Volatile

Ву

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The lights are turned down low. Romantic music plays in the background. Moving through the reasonably-sized apartment it is apparent that a couple are having a romantic evening together. Plates from a dinner for two sit on a candlelit table. A photo of the happy couple at the beach on holiday hangs on the wall.

Suddenly a lamp flies across the room, smashing said photo, breaking the glass frame.

This night is not going to end well.

Wheeling round we find **MAX Allen** (25, handsome, vocal, always hiding a secret or two) ducking from his girlfriend **CASSIE Morris** (23, redhead, beautiful, a perfect girl in an imperfect world) who is currently throwing all sorts of objects in the apartment at him. At least she won't be able to throw the kitchen sink.

> MAX Cassie, come on, hear me out!

Cassie throws her wine glass at him. And several things from the kitchen sink.

CASSIE You bastard! (Throws a plate) You liar! (Throws another) I know what you've been doing!

MAX

What?

Cassie throws a book at him which he catches.

CASSIE Stop lying to me! I know about that blonde you've been running around with!

MAX What blonde are you talking abo-

Cassie throws a knife which Max blocks with the book. The knife embeds itself in it.

MAX Oh that blonde... CASSIE Who is she Max? Who is she?! MAX It's not what it looked like. CASSIE That's what they all say! MAX That's...true...But please, hear me out! This is completely different! CASSIE It may be completely different to you but to me it's still fucking cheating! Cassie throws a plate that skims past Max as he ducks, smashing against the wall. MAX I wasn't cheating on you. Michelle... CASSIE Oh she has a name, does she? MAX Yes. She does...Michelle and I... CASSIE "Michelle and I" what? "Michelle and I" what?...I've seen the two of you sneaking around town, hopping into vans and all sorts, don't think you can hide from me. Just... (Frustrated) Just...tell me the truth Max. You can tell me that, right?...

Max hesitates.

MAX Well..Err..I...Errreeeummmmm...I...

CASSIE Can't you offer your girlfriend even a little respect?... MAX Cassie, do we have to do this right now? On our anniversary?

CASSIE Did you have to do this to me? No. But you did.

Cassie gathers her purse and walks to the front door.

MAX Cassie, wait, I-...

She opens the door and turns to look at Max.

CASSIE It's over Max. I can't keep being lied to. Good...

Cassie looks at Max, a man a second away from being broken.

CASSIE ...Goodbye...

She leaves, closing the door behind him. The man breaks. Max looks down and pulls out a ring box from his pocket. He opens it to look at an engagement ring and closes it. He looks up

AND SUDDENLY WE ARE:

INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT

Where Max is sitting at a dinner table, sipping from a glass of wine.

TITLE: '3 YEARS LATER'

He's dressed in a crisp suit. Open collar, no tie, but it works for him. He's looking good.

MAX And then she left me.

MAN (O.S) Ahh, man. That sucks.

The **MAN** is revealed to be **BEN Hill** (30s, balding, rotund, suited business-type), munching at his business dinner with Max.

3.

BEN I know exactly how you feel. My wife left me the other month. She also caught me cheating.

MAX I didn't cheat. BEN So you were what, just hanging out with this blonde you got into mysterious vans with and stuff?

MAX That does sound rather suspect... (Drinks) But no. I wasn't cheating on her, I was...doing business.

BEN

Uh-huh. (Drinks) Oh! (Puts down glass) Business! That's why I called you down here today.

Ben reaches down and slides over a briefcase to Max, which Max then picks up and puts into his lap.

BEN

I'm very happy we were finally able to come to an arrangement. My associate will be pleased to know that everything is in order.

MAX What's the code to open the briefcase?

BEN

All sixes.

Max enters the combination and opens the briefcase. He pauses for a bit to soak up the sight.

MAX

That's a lot of money.

Looking inside the briefcase, it's true, that's a fuck-ton of money.

Max closes the briefcase.

(CONTINUED)

MAX Glad to see you kept up your end of the bargain. Now to hold up mine.

Max reaches into his suit pocket. He pulls out a notepad and a small pencil and writes something down.

MAX Okay, the next step in our little arrangement is to meet me at this address tomorrow at Midday.

Max rips off the page and slides it over the table to Ben. Ben looks at the address and nods, folding it as he puts it into his pocket.

> BEN I'm glad that things are finally moving along. My associate will be pleased.

Max puts the briefcase down next to his chair.

MAX When will I actually get to meet the big guy himself?

BEN Oh you will, you will...He only likes to show his face once the final arrangements have been made. Which won't be too long now.

MAX Excellent! Shall we have another drink to celebrate this deal soon coming to a close?

BEN Of course!

MAX Brilliant! (To nearby waitress) Oh waitress?

A beautiful blonde waitress comes to their table.

WAITRESS

Yes?

5.

MAX Yes, could you please bring us some champagne, we're in the mood for celebration.

WAITRESS

Of course sir.

She bows and Max smiles as she walks away, he checks her out for a moment.

BEN So tell me more about this Cassandra chick...Was she great in bed?...

Max shifts for a bit.

MAX Oh, Cassie?...Oh...Oh I don't want to talk about her any more. (Laughs) This is supposed to be a happy occasion!

BEN She was good wasn't she?

MAX (Breaks) Oh yes. Oh...fuck...yes...But yeah...That was then, this is now.

Max shrugs and downs the rest of his wine as the waitress returns with champagne and two fresh glasses. She begins to pour out some for the two men.

> WAITRESS The champagne you requested. (Looks to the two of them) Enjoy.

The waitress smiles.

MAX

Thanks.

The waitress leaves and Max and Ben hold up their glasses.

MAX To new beginnings.

They clink their glasses together. Ben instantly downs the entire glass. Max is surprised.

6.

MAX Wow, way to savour it.

BEN Life's too short to savour. Live fast, die hard.

MAX To each their own.

Max smiles over his glass and takes a sip. Ben hesitates for a moment and then excuses himself.

BEN Could you give me a second, just gonna head to the bathroom, I don't think that champagne agrees with me.

Ben gets up and walks over to the back.

MAX (After Ben) Should of paced yourself.

Max smiles to himself and then after a second his face drops into serious mode. He looks around and picks up the briefcase at his feet and moves to follow Ben to the back.

INT. OUTSIDE RESTAURANT BATHROOMS

Ben stumbles down the corridor towards the bathroom when Max catches up with him. Max, briefcase in hand, strides over to Ben, reaching inside his suit jacket to pull out a tranquillizer gun. He shoots Ben in the neck. Ben reacts and pulls out the tranquillizer dart and turns to Max.

BEN

What the f-

Ben pukes a little onto Max's suit jacket as he falls flat on his face unconscious.

> MAX Oh come on! This was \$80!

The blonde waitress who served them earlier passes Max.

WAITRESS Oooh, \$80, someone's *rolling* in the money. MAX Hey! I happen to like this suit Michelle! Even if it only cost 80 bucks! Jeez...Does puke stain?...

The waitress is indeed **MICHELLE**, Michelle Walters (28, violent, gun-crazy, with potential daddy issues), she's the same blonde that Max has been seen sneaking around with. Now things make a little more sense.

Michelle squats down over Ben's body and rolls him over, searching his possessions. She throws over his wallet.

MICHELLE There, looks like he's got about \$200 in that wallet. You can buy two of those jackets you love so much.

Max looks though the wallet. He takes out Ben's ID.

MAX Ben Hill, Salazar Industries.

MICHELLE Salazar Industries?!

MAX You've heard of them?

MICHELLE (Beat)

No.

MAX

Oh.

MICHELLE But we deal in gathering intelligence, so let's gather as much as we can from Benny over here. (Beat) Are you going to help me here?

Michelle indicates to the standing Max to help pick Ben up.

MAX

Oh!

Max puts the wallet into his suit jacket pocket and helps lift Ben up. Thankfully the task of carrying the rather rotund and rather knocked out person is made a little easier when they get to Michelle's nearby serving trolley. Dumping Ben on the trolley, Max takes off his vomited-stained suit jacket. Max lays the briefcase and jacket on top of the unconscious Ben and starts to wheel him out of the back of the restaurant.

EXT. BACK ALLEY - NIGHT

Michelle and Max leave through the back of the restaurant, wheeling Ben down to a nearby catering van. The door slides open and Michelle hops in. Another person helps transfer Ben from the trolley to the van. Computers and surveillance equipment can be seen working in the van. One of the monitors plays back a clip of Max being vomited on.

MAX

Got him?

MICHELLE

Yup, we're good to go. See you back at headquarters.

MAX

Right on.

The door to the van slides closed and Max knocks on the van a couple times and it drives off.

MAX Mission accomplished.

Max pulls out his car key fob and clicks it, unlocking the nearby BMW.

MUSIC STARTS TO PLAY, JUMPING INTO:

OPENING TITLES

Stylised credits reminiscent of Bond but more action-y, less naked girls-y.

SMASH TO:

EXT. CAR PARK - THE NEXT MORNING

Max parks up his BMW and gets out, locking it as he walks away, putting on sunglasses and drinking a soda from a fast food joint. He has an air of cocky confidence about him.

INT. ELEVATOR

Max stands in the elevator as it travels up to the upper floors on his own. He stares and slowly leans towards the mirror on the wall to look at his nostril and examines it before the elevator stops and he snaps back to attention.

INT. OLYMPUS HEADQUARTERS

The elevator doors open to reveal the headquarters for the company Max works for. As he steps out he enters a world that looks like the love child of MI6 and an Apple Store. Clean and white, packed with technology and display monitors of all sorts, read-outs of intelligence on the current state of the world. Satellite images, news reports, maps, archive footage, the whole shebang.

Max strides through this floor, smartly dressed men and women walking here and there with their tablets and other devices, communicating in multiple languages discussing multiple issues.

This place deals with problems across the world and it's dealing with them as best as they can.

INT. BRIEFING ROOM

Max pushes through the double doors where a briefing is already set up. Max is late. Michelle swivels around in her chair and rolls her eyes.

> MICHELLE You're late.

MAX Zaghionahlu lata

Fashionably late.

Max takes a sip of his drink through his straw. The two lock eyes. Someone clears their throat.

WOMAN (O.S) Ahem. If you two would be so kind...

Max and Michelle turn to see their boss, **HERA** (50s, dark haired, authoritative, codenamed after the Greek goddess) standing in front of them, arms folded next to a large monitor displaying the logo of their organisation, Olympus. HERA ...Could we please get back to the subject at hand?

Max listens to Hera and follows her request, sitting into one of the swivel chairs. He raises the height of it even though he doesn't need to, just to make sure he has the more authoritative, higher seating position over Michelle. Hera rolls her eyes and presses a button on a small remote she's holding to start the briefing.

HERA

Now thanks to your efforts at the restaurant last night we've managed to gather more intel on this Ben Hill and the company Salazar Industries he is associated with.

On the screen Ben's mugshot and the logo for Salazar Industries appear.

HERA Now thanks to Michelle's interrogation skills-

Soundless footage of Michelle's interrogation of Ben plays on screen. It's very bad cop. Chairs are thrown. Ben's already broken and yet Michelle still continues.

HERA

-We were able to gather a strong amount of data about-

MAX

(Interrupting) Wait a minute, don't give Michelle all the praise, *I* was the one who knocked him out.

HERA Oh I am well aware of that Max.

Hera presses another button to play the video of Ben vomiting on Max on screen.

MAX Hey that's not fair, we all know I did well to keep my cover and organise that entire business deal with Benny. You wouldn't even have him if it wasn't for my efforts. MICHELLE Well I was the one who managed to spike his drink so we could actually get him out of the open to round up for interrogation.

Max sits up and turns to Michelle

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MAX
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And I was the one who knocked him out.

Michelle rolls her eyes and confronts Max.

MICHELLE Which we just saw went so well.

MAX (Leaning forward) Think you could have done better?

MICHELLE

(Leaning forward) You saw the interrogation didn't you, if it wasn't for me we wouldn't be in this briefing.

HERA (Has had enough) Exactly! Now shut up! The both of you! Christ must I always have to be the one to separate you two kids?

Hera sighs and shakes her head. Max and Michelle simmer down and sit back in their chairs, turning their attention back to Hera. She continues the briefing.

> HERA Now, as I was saying, after interrogating Mr. Hill over Salazar Industries, we gathered intelligence on his employer, Blake Salazar.

Max laughs.

HERA

Yes?

Max realises he's been caught laughing.

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MAX Come on, Blake Salazar? Are evil people just *born* with names like that?

HERA Max there's at lot at stake here. If you could just let me get to it please. Now...

Hera presses a button to show surveillance images of Salazar on the screen.

HERA ...Mr. Salazar is the head of Salazar Industries, an organisation that covers a range of industry sectors. Shipping, pharmaceuticals, bio-

Hera is interrupted by a loud slurp. Max is trying to finish his soda during the briefing. Hera stares him down and Max lowers his cup.

MAX

Continue.

Hera shakes her head.

HERA

Biotechnology...all sorts. But what we have discovered through our intelligence gathering is that some of Salazar Industries's sizeable income comes from less...honourable means.

Hera presses a button and the screen shows pictures of Salazar meeting different clients from around the world.

HERA

Salazar Industries also deals in warfare. Guns, missiles, mines, bombs, everything really. Salazar sells to all sides and reaps the rewards from the bodies he helped put into the ground.

MAX

Disgusting.

Max slurps more of his soda. Michelle leans forwards, looking at images of all the guns being displayed on screen, eyes darting all over. MICHELLE Look at all those guns. *Coooooool*.

Hera raises her eyebrows. Michelle sits back in her chair.

MICHELLE I mean...Disgusting.

MAX (To Michelle, whispering) "Coooooool"?

Michelle punches Max in the arm.

MAX

Ow!

Hera looks at him. He clears his throat.

MAX

So after gathering all this intel we're set to bring an end to Salazar's arms trading?

HERA

Not exactly. It would appear that more recently Salazar has had his eyes on something a little more closer to home.

Hera presses a button and begins to pace.

HERA

It has come to our attention that Salazar has had his sights on the work of a Mr. Oliver Morris, renowned scientist.

Max sits up.

HERA

Morris is an expert in his specialised field of biology which is what we believe Salazar is looking for. We believe Salazar has Morris under his employ.

MICHELLE What are we talking about here?

HERA We're not quite sure yet, but we believe Salazar is looking to make (MORE) HERA (cont'd)

the leap into biological warfare. Anti-personnel, anti-agricultural, whatever it is, we just don't know yet, but we do know that it won't be good. Innocent lives are at stake here, and we are prepared to finally bring an end to Salazar's exploits. They have gone on for far too long.

MICHELLE So what's the mission?

HERA

Well-

MAX (Interrupting) Wait a minute. What's the name of this scientist again?

HERA

Thank you for listening Max...The scientist's Oliver Morris. Renowned biologist. The science ace of MIT. Winner of the International Prize for Biology for his work in biochemistry.

As Hera speaks Max stands up, still sipping at his soda as he moves a little closer to see Oliver's profile on-screen.

> HERA Married, though his wife died due to illness. Children, one. Daughter. Name:

INT. APARTMENT - THREE YEARS AGO

Max is back in his apartment three years ago. Max looks at an engagement ring in a ring box he's holding and he closes it. He looks up. The broken frame holding the photograph of himself and Cassie can be seen.

MAX HERA (0.S) Cassandra Morris. Cassandra Morris.

Max closes the ring box.

