# **COME THE ASSASSIN**

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# **CHAPTER 1**

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Registered wga

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"THE GUN"

FADE IN:

A Gun. An 1886 army issue COLT .45. "THE GUN". A NARRATOR mimics what we see. Quick, short shots of "The Gun".

NARRATOR

The Gun was a Colt. .45 Caliber. Single action. Six shot revolving cylinder. A gunfighter's gun. In the Wild West of the late 19th century they called it "The Peacemaker".

THE GRIP

On which we see a SKULL IN HOOD. A SCYTHE behind. THE SOVIET SCYTHE WITH STAR. THE GRIM REAPER.

NARRATOR (cont'd)

The grip was pearl with onyx inlay.

Dissolving through frame are several pictures. Stalin, Laurentiy Beria, Soviet Political Luminaries, KGB agents, Red Square etc.

NARRATOR (cont'd)

The gun was a gift to Stalin from Laurentiy Beria, Commissar of the Checka. The NKVD, what later became the KGB. A weapon to exact revenge. A weapon to "keep the peace".

More pictures through frame. Crime scene photographs. Officials, Military elite, Businessmen- dead. A bullet in the head.

NARRATOR (cont'd)

Soviet party protocol dictated the assassination was to be eye to eye. A single bullet to the head. A warning to those who had, this time, escaped its wrath.

BLACK.

Over black we hear VOICES over a "wire". Somebody is eavesdropping on somebody else's "conversation". The voices are RUSSIAN answered by IRANIAN then ENGLISH.

INT. SURVEILLANCE HEADQUARTERS - NIGHT

Two Agents on headsets monitor the conversation. The area is busy with agents.

Over picture:

"MOSCOW, USSR. 1988. KGB SURVEILLANCE HEADQUARTERS."

A WIDER ANGLE

KGB Bureau Chief ANTON PAVIL, 35, watches various images on monitors. His second in command is SIDOROV, 30. Now, eyes focused on a group of men in a warehouse.

INT. WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

Dark, save for a bright light over a table. A group of MEN surround a set of BLUEPRINTS. ALEXIE KUKOV, 35, is center of the drawing. He is impeccably dressed. Mobster style. The explanation is for IRANIAN MINISTER SAMADI, 55, and his "contingent". The periphery is a group of Alexie Kukov's "men".

Iranian between Samadi and his men. Samadi's TRANSLATOR turns to Kukov. ENGLISH.

TRANSLATOR

And the warhead?

KUKOV

200 kiloton. Every bit the weapon the American Tomahawk is.

Kukov points to the blueprint.

KUKOV (cont'd)

Air launched. Nuclear armed.

The Translator relays the information. The Iranian Minister with Iranian for the Translator. Now to Kukov.

TRANSLATOR

Range?

KUKOV

1550 nautical miles.

TRANSLATOR

System?

KUKOV

Intertial. Image mapping for land attack
role.

The Translator with Iranian for the Minister. The Minister looks well- intrigued. More Iranian. Now the Translator.

TRANSLATOR

Delivery point?

KUKOV

Bagram.

The Iranian Minister turns to Kukov's response. English.

IRANIAN MINISTER

Afghanistan?

Kukov smiles at the Minister. Coolly.

KUKOV

Does the heat bother you Mr. Samadi?

Laughter. Now back to the business at hand.

SAMADT

And you can deliver how many?

KUKOV

We start with what was promised. But first I must see what you promised.

A beat is answered by a nod from Samadi. Two Men cross with SILVER CASES. Onto the blueprints and opened. Both cases filled with stacks of US CURRENCY.

INT. SURVEILLANCE HEADQUARTERS - NIGHT

Russian, subtitled.

SIDOROV

Sir?

Anton Pavil turns his attention from the monitor which captures the arms deal. His focus is on a second monitor.

THE MONITOR

On which we see a private gated residence. A MAN in MILITARY UNIFORM steps from the doors and for a state limo. At his side is his MILITARY ATTACHE. There are two other state vehicles as escort.

BACK TO SCENE

Sidorov awaits Pavil's order. Pavil with cigarette nods. Sidorov leans into a mike.

SIDOROV (cont'd)

Dynamo is moving. Echo and Bravo in pursuit. Observe radio silence.

EXT. PRIVATE RESIDENCE - NIGHT

As the Limo and escort pull into the street.

A DARK SEDAN

Lights off, pulls into the night. It follows the limo and escort.

EXT. INTERSECTION - NIGHT

As the limo and escort move through the light.

A SECOND SEDAN

Pulls from the curb and follows.

INT. LIMO - SAME

GENERAL YURI KUKOV, 45, reads through a confidential file. Now a signature and handed to his Attache. Another file.

EXT. WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

Alexie Kukov walks for a limo. He carries the two silver cases filled with money. Two Bodyguards at his side. His other men climb into a separate car. Kukov's DRIVER stands at the open door of the limo. Kukov turns to his Driver as he climbs on board. Russian, subtitled here.

KUKOV

Get the General on the phone.

The Bodyguards climb aboard.

INT. SURVEILLANCE HEADQUARTERS - NIGHT

Pavil watches two separate MONITORS. Kukov's limo and the General's limo. As the limo's move through different intersections different surveillance cameras are engaged.

INT. GENERAL'S LIMO - NIGHT

The General's Attache holds the limo's private phone out for the General. Russian, subtitled.

ATTACHE

Sir? Your brother?

The General motions for the receiver.

INT. KUKOV LIMO / GENERAL'S LIMO / SURVEILLANCE - SAME

(PHONE CALL / WIRE - INTERCUT AS NECESSARY)

GENERAL

Alexie my boy! And how was the weather in Odessa?

Alexie looks off the briefcase of cash.

KUKOV

Cold. Very cold.

The General smiles.

GENERAL

What a shame. Kept warm I hope?

Pavil listens to the General and Kukov over a wire as he watches their limos on separate monitors.

KUKOV

As warm as can be expected. Listen, I have a gift for your Katrina. Her birthday next week. Is there somewhere I can have it delivered so as to insure the surprise?

GENERAL

Of course my boy. Why not have it brought round the restaurant tonight. I'm dining with the Defense Minister.

Kukov writes something on a piece of paper and hands it to his Bodyguard.

KUKOV

Very good.

GENERAL

In fact why don't you join us?

KUKOV

Would love to brother. But tonight I am off to Kiev.

GENERAL

Ah the life of a bachelor!

Kukov nods to his Bodyguard. His man grabs one of the silver briefcases and climbs from the limo.

Pavil watches the Bodyguard on the monitor as he climbs into the street and crosses for the other sedan.

He climbs on board and the car peels off from Kukov's limo and heads off in another direction. We hear Kukov and the General say their good byes. Silence. Sidorov's eyes to Pavil. Pavil nods the "order".

SIDOROV

Move on black.

EXT. KUKOV'S LIMO - NIGHT

Kukov's limo rolls. A sedan moves around and in front of the limo. Now one races behind. Then, from nowhere a group of four more sedans converge. Tires skid to a stop as cars surround Kukov's limo. Bodies leap from cars with guns trained inside.

INT. LIMO - SAME

It's just Kukov, his Driver and one Bodyguard. Kukov reacts defiantly. He climbs from his limo. Russian, subtitled.

KUKOV

What is the meaning of this!? Do you know who I am!?

Two men, GUGARIN and IVANOV, 30's, cross to Kukov.

GUGARIN

Alexie Kukov. You are under arrest.

KUKOV

Arrest!? For what!?

IVANOV

For crimes against the State.

EXT. MOSCOW - NIGHT

The Kremlin. Red Square. A patrol of Soldiers.

EXT. HOTEL / RESTAURANT - SAME

A long block of buildings in the city center. A high end Hotel with a club/restaurant in the center. A diplomats car out front. Men in Suits, Officers and Dignitaries enter with wives, dates etc.

A METAL DETECTOR

Is at the door. Soldiers search every body that enters. Bags and jackets scanned through X-RAY.

EXT. INTERSECTION - SAME

The General's limo with escort waits at the light.

INT. SURVEILLANCE HEADQUARTERS - SAME

Monitors have the Limo full frame. The Hotel on other monitors. Inside the lobby on other monitors.

INT. HOTEL LOBBY - SAME

The DEFENSE MINISTER enters with his large, rotund BODYGUARD and muscular ACCOMPLICE. The rotund Bodyguard takes the overcoat from the Defense Minister. A few instructions and the Defense Minister turns his attention to the restaurant. The Bodyguard and Accomplice turn for:

## A SITTING AREA

Just to the left of the hotel lobby. Dark suits, sunglasses and earpieces. Bodyguards and Drivers smoke and talk as their "Bosses" dine in the restaurant or have a drink in the bar.

# CLOSED CIRCUIT TV'S

Across from a table of sandwiches, coffee and desserts monitor the lobby, entrance, restaurant and bar. Bodyguards periodically look to the monitors to "monitor" their bosses.

Reclining casually in a chair is HANS LEHMANN, 35. His eyes watch the "large" Bodyguard and his Accomplice as they cross into the sitting area. The Defense Minister's coat hung up. Now the rotund Bodyguard spins from the coat rack and knocks a rather small DRIVER to the ground. The Driver speaks Bulgarian. His body language and what he says appears apologetic. The Bodyguard's response is totally counter. Russian, subtitled here.

**BODYGUARD** 

Bulgarian? This is the USSR! Learn the language you Bulgarian shit. Do you understand what I am saying!?

Lehmann coolly offers his point of view. Russian, subtitled.

LEHMANN

Obviously not. He is Bulgarian and you're speaking Russian.

BODYGUARD

Excuse me?

A slow puckish smile from Lehmann.

LEHMANN

You see I am a German but I speak Russian. Because you're right. It is the Soviet Union. But some countries in the USSR- they think very differently. Maybe I can help. I speak a little Bulgarian.

BODYGUARD

Tell him to keep out of my way.

Lehmann turns to the Driver. Perfect Bulgarian, subtitled here.

LEHMANN

He asks that you keep out of his way or he will butter you up and eat you. Like a biscuit.

(Off the Bodyguard)
As he is a big fat piece of goo.

A beat and the Driver smiles. The Bodyguard stares.

BODYGUARD

He laughs at me?

Lehmann turns his eyes to the Bodyguard. Russian.

LEHMANN

No. As I said, very different thinking. His smile is a Bulgarian thing. In Bulgaria? No means yes. Yes means no. Smile is I'm sorry. Should I say apology accepted?

A beat. The Bodyguard's reticent nod. Lehmann points to the dessert tray.

LEHMANN (cont'd)

Have a dessert on me.

Lehmann turns to the Driver. Bulgarian.

LEHMANN (cont'd)

Good news. He has agreed not to eat you. He will have the tart instead.

Lehmann'S EARPIECE

Sidorov's VOICE from inside SURVEILLANCE HEADQUARTERS in Lehmann's ear.

SIDOROV

Dynamo in motion.

EXT. ROOFTOP - SAME

Leaning in the shadows is KOLYA TRUSSEVITCH, 35. He waits at a fire escape.

KOLYA'S EARPIECE.

Sidorov's VOICE from Surveillance Headquarters.

SIDOROV

Wait for instruction.

BACK TO SCENE

Kolya's eyes find:

A DIABETIC STRIP

Which he has pinned between his thumb and forefinger. Blood on the strip. Time for his shot. Kolya pulls a small leather case from inside his boot. Top opened revealing five syringes neatly stored. Syringe free, cap off and poked into his stomach. Insulin drains from the syringe.

INT. BAR - NIGHT

NATALIA "ALLURE" NIKITAN stands at the end of the bar in a full length mink coat. Too beautiful to be this alone. Men stare. An oily, over confident man crosses and takes a spot next to Allure. He waves at the bartender.

EXT. ALLEYWAY / BACK DOOR - NIGHT

The General's Limo rolls to a door guarded by several Soldiers. Soldiers climb from the escort cars. A SOLDIER crosses and opens the General's door. Subtitled Russian.

SOLDIER

Good evening General.

INT. SURVEILLANCE HEADQUARTERS / THE MONITORS - SAME

As Pavil and Sidorov watch The General and Attache disappear inside. Pavil nods to Sidorov.

SIDOROV

Allure in play.

INT. BAR - SAME

ALLURE'S EARPIECE

We hear the instruction.

#### A NEW ANGLE

As the oily, confident Man turns his body to Allure. His hands coolly slides A US HUNDRED DOLLAR BILL in front of her. He smugly pulls on his cigarette. Allure stares, then reaches for his cigarette. Allure takes a drag. The Bartender slides the confident Man's new drink in front of him. Allure, not missing a beat, blows smoke in his face then drops his lit cigarette into his new drink. She turns from the bar.

EXT. HOTEL ENTRANCE - NIGHT

Soldiers stand guard at the door.

THE METAL DETECTOR

A Suit is searched by the Soldiers. Bags and purses on a conveyor and x-rayed.

ALLURE

Crosses the street from the bar across from the hotel. Eyes spin. ALLURE moves like walking sex. HOT. Real hot.

Allure crosses to the metal detector. A soldier instructs. Russian, subtitled.

SOLDIER

Could you please take off your coat.

Allure pulls the mink from her shoulders to reveal:

NOTHING BUT LINGERIE

Very sexy kit. Stockings, garters, lace etc. Eyes spin to Allure. The mink through x-ray. She smiles at the soldier seductively as she crosses through the metal detector. The metal detector's alarm rings. Allure reaches into her garter. A HOTEL ROOM KEY.

INT. KITCHEN - NIGHT

The General walks beside his Military Attache with two Soldiers as escort/guard. Waiters and cooks. Very busy.

They stop at the kitchen door which leads to the restaurant. The waiters entrance. Russian, subtitled.

ATTACHE

Sir, is there anything else?

GENERAL

Yes, see about a room here tonight. And that girl. You know the one.

ATTACHE

Yes sir.

The MAITRE' D sees the familiar General Kukov. He crosses with a smile.

MAITRE' D

Yes...General. The Defense Minister has just ordered the champagne.

The General is led into the crowded restaurant by the Maitre' D. The Soldiers take positions as guards just outside the waiters entrance. Eyes on the General.

INT. HALLWAY / ELEVATOR - NIGHT

Allure steps out of the elevator. She crosses to a hotel room door. A SOLDIER turns from the hallway he guards. His eyes spy Allure. He calls in Russian. Subtitled here.

SOLDIER

Hey!? You- Girl. This floor is for officers only-

THE DOOR LOCK

Key inserted. Door opened. Allure looks back at the Soldier. She smiles. She drops the mink off her shoulder. Skin seductively offered for viewing. Now a smile. She speaks Russian, subtitled here.

ALLURE

And so my dear- is this.

Allure steps halfway inside the door. Eyes turn and wait for the Soldier. He crosses coolly with his "grin". His hand reaches out for Allure's shoulder. Allure leans in with her lips.

Suddenly, the Soldier flinches. As if he'd been bitten or stung. The Soldier's eyes look down to Allure's hand and his chest. The HOTEL KEY CHARM sticks just below his neck. A beat and his eyes roll into his head. She pulls him inside the room.

CLOSE ON THE HOTEL KEY/CHARM

In Allure's hand. A NEEDLE rescinds into the charm with a press of Allure's thumb.

INT. SURVEILLANCE HEADQUARTERS - SAME

Sidorov watches the monitor as the Soldier's feet disappear behind the door. He talks into his headset.

SIDOROV

Hallway is clear.

INT. ALLURE'S HOTEL ROOM - SAME

Allure drops the body of the Soldier on the bed. Poison Key onto the bureau. She moves like the well trained spy she is.

