Family Is A State Of Mind

Author's note: The treatment for skin grafts, the image written, and the methodology depicted in this story is real, recently developed by Avita, and being used for severe burns. The actual name ReCell is used in this story. Information can be found at https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/30635844/

(scene opens in SecState's office, SecState standing, leaning against her desk. Gerald, her Secret Service agent, stands close to her)

SecState: "Gerald, I don't know what to say"

Gerald: "Ma'am...Tom's wife is about to have a baby. Keep him here, send me back to Rio, I'll make sure the safe house we choose is secure"

SecState: "Anyone can secure a safe house, Gerald...(pauses) "..You've never asked anything like this before...You've been with the State Department, how long...5,6 years?"

Gerald: "11 ma'am..."

SecState: "And every time we have a visiting dignitary that could be threatened, I ask for you to accompany them..."

Gerald: "My job ma'am"

SecState: "You were with the Premier when he visited the D Ranch?"

Gerald: "Yes"

SecState: "And the wedding..."

Gerald: "From a distance ma'am, but yes"

SecState: "So, you know the difficulties involved in getting mixed up with Gibbs and his crew"

Gerald: "His family...yes ma'am"

(SecState stares at Gerald....)

SecState: "That's what they call themselves"

Gerald: "It fits"

(She walks behind her desk, looks at a file)

SecState: “You replace Tom, who will you be working with?”

Gerald: “Jim Starks, ma’am”

SecState: “He’s new...I don’t know him”

Gerald: “No ma’am, you don’t...”

(She stands, crossed her arms...small disbelief on her face)

SecState: “Gerald...my god...securing a safe house is almost punishment! It’s more boring than counting counterfeit bills!”

(Gerald smiles...)

Gerald: “Which you rescued me from...”

(She slowly shakes her head)

SecState: “Gerald Cohen...you were a Navy pilot...a damn good one...you retired, applied for Treasury, were accepted, then you applied for Secret Service...You’ve never told me why...”

(He shrugs...)

Gerald: “Got tired of counting fake bills, ma’am”

(she shakes her head)

Gerald: “Gerald, you are many things....but a good liar is not one of them...”

(Gerald stares at her....thinks....cocks his head to one side...)

Gerald: “Ma’am....I spent years protecting my brothers and sisters on the ground, on my ships...Now I protect you...I consider you a soldier ma’am....What I saw in Rio, the way our government was manipulated to get you out of this position...(pause) “You refusing the role of VP...Ma’am..”

SecState: “Gerald, that’s politics....I’m no soldier...”

(He stares at her...hard....)

Gerald: “You’re wrong”

(She is unsettled by his remark)

SecState: “But, Gerald...I trust you. Are you aware how much I need someone like you right now?”

(Gerald looks down...then back up at SecState...She eyes him...Almost 50yrs old, dignified looking, but hard looking... grey hair streaked with black...Fit as all Secret Service men are....She watches his head rise back up to face her, his eyes intensely locked in on hers....)

Gerald: "I'm asking you to put some faith in that trust, ma'am..."

(She stares....then nods)

SecState: "Okay....You have your reasons, I'm sure"

Gerald: "I do ma'am...I just....(pauses..) "I just need to be sure my reasons are justified"

SecState: "My god, Gerald....are you talking about....(shakes her head) "...a gut feeling? You only spent one day with Jethro Gibbs and now you're asking favors of the Secretary of State based on gut?"

(Gerald grins.....says nothing....)

SecState: "One condition...."

(He nods)

Gerald: "I know the condition, ma'am...It's always the same"

(She gives him a small smile)

SecState: "You have been with me a long time....."

Gerald: "Yes 'ma'am....I'd like to keep it that way"

(His response unsettles her.....she stares at Gerald for a few)

SecState: "Why did that response scare me, Gerald?"

(He doesn't reply...he takes a deep breath, then...)

Gerald: "Because I'm scared ma'am. After what I've seen going on in our government, I'm literally scared to death...."

(She processes....then..)

SecState: "Then I assume you are going to Rio to do something about that..."

(He says nothing....just shrugs)

SecState: "That condition, Gerald...I've asked you to do it each time you do this Lone Ranger thing. You know to keep me in the loop every step of the way"

(He smiles)

Gerald: "And I'll carry it out like I always do ma'am..."

(She rolls her eyes)

SecState: “Which is just a microwave biscuit shy of not doing it at all.....”

(She shakes her head, seeing his small grin, a slight blush on his cheeks....)

SecState: “Let Helen know what you need.....Now...go do what you do, my friend....and remember...You are my friend...”

Gerald: “Yes ma’am...always have been”

(She looks at him for a moment)

SecState: “Is this...you, me, Helen...some others...we’re almost like...like that family thing Gibbs talks about?”

(Gerald starts to walk out, gives SecState a grin)

Gerald: “About time you realized that, ma’am”

(scene shifts to NCIS bullpen....morning, McGee at his desk, Bishop at Gibbs’s old desk, Dawson at Bishop’s old desk...Torres at his normal desk....All looking at the elevator, watching Gibbs and Daisy exit, walking fast towards the bullpen...McGee brightens up)

McGee: “Boss! Welcome back!”

(Gibbs walks straight to his desk...Stands in front of it, stares at Bishop...Bishop does “eek” thing, starts gathering her papers...)

Gibbs: “Stay”

(She stops....looks over at Torres...He shrugs...)

Bishop: “Where do you want me?”

Gibbs: “Right where you are....”

(Gibbs walks to desk next to his old one....he sits...everyone staring at him...He hits the power button on the monitor....It comes to life...He looks at it, then gets up, goes to his old desk, pulls the connections off his old monitor, yanks power cord out, takes it to the new desk, does the same with the monitor on the desk, everyone still watching, speechless, as he switches monitors out....He sits...hits the power button...the monitor does not come on....Gibbs slaps the monitor, and it comes on...He smiles...Daisy sniffs the new area, looks back at her old place...finally walks around in a circle then lays down by Gibbs’s feet)

Gibbs: “Okay...people...work!”

(Gibbs looks around, everyone still staring...he looks over at Bishop....eyebrows go up...)

Gibbs: 'Bishop?"

Bishop: "Uh...Yes?"

Gibbs: "What the hell are you doing here?"

(She looks around....then back at him...)

Bishop: "I work here?"

Gibbs: "You just had a baby!"

(Bishop stares...disbelief...)

Bishop: "Gibbs...that was 2 months ago...."

(Gibbs looks at her in surprise...)

Gibbs: "Seriously? Two months....?"

(He shakes his head....)

Gibbs; "Didn't even notice you were gone...."

(She scowls at him, crosses her arms over her chest, leans back....does scrunchy mouth thing....she is surprised by a floral delivery boy approaching her desk....He is holding a huge spray of flowers in a vase....He sets it on her desk, hands her a card.....Gibbs can be seen looking down while he clicky clacks, smiling....Bishop looks at the flowers in surprise. She looks over at Torres, he shakes his head, mouths, "Not me"....She opens the small envelope, and reads it....She looks over at Gibbs in surprise....She looks at the note again...it reads...)

Glad to have you back

Now Get to work!

- *Gibbs*

(Bishop smiles at Gibbs....then...)

McGee: "Boss..you said you had some names...."

Gibbs: "Yea...Listen up! I need....(looks at his notepad)..Torres! Check out Gerald Cohen...He's SecStates personal SS man...Find something!"

Torres: "Okay Gibbs...but those guys are checked out every way but...."

Gibbs; “I don’t want that stuff, Torres! I want to know what his friends think, His neighbors, the other grunts at Secret Service....I want to know what kind of man he is, Torres, not what’s on paper!”

Torres: “Okay..yea...good dude or not...got it...”

Gibbs: “McGee! Jim Starks...He volunteered to go secure a safe house in Rio ....SecState thinks Starks can’t be trusted....Find out why!”

McGee: “On it, boss!”

Gibbs: “Dawson! After Torres and Mcgee get the phone numbers for these two, I want a trace on both, I want you to look at previous calls, I want...”

Dawson: “Gibbs! All you gotta say is check them out! Remember, I’m the one Internal Affairs used to track dirty cops!”

(Gibbs stares at Dawson...She stops talking...)

Dawson: “Or I could you know...trace both, look at previous calls....”

Gibbs: “Thank you, Dawson....Now DO IT!”

(Dawson jumps...starts clicky clacking...)

Bishop: “Uh..Gibbs..?”

(Gibbs gets up...walks past Bishop’s desk....)

Gibbs: “Bishop...with me...now...”

(Bishop jumps up, looks at Torres, questions on her face...she follows Gibbs into the elevator...The doors close....Gibbs hits the stop button...Bishop’s eyes get big)

Gibbs: “Ziva...”

Bishop: “Yes?”

Gibbs: “I need you to track her...”

(Gibbs pulls out a folded piece of paper, hands it to Bishop)

Gibbs: “First number is Ziva’s phone...GPS is on...2nd number is a burner phone I gave her...GPS is off. I don’t know how many people have her number...She wanted one that no one knows about”

Bishop: “Smart girl....Who don’t you trust?”

Gibbs: “Everyone”

Bishop: “What is Ziva doing?”

(Gibbs stares.....Bishop nods...)

Bishop; “Got it...I don’t need to know”

(Gibbs thinks....then...)

Gibbs: “She’s gone after Thomaso Diego....”

Bishop: “Oh god....That’s the one that lied to Antoine about the children....”

Gibbs: “Yea”

Bishop: “You know what she’ll do, Gibbs...”

Gibbs: “Yea, Bishop I know! And dammit, that’s why I need you to track her, back her up! You think like her! So get in her head, Bishop! Find out where’s she going and what she’s doing before she does!”

(Bishop rocks back, leans against the elevator wall)

Bishop: “Anyone else....”

Gibbs: “Rojas...his wife is a nurse, knows Caprice...he’ll feed his wife information he gets from his end, she’ll feed Caprice....Caprice can feed you....”

Bishop: “Me? Why not you?”

Gibbs: “Because I’m too close to her, Bishop! They know that! I’ll be monitored every step of the way! Jesus, use your head!”

(Bishop stares at Gibbs....He’s rubbing his temples....)

Bishop: ‘You’re worried about her”

Gibbs: “Yea”

Bishop: “Orli? That was....”

(Gibbs nods....)

Bishop: “And now Diego, ruining the reputation of a fellow Mossad agent....”

Gibbs; ‘One that died saving a little girl...with Ziva....Mossad takes this stuff seriously”

Bishop: “So she could get reckless....”

(He looks up, scowling)

Gibbs; “Ya think, Bishop?”

(Bishop surprises him by giving him a peck on the cheek)

Gibbs; “What the hell was THAT for?”

(Bishop smiles)

Bishop: “You’re a good man, Gibbs...”

(He stares at Bishop....)

Gibbs: ‘Well...don’t tell anyone...”

(he gives small grin...hits elevator button to start it...)

Gibbs: “Go to my house....Caprice knows you’re coming...”

(Bishop looks at him...her eyebrows raise up in questioning motion..Gibbs rolls his eyes)

Gibbs: ‘Yea, bring the kid...It’ll make Caprice happy”

(Bishop smiles big....starts to move towards Gibbs....He holds up a hand...)

Gibbs: “One was enough....”

(Bishop laughs...the elevator doors open...Bishop walks quickly out, Gibbs stay in elevator, closes doors, heads back up to bullpen)

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens in Cairo, city portion, nighttime....Diego is seen walking into the St. Regis Hotel, 39 stories of glass and steel, overlooking the Nile River...He approaches the front desk, a laptop carrier over his shoulder...)

Agent: “Welcome, sir, to the St Regis...You have a reservation?”

Diego: “Yes....Stephan Juarez...”

(The agent clicky clacks...She opens a drawer in front of her, hands him one envelope, and one lone card)

Agent: “Sir, your suite is ready...The envelope contains two room key cards...This card, (hands lone card to him) “..allows you access to the penthouse floors where your suite is located...You will need it for the elevator...”

(Diego gives his thanks, he continues check in....Among the crowded lobby, there is one woman, dark eyes, head covered in hijab, the customary head covering for muslim women...The woman is pulling tourist brochures from a nearby rack....She opens one, looks towards the front doors, then back at the rack....)

Diego: (to agent) “My bags are in the limousine out front”

Agent: “I’ll have someone get them immediately and take them to your suite, sir....”

Diego: “Please...there is one bag...a small one...it is in the back seat...that can stay in the car, please”

Agent: “Of course sir....”

(Diego thanks her, then heads for the elevator....he is seen walking into the elevator, punching a floor number, then the doors close....The woman watches, then as the elevator doors close, the woman walks away, out the front doors...She stops about 20 feet from the front door, then looks in the window of a dress shop next door...She pulls out her phone....types a text)

Too easy – checked in same name on plane – Stephan Juarez

Got in elevator did not use penthouse card

Limo still waiting

Bag in back

He will be leaving soon

(She hits the ‘send’ button...places the phone back in pocket...She walks down the street a few shops, then stops again...she looks back at the limo....Diego is seen exiting the hotel, then entering the car)

Ziva: (to self) “You know I am here....”

(She waves a hand...A black car pulls out from the corner, stops on the street near her...She goes to the car...The passenger window rolls down....She speaks to the driver, not seen. A voice comes from the car)

Driver: “I will inform you of his destination...Shalom, Ziva David”

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens at Gordon House...Caprice and Bishop sit on the back porch at table, Little Nickie in Caprice’s lap....Caprice’s phone, sitting on the table, signals a text...She picks it up, reads it, then shows it to Bishop..)

Two vampires here, which is Cullen, which is Voltari?

(Bishop looks at the text...looks up at Caprice...)

Caprice: “It’s from Claudia, my nurse friend...she’s Rojas’s wife...”

Bishop: ‘Vampires? Cullen? Voltari?”

Caprice; “Yea...from the movies...Two Secret Service agents showed up to set up a safe house for SecState...we’re using code...”

Bishop: “Code...?”

(Caprice looks at Bishop...stares...)

Caprice: “You’re never seen the movies?”

(Bishop shakes her head...)

Bishop: “I heard they were stupid”

Caprice: “So did I! But I watched them so I could get ideas for the wedding!”

Bishop: “So....you have these movies?”

Caprice: ‘Yes! Come on! I’ll tell Jethro I got a message, and he’ll give me an answer, and I’ll send it back to Claudia, and she’ll tell Rojas!”

(Bishop looks at Caprice, blank stare....Caprice texts Gibbs...then Caprice gets up...)

Caprice: “Come on! You’ll love the movies!”

Bishop: “No! They’re all gushy romance! I hate those kind of movies...!”

Caprice; ‘You’ll love ‘em....come on.....”

(scene shifts to NCIS bullpen..Gibbs phone signals text...He reads it...his eyebrows go up....)

Vampires on site

Inform which is Cullen, which is Voltari

Bella Bond out

(Gibbs stares at the text....he looks over at Mcgee)

Gibbs: ‘McGee...what the hell is she talking about?”

(McGee gets up, walks to desk...reads text...nods)

McGee: “Vampires on site, that could be good or bad...she wants to know which one is a Cullen, a good vampire, and which one is a Voltari, the bad vampire”

(McGee looks at Gibbs, waiting for an answer...Gibbs still has blank stare on face....)

Gibbs; “Vampires?”

Torres; ‘She’s talking in code, Gibbs....”

(Gibbs looks over at Torres...)

Gibbs; ‘Vampires?”

Torres; “Yea...she’s actually being smart....pretty impressive....”

Gibbs; ‘What the hell do I tell her?”

McGee: ‘Tell her you're still checking with Alice...Alice can see the future....”

(Gibbs looks at McGee...shrugs...texts...)

(scene shifts to Gordon House...Caprice gets a text...)

Caprice: “It’s Jethro!”

(She reads the text...)

Asking Alice

Caprice: “He doesn’t know yet....he’ll let me know when he finds out”

(Her phone signals another text....)

Vampires?

(Caprice smiles....texts back...)

Yes, Edward

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens in Cairo...Diego on the phone, talking...)

Diego: “Texts....about a movie?”

(listens)

Diego: “Two women chattering about a romantic movie...what a waste of our time!”

(He dials a number...it answers)

Diego: “Nothing on phones....women gossiping....”

(listens...nods)

Diego: “Yes...get what you can....(pause) “Who?”

(he nods...)

Diego: “It was predictable...These people with honor...They are always predictable...I will be ready for her....All I will have to do is leave bread crumbs...she will follow...”

(Diego ends the call)

(scene shifts to Ziva walking along the street...she has phone to her ear.....)

Ziva; “Once I find where he is staying, I will pay him a visit....”

(Ziva continues talking on phone)

(scene shifts to Rio, Rojas office...Rojas is standing by a whiteboard, mapping out trail to Diego...Gerald Cohen and Jim Starks stand, watching)

Rojas: “So, as we see, Thomaso Diego has travelled to Cairo, where we have no jurisdiction...)

Gerald: “Ziva David”

Starks: “Yea...I heard she’s on her own hunt”

Rojas: “We have no knowledge of that. No evidence..it is not of our concern”

Starks: “Sir...with all due respect...”

Gerald: “Leave it alone, Jim”

Starks: “Hard to do that Cohen...(looks at Rojas) “Chief, if you have information leading to the whereabouts of Ziva David..I believe it is imperative that if she is hunting a member of the Reynosa Cartel, and if she performs a vigilante assassination...(looks at Gerald) “...come on now...we both know what she is....”

(He pauses for a moment)

Starks: “Then the backlash, the Cartel’s need for payback....It could threaten the safety of our charge, the Secretary of State”

(Both Rojas and Gerald look at each other.....)

Rojas: “Si...that does make sense...”

(Rojas pulls out a notepad from his desk drawer....looks at a number)

Rojas: “615-445-0941"

Starks: “What’s that?”

Rojas: “The last known number for Ms. David...She used it while she was here in Rio. It is our belief she is currently using it”

Gerald: “Can you trace it?”

Rojas: “I have no probable cause within my jurisdiction....”

Gerald: “Then we wait and see...In the meantime, Jim, we do our jobs”

(Starks looks at the notebook with the number, anxiously taps his gun with his fingers...then nods to Gerald)

Starks: “Yea...our job....right..”

(Both Secret Service agents leave Rojas’s office...Rojas watches as they leave....then he picks up his phone...calls his wife...)

Rojas: (on phone) “My darling....I am remiss in my duties to you...The rats we spoke of? I placed the cheese in the traps...we should know soon if one or both take it”

(scene shifts to the Gordon House....Caprice and Bishop on the couch, watching the movie....Little Nickie is laying on the couch, covered in a soft blanket, asleep...Caprice and Bishop are both wiping their eyes with tissues...)

Bishop: “Oh my god, Caprice...this is so beautiful!”

Caprice: (sniffs) “I know...Edward so soooo romantic!”

(Caprice’s phone signals a text...She picks up her phone....reads the text)

Blood on the floor! Which Vampire will go for it?”

(Caprice smiles...shows the text to Bishop...Bishop’s eyes get wide)

Bishop: ‘The two agents were given Ziva’s phone number?”

Caprice: “Yep...Now we let Gibbs know....”

(Caprice types out a text. She shows it to Bishop, Bishop nods her head, smiling..Caprice hits send)

(scene shifts to NCIS bullpen....Gibbs sees a text on his phone...he reads it)

Hunt the Vampires! They’re after spilled blood!

(Gibbs reads it....confused...)

Gibbs; “McGee! Translate!”

(McGee looks at the text...he grins, looks at Dawson...)

McGee: “Start tracking, Dawson...You have both agents’ numbers...let’s see who takes the bait”

(Dawson pulls up tracking program....)

Dawson: “I’m ready...If one of them texts or makes a voice call, types or says that phone number, this NSA program will pick it up...”

McGee: “Same program they use for terrorist calls?”

Dawson: “Affirmative...I key in what I want it to listen for, it alerts me if a hit happens....”

Gibbs: “Ok...then we wait....Nice job, everyone..”

Torres: ‘Starks”

(They turn to Torres...)

Gibbs: “Torres...What..?”

