mary walk into the conference room carrying a tray of coffee with cups and a second tray with bagels. Everyone takes seats around the table and starts pouring coffee.

WILLIAM

Let's get to business, shall we?
We have a report that indicates
Paul Henderson, Junior will carry
through his father's plan to
acquire nuclear weapons. MI Five
received a tip about an impending
meeting in Paris from one of our
agents inside an Islamic group.
They have been working to gather
millions of Euro for a large
purchase.

HANS

The German counter terrorist
police recently arrested a
Ukrainian in Frankfurt who hacked
into plans to move nuclear
material through Russia. He
worked for one of Paul's companies
to conduct research. He had
satellite photos and detailed
analysis of nuclear storage sites.

MARCEAU

The French police have been
monitoring several individuals
with international criminals who
were recently hired by a new
security company that is owned by
Paul Junior.

LARRY

Paul was trying to acquire nuclear
material for Iran. Not al-Qaeda.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

WILLIAM

This is only fragmentary, but our hypothesis in Europe is that Paul Junior decided to recruit an international team to steal a nuclear bomb.

HANS

Or several nuclear bombs.

ADAM

That's a big assumption.

MARCEAU

You should have arrested him with his father.

LARRY

We didn't have any evidence against him. He is an executive at a large financial company.

WILLIAM

None the less, he went into hiding and is now recruiting a team of international criminals.

ADAM

It took us about seven years to build the case against and finally arrest Paul Senior. Hundreds of hours of surveillance and we couldn't find anything on his son.

LARRY

It will be hard for us to get an arrest warrant here in America.

HANS

Paul Junior went to Austria but we think he will travel to Paris in a couple of weeks. He is purchasing a number of homes and setting up several businesses throughout Europe.

MARCEAU

Interpol is coordinating with French counterterrorist units to have a meeting in Paris in order plan an operation to track his movements.

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CONTINUED: (4)

WILLIAM

We would like you to both be part
of the operation.

LARRY

(smiles)

Sounds great.

ADAM

We'll clear it with our boss, it
shouldn't be a problem. Thanks
for your hard work.

Everyone rises and shakes hands.

INT. ENTERTAINMENT ROOM - AFTERNOON

The entertainment room is very large with a comfortable viewing area with leather couch and easy chairs where Adam, Larry, and FOUR MEN watch a Redskins football game on the large screen TV. Behind the couch, there is a kitchenette with island counter where Anna sits with AMANDA (36 years old). There is a sliding glass door opening to the patio and swing set where SEVERAL CHILDREN play, including Erica and Julia.

Larry's girlfriend, BECKY (25 years old, very pretty, dressed in a short skirt and half a Redskins T-shirt), finishes serving chips and returns to the kitchen area.

BECKY

(yells)

Go skins!

(to Anna and Amanda)

This is such a great party! I
love it when the skins are
winning.

ADAM

Becky, can I have another beer,
please?

Anna smiles at Adam as she watches Becky deliver more beer to the men. Amanda watches Becky's movements and notices how all the men watch Becky.

ANNA

(whispers)

Looks like Larry found another
one.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

AMANDA

(whispers)

Yeah, how old is this one? She looks younger than what's her name.

ANNA

(whispers)

Rachel. Yeah, she was funny.

Anna laughs.

ANNA (CONT'D)

She.

(covers her mouth,
whispers)

She came over for dinner one night with Larry and she played Playstation with the girls while Larry talked with us.

AMANDA

(whispers, laughs)

No! Too funny. Where does Becky work?

ANNA

(whispers)

She used to be a cheerleader. Hurt her knee during try outs for the Redskins. I think she's working for the government. Don't let her looks fool you, she is very intelligent, just likes to show off.

AMANDA

(whispers)

Showing off a ten thousand dollar investment!

Both laugh.

BECKY

(smiling)

What are ya'll laughing about? Do any of you girls want a beer or glass of wine?

ANNA

No thanks, I'm fine.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

AMANDA

I'll have another glass of wine.

BECKY

Way cool, I'll join you.

Sits down on a stool at the island.

BECKY (CONT'D)

Larry told me about Adam's deployment.

Amanda looks at Anna to see how she is taking this comment.

ANNA

Yes, he will leave in January and head to Iraq for a year.

BECKY

That sucks. Can't he get out of it because of his job?

ANNA

No. The Army is also his job. He is a battalion commander and is responsible for about four hundred soldiers. He needs to get them there, get the job done, and get everyone home.

AMANDA

What about retiring? Doesn't he have over twenty years yet?

ANNA

Yes, but he loves the Army and even if he retired today, he doesn't collect a retirement check until fifty-five. About ten more years.

BECKY

That doesn't seem right.

ANNA

(shrugs)

That's the way it is.

Erica runs into the room.

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CONTINUED: (3)

ERICA

Mommy, mommy, come quick, Brent
fell off the swing.

Anna and Amanda get up quickly and follow Erica outside.
Becky goes back to the football game. Larry looks out
the window. He sees Anna and Amanda help BRENT up off
the ground.

LARRY

Brent looks like he is OK. Good
thing we have a doctor at the
party.

EXT. CITY STREET - AFTERNOON

It is a beautiful Indian summer afternoon. Adam, Erica,
and Julia walk towards the National Zoo with their dog on
a leash.

JULIA

Daddy, can I have a baby brother?

ERICA

No way! Boys drool, girls rule.
Why would you want a brother?

JULIA

It would be fun to play with a
little baby, with cute little
toes.

ERICA

They are smelly and messy and
always getting muddy, yuck.

ADAM

He could play football and you can
cheer for him. Then he can
introduce you to some boys.

ERICA

I don't think so, thank you very
much.

JULIA

I want to name him Richard.

ADAM

Richard, why Richard?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

JULIA

After King Richard the Lion-
Hearted in Robin Hood.

ERICA

You know mommy can't have any more
babies. Don't make her feel bad.

They walk up to a red traffic light and stop to wait with
other people.

ADAM

If God wants you to have a
brother, then you will.

There is a sudden SCREECH of tires and a CRASH when a car
runs the red light and hits another car. Adam quickly
pulls out his cell phone and hands it to Erica.

ADAM

Erica, call nine-one-one and tell
them where we are and what
happened.

Erica nods and quickly takes the phone while she watches
Adam run to the car that was hit. He opens the driver
side door and finds MRS. MORROW, (70 year old, African
American lady). She is holding her head, CRYING, and
shaking. The airbag has deflated and the front right
side is smashed. Adam notices the engine is smoking very
badly.

ADAM

(very calm and steady
voice)

Don't worry, you are fine. A
little shaken up, but you are safe
and don't look hurt.

He sees a little dog in the back seat with a leash on.

ADAM

Is this your dog? What's his
name?

MRS. MORROW

His name is Bear. What happened?

ADAM

Ma'am, you have been in an
accident.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Adam looks over to see Erica talking on the cell phone. There are PEOPLE starting to gather around, some on their cell phones. Adam sees a bench near Erica and Julia.

ADAM

I am a little concerned about the condition of the car and would like to get you over to the curb. There is a bench to sit on and we can wait for the police. Can you walk?

MRS. MORROW

Yes, I think so.

The car is smoking a lot more now as Adam helps Mrs. Morrow over to the bench. She appears to be fine, but badly shaken up.

Mrs. Morrow grabs his hand.

MRS. MORROW

Can you please get my purse and dog for me?

Adam smiles and nods, he turns to Julia.

ADAM

Julia, sweetie, please hold, Miss?

MRS. MORROW

Morrow, Misses Morrow.

ADAM

Hold Misses Morrow's hand while I get her puppy, Bear out of the car. I will be right back, OK?

Julia nods.

Adam runs back over to the car and reaches into the passenger's seat to get the purse. He opens the back door and helps free the dog's leash. Adam turns to begin heading back looking towards the two girls.

A SIREN approaches from a distance.

Suddenly, a motorcycle drives around the car. The smoke obscures the RIDER'S vision. The motorcycle hits Adam, knocking him over. He falls and hits his head on the ground.

The dog, Bear, runs toward Julia and Mrs. Morrow.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

Adam sees Julia screaming and crying, looking at him. Adam's dog pulls free from Erica to reach him and lick his face. Erica is talking into the phone and crying.

Adam watches as Erica looks both ways and runs towards him, kneels down and puts her hands on his chest crying.

Adam reaches up and grasps her hand, looks into her eyes and smiles.

ADAM

(whispers)

I love you Erica, Julia, and
mommy. Be brave.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - AFTERNOON

Adam wakes up and sees a hospital room. It is late afternoon by the light in the windows. Outside it looks like fall with the leaves changing colors. The hospital room is typical and Adam has his head bandaged.

LAWRENCE (35 years old, well built like a football player, Caucasian, similar features to Larry including the same voice) walks into the room.

LAWRENCE

Adam, good afternoon. How are you
feeling today?

ADAM

Who are you? Where am I?

LAWRENCE

You're at Georgetown University
Hospital.

ADAM

Where's Anna?

LAWRENCE

Anna? Who's Anna? Must be a good
dream you are having.

ADAM

Where is Erica?

LAWRENCE

Damn, that must really be a good
dream!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

NURSE HARRIS (27 years old, Caucasian) enters the room to check on Adam's I.V. as he drifts back to sleep.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - MORNING

Adam is picking melon off the breakfast tray to eat. Lawrence walks into the room as NURSE HARRIS departs.

LAWRENCE

Hey buddy, how's it going today?
Good to see you awake and eating
something. Are you feeling
better?

ADAM

Larry?

LAWRENCE

Larry?

Appears puzzled.

LAWRENCE (CONT'D)

You haven't called me Larry since
fourth grade. That's OK, no
problems.

ADAM

What's your name?

LAWRENCE

Lawrence.

ADAM

You look sound like someone else,
but you look a little different?

LAWRENCE

I don't know who, we've been
working as partners in the F.B.I.
for the past ten years.

ADAM

I don't know.

LAWRENCE

I got my haircut. That's probably
it.

ADAM

That's not what I was thinking.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LAWRENCE

I know something that will put a smile on your face! Guess who I brought with me?

ADAM

Anna?

Adam smiles.

ADAM (CONT'D)

Are Anna and the girls here?

HENRIETTA (the same man as Henry, talks like a woman) walks into the room wearing a dress and high heeled shoes with long hair and make up.

LAWRENCE

Anna? Anna who? No, it's Henrietta!

HENRIETTA

(speaking with a high pitched female voice.)

Adam, Adam, it's so great to see you awake, you gave me such a scare, I didn't know what to do?!

He half runs to Adam and tries to hug him.

Adam recoils from Henrietta.

ADAM

What the hell are you doing?

HENRIETTA

(speaking with a high pitched female voice.)

It's me, Henrietta. Come here and let me check you out.

He tries to hug Adam again.

Adam pushes Henrietta back.

ADAM

Get away from me, who do you think you are?!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

LAWRENCE

It's me. Don't you remember your own boyfriend?

ADAM

What the hell are you talking about?! Get the hell out of here!

Henrietta starts to cry, turns and runs out of the room.

LAWRENCE

Now you went and made him cry. You know how sensitive he is.

ADAM

That was Henrietta!

LAWRENCE

You know he changed his name and everything.

ADAM

(upset)

What does he think he is doing and why did you bring him here? Where is my wife, Anna?

LAWRENCE

That's your boyfriend, Henrietta, don't you remember? I know you guys have only been going out for a short time, but?

Pause.

LAWRENCE (CONT'D)

Did you say, wife? You've never been married.

Shakes his head.

LAWRENCE (CONT'D)

That bump on your head must have really messed you up.

ADAM

Anna? You know, my wife. You were my best man at the wedding fifteen years ago. My daughters are Erica and Julia. Are you playing some kind of weird joke on me?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

LAWRENCE

Joke? No.

Shakes his head.

LAWRENCE (CONT'D)

You were never married. You might have a couple of daughters, but none you know about!

Lawrence laughs.

ADAM

When do I get out of here?

LAWRENCE

You get out tomorrow. We have a big meeting in two days. Enough sitting around here. But first, I am going to get the doctor to check you out again.

He walks out of the room laughing. Nurse Harris walks in with a tray of food.

INT. GOLF CART - AFTERNOON

Lawrence is driving Adam in a golf cart type vehicle. Adam's head still has a bandage on it. Lawrence drives through streets that are very busy with PEOPLE walking, biking, riding scooters, mopeds, Segways (some pulling wagons), golf carts, and there is an electric trolley but no cars. Adam notices that some strollers have treads for going on the grassy park areas and up stairs.

Adam notices all the buildings have solar panels on the outside. There are a number of large windmills on top of buildings.

Most the WOMEN wear dresses, while most of the MEN are wearing jackets and ties similar to pictures from the 1940s. There are some men holding hands, some in dresses.

ADAM

Lawrence, where are all the cars?

LAWRENCE

The cars are in storage. You can go check one out if you want. It costs a lot, but fun to drive once in a while.

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CONTINUED:

ADAM

This is Washington D.C., isn't it?

LAWRENCE

Of course. See, over there is the National Zoo. I need to pick up some bread.

ADAM

Smells good.

Lawrence stops in front of a bakery. Next door is a drug store. Adam notices big signs in the window for Cocaine, Heroin and multiple types of pills.

LAWRENCE

I'll just be a minute.

Lawrence gets out of the golf cart.

ADAM

Lawrence, does that store actually sell drugs? Like Cocaine?