THE WINDOW

Locks disengaged. The window opened a few inches. Curtains closed.

She crosses to a large DRESSING CABINET. Opened, she reaches into the cavity and pulls a false back free. From the cabinet she pulls two BROWN PAPER PACKAGES. She tears open one of the packages to reveal A WHITE DINNER JACKET. Quickly she begins to peel the lingerie off her body.

EXT. BUILDING - NIGHT

Kolya crosses a rooftop. He stops at the building edge. He drops his legs over the edge and begins to climb down the side of the building.

INT. ALLURE'S HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Allure has transformed from "Alluring" to a plain looking waiter. She wears the uniform. She wipes make-up from her face until she spies KOLYA climbing in through the window. Nothing said as Kolya crosses to the second "package".

INT. RESTAURANT - NIGHT

The General and Defense Minister are at a large table with four more dignitaries. They laugh as they drink vodka and eat caviar. An athletic man in a suit, KARIN, 30, crosses through the restaurant. He carries a silver case. The very case Alexie Kukov sent with his Bodyguard before his arrest. Karin crosses to the General's table. A servants bow. Russian, subtitled.

KARIN

General. This just arrived for you.

Case handed over. The General's smile is to the Defense Minister. Karin turns.

GENERAL

As I said, a very cold day in Odessa.

DEFENSE MINISTER

Lucky for us.

Suddenly, a man, ALEKSEEV, 35, leans across the table where he sits. The table is directly across from the General's.

ALEKSEEV

General, if I may be so bold- what exactly is in the case?

The General turns to the insolent question.

GENERAL

Excuse me?

ALEKSEEV

I was just wondering what was in the case?

THE DEFENSE MINISTER

CLOSE ON HIS HAND

As it presses a PANIC BUTTON on the REMOTE in his pocket.

INT. LOBBY/ SITTING AREA - SAME

The rotund, large Bodyguard Lehmann embarrassed and his muscular Accomplice turn their eyes into the restaurant. Lehmann's eyes watch but he doesn't move.

INT. RESTAURANT - SAME

**GENERAL** 

Do you know the station you are addressing? The Man you are addressing?

Alekseev's demeanor changes. Jaw locked. Standing his ground.

ALEKSEEV

I am addressing the man who holds the case of which I wish to know the contents.

**GENERAL** 

OF WHICH YOU WISH TO KNOW!?

The General's voice has stopped the entire restaurant. Eyes turn. The Soldiers who guard the General cross quickly. Alekseev stands. He slowly reaches into his jacket. Identification out for all to see.

**ALEKSEEV** 

Of which mother Russia wishes to know.

The General's eyes look off the ID. A slow hard stare into Alekseev's eyes.

GENERAL

Since when is it the business of the KGB to know the plans of the Soviet army? Of the defense of- Mother Russia?

(Dismissing)

Mother Russia... i am mother Russia!

Alekseev stares for a beat.

**ALEKSEEV** 

General Kukov. I give you this opportunity to make things right. So I ask you again. What is in the case?

The General's defiant stare. His face quivers with anger.

GENERAL.

The balls...of the KGB.

A double beat. Alekseev turns his eyes to the Defense Minister.

KARIN

What say you Mr. Nabakov? Anything you'd like to confess?

Just then the Maitre' D is on sight. The Defense Minister motions.

DEFENSE MINISTER

Have this man escorted from the building.

Hands to the stranger that is KGB Alekseev.

MAITRE' D

I'm sorry sir but this is a private affair-

He turns Alekseev from the General's table with an apologetic nod.

INT. SURVEILLANCE HEADQUARTERS - SAME

Pavil holds a telephone receiver to his ear. Orders from whomever is on the other side of the call. His eyes turn to Sidorov.

PAVIL

Dynamo is go.

More instruction from the other side of the phone.

PAVIL (cont'd)

Black Bear is go.

Sidorov leans into the mike.

SIDOROV

Move on Dynamo and Black Bear.

EXT. SERVICE ELEVATOR - NIGHT

The doors open revealing Kolya and Allure. Both dressed in white dinner jackets. The uniform of the restaurant waiters. They cross into the service area.

Kolya reaches for a servers towel and coolly drapes it over his forearm. Stepping into frame is the Maitre' D. His eyes on the unfamiliar faces that are Kolya and Allure. He crosses.

MAITRE' D

You two. Water for(Not recognizing the faces)
Excuse me- I don't-

Before he can utter another word Allure crosses. A bright smile. Now the actress. Russian, subtitled.

ATITURE

Thank you, thank you. I'm the new hire-I'm so grateful for this opportunity.

Allure throws her arms around the confused Maitre' D. Her hand holds the poisoned KEY. Poked surreptitiously into the Maitre' D. A nod to Kolya. He turns for the restaurant. As the Maitre' D goes limp Allure turns the actress loose. She cries into the kitchen. Russian.

ALLURE (cont'd)
Somebody please! Somebody!?

Faces turn to the Maitre' D. Bodies race. Allure backs away from the diversion.

INT. KITCHEN / HOT TABLE - SAME

We are behind Kolya as he makes his way through the busy kitchen.

INT. SITTING AREA - SAME

The rotund Bodyguard and his muscular Accomplice watch the Defense Minister and General on closed circuit TV. Suddenly, Lehmann is behind them. Russian, subtitled.

LEHMANN

Move one inch in the next two minutes and I will break both of your necks.

The rotund Bodyguard turns to Lehmann with his "look". Lehmann wastes no time. A strike to his throat sends him to his knees. His fist driven into the bridge of his noes. Blood. Now the Accomplice. Spun round. Arm broken. He falls. Lehmann turns to all the Bodyguards and Drivers. Russian.

Lehmann (cont'd)

Anybody else have something to say about my wife?

INT. RESTAURANT / THE GENERAL'S TABLE - SAME

KOTIYA

Steps front and center. Towel draped. His eyes look boldly into the eyes of the General. His stare looks back to Kolya. Russian, subtitled here.

GENERAL.

Now what is it? More KGB insolence? Or just a waiter who is lost?

Nothing from Kolya.

DEFENSE MINISTER

Don't just stand there like a clown-

Kolya coolly raises "The GUN". BAM! No silencer. Just the deafening crack of the Colt. The shot hits the General dead center of his forehead. The back of his skull shattering against the mirrored wall of the restaurant. Bedlam. Screams.

THE SOLDIERS

Who stand at the waiters entrance to the kitchen attempt to raise their weapons. Not so fast. Standing in front of them, gun trained is KARIN, the man who delivered the case to the General before Alekseev asked of the contents.

KARIN

If you want to see your families againput down your guns.

Guns slowly lowered.

BACK TO SCENE

Kolya holds the gun in plain sight and opens the Colt's cylinder. A single casing falls. He deftly reloads and turns to the Defense Minister. BANG.

BLACK.

A CRIME SCENE PHOTOGRAPH

General Kukov and The Defense Minister dead at their table.

NARRATOR

Justice was swift, unexpected and in the public eye. This was the cryptic arm of the Soviet politic set in motion by Stalin and his Secret Police.

EXT. RURAL CABIN - DAY

Smoke pours from the chimney of a remote cabin. Not a soul for miles. Lush green trees surround a small clearing around the cabin.

Over Picture:

"UKRAINE. 1989."

EXT. FORREST - DAY

A LARGE BUCK

Twelve point. The Stag center frame. His eyes stare.

A MAN'S EYES

Return the stare.

A NEW ANGLE

Reveals Kolya. He pulls on an archers bow, the point of his arrow trained on the Stag. Their eyes connect.

Suddenly, A SCREAM. A shrill high pitched scream of a GIRL. Racing between Kolya the hunter and the deer is Kolya's daughter AVA, 13. Her hands wave wildly at the stag trying to scare him away.

THE STAG

Races and disappears into the trees.

AVA

Turns to her father who has dropped the bow from his aim. Her eyes stare as if to admonish her father.

Over her shoulder is her own archers bow and quill of arrows. She pulls them from her body and tosses them disgustedly to the ground. Kolya stares.

Ava answers his stare as she shakes her head, turns and marches off leaving the bow and arrows behind.

EXT. TREES - LATER

Ava marches alone, Kolya not more than ten paces behind. Kolya is the best Assassin in the world yet he fights like any other parent to understand the mystery that is a daughter. He carries his bow and Ava's bow. Kolya talks. Ukrainian, subtitled here.

KOLYA

If you could just stop for a moment and explain just what it is that you are so angry about?

Ava marches.

AVA

You promised you were going to teach me how to shoot a bow and arrow. Not-

Ava is too angry to finish the thought. She storms.

KOLYA

Not what?

Kolya follows. He talks to himself.

KOLYA (cont'd)

I am simply a husband, a father who wishes to provide for his family. Water, food- I pointed my arrow at food and she will not talk to me-

Ava stops. She spins.

AVA

Food? Did you see his eyes?

A beat.

KOLYA

I did.

AVA

And you saw food?

Ava turns to march.

KOLYA

You saw something else?

Ava stops short. You can see her shoulders tense up. Her father didn't see it? She turns slowly.

AWA

Yes, I saw something else. I saw beauty. A living creature. And for just one moment- if you could just-

Suddenly, a WILD BOAR emerges from the brush beneath Ava. She screams. Ava stumbles and falls. The wild pig turns his horns to Ava. Not for long as the boar is stopped dead in his tracks by an arrow to his neck.

KOLYA

The bow in his hands. His crying daughter scurries to her feet and races around the dead pig. She races into her father's arms.

INT. CABIN - NIGHT

Kolya and wife ELIZABET, 32, sit with Ava at a table. They eat. The wild pig is on a platter. They are in the middle of a "family" discussion. It is playful on the adults part. Ukrainian, subtitled here.

KOLYA

So it is okay to kill a pig? A living creature. Also with eyes. But not a stagalso with eyes?

UNDER THE TABLE

Elizabet's foot kicks at her husband.

BACK TO SCENE

Elizabet turns to her daughter.

ELIZABET

It is okay to kill a living creature when it attacks someone you love.

Kolya reaches for the platter. More pig.

KOLYA

I looked into the eyes of the pig. He looked into my eyes. I killed the pig. Still, I did the same with he stag- yet hear I sit. Eating pig when what I crave is stag.

Ava looks at her father. Now shaking her head. Her eyes look to her mother. Ava, 13 going on 25, embraces the cliche.

AVA

Men. Are they ever satisfied?

Ava stands with her plate and crosses for the sink. Elizabet and Kolya watch their daughter with a stifled laugh. Elizabet's head falls to the softer side of Kolya the Assassin.

OVER BLACK:

"THE FALL"

A SERIES OF ARCHIVED PHOTOGRAPHS AND FOOTAGE

A CRUMBLED BERLIN WALL

THE EMPTY POLITBURO

AN ABANDONED TANK

THE SOVIET FLAG LOWERED FROM THE KREMLIN etc.

NARRATOR

The fall of The Soviet Union became a reality in the winter of 1991. Those who lurked in the world of political espionage and the reality of its collapse became targets themselves. Their only option— to disappear.

EXT. PARK - NIGHT

A dark sedan is alone in the rain. A body crosses in the rain with a trench coat shielding his face.

INT. SEDAN - SAME

Former KGB Bureau Chief Anton Pavil sits behind the wheel. In the backseat is his second Sidorov. Climbing into the passenger seat is Kolya. Door closed. Russian, subtitled.

PAVIL

They've opened the prisons. The government has collapsed.

Information handed to Kolya by Sidorov. He reads.

PAVIL (cont'd)

There is a price on your head. One million US Dollars.

KOLYA

Who?

PAVIL

Alexie Kukov.

Kolya reads. Fear in his eyes.

KOLYA

My family?

A long beat is answered by Pavil.

PAVIL

I'm sorry. You must be separated. If you wish them to be safe you must leave them. For now. It has been arranged for them to be re-located. It is best you not know where. Kukov's reach is vast. He has many friends.

KOTIYA

I have many friends.

PAVIL

Yes. But this is not about you. This is about your wife. Your daughter.

Sidorov turns to Kolya.

SIDOROV

Kolya, there are still many options but the safety for you as a family is not one. Seclusion, for all assassins is the only way.

KOLYA

But you will stay with your families?

SIDOROV

We are faceless, Kolya.

Kolya's pained eyes look out the window at the rain.

KOLYA

When?

PAVIL

Tonight. Kukov's men are already in the city.

KOLYA

And me? You take away all that is dear to me? What is to become of me?

CONTINUED: (2)

Sidorov hands Kolya a large manila envelope.

SIDOROV

These are your travel documents.

He looks through the envelope. A passport. Papers. A BANK BOOK.

SIDOROV (cont'd)

Five million US dollars in a Swiss account.

PAVTT

I will not be briefed as to your location. But if we need to communicate to you it will be through cipher.

A nod to Sidorov. A sheet of paper to Kolya. A cipher.

INSERT CIPHER

The page filled with randomly arranged letters. Top to bottom. Margin to margin.

BACK TO SCENE

PAVIL (cont'd)

A solitaire cipher.

Sidorov leans up.

SIDOROV

The key is a simple set of playing cards. Arranged by suit. Hearts, diamonds, clubs to spades. Ace to king assigned numbers 1-13 and so on.

PAVTI

You remember the cipher?

KOLYA

Yes.

PAVIL

The code at the bottom of each cipher, so that you will know that the information is true and authored by me will be "Ava sends her love".

(Off Kolya's dead eyes)
The life you knew is no more.

A BEAT. Kolya turns to Pavil.

CONTINUED: (3)

KOLYA

I want your word, your personal guarantee that my wife...my daughter, they're relocation, their new life will be overseen by you- yourself.

Pavil looks confidently into Kolya's eyes.

PAVIL

You have my word.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT

Rain pours.

INT. UNDER GROUND PARKING GARAGE - NIGHT

Anton Pavil stands with Alekseev, Sidorov, Gugarin, Karin and Ivanov. The men we remember from the arrest of Alexie Kukov and the General's assassination. Elizabet is there with Kolya and their daughter Ava, now 15. Ava pleads with her father. Ukrainian, subtitled here.

AVA

But- where am I going? Papa? I want to stay here with you.

Elizabet turns to Ava.

ELIZABET

Ava, listen to me. You'll like the country. You'll like your new school.

AVA

But, I don't want to. I like my school here.

Kolya turns to Ava. A beat as his eyes watch her.

KOLYA

Ava you must. There is no life for us here. No life now.

AVA

But papa...

KOLYA

I have something for you.

Kolya takes THE BLACK ONYX RING he wears from his hand. He gives it to Ava.

KOLYA (cont'd)

When my father went to Berlin, he gave me this ring. I was younger than you are now. It was his promise that one day he would return- that he would come back for me. This is how I came to meet your mother. This is how you came to be. My father came back to find me and I met your mother. I give you this ring- so you should know...I will come back for you.

Ava looks at the ring now to Kolya. She cries as she reaches in to hold on tight to her father.

AVA

I love you papa.

KOLYA

And I love you- and I will find you gain. Keep this ring close and don't forget me.

AVA

I could never forget you.

Pavil looks to Elizabet and Kolya. The time is now. Kolya embraces his wife and daughter. They cry. Elizabet's eyes look to Kolya.

ELIZABET

You come back- find us-

INT. SEDAN - NIGHT

Pavil drives Ava and Elizabet from the garage. Ava stares down at the ring given to her by Kolya. Ava's eyes turn out the window to Kolya. Elizabet turns her eyes to Kolya. Kolya watches his life disappear.

FADE TO BLACK.

OVER BLACK:

"COME THE ASSASSIN"

FADE IN:

EXT. PRAGUE, CZECH REPUBLIC - NIGHT

The city scape reflected on the Vltava river.

