Special NCIS Movie Presentation!

“Italian Disconnection”

Only On the NCIS MOVIE CHANNEL!

PART 1

(scene opens at the Naples International Airport baggage claim area, the baggage carousel not moving...The digital arrival board showed flight landed.....A woman, early 40’s medium build, brown hair pulled back in ponytail, tan slacks, white blouse, watches the carousel...)

Woman: “It didn’t land...tell me it didn’t land....”

(The carousel starts with a loud jerk, starts rotating)

Woman: “Oh god....it landed....”

(One by one, luggage begins shooting out of the door and slides down onto the ramp.....)

Woman: “Maybe it’s not theirs.....I’m not ready for this....”

(Green canvas duffel bag shoots out of the door....the letters can be plainly seen on the side of the bag)

U.S.M.C.

Woman: “Crap.....”

(she closes her eyes...shakes her head.....then a voice....)

“Hoping I wouldn’t land, Mitchell?”

(She keeps her eyes closed....then slowly nods her head up and down....the voice speaks again)

“Hey...open your eyes, Mitchell...Meet my wife!”

(She opens her eyes....Gibbs is standing behind her....)

Gibbs: “We’re on vacation pretending to work....Settle down, Station Chief Mitchell...”

(Gibbs surprises her...gives her a hug...)

Gibbs: “It’s good to see you...”

(Mitchell leans back....looks at Gibbs suspiciously....)

Mitchell: “Who are you...?....Wait...whoever you are, don’t move....I already like you better”

(Gibbs chuckles...)

Gibbs; “Mitchell, my wife...Caprice...”

(Caprice steps out from behind Gibbs...black leggings, black knit blouse, light sweater, black...and a bright green wig....bangs, straight long hair...Mitchell’s eyes widen for a moment....)

Mitchell: “Mrs Gibbs?....”

Caprice: “Caprice, honey....always Caprice...or if you’re addicted to last names, you can call me McGibbs....That’s Jethro’s name for me”

Mitchell: “Jethro? You actually call him Jethro?..”

(The turns to Gibbs)

Mitchell: “My god...the rumors are right....”

(Gibbs looks at her, curious)

Gibbs; “What rumors?”

Mitchell: “That you’ve turned into a human being.....”

(She turns to Caprice...)

Mitchell: “Congratulations on doing the impossible....”

(pause)

Mitchell: “Does he do nice yet?”

(Gibbs rolls his eyes)

Caprice: “No...but I’m working on it....”

Gibbs: “Hey..I’m a sweetheart!”

(Caprice does mock whisper)

Caprice: “Let him think that....it makes him feel good”

(Mitchell laughs....hugs Caprice)

Mitchell: “I like you already....Come on...I’ll take you two to your hotel, then we’ll go to the office....”

Gibbs; “Office first....I want to meet your team, Mitchell...”

(Mitchell says nothing....stands...)

Gibbs; “No Mitchell...you can’t put it off....Christ....If I didn’t know any better, I’d think you didn’t want me here....”

(Mitchell looks up at the flight board readout....)

Gibbs; “Mitchell!...Focus!...We’re not getting back on a plane!”

Caprice; “Honey...don’t you worry...I’ll protect you from this horrible man....”

(Mitchell stares at Caprice....then she turns to Gibbs)

Mitchell: “I like her a lot....You can keep her”

(scene shifts to inside NCIS sedan, driving through Naples...view shows historic architecture, Caprice has phone on, looking at images of Naples...)

Caprice: “Oh my god!...This is beautiful!...”

Mitchell: “Yes it is....No matter how long I’ve been here, I never get tired of it”

Caprice; ‘LOOK!...It’s the Fontana Gigante!...Wow...it IS big!”

(Then...)

Caprice; “LOOK!...The statue of Fernando!”

(Gibbs shakes his head....Then they come to a stop at a traffic light....Caprice looks out the window....)

Caprice: “Oh god...there is it....Everyone quiet....”

(Mitchell turns to Gibbs, curious)

Caprice; ‘Okay..you can talk now”

Mitchell: “What was that for?”

(Caprice looks at the huge building, Italian architecture, large plaza)

Caprice; “That was the Gallery Umberto....It’s holy...It’s on my bucket list.”

Mitchell: “Ma’am...it’s a shopping mall...”

(Caprice looks at Mitchell....shakes her head)

Caprice; “We have a lot of work to do on you, woman”

(They pass by a group of architecturally beautiful buildings...)

Caprice; “Oh my!...What is that?”

Mitchell: “Naples University”

Gibbs; “Your sister still going there?”

Mitchell: “Yes, Angel?...the little snot, who by the way, in NOT an angel, is living with me and living the dream”

Caprice: “The dream?”

Mitchell: “Yes....22 years old, living in Naples, studying architecture in a place that architecture was born....and she’s pretty...so, you can imagine....”

Gibbs; ‘She doing okay?”

Mitchell: “So far so good....It’s been good for her...After mom and dad died, I thought we’d lost her...She took it hard. Now...she seems like she has her head on straight...for once...”

(scene shifts to NCIS Naples office building, outskirts of U.S. Navy Naples Navy Base, in the large Naval Support Activity Building...They park, exit the car....)

Caprice: “This looks like a military academy”

Mitchell: “Almost a twin to West Point...you’re right”

Caprice: “Well...now we know men designed it...only men would do this in the middle of a place like Naples”

(Mitchell looks up at the building....nods...)

Mitchell: “Yea...Can’t deny that...”

(She takes a deep breath....)

Mitchell: “Come on...let’s get this over with....”

Gibbs: “I read the files on each one, Mitchell...they look okay....”

(pause...then..)

Mitchell: “Looks can be deceiving, Gibbs”

(scene switches to Portugal....small two story house on hillside, trees around the house, old, windows open, no screens....scene shifts to inside the house, upstairs in master bedroom....Ziva stands on the small balcony, looking out over the hillside....she turns back towards the bedroom....Tony sits on the bed watching her....)

Ziva: “Thank you again, Anthony....I do not think I will ever stop thanking you for this...”

(Tony shrugs....She walks to him, kisses his cheek)

Ziva: ‘Do not shrug as if it was a nothing thing you did....”

Tony: “I’m glad you liked it”

Ziva; “And what is there not to like? You called ahead...you found out....and you rented the very house I lived in when my mother and father visited....My husband....it is such a wonderful thing....”

(Tony reaches out....takes her hand)

Tony: “You still won’t go in there?”