LAWRENCE

Of course. Why would they advertise something if they didn't sell it? Want some?

ADAM

Ah, no, no thanks. I have medication from the hospital.

LAWRENCE

No problems. I'll be right back.

Lawrence walks into the bakery.

Adam looks around at all the PEOPLE on the street. There are many VENDORS selling handmade goods. There are FEW POLICEMEN and they don't have weapons.

Lawrence exits the bakery laughing then he gets into the cart puts the bag of bread in the back.

ADAM

Lawrence, can I ask you a question?

LAWRENCE

Sure.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ADAM

Where's all the African-American people?

LAWRENCE

In Africa?

ADAM

What about the Mexicans?

Lawrence starts LAUGHING.

LAWRENCE

Mexico? Heck, lots of Americans running south across the border looking for work in Mexico. Much lower taxes south of the border.

They drive away.

LAWRENCE (CONT'D)

Are these trick questions?

ADAM

No, not trick questions. I was dreaming last night about, about how great it would be to have people from other nations living here.

LAWRENCE

They can if they want to. No laws about moving here, except the Africans have to go through a six month quarantine period because of all the diseases.

Turns to look at Adam.

LAWRENCE (CONT'D)

Why do you ask?

ADAM

Just, things seem so different compared to before the accident, you know what I mean?

LAWRENCE

No, not sure what you are talking about. Everything around here is pretty normal and boring.

INT. ADAM'S HOUSE - EVENING

Adam walks into the door of his house. It is the same house, but different furniture and different pictures on the walls. He walks into the kitchen and looks in the freezer to find a variety of frozen foods.

He pulls out a chicken dinner and puts it in the microwave.

There is an old color TV in the living room that he turns on.

FOX news has pictures of German soldiers fighting in a large attack

FOX REPORTER (V.O.)

Germany is conducting another large attack in Kazakhstan region, and over fifteen tactical nuclear warheads were used by both sides. Germany's Adolph Hitler the second and Kaiser Wilhelm the seventh plan to drive all the way to the Chinese border with this offensive.

The microwave finishes with a DING.

Adam changes channels.

ALL AMERICAN NEWS (V.O.)

The All American News today reports that the Ottoman Empire is considering a resumption of the fighting against Persia. A spokesman for the Caliph, quoted here, "Recent border attacks by Persia against Baghdad including indiscriminate rocket attacks that killed over seven thousand civilians must be avenged."

Adam opens an envelope on the table from the US government housing office and reads:

Payable due on receipt: Electricity = \$3.16, Water = \$.92, Phone = \$.49, Groceries = \$89.20, Hospital = \$4.98.

Then he opens his paycheck: \$1,795 per month and \$1,193 for taxes.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ADAM

Holy shit!

INT. ADAM'S OFFICE - MORNING

The office is now decorated with the University of Michigan soccer team, not the football. There is no computer nor pictures of Anna and the girls. Adam starts to point to the soccer posters, but Lawrence stops him.

LAWRENCE

Nobody touched or changed your office. All your soccer pictures are still here. And they are the right side up.

Mary walks up and laughs.

LAWRENCE (CONT'D)

Not like the last time you were out of the office for a couple of days.

Mary hugs Adam gently.

MARY

It's good to have you home and back to work. Let me know if you need any help.

ADAM

I was just getting ready to thank you.

LAWRENCE

We are scheduled to meet the German delegation at ten, so stay quiet and listen. Don't start saying weird things again, or you will get us all in trouble. These Germans are very serious.

HENRIETTA (O.S.)

(high pitched voice)

Lawrence, they are here. They're downstairs in the second floor conference room.

Henrietta is dressed in a skirt, blouse, and high heels enters the office area. He sees Adam and give him a very icy stare.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

HENRIETTA (CONT'D)
 (high pitched voice)
 They are waiting for you.

Stomps off. Lawrence smiles at Adam.

ADAM
 He's wearing a dress?

LAWRENCE
 Don't worry, he'll get over it.

Adam and Lawrence walk down the hall to the conference room.

INT. FBI CONFERENCE ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Adam and Lawrence enter the room to see Hans, Marceau (32 years old, thin, more athletic) , and JAKOB (24 years old) all wear German uniforms.

LAWRENCE
 (speaking German)
 Hans, guten Morgen. Marceau, and?

HANS
 (speaking German)
 That's Jakob.

MARCEAU
 Guten Morgen.

ADAM
 Guten Morgen.

Everyone shakes hands.

HANS
 (Speaking German)
 We are here on very urgent business

LAWRENCE
 (Speaking German)
 No problems. We were a little surprised by your arrival yesterday. No one told us you were coming or we would have made reservations at the hotel for you. I trust you found something and are comfortable?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

HANS

(Speaking German)

Our embassy set us up at the Ritz.

Adam doesn't understand German and looks at a map of the world on the wall. It shows a United German Republic instead of Europe. The Ottoman Empire is most of North Africa except a small area South of Gibraltar and extends all the way to Baghdad. India is about the same, but Japan appears to own half of China, Indonesia and Hawaii. There is a large area on the map from Persia to Siberia and half of China with the name, "Four Corners Zone".

MARCEAU

(Speaking German)

It is not as nice as the one in Paris or Berlin but better than most around here. At least the girls last night were young and fresh.

The police LAUGH.

JAKOB

(Speaking German)

And ready to help the war effort!

ADAM

(whispers)

Lawrence, when did you learn German?

LAWRENCE

(whispers)

Don't start that, everyone learns German in school, even you.

(Speaking in German)

Gentlemen, glad the American hospitality has been to your liking? My colleague, Adam,

Nods to Adam.

LAWRENCE (CONT'D)

Was recently in an accident and it seems to have affected some of his memory, including his ability to speak German. So please excuse him.

HANS

(speaking English)

Whatever. Marceau, fill them in.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

MARCEAU

We have reports of nineteen deserters from the US Corps and expect your assistance to return them to us. We are comparing the service records at the Department of Defense in about thirty minutes. You will plan to visit our offices in Paris next week to go over all the details.

LAWRENCE

Can you please give us the basic information? So we can prepare for the meeting?

Hans nods to Jakob.

JAKOB

The hundred and first division of the American Corps was in the front lines along a section of the Urals. They were given a two week R and R period in Stockholm and twenty-seven deserted. We believe nineteen may have made it back to the US.

LAWRENCE

We will have to check with our legal department about the jurisdiction for us to arrest these people.

ADAM

What happened to the other eight?

Hans, Jakob, Marceau LAUGH.

HANS

Two choose to return to combat, one was sentenced to be hung, and the other five have volunteered to be combat medical patients for new Army doctors.

ADAM

What's that?

HANS

They get shot and saved ten times.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

LAWRENCE

Do they live?

JAKOB

Depends on how good the doctor is,
doesn't it?

MARCEAU

Your agency is the lead, or we
wouldn't be here talking with you.
Check with your 'legal department'
and start planning how you are
going to arrest them. Then either
transfer them back to us or hang
these deserters yourself.

HANS

We will have the Department of
Defense print the wanted posters
for you to put up in the home
towns.

ADAM

Can you ask the Department of
Defense to email the pictures and
service records?

JAKOB

What?

MARCEAU

(Speaking in German)

What is this email?

HANS

(Speaking in German)

Is email some new kind of
communication code? Lawrence,
what is this secret you are
hiding?

LAWRENCE

(Speaking in German)

I don't know what he is talking
about. He was recently in an
accident and had a fractured
skull. He's still recovering. He
should be much better by the time
we arrive in Paris. Our
assistant.

Lawrence nods to Mary.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

LAWRENCE (CONT'D)

Will arrange your transportation
to the Department of Defense.
Thank you gentlemen. If you will
excuse us, I must speak with my
colleague.

Lawrence grabs Adam and pulls him out of the room.

INT. FBI OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

Lawrence pulls Adam into a small office.

LAWRENCE

Alright, what is this all about?!
What is this secret email stuff
you are talking about? I hope you
didn't upset our friends.

ADAM

(upset)

Pissing off Germans is the least
of the long list of problems!

LAWRENCE

Calm down, we don't need to yell
or use inappropriate language.

ADAM

Inappropriate language, are you
kidding? You used to be a Marine
and can cuss with the best of
them.

LAWRENCE

I wasn't in the Marines.

ADAM

That's what I am talking about
Lawrence. I had this accident and
now everything, I mean everything
and everyone is different. I
can't explain how it happened, but
it did.

Henrietta walks in.

HENRIETTA

(high pitched voice)

Mary wants to know if you will be
going with the German officers?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Lawrence shakes his head.

LAWRENCE

No.

ADAM

Before the accident, I was married to Anna and we had two beautiful little girls named Erica and Julia. We drove a large Honda Pilot SUV and my Ford Ranger pickup truck. We had computers in the house and work and used email all day long.

LAWRENCE

You are not making any sense.

ADAM

(frustrated)

We were just treated like dogs back there. I'm trying to tell you that America was a great county with people from throughout the world living here including Africans, Mexicans, Lebanese, and everyone else.

LAWRENCE

You are talking about some dream you had, come back to reality.

ADAM

(upset)

It wasn't the dream I had, it's the nightmare I am living now.

Counts on his fingers.

ADAM (CONT'D)

One - I don't have a wife or family.

Two - I don't have a car, probably better off with more exercise.

Three - Germany owns all of Europe, hell even you speak German.

Four - drugs are sold legally and

Five - Henry has gone nuts and thinks he is my boyfriend!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

LAWRENCE

(reassuring)

Adam, I am sorry. I didn't realize the problems you might be having. The accident and then breaking up with Henrietta and all.

ADAM

I'm not prejudice and don't really mind the concept, just not ready to participate.

Lawrence puts a hand on Adam's shoulder.

LAWRENCE

I'm your best friend. I'm here for you.

Adam looks at Lawrence.

LAWRENCE (CONT'D)

Tell you what, Rebecca and I will take you out tonight. Maybe she can talk with you and understand some of your problems.

ADAM

Rebecca? What would she know about this?

LAWRENCE

Rebecca's a physicist, remember? I know she normally talks over your head, but you should try listening more often.

ADAM

(calms)

I could use a cold beer.

LAWRENCE

Good, we'll pick you up about seven. Maybe it was too soon to bring you into work.

INT. BEER GARDEN - EVENING

Lawrence and Becky walk into a German beer garden followed by Adam. There are big long tables packed with PATRONS. Lawrence leads them to open seats.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

There are boxes of Legos on the tables which PATRONS build things while they talk and drink beer and eat.

LAWRENCE

As I was saying earlier, Adam here wakes up and scares the shit out of Henrietta. Makes him cry and everything.

Becky and Lawrence both laugh.

BECKY

Well, Henrietta is pretty excitable. I told you it probably wouldn't work out.

She puts her arm around Adam.

BECKY (CONT'D)

Don't feel bad.

LAWRENCE

What do you think? Can you hook him up like last time?

BECKY

Sure, no problems. Adam, do you still like red heads?

Adam looks strangely at Becky.

BECKY (CONT'D)

You are right, Lawrence. He is acting a bit strange. Does your head still hurt?

ADAM

My head feels OK, just that everything seems different.

LAWRENCE

Don't worry, have a beer.

He motions for a WAITRESS.

LAWRENCE (CONT'D)

Adam, what would you like to drink?

ADAM

I would love an ice cold Budweiser.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

LAWRENCE

Man, aren't we fancy tonight! We will have one Budweiser and two weisse beers, bitte. And three brats.

WAITRESS

Be back in a minute, love.

Lawrence pinches the waitress' butt as she leaves. The WAITRESS smiles back then departs picking up empty glasses and plates.

Becky laughs.

LAWRENCE

Hey Adam, did you get a raise while you were in the hospital? Or maybe you are splurging a little?

ADAM

What do you mean?

LAWRENCE

Budweiser is pretty expensive my friend, or did you forget that also?

Becky waves at a very well dressed WOMAN who walks over and hands Becky a leather bound menu. She opens the menu and begins looking through it.

ADAM

A good beer is worth every penny sometimes. This sixty-five percent tax stuff is just stupid! Why is it so high?

LAWRENCE

You get low cost health care, housing, transportation, food, and electricity. The government takes care of everything for you. What's the problem?

BECKY

(happy)

Look here. I found one for you Adam.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

She holds open the leather bound menu book. Adam looks inside to see different pictures of girls dressed in various lingerie like a "Victoria's Secret catalog". Becky points to a pretty, red headed girl wearing only high heels and stockings.

BECKY (CONT'D)

This one looks spunky and fun,
what do you think?

ADAM

(shocked)

Isn't it a little strange to have
a menu like this?

BECKY

Why would it be strange? It's
just a normal beer garden like any
other. If you like her, she would
be happy to come home with you
tonight.

ADAM

Is it legal to do this?

BECKY

Legal? Of course. These girls
are trying to get pregnant. They
get paid by the government to have
children.

LAWRENCE

See what I mean about him being
strange? Adam, before the
accident, you always liked
Rebecca's picks. Remember that
babe in Ocean City?

Becky and Lawrence both laugh.

BECKY

Tell me Adam, what happened to
change you so much? Maybe if you
tell me about it, I can help.

Adam looks incredulously at Becky.

ADAM

Really?

LAWRENCE

Rebecca can help.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

The WAITRESS delivers the beer.

ADAM

I don't know, everything is different and I just can't explain.

BECKY

I know how to help.