INT. BRIEFING ROOM - PRESENT DAY Back in the present Max stands in front of the screen, holding his soda. He looks at both Hera and Michelle. HERA Yes...Cassandra Morris. How did you know that?... Max is silent. He looks down. Hera continues with this part of the briefing. HERA Cassandra Morris, 26, 5'7, red hair-MAX (Interrupting, continuing briefing) -Green eyes, photographer for the Emerald Journal, amateur gymnast, favourite food: vegetarian lasagne, favourite colour: purple, ... HERA Do you want to finish the rest of this briefing? MAX No thank you ma'am. Max walks back to his chair and collapses back into it, chewing his straw. MICHELLE You alright? MAX What, me? Yeah...Yeah...No...But yeah...Yeah I'm fine. Just...feel like I've seen her before. HERA (O.S) Well you'll be seeing a whole lot more of her.

> MAX I'm sorry, what?

Hera presses a button and the screen shows more information on Cassie.

HERA She's the mission.

MAX Say that again, it sounded like you said *she* was the mission.

HERA

Good to see your hearing is up to scratch, Max. Yes. This mission is to infiltrate Oliver Morris through his daughter Cassandra.

MICHELLE Oooh, playing the family card. I like it!

MAX

I don't.

MICHELLE (Disappointed) But I *love* playing the family card...

Max turns to Hera.

MAX Hera I can't take this job.

HERA

Of course you can. Michelle will be working surveillance, assisting from the sidelines while you are in the field getting close to Cassandra in order to get to her father.

Michelle nods. Max doesn't.

HERA

Max, it's the only way to sneak past the defences around Morris. If Salazar has Morris it's against his own will, but in order to get Morris to work he needs leverage. Morris' daughter is all he has left. Salazar needs her in the picture.

Hera presses a button to expand the file on Cassandra on screen.

HERA

If we interfere with Cassandra we can get Salazar to show his face and if we get to Salazar then we can work towards averting his plans and taking him down.

MAX But Hera I'm already emotionally compromised. Cassie...Cassandra...We used to be...

EXT. CINEMA - THREE YEARS AGO

Max and Cassie are with a group of their friends, smiling and laughing coming out of a cinema.

MAX (V.O) ...Friends...

INT. RESTAURANT - THREE YEARS AGO

A candlelight dinner, Max and Cassie are all dressed up smiling and holding hands across the table from each other.

MAX (V.O)

EXT. BEACH - THREE YEARS AGO

Max and Cassie are out on the beach on holiday and Cassie brings the two of them together to take a photo of the two of them happy as a couple.

MAX (V.O)

EXT. JEWELLERY STORE - THREE YEARS AGO

Max on his own outside a jewellery store looking at the display at the engagement ring he eventually got.

MAX (V.O) ...I can't accept this mission. INT. BRIEFING ROOM - PRESENT DAY

Hera shakes her head.

HERA

The fact that you already have a background with our target is actually convenient. You have the groundwork ready for a way in.

MAX

Yeah...

INT. APARTMENT - THREE YEARS AGO

Max stands alone in the apartment three years ago when Cassie stormed off and left him. He looks to the broken frame and the photo of the two of them together. It falls off the hook and smashes on the ground.

> MAX (V.O) ...I don't think I do.

INT. BRIEFING ROOM - PRESENT DAY

Silence for a moment. Michelle clears her throat and sits up.

MICHELLE Well...We could always just go straight to Oliver.

MAX

No. If Salazar has Oliver we wont be able to get to him easily. The only way really is through getting their attention Cassie. But I don't like this plan. At all.

HERA

Max, we have no other choice...We need you for this. Now. You're the right man for the job, you're the best agent-

Michelle clears her throat. Hera rolls her eyes.

HERA You're one of the best agents we have. Please. Do this for your country. MICHELLE Yeah Max, go get laid to protect this great nation.

Max sighs, takes a sip from his soda and starts to walk away. As he makes it to the door he chucks his soda over his shoulder into the nearby bin without looking.

> MAX Well?...Michelle? Are you coming?...Better suit up. I'm gonna need my trusty eyes and ears if I'm gonna do this.

Michelle looks at Max and then to Hera, who nods. Michelle gets up, nods to Hera and follows Max out of the briefing.

INT. GYM - AFTERNOON

Three years have passed and Cassie has moved on with life. She stands confident on the balance beam and does a few backflips on it. Encouragement comes from her trainer, **DANIEL Ward** (28, tall, strong, built like a brick shit-house)

She'll never go pro, but she's pretty good. And in fantastic shape as Max notices while in:

INT. SURVEILLANCE VAN - AFTERNOON

Max and Michelle are getting sorted for the beginning of their mission. Max is getting outfitted up while watching the monitors. Max is in costume, wearing gym clothes, a towel around his neck, and a communication device in his ear. Standard stuff. Michelle types on her keyboard and clicks the mouse a few times, setting up the device.

> MICHELLE Alright, testing for sound. Say something.

MAX We know a remote farm in Lincolnshire, where Mrs. Buckley lives; every July, peas grow there...

MICHELLE Gotcha loud and clear. Now...

Michelle indicates the monitors.

MICHELLE

We've tapped into the CCTV cameras of the gym so we've got full visuals. Though not the changing rooms, before you even ask...

Michelle points at the monitor that shows Cassie on the balance beam.

MICHELLE ... Now your target is currently on

the balance beam, so I suggest that we start from there.

MAX

Gotcha.

Michelle watches Cassie in action.

MICHELLE Wow, she really is talented, isn't she?

MAX

She sure is.

Max slides open the van door and gets out.

MICHELLE Tell me, why did you two split again?

Max speaks without looking back.

MAX Conflict of interests.

He closes the van door.

INT. GYM CORRIDOR - AFTERNOON

Max walks down the corridor towards the room where Cassie is.

MICHELLE (0.S) (Through earpiece) Are you ever going to tell me the entire story of what happened?

MAX No...No I don't think I will...

Max passes several attractive women as he travels.

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INT. SURVEILLANCE VAN - AFTERNOON

Back in the surveillance van Michelle watches Max on the monitors. He is not subtle checking girls out as he passes by.

MICHELLE Max you realise how obvious you're being scouting the place?

INT. GYM CORRIDOR - AFTERNOON

MAX Am I really being that obvious?

MICHELLE (O.S) (Through earpiece) How you became one of our top spies I have no idea...

MAX

Hey, think of the time and effort I've put into the job. Recruited out of college, all those years worth of training, those years worth of field work, those years helping protect our homeland, gathering intelligence and stopping the bad guys every step of the way...Nothing will stop me accomplishing my mission. Nothin-

Max stops. Cassie is walking down the corridor towards him, absorbed in conversation with Daniel.

MICHELLE (O.S) (Though earpiece) There she is. Go get her.

Max is frozen.

GO.

MICHELLE (O.S) (Though earpiece) Go get her!

Nothing.

MICHELLE (O.S) (Though earpiece) Max kicks into gear and rushes forward, bumping into Cassie, nearly knocking her over. Daniel manages to catch her and help her up.

MICHELLE (O.S) (Though earpiece) Okay that's not quite what I wanted...

DANIEL Hey, watch it man!

Max shakes his head to get a grip and his eyes rest on Cassie, who dusts herself off.

CASSIE Yeah, be care-

Cassie looks up and sees Max in front of her.

CASSIE

-ful...

Awkward silence.

MICHELLE (0.S) (Through earpiece) So...When exactly are you going to put those "years worth of training" to use?

Max shakes his head, ignoring her.

MAX Hey Cassie.

ey cassie.

Cassie looks away for a moment.

DANIEL Cassie? Do you know this guy?

Cassie looks back.

CASSIE

I used to.

Max is hurt for a moment and then turns his attention to Daniel.

MAX Oh hi there, I'm Max Allen. DANIEL Oh! Max! I've heard of you! Cassie's told me all about you.

MAX She has? Why did-

Daniel swings at Max, punching him in the face, knocking him down. Michelle laughs down the earpiece.

MICHELLE (O.S) (Through earpiece) Wow! He sure has an arm on him! Shit...

DANIEL That's for leading on Cassie and for breaking her heart!

Max stumbles as he gets up, cradling his face.

MAX

W-what?...

DANIEL She told me all about how you cheated on her and lied to her you bastard.

MAX That's not true! I-

Daniel swings with his right fist at Max again, but Max switches into serious mode, stopping mid-sentence, swaying to the left of the extended fist, grabbing it, using the momentum of the punch to throw Daniel off balance and over onto his back. Max switches back into "normal" mode.

> MAX I'm sorry! I'm sorry!...I don't like getting punched!

MICHELLE (0.S) (Through earpiece) Don't apologise! Beat him up.

MAX (Aside, to Michelle) I just want to talk dammit! Why do you always want to beat people up!

Daniel gets up and walks towards Max, ready for a fight. Max waves his hands in defence.

MAX Please! I don't want no trouble!

DANIEL Shut the fuck up Jackie Chan, I'm gonna teach you a lesson on how to treat girls.

MAX Oh...balls.

Daniel raises both of his fists, Max, much like Jackie Chan in any of his films, reluctantly moves forwards to fight. Cassie steps back and watches. Daniel fights like a boxer. A powerful one, but not a perfect one. He throws a quick strong left then a right. Max ducks the left and weaves past the right. He throws a left hook that connects, surprising Daniel, knocking him back a few steps.

Daniel quickly recovers and moves forward, still in boxing mode. Max whips off the towel from around his neck. Daniel tries to throw another right, but Max side-steps, and using the towel, he wraps it around Daniel's extended right arm, pulling it down and around Daniel's back. Max then kicks the back of Daniel's right knee, forcing him to lose his balance. He then leans on Daniel's back, bringing him down to the ground.

As Daniel struggles Max digs his knee into Daniel's back and grabs for Daniel's other hand, trying it up alongside his other hand with the towel.

Max stands up and neatens himself up as Daniel struggles to escape.

MAX Now...Where were we...

Max turns to Cassie.

MAX Oh that was it, Cassie! Just the girl I wanted to-

She chucks her isotonic sports drink in his face and throws her towel at him. She starts to walk away.

MAX -Talk to... (Beat) Crap.

Max looks at the struggling Daniel and rolls him over with his foot.

25.

(CONTINUED)

INT. SALAZAR INDUSTRIES CORRIDOR - LATE AFTERNOON

A man rushes down the corridor. He looks like he has to bear some news, and it's not going to be particularly good news. He pushes through the double doors entering:

INT. SALAZAR'S OFFICE

The man steps forwards and clears his throat. He opens his mouth but before he can someone else speaks. **Blake Salazar** (40, cold, suited, goatee) is the person interrupting, his back turned, looking out of the window. Cloaked in shadow, Salazar turns his head.

SALAZAR

Yes, what is it Dexter?

Dexter Coleman (30s, suited, assertive, Salazar's loyal henchman) steps forwards.

DEXTER

Sir, it's about Hill. He's fallen off the grid. He should have came back in after following up the negotiations he was making with a client but he never did.

SALAZAR

Maybe you'll find him passed out in a back alley drunk again. That man loves to eat, drink and be merry...

DEXTER

We fear it's worse than that sir. We think that maybe they've taken him in for investigation.

SALAZAR

Preposterous, everything Hill was doing was above board, there's no reason why the cops would take him in.

DEXTER

Sir, we're not talking about cops here. We think it's coming from somewhere higher. SALAZAR Even if that was the case Hill doesn't know much.

DEXTER He knows enough sir. He knows about our plans with Morris.

Salazar steps forwards out of the shadow. A cool, calculated mastermind, Salazar shows his face, piercing eyes, evil goatee and all.

SALAZAR Morris is untouchable. Dexter, you worry too much.

DEXTER That's not the only Morris they know about. We think they may be going to his daughter, Cassandra.

SALAZAR

What?...

Dexter presses a remote control and reveals a monitor showing surveillance footage.

DEXTER As you know sir, we have eyes and ears everywhere.

Dexter presses a button to show a clip of Ben and Max talking in the restaurant earlier.

DEXTER Both the surveillance cameras and our personnel hired to keep an eye on Hill last saw him making negotiations at the restaurant last night. As soon as he excused himself-

The clip playing shows just that.

DEXTER -We lost eyes on him. It was as if he dropped off the face of the earth. But what we *did* notice was this man-

The clip pauses on Max moments before he moves to get up from his seat.

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DEXTER

We don't know who he is. But we think he's got something to do with Hill's disappearance. He may be military intelligence but we're not sure...All I know is, he's bad news.

SALAZAR

Dexter please, we know how you love to jump to conclusions. I've seen you watch Law and Order.

DEXTER No, no, he *must* be part of it, because look-

Dexter presses a button and plays a CCTV clip of the gym with Max approaching Cassie.

DEXTER -He was at the gym earlier when we were keeping tabs on Morris' daughter, and here he is going up to her.

SALAZAR

A coincidence.

DEXTER Well is *this* a coincidence?

The clip of Max fighting Daniel plays and Salazar straightens up, watching Max take him down.

DEXTER That is not stuff you learn at your regular gym. This man is professionally trained.

The clip continues as Cassie leaves Max with the tied up Daniel.

DEXTER If he didn't let her leave he probably would have taken her in too.

SALAZAR And then what? She doesn't know the bigger picture.

(CONTINUED)

DEXTER

But sir...What about Oliver? The scientist is only working for us as long as we can assure him his daughter is safe. If she goes off the grid he'll refuse to work for us. And he *need* him.

SALAZAR

Hmmm...

Salazar strokes his chin.

SALAZAR Bring in the handlers.

Dexter takes out a hand-held transceiver and uses it to call in the handlers Salazar wants to see.

> DEXTER Venus. Mars. You're up.

The door opens and two figures walk in behind Dexter. Named after Roman gods, these are Venus and Mars, skilled individuals under the employ of Salazar.

Venus, or **SOPHIA Hernandez** (29, Texan, Latin American-descent, hot-headed) steps forwards.

SOPHIA

Sir.

SALAZAR

It has come to my attention that we may have a fly in our ointment. You all know we have to keep our scientist happy if we want things to continue going smoothly.

Salazar steps forwards to his desk, leaning his hands on it, tapping the mahogany surface.

SALAZAR

But someone wants to stand in our way. What I want the three of you to help do is collect our scientist's daughter and bring her here. *Alive*, Venus.

Sophia looks genuinely disappointed.

SOPHIA

Awww...

SALAZAR Oh, and this...

Salazar indicates the freeze-frame of Max.

SALAZAR ...Whoever this is...Remove him from the picture.

MARS (0.S) It would be our pleasure-

Mars steps forwards, revealing himself to be:

DANIEL

-Sir.

Daniel rubs his wrists and cracks his knuckles.

INT. SURVEILLANCE VAN - NIGHT

The surveillance van pulls up outside headquarters. Max leans forwards.

MAX Well, that was a disaster.

MICHELLE If only you beat him up sooner...

MAX I hardly doubt that was the problem.

Max takes out his earpiece and changes out of his clothes. Michelle has to restrain herself from looking.

> MAX But he *did* have it coming to him, it must be said.

Max checks out his face in a mirror to see if Daniel's punch did any real damage.

MICHELLE So what now?

MAX Well for one thing I'm going to try again tomorrow. *Alone*.

Max slides the van door open and starts to get out.

MICHELLE Well what am I supposed to do?

Max steps out and turns around.

MAX Go home, Michelle. We'll regroup after I get the girl. But for now I'm going solo.

Max slides the door closed.

MICHELLE (As door slides shut) Butwebothknowyousuckwithwomen!

The door shuts. Max sighs.

MAX Tell me about it.

EXT. CASSIE'S HOUSE - THE NEXT MORNING

Max drives up to Cassie's house, opting to park off to the side rather than right in front. He gets out and walks away, locking his BMW with his car key. Max looks cool and collected in his open collared shirt, waistcoat and suit jacket. He has no idea what's in store but he's taking everything in his stride.

INT. CASSIE'S KITCHEN

Cassie is at the kitchen sink washing up some plates. Her kitchen window has a view of the street. Classic picture of suburbia.