(Ziva shakes her head...)

Ziva; “No...it is where my Tali slept....It will be different now...I want to remember it as it was...”

Tony: “Maybe it’s not...maybe people kept it the same....You won’t know until you look”

(She looks towards the bedroom door....shakes her head)

Ziva: “Everything changes Anthony....Everything good changes...”

Tony: “Doesn’t have to....One thing that hasn’t changed is how I feel about you...”

(She smiles at Tony....takes his face in her hands...)

Ziva: “You are so loved....and yes, sweet man...that will never change”

(Tony stares at her....says nothing....)

Ziva: “No, Anthony....that will not change....”

(He says nothing)

Ziva: “It is a promise”

(He still says nothing....she kisses him lightly on the lips)

Ziva; ‘I was there...was I not?”

(He nods)

Ziva; “Then I have no other choice than to show you...”

(Tony nods....then grins....)

Ziva; “And that is not what I meant....but as our honeymoon has shown, it is not an unpleasant thought....what I meant was that I will have to show you each day of our lives....”

(His face turns curious.....)

Ziva: “My darling Anthony....please....”

(She sits next to him...)

Ziva: “Those days are gone....There is no doubt....there is no hesitancy...”

Tony: “Fear?..What about fear, Ziva?”

(She thinks...then...)

Ziva: “Only the fear that you are afraid....”

(Tony looks down...then at her...)

Tony: “I’m just trying to get used to it....”

Ziva; “What...that we are married? Is it not what you....”

Tony: “Not being afraid”

(She stops...then embraces Tony)

Ziva; ‘No...never again....It is you...and me....and our Tali....”

(He grins...looks at her...)

Tony: “And....?”

(She smiles)

Ziva: “As soon as it can happen....And if we want it to be here, my husband, we only have two days left until we return...”

(Tony’s phone buzzes.....)

Tony: “I’m ignoring that....”

Ziva: “No, Anthony....look who it is....”

(Tony looks on the bedside table....surprised....)

Tony: “Leon Vance?”

(Tony answers the phone....)

Tony: “Sir?”

(He listens....he looks over at Ziva...she is looking, curious....)

Tony: “Sir?...Are you sure?”

(He listens....then...)

Tony: “Uh...I’ll ask her....hold on...”

(Tony presses mute.....he looks at Ziva....)

Tony: “How would you like extending this...sort of...in Naples?”

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens in small outdoor café on the streets of Naple....3 men sit, talking quietly...)

Man 1: “We have found it”

Man 2: “Then we have to go get it”

Man 1: “It will not be that simple, paisan..”

Man 2: “And why is that? Everything can be simple if one wants it to be”

Man 1: “You cannot simply shoot or kill your way into this...The drive is located at the NCIS headquarters, on the U.S. Navy base....”

Man 2: “Why NCIS? Why is it on a Navy Base?”

Man 1: “Because it was found on an American ship....and because Interpol wants the information...and they did not want it in the hands of the Italian police....”

Man 2: “Smart on their part...we own much of the Polizia....”

Man 1: “It is due to be transferred to the Interpol in 3 days...”

Man 2: “Which means we must obtain it before then...once it is Interpol’s hands, it will be much more difficult to obtain...”

(Man 2 pauses)

Man 2: “Do the pretend polizia at NCIS know what they have?”

Man 1: “No...they only know it is to be carefully guarded until the pickup is done...They know nothing of what it contains”

Man 2: “Then we must have it....Before the fools discover it is the roadmap to our banks and money....”

Man 1: “Si...It was well coded...as is our way...”

Man 3: “Secrecy is always our way....”

(The two men look at the older man sitting with them...the old man smiles, nods...)

Man 3: “La Cosa Nostra....Our way....Si...”

Man 1: “Then, Signor Denaro....What would you have us do to obtain this information?”

(The old man thinks....)

Denaro: “Find someone dear to one that holds the key to where it is....Use that dear one’s life....Then you will find that the ones you fear will come to fear you...and bring you anything you desire”

(The two men nod.....)

Denaro: “Find a dear one, my young paisans...Then do it”

(The old man sips his coffee....wipes his mouth with his napkin)

Denaro: “Then once this person has outlived their usefulness....”

(The two men wait....then...)

Denaro: “Take something that reminds them of what is important”

Man 1: “I do not understand....”

(Denaro looks at the man....then...)

Denaro: “If you want to remind them to not talk, take the tongue...to not relay what they have seen...take an eye..What they have heard?...Take an ear...”

Man 2: “Why not simply kill this person?”

(Denaro sips his coffee again....then..)

Denaro: “We are not animals.....please..We are civilized people...Let us conduct ourselves as such”

(scene shifts to NCIS Naples Office.....No cubicles, only open desks, spaced far apart, filing cabinets serve as dividers....Two woman and one man sit at their desks, all looking at Gibbs and Caprice as they follow Mitchell through the door....)

Mitchell: “Want to meet them now?”

(Gibbs sees a glassed in office in the corner)

Gibbs; ‘That yours?”

Mitchell: “Yea...why?”

Gibbs; “Let’s talk first...then meet”

(Caprice looks around...sees one of the women staring at her, not Gibbs.....in a low voice..)

Caprice: “Sarah...that woman’s staring at me...”

(Mitchell looks over...)

Mitchell: “That’s Alex....an agent, but also serves as our Field Medical Officer...She’s a nurse...and she’s not staring at you, Mrs Gibbs, she’s hero worshipping you....Ever since she knew you were coming, you’re all she’s talked about”

(Caprice looks at Mitchell, surprised)

Caprice: “Me? Why me?”

Mitchell: “Seems in that world, you’re a rock star...”

Gibbs: “Yea, McGibbs...go soak up some of that stuff”

(Caprice looks at Gibbs....)

Caprice; “What do I say?”

Gibbs; “Try hello...always works for me”

(She looks at Gibbs...shakes her head....)

Caprice; ‘Since when have you been the expert on meet and greet, Jethro...?”

Mitchell: “He’s a sweetheart, remember? He said so himself”

(Mitchell starts to move through the doorway)

Mitchell: “Okay Gibbs...say hello and then we’ll talk....”

(Mitchell walks across the open area, towards her office....looks back...)

Mitchell: “Aren’t you at least going to say hello to them?”

(Gibbs looks at her curiously...)

Gibbs; ‘Why?”

(She shakes her head.....keeps on walking....)

Caprice: “Jethro, you two go talk about boring things...I’m going to say hello then tell them what an ass you are....”