Over picture: "Prague, Czech Republic. Two years later."

EXT. BRIDGE - SAME

The lone figure of Kolya Trussevitch stares out over the river. He waits. Hiding in plain sight. A light rain falls.

A CAR

Approaches and stops next to Kolya. Kolya turns to the car and climbs into the passenger seat.

EXT. CAR - LATER

Parked alone beneath a bridge. Engine running. Rain falls.

INT. CAR - SAME

Kolya shuffles through a series of:

**PHOTOGRAPHS** 

INSERT PHOTOGRAPHS

A YOUNG GIRL

Naked on a bed. Her back to us. A much older MAN having sex with her. In the B.G. of the photo we see a man photographing the act with a Polaroid instant camera.

A POLAROID with a metal FISH EYE punched in the corner. The same picture from the P.O.V of the photographer in the previous photograph. The girl is Ava.

Still more photos of a surreptitious type. All figures caught in what appears to be candid/surveillance photos. That is, caught with a long lens. Then:

AN ENGLISH FIVE POUND NOTE

Is folded in the OVERCOAT'S hand who sits behind the wheel. He takes the note and pokes it into his shirt revealing:

THE WIRE HE WEARS

The Overcoat behind the wheel turns to Kolya. A familiar face. Former KGB Chief ANTON PAVIL. Pavil speaks Russian which is quickly answered by Kolya.

KOLYA

English please.

INT. ROOM - SAME

We watch Kolya and Pavil and parked car through a long lens. Surveillance.

Inside the room are three MEN. One operates the camera, the second works a sound recorder. The third casually eats peanuts. Russian, subtitled here.

SURVEILLANCE VIDEO

You think he know's were watching?

SURVEILLANCE PEANUTS

Does it matter?

SURVEILLANCE SOUND

Anybody here speak English?

INT. CAR - SAME

Pavil points to a photograph. He fills in the blanks about the faces.

A PHOTOGRAPH

TWO MEN and A YOUNG TEENAGE BOY

They laugh. The young men are 25. Handsome. Confident. Athletic. The Teen is gawky, shy. He is about 16.

BACK TO SCENE

PAVIL

Denys Dragovic. Serbian. He is lead recruiter. Blonde is Goran Zykovic. Croatian. Calls himself Z. Like the letter. The boy is Neno Gavlik.

INSERT PHOTOGRAPH

A WOMAN.

Older. 35-40. Hard. Tired.

BACK TO SCENE

Pavil points with a newly lit cigarette.

Pavil (cont'd)

Anna Luikin. Russian. Training as nurse. Former KGB. Injects girls.

A PHOTOGRAPH

AN OVERWEIGHT MAN

Demonic. Dead eyes. Now the Polaroid with the metal fish eye. The same man.

BACK TO SCENE

Pavil (cont'd)

Ivo Korte. Indoctrination.

A PHOTOGRAPH

A surveillance photograph from inside a police interrogation room. Two men, ZORIC' and PETROVIC'. Zoric' rapes Ava on a table as Petrovic' holds her down.

Pavil (cont'd)

Radomir Zoric'. Miroslav Petrovic'. Serbian Secret Police.

BACK TO SCENE

PAVIL (cont'd)

The ring. Your ring.

Kolya's eyes stare. Then, welling.

PAVIL (cont'd)

Her ring. Zoric' wears it.

Another PHOTOGRAPH, the sleazy CHECHIC'. Small, pencil thin moustache, greasy hair and round. A scar from ear to ear.

PAVIL (cont'd)

Jova Chechic'. The most powerful man in Belgrade. They are his brothels.

Kolya takes the photographs. He stares.

Pavil (cont'd)

When will you leave Prague?

KOTIYA

The morning.

PAVIL

Kiev, Prague, Budapest- these places are still not safe for you. Today? There is still one million dollars on your head. Tomorrow? Everyone will know you are back from the dead.

INT. CAR / SURVEILLANCE ROOM - SAME

Pavil surreptitiously slips an ENVELOPE to Kolya.

THE ENVELOPE / WAX SEAL

Stamped on the seal is the same image on the grip of "THE GUN". THE GRIM REAPER. THE SOVIET SCYTHE AND STAR.

SURVEILLANCE VIDEO

He handed him something.

Pavil smiles a broken smile.

PAVIL

Goodbye old friend. I'm sorry. Promise me you will kill them all.

POP! A SINGLE BULLET pierces the front windshield and finds Pavil's forehead. He is dead. Kolya drops quickly beneath the dash. His hand reaches for the gears. Hand on the gas Kolya maneuvers the car.

INSIDE A RIFLE SCOPE

We watch as Kolya navigates the car for safety.

A NEW ANGLE

Standing at the window is the man who was eating peanuts. A high powered rifle to his eye. Rifle down.

Kolya races the car up and out of sight.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT

Dark. Seedy.

A BUREAU

Kolya sits on the bed in front of a mirror. In front of him are BRICKS of US CURRENCY. One hundred dollar bills wrapped in cellophane. Also on the bureau are the strewn surreptitious PHOTOGRAPHS of the MEN and WOMAN given to him by Pavil. There is a bundle of SYRINGES and a vile of INSULIN.

A DESK

THE LETTER

Handed to Kolya by Pavil. The "Grim Reaper" seal broken. A CIPHER on the desk. Playing cards laid out by suit. Hearts, Diamonds, Clubs, Spades. Numbers written on each card. Letters circled on the cipher. A PAD OF PAPER. Quick shots on words scribbled. "KUKOV" "TRAP" "OLD FRIENDS" "MEET" "BELGRADE" "KILL YOU" "AVA CANNOT SEND HER LOVE" etc.

THE BED

Kolya stares. His hand holds a picture of Ava at the cabin. Ava at 13. He remembers.

EXT. CABIN - AFTERNOON (FLASHBACK)

Kolya lays in a hammock outside the cabin we remember. He reads. Elizabet hangs white linens on a line. Ava helps. Her eyes on her father. She crosses to the hammock and her father. Ukrainian. Subtitled here.

AVA

What are you reading?

Elizabet responds in English.

ELIZABET

English please. You have a test coming.

Ava asks her question again. This time English.

AVA

What are you reading?

Kolya responds in English.

KOLYA

Huck Finn.

Ava crosses and climbs into the hammock. Kolya's eyes in his book as he pulls her into his side.

AVA

Who wrote it?

KOLYA

Mark Twain.

Ava's eyes turn to her father's arm. Her fingers trace the tattoos on his arm.

AVA

Why do you have so many tattoos?

KOLYA

Why do you have that scar on your stomach?

AVA

I don't know. I didn't ask for it.

Kolya turns the page in his book.

KOLYA

And I didn't ask for these tattoos.

AVA

That doesn't make any sense. Of course you ask for tattoos.

KOLYA

No, tattoos like scars choose you.

Kolya reads. Ava traces. Her eyes on a tattoo.

AVA

What does this one mean?

Kolya's eyes don't leave his book. He feels Ava's touch.

KOLYA

Loyalty.

AVA

And this one?

KOLYA

Family.

AVA

This one's weird.

KOLYA

All the weird ones chose me the day you were born.

Ava slaps at her father. He smiles as he reads. Elizabet laughs as she listens. Now Ava's fingers walk to the tattoo just below his neck and visible from the open neck in his shirt. THE GRIM REAPER we remember from the grip of "The Gun".

AVA

What does this one mean?

Kolya closes his book.

KOLYA

It means you ask too many questions.

Kolya turns his eyes to Ava.

KOLYA (cont'd)

Where is that scar on your stomach? What does that mean?

Kolya's hands reach for his daughters stomach as he begins to tickle her. She laughs and screams as she tries to escape.

INT. HOTEL ROOM - NIGHT (PRESENT)

Kolya stares down at the picture of his daughter Ava.

EXT. L'VIV UKRAINE - AFTERNOON (FLASHBACK)

A small town in rural Ukraine. Bucolic. Light foot traffic through the city center.

Over picture:

"L'Viv, Ukraine. One month earlier."

EXT. BAKERY - AFTERNOON (FLASHBACK)

A woman exits the shop. Pulling into frame, across from the shop, are THREE DARK LIMO'S.

INT. BAKERY - SAME (FLASHBACK)

A familiar face wears a bakers apron and stands behind the counter. Former KGB Bureau Chief Anton Pavil smiles as he pokes a loaf of bread into paper. Onto the counter for the OLD WOMAN he serves. She pokes her eyes about the case for sweets. She decides to watch her waist and waves off any idea of sweets. Pavil smiles. He rings up her purchase. Smiles and pleasantries until his eyes spy:

A GROUP OF MEN

Crossing the street for his shop. Suits and sunglasses. That's not the problem. Center of the group is an old foe. ALEXIE KUKOV.

The Old Woman turns from the counter as the men enter the shop. Pavil busies himself as Kukov crosses front and center. A beat followed by Kukov's smile. Russian, subtitled here.

KUKOV

Anton Pavil. Former Moscow Chief KGB.

Pavil answers in English.

PAVTI

I'm sorry? My Russian-

Kukov responds in English.

KUKOV

You are a hard man to find.

PAVIL

I don't understand- what are you talking about?

Kukov turns to a Man behind him who turns the "open" sign to "closed" on the shop window.

KUKOV

Comrade Pavil, you know who I am- and I know who you are.

Pavil turns away.

PAVIL

Look I am very busy. You have obviously mistaken me for someone else. Now if you'll please be kind enough to return my sign to the other side I-

KUKOV

(Interrupting)

Deny you are Anton Pavil again and I will have my man cut your tongue out.

(A long silence)

All I ask— is a moment of your time. I wish to talk to you about an old friend.

PAVIL

Friend?

KUKOV

(A slow smile)

Yes. An old friend to both of us. Kolya Trussevitch?

INT. LIMO - DAY

Kukov sits across from Pavil as the Limo drives. Pavil's eyes outside in the park. English.

KUKOV

Where is Kolya Trussevitch?

PAVIL

I do not know.

KUKOV

But you do know where his family is.

PAVIL

No.

Pavil stares. Kukov turns to his capo VADIM BORSHOV, 35, with a nod. Borshov is the very sniper who killed Pavil in Prague. Borshov reaches. A FILE into view. Opened to a letter.

KUKOV

Is that not your signature? Did you not oversee the relocation of Kolya Trussevitch's family personally?

Pavil looks off the paper.

PAVIL

Still I do not know where they are.

Suddenly, Pavil leaps to the window. Fear. His eyes in the park.

KUKOV

A familiar face Comrade Pavil?

PAVIL'S EYE WATCH

A YOUNG GIRL playing. Pavil spins to Kukov.

PAVIL

I promise you, I don't know where they are-

Kukov again nods to Borshov. A PHOTOGRAPH from the file. A surveillance photograph.

PAVIL AND DAUGHTER

Walk hand in hand. The very Girl playing in the park.

KUKOV

Your choice comrade Pavil. It is his family or yours.

EXT. THE PARK - MOMENTS LATER (FLASHBACK)

Pavil crosses for his daughter from the Limo. His daughter spies him. Ukrainian, subtitled here.

DAUGHTER

Papa!

Pavil tries his best not to cry.

DAUGHTER (cont'd)

Papa why are you sad?

INT. LIMO - SAME

The Limo drives. Kukov instructs his capo Borshov.

KIIKOW

Send Chechic''s boy. The handsome one.

BORSHOV

Denys.

EXT. PARK - AFTERNOON (FLASHBACK)

Ava, 17, laughs with friends at a picnic table.

INT. CAR - SAME

A surveillance photograph of Ava in the hands of a man.

A NEW ANGLE

The handsome Denys Dragovic looks from the photograph to Ava and friends. In the passenger seat is Goran "Z" Zykovic. In the backseat, leaning forward to look is the young Neno. We've seen their faces before in the surveillance photographs Pavil gave Kolya in Prague.

DENYS

That's her.

7.

Look at her ass.

NENO

I don't understand. Why her?

Denys spins.

DENYS

Look- They tell me to take you out and teach you the ropes. You wanna be here or not?

(Off Neno's nod)

They tell us to pick up a girl? We pick up a girl. We do as we're told. Understand?

Denys, Z and Neno climb from the doors of Denys BMW.

EXT. PARK - SAME

Denys, Neno and Z cross for Ava and friends. We watch through a long lens as Denys and Z smile and introduce themselves to the young girls. Neno, a bit nervous hangs behind the two. Flirtatious smiles and handshakes between the girls and much older "boys".

CLICK. A PHOTOGRAPH

Denys, Z and Neno. The very photograph given to Kolya from Pavil before he was shot.

EXT. TRAIN - DAY (PRESENT)

Racing through the countryside.

INT. TRAIN - DAY

Two armed SOLDIERS move from compartment to compartment checking tickets and passports. They walk with an enormous GERMAN SHEPARD on leash.

TNT. COMPARTMENT - SAME

Kolya's eyes stare at nothing. He remembers:

THE PHOTOGRAPHS GIVEN TO HIM BY PAVIL.

They race through his mind. Over and over. Quick strikes. Now Ava's picture. We see Ava. From 1989. Ava admonishing her father for almost shooting the stag.

AVA

Yes I saw something else. I saw beauty.

The photographs intercut with THE WILD BOAR as it attacks.

Kolya with Ava laughing in the hammock. A quick flash. The photograph of her rape. Ava smiles at the dinner table. Another image. The wild boar. Kolya chasing his laughing daughter. Ava's laughter turns to screams.

Suddenly, the compartment door is ripped open. The sound mirroring the terror in Ava's scream. Kolya is suddenly back to life.

THE SOLDIERS WITH DOG

Step inside. Requests for passport and tickets made in Czech. Subtitled here.

SOLDIER

Passports, travel documents, tickets.

A BUSINESSMAN who sits across from Kolya reaches inside his jacket for his papers. Handed over to the Soldier. Kolya turns to the request with his papers.

The second Soldier looks up at the green DUFFLE BAG on the baggage rack. He points. Again in Czech. Subtitled here.

SOLDIER #2

Bring down your bag.

The Businessman looks to Kolya and speaks to him in English.

BUSINESSMAN

They ask that you bring down your bag.

Kolya stands and coolly pulls his duffle from above.

THE DOG

Points his snout at the bag as the first Soldier looks over Kolya's papers. Now in English.

SOLDIER

No more Soviet Union and still everywhere you look Russians.

Passport handed back to Kolya.

SOLDIER (cont'd)

Open your bag.

Kolya opens the bag. The Soldier looks to his counterpart and speaks in Czech. Subtitled here.

SOLDIER (cont'd)

See if there is anything to take from the Russian pig.

The second Soldier reaches into the bag. Kolya reacts with lightening speed. His large hand wraps around the wrist of the Soldier who's hand is wrapped around his SYRINGES.

THE DOG

Reacts wildly. Kolya slowly turns his wrist over to show:

INSERT A MEDIC ALERT BRACELET

BACK TO SCENE

Eyes point. The Businessman tries to calm nerves.

BUSINESSMAN

He is a diabetic.

Both Soldiers stare. Not at the bracelet but his tattoos.

INSERT TATTOOS.

KGB TATTOOS. A KILLER'S TATTOOS. Finally, THE GRIM REAPER.

THE SOLDIERS

They know exactly what the tattoos mean. Syringes dropped. The dog jerked into the walkway of the car.

CONTINUED: (2)

Their look is one of fear. Kolya answers the "look" with his cold killer's resolve.

KOLYA

And I am not Russian- I am Ukrainian.

INT. BALLET STUDIO - DAY (FLASHBACK)

Ava stands at the beam with ten other ballet students. They work their way through their exercises. An instructor instructs. Ava is a picture of concentration. A very serious student of the ballet.

