

FOREIGN JAIL

Written by

Paul Hubbard

hubbsolo@yahoo.com
609-217-9950

EXT. PARK TRAIL - DAY

A young black woman is running along a trail through a park. She is very athletic, and moves confidently. She has a dark complexion, and medium length, curly hair. She is very pretty, with soulful eyes. She is enjoying the nature around her.

She is wearing earbuds, listening to music as she runs.

GROVE OF TREES BESIDE TRAIL

View is from grove of trees as young woman runs by. She is being watched.

PARK TRAIL

Young woman continues to run. She is relaxed. A butterfly flies alongside her for a few seconds. She smiles.

GROVE OF TREES BESIDE TRAIL

Camera view moves from grove of trees, out onto the trail behind the young woman. She is being followed.

PARK TRAIL

Young woman continues to run. She is moving toward a secluded, shaded area.

An individual, wearing a hooded sweatshirt, slowly gets closer to the young woman.

There are fewer and fewer people around. This is a secluded area.

The hooded man is now right behind the young woman. He has been matching strides with her, reducing the chance of her hearing his footfalls.

The hooded man grabs the young woman. She elbows him in the head and spins to face him. He swings at her a couple of times, and she slips both punches.

The young woman throws a kick. The hooded man dodges and attempts to tackle her again. She elbows him in the back and knees him in the stomach.

The hooded man stumbles back, then pulls a knife. The young woman immediately kicks it out of his hand.

The hooded man tackles the young woman. They roll around for several seconds, each working for a dominant position.

The young woman finally gets the hooded man in a choke hold, and squeezes hard. The hooded man struggles for a few seconds, then rapidly taps the woman's leg.

The young woman releases him and jumps to her feet.

DANIELLE

Yes!

Danielle raises her hands in victory.

VICTORIO

A little help?

The man raises his hand. Danielle grabs it and pulls him up.

VICTORIO (CONT'D)

Did you really have to squeeze so hard? That might leave a-

Danielle punches him in the chest.

DANIELLE

You pulled a knife!

VICTORIO

It was fake.

DANIELLE

Well it looked re-

VICTORIO

It was fake.

Victorio takes off the hood and unzips his sweatshirt. He rubs his throat.

VICTORIO (CONT'D)

Yeah, that's gonna leave a ma-

DANIELLE

Well you deserve it! Pulling a knife-

VICTORIO

(softly) It was fake.

Victorio moves closer to Danielle. He takes her hand and starts pulling her close to him. He knows he has to let her adrenaline run its course.

VICTORIO (CONT'D)

I had to force it. Get you to show
you what you can do. That you'll
never be that scared little child
again...

DANIELLE

Maybe. Walk me home?

VICTORIO

Of course, my love.

The couple locks arms and starts walking toward their home.

Victorio is of Apache descent. He has a stern, lean face. He is handsome, clean cut, and maintains a short hairstyle. He has a lean, muscular build.

The couple makes small talk as they walk home. They smile frequently, and make eye contact. They are very much in love with each other.

INT. SHOOTING RANGE - DAY

Danielle is at the firing line, holding a handgun. Victorio is behind her, coaching.

He is making sure her posture is correct, gently correcting when she stands straight up.

VICTORIO

Breathing...

Danielle slows her rate of fire, and focuses on her breathing.

VICTORIO (CONT'D)

Nice.

Danielle allows herself a slight smile as she continues to shoot.

The slide mechanism on the handgun locks in the rear position, signaling that the magazine is empty. Danielle switches the safety on, drops the empty magazine, and puts the gun down.

Victorio presses a button and the target starts moving in toward them. Victorio removes the target and studies it.

VICTORIO (CONT'D)

Pretty good. Looks like you're still bracing for the shot. But I think you figured out your brea-

Danielle suddenly grabs Victorio around the neck. She jumps up and kisses him. Victorio reluctantly smiles, trying to stay serious.

DANIELLE

Nobody's ever been able to teach me before. You GET me.

Victorio looks into her eyes.

VICTORIO

There's a good reason why.

Victorio shakes the wrinkles from the target.

VICTORIO (CONT'D)

Ok, back to business...

DANIELLE

I wanna see you shoot. That big gun you like.

Victorio smiles again.

VICTORIO

Maybe a few rounds. While you reload your mags.

Victorio reaches into a duffle bag on the floor and pulls out a large gun case. He smiles, bigger now, as he opens the case. Inside is a Taurus Raging Bull 500 Magnum handgun, with a ten and a half inch barrel. Nickel finish. The gun is built on what is called an X-frame platform, which translates to huge. So large that it only holds 5 bullets. It has been modified to hold a reflex site. The hand grips are custom. Beautiful.

By the time Victorio pulls it out of the case, he has a huge grin on his face. He grabs a box of ammo and pulls out 5 thumb-sized rounds. He loads the 500, then puts it down.

Looking around, Victorio pulls out a set of over-the-ear earplugs and puts it on over his in-ear earplugs. He's almost drooling.

Victorio grabs a fresh target and sends it out twice as far as Danielle's. He picks up his baby, assumes a stance with a good forward lean, and begins firing.

It is very loud, louder than every other gun at the range. Small pieces of debris fly back toward him with each shot.

NEARBY SHOOTER

What the-

Everyone else at the range stops shooting. They all gawk, trying to figure out what's going on.

Danielle presses the button to bring the target back as Victorio reloads.

DANIELLE

Woo! You are so sexy when you fire that thing.

VICTORIO

Didn't you used to not like guns?

DANIELLE

Oooh and look. All bullseyes.

VICTORIO

Not bad. Shot group is a little big. I'll try a few headshots then put her away.

The target goes back downrange. Victorio takes a deep breath to ease the smile off his face. He picks up his baby and begins firing.

Danielle presses the button to bring in the target.

VICTORIO (CONT'D)

You should try this.

DANIELLE

You know I'm not ready for that.

INT. DANIELLE AND VICTORIO'S HOUSE - EVENING

Victorio is loading the dishwasher. Danielle is at the dining room bar watching him, as she sips wine.

DANIELLE

Thank you, Love.

VICTORIO

What for?

DANIELLE

Teaching me stuff. How to shoot. How to fight. How to defend myself.

VICTORIO
I'm just being selfish. I need you
to be ok. In any situation-

DANIELLE
I am. I will be. As long as you're
near.

VICTORIO
And when I'm not around-

DANIELLE
But-

VICTORIO
My Tú, I need to know you'll be ok
even if I can't help.

DANIELLE
I love it when you call me your
water. Makes me feel... needed.
Speak more Apache to me.

VICTORIO
You know I barely know any. I'm not
connected. Not like you.

DANIELLE
You will, baby. But what can I do
for you? You've taught me so much-

VICTORIO
You've taught me patience. You've
allowed me to trust. Because of
you, I'm not alone.

Victorio closes the dishwasher and turns it on. He walks
toward Danielle, and takes her glass from her. He takes a sip
of the wine and puts the glass down.

Victorio walks around the bar to where Danielle is sitting.
He picks her up and starts walking toward the bedroom.

VICTORIO (CONT'D)
Because of you, my soul, my heart,
and my body have a home.

DANIELLE
Woo-hoo!

Danielle slaps Victorio on the butt a few times as he carries
her toward the bedroom.

INT. DANIELLE AND VICTORIO'S HOUSE - MORNING

Victorio carries Danielle into the living room and lays her down on the couch.

VICTORIO

So. A 5 mile run. Then you twist your ankle walking up to the porch...

DANIELLE

Shut up!

Victorio takes off Danielle's shoe and sock. He examines her ankle.

VICTORIO

Its ok. I didn't fall in love with your coordination.

DANIELLE

You want me to choke you out again?

VICTORIO

If you do that, I can't take care of you.

DANIELLE

Fine!

VICTORIO

Relax...

Victorio goes to his study and pulls a leaf from a plant. He then goes to the medicine cabinet and gets some tape and gauze. On the way back to Danielle, he chews on the leaf. He kneels beside her.

VICTORIO (CONT'D)

You know I'll always take care of you.

DANIELLE

I've known that since we met.

Victorio makes a bandage and tapes it around Danielle's ankle. He kisses her forehead.

VICTORIO

You'll be good as new, before your first client today.

DANIELLE

My hero...

VICTORIO

I'll get you some tea. Give it a half hour before taking the bandage off.

INT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY

Danielle is sitting at a table with a pretty redhead. They're talking, catching up.

DANIELLE

So what was your name again? Gina, right?

GINA

It has NOT been that long.

DANIELLE

I'm just sayin'.

GINA

You cannot blame me. You're the busy one.

Gina is eyeing a fellow patron, a handsome man. He has a motorcycle helmet on his table.

DANIELLE

I'm not always out on dates.

Danielle turns to see what Gina is looking at.

DANIELLE (CONT'D)

What are you staring at?

GINA

Because you LIVE in a chick flick.

They both bust out laughing.

GINA (CONT'D)

I always seem to pick losers.

DANIELLE

I just found peace. And then my soul.

GINA

Well I just need to find a good man. For a change.

Gina waves down a nearby waitress.

DANIELLE

I have a feeling going on a double date with you would be pretty funny.

The waitress walks to their table.

WAITRESS

May I help you?

GINA

Yes, please. See that beautiful man with the motorcycle helmet?

The waitress looks toward the man in question. She turns back to Gina with a sly grin on her face.

WAITRESS

He's cute, considering...

GINA

Could you get him his coffee of choice, on me?

WAITRESS

Sure...

The waitress walks over to the man to take his order.

DANIELLE

I guess dating has changed.

GINA

Girl, you have to go for what you want. Men act too scared these days.

As the waitress and the man are talking, they both glance in Gina's direction. The waitress leaves to get his order. The man looks at Gina, smiles sheepishly, then checks his phone.

DANIELLE

Why don't you go over there?

GINA

Geez! I'm not desperate. Look at all this hotness. His turn to do something now.

DANIELLE

So how's work been?

Gina frowns slightly.

GINA
Spectacular, as always.

DANIELLE
I've been telling you to work for
yourself-

GINA
I'm not brave like you.

Another man walks in, carrying a motorcycle helmet.

DANIELLE
That's a first. Never thought of
myself as the brave type.

The man walks to the table where Gina's interest is sitting.

GINA
Well you are. I'm not confident
enough to take that kind of risk.

Gina's interest stands up to greet his friend.

DANIELLE
Its just hard work. Just like
you're doing now. But you can set
your own sched-

GINA
(whispers) No!

Danielle turns to look. The two men are kissing.

DANIELLE
Maybe they're open minded-

GINA
Shut up.

The men sit down. Gina's interest looks at Gina. He shrugs
his shoulders, then starts talking to his friend.

Danielle struggles to control her laughter.

DANIELLE
He's out there. You just have to be
patient.

GINA
I'm tired of being patient.

DANIELLE

Look, I have a meeting in a few minutes, with a client. You wanna sit in on it, and see how easy this is?

GINA

Not like I'm busy...

INT. KRAV MAGA STUDIO - EVENING

In the corner, Victorio is sparring with a young, muscular black man. They're wearing full pads. They almost look like they're trying to hurt each other, very intense.

The instructor blows a whistle. They stop fighting and give each other a brief hug.

INSTRUCTOR

That was 10 minutes. You guys don't even look tired. Not bad. Jake, let me show you something.

Victorio goes to get water. Jake, the young black man, approaches the instructor. The instructor starts describing something to him, miming punches and knees.

Danielle is in another area working on combinations with focus pads. A tough but pretty latina is holding the pads and encouraging her. She keeps calling out combinations. Danielle is starting to look tired.

HYACINTH

Come on. Jab, hook, uppercut!

Danielle does the combo.

HYACINTH (CONT'D)

You can hit harder than that!
Again!

Danielle does the combo again. She can barely talk.

DANIELLE

Tired...

HYACINTH

Cardio. Jab, jab, elbow!

Danielle does this combo.

HYACINTH (CONT'D)

Don't quit on me! Again!

Danielle does the combo again.

DANIELLE
I need a break...