(Mitchell’s eyes open wide....looks at Gibbs...he shrugs)

Mitchell: “I really really like her....”

Gibbs: “Yea...me too...Now...office...talk...”

(Caprice moves towards the agents....Gibbs and Mitchell enter her office, close the door....everyone looks towards the glass, curious...Caprice stands by the desks...hands on her hips.....)

Caprice; ‘Well...isn’t anyone going to introduce themselves?”

(The nurse, Alex, stands up abruptly....)

Alex: “Agent Alexandria Romani, ma’am....Field Nurse...10yr RN, Italian hospital system, assigned to NCIS 2 years ago.....”

(The woman hesitates....then picks up a small notepad and a pen.....)

Alex: “And...could I have your autograph please?”

(Caprice looks at her wide-eyed....stands still....Alex pulls the pad and pen down...)

Alex: “Completely inappropriate...You’re right...I’m sorry, ma’am...skip the autograph question....”

Caprice; ‘No...I was just surprised...that’s all...”

Alex: “And ma’am...I do have a question....we...I mean me...we’ve all wondered....”

Caprice: “How the Great Gibbs ended up married? Well...it was...”

Alex: “No ma’am....It’s just that we’ve heard...I mean, they say...”

Caprice: “Okay...what’s the question?”

(Alex hesitates....then...a male voice)

Male: “She wants to know if you brought your shotgun....”

(Caprice brightens....)

Caprice; “Oh...you mean...”

Alex: “Justin ma’am....Justin Case.....”

(Caprice pats the large tote bag slung over her shoulder)

Caprice: “It’s like American Express...I never leave home without it”

(The man stands...extends a hand)

Man: “Leonard Branch...you can call me Lenny...Agent, Interpol Laison, only been here one year...”

Caprice: “You left out your Navy Seal training, Agent....”

Lenny: “Tends to intimidate some people ma’am....I don’t regularly....”

Caprice; “Son...I’m married to Leroy Jethro Gibbs...I carry a sawed off shotgun in my purse...and I’ve been a nurse for over 30 years...what part of that makes you think I’m easily intimidated?”

(The man looks at her, slight surprise...then pulls out a chair for her)

Lenny: “Have a seat, ma’am...”

Caprice: “Thank you”

(She sits)

Caprice; “And bring that paper over for me to sign...I’ve never been asked for an autograph before....”

(Alex scurries towards Caprice, pulling her chair....)

Alex: “Thank you!....Oh my gosh, the other nurses aren’t going to believe this!...”

(Caprice takes out her phone....)

Caprice; “Let’s selfie...they’ll believe it then....”

(She looks at Lenny....)

Caprice; “You remind me of someone.....”

(He looks down at his desk, signs papers....does not respond)

Caprice; “Got it...You’re a Dil type”

Lenny: “Ma’am?”

Caprice; “No one you’d know...a close friend of mine....Dil Bosworth....”

(Lenny’s eyes register quick surprise, then return to normal....He keeps on working on paperwork....Caprice notices...then...)

Caprice; “Before we get started...can you point me to the ladies room? It’s been a while....”

(Caprice seen entering restroom in office building hallway...she pulls her phone out....dials...waits....)

Caprice; ‘Dil...do you know.....”

(listens for a moment...)

Caprice; ‘Oh..it’s 3 am there? Wow..I’m sorry...Anyway....Ex Navy seal...Leonard or Lenny Branch...he seemed to know your name....He’s an agent here in Naples...you know him?”

(She listens....her eyes widen....)

Caprice: “Wait..say that again....You say I need to know something?”

(She listens...)

Caprice; “So tell me what I need to know....”

(She listens for quite a while...then, finally....)

Caprice; ‘My god, Dil...that’s horrible...No wonder he seems to keep to himself...Okay..thank you ….give your pretty wife a kiss for me and kiss that belly too...It’s getting close Dil!...”

(She ends the call....then to herself...)

Caprice; “That poor man...”

(scene shifts to Mitchell’s office...Mitchell sitting on her desktop, Gibbs sitting in a chair...)

Gibbs; “I read their files...Now...tell me what the files don’t show...”

(Mitchell looks at Gibbs....then finally...)

Mitchell: “Alexandria Romani...goes by Alex....spent 10 years in the nursing system here, and a damn good one....She left the hospital to come here...”

Gibbs; “Why?”

(Mitchell hesitates...then...)

Mitchell: “She was at the scene of a car bombing...Italian terrorists...They’d set up a tent, and she was one of 4 nurses tending to on the spot victims....”

Gibbs; “Trauma nurse?”

Mitchell: “That and more...she was a fast riser, well thought of, very competent....”

Gibbs: “What happened?”

(She looks out the window at the group....thinks....then...)

Mitchell: “She was in the tent.....it was chaos....wounded everywhere, people screaming, blood everywhere....then one of the victims turned out to be one of the terrorists that was injured...he had explosives wrapped on his stomach...”

Gibbs: “Jesus....”

Michell: “She grabs the man..rolls him out on the gurney, and was pulling him out the tent flap, when a bomb squad officer notices the explosives are on a timer....He grabs Alex, pulls her back, causing her to dump the gurney....The bomb goes off....and it kills 11 of her patients, 3 of the nurses, and one doctor....”

(Gibbs sits...listens...)

Gibbs; “And she blames herself for not seeing it sooner....”

(Mitchell nods)

Gibbs; “She’s a hero...but doesn’t see it that way....(pause) “How many people were in the tent?”

Mitchell: “35”

Gibbs; “Then she saved 20 people...”

Mitchell: ‘That’s how everyone else saw it...if she hadn’t dragged him out, the bomb would have killed all of them...including herself...”

Gibbs; “How did she survive? She was close....”

(Mitchell hesitates....then...)

Mitchell: “The bomb squad officer that grabbed her covered her when he threw her to the ground...The blast went mostly the other way, but still....”

Gibbs: “Lucky”

Mitchell: “Not really...the man protecting her was killed...he saved her by covering her....”

Gibbs; “Yea...brave man...”

Mitchell: “He was also her fiance’....He was coming into the tent to bring her a sandwich....”

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens on the campus of Naples University....two men, the same ones that were with Denaro, earlier, sit on a park bench in a grassy area...They both look at an image of a young lady on their phone...)

Man 1: ‘She should be exiting that building soon....”

(They watch as students begin to exit the doorway to the building....)

Man 2: “That’s her”

(They both get up....start walking towards the group of students....)