Torres: “It’ll be Starks, man....I talked to 13 of Cohen’s buddies, classmates, officers he served with...The guy is stand up straight solid gold....A muy bueno badass, Gibbs...”

Gibbs; “Cohen?”

Torres: “Not bad...not great, but not bad...”

Gibbs: “Red flags?”

(Torres nods. McGee chimes in, looking at his monitor)

McGee“$82,000”

Gibbs: “So....”

McGee: ‘He applied for 3 loans, 2 of them collateralized with equity in his house, the other $20,000 personal loan at the Beltway Credit Union...”

Gibbs: “Yea?..He could be buying a boat for all we know....”

McGee: “Or he could have been approved for all three but never taken out the loans”

(Gibbs stares...)

McGee: “$100,000 was deposited into his wife’s checking account two days ago....The same time he requested this safe house duty”

Torres: “And dude, Cohen’s buddies? They don’t like Starks...says he has muy grande gambling problem”

(Gibbs processes the information)

Gibbs: “Where’d the money come from?”

(McGee grins...looks over at Torres)

Torres: “Rio de Janeiro Oceanic Research Institute....”

(Gibbs stares....eyebrows go up...)

Gibbs: “Senator Erickson’s payoff project”

Torres: “Muy Bueno, Gibbs....We got good amigo bad amigo”

McGee: “Boss...Want me to go talk to the Senator?”

Gibbs: “No, McGee...Go talk to the Senator’s wife first. See what she knows...Take Dawson with you”

McGee; “On it”

(Dawson and McGee stand, open drawers, pull guns and badges out....Gibbs receives another text....he reads it....opens his own drawer, pulls out gun and badge...)

Torres: “Another Vampire text, Gibbs?”

Gibbs: “Nope”

(Gibbs starts to walk out from behind his desk...he turns around...)

Gibbs; “Torres...gear up...you’re with me”

(Torres jumps up....Gibbs looks at Daisy, raises his eyebrows....Daisy jumps up, takes her gear bag in her jaws, trots to Gibbs)

Torres: “Where we going Gibbs?”

Gibbs: “We’re going after Hawkins...He was just sighted at the airport”

McGee: “Hawkins! I had forgotten about him!”

(Gibbs pulls a spare clip out of his desk drawer, slides it into his pocket)

Gibbs; “I haven’t”

(Dawson’s monitor beeps....She and McGee stop, head back to her desk....)

Dawson: “Not good”

Gibbs: ‘What?”

Dawson: “Bad amigo sent that number to really bad amigo....”

(Gibbs seen whipping his phone out...)

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens in Cairo...Diego sitting at desk in an old, cheaper, hotel room...laptop up and running..he recieves a text....He looks at and smiles)

Diego: “Bueno....her number....”

(Diego clicky clacks on the laptop....he keys in the number....a map of Cairo comes up, one blinking red triangle appears....he smiles)

Diego: “So...you have come to Cairo...And you feel you have me in your sights, Ziva David?”

(scene pans back...5 other men are in the room, all heavily armed..)

Diego: “Possibly, Ms David...it is me that has you in my sights”

(Scene shifts to Gordon House, Bishop on phone with Gibbs, Caprice watching, listening)

Bishop: “Gibbs..What? The vampire rat took the blood in the trap and he what?”

(Bishop’s face is frustrated)

Bishop: “Gibbs...I don’t understand!”

(Gibbs voice can be heard yelling over the phone)

Gibbs: “DIEGO KNOWS SHE”S THERE!”

(Call ends....Caprice looking wide-eyed at Bishop)

Caprice: “Ellie...this part isn’t fun anymore”

Bishop: “Ziva’s not going to stop...I know her...”

Caprice: “How do you know...?”

(Bishop pulls out the paper Gibbs gave her, looks at the number)

Bishop: “Because I wouldn’t stop either”

(scene shifts to the street outside the hotel Diego is staying at...Ziva is seen looking up at the building. Her phone vibrates...She pulls it out, looks at a text)

He knows

Could be a trap

(Ziva looks at the text...then she looks into the darkened parking garage..she responds)

What in life is not?

(She looks at her text, hits 'send', then turns off her phone. She slides it into her pocket, then looks into the garage one last time before entering....She walks down the ramp into the darkened parking area. Only a few lights are on, most burned out or broken over time. Scene pulls back, showing a row of parked cars against a far wall...Laying between the parked cars and the wall are 3 bodies, necks twisted at impossible angles. 3 shadows follow Ziva as she walks towards the doors that enter the old hotel)

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens in Cairo, night time...Ziva approaches the doors to the garage hotel entrance...She stops...turns...Nothing is seen...She turns back to the doors, and starts to step forward...then hesitates...)

Ziva: (to self) "What are you feeling?"

(She places her hand on the stainless steel handle to the door....Then she releases it....)

Ziva: (to self) "Wrong....something is wrong...."

(She turns from the door, looks behind her, sees nothing but an opening between parked cars..She begins to walk toward the ramp that leads up to the city street. She speaks in a loud whisper)

Ziva: "It is wrong. Contact me in 24 hours"

(A whispered voice responds from in the garage)

Voice: "If something changes, we will inform you"

(Ziva looks around...nothing....Then she sees several shadows slip out of the garage then disappear into the street. She looks on in respect)

Ziva: "Was I ever that good?"

(She looks one more time, then starts walking up the ramp to the outside street.....She reaches the street, pulls her phone out, turns it on.....There are 3 texts and just as many phone calls....She pulls up the first text, reads it....)

Ziva: (screams) "Noooooooo!"

(She breaks out in a run down the sidewalk)

(scene shifts to Paris, France.....A delivery van driver turns the corner, takes a sip of coffee from his travel mug....a bicyclist darts in front of him, the driver drops his mug to swerve, the coffee spills out into his lap, burning him...He screams, lets loose of the steering wheel to instinctively grab the mug, just as his front wheels turn, causing his van to turn abruptly

into oncoming traffic...He looks up through the windshield, seeing the frightened eyes of a young girl in a car, directly in front of his van....He can see the silent scream of the girl as his van crashes into the rear part of the car, flipping it onto its side...The car's gas tank ruptures, pouring gasoline into the inside cabin....Then the flames erupt....The screams of a man can be heard from inside the car, as an alert storeowner rushes outside, fire extinguisher in his hand....)

(scene shifts to the Gordon House, Bishop and Caprice eating nachos, watching one of the Vampire movies....)

Bishop: "I can't stop watching...."

Caprice: "I know!"

Bishop: "The girl...she's irritating"

Caprice; "It's okay...she changes.....In the next movie, she becomes..."

Bishop: "DON"T TELL ME!"

Caprice; "Right...don't be a plot spoiler...Jethro keeps telling me that...."

(Caprice's phone rings....They both see the number....they look at each other, curious)

Bishop: "That's Ziva's number...she shouldn't be calling from it...."

(Caprice hits 'answer', then hits the speaker button....Before she can say 'hello', Ziva's screams can be heard through the phone...)

Ziva: (screaming) "I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO! HELP ME! HELP ME CAPRICE...TONY AND TALI ARE HURT TALI HAS BROKEN BONES AND ANTHONY...."

(Ziva can't be understood....she wails into the phone.....sobbing, crying.....)

Caprice: "Ziva! Tell me what happened! Where are you?"

Ziva: "THE CAR WAS ON FIRE! ANTHONY COVERED TALI WITH HIS BODY AND LET THE FIRE BURN HIM! HELP ME CAPRICE! MY TONY! MY TONY! HELP ME!"

(Bishop has her phone out, calling Gibbs...he answers)

Gibbs; "Bishop, what the hell are you doing calling me? You're supposed to be..."

Bishop: "Shut up and listen!"

(Bishop holds the phone to Caprice's...Ziva can be heard screaming...)

Ziva; "MY TONY MY TONY MY TONY...HE IS BURNED! HE COVERED MY TALI TO SAVE HER!"

(Ziva screams again into the phone....Bishop puts her phone to her ear, talks fast to Gibbs...)

Bishop: “This is all we know...Caprice is trying to talk to her and find out more...”

(scene shifts to the airport, Torres looking at Gibbs curiously....Gibbs looks over at the security gate, sees Hawkins passing through.....He stares for a moment.....then...)

Gibbs; “We’re on our way back to the office...Call me the moment you find out more”

Bishop: “You find Hawkins....?”

(Gibbs watches Hawkins walk through security, then towards the boarding gate...)

Gibbs; ‘No....Call me as soon as you know something”

(a pause)

Gibbs: “Bishop...you need to call McGee....”

(Bishop closes her eyes, then opens them...nods)

Bishop: “I know”

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens in Cairo, Diego talking on the phone....)

Diego: “She came here...then left?”

(listens)

Diego: “But her phone...where does it show her?”

(listens, frowns.....)

Diego: “She has turned it off...(Pause) “Which means she is planning....”

(Diego talks more, then ends the call...he turns to the armed men in the room)

Diego: “We do not know why...but the assassin has retreated”

Man: “Retreated?”

Diego: “Perhaps she knew the overwhelming odds against her?”

Man: “I think not...What I have heard is that this one never retreats. Women such as her....they have an intuition”

Diego: “Intuition? HA!...Women have only the intuition to create trouble, drain a man, or push out a child....”

(The man looks at one of the others...shakes his head....)

Diego: “We will wait...In the meantime, I see no need to continue this charade and spend any more time in this barbaric hotel....We will continue what we do from the St. Regis...”

Man: “Rojas has enlisted the aid of American Secret Service”

Diego: “And I have enlisted the aid of them as well”

Man: “Both?”

Diego: “No....there is one that I left alone....”

Man: “Why?”

Diego: “The man has no weak points...he cares not for money, or women, or position...but I am getting what I need from the other, not to worry”

Man: “Worry? The only worry I have is if I am not paid...and should that come to pass, Comrade Diego, it would then become your worry”

(Diego looks at the man...he’s hard, no emotion on his face...short cropped blonde hair, scars on his cheeks)

Diego: “Is it your intent to intimidate me, Dima Petrov?”

Petrov: (smiles) “We do not intend anything, we do what we do. So...since you are alive, you can assume the money is in our accounts”

Diego: “And you can assume your masters in Russia have received their payment as well...Can you not?”

Petrov: “Da..it is as you say....The Minister was pleased with his new property...(pause) “Ironic, do not you think? The U.S. and Bosnia develop large wind farms together, the Bosnian Republic will no longer need Russian produced electricity, and the Russian Minister of Petroleum Production is the owner of the land the windmills are being built on, being paid by the United States government for use of the land”

Diego: “Half owner, Petrov...half...remember who owns the other half...”

Petrov: “Da..the U.S. Senator that is head of committee for environment...I was told he was quite instrumental in approving the necessary funding”

Diego: “The Americans call them Bills....”

Petrov: “They may call them what they like...”

(Diego closes his laptop....)

Diego: “Let us depart my Russian friend....I have work to do”

(The Russian chuckles...)

Petrov: “The man that holds the puppet strings.....”

Diego: “The man that holds those strings will begin pulling them in....If this woman is here for me, then more will come, and then someone will talk...”

Petrov: “What? Cease what you do? Diego, I am no politician, but I know the money that exchanges hands is far beyond the norm....”

Diego: “Cease? No, my friend...My American associate and I will merely put it on pause, then bury the information I have on the dark web....I will continue at some later date”

Petrov: “Your associate?”

Diego: “Si...as we speak, he is on his way to my country...I will see him on my return”

Petrov: “You intend to return? Diego...you are a hunted man....”

Diego: “And Rojas is the hunter...Once he is dead...”

(Diego’s phone signals a call....Diego looks at the number)

Diego: “My Secret Service man....the proud owner of a portion of a research facility...and I am the owner of his gambling debts...What is it they say...it is a win-win?”

(He answers the phone...)

Diego: “Tell me, Mr. Starks...have you news for me?”

(He listens...smiles...nods...then hangs up)

Diego: “It is as I thought...the David woman has pulled back to regroup....She remains here, alone...planning...”

(scene shifts to the Villa in Rio...Starks is in the kitchen, his head laying on the kitchen island, a gun pressed against his temple....Gerald Cohen is holding the gun in one hand, Stark’s cell phone in the other, holding it to Stark’s mouth...Chief Rojas and his wife, Claudia, sit at the patio table outside, both sipping on their beer, watching)

Gerald: “Now, you traitorous son of a bitch....you’re going to continue to feed Diego the information I give you...”

Starks: “He’ll kill me!”

(Gerald slams the gun against the back of Stark’s head...Stark groans...Gerald screams into Stark’s ear)

Gerald: “You’ll pray they kill you if you don’t do what I tell you to do!”

(Gerald’s phone beeps...he answers it...)

Gerald: “Yes ma’am...message delivered....Is there any update on DiNozzo?”

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens in NCIS bullpen, Gibbs and Torres walking quickly in....McGee sits at his desk, paled..McGee looks up at Gibbs....his face fearful)

Gibbs; “What else do we know, McGee?”

(McGee shakes his head...)

McGee: “Nothing...Caprice finally got what hospital Tony and Tali are at...She’s calling the hospital to get information...”

Gibbs; “Ziva?”

(McGee shakes his head...)

McGee: “Bishop says Ziva’s lost it...Bishop is on the phone now arranging a flight for Ziva...Ziva couldn’t do it...”

(McGee looks up at Gibbs...his face questioning...)

McGee: “Boss...this is Ziva....”

Gibbs; “McGee....”

McGee: ”Nothing can break her....”

Gibbs; “McGee....”

McGee; “She’s...she’s like the strongest person I ….”

(Gibbs places a hand on McGee’s shoulder...)

Gibbs; “Tim...we all have our breaking point”

(McGee looks at him, disbelief on his face)

Gibbs: “Ziva reached hers...she’ll be okay, Tim...what she needs now is family...”

(McGee looks around the room....)

McGee: “Tony...Tali..”

Gibbs: “I talked to Caprice...Tali’s going to be okay...a broken leg and collarbone...but no burns, no internal injuries”

(McGee stares blankly at Gibbs...nods)

McGee: “Good”

Gibbs: (yells) “McGEE! FOCUS!”

(McGee blinks...)

McGee: “Boss...Diego...he’ll close the window now that he knows Ziva was there....and now he’ll know she’s leaving...”

(Gibbs nods...)

Gibbs: “Yea..i know...”

(They are interrupted by Bishop and Caprice walking into the bullpen...Bishop hands off Nickie to Torres, walks to McGee’s desk)

Bishop: “We can keep that window open”

(Gibbs looks at Bishop....stares.....then shakes his head...)

Gibbs: “No...no way...”

Bishop: “Yes way, Gibbs! Aren’t you the one that said I can think like her, know her moves before she moved?”

Gibbs; “Yea...but....”

Bishop: “Then send me....Diego doesn’t know Ziva, and he’s expecting a woman....We did get out of Ziva that she left the burner phone with the GPS in her hotel room...She forgot it, rushing out, but if they’re tracking her by GPS, they think she’s still there! If we don’t do something, Diego will close that window and we’ll lose our chance to get the evidence on the assholes that betrayed our country!”

(She pauses...catches her breath....)

Bishop: “Send me Gibbs....I can do it”

McGee: “Boss...I can monitor and back her up...”

(Gibbs looks at both of them in shock....He turns to Torres...)

Gibbs; “Torres! Are you going to let this happen?”

Torres: ‘Hey Gibbs...she’s right....and she’s a badass....I mean, I don’t like it, but she’s right...”

(Gibbs is in disbelief)

Gibbs; “Have all of you gone crazy?”

(They are interrupted by a uniformed Naval officer walking into the bullpen, carrying an aluminum briefcase, handcuffed to his wrist....He stops at Gibbs...holds out a digital signature pad...Gibbs looks at it...The officer hands him a stylus...)

Officer: “You sign the screen with that”

(Gibbs looks at the officer....)

Officer: “It says you’ll bring it back, Director”

(Gibbs stares at the officer, then takes the stylus, signs the pad....The officer unlocks the handcuffs, lays the case on McGee’s desk.....McGee looks up at the officer....)

McGee: “What’s this.....?”

Officer: “CF-20C0, agent...the most...”

McGee: (in awe) “..powerful laptop pc in the world....”

Officer: “Correct Agent McGee...it’s one of only 3 we have on base...we borrowed it from the Carrier group”

(McGee undoes the latches...opens it....the laptop immediately comes to life...)

McGee: “Boss....what is this....”

(Gibbs frowns...looks away....Bishop starts grinning....)

Bishop: “It’s so he can go see Tony...and still do his job....right?”

(McGee looks at Gibbs in disbelief.....Gibbs throws his hands in the air...)

Gibbs: “Now I’ve gone crazy! Jesus!”

(McGee gets up, walks to Gibbs, hugs him...)

Gibbs; “McGee!”

McGee; “I love you boss!”

Gibbs: (yelling) “Well? Go see Pam! She has your tickets! GO McGEE!”

(McGee grins, runs out of bullpen, runs up the stairs....Gibbs turns to Bishop...)

Gibbs; “You...with me”

(Gibbs turns and walks out of the bullpen, Bishop following, to the corner by the stairway...He takes her by the shoulders...stares straight at her)

Gibbs; “You can’t fight like Ziva...”

Bishop: “I know...”

Gibbs; ‘But you’re smarter than she is...you plan better than she does...The world has changed Bishop..Ziva’s way...My way...it’s over...This is your world now...(He pokes her forehead) “Use your head...be smart...Don’t do stupid things....(Pauses) “...most of all...you come back, Bishop...You hear me? You come back!”

(She looks at Gibbs, wide-eyed....Gibbs looks away, then...He hugs her...and he whispers in her ear)

Gibbs: “I can’t lose another one, Bishop...I can’t...you have to come back....”

(Bishop’s head on Gibbs’s shoulder..her eyes begin to tear.....They part, Bishop wipes her eyes with her hand...)

Bishop: “Got it...okay....”

Gibbs; “Promise me”

(Bishop nods, unable to speak...Gibbs lowers his voice)

Gibbs: “You just got married..you have a child...Bishop...please...Don’t let happen to Torres what happened to me....He won’t make it if you do”

(scene fades to black and white)

THE NEXT DAY

(scene opens at Paris airport...Ziva getting off the plane....She immediately calls Caprice...)

Ziva; “Caprice! Please tell me something! Please!”

(scene shifts to Gordon House, early morning, Gibbs getting dressed for the office, hearing the call...)

Caprice; “Honey, Tali’s okay...she’ll be in the hospital for about a week...”

(Ziva can be heard crying....)

Caprice; “She has a broken leg and a fractured collarbone....”

Ziva; “SHE IS ALONE!”

Caprice; “No honey...she’s not...Tony Sr is there with her...he spent the night on a cot I had them bring in...He hasn’t left her side, honey”

(silence...)

Ziva: (softly) “Oh god...he did?”

Caprice; ‘Yes,honey...She’s asking for you....”

Ziva; “I will be there as fast as I can...”

Caprice: “Now...Ziva...I want you to listen to me...Tony shielded Tali...The car caught on fire, gasoline poured out and was about to pour on Tali....Tony threw himself over her, held her, while the fire poured on his back....”

Ziva: (screams) “ANTHONY! NOOOOOOOOOOO! MY ANTHONY!”

Caprice: “His back is badly burned...but no vital organs were damaged, and his jacket caught most of it...fortunately there was a shop owner nearby that saw the wreck and ran out with a fire extinguisher...Tony’s eyes were burned some from the foam, but they’ll be okay...His lungs suffered some damage from breathing in the heat...”

(Ziva can be heard whimpering....)

Ziva: “My Tony....he saved my Tali...my Tony...”

Caprice: “Ziva honey....Tony’s in a coma right now...”

(Ziva wails.....Caprice closes her eyes, her own tears fall...)

Caprice: ”It’s medically induced...it’s for the pain, honey...he can’t take the pain right now...But he’s strong, he’ll heal..he’ll need care, and...”

Ziva: “I will care for him every minute....I will care for him like I should have all our lives....I have neglected him, neglected my child....I will not make that mistake....”

(Ziva breaks again.....All Caprice can hear are Ziva’s sobs...)

Ziva; “Gibbs...does he know....?”