HYACINTH
Not yet. You can do this. Jab, jab,
cross!

Danielle takes a deep breath, then does the combo as hard as she can.

HYACINTH (CONT'D)
Good! Don't underestimate yourself.

DANIELLE
Still tired...

The instructor suddenly grabs Hyacinth from behind. Not as hard as she can, Hyacinth stomps on his foot, then steps away to create space. She breaks his grip and spins to face him. She then throws a couple of jabs and looks all around her, checking for other attackers.

DANIELLE (CONT'D)
(clapping) When I grow up, I wanna
be just like Hyacinth.

HYACINTH
A psycho stalker ex-boyfriend can
do that for you...

Hyacinth reluctantly smiles and goes to get water.

In another area, Victorio is working combinations on a heavy bag. He strikes very hard.

Danielle approaches as Hyacinth is drinking.

DANIELLE
So tell me again why you're not an
instructor.

HYACINTH
One day.

DANIELLE
But you're so good at this.

HYACINTH
And you're not?

Danielle looks doubtful.

HYACINTH (CONT'D)
 Anyway, what's up with your husband
 and his buddy. They always look
 like they're trying-

DANIELLE
 To kill each other! I know, right?

HYACINTH
 Do they actually like each other?

DANIELLE
 Victorio says its because their job
 is so boring. Traveling around just
 to push papers.

HYACINTH
 Hmmmm...

DANIELLE
 Ok back to work. My turn to wear
 you out.

HYACINTH
 As if!

The ladies head back to their area and Danielle picks up the
 focus pads.

INT. OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM - DAY

Victorio and Jake are talking to a small, mousy man. All are
 seated around the table. There are files and folders spread
 out on the table.

COMPTROLLER
 Clear as mud?

VICTORIO
 Yeah. I don't like it. But I got
 it.

JAKE
 Venezuela. I've never been there.
 Aren't the women hot?

The Comptroller gives a wry smile.

VICTORIO
 Is that all you think about?

JAKE
 Every mission has some down time.

VICTORIO

Anyway, are you sure this thing
will make it through security and
customs?

COMPTROLLER

It must. This... package... can not
fall into the wrong hands.

Jake looks down for a microsecond. The room is silent for a
second.

JAKE

And you're sure that fake
diplomatic passport is going to
work?

COMPTROLLER

Who says its fake?

VICTORIO

I'll go pack.

JAKE

I'll do you a solid. I'll meet you
at the airport with the package and
your mission gear. Kiss you goodbye
and stuff.

VICTORIO

Thanks, brother. Saves me a little
time.

Victorio gets up and checks his watch.

VICTORIO (CONT'D)

Back in a few days.

INT. DANIELLE AND VICTORIO'S HOUSE - DAY

Victorio is packing an overnight bag. Danielle walks in.

DANIELLE

Sneaking out on me?

VICTORIO

Thought you were working. Check
your messages?

DANIELLE

I just hate that your job sends you
away all the time.

VICTORIO
Only a couple of days.

DANIELLE
A couple of days without my heart.

VICTORIO
You probably need the break.

DANIELLE
(giggling) Never!

VICTORIO
I'll be back before you know it.

DANIELLE
I already miss you. So... Venezuela
this time. Aren't the women there
beautiful?

VICTORIO
Maybe you and Jake should take a
trip down there.

DANIELLE
What?

VICTORIO
Nothing. You know they don't
matter.

Victorio grabs her and kisses her passionately.

VICTORIO (CONT'D)
They're not you.

DANIELLE
There you go, starting something
you can't finish...

Victorio looks at his watch. He then starts unbuttoning his
shirt.

INT. AIRPORT - EVENING

Victorio enters the airport. He sees Jake and heads in that
direction.

JAKE
About time. Did that watch I got
you for Christmas break already?
Damn dollar store...

VICTORIO
Sorry. Traffic.

JAKE
Yeah, ok. Well here's your stuff.
Do not open this briefcase. Its
sealed. And all your goodies are in
this bag. Techs broke everything
down, all untraceable.

VICTORIO
Just in case things get fun.

Victorio pulls out his ticket, passport and ID. He gives them one last check.

VICTORIO (CONT'D)
All this looks good. Thanks, man.
See you in a few days.

JAKE
Not if I see you first.

The two men fist bump. Jake heads to the exit. Victorio heads to the restroom.

AIRPORT RESTROOM

Victorio walks into the restroom and looks around. He feigns washing his face for several seconds, waiting to see if he was followed.

Victorio goes into a stall and opens the bag of goodies. He checks all the pieces and parts, making sure its all broken down. Most of the parts are ceramic or polymer, with firing pins hidden in writing pens. He finds one section of a gun that's assembled enough to resemble part of a handgun on close inspection.

VICTORIO
(to self) Fucking techs.

Victorio breaks the part down and places it back in the bag. He leaves the restroom and heads toward security.

AIRPORT - SAME TIME

Jake sees Victorio head to the restroom. Jake shrugs. On his way out the door, Jake pulls out his phone and sends a text.

INT. WINE BAR - EVENING

Danielle is sitting at a table with Hyacinth. They are sipping wine and chatting. Danielle is wearing business attire. Hyacinth is dressed for a night out on the town.

HYACINTH

When the dog's away the cat will play...

DANIELLE

Nothing like that. I just don't feel like being home alone.

Hyacinth raises her glass.

HYACINTH

Amen to that!

DANIELLE

I just worry. What if something happens and I'm not stro-

Hyacinth grabs Danielle's hand.

HYACINTH

That was a long, long time ago. You're MUCH stronger now, not a little girl anymore.

Danielle pauses for a beat.

DANIELLE

I suppose you're right. So what are you all dressed up for? Hot date?

HYACINTH

Are you ok? He'll be back in a couple of days, right?

DANIELLE

He better be.

HYACINTH

(baby talk) Awe, does the little lady miss her hubby-wubby?

DANIELLE

Shut-up. You know I miss him.

Hyacinth sticks a finger in her mouth and pretends to make herself throw up.

HYACINTH

You two. So lovey-dovey all the damn time.

DANIELLE

He's my soul mate.

HYACINTH

Well I don't have a date tonight. Stuck with you, Chica. So you better start entertaining me.

INT. DANIELLE AND VICTORIO'S HOUSE - MORNING

Danielle is making breakfast. The TV is on in the background, tuned to a news channel.

REPORTER (V.O.)

And when we come back, a breaking story in Venezuela.

Danielle's shoulders tense.

DANIELLE

What?!

Danielle continues what she's doing, but is clearly distracted.

REPORTER (V.O.)

And now, breaking news in Venezuela...

Danielle runs into the living room.

REPORTER

An American businessman has been detained by authorities in Venezuela. It is currently unclear what the exact charges are. His name has not yet been released to the State Department. However, we were able to get cell phone footage of the arrest. As you can see, the man put up quite a fight.

The footage is fuzzy, in a hotel lobby. But Danielle is able to recognize Victorio by the way he moves. She stands there in shock, watching the video. Her hands cover her mouth. Victorio holds his own against almost a dozen plain clothed cops, but she gasps every time Victorio gets hit. Then one of the cops draws a weapon and fires. Danielle drops to her knees.

DANIELLE

Oh God! No!!

It turns out to be a taser. The cop tases Victorio for what seems like a long time. Then the other cops move in with handcuffs. And the video ends.

Danielle stays on her knees, crying. She can't believe what she just saw.

Danielle's phone rings, several times. She jumps with each ring. It finally goes to voicemail.

Danielle bows her head. She silently starts praying.

The phone rings again. She jumps. This time she answers, without looking.

JAKE (V.O.)

Danielle? Danielle?

Danielle says nothing.

JAKE (V.O.)

Danielle, I'm sorry. I tried to call before that crap aired. Didn't want you to find out like-

Danielle hangs up on him. It starts ringing again. She rejects the call. Then she dials Gina.

GINA (V.O.)

Danielle? Are you ok? I'll be right there!

Danielle hangs up. She is now sitting on the floor, head down, not hearing the TV anymore.

EXT. DANIELLE AND VICTORIO'S HOUSE - LATE MORNING

Gina is sitting in her car on Danielle's driveway. She takes a few deep breaths to compose herself.

GINA

(to self) Be strong!

Gina exits her car and straightens her clothes. She starts to walk toward the house.

Another car speeds up to the house and screeches to a halt on the driveway. Gina takes a defensive stance, and reaches in her purse for pepper spray.

Hyacinth jumps out of the car and runs to the house, ignoring Gina. Gina stands there, aiming her pepper spray, all alone on the lawn.

Hyacinth quickly knocks, then opens the door and enters the house.

GINA (CONT'D)

Hello?!

INT. DANIELLE AND VICTORIO'S HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Danielle is sitting in the living room, face in hands. Hyacinth is in the kitchen making tea for Danielle.

Gina enters.

GINA

For the record, I was here first.

DANIELLE

I know, baby.

Gina sizes up Hyacinth.

GINA

I see you got a new car.

HYACINTH

Huh?

Gina is walking to Danielle.

GINA

Pretty fast, too.

Gina sits beside Danielle and embraces her.

GINA (CONT'D)

We're here for you.

Hyacinth walks over and places the tea in front of Danielle.

HYACINTH

So what's the plan? Are we going to break him out?

GINA

Are you crazy? That's a foreign country.

DANIELLE

I already called a couple of lawyers. They said there's nothing that can be done. Not until charges are filed.

GINA

Then we get all the paperwork ready-

HYACINTH

And some plane tickets.

DANIELLE

I need to wrap my head around this! Why would they arrest Victorio?

GINA

Some kind of trumped up charge?

DANIELLE

I don't know. It was just a business trip. Some kind of boring audit-

HYACINTH

I saw the video. They ambushed him. Those weren't regular cops-

The doorbell rings.

Gina goes to the door and looks through the peephole.

She looks back to the two women.

GINA

Its some guy. Really nice...

DANIELLE

That might be Jake. Bald?

GINA

And gorgeous!

DANIELLE

Yeah. Let him-

Gina opens the door.

GINA

Welcome.

Gina checks out his ring finger as he enters.

JAKE

Danielle, we're doing everything we can-

DANIELLE

And how much is that?

JAKE

I'm working my contact at State.
Trying to get a clear picture.

HYACINTH

Didn't your people send him there?
And that's the best you can do?

JAKE

For now, yes. Victorio is tough as
nails. He'll make it out. We'll
make sure.

GINA

By we, do you mean you and your
girlfriend or you and your company?

HYACINTH

Ignore her. She does that a lot...

DANIELLE

I'm not reassured.

JAKE

Is there anything I can do for you?

HYACINTH

Duh! Just get him out.

DANIELLE

Contacts. Lawyers, State,
politicians. I need to talk to
anyone who can help.

Jake pulls out his phone, dials a number, and walks away from the group.

The three women look at the TV while they wait for Jake. No updates yet.

Gina goes into the kitchen.

HYACINTH

We are here for you. You know that.

GINA (O.S.)

This looks good. You gonna eat it?

Jake comes back and sits in front of Danielle.

JAKE

My contact at the State Dept is willing to answer any questions he can. They're working on a letter right now and would like your input.

Danielle takes his phone and moves away from the group.

JAKE (CONT'D)

I also emailed you a couple of contacts that may be able to help.

Gina walks back in with a plate, eating.

HYACINTH

So what was he doing there?

Jake's eyes narrow briefly.

JAKE

Boring stuff. Just a quick inspection of one of our subsidiaries' books.

HYACINTH

Yeah, ok.

Danielle walks back in and shakes her head.

DANIELLE

Maybe I can talk to my senator...

GINA

Road trip!

HYACINTH

DC isn't far.

Jake stands up.

JAKE

I'll go back to work and see what I can find out.

INT. HYACINTH'S CAR - LATE MORNING

The three ladies are on the highway, on the way into Washington DC. They are each alone with their thoughts.

Danielle's phone rings. She answers.

DANIELLE

What?

GLORIA (V.O.)

That's how you answer your mother?

DANIELLE

Oh, hi mom.