She notices something to her right and looks a bit closer. A extra shadow behind a tree. Probably nothing. As she washes her plates and hums, Max pops out from behind the tree and sneaks towards her front door. Cassie looks up from the plate she's washing.

Catching Max in mid-sneak.

Max becomes aware of this and freezes, slowly straightening up. He clears his throat and walks casually like nothing happened to the front door. Cassie fumes. She puts the plate she was washing down on the rack and walks over to open the front door.

INT. CASSIE'S FRONT DOOR

The door swings open, Max stands there with open arms, like nothing's wrong.

MAX

Cassie!...

Cassie stands there, unimpressed.

MAX Okay, maybe I need to explain a few things. Can I come in?...

Cassie rolls her eyes.

CASSIE Okay, but only because I don't want any spying on us.

Max laughs nervously.

CASSIE What's so funny?

MAX Inside joke.

Max steps into the house.

CASSIE What the hell are you doing?

INT. CASSIE'S KITCHEN

MAX Wow, it's been so long since I've been here.

CASSIE Don't change the subject, what are you even doing here? I wanted you out of my life. MAX And I left... (Turns around, leaning on the kitchen counter.) ...And I stayed away...But...The world seemed to want to bring us back together.

CASSIE You want to bring us back together.

And I'm telling you now Max, it's not gonna happen. We're done. We have been for years now.

Max looks down at the ground, pained like he's been shot. But he continues. He has a job to do.

> MAX No, Cassie I need to take you

somewhere, you're not safe here.

CASSIE

What is this, your silly plan to sweep me off my feet?

MAX Not exactly.

CASSIE

Whatever it is you're trying to do, I think I'd be much safer right here thank you very much.

DEXTER (O.S) Miss Morris is absolutely correct.

Cassie and Max turn to find Dexter in Cassie's house, flanked by four henchmen. Max slowly moves off the counter and stands up.

DEXTER

Has this man harmed you in any way miss?

MAX Excuse me, we were having a moment here.

CASSIE H-how did you get in here? DEXTER Oh you left the door unlocked-

EXT. CASSIE'S HOUSE - A MINUTE AGO

It's revealed that Dexter picked the front door to Cassie's house while his henchmen stand guard.

INT. CASSIE'S KITCHEN

DEXTER -We were worried that he might have already gotten to you and that we might have been too late to stop him. This is a dangerous man, ma'am.

CASSIE And you are?

DEXTER Agent Johnson from the Bureau.

MAX Sure you are, if you were from the Bureau you'd have a badg-

Dexter shows an FBI badge. Fake, obviously, but that's not in question just yet.

MAX

Oh.

DEXTER

This is a dangerous man ma'am. I suggest you step away and come with us, we're more than ready to offer protection.

MAX Wait, what?...I think you've got this all wrong. She's just an ex-girlfriend and I just wanted to catch up. That's all.

Dexter steps forwards.

DEXTER Ma'am, has this man tried to hurt you in any way?

CASSIE

No, not at all. I was just about to kick him out actually, spouting some nonsense about having to take me away from here, that I'm not safe or something.

DEXTER

A likely story. Our reports showed that this man violently attacked someone protecting you from attack at the gym yesterday. Is that correct?

CASSIE

Yeah, that's true.

MAX

Wait, no! No that's not true! He swung at me! I just wanted to talk!

DEXTER

Ma'am this man was reported to use excessive force in that incident and if he applied it to you, well, we probably wouldn't be having this conversation right now.

MAX

He's fine! I may have threw him around a few times...But it's all good! He's a very big boy, I'm sure I didn't do too much harm.

DEXTER

So you *do* admit to your assault of Mr. Ward?

MAX And what if I did?...

DEXTER

Ma'am...Please head outside were our agents will escort you safely after we have arrested his criminal.

Max and Dexter are caught in a staring contest, they're not shifting an inch.

MAX Cassie...It's not what it sounds like. I just wanted to talk.
DEXTER Ma'am, *please*, go outside for your own protection, we will be right with you.

Cassie looks at the two of them, locked in their stare-down session.

CASSIE Anything to get me away from him.

Max takes the blow but doesn't shift composure. Cassie sighs and walks out into the front garden. Max looks to see when Cassie has left and the door shuts behind her.

> MAX Now how about telling me who you really are.

DEXTER

I'd like to know the same thing about you. I'm under the employ of someone who would very much like it if you stayed out of-

MAX You work for Salazar?

Dexter is caught off guard.

DEXTER

N-...No...

MAX Well that's me sorted.

DEXTER And who are you?

MAX Oh I'm smarter than that. I'm not telling you.

DEXTER You better tell me before we beat it out of you.

MAX Five men with their bare fists? Please, you're going to need more than-

Two of the henchman pull out extendible batons. Another two pull out guns.

MAX Okay. That might do it.

Max rocks side to side and preps himself. Rubbing his hands together and shaking it off. Loosy-goosy. Max notices Dexter's tie.

> MAX That's a nice tie. Silk? DEXTER Y...Yeah...

MAX I'm not a tie person myself. I don't like them.

DEXTER

Why n-

Max grabs Dexter' tie and slams his head into the kitchen counter. Still holding the tie, he pulls a dazed Dexter back up and around, using him as a human shield, controlling him by pulling firmly on the tie. The henchmen with guns don't have a shot.

Max brings Dexter backwards a little bit and moves towards the knife block. We

GO INTO SLOW-MOTION AS:

He pulls Dexter to the left of him, spinning him with a pull of his tie. In a swift continuous movement he pulls out two knives from the knife block and with one in each hand he throws the knives. Max starts running towards them as soon as he has thrown them. The knives plunge into the feet of two men with guns. They scream in pain, but this isn't the end of it. As soon as the knives hit, Max is already at them. He slams their heads together and we

GO OUT OF SLOW-MOTION AS:

Max grabs their guns and release their magazines. The magazines bounce off the floor as Max strips them of their guns and pistol whips the two of them. He releases the slides and chucks the two disassembled guns away as the two remaining henchmen with batons come forwards.

Max steps back and scours the kitchen for something to defend himself with. He spots the perfect item.

A rolling pin.

EXT. CASSIE'S HOUSE

Cassie paces around looking out to the street, unaware of what is happening behind her as the kitchen window shows the two henchmen running towards Max, batons in hand.

INT. CASSIE'S KITCHEN

The two henchmen wield their batons as Max wields his...rolling pin. Max fends the two henchmen off strongly, clashing baton and rolling pin alike from one henchman to the other.

At one point one of the henchmen swings the baton at Max but he sidesteps, puts his free left arm over and around that henchman's baton arm, trapping it as he uses the rolling pin to hit the henchman several times in the chest and then around their face, sending him to the floor.

The other henchman makes his attack but coming right after taking down the first henchman Max swings the rolling pin back to parry, throws a left hook that connects, a right knee that connects and then a hard swing at the right leg of the henchman, breaking it *and* the rolling pin.

All of the henchman are down. Two pinned to the floor by the knives in their feet, one down by rolling pin flurry and another with an all-round attack finished with a leg-break.

There are many groans of pain coming from the floor. Max stands triumphant. But what of Dexter?

Speak of the devil, Dexter stumbles back up after the initial dazing. His nose is bleeding rather badly. Max cringes.

MAX Ouch. Yeah...You better see someone about that...

Dexter is pissed. He loosens his tie and tucks it in this time. Max notices.

MAX Good idea with the ti-

Dexter pulls out a knife he has holstered underneath his suit jacket.

MAX That's not fair... Dexter rushes forwards, but Max is prepared. Dexter is skilled with his knife, several stabs getting pretty close, but Max knows his stuff. Dexter is pretty much chasing Max around the kitchen trying to stab him.

MAX So not fair! So not fair!

Max reaches for the knife block from earlier, but instead of retrieving a knife to engage Dexter in some eskrima-style combat, he picks up the actual knife block.

Dexter lunges, but Max manages to catch the knife in the knife block.

MAX Well how about that?

Max twists the block away, disarming Dexter. He chucks the knife block away. Dexter goes for a left punch and connects. Max quickly recovers and swings a left hook of his own that also connects. Max goes for the body a few times before Dexter grabs Max's shoulders and plants a strong knee to the chest, knocking him back.

Max reaches for the drying rack and pulls out the plate Cassie was washing earlier and slams it down on Dexter' head, buying him some time to make his exit.

Max sprints out of the house as Dexter stumbles to regain his focus and spots one of the unassembled guns on the floor.

EXT. CASSIE'S HOUSE

Cassie spins around as she hears her front door thrown open and Max runs out towards her. He grabs her hand and starts to pull her away from the house.

> MAX Run! Run! We've gotta go! Come on!

CASSIE What? Where are the FBI?

MAX They're not FBI! Let's g-

Before Max can finish Dexter steps into the doorway of Cassie's house, still half-dazed and fires a few shots.

Cassie ducks and yells as Dexter shoots a few more bullets at them, none connecting, only hitting the ground near them. Dexter slides down the door frame of Cassie's front door, pulling out a radio.

> DEXTER (Into radio) Venus...Mars...Plan B...Go for Plan B...

Dexter drops his radio and uses his tie to tend to his bleeding (broken) nose.

DEXTER (Squeezing nose) Son of a bitch.

Max drags Cassie to his BMW and unlocks it with his key.

MAX

Get in!

Cassie gets into the passenger seat as Max runs around to the driver's side and hops in, putting his seatbelt on.

> MAX Safety first.

The wheels spin on the BMW and the car speeds off, throwing Cassie back in her seat before she can put *her* seatbelt on.

INT. MAX'S CAR

Cassie sits up, confused for a moment and then goes for her seatbelt. Max continues to drive at *very* high speed to get as far away as possible from Dexter and his henchmen. Cassie puts on her seatbelt.

> CASSIE What the hell are you doing?!

MAX I'm getting you far away from those men as possible!

CASSIE (Looking around, hysterical) Oh my god you're kidnapping me. Oh my god I'm going to be end up (MORE) 40.

CASSIE (cont'd) buried under your porch or something. Oh my god...

MAX

What?...No! No I'm not kidnapping you! I'm just...taking you into my custody so no-one else can get to you...

CASSIE

You're stealing me away from those men from the FBI...Oh my god...Oh my god you killed them in my own house...

MAX (Defensive) Hey I didn't kill anyone!

Max quickly weaves the BMW past another car seconds before they would have crashed.

MAX Broke some bones, stabbed some feet, beat people up...But I didn't kill anyone.

Max looks into his rear-view mirror. There's a black Mercedes Benz coming up behind them. Fast.

MAX (To himself) Well that's a problem...Hope I don't have to kill anyone.

INT. MERCEDES BENZ

The car coming up fast behind them is of course being driven by Daniel with Sophia in the passenger seat.

> SOPHIA Come on! Drive faster!

DANIEL Who's the one driving here. Who's driving?

Sophia shakes her head and checks her pistol.

INT. MAX'S CAR

Cassie is swaying forwards and backwards.

CASSIE Oh my god, you really have changed in three years. That man was right back there. You *are* a dangerous man.

MAX I'm trying to protect you! I'm not dangerous. (Beat) Now open the glove compartment and give me my gun.

INT. MERCEDES BENZ

Daniel's car is catching.

SOPHIA

Good! Good! This is *much* better! Now keep her steady and give me a clean shot.

DANIEL Oh I'm sorry! Sorry I'm doing everything right now! What about you! How about you stop being a back-seat driver and-

As Daniel speaks Sophia rolls down the window and fires a few shots, one clips Max's car.

DANIEL

...Better.

INT. MAX'S CAR

Cassie ducks in response to the bullet hitting the car.

CASSIE What! They're shooting at us!

MAX

I know. (Looks into the rear-view mirror before a bullet strikes it) And they are good at shooting at us. That's going to be a problem. CASSIE When is someone shooting at us *not* going to be a problem?!

MAX It's okay, it's only a pistol, it won't do much.

INT. MERCEDES BENZ

Sophia takes out a SCAR-H assault rifle and readies it, opening the sunroof.

INT. MAX'S CAR

Max looks backwards to see Sophia half-way out of the sunroof, taking shots at the car.

MAX Okay that will do some damage if we're not careful.

Max checks the magazine in his pistol. He takes a breath as he rolls down the driver-side window.

MAX

Right.

Max pops out for a few seconds to take a few shots at Sophia and Daniel's car. Daniel swerves.

INT. MERCEDES BENZ

Sophia shouts down at Daniel after being swayed by Daniel's swerving.

SOPHIA Hey, watch it!

DANIEL He was shooting back, I spooked!

SOPHIA

Pussy.

INT. MAX'S CAR

Max shakes his head and then turns his attention to Cassie. She's pretty much frozen in shock.

MAX Hey. It's going to be okay.

Cassie sways forwards and backwards some more.

CASSIE Oh my god, I'm going to die.

MAX You're not going to die today. Now...Can you drive?

Cassie slowly turns to Max.

CASSIE Oh my god, I'm going to die.

INT. MERCEDES BENZ

Daniel looks confused and leans forwards to check that his eyes aren't playing tricks with him.

DANIEL

W-what?...

From the distance he can see Cassie sliding over into the driver's seat while Max hops into the back seat.

SOPHIA

Perfect.

Sophia goes back to taking aim.

INT. MAX'S CAR

Max opens the floor compartment to reveal he has his own weapon stash in the bottom of his BMW.

MAX

Perfect.

He pulls out a FAMAS assault rifle.

CASSIE I can't drive this! MAX You *just said* you could drive!

CASSIE I can't drive stick!

MAX Who the hell can't drive-

The rear window smashes as Sophia's bullets break the glass.

MAX

Fuck's sake.

Max blind fires a few shots and moves forwards, hitting the cruise control button.

MAX There, now just steer.

Max presses the button to open the sunroof.

MAX (To himself) Can't drive stick, what the hell... At least she's hot...

Max climbs out and takes aim, shooting at Sophia. Some of the shots hit the roof. Daniel sways his car again.

INT. MERCEDES BENZ

Sophia shouts down at Daniel.

SOPHIA Come on, man!

DANIEL Come on? Do you want him to shoot me?

SOPHIA I do if you don't hold the damn thing steady!

Sophia releases her magazine, reaching for a new one from her vest.

DANIEL Why don't you just come here and drive?

SOPHIA Screw that, you're not gonna hit anything with your shooting either!

Sophia reloads her assault rifle.

EXT. STREET

The two cars are darting in and around traffic. Sophia hangs out of the top of Daniel's Mercedes Benz, shooting at Max's BMW while Max pops out of the cover of the back seat to shoot back.

INT. MAX'S CAR

Max reloads his assault rifle.

MAX Keep it up Cass, you're doing fine!

Cassie nervously squeezes at the steering wheel.

CASSIE I don't know what's going on!

MAX

All you need to know is that I'm the good guy, and these are the bad guys. I'm trying to protect you and keep you s-...One second.

Max pops back out and takes a few shots.

MAX -Keep you safe. These bad people are going to do anything to try and get to you.

CASSIE But why! I take photos of parades and special events! I don't do

anything that means people want to shoot at me!

Cassie swerves the car as it narrowly misses crashing.

CASSIE And what about you? Why are you here? Now? You're supposed to be gone, out of my life! And now you're here again all of a (MORE)

(CONTINUED)

CASSIE (cont'd) sudden...And where the hell did you learn to shoot?!

MAX Long story. I'd love to tell you sometime. But right now...Bigger fish.

Max shoots at Daniel's car and a bullet from Sophia shoots the front windscreen. Cassie ducks and screams.

INT. MERCEDES BENZ

Sophia climbs down from out of the sunroof.

SOPHIA

Urgh. I'm empty.

Sophia looks into the back of the car. Guns are everywhere, bouncing as the car rides over little bumps at high speed. She surveys what's up for grabs and then stops, smiling. She leans forwards to reach for the weapon of choice.