Caprice; “Yes...he’s right here, baby....”

(She hands the phone to Gibbs..)

Gibbs; “Hey Ziver....”

Ziva: “Gibbs...I am so sorry....I am so sorry....I let you down....”

Gibbs; “No ,Ziva, you didn’t let anyone down...we’ve got it covered...Right now, I need you to listen to me....okay?”

Ziva: (weakly) “Yes, Gibbs”

Gibbs; “Ziva, you are the strongest woman I know...Now you’ve run into what would break anyone...But you won’t break...You’ll go love on your daughter, and cry when you see her because she’s alive...Then you’ll go see Tony...And I don’t care what shape he’s in, you’re going to pop him on the back of the head and tell him, Good job DiNozzo!”

(He can hear Ziva laugh for a moment....)

Ziva; “Yes...I will”

Gibbs: “Now...let’s talk about McGee”

Ziva; ‘Tim! Oh god, Gibbs...Tim!”

Gibbs; “Yea...Tim...I put him on a plane yesterday...he should be...”

Ziva; “Gibbs...Tim...McGee is coming?..Here?”

Gibbs; “Yea, Ziva...did you think he wouldn’t?”

Ziva; “You did this?”

Gibbs; ‘I made some calls, Ziva...that’s not important....”

(Silence...)

Ziva: “It is”

Gibbs; “Okay...Also..Once Caprice talked to the Hospital Director, and mentioned Doc Nuncio was coming...”

Ziva: “Cal? He is.....”

Gibbs; “Yea, Ziver..he’s the best there is...Once she told them he was coming, things started hopping over there...This hospital stuff? She’s the queen bee...hell, she’s the king bee!”

(silence from Ziva..then panic enters her voice)

Ziva; “I have to go to our apartment..I have to get money for the hospital! I have to make sure they take care of...(she starts crying again) “Gibbs! Tell Caprice to tell them I have money! I can pay for their care! Tell them!”

Gibbs; “Ziva! Pam’s got it! She was on the phone with the hospital today giving them all Tony’s information, coverage, Tali as a dependent. She’s got it handled!...Why are you worrying about that? Ziva! Get to the hospital!”

(a moment of nothing....then Ziva speaks, softly...)

Ziva: “Gibbs...there was a time I blamed you for not coming for me...”

(Gibbs hangs his head...)

Gibbs; “Yea...I know...”

Ziva: “You are coming for me now...in your way, a way I should have seen before. The way you know best what I need.....You are coming for me...”

(Gibbs is silent....)

Ziva: “Gibbs....”

Gibbs; ‘Yea, Ziva..”

Ziva: “You are my Abba. And I love you”

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens in Cairo...Bishop enters the hotel room Ziva left the phone in...She lays her bags on the bed, looks around...)

Bishop: “You have lousy taste in hotel rooms, Ziva”

(She takes out her phone, calls Caprice)

Bishop: “Tell Gibbs I’m here...I have the phone Ziva left”

Caprice; “He said once you get there, turn it on....That will allow Diego to track you”

Bishop: “Got it....turning it on now...”

(scene shifts to St. Regis...one of the men with Diego, looking at a laptop, calls out)

Man: “She is back!”

(Diego rushes to the laptop....)

Diego: “Where?”

Man: “I do not know yet....the GPS is still locating her....”

(scene shifts back to Bishop...still on the phone with Caprice)

Bishop: “Uh...Caprice....is Gibbs with you?”

Caprice; “Yes...hold on”

(Caprice hands phone to Gibbs)

Gibbs; “Yea, Bishop”

Bishop: “Did Ziva have anyone working with her?”

Gibbs; “Not that I know of...why?”

(scene shifts to Bishop...she is holding the phone to her ear, staring at 3 men in her room, all dressed in black...all wearing weapons....)

Bishop: “Uh...there are three men here, that came out of nowhere...”

Gibbs; “What are they wearing?”

(Bishop looks at the phone, disbelief on her face)

Bishop: “What are they wearing? Oh hell, Gibbs, I don’t know....all black?”

Gibbs: “Oh...Okay...those are some of her Mossad buddies....”

(One of the men bows....)

Man: “I am Ethan...We are here to help...”

(Bishop stares at the man....)

Ethan: “Tell my friend Agent Gibbs.....(he bows again) “Shalom”

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens in the St. Louis Hospital in the 10th district of Paris...A doctor stands over his patient, a man, laying on his stomach, face laying in a circular pillow, a clear mask over his mouth and nose, large expandable tube coming from the mask to a machine. An anesthesiologist sits on a stool, lowered to a setting allowing him to see his patient. The anesthesiologist looks up at the monitor showing vitals, nods to the doctor. The doctor looks at the surgical cloth covering the patient’s burned back, keeping infection, sweat, other bacteria off the open wound until the surgeon is ready to begin)

Doctor: “He is deep?”

Anesthesiologist: “Oui...as deep as can be and still bring him back”

(The doctor nods...his nurses look at the patient, one closes her eyes, shakes her head...)

Nurse: “So handsome....and so much a good man”

Nurse 2: “Oui...The ambulance driver spoke to witnesses...they said he was screaming..screaming and not stopping...But would not release his child. They had to pry the child out of his arms when help arrived”

(The doctor looks back at the double doors to the OR, waiting....)

Doctor: “Any word?”

Nurse: “He landed over an hour ago...he should be here.....”

Doctor: “This patient....Tell me again why is Dr. Nuncio coming?”

Nurse: “I am told he is family...which family I am not aware of...”

(The doctor turns back to his patient...takes a breath...)

Doctor: “I cannot wait any longer...The clothing was melted onto his skin..The risk of....”

(A voice interrupts the doctor....he wheels around....the nurses look on in surprise as well. Leaning against a far wall, is Cal.....)

Cal: “...the risk of infection is too great to delay removing it...You are correct, Dr. Chenault...please...continue with what you are doing...”

Doctor: “How...You are Dr. Nuncio....I attended one of your...”

Cal: “The removal of burned tissue using laser knives...Yes...I remember you...5yrs ago, 3rd row, orange and white tie”

(The doctor looks at Cal in amazement...he nods, remembering the conference...)

Cal: “I believe you told me the tie was a gift from your wife?”

(The doctor nods again...speechless)

Cal: “Now...please..proceed..Will it help in the communication....”

(Cal starts speaking in fluent French, his Italian accent lending to the surprise...)

Doctor: “Oui..Merci...Doctor Nuncio....You are here for a reason..and I am aware your presence is rare....”

Cal: “At this moment.....My reason for existence, good doctor, is the care of this patient....You are doing an excellent job, and you are more familiar with the tools at your disposal here...Please..continue...But before you do....I would like a word with my friend”

Anesthesiologist: “Impossible, Doctor, forgive me, but he is under...I cannot bring him out then back in....it is too...”

Cal: “Dangerous to the patient...I am aware...But that is not a concern”

(The doctor stares at Cal for a moment...The two nurses both notice something...Cal is staring at the patient, intensely...He squats,by the head of the OR table, looks at the patient’s face...and they both can see small gold flakes dancing in the eyes of the doctor....)

Cal: “Anthony....I know not what to say to you...So brave...so willing to sacrifice yourself for who you love....and now, Anthony, the one thought I want you to embrace, and hold, during this time....”

Anesthesiologist: “Doctor...you are aware he cannot hear you....”

(Cal looks at the man...a small smile....)

Cal: “His ears? Non...but his soul?...Oui…the soul hears what it needs to hear...”

(Cal turns back to the sleeping Tony, the rhythms of the machinery around him making the only noise...)

Cal: “Anthony...your family is coming...your family has gathered around you, your Ziva, your Tali...”

(The anesthesiologist looks at his monitor in surprise....)

Anesthesiologist: “His pulse rate....it is quickening....Mon Dieu!...It is not possible...”

(Cal ignores the others...He continues speaking softly to Tony)

Cal: “All those you love....all those that love you, that love Tali...they are coming...We will care for them...I swear to you, Anthony...we will care for them...”

(The anesthesiologist, as well as the doctor and nurses....they are all watching the heart rate monitor in awe....)

Doctor: “Impossible....his heart rate is slowing now....”

Nurse: “Blood pressure approaching normal, doctor...”

Cal: “We have them, Anthony...We have them in our loving hands....So heal...give them to us, Anthony...”

(The team in the OR looks on in more shock...)

Nurse: “His blood pressure...it is impossible...Doctor Nuncio...He hears you!”

(Cal ignores the nurse...Cal reaches into the padded cushion, places a hand on Tony’s cheek...and softly...)

Cal: “Tony....You are so.....loved”

(Tony's pulse rates rises up.....)

Cal: "They are so loved. Now...rest, my dear friend. I have them. Your family has them. They are held in love without boundaries...rest.....sleep...may your soul be at peace"

(The heartrate decreases....it plateaus at a normal rate...and remains...Cal stands...All are looking at him in awe....Cal looks at them, small smile)

Cal: "A man gave himself for another. There is no greater love....Now..with what we know, let us love him as well"

(Cal nods to the doctor....)

Cal: "If you wish...I could assist?"

(The doctor, blank face, nods slowly....Cal looks at one of the nurses....)

Cal: "If you would be so kind to help me prepare?...But....one moment please..."

(He closes his eyes...and looks into his mind....)

(scene shifts to crowded Paris city streets...Ziva is seen in a Taxi, urging the driver to go faster....)

Ziva: "I WILL DRIVE IF YOU CANNOT GO FASTER!"

(The frustrated cab driver points at the traffic jam in front of them....)

Driver: "Mademoiselle! Cars are stalled! We will move once they are cleared!"

(scene shifts to McGee in a Paris taxi....)

McGee: "Thank you for taking this route..."

Driver: "Oui...I am surprised...normally traffic is horrible...only 3 blocks over, I hear it is impossible to move..."

McGee: "You say we'll be there in 15 minutes?"

Driver: "Oui....almost certainment...."

(scene shifts to Ziva, she is standing outside her cab, screaming at the cars in front...)

Driver: "Madam! Please! They have cleared the cars! We will be going now!"

Ziva; "HOW LONG!"

Driver: "Only 20 minutes! Now please! Get in so I can rid myself of you!"

(Ziva scrambles in the cab....)

Ziva: “I am sorry....my husband....my daughter....they were in terrible accident yesterday....”

Driver: “The man and daughter?”

Ziva: “Oui...my daughter...my..(pauses) “...my husband....”

Driver: “Why not did you say so!”

(The driver squeals tires going around some of the cars...)

Driver: “We will be there in 15!”

(scene switches back to the hospital...Cal opens his eyes.....he nods to the nurse waiting to help him prepare for surgery....)

Cal: “What was needed is done...And now, I am ready....”

(The nurse looks at him curiously, then begins to help him into his scrubs)

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens in Cairo, Bishop in the hotel room....She stands, still watching the three men, dressed in black, black hoods hiding their faces, all three claiming to be Mossad....The leader, Ethan, walks to her...)

Ethan: “You are the one that plans....are you not?”

Bishop: “Who are you?”

Ethan: “A friend....”

(One of the other Mossad agents, his face still covered in his mask, lets out a sarcastic chuckle)

Mossad 2: “She is obviously not Ziva David...”

(Bishop looks at him, glaring...)

Mossad 2: “You can see how easily we surprised her....and her preparations? Infantile at best!”

Ethan: “Adam...Cease!”

Adam: “Why? If she makes it so easy to kill her, then will she not get us killed as well?..Look!”

(He points at an open window...)

Adam: “The window is open? And we are only on the second floor?”

(Ethan shakes his head...he moves to a far wall, leans against it, crosses his arms over his chest...he says to Bishop)

Ethan: “They are young....”

(Adam moves to the window...sticks his head out...)

Adam: “Why not announce to the world, I am here! Come and get...”

(A hand can be seen reaching into the window, grabbing Adam by the collar)

Adam: (screams) “AAAEEEEEE!”

(The hand is seen violently yanking him out, sending him flying out the window into a tree top directly below...Ethan is seen shaking his head, Bishop watches, no expression)

Ethan: (sighs) “Youth”

(Immediately moving onto the ledge outside the window, a figure appears....Torres squats, one hand on the open window frame, staring at the other Mossad agent, who is now moving quickly towards Torres...)

Ethan: “Heiman! Stop! Now!”

(Heiman comes to a stop, glaring at Torres....)

Ethan; “Heiman...if you must, you must....but if you do attack that man, you may wish you were dead...If you decide instead to attack the woman, this man’s wife, the mother of his child, then your wish to be dead may come true....And Heiman? How many times have you been told to focus on all threats, not just the obvious?”

(Heiman turns from facing Ethan to facing Torres....a pistol barrel blocks his vision....it is pointed at his eyes...)

Ethan: “She had that on you from the moment her husband appeared....You were dead less than two seconds after Adam made his...(looks towards the window) ”...unfortunate exit”

(Ethan stands up straight, pulls off his mask...late 40s, greying curly hair, tall, large....)

Ethan: “They are good...but pride is still with the young.....”

(He bows to Bishop..then to Torres....They are interrupted by Adam bursting in through the hotel room door, small twigs and leaves still sticking to his black outfit...he holds his mask in his hand....He quickly enters, then stops...Bishop has swung her weapon around to point at him...)

Ethan: “Adam...Heiman...allow me to introduce you to Nicholas Torres....”

(Both men stare at Torres...their angry faces turn to surprise...)

Ethan: “The one our Ziva refers to as...(pause) “..The Night Wolf”

(Both men look at each other....then back at Torres, then Bishop....)

Ethan: “I believe, Eleanor Bishop...you have some details that are to be shared with us?”

(He looks over at Adam and Heiman, both sitting now, silent....)

Ethan: “If the two of you are adequately humbled enough to listen?”

(Both agents look to the side, humiliated....Adam brushes another leaf off his chest)

Adam: “We will listen”

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens in the NCIS bullpen...Gibbs at his old desk, Dawson at hers...Gibbs looks over to Dawson...)

Gibbs: “I’m putting you on Hawkins’s phone.....”

Dawson: “Old news, Gibbs”

(He looks at her angrily)

Gibbs: “I just said it!”

Dawson: “McGee did that before he left....Hawkins took the 3pm flight to Rio, landed at 7:18pm, rented a 2020 Nissan Maxima, went straight to a hotel, had a Club Sandwich, slept, got up, and is waiting in the hotel restaurant for at least 4 other people”

(Gibbs stares at her....then...)

Gibbs: “Okay”

(Dawson stares back)

Dawson: “Okay? That’s all?”

Gibbs: “Yea...okay”

Dawson: “I track him, get you the hotel he’s at, get access to the surveillance cameras that show his table, call the head waiter station and ask if there is room for one more at the Hawkins table, and get told yes, he’s at a table for 6, but only 4 more are coming? And all I get is an ‘okay’?”

(Gibbs doesn't answer...his eyebrows go up...Dawson looks at her monitor....)

Dawson: "Wait...someone's walking to his table...just one guy....Whoa, Gibbs...."

Gibbs: "What?"

Dawson: "Isn't he one of the good guys that turned to a bad guy but is in the custody of our good guy?"

(Gibbs gets up, walks to her monitor.....looks at the person about to sit down...)

Gibbs: "Yea....That's Jim Starks"

(Dawson clicky clacks...the monitor view changes to other cameras in the restaurant)

Gibbs: "What are you doing? Dawson, we need to keep an eye on that table!"

(Dawson looks at the thumbnail views of different cameras....then she expands one....)

Dawson: "Okay...good guys are there"

(Gibbs looks at the view....Gerald Cohen can be seen at a small table, sipping coffee....Gibbs gives a small smile...)

Gibbs: "Okay...now that's good work"

(Dawson looks at him, rolls her eyes...She looks back at the image of Cohen)

Dawson: "Wait..he's black"

Gibbs: "So?"

Dawson: "Wait again...bi-racial...He was at the wedding"

Gibbs; "Hell, Dawson..so what?"

Dawson: "Good thing this isn't a movie..."

Gibbs: "Why?"

Dawson: "Black people are always the first to be killed in horror movies"

Gibbs: "This is a horror movie?"

Dawson: "Well, it sure hell isn't a comedy!"

(Gibbs shrugs....nods..)

Gibbs: "Okay...I'll buy that"

(She stares for a moment at the image of Gerald)

Dawson: “Kinda cute...for an old man...But older men...(pauses) “He’s the only one that didn’t ask me out....”

Gibbs: “Jesus Dawson! Focus! And grab your overnight bag!”

(Dawson looks at Gibbs in shock....)

Dawson: “Huh?”

(Gibbs turns to her)

Gibbs; “Hawkins is in Rio! We want Hawkins! Do you think he’s going to book a plane and turn himself in? Come on! We’re going to Rio!”

(Dawson stares at Gibbs....says nothing...Gibbs looks up then to the floor)

Gibbs: “Finally...something that shut you up!”

(Dawson jumps up...starts grabbing everything on her desk..)

Dawson: “Oh my god, Rio! I don’t have my toothbrush...bathing suit, yes...curling iron! Oh my god...sunglasses yes, sunscreen no...wait...little black dress...Why do you think he didn’t ask me out? Age? Dress didn’t work...okay Dawson..think...(face brighten up) “Big hair! I’ll do big hair!”

(Gibbs hangs his head while Dawson keeps talking to herself.....)

Gibbs; “This is going to be a long trip....”

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens in circular driveway in front of Paris hospital....One taxi approaches from one side, another taxi coming from the other side comes screeching to a halt, both cabs nose to nose....Both passengers exit in a rush, French paper currency still falling around Ziva’s driver as she throws the money to pay for the trip....)

Ziva: “Thank you!..I have to...”

(She stops...her face looks to the other cab....and she bursts into tears as she sees McGee exit the other taxi, arriving at the exact moment she does....)

Ziva: (weakly) “Tim....”

(McGee turns, sees her...he runs towards her, just as she meets him, embraces him, crying....)

Ziva: “Tim, oh thank god, Tim...thank you for...”

McGee: “He’s my best friend, Ziva...you are too...of course I’m here..”

Ziva: “Tim, he covered my Tali..He would not let go.....Tim...my Tony...!”

McGee: “That’s what Tony does, Ziva....He talks a game, but when someone he loves is threatened...(pauses) “DiNozzo delivers...”

(Her face is buried in Tim’s chest...)

Ziva: “He deserves more than me...I have been so cold...Tim...My Tony...”

McGee: “He gets everything he needs from both of you Ziva...I promise...Now..let’s go up...let’s see what the doctors...”

Ziva: “Cal...They called me...Cal is here! Gibbs sent him! He is good, yes? Tell me he’s good, Tim!”

(McGee gives her a smile...)

McGee: “Ziva...no one’s better than Doc Nuncio...And Gibbs also is the one that sent me, Ziva...and the boss had Pam...”

Ziva; “I know...He has done everything....Caprice...I did not know she was so well known....She arranged everything here at the hospital....”

McGee: “Ziva..in Caprice’s world....(looks at the hospital) “In this world....We are only just learning this...but...She’s the best...people know her, and respect her....Now...you see? Ziva...we may not be blood.....but we are family...”

(Ziva closes her eyes....cries....then...)

Ziva: “Family is a state of mind, Tim...and in my mind, Gibbs...you...all of them...they are my family..No blood could make me love any of you more...”

McGee: “Then hold on to that, Ziva...Now you know you, Tony, or Tali....none of you have to face what comes alone...Okay?”

(She nods, cries again....)

Ziva: ‘I cannot stop crying, McGee! What is wrong with me?”

McGee: “You’re faced with something out of your control, Ziva...That’s hard on everyone...You’ve always been able to control things....Unfortunately, you can’t threaten broken bodies into healing”

(Ziva stops crying...thinks...)

Ziva: “I told the nurse if my Tony and Tali were not loved, cared for wonderfully, I would hurt them...”

(McGee looks at her, shakes his head..)

Ziva: “I would not have hurt them badly, Tim....I promise...”

McGee: “Ziva..you might want to be nice to these people...”

Ziva: ”I do not know how to be nice”

McGee: “I think you do, Ziva....Now let’s go...”

Ziva: “They will not let me see him.....”

McGee: “But they will let us see Tali....”