GLORIA (V.O.)

What's wrong, baby girl?

DANIELLE

Victorio's in trouble.

GLORIA (V.O.)

I knew it! What did he do?

DANIELLE

Nothing. But he got arrested in Venezuela.

GLORIA (V.O.)

Venezuela?! Venezuela?! What was he doing there? I told you not to marry that white boy! They ain't right in the head. Always doin' crazy stuff. Venezuela?!

DANIELLE

Mom, I told you he's not white. He's Native American. Apache. And I love him.

GLORIA (V.O.)

If you say so. What are you gonna do? Can I help? I'll call your cousin Jimmy-

DANIELLE

No, don't call him, mom. That's the crazy one.

Danielle allows herself a brief smile.

DANIELLE (CONT'D)

I'm on my way to talk to my senator. I'll keep you posted.

GLORIA (V.O.)

Ok, baby girl.

Danielle hangs up.

INT. SENATOR JONES' OFFICE SUITE - AFTERNOON

Danielle and Gina sit impatiently, while Hyacinth talks to the secretary. Again.

HYACINTH

What exactly is the hold up? This is an urgent matter. Senator Jones would not be a senator if not for his constituents. And now he can't free 5 minutes for one in a crisis?

SECRETARY

I'll try again, ma'am.

The secretary gets up, again, and goes into the senator's office.

Hyacinth sits back down with her friends.

The secretary comes back out.

SECRETARY (CONT'D)

My apologies for the wait. The senator will see you now.

Danielle goes into the senator's office.

The senator is on the phone.

SENATOR JONES

Thank you.

The senator hangs up the phone.

SENATOR JONES (CONT'D)

Sorry for the wait, ma'am. Please have a seat.

Danielle sits.

DANIELLE

Thank you for squeezing me in.

SENATOR JONES

That was a friend of mine. At the embassy in Caracas.

DANIELLE

Oh?

SENATOR JONES
We're being stonewalled. The Venezuelan government is being tight-lipped about this case.

DANIELLE
What does that mean?

SENATOR JONES
It means that right now there's nothing we can do, short of sending in troops and creating an international incident.

Danielle stands up, agitated.

DANIELLE
Then send them! You'd want that for you!

SENATOR JONES
I'm sorry, ma'am. There is no precedent for that. Your husband was arrested. He's not a POW.

DANIELLE
So that's it? You just leave a voting, taxpaying citizen at the mercy of a foreign government?

SENATOR JONES
That's all we can do until we learn more about the situation. I'm sorry, ma'am.

Hyacinth and Gina stand up as Danielle approaches them.

GINA
Well?

DANIELLE
Wasted trip.

Danielle continues walking, straight out of the office suite.

INT. HYACINTH'S CAR - MOMENTS LATER

DANIELLE
I can't believe that guy! He practically called Victorio a criminal-

HYACINTH
He's lucky I wasn't in there-

DANIELLE
What if he's right?

GINA
You don't believe that!

DANIELLE
I don't know what to believe.

HYACINTH
Believe in your husband.

Danielle's phone rings. She answers.

DANIELLE
Hello?

JAKE (V.O.)
This is Jake. I have a little news.
Not good.

DANIELLE
More bad news? What is it?

JAKE (V.O.)
We found where Victorio is being
held. A place called La Sabaneta
Prison.

DANIELLE
What does that mean?

JAKE (V.O.)
How are you holding up? How did the
meeting go?

DANIELLE
It went. Nothing came of it.

JAKE (V.O.)
I'm sorry to hear that.

DANIELLE
Why is this prison bad news? La
Siba-

JAKE (V.O.)
La Sabaneta. Its a rough place.
They send their worst criminals
there. Then forget about them-

Danielle hangs up.

DANIELLE

Oh God...

Danielle starts quietly sobbing.

Hyacinth and Gina exchange a worried look.

INT. DANIELLE AND VICTORIO'S HOUSE - MORNING

The three women are sitting in the living room. Hyacinth and Gina are still trying to comfort Danielle. The TV looms in the background.

GINA

So when does Jake come back? With more news I mean...

DANIELLE

I don't know.

HYACINTH

Gina, let's make some breakfast.

REPORTER

And more on our story in Venezuela...

Gina and Hyacinth come running back into the living room.

REPORTER (CONT'D)

The American being held in Venezuela will be going to trial soon. Still no word on his identity.

A photo of Victorio is displayed on the screen. It is grainy, but easily identifiable as Victorio. It is also obvious that he has taken quite a beating.

Gina and Hyacinth embrace Danielle, trying to give her strength.

REPORTER (CONT'D)

The Venezuelan government has announced that he will be tried as a spy. That he committed espionage by smuggling WMDs into the country-

HYACINTH

That can't be true...

Danielle is rocking back and forth in her seat.

DANIELLE

No, no, no...

REPORTER

Political analysts believe that this regime will try to make an example. No date set yet, but they believe the trial will be swift. And will send a strong message to the international community. Very bad news for this unfortunate American-

Danielle turns the TV off and drops the remote.

DANIELLE

I have to go talk to them. They have to believe me.

HYACINTH

I'll start checking on tickets.

Hyacinth goes to Danielle's computer to begin her search.

GINA

I'll cook.

Gina goes back into the kitchen.

Danielle sits, still in disbelief.

DANIELLE

I'm scared...

HYACINTH

We got your back.

INT. DANIELLE AND VICTORIO'S HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Danielle goes into the bedroom. She starts searching through Victorio's things, looking for a clue. She finds an unlabeled box semi hidden in the closet. She opens it and looks through it. To her surprise, Danielle finds a Silver Star that she hadn't known about. The citation with it is dated only a couple of months ago.

Danielle takes the medal out to the living room.

DANIELLE

Hyacinth, look at this.

Hyacinth takes the medal and citation, and reads it.

HYACINTH
This doesn't make any sense.

DANIELLE
It means he really is a good guy.

HYACINTH
But he kept it to himself for a reason...

I/E. DANIELLE AND VICTORIO'S HOUSE - LATER

Danielle paces back and forth on the porch, talking to someone on the phone. She hangs up and goes inside, frustrated.

GINA
What was that all about?

HYACINTH
(over her shoulder) found a red eye to Caracas!

Hyacinth keeps typing.

DANIELLE
That was Senator Jones. Himself. He advises me not to go down there.

GINA
Well what's he gonna do about it?

DANIELLE
Nothing still. But he said I could get arrested. Accused of espionage.

HYACINTH
(over her shoulder) Its heating up down there. We need to hurry before the State Department restricts travel there.

DANIELLE
We?

GINA
Duh!

Hyacinth turns in her chair to face them.

HYACINTH

Have you lost your damn mind? You thought we'd let you go down there alone?

Danielle starts to tear up. But gets saved by the bell. Her phone rings. Danielle answers it as she goes outside.

GLORIA (V.O.)

I hope you're feeling a little better today, baby girl.

DANIELLE

I'm ok. I guess...

GLORIA (V.O.)

You don't sound like it.

A car pulls up in front of the house. Jake gets out. He straightens his jacket and walks toward the house.

DANIELLE

This is a lot to deal with-

GLORIA (V.O.)

That's 'cause you-

DANIELLE

Mom! Please stop saying that. His people have struggled just as much as ours-

GLORIA (V.O.)

You shoulda married that nice little boy that took you to the prom-

DANIELLE

Mother. I'm not having this conversation. Not now. Too busy.

GLORIA (V.O.)

Busy with what?

DANIELLE

I'm going down there.

GLORIA (V.O.)

What?! Did you go and bump your head? You better NOT go down there.

DANIELLE

I have to. He'd do it for me.

GLORIA (V.O.)
And he's probably better at that
stuff than you.

Danielle is silent.

GLORIA (V.O.)
Oh, I'm sorry, baby girl! I didn't
mean it like that. I'm coming over!

Jake is now on the other end of the porch, waiting for
Danielle to finish her call.

DANIELLE
Mom, don't bother. I have to.

GLORIA (V.O.)
I'm coming to hug my daughter and
cook dinner for her.

Danielle takes a deep breath, starting her internal
preparation for the battle to come.

DANIELLE
Ok.

Danielle hangs up. Jake approaches her. He has a consoling
look on his face. He's about to speak.

Gina busts through the door and grabs his arm.

GINA
Oh, hi there...

Gina pulls Jake into the house.

GINA (CONT'D)
I've been wondering when you'd come
back. Any news?

Gina closes the door behind them, leaving Danielle alone on
the porch. Danielle sits and tries to relax her breathing.

A butterfly lands on the porch beside her. She holds out her
hand. The butterfly takes off and flies around for a few
seconds. Then it lands on her hand.

DANIELLE
So how do I bring him home?

INT. DANIELLE AND VICTORIO'S HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Danielle walks in on the conversation in the house.

GINA
You should totally come with us!

DANIELLE
Gina!

GINA
What?...

HYACINTH
Sorry. I wasn't listening. Couldn't
shut her up-

GINA
What do you mean?

JAKE
They mean they didn't want me to
know about your little suicide
mission.

HYACINTH
Because his company sent Victorio
there in the first place.

JAKE
And therefore my trustworthiness is
in question.

GINA
Oooooohhhhhh...

DANIELLE
Its not any kind of mission anyway.
I just need to find someone in
their government who'll listen to
reason. Who'll help an innocent
man.

JAKE
No worries. You have to be careful
who to trust with something like
this.

HYACINTH
So are you gonna run and tell your
boss?

JAKE
I'm not.

Danielle looks at him suspiciously.

DANIELLE

I guess you're good at keeping your mouth shut...

JAKE

What??

DANIELLE

I found his medal. Dated a couple of months ago. I guess you wouldn't know anything about that.

JAKE

Whoa, now. IF you found something like that, it MIGHT be a little more dangerous to Victorio for something like that to come out...

DANIELLE

I can't believe this-

JAKE

But I might be able to help. I have a contact in the area who may be able to provide... tactical support.

HYACINTH

Now you're talkin'. Finally dropped that stuffed shirt.

GINA

Yeah, take that shirt off...

Hyacinth gives Gina a dirty look.

DANIELLE

What do you mean tactical support?

Jake's eyes narrow.

JAKE

Are you recording this?

Danielle folds her arms across her chest.

DANIELLE

No.

HYACINTH

Guns, right?

JAKE
Recon, a guide, safehouse,
veicles... guns...

DANIELLE
Why? Aren't you riski-

JAKE
Look. Victorio is my friend. That
runs deeper than... my job.

HYACINTH
What kind of job do you do?

JAKE
I do wish I could come with you-

DANIELLE
Then come. You know more about this-

JAKE
What do you mean?

DANIELLE
You work for the same company. You
know who he went to talk to...

Jake relaxes a little.

JAKE
But I'm a paper pusher. I know a
guy. But I'm not that guy.

HYACINTH
Paper pusher. Isn't that how
Victorio described himself?

JAKE
I gotta get back. Its a little
crazy at work right now. I'll text
you the contact info.

DANIELLE
Jake. Thank you.

JAKE
Trying to help. Oh, and tactical
support doesn't come cheap. But
mention me and he'll give you a
discount.

Jake leaves. Gina looks after him with dreamy eyes.

GINA

He should come. I mean with us. He should come with us. To get Victorio.

The ladies allow themselves a brief giggle.

INT. CELL IN LA SABANETA PRISON - EVENING

Victorio is kneeling in the center of his prison cell. His arms are chained to the ceiling. They are held high enough by the chains that he can't sit, and they are still uncomfortably high. He is too weak to stand. Victorio is covered with cuts and bruises.

Two men have just left his cell, and are closing the door behind themselves. They are both sweating and breathing hard from beating Victorio. One of them rubs his hand as if it hurts. Victorio allows himself the tiniest of smiles.

A butterfly comes in through the small window. It flies around in front of Victorio as if to get his attention. Victorio smiles. The butterfly lands on his shoulder and stays.

VICTORIO

(whispers) I see my love has sent you to comfort me again.