EXT. BALLET SCHOOL - AFTERNOON (FLASHBACK)

Ava starts down the steps with schoolmates ANNA, KATI and HANNAH. We recognize the girls from the park where Denys, Neno and Z made contact. The girls have traded leotards for SCHOOL UNIFORMS.

A CARLOAD OF BOYS

Also in school uniform, pass and scream.

ANNA

Flirtatiously lifts her skirt seductively revealing her leg. The girls giggle as the boys disappear. The four friends turn down the sidewalk. Arm and arm. The conversation begins in Ukrainian but quickly shifts.

HANNAH

If someone offers to buy us a drink what should we order?

Anna corrects in English.

ANNA

In English. How do you expect to learn if we don't practice?

KATI

Champagne.

ANNA

A bottle of champagne. And caviar.

AVA

Anna! Besides nobody is going to offer to buy us a drink.

ANNA

Yes they will.

KATI

They will definitely buy us drinks. My cousin said it's that kind of place. Hottest club in all of Kiev.

ANNA

Bottles of champagne, caviar- boys.

EXT. STREET - AFTERNOON (FLASHBACK)

Ava, Anna, Hannah and Kati stop at the front door of A DRESSMAKER'S SHOP.

ANNA

In front of the cinema at seven. And see if you can steal some of your mom's cigarettes.

AVA

Anna! It's bad enough I'm lying to her.

HANNAH

What are you wearing?

**A17**A

Something sexy I suppose.

ANNA

I'm wearing something that shows off my boobs.

Ava and her "look" for Anna. Now to Hannah.

AVA

Hannah?

HANNAH

I don't know. I'll probably borrow something from my sister.

AVA

Kati?

KATT

I'm not sure. I can't decide. Now remember the plan. Ava is at my house. I'm with Ava at Hannah's. Anna where'd you tell your mom you're staying?

ANNA

I didn't. My parents are in the country for the weekend. They think I'm at home with my grandma. I'll just sneak out after she gets into the vodka.

AVA

If my mom ever finds out- she'll kill all of us-

Kisses goodbye as Ava disappears inside the Dressmaker's Shop.

INT. DRESS SHOP - SAME

Ava's mother Elizabet runs a hem under a sewing machine. Ava crosses behind her mother and kisses her cheek. Her mother leans her cheek back as she pulls on her cigarette. Back to the hem. English.

AVA

Busy today?

ELIZABET

Mmmm- You know the Rostovitch boy? The redhead? He's to be married the first of the month.

AVA

But he's so young.

ELIZABET

Mmmm-

Ava turns her way to the stairs which lead to their apartment upstairs. Elizabet calls.

ELIZABET (cont'd)

What are your plans tonight?

AVA

The cinema at 7. Then, the night at Kati's. Remember, I told you?

Elizabet nods. She remembers. Back to the hem.

INT. BEDROOM - LATER THAT NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

Ava is dressed to go out. She crosses for the vanity in her bedroom. The finishing touch. She reaches for a chain and clips it around her neck. On the chain is the BLACK ONYX RING Kolya gave her some 2 years ago.

EXT. STREET - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

Foot traffic is heavy. It's Friday night. Moving through the crowd is Hannah and Anna. They wear high leather boots, tight fitting leggings, tight sweaters. Faces completely made up. Hair in long curls. The 17 year old girls transformed. Hot. Sexy. Seductive. 17 going on 30.

THE CINEMA

Ava and Kati wait in more innocent looks. Leggings, T-shirts and jackets. Anna crosses triumphantly with a pack of cigarettes. Ava opens her mouth with shock.

EXT. BELGRADE, SERBIA - NIGHT (PRESENT)

Over picture: "Belgrade."

A CLOCK TOWER

"10:22PM"

INT. TRAIN STATION - SAME

Foot traffic through frame. Kolya moves from the platform and through the foot traffic with his duffle.

INT. TRAIN STATION BATHROOM - NIGHT

A familiar face is in a stall. GUGARIN, the man who arrested Alexie Kukov in 1988 just before the General was assassinated. He sits on the commode fully dressed. In his hands he holds a PIECE OF PUTTY which he presses a LOCKER KEY into. He then tacks the putty and key under the toilet.

EXT. TRAIN STATION - NIGHT

Kolya steps out of the station and down the steps. Waiting at the curb is a familiar face.

HANS LEHMANN

The man in the hotel who aided Kolya in the assassination of General Kukov. He stands beside a dark sedan. Kolya silently reaches the car. Lehmann slides behind the wheel as Kolya climbs into the passenger seat.

INT. SURVEILLANCE VAN - SAME

INSIDE A LONG LENS

As it watches the sedan pull into the street.

INT. BUS STATION - NIGHT

Standing at the counter for "left luggage" is a third face we remember. Allure, the beautiful spy who also aided Kolya in the opening assassination. She wears an army jacket, jeans and jackboots. Still hot when dressed down. She slides a CANVAS BAG across to a man behind the counter. She takes the claim ticket and turns her walk into the bus station crowd.

Crossing for Allure is a MAN. Again we've seen this face as well. It is IVANOV. The man with Gugarin who arrested Alexie Kukov before his brother, the General, was killed. Allure's HAND surreptitiously hands off the claim ticket to Ivanov.

EXT. BUS STATION - NIGHT

Allure steps into the night.

INT. SURVEILLANCE VAN - SAME

Again we are inside a long lens as Lehmann guides the dark sedan to the curb. Allure crosses into the lens and climbs into the backseat of the sedan.

EXT. COFFEE HOUSE - NIGHT

Laughing with friends in front of the coffee house are Denys Dragovic and Z. The two young Men who made contact with and invited Ava and friends to the club in Kiev.

INT. CAR - SAME

Watching Denys and Z are two more familiar faces. ALEKSEEV and KARIN, the men who delivered the case and questioned General Kukov in the restaurant where he was assassinated. Kolya is not alone in Belgrade.

INT. SEDAN - NIGHT

Allure runs an EARPIECE through her sleeve and into her ear. Lehmann guides the car through traffic and stops two cars deep at a light. He and Kolya also wear an EARPIECES. Several BUMS cross into the waiting traffic and begin washing windows. Rags of water wipe at windshields.

THE SEDAN

As a Bum runs his rag over the passenger side windshield. Kolya lowers his window with some change.

THE BUMS HAND

Takes the change as he surreptitiously hands Kolya a KEY. The EARPIECE in the Bum's ear visible to us. It is SIDOROV, Pavil's second in command. The agent in surveillance headquarters.

INT. SURVEILLANCE VAN - SAME

As they spy the Bum/Sidorov finishing the window. Light green. The Sedan into traffic.

EXT. MEAT PACKING PLANT - NIGHT

The Sedan pulls into the dimly lit lot in front of the plant.

INT. MEAT PACKING WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

Slabs of pigs on hooks hang from the ceiling. The porcelain tiled walls and concrete floors have been freshly hosed down with water.

KOLYA, ALLURE AND LEHMANN

Move past the carcasses to find the smiling face of HERMANN THE GERMAN, 30. Hermann is both charming and confident. He loves to smile. He crosses center of the group and gives a short bow to each.

# **HERMANN**

Kolya, Hans, my dear Allure- alas I had wished for better circumstance when next we would meet. Please this way.

Hermann turns. The trio follows.

INT. SURVEILLANCE VAN - NIGHT

The lens watches the lone Sedan in the dim light of the parking lot. They wait. Not a soul in sight.

INT. MEAT PACKING PLANT - NIGHT

TWO MEN

Heavily tattooed, stand in bloodstained butchers uniforms. The first man's face is tattooed like a snake. This is BLACK MAMBA. On the other side of the trunk is COPPERHEAD with his albino skin and wild thatch of red hair.

A REFRIGERATION TRUCK

Is backed into the plant. Pig carcasses hang.

KOLYA

Is alone in the truck.

INSIDE THE TRUCK

In between the carcasses are trunks. Each filled with a cache of weapons and supplies. Grenade launchers. 50 caliber machine guns. AK-47s. Handguns. Rifles. Kevlar jackets. Belts of ammunition. Knives.

KOLYA

Pulls weapons from the trunks. He inspects. What he likes he hands to Allure who sets them in an empty army issue trunk on a stainless steal counter.

Hermann smiles to Lehmann. He teases.

HERMANN

You know Hans of the eight or so languages you speak you would have thought one would have been Turkish. The Ottomans were an empire at one time.

HANS

The operative word is "was".

Lehmann stares at the man with the snake tattoo.

LEHMANN

Hermann, what does the man with the snake face call himself?

HERMANN

Black Mamba.

A slow smile from Lehmann.

LEHMANN

Ask him.

Hermann turns to Copperhead with Lehmann's observation. Perfect Turkish. The suggestion is met with a stare at first and then Mamba and Copperhead look at each other. A wheezing laugh from Mamba. A silent smile and meth addict nod from Copperhead.

Angle Allure, as she checks the action and sight on a .45. Copperhead watches Allure and responds in Turkish. Hermann smiles.

Lehmann (cont'd)

What did he say?

HERMANN

He asks that if his face were tattooed would the hot army girl fuck him?

Kolya leaps from the back of the truck. His hands holding three kevlar jackets. Tossed to Allure and Lehmann. He turns to Hermann. He points to the trunk of weapons he's chosen. CONTINUED: (2)

KOLYA

How much for the night?

Hermann turns to Mamba and Copperhead. His Turkish request is answered by Mamba and Copperhead's "look" and response. Hermann translates.

HERMANN

They say the guns are for sale- not to rent.

KOLYA

Tell them I don't wish to buy them.

Hermann translates Kolya's request. More shaking heads.

KOLYA (cont'd)

Tell them I will leave them here- before the sun comes up-

Hermann again translates. Mamba and Copperhead respond with rolling Turkish. Heads shaking tell us they aren't interested in renting the guns.

KOLYA

Frustrated leans on the stainless steel counter. His GRIM REAPER and other tattoos exposed to Mamba.

ANGLE MAMBA

He stops short. His eyes stare at Kolya's tattoo. Now his other tattoos. He get's the picture. Mamba leans to Copperhead and whispers into his ear. Copperhead stares.

Mamba and Copperhead cross cautiously to Hermann. Eyes trying not to focus on Kolya. A private Turkish moment between the trio. Then:

**HERMANN** 

Turns out the guns are for rent.

Kolya reaches into his jacket and rolls a BRICK OF CASH onto the counter. He turns back to the guns. Mamba and Copperhead motion to Hermann. There's a question they'd like him to ask.

LEHMANN

Is there a problem?

Hermann turns to Lehmann.

HERMANN

They are wondering if you could drop the guns somewhere else other than here.

CONTINUED: (3)

Allure turns to the odd request.

ALLURE

Why?

Hermann's look is off Kolya.

HERMANN

They saw his tattoo- they're afraid he'll get blood everywhere.

Lehmann actually laughs. A whisper for Lehmann and Allure.

HERMANN (cont'd)

And now I think the Executioner might like to be re-united with his sword.

Hermann turns and disappears for a moment. He returns with a small case. He crosses reverently and sets the case on the butchers block. Hermann straightens and looks to Lehmann.

HERMANN (cont'd)

Now, remember the great lengths Hermann has gone to for this "re-union". I have "borrowed" said relic from a very dangerous man- some would say steal but I would say borrow as said relic was not this dangerous man's in first place- My goal? Is to sell relic to a different dangerous man. But when I heard of "the hunting party" I believe that the irony of re-uniting the sword with the Executioner was worth- how do I say? The wait of monetary reward. So my request is simple- as arranged- relic to be reunited with "broker", me- in Prague. One week from today.

LEHMANN

As agreed.

Hermann bows.

HERMANN

Thank you for your understanding.

Hermann reverently opens the latches on the case, opening it to reveal:

THE GUN - THE COLT .45 - THE GRIM REAPER - THE VELVET CASING - BULLETS in cutouts. Very tidy.

Kolya crosses. Unaware of the gun. He stops short as he sees the COLT. He stares.

CONTINUED: (4)

ALLURE

Pavil. Before he...

LEHMANN

It seemed appropriate to the task.

Kolya crosses to "The Gun". He stares at the weapon that exacts revenge. His hand brushes the grip. His fingers over the slugs.

HERMANN

As requested. Nine pigs to slaughter. Nine bullets.

Kolya in his own world reverently pulls the gun from its case.

MAMBA AND COPPERHEAD

Stare at Kolya and gun. Kolya reverently puts the gun to bed. They turn to Hermann with Turkish. Now broken English.

MAMBO

Nine bullets? Nine pigs?

Copperhead's pigeon English.

COPPERHEAD

(a prodding smile)

But if he miss?

Lehmann smiles.

LEHMANN

The Assassin does not miss.

Hermann turns to the gun brokers. He shakes his head as if to echo: "The Assassin definitely does not miss."

INT. OFFICE - NIGHT

A MONITOR

We watch the Sedan through the long lens. Camera pulls slowly back to reveal a monitor. Watching the surveillance is a familiar face from one of the photographs Pavil gave Kolya before he was shot. CHECHIC', The Belgrade "mob boss". He watches the Sedan with his men.

The Sedan turns a corner and makes its way toward the front of a Nightclub and a group of men in front.

AN OFFICE WINDOW

As Chechic''s Man stares down to the street. There he sees the Sedan approaching the Nightclub. The very nightclub Chechic' watches on the monitor. The Man at the window turns to Chechic'. A nod.

EXT. NIGHTCLUB - NIGHT

Mobsters stand and smoke at the door. The Sedan pulls to a stop. A MOBSTER crosses to Lehmann's open window. Serbian, subtitled here.

MOBSTER

All weapons to be left in the car. Understand?

Lehmann nods yes. The mobster points to a space. Lehmann navigates the car to a stop.

Kolya, Lehmann and Allure climb into the night. All business. The Mobster leads them to the door and Chechic's CAPO.

Mobsters catch sight of Kolya as he moves next to Allure. Eyes turn. They know exactly who he is. Lehmann pulls a card from his jacket and hands it to the Capo. Lehmann speaks in perfect Serbian. Subtitled here.

# LEHMANN

Have one of your men sent to the train station. There is a block of pay phones in the Northeast corner. Have him wait there for our call.

The Capo turns to the escort mobster. Card handed to him. He heard the instruction first hand. Off he goes.

The tension at the door is heavy. Uneasy eyes look the other over.

Allure's eyes catch a Mobster as he rolls a toothpick through his lascivious smile. No eye contact from TOOTHPICK. He just stares at Allure's body. Allure's cold stare catches Toothpick's eye. Gone is his "smile".

A look from Capo says search Kolya, Allure and Lehmann.

Bodies cross to pat them down. Toothpick gladly crosses for Allure. She reacts defiantly. Her eyes on Toothpick.

ALLURE

Not you. Do I look like lesbian? This body is for men only.

Capo's look is to the man behind the emasculated Toothpick. Bodies searched. Nothing. The door opens to Kolya, Allure and Lehmann.

INT. NIGHTCLUB BATHROOM - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

Ava, Kati, Anna and Hannah giggle as they put make-up on in front of the mirror. Techno music pounds from behind walls.

ANNA

He's a Scorpio.

HANNAH

And the blonde?

ANNA

Pisces. Ava I told him it is your birthday on Sunday. He wants to buy you a bottle of champagne.

Hannah giggles and sort of burps.

HANNAH

I love champagne.

KATI

Why couldn't you have told him it was my birthday?

ANNA

Cause he likes Ava. His name is Goran but he calls himself "Z".

HANNAH

Z?

KATI

Like the letter? Why?