The BAND starts playing a German drinking song and everyone joins in SINGING.

Lawrence stands with everyone else, raises his glass and joins the SINGING.

Becky turns, puts her arms around him and gives Adam a kiss. Adam is shocked and tries to push her away.

Lawrence looks down.

LAWRENCE

She's the best kisser in the world.

He smiles then goes back to SINGING.

Adam leans close to Becky.

ADAM

(quietly)

OK. I remember a traffic accident with two cars. I helped one of the drivers, an elderly lady to a park bench where Julia and Erica called nine-one-one. She asked me to rescue her dog and that's the last thing I remember.

BECKY

That sounds very interesting. Who are Julia and Erica?

ADAM

Julia and Erica are my daughters. Don't you remember? We were at Larry's, I mean Lawrence's house watching football a week ago.

Becky shakes her head.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

BECKY

No, sorry, don't know what you are talking about. Please continue.

ADAM

Before the accident. I am married to Anna, a wonderful wife and we have two beautiful daughters. When I wake up. Poof.

Snaps his fingers.

ADAM (CONT'D)

No wife, no kids, no car, you two.

Points to Lawrence.

ADAM (CONT'D)

Are married, German beer halls, Frenchmen speaking German. Oh yea, and Henrietta.

BECKY

I you thought you were married, she might be a bit of a shock.

Adam looks around at the CROWD, everyone is Caucasian.

ADAM

How come there aren't any black people around town?

LAWRENCE

Black people? Do you mean Africans?

ADAM

Yes, black people, African Americans. Some of my best friends are black. Remember the Civil Rights Movement?

BECKY

(shakes her head)

No. The Africans were sent home, the few that were left after the Slave Revolt. You can find some tourists around sometimes.

ADAM

What slave revolt?

She leans back in her chair and takes a moment to think.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (6)

BECKY

What if you just dreamed all this?

ADAM

No, it was not a dream.

BECKY

OK.

Waves her hands and leans forward.

BECKY (CONT'D)

Hypothetically, let's assume it was real.

Becky is getting excited.

BECKY

Tell me, did you know me before?
Was I beautiful? Or fat and ugly?

Adam laughs.

ADAM

Trust me. You were beautiful. But you are a lot smarter now. You went by a nickname, Becky. And you loved sports.

Becky laughs, points to Lawrence.

BECKY

What about him?

ADAM

Larry?

BECKY

(laughs)
Larry!!!

Becky covers her mouth with a hand to keep her food in.

ADAM

Larry was taller, older and was African American. He used to play football in college and almost made pro.

BECKY

(laughing hard)
Oh my God! That sounds way cool.
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (7)

BECKY (CONT'D)

I am excited just thinking about it!

She turns to Lawrence.

BECKY (CONT'D)

Can we order this cute red head if Adam doesn't want her tonight?

LAWRENCE

Of course. Sounds like fun.

EXT. WASHINGTON DC - LATE MORNING

The people mover system runs above the sidewalk throughout the center of the city. It features a wide cover to protect from the rain and sun directly above. The people mover is wide enough for baby strollers, shopping baskets and even chair for the elderly. The system is supported by elevators, escalators, and stairs. The system moves relatively quickly, faster than running, with a secondary slower belt near the platforms where people enter and exit.

Adam stands on the people mover, transiting along Constitution Avenue and past the Washington Monument and White House. He sees Becky waving to exit near the Natural History Museum.

Adam carefully transitions at the platform from the faster belt to the slower belt, but trips and stumbles into Becky on the platform.

BECKY

That was graceful!

ADAM

Anna didn't marry me for my dancing skills.

BECKY

(laughing)

I wouldn't either.

Becky takes Adam by the hand.

BECKY (CONT'D)

Let's go for a walk.

They walk down the stairs and along the road in the pedestrian lane.

EXT. NATIONAL MALL - MOMENTS LATER

The National Mall has MANY PEOPLE enjoying the day and Becky leads Adam to a park bench in the middle but without any other person close by.

ADAM

Why did you ask me to meet you?

BECKY

(smiles)

What do you see around here that is different?

ADAM

Over there.

Adam points.

ADAM (CONT'D)

Is where the National Air and Space Museum should be.

BECKY

(curious)

Air and Space Museum? Why would there be a space museum?

ADAM

You know. For the Apollo program, moon rocks, and astronauts.

BECKY

You must have gone to see that new science fiction movie at the drive-in theater before your accident.

Becky watches TWO POLICEMEN walk through the park.

ADAM

Why are you worried? This is America, the land of free speech.

BECKY

(whispers)

Shhh. That amendment was revoked after the newspaper revolt, don't you remember? The newspapers that kept printing lies and tried to instigate a revolution until Paul Henderson saved us.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Adam is shakes his head.

ADAM

(sad)

I don't belong here. But, you know that. Don't you?

Becky rubs his back a little for support.

BECKY

I am starting to believe you.

(whispers)

But, this conversation is very dangerous for us both.

A HORSE pulling a carriage drives past.

BECKY (CONT'D)

(whispers)

There is a possible theory that I've been kicking around.

(pause)

What if you experienced some type of time shift? Or time warp?

Adam looks directly at Becky.

ADAM

I am not sure what you mean.

BECKY

(whispers)

I mean, maybe you dreamed of having a wife and kids and stuff.

Becky puts her arm around Adam to whisper in his ear.

BECKY (CONT'D)

(whispers excitedly)

Or, maybe, just maybe you are telling the truth and you really lived another life. A little like unexpected time travel. You may be only one person of many others that have experienced a time shift or multi-dimensional transition. How cool is that!

ADAM

(shocked)

That's impossible. How? Why?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

BECKY

(whispers)

Stick with me here. I don't know how or why, but what if something happened. Like back in Roman times, medieval times, or only twenty years ago. Something changed and had a snowball effect that changed history.

Pause for Adam to think about this.

BECKY (CONT'D)

We have been doing research at work on the possibility that nuclear explosions may have effects and distortions of time and dimension.

ADAM

I still don't get it.

BECKY

You don't have to 'get it', you just have to deal with it. It's like you're in the wrong time. You get to start over and be totally different.

ADAM

What about Anna and my family?

BECKY

Never born.

ADAM

Never?

BECKY

The conditions that brought about your wife's birth were not met. So. No wife for you!

Adam takes a deep breath.

ADAM

I have to think about that a minute.

They watch TWO MEN in German military uniforms walk past followed by FIVE YOUNG BOYS, proud of the chance to imitate the soldiers.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

ADAM (CONT'D)

(whispers)

Can I ever go back?

BECKY

(whispers)

No.

ADAM

What can I do?

BECKY

(whispers)

There is a doctor in Europe who is wanted by the police. This doctor may have developed a time machine. But, even if you found him, why would he want to send you back and not himself?

ADAM

I just don't belong here.

BECKY

You know, you have a life here. You grew up here, this is your home, you just don't remember it. Yet.

ADAM

I have to do something, anything to get my family back.

Becky hugs him.

EXT. ADAM'S HOUSE - MORNING

Adam puts a small suitcase in the back of Larry's golf cart. He sits in the front seat with a small backpack on his lap.

ADAM

Did you have fun the other night?

LAWRENCE

Of course! Those two wore me out. Around one in the morning I crashed. Too bad you didn't join us.

ADAM

Maybe next time?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LAWRENCE

That's the spirit! By the way,
here is a letter from Rebecca.

Lawrence hands Adam a piece of paper.

INT. GOLF CART - MOMENTS LATER

They drive through the town. There are several large Segways pulling trailers with bread, milk, trash, and other morning deliveries. ONE LADY rides a Segway pulling two trailers with KIDS in the back dressed for school.

Adam opens up the letter and reads:

"A friend will visit you. Say, bon jour to her for me and have a fun night! Things are not as bad as you think. But if you go, say hi to me from me! Good luck!"

ADAM

I saw on the news that there was a huge earthquake a few days ago in Haiti. There were probably thousands killed.

LAWRENCE

Haiti? I saw something about it.

ADAM

Is anyone from the office volunteering to go help? We used to have a couple of Red Cross volunteers.

LAWRENCE

What's the Red Cross and why would we help them?

ADAM

Never mind. I guess it was part of my dream. People actually volunteered to go to places and help people in need.

EXT. PARKING GARAGE - LATER

The parking garage is a huge. There are six individual parking spots in front which look like elevators. Lawrence parks the vehicle and they get their luggage out.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Lawrence puts his ID card into an ATM type computer machine and picks a car from the list, then selects the destination, the airport.

The golf cart is lowered by elevator into the ground. A garage door opens and there is a new looking Triumph MG convertible inside.

Adam smiles.

LAWRENCE

Hop in.

ADAM

Is this your car?

LAWRENCE

No, it's not my car. We just rented it to go to the airport.

EXT. HIGHWAY - LATER

Lawrence and Adam drive the MG with the top and windows down along a large highway and see the airport in the distance. There are very few cars on the road, but lots of very, large trucks. Some trucks are pulling three, four, five, or six large trailers of military gear.

In the distance at the airport are five huge Zeppelins marked with German symbols with a line of military vehicles and equipment waiting to load.

INT. CAR - MOMENTS LATER

They approach the airport departure zone.

ADAM

What's with the Zeppelins?

LAWRENCE

It's part of the combined US and German Fourth Corps.

ADAM

The Zeppelins are interesting.

LAWRENCE

You really don't remember, do you?

ADAM

No, sorry.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LAWRENCE

We trained one summer on those during the mandatory military training. Of course these are the new bullet proof versions. They will go straight into combat from here.

ADAM

Bullet proof? Impressive

EXT. AIRPORT - MOMENTS LATER

Lawrence parks the car close to the front of the airport and they get their bags. They approach a Pan Am ticket counter in front of the main doors.

LAWRENCE

Two tickets please for Paris and here's the keys.

He hands the FEMALE TICKET AGENT his ID card, the keys for the car, and a memorandum.

Lawrence motions Adam to do the same.

TICKET AGENT

Thank you.

She looks up their names on a list and starts printing the tickets.

Adam looks at a GROUP of SOLDIERS dressed in German style uniforms. The patches on their soldiers have the term, "IV American Corps".

Adam looks at the various doors and watches PEOPLE freely moving in and out of the airport.

ADAM

(whispers)
Lawrence, isn't there any security?

LAWRENCE

(whispers)
Security for what?

ADAM

Security from terrorists like on nine, eleven.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ADAM (CONT'D)

Remember, when the terrorists hijacked the planes and crashed them into the twin towers?

LAWRENCE

(shocked)

What kind of idiot would do that?

TICKET GIRL

Gentlemen, here's your tickets. First class, we will be boarding in about an hour. Have a nice flight.

She hands back the ID cards and tickets.

LAWRENCE (CONT'D)

You must have had a nightmare. Don't say anything like that out loud. You'll scare the shit out of everyone.

INT. FRENCH HQ CONFERENCE ROOM - MORNING

Larry and Adam walk into a large conference room. There is a German soldier on guard inside the door. MARIE (28-29, French) and a FEMALE ASSISTANT carry coffee, juice, and breads into the room.

Hans, Marceau, and Jakob walk in dressed in German police uniforms.

HANS

Guten Morgen.

LAWRENCE

Guten Morgen, Hans.

Everyone shake hands.

ADAM

Bonjour, Marceau.

Marie watches Adam.

MARCEAU

(confused)

Guten Morgen.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LAWRENCE

He meant, guten Morgen.
(whispers to Adam)
Don't use that language again. It
was banned in nineteen, fifty-two
after the French insurrection.

HANS

(speaking in German)
Danke gentlemen. Thank you for
coming. As you know, this is a
very important issue for the
German government.

Hans sits down and beckons the others to sit.

MARCEAU

(Speaking in German)
The government values the American
volunteer Corps, but we cannot
allow desertion to continue.

LAWRENCE

(Speaking in German)
I can assure you the American
government takes this seriously,
that's why we are here.

JAKOB

(speaking English)
We have compiled a list of thirty-
two deserters that we believe are
in America.

Places a folder on the table.

JAKOB

(speaking English)
Each was a five year enlistment,
on leave and missed their return
movement. We would like your
assistance to find them or replace
them.

ADAM

Last week you told us there were
only nineteen. What's different?

MARCEAU

(speaking English)
Thirteen were added earlier today
because they missed movement on
Sunday.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

JAKOB

We will go through these to discuss the case of each one.

LAWRENCE

Five months ago, you confused the wrong names and found one guy was having a party on the beach in Nice with a couple of Freundinen. We need to make certain that you are not trying to prosecute innocent Americans.

HANS

Lawrence, you Americans are always so trusting and believe everyone is innocent. You know the treaty. If you cannot find them, you will find replacements.

ADAM

What treaty?

LAWRENCE

The treaty Paul Henderson signed committing America to support Germany in the war.

MARCEAU

The only way to stop this desertion is to show the American people that there is punishment.

LAWRENCE

We were able to detain one individual on your list last week. But I am not sure if we have much information on the new thirteen.

HANS

We appreciate your quick work.

ADAM

Are these our copies?

Opens the first record.

JAKOB

No, you have to take notes. There is some paper and pens.

Points to a note pad and pen.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

ADAM

Wouldn't it be easier to just fax them to us?

HANS

(surprised)

What is this fax thing?

JAKOB

(speaking German)

Lawrence, your colleague is a little suspicious at the moment. First email, then fax, now trying to speak a dead language instead of German. You are up to something, yes?