(scene shifts to students...walking, holding books...)

Student: “Think you got it all, Angel?”

(scenes shows young woman, 22yrs old, short brown hair, cut stylishly in a bob, laughing)

Angel: “Are you serious? No way did I get all that!...”

(The two men move closer...they move in behind Angel, following....)

Angel: “I’m going to grab something to eat at the Student Center, then I’ll head home....and study my ass off....”

Student: “Call me if you need help....”

(The other student veers off...Angel proceeds down the paved walkway towards the Student Center....scene shifts to the two men...)

Man 1: “Too many people...”

Man 2: “Agree...we will wait...perhaps after she eats....”

Man 1: “And there will be fewer people around her....”

(the two men continue walking, following 10 feet behind Angel...)

(scene shifts to NCIS Naples desk area....Caprice sits....)

Caprice; “Now...tell me what you know about Jethro and why you think he’s here”

(she looks over at Lenny...he returns the look, politely, but says nothing...then)

Lenny; “Do his job...what else?”

(Lenny looks towards the door....then back at Caprice)

Lenny: “Inspect...train where necessary...what else?”

Caprice: “Get into trouble”

(Lenny looks at her curiously....)

Caprice; “Oh lord, young man.....Jethro wants to retire, and until then, take it easy...He’s been through a lot”

Lenny: “So we’ve heard....”

Alex: “Been through a lot? Ma'am...he’s a legend!...”

(Caprice bends over...whispers)

Caprice; “I know...but don’t tell him that...he doesn’t know....”

(Alex laughs...Lenny gives a small grin...)

Caprice: “But...trouble seems to follow Jethro....and I mean everywhere!”

Lenny: “The good ones don’t talk about what they’ve done...I’ve met a few...”

Caprice; “Almost like they’re embarrassed about it?”

(She stares at Lenny...Lenny looks away...then Caprice looks at Alex, leans over in her chair)

Caprice; “Or guilty they’re still here when other didn’t make it?”

(Alex’s face shows shock...Caprice looks at both of them....and quietly, she speaks)

Caprice; “What you two feel...”

(She nods towards Mitchell’s office)

Caprice; “That man in there has lived with all his life...I live it with him...”

(Caprice straightens up. Both Alex and Lenny look towards the office...)

(scene shifts to Mitchell’s office...)

Mitchell: “Leonard, Lenny, Branch....”

Gibbs; “Navy seal, Interpol, experienced...yea, I got it...he’s good....”

Mitchell: “He was part of the IRT with Interpol...”

Gibbs; “Incident Response Team...yea..the best...”

Mitchell: “What would you do if you were the leader of a 5 man squad, worked together for years, trusted them, risked your life for them....and they lead you into an ambush, desert you, leave you for dead, and they did it because they were paid money to do it?”

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

Gibbs; “Proven?”

Mitchell: “They found the bank transfers....a CI verified it....They took him into a seaside dock warehouse...There were over 20 guns waiting on them...the 4 ran, leaving him alone in a stack of wooden boxes...and all hell came raining down on him...”

Gibbs: ‘Not good...how did he live?”

Mitchell: “He fired his automatic weapon into the floor...cut it up enough to punch it through....”

Gibbs; “And he went into the water below the pier....smart...”

Mitchell: “He’s as smart as they come....and as good as they come...But the team player thing? It’s not that he’s not a team player.....”

Gibbs; ‘Just doesn’t trust anyone....”

(She nods)

Mitchell: “He’ll do his job...you can count on that...but be part of that family thing you have at your place? Share something personal?” (shakes her head) “Forget it....Hell..I’ve never seen him even laugh”

(Gibbs looks out the glass...stares...)

Gibbs: “Seems like he’s laughing now”

(The view is shown, Caprice standing, moving her arms around, face excited, Alex doubled over laughing, Lenny leaning over, face covered, shoulders shaking.....)

(scene shifts to Caprice...)

Caprice; ‘And then Jethro looks at the man laying on our living room floor...sees the shotgun I rigged up under the table, looks at me....”

(imitates gruff voice)

“Works for me”

(Both Alex and Lenny laugh out loud....)

(scene shifts to Mitchell’s office....Mitchell looking at the scene in shock)

Mitchell: “My god....look at them....”

Gibbs; ‘Yea...she has that affect”

Mitchell: “What..making people laugh?”

(He shakes his head...looks at his wife....)

Gibbs; ‘No...giving people what they need”

(scene through the glass shows Caprice waving hands more, then putting them on her hips....mouthing another deep voice....Lenny and Alex laughing more..and then...)

Mitchell: “Oh shit...”

(The office door bursts open....standing in the door is a stunning Italian woman, thick glasses, beautiful, very stylishly dressed....She looks immediately at Caprice....then in a challenging voice....)

Woman: “Who are you?”

(scene shifts to Mitchell)

Mitchell: “Sophia Murano...owns a software consulting company...She’s our McGee...and she’s also Lenny’s live in girlfriend....”

Gibbs; “Yea?...Why Oh shit?”

Mitchell: “You know the stereotypical jealous Italian woman?”

Gibbs; ‘Yea?”

Mitchell: “Multiply that by 10 and you’re got her....”

(scene shifts to open office area....Sophia walks towards Caprice....glaring....)

Sophia; ‘You pretty...You come for my Leonardo? You talk with him without me knowing, then come to work to steal his heart? That is right?.....”

(Caprice stares at her....cocks her head)

Caprice; ‘That’s my husband in there”

(She nods to Mitchell’s office...both Mitchell and Gibbs standing, watching)

Sophia: “Married, no married...it make no....”

Lenny: “Sophie....she’s okay....chill....”

(Sophia looks at Lenny...her face still hard....)

Sophia; “You no want this woman?”

Lenny: “Just you baby”

(She says nothing....then...)

Sophia: “You tell me truth?”

Lenny: “Always have baby”

Sophia: “You know...I know all women want you....It drive me crazy....”

(Lenny sighs...)

Lenny: “No Sophie...all women don’t want me...”

Sophia; “I want you...and if I want you, they want you....if not, they stupid....”

Lenny: “Lots of stupid women out there, honey”

(scene shifts to Mitchell’s office)

Mitchell: “Oh boy...this is about the time Sophia decks someone”

Gibbs: “Wait...Caprice knows how to handle herself”

(scene shifts to Sophia....She stares at Caprice..Caprice looks at Sophia’s scarf...)

Caprice; “That’s a Hermes scarf....”