Daniel looks back for a moment and throws a double take.

DANIEL W-what?...Oh no.

INT. MAX'S CAR

Max looks out at Daniel and Sophia, his face drops.

MAX

Oh no.

EXT. MERCEDES BENZ

Sophia climbs out of the sunroof ... With a RPG launcher.

INT. MERCEDES BENZ

SOPHIA Now keep it. Steady.

DANIEL

Yes ma'am.

Daniel keeps it steady. You don't fuck with the woman with the grenade launcher.

Max drops his gun and turns his attention back to Cassie.

MAX Okay, okay, okay, move over! Now!

CASSIE What, why?...They're shooting at us! You need to shoot back!

MAX Yeah, we've passed that. Move!

Cassie slides back over to her seat as Max jumps into position.

CASSIE What's the m-

She turns around and spots Sophia aiming the RPG right at them.

CASSIE

Oh.

EXT. MERCEDES BENZ

Sophia waves, smiles and then looks through the launcher.

INT. MAX'S CAR

MAX

Okay.

He clicks in his seatbelt.

MAX You better hold on, this is going to be a hell of a ride.

Cassie slowly clicks in her seatbelt. Max adjusts the mirrors and looks back at Sophia. He switches the cruise control off and quickly changes gear, propelling the car forward, speeding away to try and lose Daniel and Sophia. DANIEL Oh no you don't.

Daniel also changes gear and speeds forwards towards Max's car.

INT. MAX'S CAR

MAX Cassie? Whatever happens, I really am sorry about everything that went down between us. I know it's not the time but-...

Max looks at Cassie. She's not listening. She's frozen in fear. Max waves a hand in front of her face.

MAX Oh. Right. Oh well. At least now I don't have to worry about doing this.

Max swings the car to the right.

EXT. STREET

Max avoids the cars on the street as he heads onto the sidewalk. Trash cans and store displays and all the like are knocked away by Max's car speeding by.

Not too far behind, Daniel's car tails Max, Sophia still trying to line up a good shot.

INT. MERCEDES BENZ

SOPHIA I can't get a good enough shot!

DANIEL I'm trying, I'm trying! He's a slippery one! INT. MAX'S CAR

Max looks around trying to find a way to escape and he swings his car swiftly to the left, turning a corner.

The BMW roars as he speeds down the street, weaving in and out of traffic.

EXT. STREET

Daniel's car follows not far behind. It's a wide-open straight. Sophia's got this.

INT. MERCEDES BENZ

Sophia smiles.

SOPHIA I've got them! There's no where to run for them now!

Daniel smiles and steps on the accelerator.

INT. MAX'S CAR

Cassie finally snaps out of it. She looks up and back at Daniel's car following not too far behind.

CASSIE

Uhh...Max...

Cassie looks forwards at where they're going. Her eyes widen.

CASSIE Max...What are you doing...

MAX

Trust me. Just trust me.

Max steps on the accelerator.

EXT. STREET

The two cars speed along, Daniel's car is really catching up.

INT. MAX'S CAR

MAX I've got this. I've got this.

EXT. STREET

The cars speed down and suddenly we

ENTER SLOW-MOTION:

INT. MAX'S CAR

Max looks out to the side. The lights are changing. Max smiles as he continues, running the lights.

EXT. STREET

It's an intersection. Still in slow-motion, cars from their left and right begin to move as Max's car slips through the middle, unscathed.

INT. MERCEDES BENZ

Daniel's eyes bulge as he realise things are about to not go well.

DANIEL

Oh...Shit...

Daniel grabs Sophia and pulls her down.

LEAVING SLOW-MOTION:

EXT. STREET

Daniel's car heads into the intersection, and is hit by a truck, spinning it off course and to a halt. The cars pile up on the intersection while the other lanes continue filling up with cars driving past.

INT. MAX'S CAR

MAX Whooooooo! Did you see that?!

He brings the car to a stop.

MAX I knew that was going to work! We get to live for another day! Told you to trust me.

Max turns to see Cassie shaking, she's glad she's alive, but she's still utterly terrified.

MAX Ah. Right...How does grabbing a bite to eat sound right about now?

Cassie slowly turns to look at Max, wondering how the hell he can be so casual right now.

INT. FAST FOOD PLACE - LATER

Max and Cassie stand in line at a fast food place. Cassie looks a mess. Max...decidedly not. Cassie stares forwards, still on the path of recovery from the earlier adventures. Max on the other hand acts like nothing's happened, looking at the food the place offers.

> MAX Hmmm...What to have, what to have... (Turns to look at Cassie.) Any idea what you want? (Looks back at the menus.) It's fine, I can order for the two of us if you want.

INT. FAST FOOD PLACE TABLE

Max and Cassie sit opposite each other in a booth in the restaurant. Max opens his burger and takes a bite out of it.

MAX Mmmm...Burger...

Max pulls out his fries and eats one.

MAX

So...

CASSIE

So...

MAX Where to begin... (Munches a few fries) (MORE)

MAX (cont'd) I'm...not the man you think I am. CASSIE You're dangerous. MAX I am dangerous, yes. I've been in a lot fistfights, gunfights, car chases.... CASSIE But...You're Max... MAX And you're Cassie. 26 years old, 5'7, red hair, green eyes, photographer for the Emerald Journal, amateur gymnast, favourite food: vegetarian las-CASSIE I hate vegetarian lasagne. MAX (Confused) I thought you *loved* vegetarian lasagne? CASSIE I did, but it reminded me of Italy. MAX Well, lasagne is Itali-...Oh. CASSIE Oh. MAX Now I remember Italy. CASSIE And it's exactly why I want to forget about it.

Max takes a comfort bite from his burger.

CASSIE How long have you been doing this? Being...dangerous? MAX Since college. They recruited me after seeing that I could have some potential.

CASSIE Who's "They"?...

MAX

Olympus. An organisation that gathers intelligence and deals with threats of national and international security. Whether that's terrorism, large-scale warfare, nuclear, chemical or biological threats, political assassinations, conspiracies, everything else you can think of...We're there to help keep people safe.

CASSIE Don't we already have the CIA? NSA? All those As? Why does this "Olympus" even exist?

Max leans back and eats a fry.

MAX

Sometimes those places aren't as efficient...Olympus never fails. Did you ever hear of that nuke the Koreans fired at England? The one that broke up over the ocean before it could hit? Well...It wasn't the build quality that stopped it working. (Eats another fry triumphantly.)

It was me.

CASSIE (Not believing him) Sure it was.

MAX No seriously, that was me behind that! Though you can't tell anyone else that.

CASSIE (Laughs) Because what, you'd have to kill me? MAX (Straight face) Well I'm glad you're aware of protocol.

CASSIE So...let me just get this straight. You're supposed to be some sort of super spy?

MAX I'd prefer "mega spy", but yes.

CASSIE And you're choosing to explain this to me...In public, in broad daylight, eating fast food?...

MAX Hey, this place makes a damn fine cheeseburger, no way I'm going to pass this chance.

Max takes a bite from his burger as Cassie sighs.

CASSIE Have you ever had to kill anyone?

Max hesitates as he lifts the burger to his mouth for another bite.

MAX Yeah. Yeah I've killed people. Bad people.

He takes another bite

CASSIE Are you going to kill any more?

MAX I don't know.

CASSIE Are you going to kill me?

Max freezes, and puts down his burger.

MAX Cassie. I'm not going to kill you.

He slides his hand across the table to try and hold her hand. Cassie folds her arms before he can, looking away.

MAX I'm...here to protect you. That's why I found you. I need you so I can get to your father.

Cassie turns back to Max, curious.

INT. SALAZAR INDUSTRIES LABORATORIES - AFTERNOON

A man in his 50s works at a microscope. With notepads full of scribbles and a white board full of equations and formulas, clearly this man is working hard towards something.

A mask covers his mouth as he uses a pipette to add a purple formula to the Petri dish full of a greenish substance. It starts to smoke and he steps back from it. He shakes his head.

This is **OLIVER Morris** (50s, glasses, scientific genius, appears older through stress).

He records a note on his Dictaphone.

OLIVER Sample #1904 is yet another failure. The concoction is unstable. Scrap. Recalculate formula for sample #1905.

He shakes his head, chucking the dictaphone onto the worktop.

There is a knock at the window behind Oliver. He turns around. It's Salazar.

Oliver takes a breath and walks towards the window, indicating to Salazar that he needs to put on a mask and a lab coat. Salazar skips the lab coat part and enters.

> SALAZAR Oliver! How is my favourite scientist doing?

> > OLIVER

He's doing okay for a man in captivity.

SALAZAR Oh Oliver, please! This is the perfect environment for you to work! OLIVER I want to protect lives, not endanger them! I thought that was your dream too!

SALAZAR Oliver. *Please*...You know I want to protect lives too. (Steps across, looking at Oliver's whiteboard notes.) I just also feel you have to accept a few casualties along the way.

OLIVER A few?! Hah! You have more than just a *few* on your mind!

SALAZAR Oliver...You're being rude...

He steps right up to Oliver, standing only an inch or two away from him, eye-to-eye.

SALAZAR ...And I would *hate* to see you become one of those casualties.

Salazar paces away. He picks up the Petri dish Oliver was just using and looks at it.

SALAZAR Or how about if one of them was...Your daughter?...

Oliver steps forwards in protest.

OLIVER Don't you dare!

SALAZAR

Salazar reaches into his pocket and pulls out a smart phone. He pulls up a picture of Max.

SALAZAR

This man. He has taken your daughter and has put her in danger. My men say he's a disgruntled ex-boyfriend who has kidnapped her. They tried to save her, protect her but he's reckless and very dangerous. You wouldn't happen to know who he is, would you?

Oliver's eyes widen as he examines the photo.

OLIVER

M-Max?!...No...

Salazar smiles.

SALAZAR So his name is Max, eh?...And what do you know about this Max?...

EXT. PARK - AFTERNOON

Max and Cassie slowly walk side by side through a park.

CASSIE You really think my dad-

MAX

Is part of Salazar Industries' plan to begin making biological weapons, yes.

CASSIE

But...That doesn't make sense...Salazar Industries makes a difference in the world! They help produce medicine, they help import and export resources across the world to the places that need them, they're good people!

MAX

They also help deal with building and shipping off the weapons that kill people every day. That's not a good difference to make.

CASSIE

But...My dad spoke highly of Salazar Industries, how they financed his research. To do good with his abilities.

MAX

We need your help getting to him. If we can get him into Olympus' custody, then maybe we could help bring a stop to things. Blow Salazar Industries wide open. Find the truth.

EXT. PLAYGROUND

Max and Cassie enter an empty playground in the park. Cassie sits on a nearby swing, Max soon joining her. Cassie slowly starts swinging back and forth.

CASSIE I still think this is all one giant practical joke.

MAX How do you mean? A guy from the past comes back into your life. He turns out to be a super spy who can fight, drive fast cars and shoot big guns. He takes you away from very bad people as part of trying to get to your father before he creates biological weapons for an evil conglomerate? (Beat) What part of that can't you believe?

CASSIE The fact you'd came back. (Sighs) I mean, I knew you'd come back. Eventually. Somehow. Sometimes I even wanted you to. But then I'd just scold myself for being silly, and remember how I knew I couldn't trust you any more. And now...You're a spy?...

MAX Heh, yeah, if you didn't have trust issues back then I could see why you would now... Max tries to laugh it off, but it's obvious. He still likes her. Deep down. He looks over to her as Cassie swings, unaware of Max's gaze.

> MAX I missed you you know. I never meant to hurt you like I did. I didn't want to lie to you, but now you know that I *had* to. To protect my cover. To protect you.

CASSIE You still didn't have to cheat on me to "protect" your cover.

MAX No, Cass, that's not what it looked like I...

He sighs and shakes his head and stands up. He clicks his fingers.

MAX

Oh! Hey! I know! I can show you something cool. Flash some of those brilliant spy skills I have.

Max looks around the playground and finds a discarded can of soda.

MAX Check it out!

Max pulls out a gun from behind him and Cassie defensively moves back.

MAX

No, no, it's fine! Watch!

Max walks over to a nearby trash can in the playground and puts the can on top of it. He steps back and aims, shooting it. Max smiles and jogs over to the can and brings it back. A perfect shot right through the middle of the 'O' in the logo of the can.

> MAX I'm good, right?

CASSIE H-how can you even do that...You couldn't win me that giant panda at the carnival once. MAX

All those carnival games are fixed. If they weren't I could have won you everything...Plus they wouldn't allow me to use my own gun for some reason...But anyway...Here!

Max takes Cassie's hand and pulls her up, offering her the gun.

MAX Let me teach you how to shoot.

CASSIE

What?

Cassie reluctantly takes Max's gun.

MAX It's fine. I have another.

Max produces another gun.

CASSIE

Wha?...

Max walks over to the trash can and puts the can on it again.

MAX

Now shooting a gun is really easy. Point and shoot. Wherever you aim, whatever you point the gun at, you pull that trigger, boom, dead, gone. Do not point it at me please. Ever.

CASSIE Are you sure you can trust me with a gun?...

MAX I'm building our trust *giving* you the gun. It's fine. Now...What you want to do...

Max gets behind Cassie and adjusts her like one would helping someone get into a golf-swing stance to her her posture ready to take the shot.

> MAX ...Is to make sure you're in a good position when you take your shot. (MORE)

MAX (cont'd) Make sure you can take that recoil, some of these guns have a big kick-back, and you're light on your feet so you don't wanna be blown back.

Cassie looks down and adjusts her footing.

MAX You also want to keep your eyes on the target. Make sure you know where the target is at all times. Be aware of the surroundings, you never know what might obstruct your target.

Max adjusts Cassie's head position to help her line-up her shot.

MAX And of course, the most obvious advice: The gun is an extension of your arm. Relax. Breathe. Don't pull the trigger, squeeze it. If you panic or something, who knows what you might do. Now...Shoot.

Max steps back and lets Cassie do her thing. She takes a deep breath. She shoots. She doesn't hit the can. She fires a few more times, but she doesn't hit. Max understands.

MAX It's okay Cass...

She spins around with the gun and accidentally lets off a round, Max ducks. The bullet wasn't anywhere near but some birds can be heard regrouping in the distance.

INT. MAX'S CAR

Max and Cassie sit in Max's car.

MAX Well. That was alright for a first lesson.

CASSIE

Yeah.

MAX (Beat) Maybe we'll wait a bit until your next lesson.

Max starts the car and drives, glass from the broken windows falling off the car onto the street behind.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

It's getting dark as Max's car drives through the city at night. Lights cascade across the damaged BMW as they ride. Cassie curls up in the passenger seat to take a nap and Max drapes his suit jacket over her.

EXT. APARTMENT BUILDING - NIGHT

Max slowly pulls up and parks his car outside his apartment building and gets out.

MAX

We're here.

Cassie stirs awake from her nap and looks around.

CASSIE The old apartment building. Still smell like cats and Chinese takeaway?

MAX Well Mrs Foster died and no-one knew for a while so it smelt like dead cats for a bit...Now it just smells like cats.

CASSIE Awww what, Mrs Foster died?...I liked her, she said I reminded her of when she was younger.

The two undo their seatbelts and leave the car.

INT. APARTMENT ELEVATOR

Max and Cassie ride the elevator up to Max's apartment. Max checks his nose in the mirror and quickly shifts his attention to Cassie once she speaks.

CASSIE For someone doing a job like yours, you'd think you'd move out of here.

MAX Well, you'd think that, but the job doesn't actually pay that well. Plus I'm still making payments on the BMW.

CASSIE When did you get that?

MAX Oh...Three years ago?...

CASSIE

Figures.