LAWRENCE

(speaking in German)

He doesn't know what he is talking about. He had some really weird dreams.

(whispers to Adam)

Shut up and start taking notes.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - EVENING

Adam is lying back on the bed looking at a magazine. There is a soft knock on the door.

Adam opens the door and finds Marie.

She quickly enters the room holding her fingers to her lips for silence.

Adam starts to talk. She looks mad puts her finger in front of her lips in a sign of quiet.

She smiles and walks to the mirror and pulls out a red lipstick from her purse. She leans forward to look in the mirror, breaths on the mirror to fog it. She writes, "Dr. Ramota" with her fingers and looks at Adam to see he read the word. She quickly wipes the mirror clean, then walks back to the door.

Adam grabs her arm.

ADAM

(whispers)

Wait, I have some questions.

She shakes her head, opens the door and slips out.

EXT. CAFE - MORNING

Adam and Lawrence sit at an outdoor café. They watch the PEOPLE on the street, many dressed in German uniforms of gray and black. There are a lot of cars on the roads, along with bicycles and trolleys.

ADAM

Lawrence, been meaning to ask you something. I noticed there are some people living upstairs in my house.

LAWRENCE

Of course. You have about one thousand, two hundred square feet. The family upstairs has about one thousand square feet. What's the problem?

ADAM

What's the problem? I used to own the entire house.

LAWRENCE

Your house? I don't think so. The government housing office assigned the home to you. Don't you remember, they gave you a larger size than they should because you were dating that girl at the office.

Lawrence takes a drink of coffee.

LAWRENCE (CONT'D)

I keep forgetting your amnesia. Everyone gets a place to live depending on the size of the family. When you get a family, you get a larger house. After your kids move out, the housing office finds you a smaller house to live in. Pretty simple concept.

ADAM

Why are there so many more cars here?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LAWRENCE

Once Germany captured part of the Siberian oil fields from Japan, the gas is about fifteen cents per liter. Compared with seven to eight dollars per liter in the US.

ADAM

Does the gas have gold in it?

LAWRENCE

You had a bad injury. You woke up and seem to think your life is terrible. Now you are thinking about finding a criminal who, you believe can change time.

ADAM

I don't know what you are talking about.

LAWRENCE

(serious, almost scolding)

I'm an FBI agent. I know you, you are my best friend. We have shared a lot of great times together and more than a few girlfriends. What do you think you are doing?

ADAM

(whispers)

I may sound strange, but I know that this life is wrong. Becky, I mean Rebecca, told me about a doctor who invented a time machine. Maybe I can go back and change something.

Lawrence LAUGHS.

LAWRENCE

That scientist is Doctor Ramota. We tracked that doctor all over America. We almost had him in that hotel in Cincinnati but only found that maid cleaning the room. Don't you being part of President Henderson's special task force?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ADAM

(curious)

Paul Henderson? The arms dealer?

LAWRENCE

No, the Paul Henderson the President for Life. The richest man alive.

(shrugs)

Guess maybe you could call him an arms dealer.

ADAM

(shocked, sad)

That's a change of fortune.

LAWRENCE

Hypothetically. Let's say you find Doctor Ramota and don't arrest him and there really is a time machine. When were you thinking about going back to?

ISABELLA (27 years old, pretty, thin, short blond hair) walks up with a bag full of books and notebooks. She sits at a table behind Adam and watches Adam discretely.

ADAM

I don't know. Many of these buildings are the same as I remember when Anna and I were here on our honeymoon. Probably in the early Eighteen hundreds after the American Revolution.

Lawrence turns his head to watch a PRETTY GIRL walk down the street so he doesn't notice what happens.

LAWRENCE

I see nothing wrong with my life, nor your life. All these people walking on the street, do they want to die because you want some wife? Get over it, find a new wife, learn to live with your current situation. You can't change history so get over it.

Isabella slips a paperback book from her bag and places it onto the table in front of Adam.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

ISABELLA

(whispers)

Here is a nice book you would probably like to read, ten Marks please.

Adam looks at her.

ADAM

(confused)

I didn't.

Isabella nods her head, then leans close to Adam.

ISABELLA

(whispers)

Bon Chance.

She stands up and departs.

Adam looks at the book, "The History of the German Republic".

LAWRENCE

(smiling, teasing)

You have a new friend, don't you?

ADAM

Maybe. She's cute isn't she?

INT. HOTEL ROOM - EVENING

Adam lays on the bed and flips through the book noticing there is a train ticket inside. The train is to depart from Gare du Nord, for Copenhagen at 0235. He looks at his watch, 10:48 PM. He quickly puts the book, his shaving kit and a change of clothes in a backpack, then walks out.

INT. GARE DU NORD TRAIN STATION - LATER THAT EVENING

Adam looks at the big train schedule. There are hundreds of SOLDIERS dressed in German uniforms carrying various weapons boarding a train for Berlin. The clocks in the station show 01:45 AM.

A group of SOLDIERS walk past forcing him to move out of their way.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Marie is wearing a hat and jacket. She slowly approaches Adam from behind. She pretends Adam bumped into her and drops her bag on the floor.

ADAM

I'm sorry.

They both bend over to pick up the bag and she exchanges tickets.

Adam recognizes her.

She winks at him, and walks quickly away.

Adam picks up ticket and reads, "Zurich, Switzerland, 01:55". Adam checks the schedule for the train, Track 9.

Marceau and TWO AGENTS approach Adam, TWO AGENTS grab Adam's arms tightly behind his back. Adam is surprised, but doesn't struggle.

MARCEAU

(sarcastic)

Good morning Adam. Where do you think you are going?

ADAM

(reserved)

A little sight seeing.

AGENT TWO

What about the girl?

MARCEAU

We'll pick her up later.

Marceau motions for them to follow and starts walking.

Lawrence quickly approaches and hits Marceau, knocking him to the floor.

The TWO AGENTS are shocked, Adam quickly breaks free and flips ONE AGENT while Lawrence hits TWO AGENT.

LAWRENCE

(yells)

Come on!

Adam follows Lawrence through the train station.

INT. TRAIN PLATFORM - MOMENTS LATER

Adam and Lawrence slow to a walk along an empty platform.

Marceau and the TWO AGENTS run to catch up.

Adam and Lawrence look around but the platform ends with nowhere to go.

Marceau and the TWO AGENTS walk towards Adam, catching their breath.

MARCEAU

What is Adam up to?

LAWRENCE

Nothing. Leave him alone.

MARCEAU

Ever since our trip to America, Adam has been talking about strange things. So I ask myself, what could this be?

LAWRENCE

He had an accident. Then some bad dreams. Maybe it was the drugs the hospital gave him.

Marceau and the TWO AGENTS are almost within reach of Adam and Lawrence.

MARCEAU

(ignores Lawrence)

Funny. That is exactly what I put on my report. I was shocked this afternoon when a message arrived. Direct from President Henderson's office. To immediately arrest Adam.

LAWRENCE

(laughs)

You and what army?

Marceau and ONE AGENT try to grab Adam while TWO AGENT fights Lawrence. The MEN fight each other around the platform using various martial arts.

The fighting is relatively even until ONE AGENT pulls out a knife and stabs Lawrence.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Lawrence pushes ONE AGENT onto the tracks breaking his neck. Lawrence falls to the ground in a pool of blood.

Marceau and TWO AGENT work to grab and beat Adam with a nightstick.

MARCEAU

(out of breath)

Don't kill him! We have to bring him back alive.

Adam pretends to collapse, then surprises TWO AGENT and grabs the nightstick. Adam strikes TWO AGENT in the head.

Marceau pulls out a pistol and aims it at Adam.

MARCEAU

Put that down!

Marceau shudders, looks in shock and falls on his face with a knife sticking out of his back.

Adam looks past Marceau at Lawrence laying on the ground in a pool of blood.

Adam quickly approaches Lawrence to try and help.

LAWRENCE

(defensive)

Stop! Don't get any blood on you.

ADAM

I can help you!

LAWRENCE

(breathless)

Nothings going to help me. But if you have blood on your clothes, they will stop you.

Adam tries to approach, but Lawrence holds up his hand.

LAWRENCE (CONT'D)

Go! Get out of here fast!

ADAM

Why?

LAWRENCE

(tired, smiles)

I'm your best friend no matter what. Now get out of here.

INT. TRAIN - MORNING

Adam rides on a train through Southern France. The train car is one big typical passenger wagon, but the seats are well worn and used. There are SEVERAL PASSENGERS in the wagon, many empty seats. In one town there are many German Army tanks, trucks, and SOLDIERS working to repair damaged buildings.

Adam opens his backpack and pulls out the history book. He flips through the book front to back and then back to front again. He opens the first couple of pages. He stops when he sees, "This book is dedicated to PAX."

ADAM
(whispers)
PAX?

He quickly looks around the train car, then pulls the book closer to his chest to see close up and prevent anyone from looking over his shoulder.

He looks through the book, stopping at chapters that have PAX in the name. He closes the book and rubs his eyes.

He looks around to make sure none of the other PASSENGERS moved, then opens the book thumbing through the pages until he finds page number, "729". He flips to the page before and sees page number, "198". Then he turns the pages forward to see, "200".

He looks at page, "729", it has a photograph of busy street corner in probably the early 1900s. A closer look shows the photograph was glued into the book rather than printed in the book.

The center building in the photo is a café, the sign in the window is partially blocked by patrons but appears to read, "Zuckermann Cafe". The caption reads, "the café on a street corner in Zurich, Switzerland where US President Woodrow Wilson was assassinated soon after his proposal for a League of Nations to be established in 1914 after the Germany Army conquered France."

Adam closes the book and looks out the window at the countryside.

EXT. STEET IN ZURICH - MORNING

Adam walk on a street in Zurich until he find a café similar to the one in the book. He stops at the same angle as the photograph.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The name is different, "Oepfelhammer Café". He pauses to look around and then walks across the street and enters the café.

INT. CAFE - MOMENTS LATER

The cafe is approximately half full. He finds a small table and sits down. The clock on the wall shows 9 AM.

A WAITRESS stops.

ADAM
Cappuccino, please.

Adam writes a quick note, "Merci" on a paper napkin.

The WAITRESS picks up the napkin and departs.

INT. CAFE INTERIOR - LATER

Adam reads his book. The clock on the wall now shows 10:35 AM. The café now only has one other customer sitting at a table outside.

A phone RINGS.

The WAITRESS touches Adam on the shoulder.

WAITRESS
(Speaking German)
Telephone, telephone.

Holds her hand to her ear like a phone.

Adam stands and follows her gesture to a back room.

Adam walks through the door.

A WAITER grabs Adam from behind and holds a handkerchief over Adam's face.

Adam struggles until he passes out on the floor.

INT. LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Adam wakes up on a couch. DOMINIK (28-29 years old, Swiss, female) sits reading Adam's history book. She notices that he is awake and hands him a glass of water.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ADAM

Is it an interesting book?

DOMINIK

Yes, very.

She smiles.

DOMINIK (CONT'D)

Are you an American?

ADAM

Yes.

Adam rubs his head and drinks some water.

ADAM (CONT'D)

Why did you knock me out?

DOMINIK

You wrote a word in a forbidden language.

ADAM

You could have asked me to leave?

Dominik laughs.

DOMINIK

You're not from around here are you?

Adam takes another drink of water.

ADAM

Why am I here?

DOMINIK

You tell me. Why are you here?

ADAM

I am looking someone.

DOMINIK

Who?

ADAM

I heard there might be an interesting man, named Doctor Ramota.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

DOMINIK

Doctor Ramota, the wanted
terrorist? Around here? This is
a simple café in a nice quiet
city.

ADAM

Simple café? I will need a doctor
if I order another cup of
Espresso.

Dominik laughs.

DOMINIK

How did you hear of this doctor?

Pulls out Adam's passport and looks through it.

DOMINIK (CONT'D)

It seems odd that you would travel
so far to meet someone like this.

ADAM

I heard that Doctor Ramota may
have invented a time machine.
That sounds pretty amazing and I
would like to see such a great
invention.

DOMINIK

Time machine? You came all the
way from America to find a time
machine? That is an interesting
story.

She hands him a newspaper opened to the third page. It
has a picture of Adam.

DOMINIK (CONT'D)

The special security are looking
for you.

He looks surprised.

DOMINIK (CONT'D)

Something about espionage and
murder?

ADAM

Is this a joke?

She shakes her head.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

ADAM (CONT'D)
Espionage, murder, for what?

DOMINIK
The article says you are an American police investigator who is working with Doctor Ramota to infiltrate and assassinate the German high command. You were identified while in Paris and killed your friend Lawrence before escaping.

ADAM
I don't know what they are talking about.

DOMINIK
The German Chancellor and the American leader Mr. Henderson have commissioned a joint security sweep to find you and your conspirators.

Dominik shakes her head.

DOMINIK (CONT'D)
Now you end up in my café.

ADAM
When you put it that way, it does bad.

DOMINIK
You are a very dangerous person. Why shouldn't I turn you over to the police?

ADAM
I can appreciate your point of view. I sincerely apologize for putting you at risk and would appreciate any assistance.

He looks at the paper again.

ADAM (CONT'D)
I did not kill my friend.

DOMINIK
You seem nice. Dangerous, but not a cold blooded killer. What should I do with you?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

ADAM

Please don't turn me in.

DOMINIK

Here.