(Sophia lifts her scarf, looks at it)

Sophia: “Of course...they finest anywhere”

(Caprice looks at her shoes....)

Caprice: “Your shoes....Valentino Garavani?”

(Sophia looks down...nods...surprise on her face...)

Caprice: “My husband in there? He remodeled one of our bedrooms into the baddest ass closet dressing room...Just for me....”

(Sophia’s eyes get wide...Lenny shakes his head)

Sophia; ‘You have bedroom for closet?”

Caprice: “Sure do...wanna see pictures?”

(Sophia quickly nods her head....Caprice takes out phone...starts scrolling...)

Caprice: “This is the 3 piece mirror....with light bars....”

(Caprice keeps talking....Sophia looks in amazement....then...)

Caprice; “This is man that love his woman!....And woman that love man back!...”

(She looks at Lenny...her eyes narrow....Lenny shakes his head)

Lenny: ”You want a closet...I’ll build you a closet....”

Caprice; ‘Do it while we’re here, Jethro will help you!”

Lenny: “Good thing...I can’t build worth a damn”

(Sophia runs to Lenny...embraces him)

Sophia “I am so sorry....I get so jealous...you such good man, such wonderful man....I go crazy.....”

(She looks back at Caprice)

Sophia; “You going shopping while you are here?”

Caprice; “Ya think?”

(Sophia smiles....)

Sophia: “I take you...I have special people at each store...we get best deals, best prices, best of everything....”

Caprice; ‘You have personal shoppers?...Oh my god!”

(scene shifts to Mitchell’s office....Mitchell shakes her head)

Mitchell: “Now I see why you married her....”

Gibbs; “Yea....she said we should flip a coin...heads she wins, tails I lose....”

(Gibbs pauses....)

Gibbs; “Now...tell me more about this thing you're holding for Interpol”

(Mitchell looks towards a painting on the wall...pulls it off, revealing a wall safe...punches numbers, takes out a small plastic envelope with a thumb drive...)

Mitchell; 'I don't have a clue what's on it...but it's damn important, that's all I know"

Gibbs; 'Interpol picking it up...right?"

Mitchell: "Yea...3 days..."

(scene shifts to Naples University...Angel Mitchell leaves the Student Center, walking alone down a pathway towards the bicycle parking lot....)

"Excuse me...aren't you Angel Mitchell?"

(scene fades to black and white)

Part 2

(scene opens in the office of Naples NCIS, Mitchell and Gibbs standing at the glass wall, watching Sophia rant)

Gibbs: "Branch seems to be okay with her"

(View shows Lenny Branch, leaning back, watching the dynamics between Caprice and Sophia, calm expression on his face)

Mitchell: "Calm in the face of battle"

(Gibbs shakes his head)

Gibbs: "Pretty calm...considering"

Mitchell: "Shocked the hell outa me..especially considering how they met"

(Gibbs still staring at Branch, watching...)

Gibbs; 'How?"

Mitchell: "It was his second or third day here...We didn't know what to think about him, even Stan was trying to get a handle on him"

(Gibbs turns to Mitchell)

Gibbs: “Stan?”

Mitchell: “Yea...Stan brought him in, but we all suspected he was forced to put him on...They weren’t best buddies, but they weren’t enemies...”

(Gibbs turns back to watching the bullpen)

Gibbs: “Vance put him here”

(Mitchell looks at Gibbs....)

Mitchell; “Why?”

Gibbs; “Leon doesn’t tell me things....I was just a team leader then”

(Pause)

Gibbs: “Tell me how Branch and...” (pause) “...Sophia met”

Mitchell: “It was a dark and stormy night....”

(Gibbs looks at her, scowls...)

Gibbs; “It’s not story time, Mitchell...”

Mitchell: “No...it really was a dark and stormy night....Tells you something about Branch...Sophia had been in our office every day, three days straight, driving everyone crazy, even Stan....Leonardo had been at the Interpol Office, wrapping up the last case he worked on....then...”

THEN

(scene opens in Naples NCIS bullpen, Sophia standing in the middle, yelling...)

Sophia: “I tell you he hit me and you do nothing! You are worse than he is!...When will you arrest him?”

(The office door opens...Branch walks in....looks at Sophia yelling, ignores her, walks to his desk, sits...Sophia looks at him....)

Sophia: “YOU!...YOU NEW!...Are you coward or man?”

(Branch looks up at her...calmly...)

Branch: “What seems to be the problem ma’am...?”

(Sophia walks to his desk, starts pointing a finger at him, talking fast, a combination of Italian and English..)

Sophia: “We go on date!...He want more than I want to give!....”

Branch: “Ma’am...slow down...did he assault you?”

Sophia: “YES! HE KISS ME!...I say no!....”

(Mitchell chimes in...)

Mitchell: “Seems the Ensign won’t give up...she says he keeps following her, texting her”

Sophia; “YES!...HE STALKER!....And no one will do anything!....”

(She waves her hand over the bullpen..)

Sophia; ‘COWARDS!...YOU ALL BITCHES OF SONS!”

(Branch stares at her....then...)

Branch: “Where is he?”

(Sophia looks at Branch...hesitates...)

Sophia: “He outside...he parked by my car....”

Branch: “He followed you here.....”

Sophia: “Yes...”

(She lowers her voice)

Sophia: “It is the scary thing he does”

(Branch gets up, walks to the window...looks outside, rain showing....)

Branch: “Show me”

(Sophia walks to the window beside him....she points to a car in the lot, headlights on, windshield wipers going...Branch looks at it, looks at the cars around it...then...)

Branch: “Stay here”

(scene shifts to outside, Branch walking up to the car Sophia pointed out...Rain pouring, Branch soaked...He walks to the door of the car, jerks it open....The man inside looks at him in surprise...)

Man: “Hey!..What the hell....?”

(Branch leans in....)

Branch: “You hit that woman in there?”

(The man exits the car....stands face to face with Branch...)

Man: “None of your business....”

Branch: “That’s answer enough for me”

(Branch grabs the Ensign by the shirt....slaps him across the face...)

Branch: “You hit a woman....”

(Slaps him again)

Branch: “That makes you a coward”

(The Ensign takes a swing...Branch snatches his arm by the wrist, spins him around, pins him to the car roof)

Branch: “You ever talk to her again, look at her again, follow her again....You’ll wake up with me standing over your bed, and it won’t be a nightmare...It’ll be me....”

(Branch pulls the man off the car...)

Branch: “You understand?”