The elevator stops and the doors open. Max and Cassie head out into the

INT. CORRIDOR

MAX

What?

CASSIE Always retreating back to your toys for comfort...I remember when we had our first fight, you just became attached to your Xbox.

MAX It was a good winter for video games!

CASSIE Right, right. Too bad this happened during the *summer*. When it was the hottest it's been in years.

Max and Cassie slowly walk up to the door to Max's apartment. Cassie moves up to the door and looks at it.

CASSIE Well this place brings back memories.

MAX Does it? 64.

CASSIE It sure does.

MAX That's weird, because this-

Max points to the door opposite.

MAX -Is my apartment.

CASSIE

Oh.

MAX It's okay. It happens. I even get mixed up myself.

CASSIE

Yeah?

MAX Of course not.

Max opens the front door and lets Cassie into his apartment.

INT. APARTMENT

The place hasn't really changed since three years ago. The photos of Max and Cassie together are gone, but other than that, this feels very much like the place the two of them spent their last day together as a couple.

> CASSIE Wow, I love what you've done with the place. It looks so...Familiar.

MAX Yeah, well-(Chucks his keys on the nearby table.) -I spend more time in the field than back home. No need to do any major changes. I just come back here to sleep.

Cassie looks around as she walks towards the couch.

CASSIE Are you sure this place is safe? MAX Trust me Cass-(Removing his pistols, placing them in a drawer to put them away) -I think we'll be fine.

Max sits down, joining Cassie on the couch. She looks around.

CASSIE It's crazy that it's been three years, right?

MAX Yeah...Real crazy...

CASSIE

I mean, I got the photography job I always wanted, taking pictures for the Journal. And you've-

MAX -Averted wars before lunchtime.

CASSIE Yeah...That... (Beat) How times change. How people change.

The two of them look at each other.

MAX I haven't changed that much.

CASSIE

(Laughs) Yeah right! Look at you, with the suits and that cocky nature to you...I think being a super spy has gotten to your head.

> MAX T had

I supposed I had to occupy myself. That's what other people do after a break-up.

CASSIE

(Laughs)

Yeah, but they pick up a musical instrument or something! They paint! I mean, I bet I can open any of these drawersShe starts of open a nearby drawer. Max moves to try and stop her.

MAX

No! Don't!

Max is too late. Nothing happens. Cassie just looks into the drawer, silent.

CASSIE

M...Max...

She reaches into the drawer and pulls out something. A broken photo frame. The photo of her and Max together on holiday. She smiles for a second.

CASSIE

Italy.

Max reaches for the photo to put it down but Cassie reaches back into the drawer. Examples of her photography work for the Emerald Journal, clippings from her gymnastics performances, surveillance shots of her getting coffee.

CASSIE

I...don't know if I should be flattered or scared...

Before Cassie removes too much to reveal a ring box shoved at the back of the drawer, Cassie puts the things back in the drawer and closes it.

> CASSIE Well. That was...Enlightening.

> > MAX

Cassie...

He takes her hand.

MAX

I just wanted to keep tabs on you. See how you were doing. Learning just how much better you were doing without me...I was happy that you were moving on and doing the things you wanted to do. But at the same time...I wish I were a part of them. I loved you Cass, remember that.

CASSIE

Max...

MAX No, it's my fault. I suppose my skill for gathering intelligence went too far. I'm sorry.

Cassie squeezes Max's hand.

CASSIE

It's okay. I understand. When you love someone so much and they disappear, it's hard to move on. Especially when they move on first. But...There's bigger things to think about.

Cassie pauses for a moment, then slowly moves in for a kiss. Max slowly responds, leaning in. They kiss. Softly, sweetly.

Suddenly a voice is heard in the background.

WOMAN (0.S) Who's there?...Who are you talking to Ma-...

A blonde stumbles into the room from the adjoining bedroom. She's wearing an oversized button-down shirt and not much else.

It's Michelle.

Max freezes. Both him and Cassie slowly turn to look at the figure standing before them.

MAX

Oh...Cock.

Michelle realises what's going on.

MICHELLE

Oh...Shit.

Cassie instantly recognises the blonde in front of her and gets up.

CASSIE Oh...You...*Bitch!!*

Cassie swings for a punch but Michelle catches it.

MICHELLE Max! Control your woman!

MAX Whoa, she's nobody's woman!

CASSIE Yeah what he said!

She swings her other fist but Michelle catches that too, keeping her away from her.

MICHELLE This is who we're supposed to be looking after?

MAX Yeah, Michelle, this is Cassie. Cassie this is-

CASSIE I know who she is!

She struggles, trying to break Michelle's grip to hit her. She can't though, obviously.

> CASSIE She's the blonde I saw you running around with all that time ago!

MICHELLE Excuse me? The *blonde*?

CASSIE Yeah! You relationship destroyer! Sleeping around with Max when we were going out!

MAX Cassie, no! We weren't sleeping with each other back then. She was my partner!

CASSIE Partner?! That's even worse!

MAX What? Oh, no! No! I mean she was my partner as a spy! We still are!

MICHELLE Except we've slept with each other since then. CASSIE

Why you!

Cassie wriggles and struggles, stamping the floor, wanting to attack.

MAX Seriously? You thought that would help?

MICHELLE At least I'm not lying to the girl like you have. I thought you said you broke up over a difference in opinion?

MAX Yeah! A difference in opinion where she thought I was cheating on her when I wasn't! (Moves over to separate the two) Look...

Max brings Cassie across the room nearer the front door.

MAX

Cassie. Three years ago, Michelle was just another part of my spy life. No relationships. Nothing. I had to lie about everything because no-one could know my profession. But a lot can happen in three years...

CASSIE ... People change.

MAX

...And people do things they regret. Like sleep with other people.

MICHELLE I'm standing right here!

MAX

But that doesn't mean I feel the way I did with you. Michelle and I...We had a history. But it was best that we remained partners and watch each other's back. And that's all it is. She rents a room here, (MORE)

(CONTINUED)

MAX (cont'd) we work together, we protect each other in the line of duty. That's it.

Michelle rolls her eyes and steps forwards, talking to Cassie.

MICHELLE

He's right. I'm not interested. He
has too much baggage and he's tied
to the job. I can't afford to be
emotionally compromised. Looking at
him now...I'd say he will do his
best to protect the hell out of
you. Which he will because he's a
damn fine agent.)
 (Looks at Max.)
One of the best.

Max nods. Michelle steps closer, offering her hand to shake.

MICHELLE Now...After getting off on the wrong foot how about we-

Cassie doesn't respond, looking away.

MICHELLE Okay, we'll work on that...

Michelle's hand retreats. Max coughs, trying to break the awkwardness.

MAX So how about this mission we've been having?...Very...Very standard procedure...Very...

The door knocks.

MAX wk god

Oh thank god.

Max walks towards the front door. Cassie and Michelle lock eyes for a moment, folding their arms before looking towards the front door.

> MAX Michelle, did you order pizza *again?* How you keep in such great shape I have no idea.
Max opens the front door. Daniel is standing there in front of him. It takes a moment for Max to register.

MAX Oh hey! I know you! You're Cassie's gym trainer! Hey, sorry about the other day man, I-

As Max speaks, Sophia slowly walks in from behind Daniel's imposing stance. Max's eyes widen.

MAX

YOU!!

MOVING INTO SLOW MOTION:

Max looks from Sophia to Daniel to Sophia again, stepping back, reaching for his guns but he has already put them away. He looks to the drawer but it's too late.

Daniel punches Max, sending him flying back, stunning him for a moment as he tries to recover from the sudden punch.

Sophia rushes forwards and grabs Cassie. Cassie struggles but like with Michelle, she's no match for Sophia's strength and training. Sophia chloroforms her and drags her away.

Meanwhile Michelle steps back into her bedroom as this goes down. Daniel and Sophia don't notice this as Sophia is busy dragging Cassie while Daniel is too focused on Max.

MOVING OUT OF SLOW MOTION:

Daniel picks up Max and swings him around, tossing him into the wall. Max's back slams against it and he bounces off it, hitting the ground, *hard*. Daniel sneers and turns around, walking out of the apartment with Sophia and Cassie.

Max struggles to get up and by the time he does, Michelle is rushing back out, leaping over the couch wearing a shoulder holster and carrying a pistol.

Max manages to get up and the two of them pop out of the front door. Michelle shoots at Daniel and Sophia but nothing's hitting.

MICHELLE

Urgh.

She checks the ammo of her pistol and swaps for the pistol in her shoulder holster. She slowly takes aim and breathes, pinpointing the shot, closing one eye. She takes the shot. It apparently hits Cassie (Who is knocked out by Sophia's chloroform) which lead Daniel and Sophia to sneer and wave as they escape with her in the elevator. Max cannot believe what he just saw.

MAX

Oh my god. You just shot my ex-girlfriend...Was it not clear that she *already* hates you?!

Max moans in pain. His back hurts. His everything hurts.

MICHELLE I may have just saved her life.

Michelle holsters her guns and walks back inside. Max stumbles back inside.

MAX Save her life? You just *shot* her!

MICHELLE

Yeah!

(Produces a smart phone with a radar-like map on it) With a *tracker dart* you idiot!

MAX Oh. Well that's alright then.

MICHELLE

This might actually work out for the best. If they have abducted Cassandra, then this tracker can lead us right to them.

MAX The game is afoot.

MICHELLESeriously?

...Seriously:

MAX It's from Sherlock Holmes.

MICHELLE Yeah, I got that.

MAX Not a fan?...

The two of them look at each other for a moment. Max moves over to look at the tracker.

MAX How does this thing work?

INT. HERA'S OFFICE - THE NEXT DAY

Max and Michelle at Hera's desk across from her. Hera looks at the GPS position of Cassie in this moment in time on her tablet.

> HERA No, this is not good. This is not good at all.

Max leans forwards.

MAX W-why? What's wrong?...

HERA

The tracker on Cassandra shows that she is currently being held... (Flips around her tablet to show the map) ...At Salazar Industries' headquarters downtown.

MAX (Beat) R-really?...That...That seems so...Obvious.

HERA It's more complicated than you think. (To Michelle) Michelle?

Michelle gets up.

MICHELLE

The actual headquarters of Salazar Industries is heavily guarded. After all, there are a lot of secrets hidden in there. Were we to still have Cassandra or if we could have captured another higher-up employee of Salazar Industries we could have made negotiations to halt whatever Salazar has planned with Oliver Morris. HERA

But thanks to your ineptitude and clouding of judgement, you managed to get our asset captured and secured inside Salazar Industries.

MAX

(Defensive) I told you I was already emotionally compromised...But you didn't listen.

HERA Many lives could have been at stake Max, we needed you on this case. You're a good agent.

MAX They're gonna kill her.

HERA Well that's your fault for losing her!

Max slams the table as he gets up. Hard. Instinctively Hera draws a gun and aims it right at Max.

MAX Then I'm just gonna have to get her back!

The two stare each other in the eyes.

HERA

Stand down, agent. I can't allow you to assault Salazar Industries. We don't have sufficient evidence to support the infiltration of such a location.

Hera holds her aim for a few moments, then she releases her magazine clip and puts it on the desk. She pulls back the slide and catches the ejecting bullet, putting both the gun and the bullet down on the desk too.

HERA We won't support you...But we won't stop you either.

Hera turns around in her chair, looking out of the window.

HERA Michelle, go with Agent Allen. He's going to need some help.

Max and Michelle look at each other, surprised.

MAX

Ma′am?...

HERA You heard me. Now get outfitted and leave before I think about kicking your ass.

MAX Gotcha loud and clear.

HERA And make sure you keep your gun on you at all times this time, okay?

Max takes the magazine and clicks in the ejected bullet, reloading the gun and holstering it.

MAX Oh trust me Hera. They'll have to pry this gun from my cold dead hands.

Max leaves.

HERA Don't die either! (Swivels around in her chair) I want that gun back when you're-(Turns around to find that Max has already left.) -Oh. He's gone. (To Michelle) Michelle.

MICHELLE

Ma'am?

HERA Try to not blow up the place.

A grin breaks out on Michelle's face and she nods.

MICHELLE I can't make any promises. HERA You wouldn't keep them if you did. On your way.

Michelle bows her head and leaves.

HERA My god, I need a scotch.

Hera looks through her desk drawers for something.

INT. EQUIPMENT ROOM

Max and Michelle stand in the equipment room side by side, looking at the wall of weaponry. They turn and look at each other and nod.

A CLASSIC SUITING-UP MONTAGE begins as Max and Michelle go through all kinds of weaponry, testing out what works and what does. Pistols work. Sawn off shotguns work. Big heavy weapons like assault rifles and RPG launchers do not. Grenades of all kinds work. Michelle holds some C4 and looks scarily full of glee as she packs it. Max looks at the knifes and chooses a nice combat knife and a few throwing knives.

The two of them check their guns and look to each other.

MAX Are you ready for this?

MICHELLE Ready? I've been looking forward to this!

MAX You know, for someone working to protect the world, you really do love blowing shit up.

MICHELLE I love blowing shit up and getting paid for it. Perks of the job.

MAX Well don't blow up too much shit this mission.

MICHELLE I'll blow up just enough shit. (Looks through her briefcase) Shit! MAX

What?

MICHELLE I nearly forgot my detonators! (Chucks detonators into case and shuts it) Whoo! Blowing up shit!!

Michelle looks at Max. He does not approve.

MICHELLE (Beat)

What?

Max rolls his eyes and they move turn to look forward, putting on sunglasses, smoothly transitioning to the two of them:

EXT. OUTSIDE SALAZAR INDUSTRIES - LATER

Max and Michelle walk towards the giant building that houses Salazar Industries, both suited up, carrying briefcases.

> MICHELLE So what's the plan?

MAX We go through the front door.

MICHELLE You seriously think that'll work?

INT. SALAZAR INDUSTRIES LOBBY

The lenses of their sunglasses turn into normal untinted eyeglasses. Inside they find themselves greeted by **CINDY Kwan** (Late 20s, short, bespectacled, Asian, friendly), receptionist and Max and Michelle's appointed guide.

CINDY Ah, you must be the two inspectors to see how well our safety protocols are running.

MAX Yes, our office rang ahead. I'm Bill Hartnell and my colleague here is Carole Ford.

Michelle smiles.

MICHELLE Good afternoon.

CINDY Of course. Of course. Here are your badges for you to put on.

Cindy hands the two of them badges with their "names" on. Max and Michelle look at them and put them on.

> CINDY Now, if you would like to come this way.

Cindy smiles, indicating for the two of them to follow her across the lobby. Max and Michelle follow, Michelle leaning towards Max.

> MICHELLE So apparently going through the front door actually works.

INT. SALAZAR'S OFFICE

Transitioning from Michelle to CCTV footage of her and Max following Cindy, Salazar and Dexter watch on the monitors in Salazar's office.

DEXTER Did they really think going through the front door was actually going to work?

Cassie can be seen, tied up and sat in a chair in Salazar's office, flanked by Daniel and Sophia. She is unhappy about it but she's not going anywhere.

SALAZAR

That's the thing Dexter, we need them to get in easily so we can squash them in the privacy of our own home and dispose of them how we wish.

Salazar laughs and paces across the office.

SALAZAR I have some of the best men imaginable defending what this building holds.

Salazar walks up to Daniel, knocking his chest softly with the back of his hand.

SALAZAR

As soon as we get them behind the scenes, make sure they get a swift exit.

Salazar walks to Sophia and smiles, taking her hand and kisses it.

SALAZAR

And in the event that they get any further than the twentieth floor...I'm sure the three of you won't have any problems. Am I making myself clear.

DANIEL

SOPHIA

Yes sir.

Yes sir.

DEXTER

Yes sir.

SALAZAR Good. Now get back to work.