(She hesitates....McGee looks at her closely...)

McGee: “She needs you, Ziva...”

Ziva; “I am ashamed....I was not there...”

McGee: “You’re here now, and she needs you...now...let’s go...”

(scene shifts to hospital corridor...Ziva and McGee approach the room that Tali is in...A nurse comes out, closes the door behind her...She looks up...sees Ziva...)

Nurse: “My god...you must be that poor child’s mother...She looks just like you...”

(Ziva nods...her hand trembles as she shakes the nurse’s hand....)

Ziva: “How..how is my Tali?”

Nurse: “Strong...quiet...won’t admit she’s hurting....But most of all...she wants to see her mother....”

(Ziva’s face falls...she looks, pleading, to McGee)

Ziva: “She will tell me I should have been there...she will tell me I should not have been away...’

McGee: “Ziva...she might just be glad to see her mother....”

Ziva: “McGee.....I am so afraid....”

McGee: “Then face that fear, Ziva....That’s what you do”

(Ziva nods....wipes her eyes...McGee opens the room door for Ziva....Ziva sees Tali, laying back, eyes closed..One leg is in aluminum braces, clips, pins, held up at a slight angle by a cable over the bed...Her shoulder is in a sling, her face bruised...Ziva stops, her hand flies over her mouth.....tears flow....)

Ziva:(whisper) “My Tali.....Oh my baby...My Tali”

(Tali's eyes open...and she sees her mother)

Tali: (screaming) "MOMMY!"

(The child stretches out her good arm to Ziva, crying as she calls out again to her mother....Ziva runs to the bed, pulls Tali's head to her own face.....both cry, both hug, Ziva covers her daughter's face with kisses....both weep more...McGee watches...)

McGee: "God, I love this family"

(McGee stands back, leans against the door jamb, a smile on his face, watching the mother and daughter heal each other, watching the fears disappear....)

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens in St. Regis hotel...Diego taps on his laptop, looks over to one of the Russian crew with him, looking at his own laptop...)

Russian: "She is approaching..."

(The screen shows a red triangle overlaid on top of street map....)

Russian: "Switching to video street feed"

(He clicky clacks....a black and white video screen comes up....Bishop can be seen in the image, walking up the sidewalk towards the hotel....he clicks the arrow keys to move the motorized camera)

(scene shifts to Bishop....She sees the street view camera attached to the wall of a building., then sees it move towards her....She looks up at it....She gives it a small smile....then blows it a kiss....)

Bishop: "Come on....get mad..."

(scene shifts back to Diego...he is yelling at the screen)

Diego: "You dare to taunt me? You worthless bitch!"

(Bishop's image in the screen shows her turning around...then she looks back, and mouths, clearly...)

Bishop:"Are you coming, asshole?"

(Diego rages.....)

Diego: "Go get her! Go after her and get her! Bring her to me!"

(The lead Russian motions to the man operating the other laptop)

Russian: “Dominic...you are the swiftest of us....go...bring her back..”

(The man nods, closes his laptop, gets up, races out of the room)

Diego: “Bring her...(pause, and he smiles) “...and I will show her what a woman is good for...”

(scene shifts to Bishop, standing on the sidewalk....watching the front door of the hotel...)

Bishop: “Come on....come on, Diego...you can’t let me do this to you....”

(The hotel main door opens and a Russian man comes out...He looks both ways, then sees Bishop...She smiles at him, waggles her fingers at him...then turns and sprints down the sidewalk...The Russian immediately sprints after her)

Bishop: “Get moving Bishop...”

(She races down the sidewalk, weaving in and out of people...She takes a look back, sees the Russian is gaining faster than she expected..)

Bishop: “Crap...Of all the villains, I got sent a sprinter.....Go Bishop!”

(She speeds up her pace, breathing is coming harder now...she looks over her shoulder and sees he’s only 15 feet behind her.....She looks forward, pushes her pace even faster...She sees an alley opening, immediately darts left into it....She runs, slows, then takes several steps, stops..turns....She can see him now, he’s made the same turn into the alley, regained his speed, and now only 10 feet away, his face raging in anger....she can hear his ragged breathing as he extends his arms toward her....Bishop’s heart races, the sounds of it clear in her ears)

Bishop: “Come on.....”

(...An arm slides out from an open doorway, catches the runner directly on his throat...The runner’s legs fly straight up, almost twirling the man over the outstretched arm.....Then the Russian falls to the ground, unconscious)

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens at Paris hospital, Ziva sitting by Tali’s bed, McGee standing next to Tali as well...Tali has McGee’s hand in her good hand....She looks up at McGee...smiles..)

Tali: “Thank you for coming to see me, Uncle Tim”

Mcgee: “Couldn’t keep me away, honey. Your Aunt Delilah will be here in a few days...she wants to see you too”

Tali: “Mommy tells me everyone knows....”

McGee: “Yes, they do, and each one is taking care of you and your dad....”

(Tali looks at Ziva, still crying, her head laid on Tali’s stomach)

Tali: “Mommy?”

Ziva: “Yes, precious”

Tali: “Are you staying?”

(McGee closes his eyes....Ziva straightens up....faces Tali, touches her cheek)

Ziva: “Yes, dearest Tali...I am staying. I am staying forever. I will be with you a hundred years if I have to”

(Tali smiles...Ziva looks at her daughter...lays her head back on her stomach)

Ziva: “I love to see you smile, my wonderful daughter”

Tali: “Daddy says that too”

Ziva: “I am sure he does...(Ziva grins at Tali) “Your father has always been able to make a beautiful woman smile”

(Tali’s smile goes away....Ziva sees it....)

Ziva: “Tali? Are you in pain?”

(Tali shakes her head)

Ziva: “Then my daughter...what is it?”

(Tali’s voice is soft...)

Tali: “I was so scared”

Ziva; “I know, angel....I am so sorry”

Tali: “I saw the truck coming at me....”

Ziva: “My baby...you do not have to....”

Tali: “Daddy saw it too....He grabbed me, pulled me away from the window”

(Ziva listens....McGee does, as well)

Tali: “Then we were hit...and the car went over....everything was so loud...I was screaming,,I think I was screaming ‘daddy’...I don’t know..”

(Ziva’s eyes shed tears....McGee looks away, wiping his....)

Ziva; “Tali, darling…no….”

(The girl continues without hesitating)

Tali: “We stopped…I was still screaming, daddy was screaming my name….and then I could smell it…”

(McGee looks away….Ziva nods, her tears flowing freely….)

Tali: “The fire came. I could feel it….it ran across the doors that were above me….Daddy saw it too..”

Ziva: “Oh baby…no…don’t…”

(Tali’s face scrunches…)

Tali: ”He laid on top of me, he held me….He yelled….”

(Tali sobs…)

Tali: “He told me he had me…He told me not to be afraid…he told me he wouldn’t let go of me…..”

(Ziva sobs)

Tali: “Then he was on fire….and he kept screaming over and over…(her voice breaks, but raises) “I WON’T LET YOU GO! I WON’T LET YOU GO!…(her voice breaks) “He kept screaming that….and then he was on fire…and he screamed again……)

(She breaks again….she begins weeping into her mother’s shoulder, Ziva weeping also…..)

Tali: “Mommy…he didn’t let me go…..Daddy would not let me go…He was hugging me so tight….When people came to help, he would not let go of me…He fought to keep me in his arms”

(Ziva cries….)

Ziva; “I know…I know…and I love him so much for that….”

“Tali: “Mommy….”

Ziva; “Yes, my child…”

(Ziva wipes her eyes….Tali takes a breath..looks at Ziva with a fear on her face that breaks her heart…)

Tali: “Daddy died saving me…Didn’t he…?”

(Ziva and McGee both look at her in shock…)

Tali: “They told me he didn’t die, but they won’t let me see him...That’s how I know he died....They hide these things from children, I know...and now...you are here...and you know daddy is dead..”

(Tali stares at her mother, ready for the blame she knows is coming....then her face scrunches...she can’t stay strong...she cries out to Ziva...)

Tali: “Please don’t be mad at me...I’m...(Tali breaks again...sobs out loud) “I’m sorry! I’m sorry mommy! I’m sorry!”

(Ziva pulls Tali’s face to hers...Tali’s good arm wraps around Ziva’s neck with a strength that surprises her....Tali lets out one, long, wail....)

Ziva: “Oh my baby...my baby...no Tali...No dearest, your daddy didn’t die! My baby, no....He didn’t....He didn’t....He is here....He is burned, they are caring for him..that is why you can’t see him...But he will be okay! My child, my poor grieving child...No....your daddy is alive....he is alive.....daddy is alive....”

(The little girl draws back from Ziva’s neck...she looks at her mother’s face, searching her eyes...hopeful it’s the truth)

Tali: (small voice) “Promise?”

(Ziva nods, smiling, tears running, nodding her head again)

Ziva: “I promise, precious child....”

(Then the guilt Tali was holding in comes out, and Ziva softly holds her weeping child.....McGee steps back, walks softly to the door, leaves the room, closes the door....The nurse is standing outside the door, hands him a box of tissues...McGee takes it, gratefully, wipes his own tears from his face..)

Nurse: “It is the children that capture our hearts and never lets go....Oui, monsieur?”

McGee: “Yea...(nods)”

Nurse: “She needed to hear that she is loved”

McGee; “I know...the poor girl...”

(The nurse looks at McGee, shakes her head)

Nurse: “I meant her mother”

(McGee looks at her in surprise)

Nurse: “We are all children, monsieur....And we all need to know we are loved”

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens in Cairo, in a small house along a dark street, stucco walls, one in a long line of single family dwellings, late night...The small living room is shown, only a few furniture pieces...The Russian soldier is bound , hands behind him, ankles bound, sitting in a wooden kitchen chair...Ethan sits on the coffee table in front of the man, Adam and Heiman in the kitchen...Torres and Bishop stand to the side of the table....The soldier's face is battered, blood running down his face from a cut over the eye. Ethan begins taking off the rubber gloves on his hands)

Ethan: "You are aware if you do not talk to us, we will have to revert to...(pause) "..more primitive methods"

Russian: "Do what you must...I will not talk"

Ethan: "My friend...I believe you"

(Ethan turns towards the kitchen)

Ethan: "Adam! Heiman! Is it ready?"

(voices from the kitchen yell back)

Adam: "He will not talk? We get to have fun?"

Ethan: "Yes, my young protégés....it is your time..."

(Torres and Bishop look at each other...Torres shrugs...Then Adam and Heiman walk into the room...Bishop's eyes get wide...Heiman is holding a tubular metal rod attached to an insulated handle, the end rounded, and glowing white hot)

Ethan: "After we finish here, you will be escorted to a prison of our choosing....The men in that prison will be quite happy to see you....So..in a sense, Adam and Heiman will be doing you a grand favor. You will thank us later"

(The Russian looks at the rod....and he sees in Adam's and Heinman's eyes, they are looking forward to what happens next)

Russian: "What...no...you cannot..."

Ethan: "Oh...I assure you....Can and will"

(Ethan kicks the chair over...The Russian is now laying on his side, still bound....Ethan looks at Bishop and Torres, both in shock)

Ethan: “They are young...but youth also has enthusiasm...And my young friends are quite enthusiastic about their work”

(Ethan pulls out a large knife...He kicks the Russian off the chair, pulls the chair out, tosses it across the room, rolls the Russian on his stomach...He pulls back the rear waistband of the Russian’s black pants, then cuts a slit from waistband to crotch....He takes both his hands, rips the bottom of the pants apart...The Russian’s bare rear end is showing...The Russian starts screaming...Ethan takes a dish towel, wads it, then stuffs it in the Russian’s mouth)

Torres; “I think I just threw up in my throat”

Bishop: “Oh god...they’re not going to....”

Ethan: “They are....watch, friends of Ziva David....”

Bishop; “Please don’t tell me Ziva did....”

Ethan: “No...Ziva David is more purposeful...she prefers slow, calculated...She is a master of nerve endings and pressure points...Us? We are too primitive...and I believe we need this information fast...Do we not?”

(Bishop nods....then as Adam approaches the Russian, he kneels to the floor, Bishop turns her face away)

Adam: (whispering to the Russian) “They will want this part of you, my friend...they will want it and take it....but now, I will insure you never feel the pain of their.....(pause) “...passion”

(Adam touches the redhot rod to the cheek of the rear...The Russian screams, more in fear than in pain)

Adam: “Just checking the effectiveness....I believe we are ready now”

(He moves the searing rod along the cheek skin towards his target...smoke rises up from the burned flesh....The Russian begins screaming into the gag, moving his head rapidly up and down)

Ethan: “What is this? You wish to talk?”

(The Russian emphatically nods his head...Ethan takes the gag out....)

Russian: “He is closing everything down tonight! He is in the hotel room! There are 4 more of me! Only he knows the password! Everything is on his laptop! He said so!”

(The Russian’s eyes are wide with fear....)

Ethan: “I do not believe you...”

(He looks at Adam....)

Ethan: “Adam...proceed”

(The Russian screams out numbers)

Russian: “2874 2874 2874!”

Ethan: “That is the password?”

Russian: “YES! NOW LET ME GO!”

Ethan: “And the phone number of the laptop? Surely there is one to connect with the satellite?”

(Adam touches the tip of the hot poker to the tenderest area on a man....The Russian screams a high pitch painful fear filled scream)

Russian: “614567221465...613567221465! I swear! I am his programmer! I programmed it! I am telling you the truth!”

ONE HOUR LATER

(scene shows Bishop, Torres, Ethan, Adam, and Heinman sitting at the kitchen table...Two men have entered, are rolling the gagged and weeping Russian, still bound, in the area rug on the floor....The men nod to Ethan, he nods back....The men leave the room with the Russian)

Ethan: “He will be taken to our Embassy here...and as agreed upon earlier, your CIA agents will pick him up”

Bishop: “Thank you...”

Ethan: “No thank you’s are necessary....these things are more of a trade than a courtesy...”

Bishop: “Trade?”

Ethan: ‘Yes...We believe the information on that laptop shows several Israeli political figures to be part of this traiterous scheme...Our own countrymen are suffering, while a few get fat off their pain...We will not allow that”

Bishop: “So it’s information you want?”

(Ethan shakes his head....)

Ethan: “Justice....Justice and Accountability....”

Bishop: “Works for me, Ethan....now....”

Ethan: “Now...you are the planner...are you not?”

ONE HOUR LATER

(scene shows Bishop leaning back in her chair, stretching her arms....Ethan and the two Mossad agents look at her in disbelief)

Ethan: “Brilliant...but it is science fiction”

Adam: “It involves moving a satellite....”

Heiman: “Possessing control of Cairo military drones...”

Ethan: “And getting the information to Diego that he can somehow control the satellite for his own use...A jewel he could not resist stealing.....”

(silence....Bishop looks at them, her eyebrows go up...They look at Torres...he shrugs..)

Torres; “She’s a badass...it’s why I married her”

(Ethan looks at Bishop...)

Ethan: “We can facilitate the takedown in the room....”

Torres; ‘With my help”

(Ethan bows to Torres)

Ethan: “It would be an honor”

(Then Ethan turns back to Bishop)

Ethan: ”You have been on the phone.....”

Bishop: “Uh huh”

Ethan: “Presumably arranging these....items?”

(Bishop smiles..nods)

Bishop: “Yep”

Ethan: “You can move a satellite over this region, rename it so Diego thinks it is military, take control of 3 drones, one armed...and when Diego transmits to the satellite, opening his firewall....someone in Paris can remotely access his computer?”

Bishop: “Oh yea...and the armed drone..just a small one...I don’t want to take down a building, just a transformer”

Ethan: “Of course...how would I not know that?”

(Ethan leans forward on the table...)

Ethan: “And you would have us believe you can do these things?”

Bishop: “Already have done these things...The only thing slowing me down is you”

(The three Mossad men look at Bishop....Adam stares at Torres...amazement on his face.)

Adam: “Who are you people?”

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens in Cairo Mossad safe house, late night, Bishop looking at Ethan and the two young Mossad agents. Torres stands behind Bishop, watching...Ethan is staring at Bishop, Adam and Heiman watching their leader....finally, Ethan nods....)

Ethan: “Show us”

(Bishop says nothing, opens the laptop in front of her, waiting for the screen to come to life...it does...she clicks on an icon “Family Reunion”...immediately, a red box pops up...)

ALL PROTECT ON?

(She clicks ‘yes’...everything on her screen goes blank...)

Ethan:”Something wrong?”

(Bishop shakes her head)

Bishop: “McGee’s program..”

Ethan: “Anti-virus?”

Bishop: “Anti-Everything”

(Her screen flickers..another red box...)

PASSWORD

(She types in a series of numbers....)

FACIAL

(She looks into the camera...A think blue line crosses over the image, pixels change, then back to normal...finally)

WELCOME SISTER ELLIE!

(Bishop grins)

Bishop: “Nell did that”

(Another series of passwords, ID requests, and more appear...Bishop clicky clacks through all of them)

TRANSITION COMPLETE – CAUTION ADVISED

Ethan; 'Is that a warning?"

Bishop: "Yea...I'm now linked to enough control panels to start a war"

(Ethan stares at Bishop...Adam and Heiman both are staring at Bishop....Bishop clicks the Audio Connect button....A voice comes over the speakers...)

Delilah: "We're set, El"

Bishop: "Copy that, D...Drone status?"

Nell: "We have 3..Cairo city gave us access to 2 of them"

Bishop: "You said 3"

Nell: "They said no to the armed one..."

Bishop: "And.....you....?"

Nell: "We have 3.. I kinda...you know...borrowed one. I promise to put it back...small flash bang drone...it will take care of a transformer or fuse box..."

Bishop: "The other 2?"

Nell: "One Night Vision, one infra red with dual lenses...Real light or Night life...we're good...They're both in the air near your target location, slow circling to preserve battery life"

Bishop: "Copy that...thank you Nell....CFD...Bird?"

Delilah: "Bird Gamer 12 has been renamed CQ-112...I can only do this for one hour, El...It's a satellite used for serious gamers...There are several thousand Failure To Launch men screaming in their mom's basement right now...They have a tendency to get pissed and start Cyber Attacks on the Pentagon when their gaming stream is interrupted"

(Bishop grins...)

Bishop: "Tim okay?"

Delilah: "He's wearing a black armband in protest, but yea....he's okay"

(Another box comes up....)

Bishop: "Our Rio man is joining us...hold please"

(She clicky clacks..An image of Gerald Cohen comes up,live,on a thumbnail)

Bishop: "Agent Cohen...welcome to the party"

Gerald: "Glad to be here ma'am...Agent McGee briefed me from the Paris hospital....This is a little above my pay grade ma'am..but I'll try and keep up"

Bishop:”Agent Cohen...I’ve read your file...I doubt much of anything is above your paygrade”

(Gerald does not reply....)

Bishop: “McGee is logging on....and if I know him....”

(Another red box pops up....)

MEETING ADMIN HAS CHANGED – THE TIMANATOR IS NOW GROUP ADMIN

Bishop: “Yea...Tim just took the lead”

(Image of McGee comes up...McGee smiles...he can be seen hitting one key...Red box shows again)

EB ADMIN RESTORED

McGee: “Sorry...this computer they gave me is really badass...I had to see if it would override Delilah’s firewalls...”

Delilah: “STOP IT TIM! IT”S EMBARRASSING HOW EASY YOU CAN DO THAT!”

(McGee smiles....Deliliah can be seen in the thumbnail producing a one finger salute to her husband)

Delilah: “Agent Cohen...please ignore my husband....Are you ready?”

(Cohen’s image shifts...he moves the camera to the side...A very nervous Secret Service Agent Starks can be seen sitting next to him, his phone on the table in front of him)

Gerald:”He’s ready...if he balks,…(pause) “I’ll apologize for the blood splatters on the screen ahead of time”

Starks: “I’ll cooperate....If the deal is real”

(Gerald looks into the camera)

Gerald: “For his cooperation in this endeavor, SecState agreed to a probationary period with no jail time...”

(Gerald looks over at Starks)

Gerald: “Outside the United States.....Forever....”