INT. DANIELLE AND VICTORIO'S HOUSE - EVENING

The ladies are seated around the dinner table. They look satisfied, but still slightly tense. Gloria comes in from the kitchen carrying a pan.

Gina breathes in the aroma. Danielle looks especially uncomfortable

GINA

I didn't think I had any room left.

GLORIA

You need to make some for this.

HYACINTH

What is it, smelling so good?

GLORIA

My special sweet potato turnover recipe-

Danielle gets up and runs from the room.

Gloria sets the pan onto a pot holder on the table.

GLORIA (CONT'D)
Enjoy, ladies. I'll be back.

Gloria follows Danielle's path to Danielle's bedroom.
Danielle is on the bed crying.

GLORIA (CONT'D)
What's wrong, baby girl?

DANIELLE
How could you?!

GLORIA
Uh oh. What did I do now?

DANIELLE
The turnovers-

GLORIA
Huh?

DANIELLE
You made those when dad came home
from the hospital...

GLORIA
Oh... I'm sorry, child. I thought-

DANIELLE
You didn't think! That's just your
way of calling me weak!

GLORIA
I don't understand, baby girl-

DANIELLE
Don't call me that-

GLORIA
But I've always called you that.

DANIELLE
Just when you try to comfort me.
Like when I couldn't protect my
daddy.

Gloria takes a deep breath. She wraps her arm around
Danielle.

GLORIA

Baby gir-. Danielle. You were just a baby. Your father told you to run so you would be safe-

DANIELLE

And I ran away! Like a little coward! And let my only father get beat almost to de-

GLORIA

Stop it. Stop it right now. You were a child. You couldn't fight a bunch of grown men-

DANIELLE

But I should have tried.

GLORIA

No. No, you shouldn't have. That would've broke your daddy's heart. If you got hurt that day.

DANIELLE

But I should have tried.

GLORIA

Oh, baby...

Gloria squeezes Danielle a little tighter.

DANIELLE

Mom, what if I'm not strong enough? To help Victorio?

GLORIA

Oh but you are. Very strong. Stronger than me. That's why you married such a strong man.

DANIELLE

He is strong...

GLORIA

Yes he is. A lot like your father.

DANIELLE

I know...

GLORIA

You are strong. Spiritually strong. And your little white boy is a source of even more strength. That's why you love him so much.

DANIELLE
I can't lose him-

GLORIA
Hush, child! You won't lose him.
You'll go down there and get him.
And the closer you get to him, the
stronger you'll get.

Danielle sniffs, and starts to dry her tears.

DANIELLE
Thanks, mom.

GLORIA
Now go rescue your man. He needs
you. I'd go with you, but my knees
have been acting up-

DANIELLE
Oh, mom!

Danielle and Gloria go back out to the dinner table.

I/E. SIMÓN BOLÍVAR INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT - MORNING

Danielle, Hyacinth, and Gina walk through the airport. They
get their bearings and head toward the taxi area. Danielle
has visions of Victorio moving through this same area, taking
similar actions.

There is a man, blending in with the crowd, paying a
significant amount of attention to the ladies.

HYACINTH
I'm thinking we should go check in
first-

DANIELLE
You go ahead. I'm going straight to
the embassy.

GINA
Hyacinth is right. Let's drop off
our bags, then go to the embassy.

HYACINTH
Move slow to move fast...

Danielle is reluctant, looks like she's going to protest.

DANIELLE
 Maybe you're right. Did you learn
 that in the Marines?

HYACINTH
 Actually, I did...

The ladies continue walking toward the taxi area. Victorio passes them, headed toward the rental car area. Danielle stops and watches him. Then she catches up with her friends.

INT. US EMBASSY, CARACAS - LATE MORNING

Hyacinth and Gina wait in an outer office, with a secretary. Again. Danielle is in with the ambassador. The ladies hear muffled yelling. Moments later, Danielle emerges from the ambassador's office.

DANIELLE
 Let's go.

GINA
 I'm not liking the vibe...

HYACINTH
 What happened? No help?

DANIELLE
 (quietly) Fucking oxygen thieves.
 Why are they even here?

HYACINTH
 We'll find somebody that can help.

GINA
 Maybe we should talk to that tact-

Hyacinth clears her throat.

GINA (CONT'D)
 Oops...

HYACINTH
 She's right.

DANIELLE
 That's not why we're here.

The trio leaves the embassy and hails a taxi. During the ride back to the hotel, there's a commotion in the street. A group of government police officers is beating a man, arresting him.

Danielle looks away. She sees visions of Victorio being beaten and arrested.

HYACINTH
That ain't good.

The ladies arrive at their hotel. As Danielle and Gina head in, Hyacinth starts walking away from the hotel.

HYACINTH (CONT'D)
(over her shoulder) I'm gonna see
what that was all about.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - AFTERNOON

Danielle and Gina are in the room doing some game planning. They are looking at maps and travel guides. They are looking through the phone book for travel agencies and government officials.

GINA
I wish Jake had come with us.

DANIELLE
We know, Gina.

GINA
Not for that... I think he knows
about this stuff-

DANIELLE
Ya think?

GINA
I didn't know...

DANIELLE
I didn't either. But some things
are adding up nowadays...

Hyacinth comes in. She looks a little worried.

HYACINTH
Its getting crazy out here. I think
Victorio's arrest sparked a little
chaos.

DANIELLE
What was he doing?

GINA
Does it matter?

DANIELLE

Kinda...

HYACINTH

It does. We're down here because you trust that he's a good man. Did that change?

Danielle gets some of her resolve back.

DANIELLE

No.

HYACINTH

There are a lot of people here who don't like the status quo. The guy we saw get beat down in the street?

DANIELLE

Yeah?

HYACINTH

He was a freedom fighter. The government calls them rebels, of-

DANIELLE

What does that have to with Victorio?

HYACINTH

Word on the street is he's being accused of helping them. I think we're gonna need to reach out to Jake's friend.

DANIELLE

I didn't come here to do anything crazy.

GINA

She wants to try a Venezuelan government office first. Foreign Ministry.

HYACINTH

Are you sure?

DANIELLE

Somebody has to listen...

HYACINTH

Let me contact him while you do that. Get the ball rolling.

DANIELLE

Ok. See what kind of transportation he has while you're at it.

Danielle gets ready to leave.

GINA

I'll come with you. Somebody has to keep you out of trouble.

Danielle and Gina leave. Hyacinth looks at the maps, familiarizing herself with what her friends were studying.

Hyacinth picks up her phone and dials the number Danielle left for her.

HYACINTH

Hola, I'm a friend of Jake's. He said you offer excellent umbrellas.

INT. VENEZUELAN FOREIGN MINISTRY - AFTERNOON

Danielle and Gina are speaking with a government official. He seems cordial, but annoyed.

OFFICIAL

I feel your pain, ma'am. But there is nothing I can do.

DANIELLE

But he's innocent.

OFFICIAL

That is not for me to say. I must wait for the trial, like everyone else.

DANIELLE

Did he even do anything to get arrested? He's just a businessman.

OFFICIAL

I understand your concern. The trial will be fair. In any case, I am not able to interfere with such matters.

DANIELLE

Not able or not willing?

OFFICIAL

I am afraid that is a legal matter. I am not a police officer.

DANIELLE

Do you have anything in writing? Is there any proof of any crime?

OFFICIAL

I am sorry ma'am. I want to help you. I really do. But I can not. And you should be careful. It is not safe for you run around asking so many questions. Now, if you will excuse me, I am a very busy man.

Danielle and Gina head to the door. Danielle's fists are clenched.

Danielle and Gina catch a taxi back to the hotel.

INT. RESTAURANT - EVENING

The ladies are seated at a table in the corner, chatting about their situation.

DANIELLE

I know you're my sisters, but this is a bit more than expected.

GINA

I'm just here for the men.

HYACINTH

Yeah, we figured...

GINA

Just kidding. This is what true friends do. We support each other. We couldn't let you face this alone...

DANIELLE

But this could get dangerous.

Gina nods her head toward Hyacinth.

GINA

That's what we have HER for.

HYACINTH

She's right. We couldn't let you face this alone.

The ladies don't notice, but the same man from the airport is seated across the restaurant. He is watching them and taking notes.

HYACINTH (CONT'D)

You know, I went to Iraq twice while I was in the Marines. And it didn't mean anything. Not on a personal level.

DANIELLE

But the sacrifice was noble.

HYACINTH

Maybe. But this is a chance to use those skills to help someone I know and love.

Hyacinth smiles and winks.

HYACINTH (CONT'D)

Plus, I miss the action...

DANIELLE

I still hope it doesn't come to that. I'm trying to get Victorio out, not join him.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

The ladies are walking to their hotel. The man from the restaurant is not too far behind them. Hyacinth seems to notice him, but doesn't say anything. As they are passing an alley, a shadowy figure approaches.

BUM

Cambio de repuesto?

Gina jumps.

GINA

What?

HYACINTH

Ignore him. Keep walking.

DANIELLE

Probably just asking for money.

The bum pulls a knife and lunges at the ladies. Without thinking, Danielle disarms the bum. As she begins to strike him, Hyacinth picks up the knife. After about two punches, the bum turns and runs.

HYACINTH

Very good, Chica.

GINA
Wow. You ARE good.

Danielle is about to respond when a police car rushes them. The man who steps out of the passenger seat is middle aged, overweight, and has a noticeable bald spot.

COP
Are you ladies ok? This can be a very dangerous place for you.

DANIELLE
Did you see that? Why don't you chase the mugger?

COP
Oh, he's just hungry...

HYACINTH
What?!

COP
You should be careful. So far from home. Asking so many questions.

The cop gets back in the car. They drive off.

GINA
Ok, that was, like, super creepy.

The ladies continue to their hotel. A little more alert now.

DANIELLE
This is getting intense.

GINA
A little too intense...

HYACINTH
Then you won't like this next part.

DANIELLE
What next part?

HYACINTH
Keep walking. I'll catch up to you in a minute.

GINA
Huh?

DANIELLE
Just do what she says...

Danielle and Gina keep walking, as Hyacinth ducks into an alley.

As the man following them passes the alley, Hyacinth jumps him from behind and starts choking him. The man starts elbowing Hyacinth in the ribs, but she won't let go.

Danielle and Gina hear the scuffle and run back to help. Danielle starts punching him in the stomach, until he stops struggling.

HYACINTH
He's been following us.

Gina checks his pockets.

DANIELLE
Who are you?

GINA
Look at this...

Gina is holding the man's badge and gun.

GINA (CONT'D)
He's a cop.

Danielle sees visions of Victorio's arrest. Was this man one of them?

Danielle, angered, punches the man several times in the stomach. She then grabs the badge and gun, and throws them down the alley. Hyacinth releases her grip and he slumps to the ground.

The Ladies walk more quickly toward their hotel now. Gina puts his little notebook in her pocket.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - MORNING

The ladies are seated around a table. They are eating, and planning their next move.

GINA
Well that was exciting!

DANIELLE
No, it was dangerous...

HYACINTH
Maybe she's right. That was a confidence builder. We showed some teamwork-

DANIELLE

It was still dangerous. Too much attention.

GINA

But a good sign. We kept each other safe.

DANIELLE

True.

GINA

And I got this.

Gina pulls out the notebook she took from the man last night.

GINA (CONT'D)

I'll go down to the bar and see if I can get someone to translate.

DANIELLE

I'll go with you.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - AFTERNOON

Danielle and Gina enter the hotel room. Hyacinth is in the room talking to Jake.

Danielle looks at Jake, with a confused expression on her face.

JAKE

I was in the neighborhood-

Gina runs to the bathroom to freshen up her makeup and perfume. She pushes past Jake on her way, almost knocking him down.

HYACINTH

Was there anything in the notebook?

DANIELLE

Came to help?

Jake looks down for a minute.

JAKE

It's dangerous down here. Thought you could use a little.

DANIELLE

Maybe...

JAKE

Hyacinth told me she contacted my friend. How's your bank account?

DANIELLE

I have one more person to talk to. Before I ask anything crazy of my friends...

JAKE

I'll come with you.