(The man’s face is full of fear...he nods....Branch pats the man on the cheek....)

Branch: “Good...have a nice night Ensign. Forget that woman ever existed”

(scene shifts to the bullpen...Branch walks in, soaked....Everyone, including Sophia, looking at him in shock...He walks to Sophia)

Branch: “If he bothers you again, call me...”

(Branch walks away from an astonished Sophia, goes to his desk, opens a drawer, pulls out an NCIS Tshirt....In front of everyone, he pulls off his wet shirt, exposing muscular torso, scars....he wipes his chest with the wet shirt, pulls on the dry one...He looks at Sophia, then...)

Branch: “You hungry?”

(She absentmindedly nods....)

Branch: “I cooked a roast....Welcome to join me”

(He opens a top drawer, pulls out his badge and gun, clips them on his belt...He walks towards the door....then to Sophia)

Branch: “Well?”

(She hesitates....then...)

Sophia: “You scare that man out there..”

Branch: “Maybe”

Sophia; “Why? Why you do that....”

Branch: “Don’t like men that hit women....”

(She pauses)

Sophia: “I have temper....I yell much....”

(Branch looks at her....nods...)

Branch: “Okay...what’s that got to do with my roast?”

PRESENT

(scene back to Mitchell standing by Gibbs, watching...)

Mitchell: “The rest, as they say, is history...She had dinner, and they haven’t been apart since that night...”

Gibbs: “He trusts her”

Mitchell: “Yea...I guess that’s it...she’s a handful, but she is honest with him”

Gibbs: “She gives him what he needs....”

Mitchell: “And he gives her himself...a real decent man... the only woman she’ll let near him is Angel....my sister....”

Gibbs; “Angel?”

Mitchell: “Yes...Angel adores Lenny...he adores her....”

Gibbs: “And that doesn’t bother that woman?”

(She shakes her head)

Mitchell: “it’s not like that....Lenny is like a protective big brother...Sophia knows that. Other than Sophia, Angel is the only person that can break through that man’s walls...”

(Gibbs looks at Branch....)

Gibbs: “He a good agent?”

Mitchell: “No...he’s an excellent Agent....just not a joiner....and he won’t trust anyone...That’s why he’s mostly undercover....he puts himself out there...and the only person he can trust is himself....He likes it that way”

(Gibbs stares at Branch....)

Gibbs; “Been there...give him time....”

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens in pier on Naples docks....two armed men standing by door to a warehouse....The two men that were with Denaro, approach...the two armed men stand aside...)

(scene shifts to inside the warehouse...very back...up against the far wooden wall, Angel sits in a chair, surrounded by wooden crates, 5 feet high....the two men enter the crate area, look at Angel....She sits, hands tied behind her back, glaring at the men....)

Man 1: “You okay?”

Angel: “No, asshole....I’m not!....”

Man 2: “The other men tell me you’ve given them a hard time....”

Angel: “What do you expect? You pull me into a car, hold a gun to my head, and tie me up in a chair....That makes you an asshole”

Man 1: “We could just kill you...you want that?”

Angel: “You need something....killing me wouldn’t get you what you need....”

Man 2: “Smart girl...”

Angel: “You know they’ll come for me”

Man 1: “No...I don’t...people don’t do that anymore....They’ll bring what we want, then we’ll let you go, and no one will be the wiser....So....just hope your sister does what we’re about to tell her”

(Angel stares at the man....)

Angel: “She won’t believe you have me”

Man 2: “She will if we send her part of you....maybe a finger?”

(Angel breathes hard for a moment....then calms....)

Angel: “Takes too long for identification....Why don’t you just take a picture and send it to her? That way, I don’t become a bigger problem, and no one gets really pissed off....”

(the two men look at each other....nod...then back at Angel)

Man 2: “Young lady...that makes sense....”

Angel: “My fingers agree”

(The two men smile.....one pulls out a burner phone.....)

Man 2: “Smile.....”

(scene shifts to Naples bullpen...Gibbs and Mitchell present...Gibbs walks to Caprice...)

Gibbs: “You good?”

Caprice: “Peachy....you?”

Gibbs: “Yea...not much to do, but I’m good...”

Caprice: “Oh, Jethro....just wait.....”

(He looks at her curiously...)

Gibbs; “Huh?”

Caprice: “Something will come up....it always does...”

(she pats his chest)

Caprice; “Be patient, Jethro.....”

(Alex and Branch watch, both grinning....)

Alex: “Does that happen? I mean really? We've heard the stories...”

Caprice: “Oh honey...you have no idea.....”

(Mitchell’s phone signals a text....Mitchell looks at it....)

Mitchell: “I don’t recognize the number....”

(Caprice watches....)

Caprice; “Wait for it....”

(Mitchell walks off...opens the text...)

Caprice: “Wait for it.....”

(Mitchell’s eyes widen....then she closes them.....)

Caprice; ‘It’s coming.....”

(Mitchell turns to Gibbs...her face frightened....)

Mitchell; “They’ve got Angel!....They want the thumb drive!....”

(Caprice raises her eyebrows....then nods...)

Caprice; “Boom...”

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens in Mitchell's office....Mitchell and Gibbs stand, looking at the text...)

Gibbs; "You okay with this, Mitchell?"

(Mitchell looks at the picture.....nods....)

Gibbs: "If you want, I'll take it....That's your sister...."

(The door bangs open....Branch walks in quickly....)

Branch; "Give me the phone...."

Gibbs: "Branch...slow down..."

Branch: "Give me the phone....I know the area better than anyone..."

(Branch holds out his hand....Mitchell looks at Gibbs...Gibbs nods...Branch takes the phone....looks at the picture....)

Branch: "Parlo Pisacane"

Mitchell: "You can't be sure that's where she is...."

Branch: "Yes I can....look out the window"

(he gives her the phone back...window behind Angel in the picture shows a shiny dome...)

Branch: "See that dome? It's a one of a kind...next to it, the tall building with no windows....it's the shipping storage building for Naples.....That's the Port Parlo Pisacane....and it means the picture was taken directly across the harbor....."

Gibbs; "We have pictures of the port?"

Mitchell; 'Of course we do....we're Navy...."

(She goes to her PC....clicky clacks)

Mitchell; "Aerial view coming up...."

(The screen shows the harbor....)

Mitchell; "He's right...there's the dome..."

Branch: “Look at the angle of the picture....it’s either the dock level or the second level...the view is looking up”

(They expand the image...shows pier over the water, 3 story building on the pier...large rocks...waves crashing over the rocks...)