McGee: “Bishop...you have the com....Do we have ground troops in place?”

(Bishop looks at Ethan...He looks over at Adam and Heiman...they nod...He nods to Bishop..Ethan looks over to Torres.....and...nothing...)

Ethan: “Nickolaus....where is....”

Bishop: “He knew we’d pull this off....He left the minute I opened the laptop”

Adam: “But....I would have seen him.....”

Ethan: “Evidently not...”

Heiman: “I am by the door! He did not.....”

Bishop: “Window...”

(The Mossad agents look at the window...open, breeze blowing outside..)

Adam: “Oy....I can speak from experience....the tops of those trees will break a fall”

Ethan: “Agent Bishop....I...we...have just witnessed you pulling together different agencies...people...controls...We have seen your husband leave without confirming a successful gathering of all concerned...”

(Ethan looks over at Adam and Heiman...they are both nodding their heads in agreement)

Ethan: “My young agents...are you watching this?”

(Adam shakes his head)

Adam: “It is....unbelievable”

Heiman: “Truly inspiring....”

Ethan: “Then watch... learn from it”

(He gets up, the other two agents follow suit....Ethan looks back to Bishop...)

Ethan: “You are the hub....”

(The three men are seen clipping mic rings on their necks...)

Ethan: “We will go live once we are onsite...”

Bishop: “Hey Ethan...”

(He looks back...)

Bishop: “They’re good agents...”

(He nods his thanks...)

Ethan: “You will be here alone...Are you certain you would not allow me to dispatch another to guard you?”

(Bishop reaches down to her bag at her feet...she begins pulling out weapons...laying them on the table...)

Bishop: “I’m good....”

(She watches as Adam turns from the house door and walks past her....He goes to the window..He pulls it down...locks it...)

Adam: “To be sure...”

(Bishop looks at him...does scrunchy mouth thing....)

Bishop: “I forgot...Thanks”

Adam: “We are all team now....correct?”

(Bishop nods...)

Adam: ‘Then we watch for each other....”

(Adam leaves the room....Ethan looks at the window....shakes his head...)

Ethan; “I missed it too...unforgivable....such a minor thing...”

Bishop: “Nothing’s minor, Ethan...I’m grateful...”

(Her laptop beeps...Delilah comes up on the image)

Delilah: “Doing a screen share, El...we’re about to switch Gamer Bird one to Badass Launch Bird CQ-112....Gerald...You’re up! Your man ready to pass on this information?”

(scene switches to Deigo, in the St. Regis hotel room...His phone rings....)

Diego: “Yes, my faithful soon to be wealthy servant?”

(He listens....his eyes get wide....)

Diego: “CQ satellite?...Unprotected?..How?”

(He listens...nods..)

Diego: “Yes...they would do a reboot at this time of night....yes...and you say it is....open?”

(Diego listens more....He looks over at the empty chair that the Russian tech was sitting before he left to chase Bishop)

Diego: “I will see for myself...I believe my guard caught the blonde intruder and is still enjoying the fruits of the chase....”

(scene switches to Bishop....)

Bishop: “Tim?”

(McGee’s thumbnail shows him focusing on his laptop)

McGee; “I’m in his system...the numbers the guard gave Mossad were correct...and now....Oh wow...”

Bishop: “Tim?”

McGee: “He’s attacking the CQ system now...Bishop, he’s using some advanced software...How did he....”

Delilah: “TIM! FOCUS!”

McGee; “Yea...Jesus...He’s got access to some programs he should not...someone’s feeding him our experimental attack codes...!”

Delilah: “Tim! Is this important right now?”

McGee: (yells) “YES DELILAH! I WROTE THOSE CODES! THE SAME CODES CAN BREACH YOU AS QUICKLY AS I JUST DID! DO YOU UNDERSTAND ME?”

(silence)

Delilah: “Affirmative Tim...If we fail to take him down...if we don’t get that laptop...”

McGee;(flat voice) ”Then Diego becomes untouchable....No one can stop him from doing whatever he wants...”

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens in Rio, Gibbs and Dawson exiting airport, standing on the sidewalk,looking....A black Mercedes pulls up....the driver exits...Hispanic, middle aged, long scar from his forehead down to his lower cheek....he looks at Gibbs...)

Driver: “Agent?”

Gibbs: “Yea...”

(Gibbs looks up at the sky....)

Gibbs “Weather said a storm was coming...”

(The driver looks up, sees no clouds)

Driver: “Si, signor...but we should make it to your hotel before the hurricane makes landfall”

(Gibbs nods....Dawson looks at both of them, says nothing...The driver helps them load their luggage..they get in the car...Gibbs in front seat, Dawson in rear...the driver pulls away from the curb, heads towards airport exit)

Driver: “Agent...curiosity overwhelms me..If I had not answered correctly, what would...”

Gibbs: “I’d be driving the car”

Driver: “And me?”

(Gibbs looks out his window....)

Gibbs: “Dead”

(The driver shrugs....)

Driver: “You would do that?”

Gibbs: “Nope...(nods towards Dawson) “I’d have her do it”

(Dawson looks at Gibbs, wide-eyed...Gibbs, still looking out his window, allows himself a slight grin)

Driver: “The Chief says he has relayed much to his wife”

Gibbs: “Yea...it’s worked out”

(Gibbs thinks..turns to the driver...face curious...)

Gibbs: “Vampires? Really?”

(The driver begins laughing.....Gibbs allows a chuckle....Dawson is still watching, wide-eyed)

Driver: “Si...my sister...she is obsessed with that movie....”

Gibbs: “Sister?”

Drivers; “Si...Rojas is my brother in law....”

(silence for a few seconds)

Driver: “We are in dangerous waters, signor...we have been for some time....We trust family only, a few others, but only when they have been proven...to be loyal”

(Gibbs looks back out his window...)

Gibbs: “Yea...I know”

(Gibbs gets a text from Caprice....)

Cullens approaching the Voltari– Moon is full..Werewolves about to appear

(...Gibbs reads it..eyebrows go up)

Gibbs: “Werewolves? What the hell is she talking about?”

Driver: “Is there a full moon?”

(Gibbs stares at the driver for a moment....)

Gibbs: “Yea”

Driver: “Then whatever it is you are doing, something is about to happen..The vampires are the good men, the Voltari bad...The full moon means conditions are correct for the animal in the men to come out”

(Gibbs looks at the text...nods...)

Gibbs; “Makes sense...thanks”

(Gibbs looks out the window again....then back at the driver..)

Gibbs: “Werewolves? Seriously?”

(The driver smiles....)

Driver: “Si...the werewolves...muy macho....very formidable...unlike the Vampires, who are sickeningly irritating...However, I believe that is your wife, correct?”

Gibbs: “Yea”

Driver: “Then thank her...say something nice back...”

Gibbs: “Like what? What do you say to a vampire woman?”

(The driver thinks....)

Driver: “Bite me”

Gibbs; “What?”

Driver: “Si...the whiny girl wants to be changed into a vampire and only the vampire can do so...but to change her brings her into a family that includes danger, risk....He is hesitant to do that to the woman he loves....”

(Gibbs looks at the driver....stares...)

Gibbs: “That just made more sense than anything I’ve ever heard”

(The driver’s cell signals a text....he reads it while driving...The driver looks for the next exit, takes it...)

Gibbs: “Where are going?”

Driver: “Your man....he is leaving his hotel...The driver reports he has asked to be taken to a Villa...I will get the address shortly, but it would be in this direction....”

(Gibbs thinks...)

Gibbs: “I know where he’s going”

Driver: “There are also other men with him...armed...”

Gibbs; “Yea...”

Driver: “You are sure you do not wish for help?”

(Gibbs looks out the window again....shakes his head..)

Gibbs: “Dawson...gear up...It’s you and me”

(Dawson reacts quickly...she pulls her weapon out of her bag, clips it on her belt...she takes 2 extra clips out of the bag...)

Dawson: “You doing 9s?”

Gibbs: “Yea”

(Dawson takes out 2 more clips...slides them into her belt)

Dawson: “I’ve got you covered”

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens at St Regis hotel, still dark, a Maintenace office is shown, sitting in front of a desk, files strewn over the desk...the man is bound, gagged...scene shifts to basement elevator door, 4 men in utility worker coveralls enter the Maintenance elevator. One of them inserts a plastic card into the slot marked “Penthouse Suites”...The elevator rises....)

(scene shift to CyberForce Ops room....Tommy and Tabby at their desks, working joysticks...Nell standing behind a third desk, reaching down without looking at the keyboard, clicky clacks 2 keys....)

Nell: “I need infrared over the roof of the penthouse, Tommy”

Tommy: “It’s in place ma’am....sharing view with you now”

(The large TV screen on the wall flips from “INPUT NEEDED” to an image of the hotel roof....Infrared shows 5 red human shapes, one sitting at a desk, the other 4 standing in various positions in the room)

Nell: “Tabby...dimensions of the room...”

Tabby: “32 feet long, 16 feet wide, we’ve got high ceilings ma’am...14 foot”

(Nell looks at the screen....she clicks the keyboard....then keys a switch on the table top...she speaks out loud)

Nell: “St R 1..copy?”

(Torres’s voice comes over the speaker)

Torres: “St R 1, copy”

(The other men in the elevator lower their heads, instinctively listening over their earbuds)

Nell: “Sharing view to your pad....I’ll give you dimensions as soon as you have it...”

Torres; “Copy ma’am...”

(Torres looks at Heiman...he is already pulling a small electronic pad out of his pouch...he pushes ‘power’, waits...the small screen shows a low light glow)

Torres: “St R 1 ready”

(Nell pushes the table top button one more time...she moves her mouse to “Secure Share”..she clicks the key)

(scene shifts to Elevator...image distorted...)

Torres: “St R 1...give us a few...signal distorted...we’re almost to the top floor...”

(The elevator rises....then comes to a stop...Ethan holds a fist up, his weapon pointed at the closed doors...They open...Ethan immediately moves out, left, Adam moves right, both scan the greeting area for the 3 Penthouse suites...)

Ethan: “Clear left”

Adam: “Clear right”

Torres: “We’re good ma’am...signal clear...dimensions please”

(scene shifts To CyberForce...Nell looks at the TV screen....4 additional red shapes enter the image)

Nell: “We have you on infrared...checking other suites...”

(they wait...Tommy moves the drone in a circular motion over the rooftop...)

Nell: “Suite A is your target...Suite B...two forms in bed....(looks) “...sleeping..no threat...Checking Suite C....two more in bed.....(Pause)..sees two forms in bed...)..”Uh....SR 1...they’re busy....I don’t think they’ll interrupt you anytime soon”

Torres: “Uh CF 1, you mind giving us a look? You know...just to make sure....”

Nell: “Negative on the peeping tom, SR 1...”

(A Crackle...)

Bishop: “I HEARD THAT!”

Torres; “YIKES!”

(Nell smiles....Delilah, watching, shakes her head...)

Torres; “Screen clear....what do we have?”

Nell: “Main room 32 wide, entry door in middle...16 deep, rectangle..”

Torres: “I have some ceiling to work with? There is a bogey off to himself, against a wall...he’s a problem”

Nell: “Affirmative...14ft ceilings...”

(Tabby interrupts...)

Tabby: “Ma’am...two ceiling fans...centered...extended poles., approx 10 feet from floor to fan”

Nell: “SF 1, you copy”

Torres: “Copy ma’am...good intel...gracias”

Bishop: “patio doors?”

Tabby: “Straight line from entry door...two french, 12 feet high, one open, swings inward...”

(Ethan looks at Adam....nods....Ethan holds up two fingers...)

Ethan: “CF 1, M2 will post over patio...give him 2...”

(Adam seen walking quickly to a door marked “rooftop entrance, employees only”...He slides the master key through the slide slot, door clicks open...He disappears through the door....)

Bishop: “CF 1...can I get a closer view of the table? Checking for what we’re after”

(Tommy hears...zooms in on the table...The infra red shows the person sitting at the table, then a slight glow on the table top...)

Bishop: “Confirm target on table top...”

(Heiman looks at the image....he shakes his head to Torres...points at another red image showing below the table...)

Torres: “CF 1...we have another image below the table..it’s putting out more heat than the laptop...Frenchy, you on?”

(McGee’s voice comes over the earbuds)

McGee: “Affirmative...hold on....”

(they wait....then McGee comes back..voice anxious.)

Mcgee: “We need that box!”

Bishop: “Repeat Frenchy!”

McGee: “There are two objects! One is a battery backup! Cutting the power won’t stop what that server is going to do!”

Bishop: “Storage?”

McGee; “It’s not a storage unit! Storage doesn’t put off heat! That’s a digital shredder! I’m in his system, and I can’t get past anything other than what he’s got on the screen! He’s downloading what we need and he’s shredding it!”

(Pause)

McGee: “I can see the program! It’s the iOS2! Military Digital Information Shredder! No one can stop it once it’s on!”

Bishop: “Copy RT 1, M1?”

Ethan: “Copy...we’re going in now....”

McGee: “Rip the transfer cord out of that box first!”

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens in Rio, the driver, with Gibbs and Dawson in the car, pull up into the luxurious driveway to the Villa...Gibbs looks around, familiar with it..Dawson is awed at the palms, landscaping, fountains....)

Dawson: “There’s the other half, and then there’s this....daaaaaaamn...”

Gibbs; “Drug money”

Dawson: “Uh huh...”

Driver: “Evil”

Gibbs: “What?”

Driver: “There is evil here....this house....it is regularly used for what is evil...And the man you seek? He is the worst of them”

Gibbs; “He’s a pawn....Diego controls him...”

Driver; “Some things, Si....other things...no”

(The drivers looks at the front entrance as they approach...His eyes narrow...Gibbs watches...)

Gibbs: “Hey...you okay?”

(The driver nods....They reach the entrance to the front...no one is standing outside...)

Gibbs: “No guards?”

Driver: “They are watching...”

(The driver points to a camera hidden under one of top story window ledges....then another in the front shrubs, mounted on a metal pole)

Gibbs: “I didn’t see those last time”

Driver: “That does not mean they were not there, signor”

(Gibbs looks around...)

Gibbs: “What else did I miss?”

(The driver stares at the door....then in a low tone....)

Driver: “Everything”

(The driver exits the vehicle without warning....)

Gibbs; “Hey! No!”

(The driver ignores the warning....He walks to the front door, rears a leg back....)

Gibbs: “Oh hell...Dawson! Go!”

(Gibbs and Dawson exit quickly, guns drawn....The driver kicks the front door of the Villa violently, then enters, a pistol in each hand...)

Gibbs: “Dawson, scan....”

(Dawson is already firing off two rounds....Gibbs looks...She has her weapon out, and a man, automatic weapon in hand, is laying on the ground by the corner of the house...)

Dawson: “1 down!”

Gibbs: “With me!”

(Gibbs bolts for the front door, Dawson behind him....)

Gibbs; “Check left after me!”

(Gibbs runs in, his weapon immediately scanning to the right...he crouches, Dawson comes in, scanning left, then right over Gibbs’s lowered head...)

Dawson: “Clear!”

Gibbs: “Hallway left! Take it!”

(Dawson enters the hallway, immediately firing rounds into the narrow hall)

Dawson: “3 BOGIES! 1 DOWN!”

Gibbs: “COMING!”

Dawson: “NO! I GOT ‘EM!...FIND HAWKINS!”

(Gibbs looks her way for a moment....then bolts towards the rear patio area....He hears multiple gunshots coming from the hallway Dawson went in...he can tell the difference between single shots and automatic weapons....)

Gibbs: “DAWSON! SOUND OFF!”

(He hears two quick single shot taps....)

Dawson: “DO YOU MIND? I’M BUSY, GIBBS!”

(Gibbs finally turns towards the patio...He can see Hawkins, standing by the patio table...hands up, backing up...his face pleading...The driver stands 5 feet away, his back to Gibbs, pointing both western style pistols at Hawkins...Gibbs slowly approaches the patio doors, pushes the lever down on one, pulls it towards him, enters the patio, his gun drawn, pointed at the driver....)

Gibbs: “Amigo...put the weapon down...I’ve got this”

Driver: “No signor...you and your friend...you should leave...”

Gibbs: “It can’t be so personal that you’d murder this man...You’re better than that”

(The driver is silent...then, in a voice filled with regret...)

Driver: “I once was”

(The driver cocks both pistols with his thumbs..He speaks directly to Hawkins...)

Driver: “Angel DelDios Santiago”

(Hawkins trembles...shakes his head)

Driver: “The name means Angel of God....”

Gibbs; (to self) “Oh god...”

Driver: “She was 10 years old...pure...sweeter than this world deserved....”

Hawkins: “I didn’t know! I didn’t know! I just arranged customers!”

Driver: “She...My Angel...She would have forgiven you for her abduction...her entry into your filthy trade...She would have even forgiven you for what your (He spits) “customers”... did to her tiny body when you sent them to this house! (He screams) “SHE WAS THAT GOOD OF A PERSON!”

Gibbs; “Don’t...he’ll pay...”

(The driver ignores Gibbs...Gibbs sees Dawson coming out of the hallway, towards him....He places one finger to his lips...Dawson stops, stares at the scene on the patio)

Driver: “But signor, there are those of us that will not...cannot...forgive....the images of what happened will not go away...”

Hawkins: “No! Please! I didn’t do it! They did it!”

(The driver takes a step)

Driver: “Those of us that cannot forgive...Those of us already living our hell with our memories...We are called....”

(His fingers tighten on both triggers)

Driver: “We are called Fathers”

(Both pistols in the driver’s hands begin firing, over and over....Hawkins’s twitching body is driven into the pool...The driver continues to pour bullets into the floating dead man...Then the weapons are empty. He still pulls the hammers back, and pulls the triggers...nothing but clicks are heard....The driver drops his arms to his side...he turns to Gibbs....his face firm...non-remorseful...)

Driver: “What now, signor”

(Gibbs looks at the driver....then he looks back at Dawson....She looks back firmly....nods her head...Gibbs looks back at the driver...Then he lowers his weapon...)

Gibbs: “We need to search the house for information. We could use a hand”

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens in Cairo...Torres and Ethan stand by the entrance to the suite...Ethan stands to the side..Ethan whispers into his mic)

Ethan: “M3, in position?”

Adam: “In position”

Bishop: “CF 1, transformer in sight?”

(crackle)

Nell: “Crosshairs on it”

Tommy: “Delay time after hitting the transformer, 3 seconds”

Torres: “I go in first...I’ll take the guy at the far wall....He’s the wild card”

Ethan: “He is too far...they will begin firing at you!”

Torres: “They’ll miss”

Bishop: “Affirmative on the miss M1...”

(Ethan looks at Torres....he can see the man preparing himself...expanding his lungs, drawing in extra oxygen...)

Ethan: “Go CF 1”

(Nell hits the ‘fire’ button on the console...on the TV screen, the transformer blows up into a shower of sparks)

Nell: “Go!”

(Ethan puts the card into the slot...he looks under the door at the light shining under, slides the card, the light turns green.....then the light under the doorway goes black...)

Torres: “Go!”

(They burst through the door into the darkness, each man memorizing the layout from the tablet...The patio doors burst inward as Adam plows through, shoulder first, then kneels, his weapon searching....The city light give the room some view....Torres races past the panicked Diego...Torres bends down by Diego as he passes, flexes his legs, then springs up toward the wall at a perfect 45 degree angle...Shots follow him, tearing holes in the sheetrock behind him...He hits the wall with both feet, springs to the left, tucks his arms in, spins in the air, spreads his legs, then lands, from behind, legs on the shoulders of the man on the far side, the ‘wild card’, Torres clasps his feet over each other, quickly extends his arms, wraps a black cord around the man’s neck, Torres violently spins, and a loud ‘snap’ is heard as the man’s neck is broken away from its vertebrae....Torres unclasps his feet, falls backwards, letting loose of one end of the cord, hits the floor on his hands, then twists, two feet hit the floor, then a hand, and his other hand, weapon out, begins firing....)

Diego: “NO! NO!”