DANIELLE

Just times and locations in that notebook. You were right. He was following us for awhile.

JAKE

What?

INT. CHIEF SANTIAGO'S OFFICE - AFTERNOON

Danielle and Jake are seated in the office. Across the desk from them, smoking a cigar, is Chief Santiago. He is a middle aged man, overweight, with a noticeable bald spot. The same one from last night.

Jake looks very uncomfortable. Even more uncomfortable than Danielle.

CHIEF SANTIAGO

I'm sorry for all your troubles, madame. But there is nothing I can do.

DANIELLE

But there must be something. At least tell me why you arrested him. Is there even any evidence?

Jake gives Chief Santiago a very strained look. He almost squirms in his seat.

CHIEF SANTIAGO

I am sorry, madame. Those are matters for the court. The trial. I am a simple lawman.

DANIELLE

But-

CHIEF SANTIAGO
My job in this matter is simple. I
make sure my subordinates use
proper... procedure when arresting
suspects.

DANIELLE
But he's-

CHIEF SANTIAGO
I also make sure suspects are held
securely.

Chief Santiago glances at Jake.

CHIEF SANTIAGO (CONT'D)
And treated well.

DANIELLE
But there must-

CHIEF SANTIAGO
I'm sorry for your troubles,
madame. You may have come all this
way for nothing. There is nothing
you can do for the spy.

DANIELLE
How much-

CHIEF SANTIAGO
I told you last night, madame. You
should be careful here. Things here
are not like in America. Bribery is
a very serious offense.

Chief Santiago looks her up and down, leering.

CHIEF SANTIAGO (CONT'D)
I would hate to have to make sure
you are treated well...

JAKE
Sir, may we see him? Where is he-

CHIEF SANTIAGO
I'm sorry. I must go. I have duties
to attend to. Including checking on
the conditions of... all... our
prisoners.

Chief Santiago abruptly stands up and motions them to the
door.

After they leave, he picks up his phone and dials.

EXT. STREET - MOMENTS LATER

Danielle and Jake walk toward the hotel. Jake looks upset, disturbed. He seems distracted. Danielle looks defeated, shoulders somewhat drooped.

Jake gets a text. He quickly looks at his phone and puts it away.

DANIELLE

I've come too far to turn back now.

Hyacinth joins them, out of nowhere. She is nonchalant, like it is expected for her to suddenly appear. Danielle jumps.

HYACINTH

Are you saying what I think you're saying?

Danielle play punches Hyacinth on the shoulder.

DANIELLE

Yes. But I can only decide for me.

HYACINTH

You already know we're all in for you.

DANIELLE

I have to find a bank.

HYACINTH

I can show you. I've been looking around.

Danielle and Hyacinth veer off toward the bank.

Jake looks after them for a few moments. He then pulls out his phone and walks away.

INT. BANK - AFTERNOON

Hyacinth is in the waiting area. She is waiting patiently. She periodically fidgets. She looks impatient.

Danielle is seated at a desk, talking to a bank officer.

BANK OFFICER

Welcome, ma'am. How may I help you?

DANIELLE
I need to withdraw all the funds
from this bank account back home in
America.

Danielle slides a piece of paper across the desk.

BANK OFFICER
I see. From one of our branches?

DANIELLE
Yes, ma'am.

BANK OFFICER
May I ask for your reason? I hope
there were no issues with our
service.

DANIELLE
No issues. I just need my money.

BANK OFFICER
Yes, ma'am. I'll see what I can do.

The bank officer gets up and walks away. She comes back a few
minutes later. Danielle looks confused.

DANIELLE
What's wrong?

BANK OFFICER
I'm sorry, ma'am. You can not close
out the account, since it was not
opened here at this-

Danielle starts to get upset.

DANIELLE
So you're telling me I can't
withdraw my own money?

BANK OFFICER
Not at all, ma'am.

Danielle looks very irritated. The stress of the entire
ordeal is coming to the surface.

DANIELLE
What?!

BANK OFFICER
We can't close the account here.
You have to leave at least \$5 US in
the account.

Danielle takes a deep breath, and manages to speak calmly. But there is a foreboding savagery to her tone.

DANIELLE

Then leave \$5 in the account.

EXT. STREET - MOMENTS LATER

Danielle and Hyacinth walk toward the hotel. Danielle is wearing a backpack, courtesy of the bank.

HYACINTH

You ok?

DANIELLE

What do you mean?

HYACINTH

Back in the bank. You almost went medieval on her but-tocks.

DANIELLE

Just stress, I gue-

A van screeches to a halt, cutting them off. A group of men in military uniforms jumps out. They grab the two women, at gunpoint, and rush them into a nearby alley.

The scene is chaos. The women put up a fight, but there seem to be too many of them.

Hyacinth stomps one of them in the knee, bending it backward. He goes down in pain.

Danielle unleashes a combo on one of them. Jab, elbow, elbow, knee! He goes down.

Another hits Hyacinth in the back of the head, then starts choking her. She begins to weaken.

One of the men grabs Danielle from behind and another starts punching her in the ribs.

Both women start to fade. They're losing. Through greying vision, Danielle sees one of the men start to undo his pants.

Santiago slowly walks into the alley. He removes his sunglasses, leering at the women. He smiles.

CHIEF SANTIAGO

I told you this is a very dangerous place... Now we must teach you about safety.

Santiago looks around at his men.

CHIEF SANTIAGO (CONT'D)

Bring them to my office when you
are done.

Santiago walks away. He gets into a vehicle and leaves.

EXT. ALLEY - MOMENTS LATER

Hyacinth bites the arm of the man choking her and he loosens his grip. She uses this as a chance to act. She stomps his foot, breaking his arch. Then she steps away, breaking his grip. She turns to fight him.

Danielle is able to kick the man in front of her in the knee. There's a loud crack and he falls to the ground. She then reaches down and grabs the groin of the man holding her from behind. She squeezes and he screams and lets go. She then elbows him in the eye with her other arm. He staggers back and she drops him with a throat punch.

Hyacinth unleashes a combination on the man she's fighting, striking him in the eyes and throat several times before he can swing at her.

Danielle faces off against another opponent. He swings at her and she slips the punch. She kicks him in the stomach. As he doubles over, she gouges both of his eyes with her thumbs. He collapses, screaming.

Hyacinth grabs a knife off of one of the downed men. She slashes at another several times, cutting him across his forearm, chest and stomach. Another punches her from behind, and she staggers. By the time Hyacinth turns to face him, Danielle is on him. Danielle is choking him with one arm and repeatedly punching him in the temple with the other hand.

The women are using speed and surprise to their advantage. The troops can't inflict much damage because they can't land any solid strikes on the women.

As soon as the women create enough space, they take off running.

The government troops are reluctant, but begin to chase the women.

A truck with a couple of men in the back pulls up beside the women. The men motion for the women to get in the truck.

One of the men is armed with a longbow. He is wearing mismatched military clothing, and a smile.

He takes a couple of shots at the government troops. The women pile into the back of the truck, and the truck speeds away.

As the government troops realize they're up against more than just two unarmed women, they retreat to their van.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - AFTERNOON

Jake comes into the room, with an irritated look on his face. Gina sees him and smiles.

GINA
Hello, handsome.

JAKE
Are they back yet?

GINA
I thought they were with you.

JAKE
We split up. Danielle went to the bank.

GINA
So we're doing this? I don't know how to shoot-

Gina strikes a Charlie's Angels pose, pretending to hold a gun.

JAKE
Did they check in with you?

GINA
No.

Jake shakes his head.

JAKE
Damn.

Gina walks around behind Jake and starts rubbing his shoulders.

GINA
Wow. You're tense. What's wrong?

JAKE
Everything.

GINA

Huh?

JAKE

Look, I'm just worried.

GINA

About what?

JAKE

This whole mess. You... shouldn't be here.

Gina nudges Jake toward an armchair, and gets him to sit.

GINA

Why don't we wait here for awhile?

Jake's phone buzzes. A text. He quickly looks at it. Gina sneaks a glance, but can't make out the message.

GINA (CONT'D)

Is that your tactical buddy?

Gina starts taking off Jake's shirt.

JAKE

Uh... yeah...

Gina starts to kiss Jake.

GINA

I hope he gives us a deal, like you said.

JAKE

Uh... yeah. Yeah, he will.

GINA

So you can teach me to shoot...

I/E FREEDOM FIGHTER SAFE HOUSE - AFTERNOON

The safe house is an old apartment building. It is in an area that has long been overgrown. It looks like the last of the remnants of an abandoned town.

Danielle and Hyacinth noticed several guards and lookouts on their way in.

The rebels don't look very well fed. Their clothing is a mix of random military uniforms. Their weapons are a mix of old hunting weapons and weapons taken from government soldiers.

However, their confidence is good. Their esprit is high. They look organized and disciplined. They even appear happy.

The small band of rescuers escorts Danielle and Hyacinth to a large open room. There is a big conference table at one end of the room.

The ladies take seats at the table. Danielle places the backpack in the seat beside her. Hyacinth gives her a look. Danielle moves the backpack to the floor, a less conspicuous location.

A tall, broad-shouldered man enters the room, momentarily filling the doorway. The men already in the room straighten their posture.

The man walks toward the women with a strong, even gait. He has strong facial features, but with a slight glint of softness in his eyes. He has a short, military haircut.

BETULIO

Welcome, ladies. So what am I supposed to do with you?

HYACINTH

What?

DANIELLE

Thank you, sir. Your men helped us.

BETULIO

I am aware. Against orders, unfortunately.

Betulio takes a seat across from the women.

BETULIO (CONT'D)

My apologies. That was very rude of me. I am Betulio, the humble... leader of this little group.

The men in the room cheer. The ladies jump, then look around at the cheering men. Hyacinth looks again at Betulio, interested.

BETULIO (CONT'D)

And you are?

DANIELLE

My name is Danielle.

HYACINTH

And I'm Hyacinth.

BETULIO

You both sound American. What brings you all the way to my humble little village?

HYACINTH

Her husband-

DANIELLE

Site seeing. But we were attacked. Your men helped us.

HYACINTH

Thank you, again.

BETULIO

About that. My men are not to engage in this area. We are vastly outnumbered, and can't face the government forces here.

HYACINTH

You're the rebels.

BETULIO

Freedom fighters is a much better term.

Betulio spreads his arms in a grand gesture.

BETULIO (CONT'D)

But I prefer - the Sons of Venezuela.

The men cheer again.

Hyacinth smiles broadly, feeling the enthusiasm.

DANIELLE

So what are you going to do to us?

BETULIO

What brings you here? The truth.

Danielle takes a deep breath. Her shoulders slump. Hyacinth touches her shoulder to comfort her.

DANIELLE

The American being held for espionage... He's my husband...

BETULIO

I see. Quite a brave young woman.

Betulio eyes Hyacinth.

BETULIO (CONT'D)
And you have quite a crazy friend.

Hyacinth stares back.

HYACINTH
True friend.

Betulio smiles, then looks back to Danielle.

BETULIO
I have heard of this man. What do you know of his mission?

DANIELLE
Mission? He came here to check a company's bookkeeping.

BETULIO
Aaahhh. You Americans and your secrets.

The ladies look at each other.

BETULIO (CONT'D)
So what did you hope to accomplish?
A jail break?

Danielle looks down, unsure of how to proceed with this conversation.

HYACINTH
We came to reason with your government. To ask for understanding.

BETULIO
Pointless...

HYACINTH
If you help us, we can break him out.

BETULIO
Very much crazy...

DANIELLE
I can't stand by and lose my husband.

BETULIO

I assure you, we considered a
rescue mission-

DANIELLE

Why?

BETULIO

He was here to help us.

DANIELLE

What? What do you mean?

BETULIO

But he is being held at La
Sabaneta. An... uncivilized prison.
And heavily guarded.

DANIELLE

I don't understand...

BETULIO

It is a few hundred kilometers from
here.

HYACINTH

How much do you know about this
place?

Betulio looks sad for a moment.