Branch: “Dammit....”

(Gibbs looks at him....)

Branch: “Can’t get her out by going out the back....look at those rocks...we’d never get out”

(Gibbs looks...then he looks at Branch)

Gibbs: “Can you get her out of the building?”

(Branch looks at Gibbs.....)

Branch: “Yea...”

Mitchell: “Lenny...they’ll have guards....This is La Cosa Nostra....”

(Branch looks at Mitchell....says nothing....)

Gibbs; “If you had a distraction....can you get in?”

Branch: “Yea...but....”

Gibbs; “And a boat waiting in the water?”

Branch: “No one can take a boat in there....look at the waves....”

Gibbs; “Wasn’t my question, Agent....”

(Branch stares at Gibbs....then nods....)

Gibbs: “Branch...That’s a 50 ft drop from window to water...you sure?”

Branch: “I can break the fall...she’ll be okay”

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

Gibbs; ‘Mitchell...”

Mitchell: “Yes?”

Gibbs; “We need to know what’s on that drive”

Branch: “I don’t give a damn what’s on it!...I just want to go get her!”

Gibbs; ‘We need to know what it is they want....the bigger it is, the more men they’ll have....”

Mitchell: “Gibbs...I was told in no uncertain terms....do not open that drive. And even if I did, it’s coded!”

(Gibbs looks at the safe....then at Branch)

Gibbs; “Your girl Sophia...she any good?”

Branch: “Yea...she’s the best....”

Gibbs; “Then call her in....”

(scene shifts to Mitchell’s office...Alex in the room, Caprice too...Sophia loads the drive, leans close to the screen, looking through thick glasses....)

Sophia: “Encrypted....and coded....”

Mitchell: “They don’t want us in...Interpol was adamant....”

Gibbs: “Interpol said they’d pick it up in 3 days....that means....”

Branch: “It means they’re covering their ass before someone else sees it...The longer it sits in that safe, the longer it is before someone sees what’s on it”

Gibbs; “Why didn’t they come get it the first day you had it?”

Mitchell: “I don’t know....”

Gibbs: “Someone needs the time....and maybe your agent is right....”

(Gibbs looks at Sophia)

Gibbs; “You open it, that means you know what’s on it....That puts you in danger...”

(Sophia clicky clacks)

Sophia: “This is for my Leonardo’s Angel....Nothing else matter to him, so nothing else matter to me....”

(Branch reaches out, places a hand on Sophia's shoulder....)

Branch: "Thank you"

(She places her own hand over his....squeezes, then goes back to the keyboard)

Sophia: "It is Interpol code....they are amateurs...."

(She continues to type....then starts talking to the computer)

Sophia: "No...you not block me...and such infantile attempts...your block take me to menu....Never protect what you want protected....you protect nothing...and that lead me to nothing....such fools...."

(She hits the enter key...waits....then....)

Sophia; "Banks"

Mitchell: "Banks?"

Sophia: "Banks...it banks and money of the La Cosa Nostra...."

(the stare at the screen.....then Sophia begins clicky clacking again)

Gibbs; "What are you doing...we found what it was"

Sophia; "We found too easy....and this delay in time? They only have to move money, open new banks, then all this become nothing....There is something else..."

(She continues typing.....)

Sophia: "Where you be.....I find you....."

(She leans closer to the monitor....stares...)

Branch: "She needs to get close to see it...."

Sophia: "Why you think I wear these glasses? I blind without them...."

(She leans back....smiles at the monitor....)

Sophia: "I find you like my Leonardo find man that hit woman..."

(She hits enter....)

Sophia; "There....this is what is on it...."

(Gibbs stares at the image....his eyebrows go up....)

Gibbs; “God...it’s a NOC list”

(Names and aliases show on the screen)

Branch: “Christ...it’s a list of every Non official undercover agent Interpol has....”

Gibbs: “And where they are, what their undercover names are....”

Sophia; “No...Yes,,,it is...but look....”

(She hits another key....the bank accounts appear by each name on the NOC list)

Sophia; “This why Interpol wants it....These are dirty men....betrayers....”

(Gibbs stares.....shakes his head)

Gibbs; “These are Interpol undercover people taking money....The bank accounts don’t belong to the La Cosa Nostra...they belong to the undercover men....”

Branch: “Which means the people that have Angel...they get the undercover agents and their money....No one will go after them because no one would want this information out there”

Mitchell: “No wonder they want it....”

Gibbs; “Yea...and they won’t stop until they get it....”

Branch: “Which means they’ll kill Angel if they don’t....”

Sophia; “Then you give it to them....”

Gibbs; “No...can’t....those men on the list might be guilty, they might not be...but they’ll die either way...we don’t know yet.”

Sophia; “You think I not know that?”

(She shakes her head)

Sophia: “Men...they think woman so stupid....you all dogs with fleas....”

(She clicky clacks...places another thumb drive into the outlet....hits enter....leans back...)

Sophia; “there...give them list...”

Gibbs; ‘What did you just do?”

Sophia: “I copy drive....and make few changes...”

Gibbs; “What changes?”

(She looks up at Gibbs....)

Sophia: “Names changed....”

Gibbs; “To what?”

Sophia: “No one”

Gibbs: “Sophia!...”

(She frowns....crosses her arms over her chest....)

Sophia: “Mcclintock”

(Branch grins....)

Gibbs; “McClintock?”

Sophia; “It is Leonardo’s favorite movie..I have to watch so many times I know cast....so I ….”

(Gibbs looks at Sophia in shock)

Gibbs; ‘You put John Wayne’s name in there?”

Sophia; “No, you dummy man....his real name Marion...but yes...Maureen O'Hara...her name real....”

(She pulls out the drive...hands it to Branch....)

Sophia: “A man have to do what man have to do....Right?”

(Branch leans down, kisses her cheek)

Branch: “You know me too well, honey”

(She looks at Caprice.....)

Sophia: “He my John Wayne....Your man know John Wayne?”

(Caprice grins....)

Caprice; “Oh yea..he knows him....”

Sophia; “Good..We have two John Waynes...”

(Sophia turns to Gibbs and Branch)

Sophia: “John and John!...You go get girl...it what John Wayne would do....and remember...John Wayne never die in movie....so you no die...”

(Branch looks over at Gibbs....)