(Adam takes down 2 Russian guards with two single shots...Heiman rushes for the laptop....Ethan kills the remaining guard with a blade across his throat....Diego starts screaming at them...They can see, even in the dim light, his finger over the ‘enter’ key...the lights on the backup battery still powering the system...Heinman stands next to Diego, gun at his head)

Heinman: “Move away from the table...that is the only way this ends with you alive”

Diego: “NO! I have information...when I hit this button, it disappears forever! Then it is all in my head!”

Heinman: “Sir...step away.....”

(Diego looks at Heinman...he smiles...)

Torres: “Uh oh”

(Diego plunges his finger down on the key as multiple shots hit his torso.....he falls back.....dead)

(crackle)

McGee: “He hit the key!...I can see the command...it’s gone...it’s all gone....Nooo..!”

Bishop: “McGee! Can we unscramble it?”

McGee: “No....never...”

(another crackle....)

Torres: “Hey McGee....”

McGee: “Yea....what, Torres...”

Torres: “What do I do with this cable? I tore it off when I passed the table....you said something about unhooking it....you know...before we did anything?”

(A drone is hovering outside the crashed in patio door....Torres faces it, grinning big, holding up the HDMI cable that connected the laptop to the digital shredder....)

Heiman: “Confirmed. No connection...he hit a dead key before he died...information on the shredder and the laptop is intact...repeat...intact”

(scene shifts to CyberForce ops room, Bishop in the hotel room...smiles and high fives all around...in the suite, Torres and the Mossad team quickly erase all evidence of their presence, pack up the server and laptop, then disappear out doors and off ledges)

(scene shifts to Paris...McGee leans back, wipes the sweat off his face....)

McGee: “Torres...I love you man...(looks around, nods) “Almost had a heart attack...this would have been a good place to have it”

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens in Rio, Gibbs and Dawson checking into the Plaza Hotel...Gibbs hands Dawson her room card)

Gibbs: “Get some rest...we’ll meet Chief Rojas in the morning...”

(Dawson looks around, awed...)

Dawson: And this is the other half of the other half of the other half”

Gibbs: “It’s paid for...enjoy”

Dawson: “Food?”

(Gibbs looks at her, curious...Dawson looks back...)

Dawson: “Hey...I’m not all rich like you folks...”

Gibbs; “Rich?”

Dawson: “Yea...like you have more than $10 in savings rich...”

(Gibbs looks again...curiously)

Dawson: “Gibbs..you pay me better than the force...I’m grateful...But I have an 11 year old boy, challenged, and it takes almost everything I have for special schools, care, teachers, and day care? For a Down Syndrome boy? Don’t even ask how much that costs!”

(Gibbs stares....He pulls out his wallet...Dawson starts shaking her head)

Dawson: “Oh no....we’re not going there...”

Gibbs: “I forgot to give it to you before we left”

(He hands a credit card to her....she looks at it...)

Gibbs: “Expense card...your name’s on it, okay? In Rio, the per diem is $20 breakfast, $25 lunch, $30 dinner...Anything else you put on there comes out of your paycheck”

(She stares at the card....then at him....)

Dawson: “Huh?”

Gibbs: “Does that shut you up?”

(She nods her head up and down....)

Gibbs: “Thank god! Get the club sandwich, comes with fries....it’s under $30 and fills you up”

(She nods again....)

Dawson: “Hey Gibbs....”

Gibbs: “Yea?”

Dawson: “What just happened at that house....”

(stares at Dawson..then shrugs)

Gibbs: “You report what you think best, Dawson...”

(Gibbs turns, walks off, leaving a slack-jawed Dawson at the desk...The clerk behind the desk speaks to her)

Clerk: “Ma’am...would you like me to have someone take your bag to your room?”

Dawson: “Not if it costs me money!”

Clerk: “Ma’am...at the Palace...we include everything....”

(Dawson stares at the man...)

Dawson: “Then yea....and where do I get a Club Sandwich?”

(scene shifts to Palace hotel room...Gibbs on balcony, on the phone....)

Gibbs: “Loretta...I need Gerald here tonight”

(Listens)

Gibbs: “Yea...I found something at the Villa that complicates things”

(pause)

Gibbs: “Tell me again you trust him”

(Gibbs listens...nods...)

Gibbs: “Okay...then I’ll trust him until I don’t”

(listens more)

Gibbs: “Damn right I wouldn’t let CIA pick up that server! Those people? Jesus!....My people are bringing it home!”

(Gibbs is looking at an open laptop....images of men in compromising positions are on several pages...)

Gibbs: “Besides...We’re going to need the information off of it”

(Listens)

Gibbs: “Why? Because some of your buddies in DC. The ones that control the NCIS budget...Some of their buddies....They have things to answer for...”

(Listens)

Gibbs: “Yea...You’re right.. I want to be the one asking them”

(SecState’s voice can be heard over the phone...)

Gibbs: “No? (pause) “Try and stop me”

(He presses ‘end call’)

(scene shows Gibbs looking over the ocean from his balcony...he looks back at the laptop images...He whispers to himself....)

Gibbs: “They call us...”

(He looks at the families on the beach...happy, together...young sons, daughters among them...)

Gibbs: “We are called Fathers”

(scene switches to SecState’s office...SecState putting the phone down, Helen looking at her expectantly...)

Helen: “Is he going to do it?”

(SecState smiles at her assistant...)

SecState: ‘Of course he is...I told him he couldn’t...”

(Helen gets up, walks to her office....types in a text...hits send...)

(scene switches to Rio...Gibbs looks at the text from Helen...small grin)

Go get 'em!

(Gibbs puts the phone in his pocket...small smile)

Gibbs: "Be careful what you wish for, my friend"

(scene opens in Cairo Airport, Ethan standing in a private office away from the main terminal. The hangar the office sets in has a small private jet in it, the sign on the office door says "El-Savir Transport". Bishop and Torres can be seen standing outside the hangar on the tarmac, speaking with two armed men, both wearing NCIS windbreakers....Torres and Bishop shake their hands, and the two men are seen wheeling a suitcase-sized aluminum box, digital keypad on the side, towards a waiting C-130, all 4 engines running, loading ramp down. Bishop and Torres wait, watching the men walk to the waiting airplane, They continue to watch as the men enter the plane, the ramp goes up, and then after taxiing, the C-130 lifts into the air. Bishop and Torres turn and walk through the large, open hangar door. They enter the private office where Ethan waits)

Ethan: "Your package is secure and on its way...congratulations, my friends"

Torres: "Yea, thanks...That box sure is popular"

Ethan: "For good reason"

Bishop: "It's going to rattle a lot of cages, that's for sure"

(Ethan pulls a thumb drive out of his pocket, holds it up, looks at it)

Ethan: "And we will have some to 'rattle', as you say, when we return home"

Bishop: "I can't believe you got permission to download it"

Ethan: "Only that which pertains to Israel, my good friend...Your compatriot....how you say, "Frenchy"?...(smiles) "...made sure of that"

(Bishop and Torres turn as they hear a noise in the hangar....An airplane pull cart is attaching to the front of the private jet)

Torres: "Pulling it out?"

Ethan: "Yes...it is being readied for a flight"

(Torres looks around the hangar, then back at Ethan)

Torres: "Nice"

Ethan: "Cairo is a hub for us...and the political climate allows us to do so"

(They see Adam and Heiman come walking into the hangar, both smiling...)

Bishop: “They sure seem happy”

Ethan: “They wanted to witness the event”

(Bishop and Torres both look at Ethan, curious...Ethan smiles...He addresses the two young Mossad agents)

Ethan: “Was it as enjoyable as you assumed?”

Heiman: “Yes!”

Adam: “More than yes! It was classic!”

(Bishop and Torres look at the two men, curious)

Ethan: “They went to observe the agents from your CIA, attempting to blend in with tourists, awaiting your entrance into the airport”

Bishop: “What? CIA?”

Ethan: “Yes...They are there to take custody of the box you just watched depart”

Torres: “No way!”

Adam: “Yes! But I am disappointed...they were easy to pick out from the crowds”

Heiman: “It was almost embarrassing...”

Torres: “Dude....how?”

(Adam and Heiman smile)

Adam: “Very bold ‘I Heart Cairo’ T-shirts"

Heiman: “Then the shorts....white socks...and the black polished dress shoes...”

Bishop: “Oh god...don’t tell me they were...”

Adam: “Lace-ups...(smiles)..Oxford wing tips...”

(Bishop hides her face in her hands)

Bishop: “I am so embarrassed....”

Heiman: “And Ray Ban sunglasses...”

Torres: “Hey..RayBans are cool!”

Adam: ‘Inside the terminal?”

(Torres’s face falls)

Torres: “Way not cool”

(Bishop shakes her head)

Bishop: “They are going to be so mad when we walk up to get on the plane...”

Ethan: “They would be....if you were boarding that plane”

(Bishop and Torres turn to Ethan, curious…Ethan watches the private jet being pulled out of the hangar)

Ethan: “I believe it is your wish that you would be able to go to Paris? I believe you have a fallen comrade?”

Bishop: “Tony....”

(Bishop looks at the jet being pulled out.....then back at Ethan...shock on her face)

Bishop: “No way!”

(Ethan shrugs....smiles..)

Bishop: “We can’t do that! That’s too much, Ethan!”

Ethan: “I took the liberty of re-routing your luggage...it is already on board...The pilot is well briefed, will ask no questions, expect no answers. But...before you depart....”

(He turns to Adam and Heiman...they are standing behind Ethan, both holding small, flat wooden boxes...both have a blue and white ribbon tied around them...)

Adam: “We would ask that you wait until you arrive in Paris to open them...Ziva David will explain the contents”

Heiman: “If you remember...before we began, we asked, quite curiously, “Who are you people?”...(he pauses, nods to the boxes) “..We found our answer. It is in the boxes”

(They both bow to Bishop and Torres....then stand up straight...Bishop and Torres move to them, hugs are exchanged)

Bishop: “Thank you both...Ethan...(Bishop hugs Ethan) “You too, Ethan....for everything”

Torres: “Yea dudes, muy muy graciases!..It was something...you guys...you’re straight up badasses”

Ethan: “It was our honor, I assure you...and as we do in this business of ours, we never say good-bye...it is always an assumption, we will see each other again”

(Ethan watches as the cart pulling the plane stops as it clears the hangar...The side door opens, a folding staircase lowers to the ground, the twin jet engines come to life...)

Ethan: “It is time….you must depart...”

Bishop: “Thank you, Ethan...Adam, Heiman...just...thank you....We do want to go see Tony....”

(Ethan looks at the plane, then at Bishop)

Ethan: “Tell Ziva I miss her....tell her what she stood for still stands in some of us”

Bishop: “I will...She’ll know what that means?”

(Ethan smiles...nods his head towards the waiting plane...Bishop gives him one more hug, then Torres does the same....then they both trot up the staircase into the plane...Ethan, Adam, and Heiman watch as the plane’s jet engines increase in volume, then slowly makes its way to the takeoff areas)

Ethan:”How angry were the CIA agents?”

Adam: “Angry...”

Heiman: “Yes....once they realized they had been deceived, they ran for the security office”

Adam: “As fast as they could in those ridiculous shoes”

Ethan: “Then we should leave before they arrive here...yes?”

(Adam and Heiman look at each other, then back at Ethan...both smiling)

Adam: “We wish to wait and watch...In hiding...of course”

(Ethan thinks...smiles...nods)

Ethan: “yes..yes...It will be worth the risk”

(Ethan pauses, watches the jet climb into the sky)

Ethan: “How mad do you think they will be when they discover we (pause) “...borrowed... their jet?”

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens in Rio, Plaza Hotel, Gibbs and Gerald in his room, laptop open on side table, both men sitting at the table...Gerald looks at the laptop, closes his eyes....)

Gerald: “I can’t look anymore”

(Gibbs closes the laptop cover)

Gibbs: “Yea..I know”

Gerald: “I recognize most of those men”

Gibbs: “Yea...me too”

(Gerald gets up from his chair, walks out onto the patio)

Gerald: ‘What do you want from me?”

(Gibbs stares at the Secret Service agent)

Gibbs: “What can you give?”

(Gerald looks back at the closed laptop...he speaks lowly)

Gerald: “I lost my wife and daughter 25 years ago...”

(Gibbs’s eyebrows go up)

Gerald: “They were coming back from my daughter’s first semester in college..Vanderbilt...She was going to be a physical therapist....”

(Gibbs says nothing....waits)

Gerald: “Plane lost power...The pilot did a good job of landing it, one wing came off...half the passengers survived....The other half did not”

Gibbs: “I’m sorry for your loss”

Gerald: “That’s what they teach us to say, isn’t it?”

Gibbs: “Have to say it a lot...part of our business”

(Gerald turns to Gibbs)

Gerald: “Sorry...I’ve been there too. I say the same thing”

(Gerald looks out over the ocean...He sees families still on the beach, by the pool...)

Gerald: “Sometimes I get mad at them...They don’t know how lucky they are...”

Gibbs: “I know”

(Gerald looks at the laptop)

Gerald: “I’m up for retirement in 3 months”

Gibbs; “okay”

Gerald: “I could probably survive the storm....”

(Gibbs stares at Gerald.....)

Gibbs: “Storm?”

Gerald: “The storm I can conjure up if I help you.....I know things”

(Gerald turns to Gibbs....firm face...Extends his hand to Gibbs)

Gerald: “I’ll give you everything I have”

(Gibbs nods..shakes Gerald’s hand...)

Gibbs: “Okay, bubba...let’s do this”

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens at Paris hospital...Private hospital room...nighttime, the room is dark, the lights off except for a low reading lamp by the nurses’ table...Tony lays in his bed, eyes closed, oxygen tubes in his nose...he is laying on his stomach, his head turned, facing Ziva...She sits in a chair, close to his face...She stares at his face...)

Ziva: “They told me you might wake up...they said it could be one minute, or it could be days...or it could be longer..When you do...I will be here”

(She reaches out, touches his face, gently...she continues to talk to him in low tones)

Ziva: “Our Tali is healing...Tim is making her laugh, which is wonderful....Bishop and Torres are here...Did I tell you?”

(The nurse walks in, quietly...Ziva nods to her, gets up, moves from the bed)

Nurse: “How is he?”

Ziva: “The same...but I wait”

Nurse: “It has only been 36 hours since his grafting surgery....it will happen...be patient...”

(Ziva nods...)

Ziva; “Thank you....”

(The nurse walks to the door, rolls in a cart....)

Nurse: “I brought you some food, ma’am...”

(Ziva looks at the nurse...)

Nurse: “Doctor Nuncio’s orders...”

(Ziva looks at her in surprise)

Ziva; “Cal..he is still here?”

(the nurse nods...)

Ziva; “But he received so many calls for him elsewhere...”

Nurse: “Yes...once it was discovered that Dr. Nuncio was here.....(shakes her head) “He was deluged with requests..from all over the world...”

Ziva: “Then why....”

Nurse: “He refuses to leave....”

(The nurse tenderly pulls the pad off of Tony’s back....Ziva turns her head away…)

Nurse: “This cannot be right...”

(Ziva turns back quickly...)

Ziva: “My Tony! What is wrong?”

(A voice interrupts them...Cal is discovered standing behind them...Ziva startles)

Cal: “There is nothing wrong, good woman....”

(The nurse looks at Cal, her face shows awe...she steps aside...Cal approaches the bed..He inspects the burn area)

Cal: “It is bonding nicely....this is good...”

Nurse: “Doctor...good? At this stage....it is wonderful....!”

Cal: “Ziva...come...it is okay...come look”

(Ziva shakes her head....)

Ziva: “I cannot...the pain he must feel...the horrible pain....”

(Cal takes her hand...)

Cal: “He feels very little pain right now, I assure you...the medications I have ordered tend to the pain...But now...(He takes Ziva’s chin, gently turns it towards Tony...) “Let us tend to your pain”

(Ziva hesitates...then nods, turns to look at the burned back...She looks...her eyes open wide)

Ziva: “It is...(voice excited) “It is not as I expected!”

(scene shows Tony’s back, a smooth, pink area covers his back, only slightly rippled)

Cal: “It is experimental, but the tests have been more than satisfactory....I took..(He pulls down the covers, shows Ziva several bandages on the back of Tony’s legs...) “...several small areas of his skin....”

Ziva: “But how? His entire back is burned! There is not enough taken....”

Cal: “I only needed small areas....This treatment absorbs the skin cells from the patches...then the fluid assists in replicating his cells....The fluid then contains his own DNA, his own skin cells, and is sprayed onto the area....”

(Ziva looks at Cal, astonished...)

Ziva: “You spray painted my Anthony?”

(Cal smiles...)

Cal: “In a sense...yes. The treatment is appropriately named ReCell”

Ziva: “So...what happens..after…”

Cal: “That, my fearful friend, is up to his care after...”

(Ziva’s eyes start watering...Her face pleads..)

Ziva: “I will care for him! I will care for him day and night, wonderfully....I will learn how!”

(She pleads)

Ziva: “I know wounds....”

(tears begin to fall....she turns her head...her voice becomes small....child like)

Ziva: “I will care for my Tony...I promise...”

Cal: “Ziva...he will need care beyond what one person can provide....and you also have a daughter to tend to, do you not?”

(Ziva closes her eyes...)

Ziva: “My Tali....”

Cal: “Yes....a brave and wonderful girl....(pause) “That will need her mother...”

(Ziva nods...)

Cal: “Now...I need to tend to my patient, Ziva...why don’t you take this time to go see her? I just left her...she is awake..”

(Ziva looks at Cal...)

Ziva: “You...you are tending to her, as well?”

Cal: “Of course I am...Is this not what we do for each other?”

(Ziva stares at him....)

Ziva; “I have not ever wanted to ask for help...”

(Cal nods...)

Cal: “I am aware...but in this case, .Ziva David,..the help has come without you asking”

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens at Palace Hotel, morning....Gibbs walks into the main dining room, sees Dawson sitting at a table, a plate with a boiled egg on it...He walks up...)

Gibbs: “An egg?”

Dawson: “And toast...refills on toast are included in the price”

(Gibbs looks over at the buffet area....long tables of breakfast food, cooks behind griddles, custom making omelets for guests...)

Gibbs: “Why aren’t you eating at the buffet?”

(Dawson looks at him...then looks away)

Dawson: “If this egg and toast stretch my per diem, I sure as heck can’t afford the buffet! Get real, Gibbs!”

(Gibbs shakes his head...heads for the buffet...he stop...turns...)

Gibbs; “Hey Dawson...this is an all-inclusive hotel”

Dawson: “Yea...so?”

Gibbs: “That means the buffet is included....It’s free Dawson...now, come on!”

Dawson: “FREE?”

Gibbs: “Yea...free.. Go eat!”

(Dawson bolts out of her chair....heads for the buffet...Gibbs shakes his head....he pulls out his phone..walks to one side of the restaurant...dials)

Gibbs: “Hey”

Caprice: (on phone) “Hey back! How are you doing?”

Gibbs: “Okay...how are the kids?”

Caprice: “You mean the McGibbs Day Care?”

(Gibbs smiles..)

Gibbs; “Yea...and thanks for doing it....”

Caprice; ‘It’s no big deal...Danny is playing teacher again...He has Dawson’s son painting, and Nickie is sleeping”

Gibbs: “In your lap?”

Caprice: “Why, of course....”

Gibbs: “You do this mom thing pretty well, McGibbs”

Caprice: “I love it....wish I had more!”

Gibbs: “Hey...speaking of the mom thing...I need you to look into some things for me...”

(He talks, listens, replies...listens...then..)

Caprice: “Oh my god! Of course I’ll do that!”

Gibbs: “Thanks honey....and by the way....good job on the back and forth...”

Caprice: “Thank you, Edward”

(Gibbs chuckles...)

Gibbs: “Yea, Bella, you’re welcome”

Caprice: “You watched the movies!”

Gibbs; “I did not watch those movies!”

Caprice; “Well, you’re going to.....”

Gibbs: “Hey...I miss you”

Caprice: “I miss you too, baby”

Gibbs: “I’ll be heading back tomorrow....”

Caprice: “Jethro...?..What you told me last night...about....”

Gibbs: “Yea”

Caprice: “You can’t get wrapped up in emotions...”