She hands him the history book and motions to his backpack near the door.

DOMINIK (CONT'D)

Very interesting book.

Adam gets up to leave and picks up his backpack.

DOMINIK (CONT'D)

I hope you will take my advice and get on the next train out of here.

ADAM

Thank you, but I don't think I am ready to leave. It's such a beautiful town and I don't know where to go yet.

DOMINIK

Don't come back to my cafe.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - EVENING

Adam is laying on the bed reading the book.

There is a KNOCK at the door.

Adam opens it to find STEFANO (28 years old, Italian), LUCIAN (29 years old, German), and a GIRL (17 years old). Stefano quickly motions for Adam to get his backpack and follow them.

Adam tries to talk, but Lucian holds a finger up to his lips for silence.

INT. CAR - MOMENTS LATER

Lucian is driving an old car, Stefano is in the front seat. Adam and the GIRL in the back seat. They drive through town, there are few cars on the streets. They approach a combined police and military patrol.

The girl surprises Adam by grabbing him around the neck and kisses him.

INT. CHALET - MORNING

The chalet is on the side of a mountain with a potentially nice view, but blocked by low hanging clouds. Adam sits drinking coffee by the window.

A KEY TURNS in the door.

Adam jumps up and starts to move to the door.

The door opens and Isabella walks in. She now has long, dark brown hair. She is carrying a basket with fruits and breads.

ISABELLA

Good morning. Do you have any coffee left?

Adam shakes his head and watches her. She sets the basket down on the counter and puts away the food.

ISABELLA (CONT'D)

How do you like the house? Is it comfortable?

ADAM

Yes, it's a beautiful home. I like the view of the mountains.

She pours a cup of juice and sits in a chair.

ADAM

Why exactly am I here?

ISABELLA

(smiling)

I hear you are searching for a famous, or some might say infamous doctor. Is that right?

ADAM

(guarded)

I'm searching for a person who might be able to help me with a problem. Why am I at your house?

ISABELLA

Some friends of mine thought it best for your safety to hang out here. Away from the police.

It starts to snow.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ISABELLA (CONT'D)

They say you are dangerous. But I find it mysterious and exciting. Why don't you tell me your story?

ADAM

About a week ago, a friend of mine told me about a doctor who may have invented a time machine.

ISABELLA

A time machine? Really?

ADAM

Yes. Interesting?

ISABELLA

Go ahead, I'm all ears.

ADAM

You look familiar, have I seen you before?

Isabella shakes her head.

ISABELLA

No. Please go ahead with your story.

ADAM

Here I am telling you all about this, and I don't even know your name?

ISABELLA

(smiling)

Isabella. How nice to meet you, Adam.

She shakes Adam's hand.

ADAM

It was a very interesting ride out here. Did you arrange that? Hope the hot blooded teenage girl isn't your sister, or I will probably be in big trouble.

ISABELLA

(laughs)

Suzette is such a sweet girl. Is she a good kisser? Doesn't matter.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ISABELLA (CONT'D)

I will tell her you think she is a good kisser. She was pretty nervous, and wanted to impress you.

ADAM

It has been awhile since the last time I made out in the back of a car.

ISABELLA

So, back to your story? You take a train from Paris to here, while the police suspect you of murdering an American agent. You think you are getting arrested, but instead, you end up defending yourself from some young hot blooded teenage girl all the way from the hotel to my home?

They both LAUGH.

ISABELLA (CONT'D)

(serious)

What are you really looking for?

Adam looks outside, the snow is increasing. TWO COWS are in the field. One has five legs, one has three tails.

ADAM

It looks like snow falling on some rather strangely deformed cows. But, it is too warm to be snowing? This morning when you came in, you weren't even wearing a jacket.

ISABELLA

Yes, you are right about the weather, but wrong about the snow and the cows. It is ash from recent nuclear attacks. The cows eat the ash and grow with some rather unique features. We need to stay indoors and let the air filters work.

ADAM

Radiation poison?

ISABELLA

One reason why our life expectancy is about forty-five years.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

ADAM

Forty-five?

ISABELLA

If we are lucky. Again, what are you really looking for?

ADAM

I injured my head in an accident about four weeks ago. Things have been different ever since.

ISABELLA

Different?

ADAM

Not everything. Some are the same, but many are different.

ISABELLA

If you injured your head, you may have amnesia, memory loss, or just some strange dreams.

ADAM

(shaking his head)

No, no, no. I have been thinking about it and it seems more like the world has changed. One friend tried to explain it to me as a freak change in time.

ISABELLA

Sounds interesting.

EXT. STREET IN INNSBRUCK, AUSTRIA - AFTERNOON

Isabella pulls Adam by the hand across a busy street. There is a light rain.

There is a LOUD EXPLOSION in the distance.

ISABELLA

(concerned)

Hurry!

They run down the street and stop at an apartment door.

Isabella RINGS the bell.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

HERMANN (V.O.)
(Speaking German)

Yes?

ISABELLA
(speaking German)

I have a package from Zurich for
you.

A BUZZER noise, indicates the door is unlocked.

Isabella opens the door and they enter.

INT. LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

The living room is on the fifth floor with a view of St. Jakob church and the river. The room has a small table, an old leather bound chair and a sofa. One wall is the windows, one for a kitchenette and the other two have bookcases floor to ceiling.

HERMANN (28 years old, Austrian, distinguished but looks about 50 years old) hugs Isabella as an old friend and the kiss on both cheeks.

There are EXPLOSIONS heard and felt to the West of the city.

There are SIRENS from emergency vehicles.

ISABELLA
Adam, this is Hermann. Hermann,
meet Adam.

HERMANN
Pleasure to meet you.

ADAM
Nice to meet you, too. Is there a
safe room or bomb shelter we
should be going to?

HERMANN
No, this is nothing. They are
aiming for the factories on the
West side of the city.

ISABELLA
When did the Ottomans start this
again?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

HERMANN

Who knows, it doesn't really matter, does it?

Hermann motions for Adam to sit on the sofa while he takes a seat in the leather chair.

ISABELLA

Who would care for a tea?

HERMANN

I would like a tea, please.

ADAM

How about a cappuccino for me?

Isabella walks to the kitchenette and prepares the drinks.

ISABELLA

Adam, Hermann is a friend.

HERMANN

Where do you come from and what happened to you?

ADAM

I live in Washington D.C., with my wife and two daughters. One afternoon I was struck by a car. That's the last thing I remember before waking up in the hospital.

ISABELLA

Hermann, where's the milk?

HERMANN

No milk this week. Go ahead, Adam.

ADAM

Now, I don't have a wife. No kids. Everyone speaks German.

HERMANN

Nothing wrong with speaking German, is there?

ADAM

No, not at all. But what happened to French and Italian?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

HERMANN

Languages come and go, it's just a form of communication.

Isabella sets down a tray, with three cups, spoons, and sugar then sits down next to Adam.

ISABELLA

Espresso for you, no milk.

HERMANN

Adam, I am mostly interested in the politics of this world you supposedly lived in. What is different?

ADAM

Where I came from, the last major war in Europe was World War Two. After that, the United Nations was built to reduce the chances of another large scale war.

ISABELLA

What was World War Two?

ADAM

It was a long and terrible war that ended in nineteen forty-five. The short story is the Allies: America, Great Britain, the Soviet Union, and other nations defeated Nazi Germany and the Japanese Empire.

HERMANN

Interesting. That explains your confusion with the German language.

Hermann takes a sip of tea.

HERMANN (CONT'D)

What is the United Nations?

ADAM

The United Nations was formed to bring nations together. This organization can seek answers to problems, hopefully short of war.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

HERMANN

Was the United Nations like the League of Nations presented by your President Wilson before he was assassinated?

ADAM

Yes, like that but he wasn't assassinated.

HERMANN

Interesting.

ISABELLA

Did it prevent wars?

ADAM

It is hard to judge how many conflicts it actually prevented, but it was a place where countries could talk and develop strategies for peace.

EXPLOSION outside.

HERMANN

I'm not sure what Isabella has told you, but we are in the process of killing ourselves.

Hermann finishes his tea.

HERMANN (CONT'D)

The war is getting worse. Even if we could stop today, the effects will cause the human race to dye out. That is something that few recognize, and fewer still will have the strength and bravery to prevent.

ISABELLA

Adam, your version of history. It seems strange? What is your intention?

ADAM

I would like to find this time machine and fix this mess.

HERMANN

You told me a story of war and death.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

HERMANN (CONT'D)

But the story offers hope for the human race which we do not have.

Isabella finishes her tea.

ADAM

I didn't come all this way to tell you a story. I'm usually more of an action person.

HERMANN

Yes, I can see that. Patience and trust will be rewarded.

Isabella returns the tray to the kitchenette.

HERMANN (CONT'D)

Adam, you have a train to Munich to catch.

HERMANN (CONT'D)

Isabella, keep moving and keep your new friend safe. I don't think Adam's story is fully written yet.

INT. BEER HALL - EARLY EVENING

The beer hall is packed with PEOPLE drinking, eating, and having a great time. There is one TV on the wall near them. Adam is dressed with a fake mustache and has a medical bandage over one eye. Isabella is wearing a nurse uniform and a wig with red hair. Several people in the beer hall have bandages or obvious scars.

ADAM

Why are we in the open like this?

ISABELLA

There are several hospitals around here and we can blend in.

Adam drinks his beer.

ISABELLA

Adam, were you in the army?

ADAM

I am. I was a Lieutenant Colonel in the Army National Guard.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ISABELLA

Did you go to this World War Two?

ADAM

No. My great-grandparents participated in the War.

(laughs)

I served in two wars with Iraq.

ISABELLA

Where is Iraq and why were you at war?

ADAM

Iraq is the name for the country with the capital of Baghdad. Iraq invaded the country of Kuwait the first time. The second time, the US invaded Iraq to free the Iraqi people from a dictator.

ISABELLA

You seem to know a lot about wars.

ADAM

I enjoyed reading a lot of history. But I'm also pretty handy with fixing the house.

Adam turns toward the TV and watches the news in German.

On the TV: a group of NINETEEN PRISONERS march up to a scaffold in the middle of a square in Milan, Italy. The prisoners are in gray uniforms and the police are in brown and black uniforms. The PRISONERS are put on the trap doors, noose around their necks and then dropped to their deaths. PEOPLE continue to walk and drive past as if this is normal.

ADAM

I am a little surprised. Everyone goes about their business as usual.

ISABELLA

No reason to stop. The police hang people all the time.

Isabella drinks her beer.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ISABELLA (CONT'D)

Besides, once you have been to the war zone, you don't feel sorry for anyone who doesn't do their duty. Watch these next five.

Adam watches as FOUR MEN and ONE WOMAN are brought out and beheaded. There is very little blood and the blade of the sword is red hot and smoking.

The bottom of the screen shows in German, "24 traitors executed in Milan, Italy, next week the military plans to execute 22 traitors in Berlin."

ISABELLA

Same punishment, just a different method. The beheading has better psychological effect for some people, so the police like to mix it up a little.

ADAM

How come there is so little blood?

ISABELLA

They use a specially heated blade that cauterizes the skin so quickly that there isn't any blood. Don't look so disgusted, your country killed almost three million slaves during the revolt in the eighteen hundreds.

ADAM

We don't cut off heads or hang anyone in public in the Twentieth Century.

ISABELLA

Are you sure?

Lucian makes his way quickly through the crowd; then whispers in Isabella's ear.

ISABELLA

Let's go!

Isabella grabs Adam's hand and follows Lucian to the exit.

INT. CAR - MOMENTS LATER

Lucian drives very quickly through the streets of downtown Munich. Isabella is in the passenger seat and Adam is in the back seat.

Isabella pulls out a first aid kit from the glove box. She opens it and selects an I.V. bag of blood. She cuts it open with a small knife, then pours some on her hands and arms. She turns around and pours the rest on Adam.

ADAM

(yells)

What are you doing!

Isabella climbs over into the back seat.

ISABELLA

(yells)

Shut up and lay down. You are wounded and we are taking you to the hospital!

Lucian races towards the big arches of the Konigsplatz. There is a road block with SOLDIERS and POLICEMEN.

Lucian crosses over to the incoming traffic side of the street to get around the road block.

LUCIAN

Duck!

The SOLDIERS shoot into car, shattering all the windows. Lucian turns and hits a police roadblock stopping the car.

POLICEMEN run up to the car with weapons aimed at them.

POLICMAN

(yells in German)

Get out of the car! Now!

LUCIAN

(yells in German)

You idiot! We have to get to the hospital! This is a wounded Soldier from the terrorist attack!

POLICMAN

(yells in German)

Get out!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

LUCIAN
(yells in German)
This soldier needs a doctor!

The POLICEMEN looks in the car to see Isabella with blood and Adam in the back seat covered in blood.

POLICMAN
(yells in German)
OK! Get out of here!

He waves to clear a path.

POLICMAN (CONT'D)
(yells in German)
Clear a path, they are going to
the hospital.

Lucian drives past the roadblock in a hurry.

ADAM
What's going on?

LUCIAN
There was an attack by Ottoman
special terrorists. Radio reports
about three to four thousand
killed. The police are locking
down the city to hunt them down.

Adam sits up, there is blood from a cut above his left eye.

ISABELLA
(concerned)
Adam, you're wounded.

Isabella puts a bandage to Adam's wound.