ANNA

I don't know. He's from Croatia. Maybe that's what they do there.

HANNAH

Ava, how are you going to introduce your mother to a letter?

Ava smiles.

AVA

I'm not introducing anyone to my mother.

KATT

So the Scorpio?

ANNA

Hands off Denys. He's mine.

INT. NIGHTCLUB - LATER (FLASHBACK)

Woman and men crowd the bar. In the corner a group surrounds a few bottles of champagne. Vodka with another group.

A LOUNGE

Couches, vodka, champagne and cigarettes. Ava is alone with Denys.

DENYS

Fuck, you're beautiful. The most beautiful girl in the club.

A lighter to his cigarette.

AVA

What about Anna?

Denys' look is to the dancefloor. Anna, Kati and Hannah dance with "Z" and others. The shy NENO tries to fit in, he awkwardly stares from a corner.

DENYS

She's good- but more for Z. My tastes are more refined.

Denys offer a cigarette to Ava. She smiles sheepishly as she declines. Now re-filling her champagne glass.

DENYS (cont'd)

So Sunday is your birthday. How old are you?

AVA

How old do I look?

**DENYS** 

I don't know Twenty four? Twenty five?

Ava blushes.

DENYS (cont'd)

Well?

AVA

Twenty. Like Anna.

(Embracing her story)

We are at University together.

DENYS

Yeah? What is it you study?

Ava likes the attention the older Denys seems to shower. She leans in with new confidence.

AVA

The Ballet.

**DENYS** 

A dancer? No shit?

INT. OFFICE - NIGHT

Kolya, Allure and Lehmann stand in front of a desk behind which is seated the Serbian Chechic', 50. Bald, square and overweight. An enormous SCAR from ear to ear looks like a smile. Hulking bodyguards on either side. Chechic' speaks English to Kolya.

CHECHIC'

I was told you were coming alone.

Kolya looks off Lehmann and Allure.

KOLYA

He translates, she navigates.

Chechic' smiles as he stands and crosses to the wet bar.

CHECHIC'

The irony of "The Assassin" who pays to kill. Let me ask you? What stops me from killing you here now. Taking the million that is on your head?

Kolya stares.

KOLYA

Greed.

Chechic' pours vodka into a glass.

CHECHIC'

Greed?

KOLYA

Somewhere in this city is one million dollars that I will pay to you to kill the pigs who attacked my daughter. One hundred a fifty thousand US dollars I will pay just for the privilege of this meeting.

Kolya nods to Lehmann. Lehmann crosses to Chechic''s Capo. He hands over a card. Serbian.

LEHMANN

Call this number with these instructions.

The Capo looks to Chechic' who nods. Capo crosses to a phone.

KOLYA

At the conclusion of one hour an additional one hundred fifty thousand dollars. After two hours? If all goes as planned. Two hundred thousand. When my daughter is delivered to me and is safely away- five hundred thousand US dollars.

CHECHTC'

And then what stops me from killing you?

KOLYA

Nothing. I will gladly trade my life for my daughter.

Chechic' smiles. A sip of vodka.

CHECHIC'

And how are you so sure I can stop anyone else from killing you on this "hunt"?

KOLYA

Again, greed. Is that not why you have us under surveillance?

CHECHIC'

Surveillance?

KOLYA

I am a killer. Trained by KGB. You don't think I know when I'm being followed? You will keep us alive until my daughter is safe- for greed and nothing else.

INT. TRAIN STATION - NIGHT

The MOBSTER sent to the Train Station crosses from a pay phone and into the adjacent bathroom.

INT. TRAIN STATION BATHROOM - NIGHT

The Mobster crosses into a stall.

THE TOILET

The Mobster reaches under and pulls the puddy and KEY placed by Gugarin free.

EXT. NIGHTCLUB - NIGHT

A large group at the door. Denys BMW pulls into frame. He pulls close to the club into a VIP spot. He and Z laugh as they climb into the night. Waiting outside the door is young Neno. He crosses to Denys and Z eager to be "one of the boys". Denys leads Z and Neno around the crowd waiting to get in. A laugh shared with the large men at the door. Denys instructs that young Neno is with him. Inside they go. Obviously VIP's themselves.

A CAR

Rolls slowly into frame.

INT. CAR - SAME

Kolya's allies Alekseev and Karin. Eyes watching Denys, Z and Neno.

EXT. STREET CORNER - NIGHT

Waiting at the corner is Kolya ally Sidorov. A car slows to the curb. Sidorov checks his surroundings and climbs into the back seat.

INT. CAR - SAME

Kolya's allies Gugarin and Ivanov in the front seat. The men from the train station and bus station.

INT. OFFICE - NIGHT

Silence in the office. They wait for the phone to ring. Nothing. Chechic' pours another drink at the bar.

CHECHIC'

And this money? If it somehow fails to materialize?

KOLYA

Feel free to bite.

LEHMANN

We bite back.

Chechic' smiles.

CHECHIC'

But you are unarmed.

ALLURE

You think we need a gun to kill you?

Suddenly, the phone rings. His nod is for his Capo who answers the phone.

INT. TRAIN STATION / PHONE BLOCK - SAME

The Mobster calls from a pay phone. A BAG opened at his side. Inside are bricks of US hundred dollar bills.

INT. OFFICE - SAME

Chechic' smiles at Kolya.

CHECHIC'

Now I have one million one hundred and fifty thousand.

KOLYA

And there is eight hundred and fifty thousand more somewhere in this city. If all goes as planned? The greedy pig will have two million.

Chechic's smile turns to a locked jaw. He's in charge here and he doesn't like being dressed down by Kolya.

CHECHTC'

Don't get insolent with me! I will kill you where you stand!

LEHMANN

Be careful.

Allure turns to Lehmann.

ATITURE

I thought all fat men were jolly men?

LEHMANN

Maybe that's why they gave him the scar. To remind him to smile.

Kolya reaches into his pocket. The KEY given to him by Sidorov, the window washing bum, is set in front of Chechic'.

KOLYA

This is the key to the second payment. One hour. One hundred a fifty thousand US.

Chechic' gathers himself and reaches for the key. Defiant eyes to Kolya.

CHECHIC'

I am curious. Two hours? How is it you will find your trophies in such a big forest?

LEHMANN

It's not our first time at the rodeo.

CHECHIC'

After two hours, where will I pick up the third payment?

KOLYA

The key you hold, the bag's right pocket. Inside there is a claim check. Like the second payment we will call with direction.

Another nod to Chechic's capo. A card onto the desk.

CHECHIC''

After you call in the location of the third payment? I tell you where to pick up your daughter.

Lehmann reaches for the card. Chechic's defiant look reaches for a clock on a shelf.

INSERT CLOCK

"12:55 AM"

The hands are physically moved to 1AM by Chechic'.

BACK TO SCENE

As Chechic' looks to Kolya.

CHECHIC'

What are you waiting for? Let the killing begin.

Kolya's eyes stare at Chechic'. A dark, cold stare. Kolya coolly turns. Lehmann and Allure follow.

INT. SEDAN - NIGHT

Lehmann navigates the car into traffic.

INSERT DIGITAL CLOCK

It reads: "12:59AM" It clicks to "1AM". Lehmann's hands poke a single button.

A PROGRAMMED TIMER

Replaces the clock. "2:00.00" Counting down. "1:59.59"

A NEW ANGLE

Allure is in the backseat. A seat back / plug pulled free and Allure has pulled the army issue trunk of weapons halfway into the back seat. She pulls a .45, a large knife, ammunition into view. Guns handed up the Kolya. The team begins to arm themselves.

INT. SURVEILLANCE VAN - SAME

The familiar long lens follows as the Sedan navigates traffic.

INT. OFFICE - SAME

Chechic' and his men. Eyes on the monitor.

EXT. MEAT PACKING PLANT - NIGHT

Sidorov, Gugarin and Ivanov stand behind the open trunk of their Sedan. Herman the German is there with Copperhead and Black Mamba. Guns are loaded into the trunk.

INT. CAR - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

Denys is behind the wheel. In the passenger seat is "Z". In the back seat is Neno with Ava, Anna, Kati' and Hannah. The girls are passed out. Drugged. Suddenly, Anna begins to vomit.

NENO

Denys-? Denys!?

Denys and Z look back.

**DENYS** 

What's wrong?

 $\mathbf{Z}$ 

Ah shit- she's fucking throwing up.

Denys looks to pull the car over.

DENYS

I just had the goddammed thing detailed! Neno you dumb fuck- how many did you give her?

NENO

Just the one. Like you said.

Z

It's the champagne. Bitch drank enough to kill her.

Denys pulls the car into an alleyway.

EXT. ALLEY/ INT. CAR - SAME

Denys and Z climb into the night. Back door opened. Z coils at the sight and smell.

 $\mathbf{Z}$ 

Jesus Christ!!

**DENYS** 

(To Neno)

Use her fucking sweater to clean it up!

Neno doesn't look nearly as comfortable as the other two.

7.

It's all over the other one's hair.

Denys pulls Anna's comatose body out of the car and throws her body to the ground. Now Kati' and her vomit stained hair is pulled from the car. He looks to Z.

DENYS

Leave them by the garbage can-

Z crosses and drags Anna to a dumpster. He leans her body against it. He crosses for Kati'. Suddenly, Neno panics from inside the car.

NENO

Ah no- Denys no-! God no!

Denys leans in the car.

DENYS

What the fuck!?

NENO

SHE'S CUT! SHE'S BLEEDING EVERYWHERE!! I didn't do it- Denys I swear-

Denys' eyes find Hannah and "blood". Her white jeans bloodied at the crotch. Z races into frame.

Z

What!?

**DENYS** 

She's having her fucking period! FUCK!!

Denys leans in and pulls Hannah into the night. He drops her at Z's feet.

DENYS (cont'd)

Put her with the other ones.

Z reaches down for Hannah. Denys reaches in for Hannah's jacket and mops his seat. Neno looks off Ava.

NENO

What are you going do with her?

DENYS

What do you think "we're" going to do with her?

Denys leans into the front seat and pops the trunk open. He calls to Neno.

DENYS (cont'd)

What the fuck's wrong with you? Put her in the trunk.

Neno freezes. Denys pushes him out of the way and drags Ava up and into the trunk.

EXT. ALLEY - MOMENTS LATER

As the car pulls out of frame leaving the bodies of Anna, Kati' and Hannah.

INT. BMW - SAME

Neno, alone in the back seat. His eyes look back at the girls in the alley. Fear and regret.

EXT. COUNTRYSIDE - NIGHT

As Denys' car races.

EXT. BORDER CROSSING - LATER THAT NIGHT

DENYS' BMW

Is parked in the dark a safe distance from the dimly lit border. Denys, Z and Neno stand at the cars trunk.

NENO

Denys but you just can't-

7.

Shut the fuck up.

DENYS

Neno, you want to make some money or not? Huh? Or do you wanna end up like everyone else in your family? This is what we do.

Crossing from a sedan are two more familiar faces from Kolya's photographs. Serbian Secret Police Zoric' and Petrovic'. The tall Zoric' moves ahead of the stocky Petrovic'.

THE TRUNK

Denys opens the trunk to reveal Ava's passed out body. Zoric''s flashlight illuminates Ava.

ZORIC'

I thought you said there was four?

**DENYS** 

We hit a little glitch.

A NEW ANGLE

Reveals another piece to the puzzle. The haggard ANNA LUIKIN crosses with her nurses bag. Again, familiar from the surreptitious photographs. Her hand holds a syringe. She crosses through the group and glances into the trunk. Now to the syringe. Eyes watch the ritual that has been performed a thousand times before.

A cotton ball and the needle injected into Ava's arm. A beat and Ava's eyes shoot open with a gasp. As if she'd just come up from underwater for air.

Ava's eyes fight to adjust to the bright flashlight. Anna Luikin is prepping a second syringe only to be stopped by Zoric'.

ZORIC'

Not yet.

An evil stare.

ZORIC'

I want her lucid.

Zoric' turns to Denys.

ZORIC'

Put her in the car.

Denys motions to Z who reaches into the boot and pulls the groggy Ava into the cold night. Neno stares.

INT. SEDAN - NIGHT (PRESENT)

THE DIGITAL TIMER reads: "1:44.30" It counts down.

OUT THE WINDSHIELD

We see the HEADLIGHTS FLASH on Alekseev and Karin's car. Lehmann turns his lights off as Alekseev pulls his car off in another direction.

A NEW ANGLE

Allure checks the action on a .45. A clip loaded. The gun laid on the photograph of Denys, Z and Neno. She reaches for a knife. Poked into her jackboot.

Lehmann straps the Kevlar jacket around his chest.

KOLYA

Silently stares at a picture of Ava. "The Gun", sits on his lap. Kolya appears almost paralyzed. Both Lehmann and Allure turn their look to Kolya. They wait. Finally, the silence is broken by Allure.

**ALLURE** 

Kolya?

Suddenly, Kolya is back to life. Ava's picture into his shirt pocket. He pulls the Colt from the case. Now THREE BULLETS from the cutouts. Bullets into his coat pocket. He snaps the cylinder open and looks through the sight. Cylinder snapped back into place. Gun poked into his jacket. He reaches for the door.

KOLYA

Let's go.

EXT. SEDAN - SAME

As Kolya, Lehmann and Allure cross through the night. Their collective eyes look down the street and for the nightclub.

INT. NIGHTCLUB - NIGHT

THE DANCE FLOOR

Techno. Bodies leap. Bodies grind.

THE VIP SECTION

Denys holds court. Like a young mob boss he commands the group. Girls all around. Z looks smug and confident. Neno does his best to play the part.

INT. NIGHTCLUB / HALLWAY - NIGHT

Kolya leads Allure and Lehmann through the club. Music growing louder and louder as the hunt nears the dance floor.

INT. NIGHTCLUB / DANCE FLOOR / VIP SECTION - NIGHT

(Intercut As Necessary)

Denys throws a wad of money at a beautiful girl who dances in front of him. He smiles broadly as cash rains. His hand waves down a waitress for another bottle of vodka. Z is off a coke mirror which is handed to Denys. Neno takes a small swig from a champagne bottle. He coughs. Life is good for the trio. For now.

Kolya, Allure and Lehmann cross to the periphery of the dance floor. Their eyes search the crowd. Eyes turn in all directions. Allure's finger points to the VIP section. She's spotted them.

ATITURE

There.

Kolya and Lehmann turn their eyes. Denys, Z and Neno in their sights. Kolya crosses with Allure and Lehmann close behind.

KOLYA

His eyes on the three. His hand reaches into his shirt pocket. He pulls free the photograph of Ava. Kolya crosses front of Denys and Z. Silence. Ava's picture out for them to see. He stares coldly.

KOLYA

Do you know this girl?

Denys' cocky smile. His smiling face looks to Z.

**DENYS** 

Should I?

KOLYA

Her name is Ava.

Z starts to laugh. Too high not to.

DENYS

What? Are you her father or something?

Kolya's stare.

KOLYA

Yes. She is my daughter.

Denys stares at Kolya. Then, his cold response.

DENYS

So?

Kolya deftly and effortlessly reaches into his jacket with his right hand while reaching into his jacket pocket with his left. The Colt pulled free and the cylinder snapped open. Slug inserted and cylinder slapped back. Kolya turns to Denys. Gun raised. BANG. A single bullet into Denys' forehead.

The crack of the Colt has every eye in the room turned. Shock followed by screams. Bodies scramble. Other mobsters spin to Kolya, Allure and Lehmann. Hands reach for guns. Lehmann and Allure stand on either side of Kolya. Guns raised. Lehmann yells in Serbian, subtitled here.