Gibbs; “I know”

Caprice; “I mean it...”

Gibbs; “I know! That’s why when I get back, I’ll need your help”

(silence)

Caprice; “You don’t have to do that, Jethro...but I love you for saying it”

Gibbs: “Huh?”

Caprice: “For wanting to include me...it’s sweet”

Gibbs: “McGibbs...I need you to ground me! I need you to keep my head on straight! And you’ve got good instincts on this stuff...”

(silence)

Gibbs: “And before you say ‘really?”, the answer is yes”

(Gibbs grins....he hears Caprice sniffle)

Gibbs “Hey McGibbs...if you were the vampire and I was the human...guess what I’d say?”

(silence)

Caprice: “.....what?”

(Gibbs closes his eyes....grins...)

Gibbs: “Bite me”

(silence....then...)

Caprice: “Oh my god, Jethro, that’s the most romantic thing you’ve ever said to me! I gotta go....I’m going to cry!”

(call ends...Gibbs looks at the phone...)

Gibbs; “Might be something to this vampire thing...”

(He puts his phone in his pocket, walks towards the buffet, says out loud to himself...)

Gibbs: “Bite me? Really, Gibbs?”

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens in SecState’s office..Loretta sitting behind her desk, Helen sitting in front...)

SecState: “Has the crapstorm started yet?”

(Helen nods, looks at her legal pad)

Helen: “After word got out that NCIS had pulled a fast one on the CIA, yes ma’am...all hell broke loose”

SecState: “People running for cover?”

Helen: “Some...Others?...They’re looking to you for cover...They know you’re marrying the NCIS Director....and they’re trained to call in favors”

SecState: “Do I owe any of them favors?”

Helen: “No...you’ve stayed away from most of that....Thank God..but..(Helen smiles a mischievious smile) “If we run across any that know something, you might consider,..(pause) “Doing them a favor?”

(Loretta thinks....then a small grin)

SecState: “Do them a favor that is really not a favor in exchange for a much larger favor to be named later?

(Helen grins, nods her agreement....Then SecState looks off, then quickly back at Helen, eyes bright)

SecState: “Tell me...really....the Mossad did not actually steal the CIA jet...did they?”

(Helen grins big....)

Helen: “They did...and oh my god, the fur is flying”

(SecState leans back...crosses her arms....smiles an evil smile)

SecState: “I would have given anything to be there when they found out!”

Helen: “Those idiots deserve it”

(SecState nods her agreement)

Helen: “How much flack did Leon catch?”

(SecState closes her eyes, shakes her head...)

SecState: “Oh lord lord lord....”

Helen: “What did he say?”

(SecState stares at Helen.....leans forward....)

SecState: “When they told him what happened...?

Helen: “Yes....”

SecState: “You won’t believe what he did!”

(Helen looks at her, expectant..)

Helen: “What? Tell me!”

SecState: “He burst out laughing!”

(Helen’s face goes into shock)

Helen: “He did not!”

(SecState starts laughing)

SecState: “He did! And I swear to god, he told me he almost peed his pants!”

Helen: “I love it!”

SecState: “Me too! It was nice to hear that the shoe was on the other foot for once....(pauses) “Or the panties were on the....wait...that’s not a good image....”

(Helen laughs)

Helen: “I get it, though...and by the way....Gerald Cohen...”

(Helen places a document in front of SecState)

SecState: “Official permission for Gerald to assist NCIS?”

Helen: “Yes...you know he’s going to ask and Agent Gibbs is going to want him to”

(SecState looks at the document....then face gets serious)

SecState: “Gerald’s wife..his daughter....He’s going to take this one personally”

Helen: “Yes...which is why I prepared this one, too....”

(Helen puts another document in front of Loretta....She looks at it, curious...)

SecState: “Why.....?”

Helen: “Just in case ma’am...for your protection, his protection, NCIS...”

(Loretta looks at it....the title reads..)

RETIREMENT: EARLY REQUEST, TREASURY AGENT GERALD COHEN

Helen: “Ma’am...if this goes south...and it might...Gerald would lose all his benefits...It’s only 3 months early...it’s an easy call ma’am...”

(Loretta looks up at her assistant....stares for a moment...then...)

SecState: “We kind of have our own family here...don’t we?”

Helen: “Yes ma’am...I suppose you could say that. And we do look out for each other”

(Loretta takes the document, reads it over...signs it, hands it back to Helen)

SecState: “By the way...when does it start?”

(Helen looks back at her boss....)

Helen: “Depends”

SecState: “Depends on....”

Helen: “If things go bad”

SecState: “Okay...assuming they go bad...When does his retirement start?”

Helen: “Yesterday”

(SecState looks at Helen, nods, mouths “thank you”...she picks up phone, dials....)

SecState: “Leon....I have a suggestion”

(She listens...replies...nods...listens...then..)

SecState: “Thanks Leon...we’ll do all we can to cover them over here....love you”

(She listens, smiles, hangs up the phone)

SecState; “Leon loves your idea.....he’s going to think about the same thing...”

(scene shifts to Vance’s office...Pam walks in...)

Pam: “That Helen...she’s a sharp cookie”

Vance: “Yes...she is....why?”

(Pam lays a document on Vance’s desk....Vance looks at it, then up at Pam, his toothpick jiggling...The document reads...)

RETIREMENT EARLY REQUEST – ASSISTANT DIRECTOR LEROY JETHRO GIBBS

(Vance stares at it..then at Pam....)

Vance; “When did you do this?”

Pam: “This morning”

Vance: “I just got the phone call...it’s just an idea....”

Pam: “Good one too....Sign it, Leon”

(Vance stares at her, then he signs the document, hands it to Pam...)

Vance: “You’ll file that away, right? Not until we need it?”

Pam: “I’ll put it in Justin’s file”

Vance: “Justin?”

Pam: “Justin Case”

(Vance chuckles...shakes his head, moves his toothpick over to other side of mouth)

Vance: “Pam...who’s running this place...You or me?”

(Pam gets up, exits the room, laughing...Vance shakes his head....)

Vance; “Well hell...I guess that answers that question”

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens in Cairo, CIA safe house...Two CIA agents sit at the kitchen table, playing cards...one of their phones ring...)

Agent 1: “It’s the boss....”

(He answers, places the call on speaker)

Agent 1: “Director...How can we help you?”

Director: “THOSE #$&^$ NCIS PEOPLE DID IT AGAIN! THEY STOLE OUR @@#$*@@#@ JET!”

Agent 2: “Sir? Stole a jet?”

Director: “NO, YOU STUPID SON OF A BITCH! I SAID THEY STOLE ‘OUR’ @@#$*@@#@ JET!”

(Both agents say nothing...then one covers his mouth, stifling his laughter...)

Director: “They’re not going to get away with this....The prisoner handed over to us by Mossad? I want you both in that room...I want names, information, who’s involved,….I WANT EVERYTHING! YOU HEAR ME? WE ARE NOT GOING TO BE LEFT OUT OF THIS!”

Agent 1: “Absolutely, Director….”

(Agent 2 gets up from his chair, hurries to the locked bedroom door, unlocks it, opens the door, enters...Agent 1 is watching...)

Agent 1: “We’re bringing him out now, sir...we’ll get the information...”

(Agent 2 frantically starts drawing his finger across his neck....)

Agent 1: “Director, sir...hold on one second....”

(Agent 1 places the phone on mute..looks at Agent 2)

Agent: “Frank...what the hell....?”

(Frank relays his information...Agent 1’s eyes get very wide..he gets up, runs to the bedroom door...)

Agent 1: “Oh...my...god....”

(Scene shows the Russian I.T. expert laying on the bed, white foam running out of his mouth...his blank eyes verify he’s dead....Agent 1 walks slowly back to the phone, takes it off mute...)

Agent 2: ”Sir...We may have run into....(pause)..”...a slight problem...”

(scene fades out to both CIA agents sitting at the table, heads hanging down, profanity echoing through the room from the phone’s speaker)

(scene shifts to Vance’s office...on phone, toothpick jiggling..He takes it out....)

Vance: ”Yes Gibbs! You’re officially on vacation!”

(listens, rolls eyes)

Vance: “Do I think that’s smart? You’re damn right I do! Now...for once, Jethro, listen!...The word is out on the server and Hawkins...DC bigwigs are either running for cover, or calling Loretta’s office begging for cover! Now, Gibbs...think! Were you planning on swooping down and accusing them on laptop pictures as evidence? From a tech savvy CEO? Do you know how quickly they’d destroy that testimony in court?”

(Vance listens.....nods...)

Vance: “NO! We wait, we plan, we build a case! Do you remember how effective Destiny Bosworth’s documentation was? She killed it!...We do the same thing again!”

(He listens...head rocks back...shows shock...)

Vance: “What?....You agree?”

(Vance looks at the phone, curiously...)

Vance: “Okay...then we’re good?”

(nods...listens....)

Vance: “Uh huh.....yes...Have a nice vacation....and go see DiNozzo!”

(Vance looks at the phone again....)

Vance: “Yes, that’s an order!”

(Vance hangs up the phone....Pam is standing in the door, smiling...)

Vance: “What are you smiling about?”

(She hands Vance travel itinerary for Gibbs....Vance reads it...looks up at Pam...)

Vance: “This is from Rio to Paris”

Pam: “Uh huh”

(Vance thinks....)

Vance: “I just ordered him to go see DiNozzo”

Pam: “Sure did”

Vance: “That means all his travel expenses are covered by our budget”

Pam: “Sure does”

(Vance stares at Pam.....)

Vance: ”He pushed me...he pushed me knowing full well I’d do that”

Pam: “Leon...just sign the papers and get on with running your agency”

(Vance scribbles his name on the travel papers....Pam leaves....Leon sits back in his chair, blank look on his face...)

Vance: (to self) “My agency?”

(scene shifts to Paris Hospital, McGee on phone, listening...his face shows surprise)

McGee: “Cyanide pill? Didn’t they inspect his mouth? That’s the standard procedure for Russians!”

(listens...shakes his head...)

McGee: “At least tell me the server and laptop made it back okay”

(listens, nods.....)

McGee: “Good...tell Kasie to keep it locked up...”

(McGee’s face shows surprise again)

McGee: “Palmer has it? In the cooler? Under a body?”

(McGee thinks..)

McGee: “That’s actually a pretty good idea...If...actually, when, the CIA tries to steal the server, they won’t look there”

(he listens..nods....then..)

McGee: “Good...tell Kasie to call me when she’s finished...I know Diego’s DNA is on the laptop, but I’d like her to check for that, fingerprints, any other evidence that might be on any of the equipment”

(McGee’s phone signals a call...he looks at it...eyebrows go up)

McGee: “It’s the boss calling...I’ll call you back....”

(McGee switches over calls)

McGee: “Boss! What’s the latest?”

(He listens....nods...)

McGee: “Sounds like a good plan. So far, Cohen has shown to be someone we can trust...”

(listens...)

McGee: “What? We’re on what? Vacation? Boss...is that smart?”

(listens....nods head...)

McGee: “Okay..that makes sense....”

(listens...smiles)

McGee: “Yea boss, I’ll pick you up at the airport....tonight? Text me your itinerary and I’ll....”

(McGee listens...)

McGee: “Itinerary...you know, your flight schedule...gate, flight....that thing Pam gives you?”

(McGee’s phone beeps...he sees a text from Pam....he pulls it up...It’s Gibbs’s itinerary....he grins...Pam texts a name....)

Justin Case

McGee: “Never mind, boss...I’ll figure it out”

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens at the Paris Hospital, Tony’s room...Dark again, only DiNozzo laying on his stomach, head still turned towards Ziva, sitting in her chair, looking at his face..)

Ziva: “I have so many things I want to tell you, my sweet, sweet man...I have so many things I want to say. I do not know why I have not been able to, until now, and I am ashamed that it took this to happen so I could”

(She gently strokes his face)

Ziva: “I remember when I first walked into NCIS....I saw you...and I could not breathe for a moment. Everything inside me said to run...run home...run away...Then you smiled at me with that big beautiful smile...and I knew I could not run. I tried, you know I did...and years passed, you and me, walking around that rhinoceros in the room....Then came that night at the airport....I was saying goodbye...”

(She wipes her eyes....)

Ziva: “I could not hold in what I felt...what I had felt so long, anymore....and I remember...oh, my sweet Tony, I remember....I told you that you were so loved”

(She cries...wipes her eyes again....)

Ziva: “We kissed....I can still taste you, feel you against me....”

(She pauses...touches his lips with her fingertips)

Ziva; “We came together...finally...It took my...It took our Tali to do it...and from afar, I watched you, learned more about you than I ever knew, and what I learned was so good, so pure....You always knew the man in you, but you discovered the father in you...What a beautiful and loving father you were...Then one day you found the mother in you. You did not fight it, you did not deny it, you became what I should have been....”

(She hangs her head, cries again....her face looks up at his, a tormented, tearful face...her words barely coming out....)

Ziva: “Then our Tali..what you did....(sobs) “Anthony, you were going to die for Tali....”

(words won’t come out...she takes a breath, and cries out)

Ziva: “Come back to me! Please my Tony, come back to me....I need you so much and I will love you so much and I will never leave your side, I will never hide what I feel, just....just....PLEASE COME BACK TO ME!”

(Her head hangs..... she puts her face in her hands and sobs.....she begins to get up.She feels something touch her arm...she looks down and sees Tony's hand on hers....her other hand flies up over her mouth, her eyes flood.....)

Tony: (weak) "Guess...backrubs...are out of....the question...for a while?"

(She screams...takes his hand in both of hers)

Ziva: "MY TONY MY TONY MY ANTHONY! OH GOD MY SWEET ANTHONY!...."

Tony: (weakly) "Say it again....."

Ziva: "YES! Anything...what...?"

Tony: "The....airport....."

(She weeps, nods her head...Smiling through her tears....each word a cry...)

Ziva: "Tony...you are....so....loved..."

(Then she breaks apart, lays her head next to his.....and he holds her as she releases, her shoulders racked in sobs....)

(scene fades out to Ziva being held by Tony.....)

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens in Paris Hospital room, Ziva standing against a far wall, arms crossed, smiling, wiping her eyes with a tissue, then crossing them again...She looks across the room, and sees Tony in his bed, still laying on his stomach....and next to his bed, a smiling Tali, in a wheelchair, broken leg outstretched, arm in a sling, but making good use of her good arm, touching her father's face, squeezing his arm, telling him how happy she is...McGee slides in next to Ziva....)

McGee: "Nice reunion, isn't it?"

(Ziva leans against McGee...he puts his arm over her shoulder)

Ziva: "It is wonderful"

McGee: "You know, this room is about to get crowded"

(Ziva looks up at McGee, curious...then she hears Tali cry out...)

Tali: "UNCLE GIBBS! YOU CAME!"

(Ziva looks over at the doorway, sees Gibbs standing there....She moves quickly to him, hugging him fiercely....)

Ziva: “Gibbs! Thank you so much for coming!”

Gibbs; ‘Had to, Ziver...Hell, if I want to get any work done, my whole team is here!”

Ziva; “You do not fool me for one minute, you big billy goat grump!”

(Gibbs thinks for a moment...)

Gibbs: “Yea...grump works..So..how is he?”

(Ziva looks over at Tony...smiles)

Ziva: “He is wonderful”

Gibbs; “Doesn’t look too wonderful to me, Ziva!”

Ziva: “That is because you do not see him through my eyes, Gibbs...”

(Gibbs gives a small grin...then surprises her by hugging her)

Gibbs: “I’m happy for you, Ziva...and I’ve missed you”

(She hugs him back....wipes a tear)

Ziva: “I have missed you as well, Gibbs...More than I knew to admit...And that man over there...(she looks at Tony) “I think has, as well”

(Gibbs kisses Ziva on top of her head...Then heads for Tali...Tali reaches out with her good arm, Gibbs bends over to complete the hug)

Gibbs: “Hey pretty girl....” (stares at her) “You are looking more and more like your mother every day”

Tali: “That is what my daddy says!”

(Gibbs looks over at Tony...DiNozzo gives Gibbs a big smile..)

Tony: “Hey boss....”

Gibbs; ‘DiNozzo”

(Ziva walks up, quietly moves Tali away from the bed, giving Gibbs room....She rolls a stool up for Gibbs to sit on...Gibbs sits, now eye level with Tony..Gibbs reaches out, shakes Tony’s hand)

Gibbs: “I heard what you did....”

Tony: “Wasn’t really thinking boss”

Gibbs: “I know...Hey...is there anything you need?”

Tony: “No...(eyes close in pain) “Just some new skin”

Gibbs: “Sorry...I need mine”

(Tony stares at Gibbs for a moment...)

Tony: “Boss....you okay?”

(Gibbs nods...says nothing....)

Ziva: “Tali...sweetheart....Let us give these two some time?”

(Tali looks up at her mother....she shakes her head, looks at her father)

Ziva: “I promise, Tali...we will be right back...and then I will place you right next to your father..”

(Tali looks back...then nods to Ziva...Ziva rolls Tali out, closes the room door...In the hallway, she sees Bishop and Torres talking to McGee)

Torres; “Hey...Gibbs okay?”

Ziva: “I do not know....but it was obvious....”

Bishop: “Give them a few....”

Ziva: “Gibbs is...”

McGee: “He’s still Gibbs...just...different”

Ziva: “I think I like this different Gibbs...”

Bishop: “We all do, Ziva...Caprice has made a difference in his life”

Ziva: “Then I will thank her...”

Torres: “Hey, don’t get carried away here...Gibbs is still Gibbs...Most of the time...”

(Ziva looks back at the closed door...)

Ziva: “Yes...I am sure he is...but not at this moment...”

(scene shifts to inside the room...Gibbs leaning over, hands on his legs)

Gibbs: “I’m proud of you, DiNozzo”

Tony: “Thanks boss...but like you say...I was just doing my job”

(Gibbs shakes his head...)

Gibbs; “No...”

(Gibbs stops...looks up at Tony)

Gibbs: “Yea...you were...you were doing your job...”

Tony: “I heard what you’re up against...McBlabbermouth filled me in”

Gibbs: “Yea..it’s...It’s a tough one”

Tony: “You should be out there...It’s important”

(Gibbs nods)

Gibbs: “So is this, DiNozzo”

Tony: “Ziva told me what you did for her....what everyone did....She was..kind of a mess”

Gibbs: “Like you say, DiNozzo...just doing our job”

(They both say nothing....Then Gibbs leans forward, places his head against Tony’s...He places his hand on the back of Tony’s head, and for long moments, they stay like that...The room door can be seen opening slightly, Ziva looking in....She sees Gibbs and Tony...She quietly shuts the door..She turns back to the others...)

Ziva: “I think....I think I have just seen the most wonderful moment...”

Bishop: “What? Were they crying?”

(Torres shakes his head, rolls his eyes....Ziva chuckles)

Ziva: “No...they were saying nothing....but in that moment, between two wonderful friends....I think...I think they were saying everything”

(Ziva’s eyes open wide...)

Ziva: “Oh no!”

McGee: “What’s wrong?”

Ziva: “Gibbs asked me to deliver a message to Tony when he woke up! I forgot! I must.....”

(from inside the room..)

Tony: “OW BOSS!”

(Ziva smiles....)

Ziva: “I think Gibbs just delivered the message himself...”

(They look at her in confusion...Ziva reaches up, pops McGee on the back of head...)

Ziva: “He just delivered that!”

(scene fades to black and white)

(Scene opens in Washington DC office, man behind a desk, American flag on a pole next to his desk...man is on cell phone, listening....he shakes his head...)

Man: “Loretta, please....we go back a long ways...”

(Man drops his head....puts the phone down....another man, sitting across from him, sits up in his chair)

Man 2: “Senator....she said no?”

(The Senator looks off to the side....)

Senator: “She said no”

Man 2: “BITCH!”

Senator: “Ronald, we have a judgement to face...”

Ronald: “WE? What the hell do you mean by WE? You did those things! I was just along for the ride!”

(The Senator looks at the man....stares for a moment...)

Senator: “I’m sure that defense will hold up well at the hearings, Ron....”