Dexter, Sophia and Daniel all nod and exit the office, leaving Salazar alone with Cassie. He slinks over to her, she pulls back in defence as he begins to tower over her.

> SALAZAR Now that we're alone... (Beat) Coke? Chocolate? Chips? We're in for a hell of a show.

Salazar turns back to the CCTV monitors smiling as they watch footage of Max and Michelle in the elevator with Cindy.

INT. ELEVATOR

Max hums some of "Aquarela do Brasil", swaying his head from side to side, dancing a little bit to it. Michelle side-eyes him while Cindy stands behind the two of them.

INT. CORRIDOR

Dexter checks his watch and uses his radio.

DEXTER Kwan. Come in. Kwan.

INT. ELEVATOR

Cindy puts her finger to her ear, listening through the device in her ear.

DEXTER (O.S) Kwan. Time to paint the town red.

Cindy nods, reaching behind her, slowly pulling out a gun.

Max continues to hum and sway and dance as Cindy slowly aims her gun at him. Max's eyes wander over to the elevator doors where he can make out the the reflection of Cindy and her gun. His eyes dart open.

MAX

It's showtime.

Max drops his briefcase and wheels around Michelle pushes Cindy's gun to the side of Max as she pulls the trigger, missing Max as he springs to action. Michelle presses the button to cause the elevator to stop.

Max throws a right hook and hits Cindy

MOVING INTO SLOW MOTION:

He jumps and spins clockwise, throwing a spinning kick to knock the gun out of Cindy's hand. The gun flies over to Michelle who catches it.

MOVING OUT OF SLOW MOTION:

She unloads the magazine from the gun, chucking it to Max who catches it. Michelle pockets the gun, Max pockets the magazine.

MAX

Gonna have to try harder than that.

Cindy does. She begins to fight hand to hand against both Michelle and Max at the same time. She's a well trained martial artist. At one point Max swings for a kick to her chest but Cindy flips onto her back and springs back up, going for a strong jab which Max side-steps, leading Cindy to hit the wall of the elevator. And dent it.

Michelle comes into play and fights Cindy one on one. She throws lots of strong kicks which Cindy parries with her legs and fights back against with her own kicks. Max comes back in to support while Cindy continues to hold up a fair fight.

MAX The fact that you know kung fu is not helping your stereotype!

Max full on grapples Cindy from behind when distracted by Michelle. Cindy tries hard to shake herself from Max's grip, pushing Max back onto the elevator controls.

INT. CORRIDOR

In one of the corridors a cleaner can be seen listening to his iPod and completely oblivious to his surroundings as he mops. The elevator doors open showing Max holding Cindy in a choke hold with Michelle punching Cindy in the stomach. The doors then close again as Cindy pushes back into Max.

INT. ELEVATOR

Max slams against the wall of the elevator, still holding Cindy. Cindy makes some distance between her and Michelle flinging a few strong kicks. She then elbows Max in the stomach, causing him to loosen his hold. As Cindy moves away Max manages to spin Cindy, leading her to lose her balance and all over.

Onto Max's briefcase neck first. Cindy freezes, apparently incapacitated.

Max is shocked. Eyes widened.

MAX Oh my god.

MICHELLE She's a feisty one...

MAX (Oblivious) Oh my god. We Million-Dollar Babied her.

Max paces back and forth for a bit, seeing Cindy there, neck still resting on the briefcase.

MAX Oh my god...Oh my god...

Max pulls out his gun.

MAX Should we kill her? Should we put her out of her-

All of a sudden Cindy springs to life and sweeps Max's leg. Max is thrown for a moment after being brought down.

> MAX Ah! Zombie! Zombie!

Michelle rolls her eyes and swings her leg up and down, axe-kicking Cindy, knocking her out.

MAX Wow. That was close.

Max reaches for Michelle's offered hand and picks himself up. Dusting off.

MICHELLE (Mocking) "Zombie! Zombie!" Listen to yourself.

MAX She was still kicking after she broke her neck...

MICHELLE And your first thought was zombies? They're not real.

MAX Don't you remember the Florida mission? Those totally were-

Michelle rolls her eyes again and goes to her briefcase.

MICHELLE Nuh-uh. Not buying it. Those weren't zombies.

Michelle kneels down, opening her briefcase as Max goes over to his.

> MAX I'm just saying, you really need to open your mind a little more.

MICHELLE I'd rather spend my time bashing skulls.

Michelle smiles as she opens the lid of her briefcase.

MICHELLE This is going to be fun.

INT. CORRIDOR

Dexter uses his radio to talk to talk to Cindy again.

DEXTER Kwan? Kwan? Come in. Kwan.

INT. ELEVATOR

Cindy's unconscious body lays to the side as Max and Michelle are outfitting themselves with their tactical vests and their weapon holsters.

INT. CORRIDOR

Getting no response, Dexter shakes his head and changes frequency on his radio.

DEXTER Sir. I'm getting nothing from Kwan.

INT. SALAZAR'S OFFICE

Salazar picks up his transceiver to reply.

SALAZAR I knew it wasn't going to be that easy. Rally the troops Dexter. We're going to war.

DEXTER (O.S)

Yes sir.

SALAZAR And Dexter?

DEXTER (O.S)

Sir?

SALAZAR Make sure they see a monitor. INT. ELEVATOR

Max presses a button to start the elevator. Max and Michelle stand waiting for the elevator to stop. Michelle is holding a shotgun, Max holding two pistols.

Max exhales, looking at his guns. He sighs at the wait.

MAX Elevators huh?

Max laughs for a moment. He then raises a gun to scratch his nose, Michelle swats his hand away.

MICHELLE

Stop that.

INT. CORRIDOR

The elevator stops with a ding.

INT. ELEVATOR

ELEVATOR

Floor 34.

The doors slowly open.

MAX About time.

Max clears his throat, moving into some sort of stance as he steps out. Michelle sighs and follows him, raising the shotgun, covering him.

INT. CORRIDOR

The corridor is empty. Max and Michelle slowly progress down the hall, yet there's no-one. Max stands down, holstering his weapons.

MAX

Huh.

The two of them continue down the corridor and they eventually pass a monitor which comes to life. Max startles, turning to aim his gun at it.

It's Salazar laughing at him.

(CONTINUED)

SALAZAR (Laughs, over monitor) Well done for getting this far. But your princess is in another castle.

MAX

Salazar.

SALAZAR And you're Max I presume?

MAX (Tries to lie) ...No?

SALAZAR Oliver told me all about you.

MAX

Ah.

SALAZAR

Oh yes. And he had quite a few interesting stories about you Mr. Allen. Very interesting...

MICHELLE Don't listen to him Max, he's

trying to get into your head...

SALAZAR

Ah, so he doesn't work alone! Welcome to Salazar Industries, miss. I hope you got the most out of the tour, because it will be the last thing you do.

MAX Cassandra. Oliver. Where are they?

SALAZAR

Oh, like I would make it that easy for you. No Mr. Allen, I'm afraid that this will probably be the last time we speak. I'll have my men deal with you. They're on their way any minute now.

MAX

I'm going to come for you. And I'm going to get Oliver and Cassandra and stop whatever it is you're trying to do. SALAZAR Valiant to the end. I admire your tenacity but- Oh wait a minute-What is that I hear in the distance?

Salazar puts a hand to his ear. Max and Michelle side-eye each other as they hear footsteps rushing towards their position.

SALAZAR Sounds like my cue to exit. It was nice talking to you Max. But duty calls.

Salazar tilts the camera to show Cassie.

SALAZAR Do say goodbye to your little girlfriend.

MAX Ex-girlfriend.

Salazar smiles, revealing a gun, cocking it.

SALAZAR

Exactly.

The monitor cuts to black.

INT. SALAZAR'S OFFICE

Salazar laughs and looks to Cassie.

SALAZAR Well that was fun, wasn't it?

Salazar chucks his gun onto his desk. He smiles and sits next to Cassie, picking up an open bag of chips, eating one. He offers one to Cassie.

SALAZAR

Chip?

Cassie is tied up.

SALAZAR Oh yeah, right.

Salazar munches a chip.

Meanwhile, with Max and Michelle, the two of them move into position, analysing the situation.

The corridor continues straight, half-way down the corridor forks off to the left, where the footsteps of Salazar's men can be heard.

MAX That bastard. That bastard. I'll kill him if he touches Cassie!

MICHELLE That's great Max, that's just great, but bigger fish!

Max shakes his head, getting back into the game. He looks around the surroundings. He spots a fire extinguisher.

MAX Right. Baby steps.

Max takes the fire extinguisher off the wall.

MAX On my signal, go.

MICHELLE What's the signal?

Max, serious-faced, walks to the fork where Salazar's men are heading down.

MAX Oh. You'll know.

He rounds the corner and throws the fire extinguisher at Salazar's men running towards him.

The fire extinguisher hits the man at the front leading them, knocking him backwards. Max quick-draws his pistol, taking aim.

He fires.

The bullet hits the fire extinguisher, leading it to explode, shooting the man hit by it backwards, the resultant explosion distracting the other men.

At this moment Michelle rounds the corner and moves forwards alongside Max, shooting her shotgun to her right as Max shoots to his left, the fire criss-crossing, hitting the remaining standing men, taking them down.

(CONTINUED)

As they step over the incapacitated bodies they reload, checking the surroundings.

MICHELLE Okay, what's the plan?

MAX

We take it floor by floor. There are only 40 floors and we know the lower floors are all admin and the things Salazar Industries are known for. Oliver and Cassie are both close. Somewhere. We just need to find out where.

MICHELLE And the terms of engagement?

MAX Fire at will.

Max kicks open the door to the stairs.

INT. 35TH FLOOR

Max opens the door to the 35th floor from the stairs and peeks down the corridor, raising one of his guns. After looking around he signals Michelle to follow him out and down the hall, cautious.

Max and Michelle fast track their way across, guns raised just in case. Michelle looks around.

MICHELLE Seems clear. What's on this floor?

Max also looks around, trying to find some sort of sign.

MAX Ummm...I dunno. All these halls look the same to me.

He's got a point. In front of them further down the hall are some double doors.

MAX Okay, double time.

Max and Michelle run up to the double doors and stand on either side, backs against the door frame. Max checks his ammo. Michelle steadies her shotgun.

MICHELLE

Ready?

Max clicks new magazines into his pistols.

MAX Let's do it.

The two of them spin and kick open the double doors, opening into a much wider room.

INT. WEAPONS FLOOR

Max and Michelle rush in, weapons raised and quickly dive behind some cover as bullets fly towards them.

Max peeks over the cover.

MAX It's some sort of factory floor!

He's right. Machines and product lines span the length of the room. The floor is two stories tall, with stairs on the other end of the room leading up to a walkway.

> MICHELLE What do you think they make here?

Michelle and Max brace as bullets hit their cover. Max peeks back over the cover for a moment, quickly reaching for what's on the conveyor belt.

An assault rifle.

MAX Looks like guns.

MICHELLE

Guns?

MAX Yup. Guns.

Michelle smiles, looking at her shotgun.

MICHELLE (To herself) I'm loving this place.

MAX You know we can't leave this place standing with all this weaponry here. MICHELLE Does it need to go boom?

MAX Yes...It has to go boom.

Michelle smiles again. Max fears for this woman.

MICHELLE Can we take souvenirs?

MAX

Within reason.

Michelle produces some C4 from one of her pouches, giddy.

MICHELLE Well let's shut up and get to work!

MAX Race you to the stairs.

MICHELLE Maybe I'll be able to have a nap while I wait for you.

Max shakes his head, preparing his guns.

MAX Aaaaand...Go.

Max and Michelle pop out of cover, opening fire on the goons shooting at them. Max's duel pistols and Michelle's shotgun, returning fire against multiple enemies ducking behind cover.

Michelle tosses some C4 behind her at one of the machines as she passes it. After another shotgun shot she tosses it away and vaults over one of the conveyor belts, grabbing an assault rifle, rolling on the ground before kneeling and opening fire with the assault rifle.

MAX

Show off!

Max spins and catches a grenade thrown at him, launching it right back at his attacker as it explodes. Max holsters one of his guns as he runs, picking up an assault rifle of his own.

He leaps onto one of the conveyor belts and shoots one of the levers with his pistol, causing the belt to rumble into life.

91.

Max holsters his other pistol as he speeds in the direction of his adversaries, aiming down the sights of the assault rifle as he flanks some of his enemies, the conveyor belt moving him behind their cover so he can freely shoot them.

Meanwhile Michelle continues to parkour across the factory floor, jumping over conveyor belts, sliding under tables, swinging off overhead pipes, all the while chucking C4 from pouches left and right.

Eventually she gets to some of Salazar's men and she spins the assault rifle from behind her back to arm herself again. She takes a few shots as she continues to press onwards, bullets zinging past her.

She flips the gun in her hands, holding it like a golf club, swinging it as she passes a column used by one of Salazar's men as cover, hitting him in the face, sending him flying backwards of his feet.

Back to Max, still on conveyor belt, using the assault rifle. Click. Empty. Max sighs and chucks the gun to the side as a grenade bounces off his chest. Eyes widening, he quickly kicks the grenade away with his left foot, losing balance as he falls backwards. The grenade explodes, taking out a couple of Salazar's men.

Max smirks, then pulls out his pistols again, opening fire while laying on his back, taking shots at more of Salazar's men as they run across the walkways above.

Michelle is in a similar situation with her assault rifle ammo-wise. One bullet. Thinking on her feet she shoots a nearby pipe that shoots steam at three of Salazar's men, distracting them.

She sprints at them, jumping to attack with the rifle as a hand-to-hand combat weapon, wielding it like a Bo staff. She swings it and takes down the men with a flurry of hits to the upper torso to one, a fast, strong spin into the head of the other and tripping up the final one before slamming the rifle down to knock him out.

Michelle admires her own handiwork and smiles. A bullet hits her in the chest. It's okay though, it just hit her bulletproof vest. It knocks some wind out of her though.

Her eyes narrow as she pinpoints the person who did it.

MICHELLE YOU SHOT ME! The face of the man who shot her drops. Originally proud at actually hitting her, he's beginning to regret it. He backs off.

MICHELLE How about I reward your noble effort?...

Michelle tosses a block of C4 up and down in her hand. She tosses it up. Holding the rifle like a baseball bat, she swings, hitting the C4, sending it right towards the guy who shot her. Michelle smiles, holding up one of her detonators.

MICHELLE ... It certainly made an impact.

Michelle presses the button.

Beep.

BOOM.

The C4 explodes, sending the man flying. You just know he's dead. Michelle smiles. The firefight by this point has subsided. She skips over to the stairs.

Max is already there.

MAX Oh so you decided to show up.

MICHELLE No fair! You cheated!

MAX I'm just surprised you managed not to make that much of a mess.

MICHELLE

What?

Michelle looks back at the factory floor they just passed through.

MICHELLE

Oh yeah.

Michelle pulls out another detonator. C4 is all over the place on the machines. Michelle smiles and detonates the charges. Max flinches and reacts to all the explosions which, oddly, go off in a pattern similar to that of the first few notes of Beethoven's Fifth Symphony. Michelle laughs as Max slowly recovers, the two of them viewing the destruction.

MAX I worry about you sometimes.

MICHELLE You shouldn't. I don't worry about you.

MAX Oh *thanks*.

MICHELLE Hey. I trust you. (Pats Max's chest.) You're a big boy. You can handle yourself.

MAX Clearly. You weren't the one with grenades thrown at you every 5 seconds back there.

MICHELLE Oh well. We got past them all.

MAX Yeah. It did seem a little too...

Max notices in the corner of his eye a little shimmer of light. A laser sight then appears on Michelle's head.

MAX

...Easy!