# LEHMANN

Don't anybody move!! Understand!? Nobody move!

Music blares but nobody is dancing. Z and Neno are paralyzed with fear. As Kolya opens the cylinder the casing falls. He reaches into his pocket for another slug. Z and Neno suddenly race for their lives. Z doesn't get very far. Lehmann kicks him to the ground.

Neno is more fortunate. His escape route is free of obstruction. Allure watches Neno run.

ALLURE

I got him.

Allure races after Neno.

Kolya crosses to the cowering Z. Gun raised. BANG. A single shot to Z's head. The casing falls. Kolya coolly turns and walks to the exit Neno raced through. Lehmann walks behind Kolya as cover. Gun raised. His eyes find a gangster with his hand hidden by his jacket. He has a gun. Lehmann stares him in the eye. Serbian.

LEHMANN

Don't be a hero. You have no idea who you're dealing with.

INT. NIGHTCLUB - NIGHT

Neno races up a set of stairs. He climbs higher and higher to the top of the club. Fear. His eyes look back. Allure gaining ground.

Neno races along a catwalk balcony above the dance floor and for a TOILET. Allure is right on his tail. We see Kolya and Lehmann rising fast up the stairs.

INT. TOILET - SAME

Neno stumbles inside. He slams the door shut and locks it just as Allure arrives.

EXT. TOILET - SAME

Allure talks into the microphone just inside the collar of her jacket.

ALLURE

I got him. Top of the stairs. Northern corner. He's in the toilet.

INT. TOILET - NIGHT

Neno lays in the corner. He is curled up. He cries. Suddenly, the door is kicked open. Kolya, Lehmann and Allure stand at the door. Kolya steps in. "The Gun" raised. His eyes on the cowering Neno. Then, urine begins to puddle under the crying boy. Kolya stares.

KOLYA

How old are you?

Nothing from the crying boy.

LEHMANN

Do you speak English?
(Off Neno's nod)
He asked how old you are?

Neno's eyes turn to Kolya.

NENO

I turn seventeen next month.

A beat and Kolya slips the Gun inside his jacket. He crosses and grabs Neno by the arm. He raises him up.

KOLYA

Get up.

Kolya looks to Lehmann who crosses. Lehmann has the picture of Yugoslavian Secret Police Zoric' and Petrovic'.

LEHMANN

These men, do you know how to find them?

Neno's body shakes as he nods 'yes".

EXT. STOREFRONT BROTHEL - NIGHT

A SIGN advertises a PEEP SHOW.

INT. BROTHEL - SAME

A SEEDY MAN stands at an open the door which leads into the brothel proper. His hand wrapped tightly around the arm of a young girl in a silk robe. Stepping through the door are Gugarin, Ivanov and Sidorov. The seedy man slaps the girl. Serbian, subtitled.

SEEDY MAN

Not another whimper from you. Understand? You do as your told.

The young girl fights not to cry. The Seedy Man releases her from his grip as he notices Gugarin, Ivanov and Sidorov. He pushes the girl inside the door and closes it. Quickly pulling himself together. English.

SEEDY MAN (cont'd)

Yes gentlemen, coming in please. How may I be of assist tonight. Girls, a show- a little fucky sucky?

Gugarin crosses front and center.

GUGARIN

We're looking for a girl.

SEEDY MAN

To the right place you have arrived. Everything we have. Young girls, old girls-

GUGARIN

A young girl.

SEEDY MAN

Oh, then is tonight a lucky night- I have, upstairs locked in room nice young girl. 15 years-

Suddenly, Ivanov spins with the phone. The chord wrapped around the seedy Man's neck. Ivanov pulls hard. Sidorov crosses with a picture of Ava.

SIDOROV

This girl. We are looking for this girl.

The Seedy Man chokes as he responds.

SEEDY MAN

I never seen her-

Sidorov nods to Ivanov and Gugarin. Phone slammed to the counter next to Seedy MAN. Gugarin and Ivanov kick open the door to the Brothel. The cross inside. Screams from girls as men race through the shadows.

SIDOROV

If we find her here- I will cut your head off and put it on a stick.

Sidorov throws a pen and pad of paper at the seedy man.

SIDOROV (cont'd)

This place. Run by Chechic'?

The terrified nod of the Seedy Man.

SIDOROV (cont'd)

You will list all places like this. Anywhere the girls are kept. What hand do you write with?

The terrified man shakes as he responds.

SEEDY MAN

My right-

Sidorov reaches for the phone on the counter.

SIDOROV

Give me your left.

Sidorov pulls the terrified Seedy Man's left hand onto the counter. Phone raised, he smashes his left hand. Again phone raised. Hand crushed.

EXT. STREET / A CAR - NIGHT

A car is parked at the curb. It is Alekseev's car. Lights on, engine running. Suddenly, the passenger side of the windshield smashes from inside. As if someone was trying to kick it out from inside.

INT. CAR - SAME

Kolya's former KGB team members Alekseev and Karin are in the car. Alekseev behind the wheel and Karin in the backseat. Karin has a belt wrapped around the neck of a MAN in the passenger seat. He pulls as the Man kicks and fights. Alekseev rolls from behind the steering wheel. He leans in. His forearm pins the man.

ALEKSEEV

This is the place I can find a thirteen year old girl!? Yes pig!?

Picture of Ava in his face.

ALEKSEEV (cont'd)

This girl? Do you know this girl?

INT. BROTHEL - NIGHT

Two Men watch porn on a TV in a storefront Brothel. Eyes to a bank of security monitors. Girls in a club. Girls in a hallway. Suddenly, A BODY crashes through the glass from outside. Thrown through. It is the Driver Karin was strangling in the car. He bleeds as he crawls through the glass. Stepping through the fallen storefront window is Karin and Alekseev. Picture out as Alekseev kicks one of the men to the ground. Karin has the other.

**ALEKSEEV** 

We're looking for this girl.

INT. SEDAN - NIGHT

THE DIGITAL TIMER reads: 1:31.33. Counting down.

EXT. SEDAN / A PHONE BOOTH - NIGHT

Kolya, Allure and Lehmann stand between the sedan and a phone booth. Eyes watch Neno through the booths open door. His pants soaked with urine. Neno is on the phone.

NENO

(Into the receiver)
Yes...Mr. Zoric'- it's Neno. Yes. I am
calling for Denys-? We have some
girls...three. Yes I know it- by the
river.

EXT. SERBIAN BORDER CHECK - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

Serbian Secret Policemen Zoric' and Petrovic' show their badges to the guard. In the back of the sedan is the haggard Anna Luikin and Ava who shakes nervously. Ava's eyes look through the glass at the bright lights and barbed wire fencing. She doesn't cry- too afraid to cry.

INT. SEDAN - SAME

We are close on Ava as the guard waves the sedan through the gate. Her hands hold tight to:

THE BLACK ONYX RING

Her father's ring, which hangs by a chain from her neck.

EXT. BORDER DETENTION CENTER - NIGHT

The police sedan is alone in front.

INT. DETENTION CENTER - SAME

AN OBSERVATION ROOM

Anna Luikin sits quietly behind a two way mirror. She slowly turns a small spoon through a Turkish coffee. Now a splash of vodka into the coffee. Back to the turning spoon.

INT. HALLWAY - SAME

As Zoric' and Petrovic' walk Ava through the dark hallway and for a door. Door opened and Ava pulled aggressively inside.

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM / TWO WAY MIRROR - SAME

INTERCUT AS NECESSARY

Anna Luikin coldly stirs her vodka/coffee. Her eyes watch Zoric' as he pushes Ava onto the table.

Zoric' reaches for his belt and undoes his pant. Ava begins to plead.

AVA

No, no,-no- please-- no.

Ava holds tight to the ring Kolya gave her. Zoric' looks to Ava's trembling hand and ring.

ZORIC'

What is it you have there?

Zoric' reaches in and rips the ring free. Ava screams. She attacks Zoric' to retrieve the ring. Zoric' corrals Ava. She kicks and fights. Zoric' turns to Petrovic'. Serbian, subtitled here.

Zoric' (cont'd)

Hold her down-

AVA

GIVE IT BACK!!! GIVE IT!-

INT. POLICE STATION / CLOSED CIRCUIT CAMERA ROOM - SAME

The MONITORS. On which we see the stop motion images of Ava's rape. The very images given to Kolya by Pavil.

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM - LATER (FLASHBACK)

Zoric', shirt undone, fits the ring on different fingers. Petrovic' tucks his shirt into his pants and buckles his belt. Ava stares from the floor in the corner. Emotionless. Standing over her is Anna Luikin with a prepped needle. Cotton on her inner arm.

ANNA LUIKIN

This will help you sleep.

She injects Ava.

INT. CAR - NIGHT (PRESENT)

We are close on a hand on the steering wheel. It wears the Onyx Ring given to Ava by Kolya.

A new angle. Zoric' at the wheel. He and Petrovic talk casually. Serbian, subtitled here.

PETROVIC'

Look, if there is a red head this time you have to let me go first. You know I've always wanted to pop a red head.

ZORIC'

Tired of my sperm on your dick? You should be grateful I let you have a try at all-

A new angle. Through the windshield we see Neno. He stands alone next to an old church gate which leads to a graveyard. The gate is wide enough for a car to drive through.

EXT. CHURCH - NIGHT

Zoric' navigates the sedan next to Neno. Window down he addresses Neno. English.

ZORIC'

Where is Denys?

NENO

They're in back. The courtyard. Denys said to go right through.

ZORIC'

Denys said? Is that so? Now Denys gives me orders?

NENO

One of the girls is sick. They are cleaning her for you.

Zoric' smiles. He looks to Petrovic' who leans into the light.

PETROVIC'

They clean her? I would think that would be the job of a pissant like you-

NENO

My stomach- I-

Zoric' notices Neno trembling.

ZORTC'

Why do you shake?

A beat.

NENO

I'm cold...

Petrovic' laughs.

PETROVIC'

Probably because you pissed yourself.

ZORIC'

You're cold? Your stomach bothers you? You're like a bitch. Maybe I put you in the trunk and take you to whore- would you like that?

Neno can't talk. He shakes his head "no". Zoric' laughs at the boy and pulls the car through the gate.

Leaning out of the shadows, not more than a few feet from Neno, is Allure with her .45 visible.

EXT. GRAVEYARD - NIGHT

Zoric's and Petrovic' walk between gravestones and for the open gate which leads to the courtyard of the church.

INT. COURTYARD - NIGHT

Shadows and silence. Zoric' and Petrovic' cross through the gate to nothing. Suddenly, A GUN pokes at the back of Zoric's head. Now one at the back of Petrovic'.

LEHMANN

Walk.

A new angle. Lehmann with guns to the backs of both men.

ZORIC'

You're making a big mistake.

LEHMANN

Am I?

ZORIC'

Do you know who I work for?

INT. CHURCH - NIGHT

Lehmann walks Zoric' and Petrovic' into the church. Kolya stands in the shadows. He crosses to Zoric' and Petrovic'. He stares. He holds a picture of Ava out for the two cops to see.

KOTYA

This is my daughter. Her name is Ava. It will be the last angel you will see.

Picture into his pocket. A defiant stare at Zoric'.

KOLYA (cont'd)

Take off your pants.

Nothing from Zoric'. Allure crosses from the dark in rear of the church. Neno, her captive, in front of her. Gun raised to Zoric's head she crosses defiantly.

**ALLURE** 

Did you hear what he said? He said take off your pants!

Zoric' stares at Allure. Then, eyes washing across her body he smiles. That sets Allure off. She kicks him in the face. A perfect roundhouse draws blood from his nose.

ALLURE (cont'd)

What's wrong tough man!? So tired from raping children you can't take on a real woman?

Now her gun right on his head.

ALLURE (cont'd)

Take off your pants.

The emasculated Zoric' reaches for his belt. Lehmann looks to Petrovic'.

LEHMANN

You too. Your pants.

Petrovic' reaches for his belt. Both men slip their pants off. Kolya takes the pants and tosses them in front of Neno.

KOLYA

Change your clothes.

Neno reaches down for the pants as Kolya crosses for Zoric's belt. He picks the leather strap up and doubles it over.

KOLYA (cont'd)

Now your shirts.

Shirts pulled over their heads. Kolya crosses to the emasculated policemen who now stand in underwear. Lehmann turns to Petrovic and points him with his gun to a wall. Kolya crosses for Zoric'. Strap raised. Silently, he lets the strap fly. Crack! A stripe across Zoric's back. Again raised. Crack! Again. Again. Over and over leather drawing blood.

CLOSE ON KOLYA'S EYE

As he remembers:

MORE QUICK CUTS

His young daughter smiling.

The PHOTOGRAPH of her rape. Zoric' and Petrovic' raping Ava.

BACK TO SCENE

Kolya beats the rapist feverishly. A man possessed. Blood bleeds through Zoric's T-shirt and underwear. Suddenly, Kolya stops. His breath hard. He suddenly drops to his knees. Now falling forward, he collapses with a thud.

Allure and Lehmann react. They cross to the fallen Kolya. Allure rolls him over. Neno stares, not knowing what to do. Petrovic turns into the shadows and runs. Zoric' climbs to his feet.

INSERT KOLYA'S BOOT

The leather case we remember from the opening assassination. The leather case which holds Kolya's syringes and insulin. Syringe pulled free by Allure. She moves like a field medic. Plastic cap free. Insulin injected.

Angle Lehmann who rises quickly to his feet. He realizes Petrovic' is gone. His eyes search for Zoric' who has crossed out the door and into the courtyard. Lehmann chases. EXT. COURTYARD - SAME

Lehmann catches sight of the wounded Zoric' as he hobbles for the gate which leads to the graveyard. We hear a car starting.

EXT. GRAVEYARD - SAME

Petrovic' has the car in gear and racing as Zoric' hobbles into frame. Zoric watches Petrovic' disappear. He turns his eyes to the graveyard. He hobbles into the dark. He falls behind a crypt. Eyes search all around. Then, a gun to his temple. Lehmann beside him. Gun trained.

INT. CHURCH - NIGHT

ALLURE AND KOLYA

Kolya sits up. A bit groggy. Neno stares. He wears Zoric's pants.

NENO

What is wrong with him?

**ALLURE** 

Nothing.

Neno stares for a beat. His eyes watch Kolya and Allure. Neno cries.

NENO

I didn't mean to do anything to her. His daughter. I really didn't-

Lehmann marches Zoric' into the church. Allure stands and crosses to Zoric'. The bleeding Zoric' sort of laughs at Allure as he looks to Lehmann.

ZORIC'

Yes, so tough this girl- with her men and her guns.

A beat. Allure reaches into her boot. She pulls her knife free. She stares at Zoric'.

ZORIC' (cont'd)

You're going to stab me after he shoots me?

Allure tosses the knife at Zoric's feet.

ALLURE

Try and rape me.

(Off Zoric's 'look')

Go ahead, try.

Zoric' smiles. He reaches down for the knife. He straightens.

ZORIC'

I will cut the fucking smile off your fucking face.

ALLURE

Does it look like I'm smiling?

Zoric' crosses. He smiles. Knife in hand. He swings. Allure coolly leans back. He swings again. Another miss. Quickly Allure spins and has Zoric' and knife. She spins behind him and drives the knife into his chest. Now pulled across his rib cage.

ALLURE (cont'd)

The smile off my face? Maybe if somebody were holding me down.

Zoric' drops to his knees. His disbelieving eyes look down at the knife in his chest. Now, a shadow across his face. Zoric' looks up to see:

KOLYA

"The Gun" raised. BANG! The Colt .45 fires. A slug into Zoric's forehead. He falls. Kolya leans down and pulls the knife from Zoric's chest. He swings at Zoric's hand. A butchers swing. Fingers severed.