BETULIO

Go home. Your battle is lost. And
without his help, so is ours.

Betulio gets up and walks out of the room. He goes outside.

Danielle, with a determined look on her face, follows
Betulio.

Hyacinth gets up to follow. She looks around the room. Then
she runs back and grabs the backpack.

EXT. REBEL SAFE HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

Danielle approaches Betulio from behind.

DANIELLE

No!

Danielle pushes Betulio as hard as she can, in the back.

Betulio turns, with his hands up, not wanting to fight.

DANIELLE (CONT'D)
I can't give up on him! I won't!

BETULIO
But you must. For your own-

DANIELLE
You coward! He came to help you!

Betulio looks to the sky, a very sad look on his face.

Hyacinth approaches the discussion.

BETULIO
Because we are not strong enough-

DANIELLE
Then break him out!

HYACINTH
Danielle-

Danielle looks around, at the trees. At her surroundings. She breathes deeply, eyes closed, face toward the sun.

DANIELLE
I... I'm sorry.

Danielle wanders a slight distance away.

HYACINTH
What she's saying is that we can help each other.

BETULIO
But this Santiago. His forces are too strong.

HYACINTH
If... if we help each other-

BETULIO
I can not lead these men to their deaths. They trust me.

HYACINTH
And that is why they will fight for you.

BETULIO
Even a losing battle?

HYACINTH

That is why they won't lose. They believe in their leader. You.

BETULIO

But-

HYACINTH

If we work together, we can break him out. Then he can help you win this thing.

BETULIO

But you are only two beautiful women. That doesn't win battles.

HYACINTH

But doesn't determination? Plus we have friends. And we can get weapons...

Betulio thoughtfully rubs his 5 o'clock shadow. He looks at Danielle with an uncomfortable look of shame on his face.

BETULIO

Maybe...

DANIELLE

Please...

Betulio takes a deep breath, trying to let go of his doubts.

BETULIO

What kinds of weapons?

Betulio sees a brief glint of light in the distance. He shoves both women to cover.

BETULIO (CONT'D)

Down!

As he shoves them, a shot rings out. Danielle tucks and rolls gracefully. Hyacinth tumbles like a bucket of rocks. Betulio continues to shield them for several seconds. He signals to a nearby freedom fighter, and points toward the source of the shot.

BETULIO (CONT'D)

Sniper! Take three men. Don't let him get away.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - EVENING

Danielle and Hyacinth enter the hotel room, followed by Betulio.

Jake is walking from the bedroom area out to the common area, as he puts his shirt on. The shower is running in the background. When Jake sees the women, he has a very surprised look on his face. He almost looks scared.

DANIELLE

How did it go?

Jake composes himself.

JAKE

You're back. I was getting worried...

HYACINTH

We can see that.

JAKE

He's willing to negotiate.

Jake's eyes wander over to Betulio. He looks confused.

HYACINTH

This is Betulio. He can help.

Hyacinth looks at Betulio.

HYACINTH (CONT'D)

A lot.

DANIELLE

You knew what Victorio was doing here. When were you going to tell me?

JAKE

I... uh...

Gina comes out of the bedroom area, wearing only a towel.

GINA

Babe, that was ama-

Gina sees Danielle and Hyacinth. A look of surprise and embarrassment comes over her face. She then notices the visitor. She freezes for a second, then runs back into the bedroom area.

Betulio is eyeing Jake, as if he recognizes him from somewhere.

Hyacinth is shaking her head, as she places the backpack on the floor.

HYACINTH

Damn. I'm single too, but-

DANIELLE

Why did you lie to me?

JAKE

The mission is classified. I could go to jail for-

DANIELLE

Victorio IS in jail. For following orders.

Jake hangs his head.

JAKE

(quietly) I know.

DANIELLE

So what else do you know?

Jake looks Danielle in the eyes.

JAKE

I know I'm not supposed to be here. I know I'm supposed to let my friend rot down here. I know I came to help you. Against orders.

Gina comes back out. She is fully dressed now, but her hair is still damp.

GINA

We were SO worried about you guys!

HYACINTH

Didn't we already cover that?

DANIELLE

About Victorio. What else do you know that might help?

JAKE

It was a simple delivery. But I don't know what. He was supposed to report when he got here, but he didn't.

DANIELLE

And your... company didn't see fit to check into it? To help him?

JAKE

Uncle Sam hires us for deniability. The mission failed. Protocol is to cut losses-

Danielle turns and starts storming out of the room.

DANIELLE

I can't-

JAKE

That's why I'm here. I, his friend, could not give up on him.

Danielle slams the door behind herself.

Gina runs to catch up and comfort her friend.

HYACINTH

We need to meet your hookup tonight.

BETULIO

We must drive most of the night. If we hurry, we can strike at dawn.

INT. HOTEL LOBBY - MOMENTS LATER

Gina catches up to Danielle, just as Danielle is taking a seat. Danielle places her face in her hands.

GINA

What is it?

DANIELLE

I can't believe he lied. All this time.

GINA

He was doing his job. He could get in trouble for talking about this stuff.

DANIELLE

But I trusted him. And he lied.

GINA

He had no choice.

DANIELLE

Maybe...

GINA

But at least he's here now. He's helping-

DANIELLE

I'm talking about Victorio.

GINA

Oh...

DANIELLE

I thought we had something special. That we could trust each other. Completely.

GINA

Maybe he didn't want you to worry.

DANIELLE

But-

GINA

Maybe he's just a soldier, doing his job.

DANIELLE

I know, but-

GINA

Danielle, you and Victorio are the most beautiful couple I have ever seen. You do have something special. So in love. So beyond... just love. Its like your life is a chick flick.

Danielle smiles.

DANIELLE

Don't tell Victorio that. He'd probably throw up in his mouth a little.

Gina looks up, indicating their hotel room. And Jake.

GINA

And look at me. I want what you have. That special relationship. And I can't find it. No matter how hard I look.

Danielle stands up, wiping her eyes.

DANIELLE

You'll find it. You're a beautiful woman, inside and out. Just don't try so hard...

GINA

But he's gorgeous! And so mysterious.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Jake is on his phone, setting up the last minute meeting with the arms dealer.

Victorio is sitting across the room, still looking at Jake suspiciously.

Hyacinth is making coffee. Two pots.

HYACINTH

So you know the way to the prison?

Betulio stares straight ahead, his expression blank.

BETULIO

I know the place. I've been there...

HYACINTH

And your men are ready?

Betulio looks down at his hands. They are fidgeting.

BETULIO

More ready than me...

Hyacinth sits beside Betulio. She cautiously touches his shoulder.

HYACINTH

You have such strength. How do you not see it.

BETULIO

I have some strength. I just wonder if its enough...

Jake hangs up his phone.

Danielle and Gina enter the room.

JAKE

He can meet us tonight. I owe him one, but he has some nice party favors in mind.

BETULIO

Party favors?

JAKE

You'll see. You'll like.

Danielle grabs the backpack.

DANIELLE

How close are your troops? Do you have room in your vehicles for us?

EXT. ARMS DEALER COMPOUND - NIGHT

The arms dealer's compound is located several miles from Caracas. It is in an isolated area. All approaches are easily observable; there is a lot of open area around the compound. It is heavily guarded, by uniformed men. The arms dealer's men look serious, professional, and well trained.

The few roads leading to the compound are unimproved, rough. The compound itself is surrounded by a wall with concertina wire on top. A few yards outside the wall is a perimeter of concertina wire. There is one entrance to the compound.

All of the buildings are low. Most of them are only one story, but a few are two stories. They have earth built up around them. All the buildings are covered with camouflage netting. Most lights are of very low wattage. There is just enough light for a person to see their way from building to building.

The small convoy pulls up to the gate. Jake is in the lead vehicle. He gets out and talks to the guard for a minute.

Jake takes off walking through the gate and waves the convoy forward. The vehicles slowly follow him.

In a holding area near the center of the compound, Jake holds up one finger and waves it around in a circle. The drivers understand and find places to park.

Everyone dismounts the vehicles. Some of the rebel soldiers pull out cigarettes. Betulio signals for them to put the cigarettes away.

Danielle comes forward, wearing the backpack Jake accompanies her to meet the arms dealer. Betulio joins them.

INT. RENZO'S OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

Danielle, Jake, and Betulio enter the arms dealer's office. It is surprisingly plush, and well decorated. There is expensive artwork on the walls. Classical music is playing in the background. The aroma of freshly brewed gourmet coffee is in the air.

Renzo is sitting behind his desk. He is facing the wall, back toward his visitors. He is contemplating the painting on the wall behind his desk.

Renzo turns dramatically to face his visitors. He is a small man. He has a small frame, and appears to be relatively short. He has delicate features, but is handsome. He is dressed like Scarface, but looks somewhat friendly.

DANIELLE

Thanks for seeing us.

RENZO

Luckily for you, any friend of Santiago is a friend of mine.

Jake's eyes get big for a second.

RENZO (CONT'D)

That man is bad for business.

Jake relaxes.

DANIELLE

So how does this work?

RENZO

Oh, you do mean business, don't you?

DANIELLE

This is pretty important.

RENZO

Such a pretty lady.

Renzo stands up, visibly enjoying the music.

Danielle looks at Jake, impatient. Betulio slowly moves to a position where he can defend Danielle.

BETULIO

Weapons?

Renzo is still swaying with the music.

RENZO

Pretty lady, when was the last time you went shopping? For a dress that matches your own beauty?

Danielle is caught off guard by Renzo's question. And his manner.

DANIELLE

I'm not sure...

Renzo starts swaying toward the door.

RENZO

Pretty lady, this works the same. You shop. You look around. You find what you're looking for. Then you buy it. Let's go shopping.

The trio follows Renzo out the door.

EXT. ARMS DEALER COMPOUND - MOMENTS LATER

The small group passes the waiting soldiers. A small group of the soldiers is admiring Gina and Hyacinth, some of them brave enough to try to stand out and impress the women.

Renzo leads the group to a large building with blacked out windows.

INT. ARMS ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Renzo turns on the lights. The lights come on one section at a time. There are many rows of weapon racks, all full. This building is wall to wall guns.

Betulio's eyes get big. He trembles with excitement.

Danielle looks at Renzo. The surprise is visible on her face.

RENZO

Well go, pretty lady. Find your dress.

Danielle wanders into rows of guns.

Jake goes to the door and waves Gina and Hyacinth into the building.

Betulio picks up a nearby G-36.

BETULIO
How many of these do you have?

RENZO
Enough.

Hyacinth and Gina enter the building. Their eyes get big. They begin to look around.

HYACINTH
I love shopping.

Hyacinth sees Betulio, who is looking over his G-36 with reverence.

Hyacinth rubs his arm.

HYACINTH (CONT'D)
I told you...

Betulio nods. He looks confident, hopeful.

Jake comes back to the front with a sniper rifle, and submachine gun.

Danielle comes to the front with an M-4 fitted with an M-203 grenade launcher. And a Taurus Raging Bull 500 Magnum. Renzo nods his approval.

Gina comes to the front with matching submachine guns. She's wearing combat boots.

GINA
I'll take these!

Hyacinth comes to the front with an AA-12 automatic shotgun. She also has a handgun tucked into her belt. She is smiling broadly.

Betulio is pushing a cart with three M-240 machine guns and three recoilless rifles. He looks Hyacinth up and down, and smiles. He looks at Danielle.

BETULIO
Are we able to get these for some of my men, in addition to rifles for the rest?

RENZO
Let's go back to my office and talk business.

The group follows Renzo out the door.

Renzo turns to Betulio and points to the building next door.

RENZO (CONT'D)
Tell your men they can find
magazines and ammunition in that
building.

Betulio goes to his men, excited. They gather around him,
admiring his new G-36.

INT. RENZO'S OFFICE - MOMENTS LATER

Renzo leads Danielle and Jake into his office. He sits behind
his desk and motions for them to sit.

RENZO
Please have a seat.

Danielle looks at her backpack.

DANIELLE
I'm not sure I have enough for all
those weapons-

RENZO
Nonsense, pretty lady.