Max pushes Michelle back with his foot, pushing the two of them backwards to the floor. A split-second later a bullet from a sniper rifle is shot, embedding itself into the nearby wall.

Max quickly springs upwards, looking at the angle of the shot to trace it back to...

Sophia. She's positioned on the upper floor to the opposite side of the room from Max and Michelle. She smiles and waves before going back to looking through her sniper scope to aim at the two of them. Max opens fire, leading Sophia to lose her aim and take cover, moving position.

> MAX It's that woman who kidnapped Cassie!

Michelle gets up.

MICHELLE And she's using that frickin' huge sniper rifle? Penis envy much?

MAX Can you take her?

MICHELLE Oh sure. Let the two women duke it out.

Max and Michelle stand up as they discuss the plan of attack.

MICHELLE It's not like women aren't able to fight against men or anyth-

Before Michelle can even finish she's football tackled by someone. Daniel.

MAX Okay then, I see you've got *that* covered. I'm going to take down this crazy latina who kidnapped my ex-girlfriend, kay?

Michelle is tossed against a wall by an aggressive Daniel.

MAX

Kay.

Max runs up the stairs to make it to the upper walkway.

INT. 36TH FLOOR WALKWAY

Max runs down the walkway across to Sophia. Sophia smirks as she stands at the other end, sniper rifle in hand. Shooting from the hip she takes a few pot shots, Max awkwardly dodging as he sidesteps side by side.

MAX

Oh come on, that's not fair!

Max shoots at her with his pistols as he progresses down the walkway. After a few shots he holsters his pistols and full on sprints towards her.

MOVING OVER TO:

INT. 35TH FLOOR FACTORY

Michelle continues her fight Daniel. Or more like Michelle continues to be thrown about the room by Daniel. One particular throw has her smashing against a column. In mild pain, she slowly pulls herself up.

MICHELLE

You know, after all this time since the gym, I've been looking forward to fighting you.

DANIEL (Raises fists) Oh yeah?

Daniel and Michelle circle each other.

MICHELLE Yeah. I had to press Max to beat you up back then. And he did a pretty alright job.

DANIEL He got lucky.

MICHELLE Maybe. But I don't need luck on my side.

DANIEL Oh yeah? What makes you so sure you can take me on?

Michelle stops and smiles.

MICHELLE Because I'm the one who trained him.

Michelle runs towards Daniel and drives a flying knee into his chest, sending him backwards. Daniel is thrown for a bit but comes back strong, swing right and left hooks that Michelle ducks.

Michelle throws a right but Daniel catches it, pulling it aside to give her a headbutt. Michelle reacts but quickly lowers herself, spinning to sweep Daniel off his feet.

Once he's down she flips forwards and slams her right heel into Daniel's chest.

BACK AT:

INT. WALKWAY

Max is nearing Sophia. She takes another shot which Max avoids by diving and rolling forwards. As he comes up from the roll he reaches for two throwing knives which he quickly throws towards Sophia.

She deflects them with her sniper rifle and then takes aim again. She pulls the trigger.

Click. Empty.

Max smiles as he gets up and sprints towards her. He jumps and kicks the sniper rifle out of Sophia's hands and punches her chest sending her back a few steps.

Max already moves into fighting stance while Sophia snaps into hers.

SOPHIA You've got moves.

MAX That's what they say.

SOPHIA Shame you're going to be too late.

MAX Oh I'm sure I can get past you.

SOPHIA

(Mocking) You wouldn't hit a woman would you?

MAX I don't see any difference between men and women. We're all the same.

Sophia swings a kick at Max's crotch. It connects.

MAX (Pained) O-...Kay...Maybe there are some differences...

Max leans on the railing of the walkway and takes a breath.

MAX Time...Time out...

Max lets out a pained noise, looking down and off to the side.

SOPHIA

You did good getting this far kid, but it all stops here. Morris has finished his job for us and soon we'll have no need for the scientist or his precious daughter. And hey, I've got some bullets with their name on it.

Max snaps back up.

MAX Okay, time in.

Max swings forwards, but Sophia's pretty fast.

INT. 35TH FLOOR FACTORY

Michelle is on Daniel's back, arm around his neck as he struggles. She starts to punch him hard in the head as he swings around trying to shake her.

Daniel tries running backwards really fast in order to hit her against the wall, but she manages to *run backwards up the wall and launch herself off it*, leading Daniel to hit his back on the wall and then be thrown forwards as Michelle pulls him head-first to the ground.

Michelle stands up and dusts herself off as Daniel struggles to get back up.

DANIEL You're...You're pretty good...

He stumbles as Michelle turns to face him.

MICHELLE Tell me where the girl is.

DANIEL

Salazar's office...40th floor...She's being entertained by the boss. Now please let me go...I've been beaten up enough this week...

Michelle smiles as Daniel continues to try and gather himself.

MICHELLE Thanks for the intel. Michelle launches up Daniel's bent leg and drives home a knee to the face, sending him backwards to the ground, completely knocked out.

MICHELLE That's for throwing me into all those walls. (Rubs her back.) Seriously...Ow...

INT. WALKWAY

Max and Sophia continue to fight. Sophia throws a flurry of kicks and punches which Max either deflects or is hit with.

Max returns with a lot of elbow and knee hits and a punch that makes Sophia bleed from the mouth. She wipes away the blood, tasting it and smiling.

SOPHIA

You're pretty good!

Sophia launches her counter attack, landing several punches and then a roundhouse kick to the face. The kick catches Max off guard and causes him to stumble against the railing.

Sophia raises her leg to deliver an axe kick but Max slides away from it, kicking the back of her leg as it slams down. Max then grabs her leg, using it to make her lose her balance and fall to the ground.

Max jumps, hoping to land feet first on Sophia but she rolls away. Sophia dives at Max, punching his chest with both fists, sending him back as she lands with a roll.

As Sophia gets up after creating distance between her and Max, she smiles.

SOPHIA

You know, you little friend down there isn't the only one that likes to see things go boom!

She slowly raises a detonator.

Max looks around. The supports for the walkway behind him have been rigged with some C4.

Sophia giggles.

SOPHIA Everyone likes a nice bang every now and again.

She presses the detonator. Max pulls out his hunting knife as the charges blow behind him, causing his end of the walkway to collapse.

Max is not going to give up. He sprints up the collapsing walkway towards Sophia. He jumps at the peak of his run, past the rest of the collapsing walkway towards the stable part Sophia is on, driving his hunting knife into her shoulder.

She collapses, Max pinning her down away from the wreckage.

Max twists the knife, causing Sophia to scream in pain.

MAX Where. Is. The scientist?

SOPHIA My shoulder! *Fuck*!

Max twists. Another scream.

MAX I've had enough. There are lives at stake. Now. Where's Morris?

SOPHIA The...The laboratories! West Wing of the 38th floor!...Now take this fucking knife out of me!

MAX You just tried to drop a walkway on me.

SOPHIA

I'm sorry!

Max smiles.

MAX

Good.

He pulls out the knife to yet another pained scream, blood escaping the wound. He takes Sophia's hand and puts pressure on it. MAX That's for chloroforming and kidnapping Cassie.

Max gets up and walks away.

MAX I'd keep some pressure on that. Awfully bad wound you've got there. I'd seek attention if I were you.

Sophia screams in pain.

MAX That's a good girl.

INT. 36TH FLOOR STAIRWELL

Max walks over to the stairs leading to the upper floors. Michelle is already there, leaning against the wall.

MAX How the hell did you get past me?

MICHELLE I saw you were busy to I just moved on ahead.

Max looks back at all the carnage and then back to Michelle, then shakes his head.

MAX Whatever. At least these floors are clear.

MICHELLE Cassandra's on the 40th floor. Salazar's office.

MAX And Oliver Morris is on the 38th. West Wing Laboratories.

MICHELLE Guess we're going to have to split up. Who are you going for?

MAX The scientist. MICHELLE Oh, you're not going to be the knight in shining armour?

MAX No, I'm just gonna make sure you don't blow up the labs. I know what you're like.

MICHELLE Don't hate me because I get the job done.

Max shakes his head as he heads to the stairs.

 $$\rm MAX$$ Whatever. I'll catch you on the 40th floor.

MICHELLE See you then.

MAX Try not to blow up Cassandra along the way.

Max speeds ahead.

INT. 38TH FLOOR

Max peaks his head through the doorway into the 38th floor and steps out.

Empty. Quiet. Ominous.

MAX Well this is quite ominous.

Max slowly steps down the corridor. He sees a sign pointing to the 'West Laboratories' and nods, going down in that direction.

INT. STAIRWELL

Michelle continues running up the stairs.

MICHELLE So many...Stairs...

Michelle picks up the pace.

MICHELLE Why do *I* have to go all the way to the top?...

INT. 38TH FLOOR

Max whistles the theme to the movie 'Twisted Nerve' as we walks down the corridor, spinning his guns in his hands. Before he hits the crescendo of the song he rounds a corner there are a fair few goons aiming guns at him.

MAX

Oh...Fuck.

Max looks to his left and sees a laboratory with an observation window. He quickly runs towards it, shooting the glass and diving through it.

INT. LABORATORY

He presses his back against the wall and checks his ammo as bullets are shot at him. Two ammo magazines left.

> MAX Well, time to be Mr. Superspy.

Max looks over to the door, readying the magazines.

INT. 38TH FLOOR

Max dives back out of the window and rolls. He fires at the goons, making them back off a little bit, hiding in doorways and behind supply crates. Max stands up and runs towards them, firing at them, making them stand back behind cover.

Max chucks his left gun into the air while running

GOING INTO SLOW MOTION:

And as the gun spins airborne he fires with his other gun at some of the goons, taking them out. As he does this he reaches for one of his ammo magazines.

GOING OUT OF SLOW MOTION:

Max chucks his right gun into the air as the left one crosses over in order for Max to catch the first gun reloading it.

GOING BACK INTO SLOW MOTION:

(CONTINUED)

Max reaches for his final ammo magazine while firing at the rest of the goons, taking more of them out. Max holsters the gun in his right hand as the other gun in the air comes back down to him.

Max lowers, beginning to slide on his knees as he catches the gun.

LEAVING SLOW MOTION:

Max slides along the ground, reloading. With a click the slide moves back into place and Max takes out the rest of the remaining guards with his gunfire.

Max stands up and walks away.

One final goon is still active however, as he slowly creeps out of cover behind Max, readying his gun.

Max quickly spins and pulls the trigger. Last bullet. It fires and takes out the goon. Boom. Headshot.

Max looks around at the destruction he left behind.

And fist-pumps.

MAX

Yes!

Max holsters his weapon and walks down the corridor.

INT. 40TH FLOOR

Meanwhile, Michelle has made it to the 40th floor in the search for Salazar and Cassie. She rushes down the corridor.

MICHELLE

Salazar!

She kicks open the double doors to Salazar's office and walks in. Gunshots are heard.

INT. OLIVER'S LABORATORY

Max picks up the pace and double-times it to the west wing laboratories to find Oliver.

He sees him inside the laboratory he was working at earlier through the window.

(CONTINUED)

Oliver turns around as Max enters.

MAX Oliver. There you are! You wouldn't believe what I've had to go through to find y-

Now that's a face I haven't seen in

Max looks around in case there are any additional guards but the coast is clear. He walks over to the door and opens it.

Max is cut short as someone behind him pistol-whips him. Max stumbles and falls over as the figure stands over him.

Dexter.

Max turns around and looks up at him.

MAX

MAX I was beginning to wonder when I was going to see you again.

Dexter aims his gun at him.

a while.

DEXTER I'm not going to miss this time.

Oliver comes forwards to stop him.

OLIVER No! Wait! Don't shoot! You can't

fire a gun in these conditions!

Dexter' face drops as he lowers his gun, opting instead to kick Max while he's down.

MAX W-what have they been making you do here Oliver?

Dexter digs his foot into Max's chest.

DEXTER I suppose I can let you in on the plan since you're too late to stop us now.

Oliver lowers his head.

DEXTER

Mr. Morris here as you know is a skilled biologist. One of the best one might say. He's been brought into Salazar Industries to help with our more...lucrative... opportunities.

Max tries to talk as Dexter continues to step on him.

MAX Biological warfare.

Dexter smiles.

DEXTER You're thinking too small.

He looks around at Oliver's research.

DEXTER

A man-made virus. A virus that will cause those exposed to stop being themselves. Driving them madness. Turning them into mindless-

MAX (Finishing) Zombies. Zombies! I fucking knew it!

Dexter rolls his eyes.

DEXTER Yes. Zombies. In a way. But that's just the first part of the plan.

Dexter steps off Max and walks over to a map of the world, looking at it.

DEXTER Oliver was employed to develop this virus. Once Morris created the perfect pathogen we would sell it to the highest bidder.

Dexter turns to Max once again.

DEXTER But after we receive the money, what if the American public was 'accidentally' exposed to the virus? Max's eyes widen.

MAX You wouldn't. That's madness.

DEXTER

Don't worry too much! There is an antidote! Created, once again by our dear colleague Oliver Morris here!

Oliver pushes up his glasses as he looks down.

OLIVER

I'm sorry Max. They made me do all of this. They threatened Cassie's safety...She's all I've got...

DEXTER

Oh cheer up! Because here's the kicker! With the virus spread across the US, and with the generous incubation period of the strain, the antidote can be administered! But...what company could *possibly* deal with the huge demands for mass-producing the antidote in which the government would happily foot the massive bill?

It doesn't take a rocket scientist to work out.

MAX Salazar Industries...

Dexter smiles.

DEXTER

Exactly!

Dexter spins and looks at the map of the world once again.

DEXTER

We make *twice* the money we would have normally and we would still be the good guys coming to our country's aid. Completely breezing past the fact we created the virus in the first plac-

Suddenly Dexter' head is slammed into the wall the map of the world is attached to.
Dexter turns around. Max is up and ready to kick some ass.

MAX I can't believe you fell for the whole 'explain your evil plans' trick. I'm afraid I'm going to need to punish you for your ignor-.

Dexter punches Max in the face.

DEXTER And you need to learn to stop being a smart-ass.

Max smirks as they move into fighting stances. Oliver steps right back, away from the fighting. Max wipes a bit of blood from his lip.

> MAX This is where the fun begins.

The two circle each other, staring into each other's eyes with malice and pure motivation to each their rival's ass. Max looks down and eyes Dexter' tie. He smirks.

> MAX Still wearing the old tie I see.

Max swiftly grabs Dexter' tie and pulls it. But it comes off. It's a clip-on. Max is thrown for a moment.

MAX A clip-on tie? That's just tack-

Before he can finish Dexter punches Max in the face again and grapples him, throwing his arm around the back of Max' neck to get him into a headlock. Dexter knees Max a couple times in the stomach before Max blocks another strike.

Holding onto Dexter' leg, Max tips backwards, throwing Dexter over his shoulder and onto one of the tables. Max chops Dexter' chest, leading Dexter to roll off and back onto his feet.

Dexter smiles and Max raises his arms.

MAX Yup, this is the main event.

Max rushes forwards and swings some punches but Dexter blocks him. Dexter retaliates with a couple kicks followed by a jump-kick but Max deflects them downwards. Max grabs Dexter and goes for a jumping knee but Dexter deflects that. Max drives forwards still holding Dexter, shoving him into the table behind them.

Dexter strikes Max's solar plexus causing him to let go of Dexter. Dexter then takes Max's head and slams it into the desk. Max recovers, stumbling as he stands up.

DEXTER

You're not so funny now are you?

Max, complete with serious face, comes at Dexter, punching him in the face, kicking him in the stomach and hip-tossing him. Dexter' gun and radio scatter across the floor. Right after the hip-toss Max snaps him back into an armbar, locking Dexter in the hold.