THE ONYX RING

Rolls into the light.

INT. POLICE STATION - DAY (FLASHBACK)

Anna, Hannah and Kati sit at an interrogation table. Kati cries, Hannah and Anna shake. Two DETECTIVES and Ava's mother Elizabet sits across from them. Elizabet is on her last leg. Ukrainian, subtitled here.

ELIZABET

Where is she!? You tell me where she is!!?

Anna answers as she begins to cry

ANNA

I don't know- I don't know-

Elizabet pounds the table as one of the Detectives tries to calm her. Elizabet spins from the Detective. A defiant finger.

ELIZABET

NO! YOU DON'T TOUCH ME! YOU FIND HER! YOU FIND HER!! YOU KNOW WHO TOOK HER- YOU FIND HER!!

Elizabet turns from the table and races for the door. Hand to mouth she cries hysterically.

Another Detective enters with surveillance photographs from the club in Kiev.

INSERT PHOTOGRAPH

Denys Dragovic leaning into Ava.

BACK TO SCENE

LEAD DETECTIVE

Is this him?

The girls nod through their tears. The Detective nods to another Detective who stands and crosses from the room.

INT. DETECTIVE'S ROOM - SAME (FLASHBACK)

The Detective crosses to a desk and phone. He dials.

INT. LIMO - SAME (FLASHBACK)

Borshov is on the Limo phone with the Detective. Kukov across from him. We hear the Detective's voice over the line. Russian, subtitled.

DETECTIVE (V.O.)

They ID'd the boy.

Borshov hangs up the phone. His look to Kukov.

BORSHOV

We're in business.

KUKOV

I think we're due for another visit with Comrade Pavil.

INT. BROTHEL - AFTERNOON (FLASHBACK)

Rows and rows of beds separated by shear curtains. Anna Luikin steps from one tented bed and into another.

INSIDE TENTED BED

Ava is chained to the bed. Her eyes are glazed. Anna Luikin sits with her nurse's bag. She has a needle prepped and in hand. She smiles her dead smile. Russian, subtitled.

ANNA LUIKIN

Are you ready for your shot?

Ava's small nod.

ANNA LUIKIN (cont'd)

I don't have to give it to you if you don't want it.

Ava shakes her head with an emotionless "no".

ANNA LUIKIN (cont'd)

So which is it? You want your shot?

Ava nods yes. She holds her arm out.

INSERT AVA'S ARM

Heroin tracks from wrist to elbow.

BACK TO SCENE

Anna Luikin preps the needle. Walking through the tented beds is another familiar face from Kolya's photographs on the bridge.

IVO KORTE is bald and overweight, broad and hairy. He pokes his head into several tents. He stops at Ava's tented bed. He pokes his head in to Anna Luikin who is about to give Ava her shot.

IVO KORTE

Not yet.

Anna withholds the needle. Korte leans out of the tent and instructs two men.

IVO KORTE (cont'd)

This one. Dress this one.

INT. BROTHEL BEDROOM - LATER

Ava is dressed in lingerie and seated on a large bed. Hair in her eyes this is not the carefree girl we remember. Eyes glazed in a narcotic haze.

A man steps in the door with a POLAROID CAMERA. Now Anna Luikin and SYRINGE.

Ava's eyes turns with as much emotion as one would expect of someone in her state. Eyes on the syringe. Anna Luikin answers her look.

ANNA LUIKIN

Later, when you've done what you're told.

Ava nods. Stepping into the room is Ivo Korte. He wears a an open silk rob and underwear. His eyes look to Ava.

KORTE

No. This is not right-

He crosses to Ava and reaches for the silk top which hides her breasts. He tears it from her body. Cleanly shred and tossed aside. Ava hides her breasts. Korte stares, now instructing.

KORTE (cont'd)

Get on your back.

Ava turns slowly. Not fast enough for Korte. He pushes her on her back.

KORTE (cont'd)

Open your legs.

Again not fast enough. Korte pulls Ava's legs open. His eyes stare at Ava on the bed. Again ordering.

KORTE (cont'd)

No. On your hands and knees.

He physically rolls Ava over onto her hands and knees. He crosses to a stand and takes his robe off. Hung on a hook. His eyes look to the Man in the room with a nod. The man takes the Polaroid Camera as Korte climbs behind Ava. Click. Flash. Click. Flash.

INT. BROTHEL ROOM - AFTERNOON (FLASHBACK)

A POLAROID PICTURE

Ava being raped by Ivo Korte doggy style. The picture given to Kolya by Pavil in Prague.

A PUNCH

Clips the corner of the Polaroid inserting a metal fish eye.

A NEW ANGLE

As the bathrobe clad Ivo Korte slips the Polaroid onto a large METAL HOOP/RING.

The Polaroid finds its home with hundreds and hundreds of other Polaroid pictures. Ivo Korte's conquests amount to nothing more than a ring of fabric swatches you'd find in a furniture shop.

A NEW ANGLE

Reveals mob boss Chechic'. Body guards at his side. He smokes casually as he leans back in a chair. His cigarette points at Ivo Korte's ring. Serbian, subtitled here.

CHECHIC'

Quite a trophy case you've amassed there.

KORTE

Yes, it's getting time for a new ring.

CHECHIC'

There is to be a party on Friday. Bring fifteen to twenty girls. Nothing over eighteen.

Chechic' checks his watch.

CHECHIC'

(To his Bodyguard)
Have the car brought round.

INT. LIMO - AFTERNOON (FLASHBACK)

Kukov sits with Pavil in the back of his Limo. Borshov is there as well. Pavil isn't nearly as interested in what Kukov is saying as what he stares at out the window.

PAVIL'S P.O.V.

The door of a house in an apartment block. A sort of Eastern European Brownstone.

BACK TO SCENE

Kukov's look to Pavil.

KUKOV

How is it you manage such a beautiful home on a baker's salary?

The door opens. Pavil's wife steps out with his young daughter.

KUKOV (cont'd)

She's a beautiful girl your daughter.

Pavil watches his wife and daughter.

PAVIL

I gave you what you asked for. What more do you want?

Kukov's smile as he watches Pavil's family cross the street into the park. The dark windows of the Limo keep Kukov and Pavil's meeting a secret.

INT. CHECHIC'S LIMO - SAME

Chechic' rides in the back of his limo. He listens/eavesdrops over the Limo's speaker phone to the conversation between Pavil and Kukov.

KUKOV (V.O.)

I want Kolya Trussevitch.

PAVIL (V.O.)

I told you, I don't know where he is. I was not briefed as to his location. KGB protocol.

INT. KUKOV'S LIMO / CHECHIC'S LIMO - SAME

(Phone call: Intercut as Necessary.)

KUKOV

I was. Amazing the information you can attain when you pay the right people.

Pavil's incredulous stare.

KUKOV (cont'd)

The KGB killed my mother and father when I was four. My brother Yuri and I- we made the best of it. Without Yuri I most certainly would have died. He was more than my brother. I don't want to just kill Kolya Trussevitch. I want to torture him.

PAVIL

But he is the messenger. Why? Why him? Why not me? The others?

KUKOV

Is not what I do to you torture? Not knowing what I will happen to your family when you are dead?

Chechic' smiles.

Kukov motions to Borshov. A sheet of paper from a file handed to Pavil.

INSERT SHEET OF PAPER

THE SOLITAIRE CIPHER we remember from Pavil and Sidorov's briefing to Kolya as to he and his families split and relocation. Letters randomly ordered fill the entire sheet. Top to bottom. Margin to margin.

BACK TO SCENE

KUKOV (cont'd)

Do you recognize the cipher Comrade Pavil?

(Off Pavil's stare)
I believe they call it a solitaire
cipher. Your cipher. It explains to
Comrade Trussevitch what has happened to
his daughter. It outlines a plan by which
he will pay 1 million US dollars to kill
the men responsible for his daughter's
"situation". It outlines the conditions
you have orchestrated to secure the
release of his daughter. All done through
your former KGB contacts. The last line
Comrade Pavil? Is that not how you would
sign the cipher used to communicate with

your most precious asset? Your Assassin?

Chechic' takes in the conversation.

"Ava sends her love?"

Pavil looks off the Cipher. Defeat.

KUKOV (cont'd)

I will have the cipher delivered to your assassin by the method outlined by the KGB when he went into hiding. Then you will meet him in Prague. As outlined in the cipher.

(Info handed to Pavil)
Follow these instructions to the letter.

Kukov nods to Borshov. Photographs from Borshov handed to Kukov.

KUKOV (cont'd)

When you meet- you will give him these photographs.

Photographs handed to Pavil. He looks down at the stills of Ava. Stunned.

CONTINUED: (2)

KUKOV (cont'd)

If all goes as planned this will be the last time you hear from me. Your family safe. Now get out.

Pavil reaches for the door. He climbs into the street. Door closed.

EXT. LIMO - SAME

Kukov's window comes down. One last word.

KUKOV

Comrade Pavil, one last word. In Prague? There will be a gun pointed at your head. One slip and you will never see your daughter again.

Pavil stares.

PAVIL

You have no intention of letting him take his daughter do you?

KUKOV

Comrade Pavil why do you doubt that I wouldn't keep my word? You hurt my feelings.

Window up. Pavil watches the Limo go. A beat, then his daughter's delightful scream.

DAUGHTER

Papa!

INT. KUKOV LIMO / CHECHIC' LIMO - SAME

(Phone Call: Intercut as Necessary.)

KUKOV

Thoughts Comrade Chechic'?

Chechic', eyes on the speaker phone responds.

CHECHIC'

I'm to just sit passively by as this "assassin" kills seven of my best men?

Kukov smiles.

KUKOV

Please. Chechic'. Everyone knows the pig you are. Who wouldn't you kill for the right money?

(MORE)

KUKOV (cont'd)

You will keep Kolya Trussevitch alive for two hours. For that you will be paid 1 million dollars.

CHECHIC'

And if I can't?

KUKOV

You will. For the money.

CHECHIC'

And the girl? His daughter.

KUKOV

What is she to you? Another whore? Give her to him. Collect your money. Then, kill him. Collect 1 million more. When was the last time you made two million dollars for two hours work?

EXT. PHONE BOOTH / CHECHIC'S OFFICE - NIGHT (PRESENT)

(Phone Call: Intercut as Necessary)

Lehmann is in the phone booth. He talks into the receiver to Chechic' who sits behind his desk. Speaker phone. Chechic' watches the image of Lehmann on the monitor. The Sedan in frame as well.

Chechic looks off the clock on the desk. The clock he set five minutes ahead. It reads: "2:12".

CHECHIC'

You're late.

LEHMANN

You want the money or not?

CHECHIC'

Of course.

Chechic's Capo puts pen to paper as Lehmann instructs.

LEHMANN

Central station. Locker bank southwest next to the paper stand. Locker 42.

Click. Phone hung up. Chechic' watches Lehmann cross into the sedan on the monitor.

INT. SEDAN - SAME

Lehmann slides behind the wheel. Kolya in the passenger seat, Allure with Neno in the back. We hear Alekseev's VOICE over a radio in the car.

ALEKSEEV (V.O.)

There's a hotel. Where they keep the new girls. The Bohemian district.

KOT'AY

You have an address?

INT. BACK ROOM - SAME

Alekseev and Karin have three men hanging by their hands from an overhead water pipe. No life in any of the men. Karin talks into the mike inside his collar.

KARIN

Our informants seem to be- out of information.

Several half naked girls pull jackets on and cross to escape the brothel. A beautiful young Girl with a black eye crosses to the hanging dead men. She wears a negligee. She spits in the face of one of the hanging men.

INT. SEDAN - SAME

Kolya talks into the mike in his collar.

KOT<sub>1</sub>YA

Sidorov?

INT. POKER PARLOR - SAME

A poker table overturned. Six MEN are tied to separate chairs. Three are toppled over. Dead. One man has his head and half the chair sticking out of a wall. Dead. The final two are kicked over by Ivanov. Dead. A bloody ice pick in a ice bucket.

SIDOROV

Nobody is talking here either.

INT. SEDAN - SAME

Eyes stare. Then, Neno leans into the light.

NENC

I know where it is. The hotel. I know.

EXT. BROTHEL - NIGHT

Stepping through the door are Sidorov, Gugarin and Ivanov. They race across the street for their sedan. Sidorov talks into his collar.

SIDOROV

On our way.

A NEW ANGLE

Watching the Brothel from the shadows is Kukov's capo BORSHOV. The man who killed Pavil. He watches the sedan pull into the street. Then, he casually turns for the Brothel.

EXT. MANSION - NIGHT

A fortress. Heavily guarded. Men with AK-47s at every corner.

INT. MANSION GAME ROOM - NIGHT

Alexie Kukov shoots pool with several MOBSTERS. Not underlings. These men are older. Impeccably dressed. Bosses. Kukov stands at the ornate bar jabbing an ICE PICK into the ice bucket. Ice in his glass.

KUKOV

I will avenge my brother's death, get rid of the cockroach that is Chechi and be paid for doing so by the exterminator himself. All from the comfort of my own home some 2000 kilometers away.

INT. BROTHEL - SAME

Borshov walks through the carnage. Bodies strewn. Blood everywhere. He steps into the card room to see the six dead bodies. He crosses to a phone.

INT. MANSION - NIGHT

A RINGING PHONE

Kukov private line. He crosses and picks up the phone.

KUKOV

Yes?

(A beat followed by a smile) Very good. You will call me when it is done? Good.

Phone hung up. Kukov turns to the Bosses in the room.

KUKOV (cont'd)

I knew I could count on Comrade Pavil to bring his team into the fold behind my back. I'm afraid his indiscretion has led to a rather nasty mess in Belgrade.

Kukov crosses with his drink to the delighted smiles of his guests.

KUKOV (cont'd)

In the next hour Chechic and his organization will be wiped from the streets. Belgrade will be ours- You know I really couldn't care about Trussevitch or his daughter but there is a war in Serbia. And as you know Gentlemen, who controls the Balkan Peninsula controls Eastern Europe. I raise a glass to the greatest Assassin in the world.

Glasses toast. Kukov sips. Now, the business at hand.

KUKOV (cont'd)

Now to business. Serbia. Gentlemen, how is it that you would like to proceed?

INT. BROTHEL - NIGHT

A shear curtain slides open. Ava stirs, her hand still shackled to the bed. Ivo Korte stares. Anna Luikin is there with two other men.

KORTE

Get up.

Ava tries to sit up. Not fast enough. Korte pulls her up. One of the men crosses. A key to her "chain". Ava is pulled from her bed.

INT. SEDAN - NIGHT

THE DIGITAL TIMER reads: "41:44.0" It counts back.

A new angle. Lehmann navigates the car through traffic. Kolya in the passenger seat, Allure and Neno in back. Lehmann's got his eyes on the rearview.

INSERT REARVIEW

A VAN follows. Blacked out windows.

LEHMANN

Gentlemen? Anytime.

INT. CAR - SAME

Alekseev drives. He and Karin stare out through the smashed windshield the pimp kicked in. They watch the Van as it tails Kolya.

KARIN

The lot on the right.

They watch as Lehmann pulls into a lot. The Van stops. They obviously know Kolya knows of the surveillance. Alekseev slows and takes a space on the street.

EXT. CAR - NIGHT

Alekseev and Karin cross from the car for the van. Alekseev carries a crowbar. Karin pulls the pins from TWO GRENADES.

THE VAN

As Alekseev crosses to the window. CRASH! Glass falls. Karin casually tosses the grenades into the Van. They turn to walk. BAM! BAM! Inside the Van explodes. Alekseev and Karin casually climb into the car. Karin talks into his mike.