DANIELLE
What?

RENZO
Like I said, any friend of Santiago
is a friend of mine.

DANIELLE
I don't see how-

RENZO
He is there.

JAKE
What?

RENZO
I have people. In different places.

DANIELLE
What does that mean?

RENZO
It means that I know Santiago is
already at the prison.

DANIELLE
How did you know where-

RENZO
I have people. In different places.

JAKE
I see.

RENZO
I'll take half.

DANIELLE
Half?

RENZO
Half of what you're cradling in the
backpack.

DANIELLE
That doesn't seem like enough.

RENZO
Tit for tat, as you say. You take
care of Santiago, I give you a
substantial discount.

DANIELLE
Oh-

RENZO
Make no mistake. If you don't get
rid of him, I will come for the
rest. You won't be able to hide.
You won't be able to run fast
enough.

DANIELLE
Are you being nice or threatening
us?

RENZO
Neither, pretty lady. We are simply
helping each other. Now go. Go put
your beautiful new dress to good
use.

INT. CELL IN LA SABANETA PRISON - MOMENTS LATER

Santiago slaps Victorio hard across the face. Victorio slowly
opens his eyes. Santiago slaps him again.

CHIEF SANTIAGO
Wake up.

VICTORIO
Uh...

CHIEF SANTIAGO
Where is it?

VICTORIO
What?

CHIEF SANTIAGO
Do not play with me.

VICTORIO
Where's my little buddy?

CHIEF SANTIAGO
You don't have much time.

VICTORIO
My butterfly...

CHIEF SANTIAGO
That is, if you want to save your
beautiful wife...

Victorio fights against his shackles.

CHIEF SANTIAGO (CONT'D)
Aaahhhh.... So there is a human
being in there...

VICTORIO
What did you do?!

CHIEF SANTIAGO
Nothing yet. She'll be here soon.
And then...

Santiago licks his lips.

VICTORIO
You bastard!!

Chief Santiago turns and exits the cell. He signals to his
men to continue persuading Victorio.

EXT. COUNTRY ROAD - NIGHT

The small convoy moves down the road. They are driving toward
the Zulia, where the prison is located.

INT. TRUCK - NIGHT

In the back of one of the trucks, Jake is teaching Gina some marksmanship basics. He quietly lectures her on body position, aiming, breathing and trigger control.

Jake's phone buzzes. He quickly checks it and sends a text.

INT. TRUCK - NIGHT

In the back of another truck, several of the freedom fighters are checking their weapons, making sure they function properly.

They are also loading loose rounds into magazines, always a tedious task.

INT. TRUCK - NIGHT

Hyacinth is dozing off. Her head is resting on Betulio's chest. He is gingerly loading magazines, trying not to disturb her.

INT. TRUCK - NIGHT

Danielle is lost in thought. She is cradling the 500 Magnum.

EXT. COUNTRY ROAD - NIGHT

The convoy slows down. The vehicles pull off the road and move to a secluded area. They park in a defensive circle, like circling the wagons.

The troops dismount.

Danielle and Jake find Betulio.

BETULIO

We are close, within walking distance. We can rest here for an hour. Then move into position to attack at dawn.

DANIELLE

Are you sure this plan will work?

Jake and Betulio answer in unison.

BETULIO AND JAKE

Yes.

JAKE

The tactics are basic, but sound.

Betulio gives Jake a harsh look.

JAKE (CONT'D)

We split into two groups. The groups attack at the same time, creating a crossfire. And confusion. You and I will slip in during the confusion and grab Victorio.

DANIELLE

And you're sure he'll be where you said?

BETULIO

I know this place.

Betulio walks over to a group of his men. He speaks in low tones, making sure they're ready.

Gina approaches Danielle and Jake.

GINA

I guess this is it. I told you we're here for you.

Jake hefts his sniper rifle, and looks at his watch.

JAKE

I'm going to my overwatch position. Do you remember where to meet me once the party starts?

DANIELLE

Yes.

JAKE

Good. Don't be late. We'll have to go quick, before they move him.

DANIELLE

Ok.

Jake turns and walks away. Gina looks after him.

GINA

I guess I'll try to get a nap.

DANIELLE

Good luck with that.

EXT. LA SABANETA PRISON - NIGHT

Jake is on the ground, lying prone. He is watching the prison through his rifle scope. He is tracking activity, looking for patterns.

Jake's phone buzzes. He checks it, then looks off to his left. He has an odd look on his face.

WOODED AREA SURROUNDING THE PRISON

It is still dark, but the sky to the east is starting to lighten.

The ladies and the freedom fighters are cautiously moving through the woods, toward the prison.

Gina is now wearing camouflage face paint, to go with her newly acquired headband.

They start to divide into two groups. Hyacinth and Gina go with Betulio's group.

Danielle looks to the sky. Then she starts moving in a completely different direction. She is headed to her rendezvous with Jake. And then to her reunion with Victorio.

Suddenly all hell breaks loose.

There are explosions and gunfire everywhere. Betulio starts bellowing commands, organizing his troops for a counterattack.

Hyacinth starts firing her AA-12. And actually taking out enemy positions. Betulio looks at her and openly smiles.

There is an explosion behind Danielle. She is launched through the air and lands, semi-conscious and confused. She is separated from the group.

Betulio grabs one of his men, who is holding a recoilless rifle. He loads it for the man, then pats him on the back. The man fires it and takes out a machine gun position.

Gina charges forward. She is yelling, and firing both of her guns. Then she trips. As she is falling, she keeps firing, and takes out a group of government troops.

Hyacinth is watching Gina, and shakes her head. Gina gets up and keeps stumbling forward.

A group of Betulio's men is taken out by an explosion, a rocket.

Betulio tracks the smoke trail back to its point of origin. Betulio grabs some grenades from one of his nearby men. He charges toward the rocket position, then dives for cover when he's close to it. He throws three grenades at the rocket position, in rapid succession. They all explode, decimating the group of men manning the rocket launcher.

Danielle, still on the ground, looks up. She sees what looks like Jake running toward the prison. She starts to call him, but notices the government troops are allowing him to pass through their lines. He is out in the open. They see him, but they are not shooting at him. Her vision fades as she loses consciousness for a few seconds.

Enemy fire starts to get overwhelming. Betulio assesses the situation and decides to retreat and regroup.

Betulio finds Hyacinth and Gina and pulls them back with him. He then starts signaling to his men to retreat.

Hyacinth looks around for Danielle, but doesn't see her. Betulio pulls Hyacinth along with him.

EXT. FREEDOM FIGHTER PATROL BASE - MOMENTS LATER

Back at the trucks, Betulio posts sentries. He designates a small area for first aid. He directs some of his troops to assess and redistribute ammunition. He then makes sure the ladies are ok.

BETULIO

They knew we were coming.

Betulio surveys several injured men. He notices the general defeated feeling spreading through his men.

HYACINTH

Where's Danielle?

GINA

Where's Jake? She was going to meet him.

HYACINTH

Nice overwatch...

BETULIO

I had a similar thought.

HYACINTH

What do we do now?

BETULIO
We regroup. We attack.

HYACINTH
Won't they expect that?

BETULIO
Santiago will expect us to run.

GINA
Santiago? Jake's tactical support
guy?

BETULIO
What do you mean? Santiago is the
enemy. He's holding Victorio.

GINA
Oh no...

Gina finds a place to sit down.

HYACINTH
What's going on?

Betulio looks at Gina.

GINA
Yesterday. When we were waiting for
you guys... Jake was texting with
somebody named Santiago. I didn't
see the message, just the name.

HYACINTH
Shit. We have to find Danielle.

BETULIO
We must strike. We must attack now
before they can prepare.

HYACINTH
But-

BETULIO
If she made it in, she's a prisoner
now.

HYACINTH
But what if she didn't?

BETULIO
Do you trust me?

HYACINTH

Yes...

BETULIO

Then we attack. We'll find her when we control the situation.

HYACINTH

I hope you're sure.

Betulio grabs Hyacinth roughly. He pulls her to him. He kisses her. There is a fire in his eyes.

BETULIO

Only because you believe in me.

EXT. WOODED AREA SURROUNDING THE PRISON - MOMENTS LATER

Danielle slowly starts opening her eyes. There is something fluttering in front of her. She gradually focuses, and sees that it's a butterfly.

DANIELLE

(whispers) So I'm not done yet...

Danielle starts moving around. She feels sore all over. She looks over herself, checking for injuries. Her ears are still ringing.

Danielle looks around. She can't find her M-4. But she sees that she still has her 500 Magnum. She has visions of Victorio at the range, and his lessons. She has visions of the Krav Maga class. Then she remembers the surprise training session during her run. She takes a deep breath, and starts moving toward the prison.

EXT. FREEDOM FIGHTER PATROL BASE - MOMENTS LATER

Betulio has his men gathered around him. He is drawing in the dirt with a stick. He accentuates the drawing with hand gestures, and periodically points to some of the vehicles.

Hyacinth watches him, inspired. Betulio glances at Hyacinth and smiles. The men seem to be inspired by Betulio's confidence. Their morale is returning.

EXT. WOODED AREA SURROUNDING THE PRISON - MOMENTS LATER

Danielle is still moving toward the prison. She is crouched, trying to be sneaky. But she looks somewhat awkward. This is not something she has rehearsed.

Danielle notices a couple of positions that had been occupied by the ambushers. They are empty now.

Danielle hears voices off to her right. She ducks a little lower and moves toward the voices. There are three government soldiers. They seem to be on lookout duty. Danielle can barely make out a road not far beyond them.

Danielle draws the 500 Magnum. She holds it with both hands, aiming at the center of the three men.

INT. PRISON HEADQUARTERS - RIGHT NOW

Santiago is speaking to one of his aides, while covering the mic on the telephone with his hand.

CHIEF SANTIAGO
Take him to interrogation. Now!

EXT. FREEDOM FIGHTER PATROL BASE - RIGHT NOW

Two trucks are parked in a tight formation around the first aid area, with a few men on guard.

Everyone else is on the remaining trucks. The engines are running. They are in a staggered formation on the road, pointing toward the prison. The M-240 machine guns are mounted on three of the trucks. Men are holding the recoilless rifles on two other trucks.

Hyacinth is on the lead truck with Betulio. He still has the fire in his eyes. Betulio waves the convoy forward.

EXT. WOODED AREA SURROUNDING THE PRISON - RIGHT NOW

Danielle slows her breathing. Her finger starts to squeeze the trigger.

Suddenly, she is tackled from behind. It is the fourth soldier manning this lookout. He was away from the position, so Danielle didn't see him. Danielle fights back and begins to get the upper hand.

The other men hear the commotion and come to check it out. Now Danielle is facing off against four men. She remembers Victorio's fight against a dozen, and her confidence continues to grow.

Danielle moves around a lot, making herself a difficult target. She strikes at vital areas, like eyes, throats, and knees.

The soldiers think they have her cornered, but gradually stop laughing. They realize that it hurts when she hits them. They start taking her more seriously.

Danielle looks down and happens to see her 500 Magnum. She dive rolls over the gun, and comes back to her feet. She is holding the gun with both hands and aims at the man nearest to her.

Danielle pulls the trigger. The gun's report is extremely loud. Danielle stumbles back, almost dropping the gun.

The big bullet hits the chest of her target. His chest caves in, and his back explodes outward. The man's body is lifted into the air, and flies several feet. His body knocks down two of the other men.

Danielle regroupes and starts aiming again. One man is running, almost back to the lookout position. The other two men scramble to get back to their feet.

Danielle takes aim at the man running toward the lookout. When the big bullet hits, he dives into the ground face first and slides to a halt.

The other two men sprint for cover deeper in the woods.

Danielle turns and sees the trucks down on the road. She sees Hyacinth yelling and waving her to come to the trucks. But she can only hear her ears ringing. Danielle runs down to the trucks, and hops onto one.

EXT. COUNTRY ROAD - MOMENTS LATER

The convoy starts moving forward again.

Hyacinth is staring at her friend.

HYACINTH

Wow...