INT. RHINE RIVER BARGE - EARLY EVENING

Isabella and Adam are riding on the back deck of a Rhine River barge along the valley north of Mainz. They sit at a small folding table with plates of spaghetti.

Adam has a bandage over his eye with dried blood.

ISABELLA
Thought I would treat you to an
Italian dinner.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ADAM

It's nice to be outside a little bit.

ISABELLA

The captain explained that we are good until Koblenz. So, after dinner, back down to the storage room until the end of the ride.

They start eating.

ISABELLA (CONT'D)

Before we get too cozy, for the next hours. Tell me about your wife?

ADAM

You believe me?

ISABELLA

No, not yet, but not many men I know dream of being married.

ADAM

Her name is Anna. Her family is from Northern Italy.

ISABELLA

Northern Italy? I hope the spaghetti is good enough for you?

Adam laughs.

ADAM

Her mom came over after World War Two. Anna is a doctor at Georgetown University. We have two beautiful daughters. Erica is twelve and Julia is seven and they love cheer-leading.

ISABELLA

What is cheer-leading?

ADAM

They cheer for the boys during football and basketball games.

ISABELLA

You seem to miss them very much.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ADAM

Yes, I would do anything to see them again.

ISABELLA

I wish all the twelve year old girls and boys could play games.

Isabella leans over and holds his hand.

ISABELLA (CONT'D)

Twelve year old is usually when we start small arms training everyday after school.

ADAM

Twelve years old? That is pretty young. What about the girls?

ISABELLA

Everyone does military training together. Starting at five everyone is always together, boys and girls. From five to eleven is combative training and squad tactics. Then we start small arms training, platoon and company task force tactics. At fifteen we are doing crew served weapon training. At seventeen, some are selected for chemical, communications or military intelligence. Everyone trains together until you are killed or released from the military.

ADAM

When are you released from the military?

ISABELLA

Twenty-five years old. Then you must marry and have children.

ADAM

Do you have a husband and children?

ISABELLA

No. The boy I was supposed to marry, was killed in the war.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

ISABELLA (CONT'D)

I can't have children because of exposure during several nuclear attacks during the war. So, I am exempt from marriage.

ADAM

I am sorry for you, children are wonderful.

ISABELLA

Don't be sorry, many of us have the same problem.

Isabella looks intently at Adam.

ISABELLA

You sound like someone who has experience. Are you interested in having children?

ADAM

(slowly, thoughtful)

I am not exactly sure what to say? Technically, I'm not married at the moment. But emotionally, I am committed to my family.

ISABELLA

It's an interesting dilemma. You don't sound like you were dreaming.

EXT. REMBRANDT SQUARE, AMSTERDAM - EARLY MORNING

Isabella and Adam are sitting on a park bench. Isabella and Adam look tired and dirty. The cafes and bakeries are beginning to open but the streets are still empty.

ADAM

How long do we need to sit here? It fills very strange to sit in the open.

ISABELLA

Don't worry, we just need to blend in with the surroundings for a couple of hours until our train.

ADAM

Since we have a little time, can I ask a question?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ISABELLA

(tiredly)

Yes, of course.

Isabella leans over and makes herself comfortable, putting her head on his shoulder.

ADAM

What can you tell me about Germany since nineteen fourteen?

ISABELLA

In nineteen, fourteen, the German Army quickly conquered France using Schlieffen's plan. Adolf Hilter became the ReichsMinister of the Third Reich. He subsequently defeated Denmark, Norway, Italy, Greece, the rest of Europe, and invaded Russia.

ADAM

What about now?

ISABELLA

His son, continues the fight as the current High Chancellor.

ADAM

Is there an American Corps fighting with Germany?

ISABELLA

Yes, America has always supported Germany. Paul Henderson was the largest military industrialist. When Japan invaded California, he became President for Life and built America's army and began using nuclear weapons. He committed troops to Germany to defend against the Ottomans and Japanese creating the four corner zone.

JERARD (27 years old, Dutch) dressed in a police uniform walks up and kicks Isabella to get her attention.

JERARD

(gruff, speaking in German)

Your ID.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Isabella hands Jerard two ID cards.

Jerard inspects both ID cards, then returns them and walks away.

ISABELLA

You do understand that the war we are fighting now, defends Europe? Hitler is a hero. Without him, we would be speaking Arabic and you might be speaking Japanese.

ADAM

I'm not the judge, but the decisions of the leaders are destroying human race.

Isabella nods and stands up.

ISABELLA

(tiredly)

Let's go.

She smiles and shows Adam the ID cards and two train tickets.

Adam looks around, but the Jerard is gone.

INT. CASTLE BEDROOM - EVENING.

Adam is sleeping in a bed.

There is a FAINT KNOCK door downstairs.

Adam sits up to listen. He sees the flicker of candle light through the old wooden bedroom door.

The door opens with a CREAK and Isabella, wearing a silk robe, gestures for Adam to follow her.

ISABELLA

Put something on and hurry down.

INT. CASTLE LIBRARY - MOMENTS LATER

Adam enters the library which is lit by candles and a large fire in the fireplace. In the room are: ELIZABETH (27 years old, English), HELEN (28 years old, Swedish), Jerard, Hermann, Stefano, Lucian, Dominik, Marie, and Isabella. They sit and stand around the room leaving the leather couch in the center, available.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Adam looks around and realizes he is to be the center of attention.

ISABELLA

Adam, these are some friends. You may have met a few? Jerard, Hermann, Stefano, Lucian, Dominik, Elizabeth, Marie, Helen.

ADAM

Hello, nice to meet you all.

JERARD

We've heard a lot about you.

Isabella hands Adam a cup of coffee and invites him to sit together on the couch.

ADAM

(smiles)

Is that good or bad?

HERMANN

This is very serious, Adam. The special police are getting closer. Yesterday, they were in a village about fifty kilometers from here.

MARIE

All the kids under eleven are now being sent to foster homes in Frankfurt. Everyone else is heading to the war.

ELIZABETH

Unfortunately, they also captured Roger.

ISABELLA

(shocked)

Do they know who he is?

STEFANO

No, we don't think they recognized him because everyone went straight to combat.

ELIZABETH

Roger was in training for, let us say, a very unique and sensitive mission. His loss will be impossible to replace.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ADAM

Why did the police do this to the town?

MARIE

They are looking for you.

ADAM

(surprised)

Me?

MARIE

Congratulations, you are now the second most wanted man in the Fourth Reich, right behind Doctor Ramota.

ADAM

Why? Why do they want me so much?

MARIE

The American President for Life, Paul Henderson and High Chancellor Hitler want to prevent you from finding Doctor Ramota, then using the time machine to destroy them.

ADAM

But I still don't know where Doctor Ramota is or if there really is a time machine?

MARIE

(Speaking French to Isabella)

You haven't told him?

ISABELLA

No I haven't. This was a decision we must all make together.

HERMANN

Adam, the friends you see in this room are part of a very small group who trust each other completely. If the trust is broken in any way, we will all die. Do you understand?

Adam nods, looking at Isabella.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

STEFANO

We were all in the same military unit. A unique, international regiment, selected during fifth grade based on our academic aptitude.

DOMINIK

After our military service, we became very concerned about the path of humanity and sought methods to make changes.

HELEN

The wars are growing more destructive, destroying the world. Doctor Ramota proceeded to build a time machine to prevent the latest conflict.

Adam laughs a little.

ADAM

I got it. You don't really trust me yet. You're not sure if I am an agent sent to find the time machine and Doctor Ramota?

Helen nods.

ADAM

(confident)

Look. I'm the expendable crew member.

STEFANO

(upset)

I don't trust this American. We are all going to die.

ISABELLA

Stefano, we are all dying anyway.

STEFANO

(upset)

We don't need him. We can train others or go ourselves!

HELEN

If that was true, we would have gone already.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (4)

HERMANN

The stories you have been telling Isabella sound terrible, but there seems to be more hope for humanity than what we currently have.

(Speaking in German)

We need to make a decision. I trust him.

LUCIAN

(Speaking in German)

I trust him also.

DOMINIK

(Speaking in German)

Isabella, ask him.

Dominik and Elizabeth nod in agreement.

ISABELLA

There is no way of knowing how to bring someone back.

STEFANO

(upset, speaks in German)

Changing time may make things worse, not better. Look at all those wars he talks about. And us! Do we just suddenly die?

DOMINIK

Do we have the right to make this decision?

HELEN

Yes we do. We know that the current course of events will destroy our race. It is our obligation to make the decision.

ADAM

I am ready.

All turn to look at Adam.

ADAM (CONT'D)

Are you?

HELEN

(to Isabella)

Tell him. We have work to do.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (5)

All watch Isabella.

Isabella takes Adam's hand.

ISABELLA

Adam. I am Doctor Ramota. Yes,
there is a time machine.

Adam is stunned.

ISABELLA

(smiles)

Were you looking for an old man?
Maybe in a lab coat, not a silk
robe?

The other women laugh at Adam's surprised look.

INT. CASTLE LIBRARY - MOMENTS LATER

Adam is sitting on the couch next to Isabella, she is holding his hand.

Stefano is standing up and adds a shot of grappa to his coffee.

Dominik is stands near the bookcase looking through a large book. Hermann is sitting in a large leather chair with a book.

HELEN

First thing we need to do is
figure out the best point in time
to send you.

ELIZABETH

Roger has an uncanny resemblance
to Paul Henderson, junior. We
hoped he could infiltrate and kill
the family which would prevent the
alliance between America and
Germany.

LUCIAN

Germany, without American nuclear
weapons and soldiers would have
agreed to a peace treaty.

ADAM

That's your plan? Hope isn't a
plan.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

HELEN

You present the possibility to really change the path of humanity. You offer something beyond our grasp and something more than 'hope'. The possibility of an actual change that will set our human race on a better path.

JERARD

The key, we believe, is to send you back to the time when your dream world or historical event split the paths of humanity. Hopefully, you can make a difference.

ADAM

Sounds good to me. Much of the American history is very similar up through the Revolution in seventeen seventy-six. It starts to diverge by the middle of the eighteen hundreds.

ELIZABETH

Maybe we can fix that American independence issue if we pick a Brit rather than a Yank for this job?

Adam laughs.

HERMANN

Shall we start after America gained independence?

ADAM

No issues. The history that I know had the American Civil War between the North and South in eighteen sixty-one to eighteen sixty-four.

DOMINIK

No, nothing about a civil war in eighteen sixty-one.

MARIE

Europe in the early eighteen hundreds was in great turmoil, both politically and militarily.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ADAM

Look at the allied forces that were arrayed against Napoleon Bonaparte at Waterloo.

HERMANN

Who's Napoleon?

Adam looks at Hermann.

STEFANO

Napoleon was a general in the French Armee in the early eighteen hundreds who invaded Italy.

ADAM

Then he was the general of the French Grande Armee and became the Emperor.

Dominik reading from the book.

DOMINIK

General Napoleon led a French Army into Northern Italy. He conducted a series of movements hoping to force the Austrians out of Italy. On fourteen June, eighteen hundred near Alessandria, Piedmont, at the Battle of Merango, a sniper's bullet hit him in the lower stomach. He died of this wound twenty hours later in a field hospital.

HELEN

Why is Napoleon important?

ADAM

He had a huge role in history. He agreed to sell the Louisiana Territory to America in order to fund the Napoleonic Wars.

Jerard looks at a map of Europe on the wall.

JERARD

Piedmont, Italy is about ten to twelve hours drive in two thousand and ten or about eight to twelve days in eighteen hundred. Do you know much about the military?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

ADAM

That's the easy part.

STEFANO

(sarcastically)

What are you going to do? Go up to him, "General Napoleon, it's not a good day for a battle." Give me a break.

LUCIAN

(annoyed)

Stefano, say something useful or shut up.

HELEN

Sounds like you have an interesting mission, Colonel?

ADAM

Yes, once in a lifetime.

Isabella stands up.

ISABELLA

It is getting late.

Everyone stands up and put on winter coats.

Helen walks to Isabella and kisses her on both cheeks.

HELEN

Isabella, keep him safe and out of sight. It will probably take us a couple of days to set everything up.

LUCIAN

Meet us at the chalet.

MARIE

Thank you. Bon chance!

Marie gives Adam a kiss on both cheeks.

INT. TRUCK - MORNING

Lucian drives a tractor trailer truck. Adam sits in the middle. Stefano is in the passenger seat smoking a cigarette.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ADAM

What's in the truck?

LUCIAN

Old military vehicles. We drive them to get through check points.

ADAM

Where are we going?

STEFANO

South.

LUCIAN

Are you frightened?

ADAM

Frightened? About what?

LUCIAN

About going back in time.

ADAM

(smiles)

It's pretty exciting, the chance to maybe meet General Napoleon. Not something you do every day?

STEFANO

What are your intentions?

ADAM

I intend to save Napoleon's life.

Stefano blows smoke in Adam's face.

STEFANO

(upset)

What do you intend to do about Isabella?

ADAM

(confused)

What?

STEFANO

(angry)

She is protecting you like a little puppy and you sit here ready to kill her. To change it so that she, we never exist!

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

LUCIAN

Stefano had a thing for Isabella.

ADAM

(reflective)

I never thought of it that way.

STEFANO

You are not the only expendable person on this planet. Don't hurt her.

INT. CHALET - LATE AFTERNOON

The chalet is on the side of a mountain with a beautiful view of the mountains with a colorful sunset. Isabella is reading a book and drinking tea.