KARIN

Surveillance has been relieved of duty.

INT. CHECHIC'S OFFICE - SAME

Chechic' barks at his soldiers. The feed on his TV has disappeared. His eyes turn to his Capo who holds the phone. Serbian, subtitled.

CAPO

They are bringing her now.

INT. CAR - NIGHT

A dazed Ava stares out at the lights of Belgrade. She sits in the backseat with one of Chechic's men.

EXT. BROTHEL - NIGHT

A car hastily pulls to the curb. We've seen this car before, it is the same car driven by Serbian Secret Police Zoric' and Petrovic'. A terrified Petrovic' leaps from the car and races across the street in his underwear.

INT. SEDAN - SAME

Gugarin at the wheel, Ivanov in the passenger seat and Sidorov behind.

We look out the windshield to see Petrovic racing for the Brothel. Gugarin punches the gas and hits Petrovic who rolls across the hood. Ivanov turns to Gugarin.

**IVANOV** 

How do you know that's him?

GUGARIN

How many guys do you think are running around Belgrade in their underwear?

The trio climbs from the car as one. Petrovic' groggily turns his head. He's alive. Gugarin reaches for him.

GUGARIN (cont'd)

Petrovic' is it? I know where there's a bullet with your name on it.

INT. BROTHEL - NIGHT

Bedlam. Gugarin, Ivanov and Sidorov storm. Bodies and blood.

IVO KORTE

Ivanov drags him by the ring of Polaroids. Korte's sexual conquests.

A HOOK

The enormous Ivanov pulls Korte up to his feet and hangs the ring on the hook. Korte on his toes struggles to breath.

ANNA LUIKIN

Is being kicked along by Sidorov. There are SYRINGES poking from every part of her body. Some thirty syringes that Sidorov has jabbed into her. He kicks her to the wall beside Korte. Gugarin looks to Petrovic' who is across from Korte. Now to the compound fracture in Petrovic's arm.

GUGARIN

I wish I hadn't broke that arm.

**IVANOV** 

I don't think he's going to shoot him in the arm.

Kolya, Allure, Lehmann and Neno cross into the Brothel. Sidorov crosses to Kolya.

SIDOROV

They say she's gone. With Chechic's men.

Kolya's eyes turn to Ivo Korte. His hand reaches for "The Gun". Cylinder opened. Slug loaded. Eye to eye with the shorter Korte who hangs by the ring. The Gun brushes through the polaroids.

KOLYA

You see these girls? All these girls? I am the father to all these girls. I will hunt you down in hell and kill you again and again for every one of these girls.

Gun to Korte's head. BANG. Casing falls. Slug loaded. Nothing said. BANG. Petrovic' dead. Casing discharged. Slug loaded. Nothing said. BANG. Anna Luikin dead. Casing falls. Kolya turns from the room. His eyes find young Neno. Kolya walks past him.

INT. SEDAN - NIGHT

THE DIGITAL TIMER reads: "00:1.22". The seconds count down to zero.

A NEW ANGLE

Silence. Lehmann drives. Kolya in the passenger seat with Allure and Neno in back. Lehmann turns into a gas station and for a pay phone. He pulls the car to a stop and climbs into the night. He crosses for the pay phone.

The silence is palpable. Kolya's look is straight ahead. Then:

KOLYA

Are your parents alive?

Angle Neno. Fear. He stares. Kolya slowly turns to him.

KOLYA (cont'd)

Your parents- are they alive?

The trembling Neno nods as he answers.

NENO

Yes.

Kolya turns around. Back to Neno.

KOLYA

Go home to them.

Neno stares. His eyes look to Allure. She motions her head for him to get out. Neno reaches for the door and opens it. One leg onto asphalt he leans back in. His voice cracks.

NENO

I'm sorry. Thank you.

Neno climbs from the car as Lehmann arrives. Lehmann says nothing as he climbs aboard. Neno closes the door.

LEHMANN

Lazy goo- we go back to the Nightclub.

Lehmann throws the car in gear. We watch through the back window as Neno watches the Sedan disappear.

THE REARVIEW MIRROR

Kolya's eyes watch the young Neno. Now he turns his eyes forward.

INT. BUS STATION / LEFT LUGGAGE - NIGHT

Chechi's man is handed a bag. Opened. Bricks of US currency wrapped in cellophane.

EXT. NIGHTCLUB - NIGHT

We watch as Lehmann navigates the Sedan into the very spot he parked two hours earlier. Doors open as one. Kolya, Allure and Lehmann cross to the Capo at the door. Just as before. Nothing said as they are patted down for weapons. None found. The door opens. Inside they go.

EXT. ROOFTOPS - NIGHT

Racing across the roof are the heavily armed Gugarin and Ivanov. They tow AK-47s and High Powered Rifles.

INT. OFFICE - NIGHT

There is a short knock at the door. Eyes look to Chechic'. His nod leads to a Bodyguard opening the door. Kolya steps inside with Allure and Lehmann. Silence is answered by Chechic's "smile".

BRICKS OF US CURRENCY

On the desk.

CHECHIC'

And how was the hunt?

Kolya looks off the cash.

KOLYA

You got what was promised. You want the rest? Give me my daughter.

CHECHIC'

Or what?

Kolya's cold hard stare.

KOLYA

I kill you.

Chechic' looks around the room at his men. Ten of them.

CHECHIC'

You kill me? All of us? How so?

KOLYA

Just you.

Chechic' smiles at Kolya.

CHECHIC'

You kill me- and they kill you. And your daughter.

LEHMANN

No. He kills you. (Off Allure)

We kill the rest.

Chechic' laughs as his eyes wash across his grinning men. They like the joke. Kolya's eyes look to a PENCIL standing up in a sharpener.

KOLYA

That pencil. I'm going to stab your heart with that pencil. And there isn't a thing you or any of your men can do about it. You have ten seconds. One. Two. Three. Four-

Kolya's cold eyes stare at Chechic'. He continues the count. Tension mounts until Chechic' nods to another Bodyguard. He opens an adjacent door and motions whoever is on the other side into the office. Two Men step inside holding:

AVA

They hold her up by her arms. Her dazed eyes look through her unkempt hair.

AVA

Papa..?

Ava breaks free and races for her father.

CONTINUED: (2)

AVA (cont'd)

PAPA!

Kolya reaches for his daughter. She grabs hold of him and buries her face into his chest. She cries. Kolya leans down, he wipes Ava's hair from her eyes.

KOLYA

I am here. I am back for you.

CHECHIC'

Very sweet this reunion. Now my money.

Lehmann turns to Chechic'.

LEHMANN

When she is safely away. You get your money.

Chechic's slow smile.

CHECHTC'

How do I know I can trust you?

Kolya looks up from his crying daughter.

KOLYA

I will tell you exactly how it will happen. I am going outside with my daughter. There is a car there with a man inside. He is a killer like me. I will put my daughter in his care. He will drive her to her mother. I will bring your 500,000 dollars into this room. Then, I will kill everyone in it.

Chechic' smiles. Off Lehmann and Allure.

CHECHIC'

Thank you for the warning. But to make sure you come back? Your friends stay.

Chechic' then turns to a group of men at the door.

CHECHIC'

You go with him.

EXT. NIGHTCLUB - NIGHT

As Kolya crosses through the night with Ava in his arms. Chechic's Men beside him.

EXT. SEDAN - SAME

Sidorov smokes. He casually leans against the hood of his car which idles outside the club. Sidorov reacts as he sees Kolya. Cigarette tossed. Back door opened. Kolya crosses and slips his daughter into the backseat. Sidorov crosses to the front seat and pulls Kolya's GREEN DUFFLE. Laid at Kolya's feet.

AVA

Papa, don't leave me. Please papa...

Kolya leans inside. He holds the black onyx ring.

KOLYA

Here is your ring. You know what it means-

Ava takes the ring. She nods. Sidorov climbs behind the wheel. Door closed.

KOLYA (cont'd)

Your mother waits for you. I will see you in the morning. You are safe now.

He pulls his jacket from his shoulders and covers her up. Suddenly:

A SHADOW

Crosses through the dark. BORSHOV. Kukov's Capo crosses. He stands behind Chechic's men, unseen. The Assassin in Kolya senses his shadow. He turns surreptitiously to it. Borshov sort of smiles. A GUN slowly from his jacket. POP! A single slug hits Borshov in the forehead.

Kolya slams the door of the car as Borshov falls. Sidorov hits the gas. Chechic's men spin only to encounter TWO BODIES emerging from the shadows. ALEKSEEV and KARIN cross into the light. Their silenced guns fire, quickly killing the four Men Chechic' sent with Kolya.

Nods to Kolya and they turn for the door of the nightclub. Kolya reaches down for the Green Duffle Bag.

INT. CAR - SAME

Racing to safety. Sidorov's EARPIECE. We hear Gugarin's VOICE over radio.

GUGARIN (V.O.)

Justice was swift and unexpected.

INT. OFFICE - NIGHT

Allure and Lehmann wait with Chechic' and his men. A knock at the door is met by Chechic's nod to open the door. Shock as Kolya enters with his green duffle. Alone.

CHECHIC'

Where are my men?

KOLYA

Dead.

CHECHIC'

Dead?

KOLYA

All of them.

Lehmann and Allure smile.

CHECHIC'

But you still bring back the money?

Kolya coolly sets the green duffle on the floor in front of him. A beat. His eyes look up at Chechic'.

KOLYA

I came back to kill you and everyone else in this room.

Lehmann smiles. He holds his fingers in the shape of a gun. He points a Chechic'. Serbian, subtitled.

LEHMANN

Bang. Bang. Your dead.

Suddenly, all hell breaks loose.

THE WINDOWS

Shatters beneath a ring of MACHINE-GUN fire.

Gugarin and Ivanov shower the room with round after round.

KOLYA, ALLURE AND LEHMANN

Fall to the ground.

Gunfire rains.

ANGLE KOLYA

He reaches into:

THE GREEN DUFFLE

AN AK - 47

Pulled free. Slid beneath the gunfire and shattering debris.

INSERT AK-47

As it slides into the waiting hands of Lehmann.

**T.F.HMANN** 

Rolls onto his back and fires his weapon into the chest of a mobster.

BACK TO SCENE

KOLYA

Has pulled:

TWO AUTOMATIC REVOLVERS

Kolya coolly slides the guns.

INSERT REVOLVERS

As they slide into the waiting hands of Allure.

ALLURE

POP! POP! POP!

Allure empties her weapons into mobsters holding guns and or trying to escape.

KOLYA

Shoots:

Two .45's but not "The Gun". Bodies drop in the office.

INT. HALLWAY - SAME

As mobsters race.

ALEKSEEV and KARIN

Guns raised. They stop every racing body in their tracks.

CHECHIC'

The coward pulling himself along the ground. He tries to escape. His hand reaches for a ROPE HANDLE in a floor board.

Suddenly, gun fire stops. Allure and Lehmann make contact. Dead bodies everywhere.

CHECHIC'

Miraculously still alive. He tries to pull the rope handle until he comes face to face with A BOOT.

A NEW ANGLE

Kolya's boot. Chechic' looks up to see "The Gun" pointed at his head.

CHECHIC'

I delivered what was promised-

KOT.YA

And I promised to kill everyone in this room.

BANG. A slug into Chechic's head. Cylinder opened. The casing falls into the blood which puddles beneath Chechic's head.

Kolya crosses to the desk. He and Allure pack the cellophane bricks of Hundred Dollar Bills into the duffles. Lehmann crosses to Chechic'. His eyes stare at Chechic's hand wrapped around the rope handle. Now at an anomaly on the floor. The blood puddled under Chechic's head seems to be draining beneath him. Lehmann's boot clears the blood to reveal:

## A TRAP DOOR

He reaches for the handle and pulls the trap free to reveal a cavity in the floor. An escape route. There, lining the crawl space, Lehmann spies:

DESIGNER LUGGAGE. DIOR. CASH piled inside each bag. Eight of them. Brick after brick of US CURRENCY.

EXT. NIGHTCLUB - NIGHT

The Dior bags are quickly loaded into the trunk of Lehmann's Sedan by Alekseev, Karin, Gugarin and Ivanov. Lehmann crosses to Kolya.

**T.F.HMANN** 

She is with her mother. She is safe.

EXT. ROAD - MORNING

As Sidorov's car moves silently along. Sidorov looks into the rearview mirror to see Elizabet cradling the sleeping Ava.

EXT. TRAIN STATION - MORNING

THE DIOR BAGS

Are being loaded into the trunk of a BMW 750. Last bag. Now the case which holds "The Gun". Tucked safely away. Trunk closed.

A new angle. Kolya, Lehmann, Allure, Alekseev, Gugarin and Ivanov around the BMW. Lehmann stands inside the open driver's side door. Allure, the open passenger door.

KOLYA

We will see all of you in Split. Two weeks today.

Eyes to the group.

KOLYA (cont'd)

Thank you.

Smiles and handshakes. Kolya turns to the train station with his green duffle. The former KGB agents climb into their respective cars. Gugarin and Ivanov into the car Lehmann drove. Alekseev and Karin into their car.

GUGARIN

Lehmann? You'll keep an eye on our reward money?

LEHMANN

Of course.

Doors closed the cars move off in different directions.

INT. MEAT PACKING PLANT - MORNING

Black Mamba and Copperhead look out at an all but immaculate shop. Not a dead body to be found. On the butcher block is the trunk of weapons neatly closed. Black Mamba's eyes spy:

A STAIN ON THE FLOOR

BLOOD

He motions to Copperhead.

He speaks in Turkish. Subtitled here.

BLACK MAMBA

See? Blood. Killers, they have no appreciation of the tidy workspace.

Copperhead leans down and tastes the blood. He answers in Turkish, subtitled.

COPPERHEAD

No. Is pig.

EXT. RURAL CABIN - AFTERNOON

Kolya, Elizabet and Ava walk along a lake. They talk. Smiling faces. The past just that. Past. Kolya's arms around his girls. Pulled close.

BLACK.

EXT. MANSION - NIGHT

Mob guards en masse. Guns and AK-47's. A fortress protected. We've been here before. This is Alexie Kukov's mansion.

INT. GAME ROOM - NIGHT

The very game room Kukov shared his plans for a "new" Serbia. Bodyguards shoot pool. Not bosses as before. A Bodyguard stands at the wet bar. Hands poke. Russian, subtitled here.

**BODYGUARD** 

Where did you leave the ice pick?

Blank stares.

INT. MANSION BEDROOM - NIGHT

Alexie Kukova crosses through frame with a glass of vodka. He wears an open silk bathrobe. He is naked underneath. On his bed is a naked young GIRL reading a magazine.

INT. BATHROOM - SAME

Kukova passes into the bathroom and crosses to his reflection in a mirror over the wash basin. Water on.

THE MIRROR

We see THE REFLECTION of Kukova's girlfriend on the bed.

Kukova leans down as he pulls water from the basin and splashes his face. As his eyes clear his eyes spy a new face behind him:

KOLYA TRUSSEVITCH

Stands behind the half naked Kukova. Shock in Kukova's eyes.

KUKOVA

Trussevitch...

A NEW ANGLE

THE ICE PICK

Full frame.

Kolya reacts with lightening speed as he drives the ice pick over and over into the back of Kukova's head just below the skull. Now dragging it through his brain.

Kolya spins Kukova and jams the ice pick's handle into the wall. Kukova hangs.

A NEW ANGLE

THE BULLET

Slug and casing resting on the sink in a pool of blood.

BLACK.

THE END