DANIELLE

What?

HYACINTH

Did your man teach you to do that?

Danielle smiles to herself.

DANIELLE

Let's go get him.

Danielle removes the spent casings from the revolver and replaces them with fresh rounds. She then looks around and finds an extra G-36 rifle.

The convoy nears the front gate. Hyacinth leans out the window with her AA-12.

HYACINTH

Knock knock.

Hyacinth fires a few rounds at the guard shack, obliterating it. She giggles and winks at Danielle.

All the big guns on the convoy start firing. The recoilless rifles take out some of the buildings. Every freedom fighter with a line of sight is firing his rifle.

The convoy pulls into the courtyard of the prison complex. The trucks move into their defensive circular formation.

Some troops stay with the trucks, providing covering fire for the assault. The rest dismount and move out in various directions.

Betulio grabs Danielle's arm.

BETULIO

Come with me. I know where your husband will be.

Danielle goes with Betulio.

Hyacinth and Gina run toward the communications building.

The freedom fighters have the advantage. The government troops are disorganized, and panicking. They are looking for ways to escape.

Danielle follows Betulio to one of the smaller buildings, the headquarters.

COMMUNICATIONS BUILDING

Hyacinth and Gina make it to the communications building. Gina sprays with both guns into the door.

Hyacinth throws two grenades into the building, one with each hand. The grenades go off, destroying all the communications equipment.

PRISON COURTYARD

The freedom fighters manning the trucks are still shooting at targets of opportunity. The troops with recoilless rifles are targeting vehicles and defensive positions. The machine gunners are making sure nobody gets a shot at the recoilless rifles.

PRISON HEADQUARTERS

Betulio and Danielle enter the building. They immediately come under fire. The building has a long central hall, with rooms along each side.

BETULIO

Stay low. Behind cover. Room by room.

Danielle nods. Betulio sticks his arm out the door, and waves for some of his nearby troops to come and help. They run to his aid, and start firing down the hall. One freedom fighter dismounts one of the M-240 machine guns and joins the fight in the headquarters building.

PRISON COURTYARD

Hyacinth and Gina start moving toward the headquarters building, firing as they go.

PRISON HEADQUARTERS

Betulio, Danielle, and the small group of freedom fighters moves slowly forward. They clear each room as they go. There seem to be a lot of government troops in this building.

A grenade comes rolling down the hall at the group. Danielle sees Santiago duck back into the room at the far end of the hall. Betulio soccer kicks the grenade back toward the government troops. It explodes, sending two of them flying.

Suddenly, the head of the man beside Danielle explodes. She hits the floor.

DANIELLE

What the-

Betulio takes spare magazines from his fallen troop. He rests his hand on the dead man's chest for a second.

Danielle feels her phone vibrate in her pocket. She checks it. It's a text from Jake.

ON DANIELLE'S PHONE SCREEN

The text message reads:

"I told u u shouldn't B here"

BACK TO SCENE

Danielle puts her phone in her pocket. She looks especially angry. Danielle pulls out the 500 Magnum. She aims down the hall, and fires all five rounds in rapid succession.

Betulio ducks behind cover. He looks at Danielle like she's crazy, as he rubs both ears.

There is a lull in the firefight as everyone tries to recover from the big handgun. Danielle sits behind cover and reloads. Betulio smiles and shrugs. He starts firing again.

Hyacinth is suddenly with the small group.

HYACINTH

Damn, girl. I guess you do want
your hubby-wubby back.

Betulio suddenly tackles the two women into a nearby room. An explosion goes off in the hall behind them. He starts to move to let them up. Hyacinth grabs his shirt roughly and pulls him back down to her. She kisses him. This kiss is rough too. Betulio is clearly surprised.

HYACINTH (CONT'D)

You're getting good at that.

Hyacinth then pushes him back toward the fight.

They hear Gina shooting and yelling out in the hall.

The small group continues forward, room by room.

BETULIO

He will be in the last room on the
right. Interrogation.

There is a sour look on Betulio's face.

Another man's head explodes, this time beside Gina. The group can hear Jake yell from the end of the hall.

JAKE

Sorry, babe! Didn't mean to get
that close.

GINA
You asshole!! Why do I always pick
assholes?!

Gina fires wildly toward Jake, emptying both magazines. She drops behind cover to reload. Hyacinth has a guilty smile on her face.

HYACINTH
I bet you didn't see that coming
when you were bumping ug-

GINA
Shut up!!

HYACINTH
Just sayin-

GINA
Shut up!!

DANIELLE
I thought you were his friend! Here
to he-

JAKE
He is my friend! Was!

Jake looks over his shoulder toward the interrogation room.

JAKE (CONT'D)
What's left of him, anyway-

DANIELLE
You bastard!

JAKE
How do you think this government
came to power?!

DANIELLE
Who cares?!

JAKE
That was MY mission, years ago!

GINA
Fuck you!

JAKE
I couldn't let my work go to waste!

DANIELLE
Get out of the way, Jake!

JAKE

I spilled my own blood for-

Jake's chest is stitched with several rounds. He coughs up blood. Gina is still aiming both guns at him, tears rolling down her cheeks.

BETULIO

I did not like him.

Jake's body slumps in the hall, and drops his sniper rifle.

Danielle suddenly runs forward, toward the interrogation room. Betulio, Gina, and Hyacinth follow. They cover her as best they can. As she runs by Jake's body, she kicks him. As Gina runs by his body, she kicks him in the groin.

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM - RIGHT NOW

Betulio kicks the door open and charges into the room. He gets shot and spins to the side. Danielle comes through the door right behind him. She fires the 500, knocking the guard across the room and against the wall.

Gina and Hyacinth enter the room in time to see Danielle at a full sprint toward Santiago. Victorio is kneeling in front of Santiago, hands tied behind his back.

Victorio is shirtless. There are wounds all over Victorio's torso, mostly cuts, bruises and burns. His face is bloody and bruised. Somehow he looks calm. He doesn't look scared. He doesn't look surprised. Danielle thinks she sees him wink at her.

Santiago puts a knife to Victorio's throat. Danielle freezes, suddenly unsure.

CHIEF SANTIAGO

I told you to go home.

Hyacinth slowly moves over to Betulio, to check on him.

Danielle looks longingly into Victorio's eyes.

DANIELLE

I couldn't.

CHIEF SANTIAGO

Drop your guns-

DANIELLE

No!

CHIEF SANTIAGO
We can all get out of this-

DANIELLE
Let him go!

CHIEF SANTIAGO
I want to. But I need something
from him first.

DANIELLE
You're about to get something from
me...

Santiago eyes her up and down, then smiles. He starts to slide the knife across Victorio's throat.

CHIEF SANTIAGO
Business before pleasure...

BETULIO
You can not win. Give up.

Santiago looks at Betulio. Betulio is already aiming, with Hyacinth propping him up. Betulio fires a single shot. Santiago gets grazed in the upper arm. He drops the knife.

Before the knife hits the floor, Danielle is on Santiago. She hits him with every combination she can think of, striking relentlessly. Santiago puts up a fight for a few seconds, but Danielle is too quick. She dodges his punches, and her strikes wear him down.

Gina starts untying Victorio.

Santiago finally falls. As he does, he pulls out a hidden gun. Danielle kicks the gun away. She draws the 500 Magnum and aims it at Santiago.

CHIEF SANTIAGO
Please!

Danielle pauses, staring at Santiago. She seems to be weighing the pros and cons of shooting him.

Danielle fires. Santiago is dead. Danielle stands there for a few seconds. Then her arms start trembling.

Gina finishes untying Victorio. Victorio stands, unsteady. He gently takes the gun out of Danielle's hand. He weakly embraces her. Danielle hugs back tightly.

VICTORIO
Ow-

DANIELLE
Oh baby! I'm sorry.

Danielle sits Victorio down and starts to look over his wounds.

VICTORIO
I held out. For you...

DANIELLE
Stop talking. Relax.

Hyacinth starts helping Betulio go out to his men.

VICTORIO
I was patient. Just like you taught me.

DANIELLE
And I was strong, like you taught me.

Gina follows Hyacinth and Betulio.

GINA
I'll see if they have a stretcher.

When Gina gets out in the hall, she kicks Jake in the groin again.

GINA (CONT'D)
Asshole.

DANIELLE
I love you.

VICTORIO
You kept me alive.

EXT. PRISON COURTYARD - AFTERNOON

The freedom fighter trucks are loaded up now. They start pulling out of the prison, forming into a convoy again. The convoy heads toward the area where they had left their wounded.

INT. TRUCK - AFTERNOON

Hyacinth tends to Betulio's wound.

HYACINTH
This doesn't look so bad.

BETULIO
Better me than you.

Hyacinth kisses Betulio again.

HYACINTH
So sweet!

Victorio is lying in the same truck. Danielle is performing first aid.

DANIELLE
So what did you bring here?

VICTORIO
I don't know. I didn't open the package.

BETULIO
Oh?

VICTORIO
Following orders.

BETULIO
Did they take it from you? Where did they take it?

VICTORIO
I like to consider myself skilled.

BETULIO
What?

VICTORIO
I'm good at this.

Victorio looks down at his injuries.

VICTORIO (CONT'D)
At least I used to be.

DANIELLE
I got you, baby.

VICTORIO
I know. I always knew.

GINA
Must be nice...

VICTORIO
I hid it before they got the drop on me.

HYACINTH

We saw that on TV. You know, I thought you could fight a little better than-

DANIELLE

He did good! My baby can fight.

VICTORIO

Can I have some paper? And a pen?

Gina starts rummaging through a box.

VICTORIO (CONT'D)

Do you understand latitude and longitude coordinates?

BETULIO

Yes.

Gina hands Victorio pen and paper. Victorio starts writing.

VICTORIO

Here are the coordinates for the package. It's buried about four feet deep.

BETULIO

Thank you. This changes everything.

Betulio looks at the troops near him, with pride and hope.

VICTORIO

Don't thank me yet. There are booby traps you'll have to get by. I'll explain how to beat them.

BETULIO

I have a man who is good with traps. When we stop for a rest, I will find him.

VICTORIO

Ok.

Victorio dozes off. Danielle caresses his face.

INT. SHOOTING RANGE - AFTERNOON

Danielle is aiming a Taurus Raging Bull 500 Magnum at the target. Victorio stands slightly behind her, watching her form. This 500 Magnum is modified differently than Victorio's. It has purple handgrips.

She fires all five rounds. Of course, everyone on the firing line stops shooting to see what's going on.

INT. WINE BAR - EVENING

Hyacinth and Gina sit in a wine bar. They are chatting about men. They speak of qualities they like and don't like, and recall traits they have recently encountered.

There is a TV on in the background. A breaking news story comes on. The bartender is interested, so he turns the volume up.

REPORTER

And a breaking story from Venezuela. They've been in the news a lot lately.

The reporter takes a second to giggle at her own observation.

REPORTER (CONT'D)

There are un-confirmed reports that there has been a coups. The regime, that has been more and more at odds with the US lately, has been overthrown. Experts believe that the rebel movement, that has been very active, found a way to disable the command and control infrastructure.

Hyacinth and Gina glance at each other. They raise their glasses.

REPORTER (CONT'D)

Then, with the help of many citizens, this rebel group was able to seize power. They are known as the Sons of Venezuela, and have sworn to put power back into the hands of the people.

Hyacinth is smiling broadly. Her phone buzzes. It is a text from Betulio.

REPORTER (CONT'D)

The rebel leader had this to say:

BETULIO

We owe it all to three angels that came from a far away place to help us with our cause...

INT. DANIELLE AND VICTORIO'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Danielle and Victorio are in the living room, watching the news. When the story finishes, Danielle picks up the remote and turns the TV off.

As she is putting the remote down, Victorio suddenly picks her up.

DANIELLE

You're supposed to be taking it
easy.

VICTORIO

I have gratitude to show you, my
Tú.

Danielle starts smacking Victorio on the butt as he carries her toward the bedroom.

DANIELLE

Woo-hoo!

FADE TO BLACK.