Adam walks into the room and stands near the window.

ISABELLA

Hello.

ADAM

Hello, enjoying the nice view?

ISABELLA

(smiles)

Yes, very much.

ADAM

Can I bother you with a few questions?

ISABELLA

(happy)

Of course.

Isabella sets down her book on the table, it is a bible.

ADAM

How does the time machine work?

ISABELLA

That is a long story. Our unit was part of the research effort on the effects of tactical nuclear bombs.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ISABELLA (CONT'D)

We followed the attacking forces through the radiation and left over debris as they put to death the remaining defenders to put them out of their misery. It was Hell.

She takes a sip of tea and shivers, then regains her composure.

ISABELLA (CONT'D)

We began to notice a unique phenomenon on the battlefield. When attacks were coincided with electrical storms, we found unusual objects from the past and even soldiers and people from hundreds of years ago dying under our guns. We grasped the importance of this opportunity and built a time machine.

ADAM

Have you tested it?

ISABELLA

We tried some small objects and animals. Most were successful.

ADAM

OK, guess that answers a couple of questions. What about returning?

ISABELLA

It's a one way trip. If you succeed, we may never be born. In which case, the time machine will never be built. Or...

ADAM

I might die on the way?

Isabella nods.

ADAM (CONT'D)

So, I better plan to live the rest of my life in eighteen hundred?

ISABELLA

Yes.

She stands and walks over to Adam, starting to cry.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ISABELLA (CONT'D)
You might not be scared, but I am.
Once we turn on the machine, we
may all.... This may be my last
sunset.

She hugs Adam and kisses his cheek.

ISABELLA (CONT'D)
(crying)
Do you think it will hurt?

Adam shakes his head.

ISABELLA (CONT'D)
Promise, never to forget me.

INT. CHALET KITCHEN - LATE EVENING

Isabella and Adam are packing a basket with food.

There is a KNOCK at the back door.

Isabella opens the door.

Lucian and Helen enter and quickly close the door. They are both dressed as nurses. Lucian puts a small suitcase on the table and waves Adam to sit in a chair. Lucian opens the suitcase and hands Isabella doctor scrubs to put on.

Helen sets down a large medical bag on the table next to Adam and opens it.

HELEN
Everything is ready. We need to
get you into a disguise. It's a
long drive and will be
uncomfortable, but the drive will
save you days of walking.

Helen examines Adam's cut and stitches above his left eye.

HELEN (CONT'D)
It's healing, but will leave a
scar.

Helen wraps bandages around his head covering his left eye. Then she puts blood from an IV bag onto the outside of the bandages. She tapes the end of the blood tube to his arm to look like he is receiving blood.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ADAM

Isabella.

Isabella now wearing the doctor uniform turns to look at Adam.

ADAM (CONT'D)

Where's Suzette? That was more fun than being wrapped like a mummy.

ISABELLA

(laughs)

Boys!

ADAM

I'm going to suffocate in this.

ISABELLA

(teasing)

Trust me, I'm a doctor.

HELEN

This disguise will get all of us through the police checkpoints. Stay quiet or moan a little if the doors are opened.

EXT. CHALET EXTERIOR - MOMENTS LATER

Isabella guides Adam out of the house and to a waiting ambulance. Stefano holds the back door open while Isabella and Helen help Adam into the back of the ambulance and lay down on the gurney then hook up an E.K.G.

STEFANO

(sarcastic)

You look better every time I see you.

ADAM

With your driving skills, I had to prepare ahead of time.

Lucian laughs and pats Adam on the back.

INT. HOSPITAL EMERGENCY ROOM - MORNING

The hospital emergency room is almost empty at four in the morning. Stefano pushes Adam on a gurney while Helen and Isabella walk next to him.

Stefano pushes the gurney into an operating room and departs.

INT. OPERATING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

The operating room has a poster of an aerial photograph of Piacenza, Italy. The sign below it reads, "Ospedale Civile di Piacenza".

Isabella and Helen wait with Adam.

STEFANO (O.S.)
(speaking in German)
I know, I know we're late.

ANNA (O.S.)
(upset speaking in German)
You should drive faster.

STEFANO (O.S.)
(speaking in German)
Tell that to Lucian.

The operating room door opens and Stefano enters with a bag of clothes.

STEFANO
Take the bandages off and everyone change into these clothes.

ANNA (O.S.)
(speaking in German)
Hurry, we only have a short time before the staff arrives to work.

Helen and Isabella quickly switch the medical coats for local jackets.

Adam sits up and Helen unwraps the bandages. Adam gets off the gurney and stands up. Isabella hands him some water to drink.

Anna enters the room dressed as a doctor.

Adam stops drinking and stares at Anna.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Isabella notices the look on Adam's face and looks at Anna.

ISABELLA

(whispers)

It can't be.

ANNA

(loud whisper in
German)

Come on, hurry, we must go!

HELEN

(whispers)

What can't be?

ADAM

My wife.

HELEN

Who?

Adam moves toward Anna.

Anna backs away. She puts up her hands when he reaches for her.

ANNA

(whispers in German)

What are you doing?

Stefano leans in from the next room.

STEFANO

(loud whisper)

What are you waiting for?

ANNA

(whispers in German)

Hurry up!

Anna quickly turns and exits the room.

Isabella punches Adam in the arm.

ISABELLA

(whispers)

She doesn't know you!

Helen grabs Isabella and Adam and pulls them out of room.

EXT. PIACENZA CITY STREET - MOMENTS LATER

The sky is starting to lighten as the group moves through the city from the hospital to the large church, Duomo of Piacenza. The streets are empty.

Anna is followed by Stefano and Lucian both carrying a heavy footlocker. Then Adam, Isabella, and Helen.

Adam stops for a moment when he sees the Duomo of Piacenza.

ADAM
(loud whisper,
excited)
I know where we are, Anna and I
were married in this church.

Isabella pushes Adam to keep him moving.

ISABELLA
(whisper in German)
Great, where are we going next?
To the French Riviera for his
honeymoon?

HELEN
(whisper in German,
laughs)
Someone's in love!

The group reaches the front door of the church and a PRIEST opens it and waves them quickly inside.

INT. DUOMO OF PIACENZA - MOMENTS LATER

The Duomo of Piacenza is empty this early in the morning. The sunlight is just beginning to illuminate the upper windows.

Stefano and Lucian race ahead following the PRIEST through a back door.

Adam stops Anna near the alter.

ADAM
Anna, don't you remember me?
(speaking Italian)
I'm Adam, your husband.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ANNA
(speaking German)
I don't understand you.

ADAM
We were married here. We have two
daughters.

Isabella and Helen walk up. Isabella is crying a little.

HELEN
Adam. She doesn't know you. Her
name is Marina, not Anna.

ANNA
(speaking German)
Yes, yes, I am Marina.

ISABELLA
We have to go. I'm sorry.

The PRIEST comes back and gestures for them to follow.

INT. SACRISTY- MOMENTS LATER

Adam, Isabella, and Helen enter the small room.

The Sacristy of the Duomo is lit by candles. The
footlocker on the floor against a wall, next to a power
outlet.

Lucian is busy hooking up a large power cable to a panel
inside the footlocker.

Stefano is laying out a old French uniform on top of a
desk. He points to Adam to put it on.

Isabella quickly helps Lucian at the footlocker.

STEFANO
Marie was able to steal the
uniform from a museum.

Adam puts on the uniform.

ADAM
It smells original.

STEFANO
It's all original. You will be a
French Commandant.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The the machine in the footlocker begins to glow.

STEFANO (CONT'D)

The priest says the French Army
used this church during their
invasion in eighteen hundred.

Adam finishes putting on the jacket.

Helen hands him a document.

STEFANO (CONT'D)

This room is the same, the
furniture hasn't moved. So, when
you arrive, you won't be part of a
desk or trapped inside a wall.

HELEN

Marie wrote you a paper in French
explaining that you are a visiting
American officer, like an
observer. It should help you
blend in and possibly get an
introduction to the senior staff.

Adam puts the letter in his jacket pocket. Then straps a
sword around his waist.

The PRIEST walks forward, conducts a short blessing and
hands Adam a small bag of coins which Adam puts in a
pocket.

Isabella picks up the French officer's hat from the table
and puts it on Adam.

She wraps her arms around him and kisses Adam. Her eyes
are open and look directly at Anna.

Anna watches, but has no reaction.

LUCIAN

Isabella, thirty seconds.

Isabella puts a small picture of her in Adam's hand.

ADAM

Thank you.

She has tears in her eyes but smiles. She walks out of
the room and holds Anna's hand.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ISABELLA

(whispers)

I love you.

Lucian closes the door, the footlocker begins to hum and the room changes to black.

INT. DUOMO OF PIACENZA SACRISTY- MORNING

The room is completely black and quiet.

ADAM

(whispers)

Anna. Isabella.

Adam moves slowly towards the door.

The door SQUEAKS when Adam opens it a crack to look out.

There are SNORING sounds from the main church.

ADAM

(whispers)

Isabella. Anna.

INT. DUOMO OF PIACENZA - MOMENTS LATER

Adam makes his way carefully through the church. He has to avoid French soldiers sleeping on every pew and the floor. French uniforms, muskets, and equipment neatly piled next to the soldiers.

EXT. DUOMO OF PIACENZA STREET - MOMENTS LATER

Adam closes the front door of the church and looks around the street. The sun is just beginning to lighten the sky. He looks at the picture of Isabella smiling somewhere in the mountains. He puts it in his jacket pocket.

TWO FRENCH SOLDIERS walk past carrying water buckets. Adam watches as THREE FRENCH OFFICERS turn the corner from behind the church: CAPITAINE DUBOIS (24 years old), CAPITAINE LEFEVRE (23 years old), and LIEUTENANT BETRAND (19 years old).

Adam approaches the officers.

ADAM

Bonjour.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The FRENCH OFFICERS salute Adam.

CAPITAINE DUBOIS
 Bonjour Commandant, ca va?

Adam returns the salute.

CAPITAINE DUBOIS (CONT'D)
 (Speaking French)
 Can we help you?

ADAM
 Do you speak English?

CAPITAINE LEFEVRE
 I speak a little English. Who are
 you?

ADAM
 I am from America. Commandant
 Adam Martin of the US Army.

CAPITAINE DUBOIS
 (Speaking French)
 Did he say he is American? Why is
 he wearing a French uniform?

Adam pulls out the letter and hands it to Capitaine
 Lefevre.

ADAM
 This might help explain my
 situation.

Capitaine Dubois and Capitaine Lefevre read over the
 letter.

CAPITAINE LEFEVRE
 Je present Capitaine Dubois.

Points to Capitaine Dubois.

CAPITAINE LEFEVRE (CONT'D)
 (smiling)
 I am Capitaine Lefevre and this is
 Lieutenant Betrand, the future
 general of the French Armee, eh
 Betrand?

Betrand blushes, the officers laugh and shake hands with
 Adam.

A SOLDIER approaches and salutes.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

LIEUTENANT BETRAND

(Speaking French)

Breakfast is ready, this way gentlemen.

CAPITAINE LEFEVRE

Commandant, please join us for petit dejeuner, ah, breakfast.

INT. HOUSE DINING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Adam and the three French officers sit at the dining room table of the house. A WOMAN and her DAUGHTER put bread, jams, fruits, cups, and water on the table for the men.

WOMAN

(speaking in Italian)

Caffè?

She holds a pitcher of coffee and the officers all point at their cups for her to pour some coffee.

CAPITAINE LEFEVRE

You live in New York?

ADAM

New York? No, I am from Washington.

CAPITAINE DUBOIS

Our colonel was with Lafayette at Yorktown.

The DAUGHTER gives Adam some bread.

DAUGHTER

Signore. Pane?

ADAM

(smiles)

Grazie, Bella.

WOMAN

(Speaking Italian)

Caro, leave the officers alone and go ask papa if the horses are ready.

DAUGHTER

(Speaking Italian)

Si mama.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The DAUGHTER runs out the back door.

CAPITAINE LEFEVRE
The colonel speaks good English.
Apres petit dejeuner we will find
him to talk with you.

The HUSBAND and DAUGHTER enter.

HUSBAND
(Speaking Italian)
Your horses are ready.

The French officers look confused.

ADAM
Your horses are ready.

CAPITAINE LEFEVRE
Merci. You speak a little
Italian, eh?

To the other French officers.

CAPITAINE LEFEVRE (CONT'D)
(speaking French)
The horses are ready.

ADAM
Are you going to a battle?

CAPITAINE LEFEVRE
(Speaking English)
Battle, mais oui, we are always
going to a battle. We march up
the road. Then, maybe we find the
Austrians and fight a small
battle, cela est la guerre.

They quickly finish eating, leave a few coins on the
table and depart.

Adam kneels down and beckons to the DAUGHTER.

ADAM
(Speaking Italian)
Thank your for the breakfast, you
are a wonderful cook.

Adam gives her three silver coins. The DAUGHTER is
surprised and looks at her mom.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

DAUGHTER
(happy, smiling)
Grazie!

Adam stands up and gives three coins to the HUSBAND.

HUSBAND
(Italian)
Grazie, grazie mille.

The HUSBAND happily kisses Adam on both cheeks.

EXT. ITALIAN ROAD - AFTERNOON

Adam stops near a small farm house for a drink of water from a canteen. It is very hot and the crops in the fields are just beginning to grow. The road is little more than a single lane packed dirt.