Dexter groans in pain as he reaches for something on his person. A *knife*. Max notices and right before Dexter can swing the knife at him he rolls backwards, unsheathing a knife of his own.

MAX

You're not the only one to bring a knife to the party this time.

Dexter smirks as he slowly gets up. Max does the same. Both do a few flourishes before kicking into a full on knife-fight.

Both are masters of eskrima and exhibit this through their knife-fighting. Blades collide and both suffer several cuts. Eventually they grapple each other. Max loses his knife and Dexter slowly drives his towards Max while Max resists.

Oliver looks around nervously to see if he can help out in anyway. His eyes fall on some of his concoctions.

Back with Max and Dexter, Max's eyes widen as the blade gets close enough to pierce his clothing-

-But not much more as Oliver comes to the rescue, smashing a beaker on Dexter' head.

Dexter pulls back in pain, dropping his knife in reflex to the smashed beaker and the glass embedded into his head. Too busy screaming in pain, Dexter doesn't go to pick up his knife again.

But Max does.

Max drives the knife into Dexter a couple times, seemingly killing him. Dexter collapses onto his back, lifeless.

Max stumbles as he gets back up.

MAX

Oh my god.

He checks to see if he got stabbed.

MAX

Phew. I thought I was a goner.

He turns to Oliver.

MAX

Now you wanna help?

Max smiles and walks over to Oliver, picking up the radio and Dexter' gun. He moves to pat Oliver on the back.

MAX

I suppose I have some explaining to do.

OLIVER

For what, that I've discovered my daughter's ex-boyfriend is some sort of mercenary on a mission to rescue me and stop an evil corporation's plans to unleash a dangerous virus?

MAX I'm a *spy*. And yes...that would be the explaining I would have to do.

OLIVER If all's alright with you, I'd table this until I know my daughter's safe.

MAX Oh right! Yes of course!

Max and Oliver begin to leave the laboratory.

MAX My partner should be saving her as we speak. (Checks the ammo of Dexter' gun) Oliver, what did you use to hit Dexter with? OLIVER One of the prototypes of the virus. Don't worry, it's not airborne.

MAX And why can't we shoot guns in this lab?

OLIVER Oh, I just said that so he wouldn't shoot you. It's actually perfectly fine to shoot a gun in here.

MAX

Good.

Max slides the ammo clip back into Dexter' gun with a click and wheels around.

Dexter is rushing towards them, pure uncontrollable rage. Much like a zombie. Clearly for a prototype the virus still works to a degree.

Max pulls the trigger several times, shooting Dexter and finally taking him down. Max spins the gun on his finger and holsters it.

Max pauses for an extended moment of time. Oliver notices.

OLIVER Errm...What are yo-

MAX This feels like a moment to say something cool.

Silence.

Max turns back around and walks to the stairwell.

MAX I got nothing.

INT. 38TH FLOOR

Max and Oliver walk down towards the stairwell. The radio squawks. A voice echoes through it.

SALAZAR (O.C) (Through radio) Dexter? Dexter? What's your status.

Max picks up the radio.

MAX (Into radio) Sorry, Dexter called in sick. Mild case of the stab and gunshot wounds with the side-effect of death. I don't think he's going to make it.

INT. SALAZAR'S OFFICE

Salazar looks surprised at Max's voice coming through the transceiver, hearing the news that his best man has failed him. He raises the transceiver to his mouth.

SALAZAR (Into radio) So I see you made it to the final stage.

INT. STAIRWELL

Max and Oliver open the door to the stairs, heading upwards.

MAX (Into radio) Yup and I'm coming for you. (Pauses on the stairs) Wait a minute. (Into radio) I sent Michelle up to take care of you.

Salazar's laughs echo through the radio.

SALAZAR (O.C) (Through radio) Ah yes. She's quite the fiery one, isn't she?

INT. SALAZAR'S OFFICE

Salazar smiles and looks over to the floor where Michelle lays, knocked out.

SALAZAR (Into radio) Just because I have people do my dirty work for me doesn't mean I don't know how to deal with people. Please Max. I'm a businessman. Dealing with people is my job. INT. STAIRWELL

Max and Oliver continue up the stairs

MAX (Into radio) Yeah? Well, I'm coming to put you out of business.

Max chucks the radio off the side of the stairs, it eventually smashing when it lands.

INT. SALAZAR'S OFFICE

Salazar chuckles, tucking the radio into his inner jacket pocket. He walks around it to look at Cassie, who has been tied to a chair.

> SALAZAR Well this is going to be fun.

INT. 40TH FLOOR

Max and Oliver finally make it to the top floor. Max kicks open the door to the 40th floor corridor heading towards Salazar's office.

As the two walk down, Max turns to Oliver.

MAX Okay Oliver, this might be messy. Hang back, I'm not putting you in any more danger.

Oliver nods.

OLIVER Okay. Please Max, get my daughter back safely.

MAX You can count on me sir.

The two shake hands, Oliver pats Max's shoulder.

OLIVER

Good luck.

Max turns and walks towards Salazar's office.

MAX Don't need it.

INT. SALAZAR'S OFFICE

Max kicks open the door to Salazar's office and steps in.

MAX Salaza-!...Oh.

Salazar can't be seen. Cassie is sat gagged and tied to a chair in front of Max. Max scans the room, noting Michelle's knocked out body on the floor.

MAX Cassie! Michelle!

He moves forwards a few steps. Cassie is struggling, trying to indicate something.

MAX

It's a trap.

Max quickly spins to his back left, quick drawing Dexter' gun, aiming.

Nothing.

Suddenly Salazar appears, grabbing Max from behind.

SALAZAR

Wrong corner.

Max reacts, elbowing Salazar to knock him back.

Salazar swings a few punches that Max manages to block.

Max tries to aim the gun at Salazar but Salazar constantly whips it away from him, at one point grabbing Max's arm and punching his chest hard a few times.

Max however manages to manoeuvre his leg and kick Salazar backwards. Max then quickly aims his pistol and shoots Salazar, taking him down.

Salazar crumples to the floor. Lifeless.

Max brushes his hair back.

MAX Phew. *Man* I'm good.

Max looks around and notices Cassie tied up.

114.

Max rushes over to Cassie, un-gagging her and untying her.

CASSIE Took you long enough!

MAX Took m-...What? Look!

Max points to the monitors that shows the extent of the mess he and Michelle made getting here.

MAX I was busy!

Fully untied, Cassie stands up, massaging her wrists.

CASSIE Where's dad?

MAX Don't worry. He's safe.

CASSIE And the people who kidnapped me?

MAX We got 'em.

Cassie smiles and hugs Max.

CASSIE So maybe I can go back to my normal life now? I've had enough of spies to be honest.

MAX Yeah, you don't have to worry now.

In the background someone's feet slowly slide as they gather themselves to get up.

MAX Michelle and I will clear things up from here and make sure that this entire operation is shut down.

A radio drops to the floor. A bullet embedded in it.

MAX We've just stopped a potential national disaster today. And in a way we have you to thank for part of it.

A garotte is revealed to be in someone's hands.

MAX We don't have to worry about Salazar or anything any more to-

Suddenly the garotte comes around Max and snaps backwards, choking Max.

It's Salazar.

SALAZAR Oh I think you still need to worry about Salazar.

CASSIE

Oh my god!

Salazar pulls backwards, stepping away from Cassie, dragging Max backwards with him. Max struggles, dropping Dexter' gun as he tries hitting Salazar with his elbows.

SALAZAR

You will not stop me Max! I'm going to kill you and your partner and your useless girlfriend here and I'm going to release this virus on the city! Just you watch!

Max continues to struggle as he is being choked. Slightly purpling. He tries to make a few words out.

MAX

S-S-Sh...

SALAZAR

What's that Max? I'd let you have your last words but I'd rather be more efficient you know. My men have given you too many opportunities.

Salazar pulls. Max elbows Salazar which gives him a second of freedom to say:

MAX

Shoot...

Salazar looks curiously at Max, and then looks upwards. Cassie is standing in front of the two of them, aiming at them with Dexter' gun.

Cassie nervously aims, and then closes her eyes. Max's eyes bulge. What's she doing?

Bang. Max shuts his eyes.

After a beat he opens them again. Looking around. The garotte is gone. He breathes a sigh of relief.

MAX

Phew.

He looks around. Suddenly a massive scream of pain can be heard.

Max turns and looks at the ground. Salazar is on the floor, screaming in pain, rocking around. Cassie shot him in kneecap.

SALAZAR

You shot up my fucking knee!

Max looks impressed as he steps back to Cassie. She's still aiming forwards, frozen. Max slowly takes the gun from her.

MAX I'll take that...

Cassie slowly thaws, relaxing.

MAX

Nice shot.

Cassie doesn't say anything.

MAX

Scared the shit out of me when you closed your eyes. Don't do that! Remember what I taught you. Don't panic!

Max steps over to Salazar's pained body. Looking at it as he squirms.

MAX The kneecap though...Damn.

He looks to Cassie.

MAX Did you know the kneecap is one of the most painful places to get shot? Cassie shakes her head. MAX Oh yeah. Very painful He presses his finger on the wound. Salazar screams in pain. MAX (To Salazar) That's for almost choking me to death. He stands up. MAX Yup. Awfully painful to be shot in the kneecap. Almost as bad as getting shot in the gut. Max shoots Salazar in the gut. MAX And the dick. And the dick. Salazar screams in massive pain. MAX It takes a long time to die from it. Max holsters his gun. MAX Oliver! You can come in now! Oliver slowly peeks around the corner. His face lights up, as does Cassie's. OLIVER Cassie! CASSIE

Dad!

The two of them run across the room to each other and hug. Max steps over to Michelle with a glass of water. He pours it over her head and slaps her face gently, getting her to come to.

MAX Michelle! Hey Michelle!

Michelle snaps back into action like she was in the middle of the action before someone pressed pause. She snaps into raising her fists.

> MICHELLE Where are you you son of a bitch!

She looks around confused. She looks at Salazar still rolling in pain.

MICHELLE Wow I'm good. I took him out so fast I can't even remember doing it.

MAX You were knocked out.

MICHELLE

I-I was?...

Suddenly a headache rushes to her, reminding her.

MICHELLE Ow...The darn bastard got the jump on me...

Max helps her up.

MAX Well he won't be doing that any time soon. We got 'em.

He looks towards Cassie and Oliver, happy to finally be reunited.

MAX Mission accomplished.

Max and Michelle walk over to Cassie and Oliver and pat their backs. Cassie hugs Max again and they slowly look into each other's eyes, breaking into smiles. Oliver shakes Michelle's hand.

It's over.

It's almost over.

Footsteps are heard walking towards the four of them.

SOPHIA (O.S)

Not so fast.

Max and Michelle turn to look. Sophia's there, clutching her arm. Bandaged, but bloody. She stumbles forward a few steps.

MAX Does anyone stay down around here?...

Cassie and Oliver stand back as Max and Michelle move into position in front of Sophia.

MICHELLE Goddamnit Max, I thought you took her down.

SOPHIA You seriously thought a little knife wound was gonna keep me down?

Sophia giggles.

SOPHIA Time to repay the favour. Not with a whimper...

She slowly reveals a detonator in her other hand

SOPHIA

...But a bang.

She reaches behind her, pulling out some C4. Cassie and Oliver retreat to a safe distance.

Max and Michelle look to each other, then both switch into serious mode.

The two of them leap into action. Michelle punches Sophia's wound, making her drop her detonator, which Michelle then catches. Max grabs Sophia's wrist and twists it, disarming her of her C4, catching it. He then pulls her towards him and chops her neck. As she buckles in pain, Max tosses her behind him, throwing her closer to the window as she stumbles and rolls.

Sophia slowly pulls herself up and stumbles. Michelle stands with the detonator.

(CONTINUED)

MAX

Bang.

Banq?

Max isn't holding the C4. Sophia looks around but she can't see it. She reaches into her back pocket and pulls something out.

The C4.

Michelle smiles.

Click.

The explosion knocks Sophia backwards through the window and down 40 floors to the street below.

Max and Michelle's eyes widen and they slowly look at each other.

MICHELLE Was that excessive? I think that was excessive.

MAX She did try to blow us up.

Max turns back to the window.

MAX (Shouting at Sophia) That's what you get for twisting the words of T.S. Eliot! How pretentious can a henchwoman get!

Max turns back to Michelle.

MAX What? I read.

Michelle shakes her head and they go back to Cassie and Oliver, who have crawled back out from their hiding places.

MAX Okay. *Now* it's all over.

He turns to the door like he's expecting something.

MAX Yeah. Now it's all over.

He smiles at Cassie and they hug again. They slowly look at each other and softly kiss. Michelle and Oliver roll their eyes. Michelle grabs Max and pulls him away.

> MICHELLE Come on boy. Let's get these two to safety and debrief.

MAX But I was just-

The four of them start to leave.

MICHELLE Come on. We better get started on the paperwork. There's gonna be a lot of it.

They leave Salazar's office. A large pane of glass from Salazar's office windows falls to the ground and smashes.

EXT. CITY - NIGHT

TITLE: 1 YEAR LATER

A ring box is open revealing an engagement ring. The same ring box and engagement ring Max has had in his possession for the last 4 or so years.

Max looks at the ring, smiling. Smartly dressed in a nice crisp suit, clearly that ring might come into use later. He snaps the ring box shut, pocketing it. He takes a deep breath.

> MAX Come on Max. You can do this.

He begins to walk as his phone goes off. He answers it.

MAX (Into phone) I know! I'm late! I'll be right there! INT. RESTAURANT

Cassie is on the phone all dressed up at a candlelit dinner for two. She's still waiting for her date.

CASSIE (Into phone) Come on, Max. You're always late.

MAX (O.S) (Through phone) I know! I know! Give me 10 minutes.

CASSIE (Into phone) Okay, I'll give you 10 minutes. You're lucky the food is taking so long.

EXT. CITY

MAX (Into phone) Don't worry! It will be worth the wait! (Beat. Smiling) I love you.

INT. RESTAURANT

CASSIE (Smiling, into phone) I love you too.

Cassie hangs up, putting her phone down, still smiling.

EXT. CITY

Max hangs up and pockets his phone, grinning. Suddenly a voice echoes in his ear.

MICHELLE (O.S) (Through earpiece) Awww, sorry to ruin a moment between you two love birds... INT. SURVEILLANCE VAN

Michelle is in a surveillance van, stirring a mug of coffee.

MICHELLE (Into microphone) ...But you're kind of on a mission here. Come on. Pick up the pace.

EXT. CITY

Pulling out Max is revealed to be walking across a rooftop.

MAX Excuse me for telling my girlfriend I'm going to be late.

MICHELLE (0.S) (Through earpiece) Don't worry hotshot, it's a quick in and out. Your kit's waiting for you at the end of the rooftop you're on.

Max makes it to the end of the rooftop where a mug of warm coffee and a sniper-rifle are. The rifle is all set up. Max looks through the sights.

MICHELLE (O.S)

(Through earpiece) The target is planning to assassinate the mayor as he gives his speech tonight. All you have to do is take him out.

MAX

Gotcha.

Max looks through the sights at his surroundings, trying to find the sniper he has to counter-snipe.

MICHELLE (0.S) (Though earpiece, changing subject) How's it going with Cassie?

MAX Good. Great, actually. I'm planning to propose to her tonight. MICHELLE (O.S) Do you think that's a good idea? What about the job?

Max continues to scope around until he finally finds the sniper, taking aim.

MAX

Why?

Max takes a sip of the coffee left for him. He goes back to looking through the scope, taking aim.

MAX Do you think getting married'll make me soft?

Max pulls the trigger.

CUT TO BLACK

The music dives right in as the stylised credits whiz past, the style echoing the fast-paced and manic nature of the explosive film just watched.

THE END