Ronald: “THIS IS MY CAREER! MY JOB WAS TO PROTECT YOU! THAT’S ALL!”

Senator: “They will ask you, ‘Wasn’t it your job to protect those young girls?”

(Ronald gets up....yells at the Senator)

Ronald: “I’m not going down for this! I was just doing my job!”

(The Senator swivels his chair towards the American flag...Ronald looks at him curiously as the older man salutes the flag..Then the Senator swivels back, opens a desk drawer....)

Senator: “Neither of us did our job, Ron...Not really we didn’t....”

Ronald: “I’m not going.....Senator? What....”

(A loud bang is heard....The Senator’s body slumps forward on the desk, the pistol he took out of the drawer still in his hand....Blood flows out on the desk)

(scene shifts to Paris hospital...Gibbs standing in the hallway, on phone....)

Gibbs: “Okay...one down”

(He listens...nods...)

Gibbs: “Yea, Loretta...I’ll tell McGee. We can cross him off the list”

(He listens more.....)

Gibbs: “Kacie has the real information....once McGee gave her the passwords, she says it opened up..but hey....I need something from you”

(Listens....)

Gibbs; “Yea..sorry...Send someone to Kacie..wait....no...Send Helen to see Kacie...They met at the wedding, she’ll trust her”

(Gibbs listens...nods)

Gibbs: “Okay, yea...thanks....I know...This is going to get uglier before it gets better. (pause) “If it ever gets better”

(listens more)

Gibbs; “I’m about to call Gerald...I’ll tell him....but first...that information...I need you to tell me about Gerald...”

(listens)

Gibbs; “Not what’s in his file, Loretta! I want to know about his wife, his daughter, why he hasn’t married again in 25 years, what’s going on inside that head of his!”

(Gibbs listens...)

15 MINUTES LATER

(Gibbs sitting in chair, still listening.....he shakes his head....)

Gibbs: “Loretta...damn....but yea...I get it...In his head he was still married...Hell yes, I get it....”

(listens)

Gibbs: “So he was asked to accompany both of them on their trips? And he refused?”

(pause)

Gibbs: “He refused because he knew where they were going and what they were doing...”

(listens...)

Gibbs: “I know I don’t know for sure...but I’m pretty sure I’m right....anyway...about his daughter...keep going..”

(listens, eyebrows go up)

Gibbs: “WHAT? His wife was bringing the daughter home because of what?”

(Gibbs listens...his eyes close shut, tightly...rubs his eyes)

Gibbs; “Jesus, Loretta...a football player at Vanderbilt...he did that to her...”

(He listens more....)

Gibbs; “Yea...I get it...she wanted her daddy.....aw jesus, Loretta.....”

(Gibbs listens, then the call ends....Gibbs looks off...)

Gibbs: (to self) “Gerald...you’ve been carrying that inside you ever since....”

(He pauses)

Gibbs: ‘No wonder you said you’d do this”

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens in NCIS Autopsy Room...Palmer on phone....)

Palmer: “Yes sir! You know I will!”

(listens)

Palmer: “The deceased, a Senator, just got back from a trip, you need to know where he’s really been not what’s on his itinerary....I understand completely, Gibbs...first thing I’ll do is check stomach contents, see what he’s eaten, trace the food to what country it came from, then..then...then...check fecal matter to compare.....”

(He looks at his phone....call ended)

Palmer: ”Wow...Gibbs must have lost the signal!”

(Palmer looks at his phone)

Palmer: “I hope he’s not mad at me! I’m sure he wanted to know the details!”

(scene shifts back to Paris Hospital...Ziva, Bishop, Torres, McGee, Cal...in Tali’s room...Tali upset...)

Ziva: “Tali, my precious...I assure you...your daddy will be back...”

Tali: “I wanted to go with him!”

Ziva; “No honey...they are taking your father....”

Tali: “I know...to clean him”

Ziva: “Yes, Tali...there are still places they need to.....clean...”

Tali: “You mean debride”

(All of them look at Tali in shock....)

Tali: “I looked it up..I know what they will do for daddy”

Ziva: “Yes...that is what they will do”

Tali: “And it will be painful...I only wanted...just wanted....”

(Ziva looks at her daughter....her face moves to sorrow)

Ziva: “I know, my sweet daughter....you feel if you are with him....”

(Tali nods....)

Tali: “Maybe he would not hurt so much...”

Ziva; “Tali, dearest....I know so much that your father would love to have you near...but he would also not want you to see....It is not a pleasant thing...”

(Cal steps to Ziva...He leans, whispers in her ear...She looks up at him, surprised)

Ziva: “Cal...are you sure?”

Cal: “No...I am not...but this child....”

(He moves so Tali cannot see him or hear him...he lowers his voice)

Cal: (low voice) “She is tormented by guilt. And going forward, she is going to want to participate in his treatment, yes? So...if I am there with her...and I watch...and teach her as they perform the therapy....”

Ziva; “If it upsets her...you will...?”

(Cal nods....Ziva looks over at Tali, leaning in her chair trying to hear them...Ziva nods to Cal...)

Ziva; “Thank you...She...she so loves her father....”

Cal: “Then all the more reason....I will watch her, Ziva...I promise you”

(Cal turns....walks to Tali)

Cal: “Tali...What your father is going to experience...it is painful...Fortunately, we only have the borders to deal with...The coating I applied is taking nicely...but the edges will always be an issue....and in your father’s instance, it is a large area.....”

Tali: “Take me! Please!”

Cal: “Young child, his burns...they are....deep...they will be cleaning muscle as well as tissue...and I want...”

Tali: “TAKE ME! TIME IS PASSING! MOMMY, TELL HIM! PLEASE!”

(Cal shows surprise...Ziva as well....)

Torres: “Hey, Ziva...I think, you know....I think she wants to go be with her dad...”

Bishop: “Yep...what Nick said”

(Cal turns again to Ziva...low voice)

Cal: “Your daughter...she is very aware...and mature...”

Ziva: “Yes...she is....”

Cal: “But she refers to her father as ‘daddy’...”

(Ziva thinks...then looks at Cal)

Ziva: “She stopped calling him daddy years ago....now it is always ’father’...”

(Cal gives a small smile...one eyebrow lifts slightly)

Cal: “Then she is telling you how much she needs to be with him...She is telling you what she needs right now...”

(Ziva looks over at her daughter.....then to Cal)

Ziva; “Yes...she needs...(pause) “She needs her...daddy”

Cal: “Then....(looks at Tali) “Young lady? Shall we?”

(Tali smiles up at Cal....then at her mother)

Tali: “Mommy...I will be brave..I will be brave like you! Do not worry!

(Ziva tears up...nods her head....and watches Cal wheel her daughter out of the room, then Cal stops, leans to Ziva’s ear...whispers)

Cal: “She has not used the term ’mother’ either....(pause) “…mommy”

(Cal pushes Tali out through the doorway...Ziva looks at them in shock....)

Ziva; “She has called me, ‘mommy’....”

(Ziva smiles....then starts to wipe her eyes....)

(McGee looks at Ziva, then at Torres and Bishop...he nods to them...)

Torres: “Hey..not trying to change the subject, but Bish and I ...we got these gifts from Adam and Heiman...and we’d kinda like to know what we got?”

Bishop: “Yes! We’re dying to know!”

Ziva; “Gifts? From Adam...Heiman?”

Bishop: “They gave us these boxes.....”

(Bishop pulls both boxes out of her carry bag)

Bishop: “And told us to open them in front of you...”

Torres; “Oh yea! And Ethan Badass Guy said to tell you...”

(Torres recalls...)

Torres: “Tell Ziva....”

Bishop: “My good friend Ziva”

Torres: ‘Yea..he said that...and he said to tell you that some still stand for what you once stood for”

(Torres stops....Ziva is looking at him curiously)

Ziva; “I do not know!...But the gifts....”

(Bishop hands them to Ziva....)

Torres: “I think it’s Israeli chocolate”

(Bishop looks at him...mouths, “Really?”

Ziva: “Wooden boxes...(looks up at Torres and Bishop) “The wooden box is symbolic of the tables our ancestors ate on...Eating is done at a time of peace...and anyone at the table is a guest...and considered family...”

(She looks further...)

Ziva; “The blue and white ribbon....Israel...a gift with those ribbons mean it is not only a gift from them, but from the entire nation....”

(She looks at them....)

Ziva; “What have you done to warrant such an honor? This is ancient traditional symbolism....very old tradition...And very rare”

Torres: “I don’t know....We did work pretty good together....And they were kinda impressed...you know...Bish called Delilah, Delilah moved a satellite..”

Ziva: “Moved...a satellite?”

Torres: “Yea...it was cool...Then Nell steals some Egyptian drones....”

Ziva; “Steals?”

Torres; “Borrowed...but one, the one with a missile on it...Nell straight up stole that one”

Ziva; “Missile?”

Torres; “Yea..small missle though...not a big one...it was okay...And then we got these really cool images from Nell that showed the rooms...you know..infrared...and there was one room where the couple was...”

Bishop: “Torres!”

Torres: “...sleeping...”

(Bishop glares at him....Torres winks....Bishop scrunchies, then winks back)

Torres: “Hey...uno mas...when Bish was pulling her magic act together, they asked us, “Who are you people?”..You know...like were we aliens or something...Anyway, they told us the answer to that question was in the box”

Ziva: “And Torres...you thought the answer to that question was a box of Israeli chocolates?”

Torres: “Wow...no bueno, Torres...Although Forest Gump might make some sense out of that”

(Bishop looking off....)

Bishop: “Yea...We did put some stuff together on the fly...I didn’t think of that till right now....”

(Ziva continues to stare at Bishop and Torres...she hands the boxes to them....)

Ziva: “Open them”

Torres: “Ziva, I don’t know..”

Bishop: “I’m kinda nervous now, too....Ziva...you open them....”

(Ziva stares at them for a moment...then nods...She unties the ribbon on one...she lifts the wooden lid up on its hinges...She stares at the content...then looks back up at Torres and Bishop...Ziva closes the box...picks up the other box...unties the ribbon, opens it up....looks at the inside..Then she closes the box, lays it next to the other one)

Bishop: "Well?"

(Ziva stares at them....then....)

Ziva: "It is a great honor....I am proud of both of you, and proud of them for recognizing you..."

Bishop: "Ziva! What is it?"

(Ziva turns the boxes around so the opening is facing Bishop and Torres....She opens both lids at once...and in each box lays a black knit hooded mask...)

Torres: "Wow! How cool!"

Bishop: "Yes!..But...They gave us their masks?"

(Ziva shakes her head....)

Ziva: "They gave them to you to honor you…and to show respect, to tell you they see you as equals.....And to tell you...In their eyes, in the eyes of the State of Israel..."

(She pauses, looks at the masks...)

Ziva: "...that you are Mossad. You are family"

Torres: "Oh wow…that is so cool..."

Ziva: "And that is the answer to Ethan's riddle....That some still stand for what I once stood for..."

Bishop: "Family"

(scene shows the masks, then fades out)

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens in DC, SecState's office...Loretta behind her desk, standing...on phone. Vance is sitting in chair across from her, Helen, as well....)

SecState: "Gerald...I'm calling you back to DC"

(Listens....shakes her head)

SecState: “Absolutely not! You accomplished what you set out to do....and performed admirably...The information you gave NCIS, the way you handled your ‘EX’ associate....”

(Listens...)

SecState: “Yes...we have him. The trip back was non-eventful...we have him secured and on suicide watch...”

(Listens)

SecState: “Yes..suicide watch...Why? Oh god...the news hasn’t reached you yet....”

(SecState explains the Senator’s suicide and the Russian prisoner death)

SecState: “So, Agent Cohen...now you can see the severity of what we are facing....AND...and I don’t need to remind you that once you begin working with Gibbs, what is a normal chaotic event quickly morphs into a category 5 hurricane event!”

(listens....nods her head)

SecState: “Yes...thank you, Gerald.....Helen will make your arrangements immediately”

(She pauses.....then...)

SecState: “Gerald...I need you to use your head on this one....I know this hits you where it hurts...but my friend...and Gerald, you are my friend, and Helen’s friend...”

(She covers her eyes...)

SecState: “We....Gerald, we just care about you, okay?”

(She listens...her face shows shock....)

SecState: “Thank you...Gerald...I don’t think I’ve ever heard you say that before....”

(She looks at her phone....the call has ended...)

Vance; “He okay?”

(She looks at Helen...face concerned...)

SecState; “I don’t know, Leon....”

Helen: “What did he say that surprised you so much?”

(SecState hesitates....then...)

SecState: “He said....He said, “Thank you, Loretta....”

Helen: “He’s NEVER used your name before...”

(SecState continues)

SecState: “He said, “Thank you, Loretta...I love you and Helen very much”...then he hung up”

(Helen’s eyes widen..mouth slightly open....)

Vance: “Ladies....that’s a man saying good bye”

SecState: “I know.....”

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens in Paris Hospital...Tony in his room, laying on his side...2 foam squares behind him, propping him up, one behind his head, one on his hips...Ziva wheels Tali into the room, close to Tony’s bed....Tony stretches both arms out to Tali)

Tony: “Hey...I have two arms now...”

Tali: “But I only have one I can use, daddy!”

Tony: “Then I’ll have to hug you enough for both of us....okay?”

(Ziva watches, stands back....Cal walks in, motions for Ziva to step outside....She does)

Ziva; “Cal..is something wrong? Did Tali....”

Cal: “Your daughter was strong, resolute, calm...”

Ziva: “This is not good? Your face....”

Cal: “No young girl, at her age, what she has gone through...should be that calm”

Ziva: “What....what are you saying, Cal?”

(He looks into the room...he sees Tony hugging his daughter)

Cal: “She needs to break....”

Ziva: “Break...to release.....”

(Cal nods...)

Cal: “She is holding everything in....and for her...it is....”

(scene switches to Tony and Tali...Tali leans back in her chair...)

Tali: “Daddy....I need to tell you something...”

Tony: “Okay...what?”

Tali: “Thank you”

(Tony looks at her, curious...)

Tony: “For what, Tali?”

Tali: “For what you did for me”

(He looks at her...stares....)

Tony: “Tali....level with me, okay?”

Tali: “I am simply telling you I am grateful....”

Tony: “Tali.....”

Tali: “That is all...”

(She turns her head away...)

Tony: “I love you, honey”

(Tali doesn’t speak...she nods her head)

Tony: “I love you more than life itself”

(Tali nods....)

Tali: “I know”

(Tony reaches out with one arm...his face contorts in pain....)

Tony: “I love you, Tali”

(He grabs the arm rail of her wheelchair, pulls it closer)

Tony: “I love you..”

(Tali’s chin begins to quiver)

Tony: “I love you”

(Her eyes fill with tears...)

Tony: “Tali...I love.....”

(The child cries out....)

Tali: “I am so sorry Daddy! I am so sorry! I am so sorry.....I AM SO SORRY I DID THIS TO YOU!”

(Ziva begins to rush towards them...Cal places a hand on her shoulder...)

Cal: “No...let it be”

Ziva; “My daughter!”

Cal: “His daughter too....”

(She stops...tears flowing as she watches....)

Tony: “No angel....no...you didn’t do this...no one did this....no one did this....I love you, princess...I love you...”

Tali: (sobbing) “I am so sorry daddy....I am so sorry.....”

(Tali’s head rests on the bed near Tony’s face...he pulls it close enough to kiss it...He lays a hand on her face...)

Tony: “I love you”

Tali: “I love you too....”

Tony: “I love you....”

Tali: “I love you too.....”

(she stops...then in a little girl voice)

Tali: “Will you tell mommy I helped? Will you tell her? I want mommy to be so proud of me...”

(Tony can be seen looking over Tali’s head, at Ziva....)

Cal: “Now, mother....go....complete this healing....”

(Ziva walks quickly to her daughter and Tony....She sits on the bed, kisses Tony on the lips...then holds her daughter’s head in her lap....)

Ziva: “Mommy is very proud of you...My Tali...Our Tali....”

(Tali grabs her mother’s arm...squeezes hard...)

Tali: “I am so sorry mommy....”

Ziva; “I am too, my beautiful child...but we will get through this....we will help each other, love each other, live for each other...”

(Tali stares at Ziva for a few moment...then with a fearful face...)

Tali: “Please stay with us?”

(Tony looks up at Ziva...his eyes asking the same question....she kisses him again...)

Ziva: “Forever, sweet child...(looks at Tony) “Forever, my sweet man....”

(Tony smiles...then grimaces....Cal approaches)

Cal: “My apologies...but this patient? He is due for a dose....”

Tony: “Two doses, doc”

Cal; “One will do, Anthony”

Tony: “Asshole”

(Tali pops her head up)

Tali: “Daddy!”

(Cal smiles...Ziva laughs....Cal speaks softly to himself....)

Cal: “It is in the breaking that we come together....”

Tali: “What did you say?”

Cal: “Nothing, child....nothing you did not already know”

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens in DC...Vance on phone with Gibbs)

Vance; “Sorry Gibbs...got to cut the vacation short”

(listens...)

Vance; “It’s that serious”

(listens more....)

Vance: ”Yes, Dawson is on the plane...she’ll be in the office tomorrow”

(listens, nods)

Vance; “Okay...I can delay your flight until tomorrow...you deserve that...”

(Vance looks at the phone...disbelief)

Vance: “Gibbs..did you just say “thank you?”

(he looks at the phone...the line is dead....He smiles...)

Vance: “Did I just get conned into something?”

(pauses)

Vance; “Again?”

(He dials another number....they answer)

Vance: “Okay Loretta...give me who it was....”

(listens...hangs his head...)

Vance: “I would have never guessed him...Christ...His wife shot him? Then killed herself?”

(He listens...shakes his head....)

Vance: “Loretta...if people are killing themselves, they’ll kill you too”

(He listens...)

Vance; “No...you’re coming to my house....pack a bag....and I don’t want to hear any...”

(looks at phone....)

Vance; “Okay? You just said...okay?”

(They speak more, then the call ends)

Vance: (to self) “She’s scared.....”

(Pause)

Vance: “So am I”

(scene shifts to Paris Hospital...Cal in Tony’s room, Ziva, Tali present...)

Cal: “So you see...it is the best option...”

Ziva; “But we cannot do that! It is such an imposition!”

(Cal nods...then takes out his phone..dials...)

Cal: (into phone) “My Destiny?”

(Cal turns...They speak....Obvious words of affection...)

(Cal finishes, then places it on speaker)

Cal: “They feel it will be an impostion”

(Nell’s voice breaks in)

Nell: “Tony! Ziva! Tali! Get your butts here now! We’re ready for you!”

Dez: “And don’t forget...my room, which, as a married woman, I am happy to say I no longer occupy, AND has room for a king bed and my hosptal bed, AND we have handicap ramps and rails everywhere because my dumbass brother lost use of his legs for a month....”

(Dez continues to rattle off the reasons....Ziva looks at the phone wide-eyed)

Dez: ”AND Tali will have Danny and Ahnjong to play with....”

(Tony looks at Ziva...they both look at Tali....)

Tali: “Aunt Delilah could teach me wheelchair tricks! Then Danny could teach me tricks on crutches!”

Dez; “And your uncle Dilbert could teach you how to climb a wall!”

Ziva: “DEZ!”

Dez; “Sorry...after your leg’s okay...That’s what I meant....”

Nell: “And Tali...you get to help with Prissy and Bessie! And play with Daisy!”

Dez: “Oh..one more thing.....ask your uncle Torres about his pet mountain lion...”

(Ziva’s mouth hangs open....)

Ziva: “I guess...I guess we....”

Tony: “It is our family....”

Tali: “Pet mountain lion...???”

(Nell can be heard in the background...)

Nell: “Hey everyone! They said yes! They’re coming to the D Ranch! Everyone in our family will be together for the first time!”

Ziva: “MOUNTAIN LION?”

Dez: “Ooops”

(Ziva turns her face to the door....yells out..)

Ziva: “TOOORRRRRREEESSSSSSS!”

(scene fades out to Ziva yelling for Torres to explain himself....scene fades to black and white)

THE END