The regiment in front of him is about four hundred yards away.

There is a RUMBLE on the road.

An artillery battery of six guns and six caissons approach to within fifty yards of Adam. CAPITAINE SIMON (25 years old) is the commander and SERGENT-CHEF FOURNIER (23 years old) is the deputy, both riding horses. Each gun team has TWO SOLDIERS guiding FOUR HORSES and TWO SOLDIERS driving from the top of the caissons.

One of the wheels of the first caisson breaks throwing a SOLDIER to the ground where he is crushed by the wheel.

The SOLDIERS stop the team of horses.

Adam runs back to help, but the SOLDIER is dead.

CAPITAINE SIMON
(Speaking French)
Sergeant-Chef Fournier! Get this
wheel fixed.

The SOLDIERS dismount and FOUR SOLDIERS work to replace the wheel.

SERGENT-CHEF FOURNIER
(yells in French)
You!

Sergent-Chef Fournier quickly dismounts and points to the SOLDIERS on the second caisson.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SERGEANT-CHEF FOURNIER (CONT'D)

(yells in French)

Move your lazy ass! Get up here
and help us!

Adam jumps in to lend a hand to put on the new wheel.

Capitaine Simon suddenly notices Adam and salutes.

CAPITAINE SIMON

(Speaking French)

Commandant, my apologies. I
didn't see you there.

Capitaine Simon leans down from his horse and hits
Sergeant-Chef Fournier on the shoulder with a riding
crop.

CAPITAINE SIMON (CONT'D)

(yells in French)

Sergeant Fournier, what are you
doing? Can't you see, this is a
commandant? You are embarrassing
us!

SERGEANT-CHEF FOURNIER

(Speaking French)

Sorry sir.

Sergeant-Chef Fournier grabs another SOLDIER by the back
of the neck and directs him to replace Adam.

SERGEANT-CHEF FOURNIER (CONT'D)

(yells in French)

You there, take the place of the
commandant. How dare you sit on
your fat ass while an officer does
your job!

Adam watches the teamwork to quickly replace the wheel.
TWO SOLDIERS take the effects off the dead man, then
carry him over to a nearby farm house and talk with the
local FARMER.

SERGEANT-CHEF FOURNIER

(yells in French)

Mount up you lazy bastards! We
have to move.

The SOLDIERS run back from the farm house and all mount
up.

Adam notices the empty seat.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ADAM

(yells)

Capitaine, capitaine. Je voudrais
vous accompagner!

Adam points to the empty seat.

CAPITAINE SIMON

(Speaking French)

What?

Adam gestures to the empty seat.

CAPITAINE SIMON (CONT'D)

(Speaking French)

Sergeant! Help the commandant.

Adam understands and waves off Sergent-Chef Fournier.
The SOLDIERS finish mounting and the battery starts
riding down the road.

EXT. CAMP SITE - LATE AFTERNOON

Adam is with Capitaine Simon, Sergent-Chef Fournier, and
the SOLDIERS in front of a campfire. They are making
soup for dinner. Capitaine Simon speaks with Adam in
French while Sergent-Chef Fournier translates.

CAPITAINE SIMON

(Speaking French)

Commandant, where do you come
from?

SERGEANT-CHEF FOURNIER

Commandant, where do you come
from?

ADAM

I am from America. I am an
observer, a liaison officer from
the American Army.

SERGEANT-CHEF FOURNIER

(speaking French)

He is from America. An observer,
a liaison officer from the
American Army.

CAPITAINE SIMON

(speaking French)

Where are you going?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

SERGEANT-CHEF FOURNIER

Where are you going?

ADAM

I am heading to Alessandria to meet with General Napoleon. There may be a battle. Your team fixed the wheel very quickly and resumed the march. Your battery is very well trained, but I am sorry your soldier died.

Capitaine Simon and Sergent-Chef Fournier smile at the compliment.

SERGEANT-CHEF FOURNIER

Cala est la guerre. The soldiers have been together for a year. Private Vincent was a good soldier, he just arrived before we crossed the Alps and it was bad luck he fell.

The soup is ready and a SOLDIER pours some into tin cups for Adam and Capitaine Simon.

A STAFF OFFICER rides into the camp.

Capitaine Simon stands up. The STAFF OFFICER hands him a message, then turns the horse and departs. Capitaine Simon reads the letter. He sits down and hands the letter to Sergent-Chef Fournier.

SERGEANT-CHEF FOURNIER

Commandant, sounds like you might be right. We have orders to go to Alessandria in the morning.

EXT. ROAD - 1:30 PM

The battery is trotting along a road heading towards a small village. Lieutenant Betrand gallops up to Capitaine Simon and they speak for a moment.

Capitaine Simon waves his sword and begins galloping with Lieutenant Betrand.

SERGEANT-CHEF FOURNIER

(yelling in French)

Let's go!

The SOLDIERS urge the horses into a gallop.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

The battery races down the road, through the village and onto the field where they begin to see and HEAR the battle.

EXT. BATTLE - 2 PM

In front of the battery, the Austrian SOLDIERS are attacking the first French SOLDIERS and driving them back. The Austrian artillery shells are falling around the area. Wounded French soldiers are making their way back.

Nearby the FRENCH GUARDS BATTALION is in line, prepared to defend against the Austrian attack.

Capitaine Simon follows Lieutenant Betrand to a position supporting the Guards battalion. The battery slows from full gallop to get into position.

An EXPLOSION hits and unhorses Capitaine Simon and Lieutenant Betrand, both fall wounded to the ground.

Adam leaps down from the caisson.

ADAM

(yells)

Sergeant Fournier! Halt! Prepare the battery!

SERGEANT-CHEF FOURNIER

(yells in French)

Halt! Prepare the battery for operations!

The SOLDIERS stop and unlimber the cannon. Adam and the Sergeant line up the battery of six guns. There is smoke and Austrian shells landing around them.

ADAM

(yells)

Prepare to fire, at my command!

SERGEANT-CHEF FOURNIER

(yells in French)

Prepare to fire!

Sergent-Chef Fournier gets the SOLDIERS to load the first rounds.

Adam quickly walks between each cannon to observe that they aimed at the attacking Austrian SOLDIERS.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

Adam points.

ADAM

(yells)

Fire!

The first salvo of CANNON FIRE is LOUD and obscures the SOLDIERS in smoke. The SOLDIERS quickly work to swab and reload the cannons.

Adam watches as the artillery rounds hit the Austrian SOLDIERS causing them to halt. The FRENCH GUARDS BATTALION begins to fire with their muskets.

Suddenly, Austrian artillery shells fall around the battery, wounding and killing some of the SOLDIERS.

There is a surprise attack by the AUSTRIAN CALVARY. Sergeant-Chef Fournier is cut down by a sword. The FRENCH SOLDIERS begin to run as the AUSTRIAN CALVARY slashes with swords and fires pistols.

Adam pulls a pistol out of his jacket and shoots one of the AUSTRIAN CALVARY OFFICERS at point blank range. Adam grabs the reins of the frightened horse.

Adam scans around the battlefield looking for General Napoleon. He sees a GROUP of OFFICERS about five hundred yards to the rear. A number of STAFF OFFICERS ride to and from the group.

Adam pulls out a piece of paper and a pencil from his pocket and writes,

Michigan 21, Notre Dame 7. Let's Go Blue.

Adam puts his foot in the stirrup. The horse spins in several circles until Adam finally climbs into the saddle.

EXT. COMMAND POSITION - 4 PM

GENERAL BONAPARTE (31 years old) and OFFICERS watch the battlefield from a scenic position. GENERAL DE BRIGADE (45 years old) points out Adam, who rides the horse hanging on for life, towards them.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

COLONEL 2
(speaking French)
General Bonaparte. Look at this
idiot coming towards us.

GENERAL BONAPARTE
(speaking French)
I am watching the battle and don't
have time for games.

General Bonaparte turns to look when everyone starts to
laugh.

Adam rides closer and closer to the group, then tries to
stop the horse. The horse stops fast causing Adam to fly
over the horse's head, landing on his back. Everyone
laughs.

General de Brigade points to SOUS-LIEUTENANT (18 years
old).

GENERAL DE BRIGADE
(Speaking French)
Lieutenant, go help him up and see
what he wants. It must be
important if he is willing to risk
his neck like that.

The SOUS-LIEUTENANT runs over to help Adam to his feet.
Adam stands up, favoring his left leg and limps up to
General Napoleon Bonaparte. Adam gives the Sous-
lieutenant the note that Helen wrote.

SOUS-LIEUTENANT
(speaking French)
He is Commandant Martin. An
American liaison officer and
observer.

GENERAL BONAPARTE
(Speaking French)
Tell him is it is a pleasure to
meet him. But as you can see, we
are in the middle of a battle and
don't have time to teach him how
to ride a horse.

General Bonaparte waves Adam away.

ADAM
General Bonaparte, I have brought
you an important message from the
artillery battery over there.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

Adam points to the destroyed artillery battery and hands General Bonaparte the message he wrote.

GENERAL BONAPARTE
(Speaking French)
What is this "Michigan", "Notre Dame"? What does Notre Dame have to do with this?

General Bonaparte turns to General de Brigade.

GENERAL BONAPARTE
(Speaking French)
Figure out the meaning of this code. Don't give me useless messages.

He turns back to Adam.

GENERAL BONAPARTE
(Speaking French,
angry)
Out of my way, I must be able to see the battlefield. We will talk after the fight!

Adam understands the gestures. Adam salutes and moves to General Napoleon's right.

General Bonaparte moves slightly behind Adam to speak with General De Brigade.

Adam MOANS and holds his right chest. Adam looks around in shock.

Adam holds up his hand which is covered with blood.

Adam sits down.

GENERAL DE BRIGADE
(yells in French)
You!

He points to TWO SOLDIERS.

GENERAL DE BRIGADE
(Speaking French)
Go! Get that sniper!

The TWO SOLDIERS fire their muskets and chase after the AUSTRIAN SNIPER.

The Sous-lieutenant kneels down to help prop Adam up.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

GENERAL DE BRIGADE
 (Speaking French)
 Poor bastard. Comes all the way
 from America to get killed.

Adam watches the battle in front of him as the FRENCH GUARDS BATTALION begin to counter-attack and push the AUSTRIAN SOLDIERS backwards. He looks at General Bonaparte directing the battle. He pulls his hand away from the wound and pulls out the picture of Isabella, partially covered in blood.

Adam's eyes roll and the Sous-lieutenant gently helps Adam lay down on his back.

Adam looks at the blue sky with white clouds.

INT. HOSPITAL ROOM - DAY

Adam slowly opens his eyes and looks at the ceiling of a hospital room.

NURSE HARRIS 2 (27 years old, African American) enters the room with a big smile.

NURSE HARRIS
 Good morning. Are you hungry
 today?

Adam nods.

She approaches the bed and checks his pulse. She checks the bandage on his head over his left eye.

NURSE HARRIS
 You will probably have a scar, but
 at least it finally stopped
 bleeding.

She raises his bed to a forty-five degree angle, then walks out.

CAPTAIN PATEL (O.S.)
 Adam is doing well, but may suffer
 from head aches and temporary
 memory loss due to the fractured
 skull.

Erica and Julia run into the room.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED:

ERICA

(yelling)
Daddy, daddy!!!

JULIA

(yelling)
Daddy, daddy!!!

They hug Adam and hold his hands.

CAPTAIN PATEL (O.S.)

But, he also had a very strange
injury that we can't explain.

ANNA (O.S.)

Thank you, Doctor Patel.

Anna walks in smiling and holding a BABY. She quickly
walks over to hug Adam.

ANNA (CONT'D)

Adam, it's good to see you awake.
We love you so much.

ADAM

I love you, too.

Captain Patel walks into the room dressed as a civilian
doctor and checking a chart. He waits until Anna sits
back, she has tears in her eyes.

ADAM

Anna, who's the baby?

Anna looks at Captain Patel, concerned.

JULIA

Daddy, don't be so silly. It's
Stefano.

Julia laughs.

JULIA (CONT'D)

Our baby brother. You're so
funny.

He looks at Anna and smiles, then squeezes Julia's hand.

ADAM

I thought you wanted to name him
Richard?

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

ERICA

That was last week, Julia changes her mind almost as much as she changes her clothes.

Julia shifts and leans against Adam's right side. Adam uses his hand to push her back.

ADAM

(in pain)

Ahhhh.

Julia pulls back, very surprised and starts crying.

ANNA

Dear, you are hurting daddy. Let the doctor have a look.

JULIA

(crying)

I'm sorry Daddy.

Erica also backs away.

JULIA (CONT'D)

(crying)

I'm sorry. I didn't mean to.

Captain Patel approaches Adam's right side and checks the bandage.

CAPTAIN PATEL

Looks like the bandage is fine. No additional bleeding.

ANNA

(concerned)

Doctor Patel I thought you said he had a fractured skull? What happened to his chest?

CAPTAIN PATEL

I have been waiting for him to wake up. The head injury is what we would expect to find, but Adam also had bleeding from a wound to his chest on the right side.

He reaches into his coat pocket and pulls out a small glass jar. Inside is an odd shaped piece of lead.

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (3)

CAPTAIN PATEL (CONT'D)

We found this. I not sure what it
is, but it resembles an old lead
musket ball.

Adam stares at the jar.

FADE OUT.

THE END