Branch: “She’s never seen The Cowboys”

Gibbs: “Good..I don’t watch it either”

(scene shifts to road bordering the harbor...ocean with ships and boats on one side, tall hill packed with buildings on the other...Sophia driving her car, Caprice in front seat)

Caprice; “Oh my god....that ocean is beautiful!...Look at the water!”

Sophia: “Naples..it is beautiful city...even crowded like on hill...still beautiful...”

Caprice: “I can see why you’d want to live here...everything I’ve seen so far is wonderful”

(Sophia looks through the windshield...sees the car in front of them...)

Sophia: “Your man...he say you would be distraction....What that mean?”

Caprice: “His way of protecting me”

Sophia: “But here you are...what you do?”

Caprice; “We honey....What we do”

(Sophia’s eyes widen...)

Sophia: “We? Leonardo tell me stay out of way too!...”

Caprice; “They always say that...it’s their way of protecting us”

(Sophia thinks_

Sophia; “I no need protection...but I like he wants to protect me”

Caprice: “Me too, Sophi....but sometimes....”

(Caprice smiles....)

Caprice: “A woman’s gotta do what a woman’s gotta do...”

(Sophia grins....)

Sophia: “I like you very much....You much like Sophia....”

(Caprice reaches in the back seat, grabs her large tote bag....pulls out a pistol...)

Caprice; “Here...you may need this...”

(Sophia looks at the gun, reaches over, opens glove box...she pulls out a pistol...)

Sophia: “I have own...I not let any man hit me....”

Caprice; “Okay...you go girl!”

(Sophia looks at her curiously)

Sophia; “Go where?”

(Caprice points straight ahead...)

Caprice; “To the pier!”

(a pause)

Sophia: “How mad is your husband going to be?”

Caprice: “Furious”

Sophia: “We were told to stay at the office....yes?”

(Caprice pats Sophia’s leg)

Caprice: “Honey....they expect us to do this...trust me...”

(scene shifts to the hillside above the warehouse...Gibbs, Mitchell, Alex, and Branch, stand outside of two parked cars, Gibbs and Branch with binoculars, looking down at the warehouse)

Gibbs: “Two out front....that’s all I see”

(Branch looks....)

Branch: “There are more inside”

Gibbs: “Small building”

Branch: “Built for a small warehouse and offices on top...maybe 40 feet from front door to back wall”

(Through the binoculars, they can see the front office door open....)

Branch: “Gibbs...door...”

(They look.....Two men bring Angel Mitchell out, her hands tied behind her back....)

Gibbs; “They’re showing us they have her...”

Branch: “Good...saves us a recon trip to make sure”

Gibbs; ‘Means they’re confident”

(Mitchell moves up....she takes the binoculars from Branch, looks....)

Mitchell: “She’s okay....no cuts, no bruises....she’s standing”

Gibbs; “Doesn’t look scared...”

Mitchell: “That’s because she doesn’t have enough sense to be scared....Damn brat....”

Branch: “We’ll get her, Sarah...don’t worry....”

Mitchell; “First time you ever called me Sarah”

(Branch shrugs)

Branch: “Lost my mind”

(She looks at Branch....then...)

Mitchell; “Thank you for caring about her”

(Branch starts to answer...then...)

Branch: “Another car approaching....two in the front....”

(Gibbs looks through his binoculars....shakes his head)

Gibbs: “Some day that woman’s going to listen...”

(pause, shakes his head)

Gibbs; “No...she’s not....”

(Sophia’s car pulls up....the two women exit....Gibbs stares at Caprice....)

Gibbs; “You’re late”

Caprice: “Jethro!...Don’t try and keep me out of this!...I’m trained!..And I’m allowed to....”

(She stops....looks at him with a blank face)

Caprice: “Wait....”

(pause)

Caprice: “What?”

Gibbs: “You can go in the boat with me...might need some medical...”

Alex: “Wait...I’m medical”

Mitchell: “You’re also field trained....You just got reassigned....You’re running point with me.....”

(Alex looks at Mitchell, wide eyed)

Alex: “I am?”

Mitchell: “Yes...you and me will take each corner, outside....there’s an abandoned building across the street from the warehouse...we make sure it’s clear inside, then we do our thing”

Alex: “What thing?”

Mitchell: “Raise hell with these grenades....”

(Mitchell nods towards a satchel on the ground....)

Mitchell: “I walk out of the building, the replacement drive in my hand...As soon as I have the guards’ attention, Branch moves in behind them...Once he takes them out, you set off the grenades....then Branch enters....”

Gibbs; “And he’s on his own then....”

(Mitchell looks through the binocs...)

Mitchell: “Branch...they both have automatic rifles....”

(He takes the binoculars...looks...)

Branch: “Yea...I may need those....”

(Branch looks up at Sophia....)

Sophia: “I am here...what you want me to do...?”

Branch: “Drive”

Sophia; “I not leave!....”

Branch: “No...you’ve got the fastest car and the biggest one....When you see me go in, you haul ass down this hill to the front of the building....Mitchell and Alex will pile in your car, then you get them the hell out....Gibbs will have his car down by the small boat dock...he’ll drive him, Caprice, me and Angel out....”

(She stares at him, in shock)

Branch: “Look...I trust you...okay?...I need your help....”

(She nods....)

Sophia: “I be there....you do not have to worry....”

Branch: “I know...”

(He gets moves to her....and when close...)

Branch: “Don’t do anything stupid...get them, get out, and get back to the office...”

(She stares at him for a moment...then...)

Sophia: “I have seen that movie...I know John Wayne can die”

Branch: “John Wayne never dies, honey.....He just keeps on fighting for what’s right...”

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens at a small dock, dozens of small boats lined up, tied to pier...Gibbs looks over, can see the back of the warehouse building...A man approaches....and speaks in Italian....)

Gibbs; “I’m sorry..I don’t speak Italian.....”

(the man grins)

Man: “Not to worry...we speak much English here....you wish to rent boat? See the sights from the ocean? Perhaps fish?”

Gibbs; ‘I need a boat that handles waves....”

(Gibbs looks over to one....long, bare, one large outboard on the back....)

Gibbs; ‘That one....it’s got a deep V hull and horsepower....”

Man: “Ah...but signor...it belong to my brother...he use it to fish...it not for rent....”

(Gibbs digs in his pocket....brings out a roll of bills)

Gibbs: “Ever heard of Benjamin Franklin?”

(the man looks at the $100 bills...eyes widen....)

Man: “Si!...Excellent American Movie Star!”

(scene shifts to Mitchell and Alex....They scramble down the hill behind the abandoned building....they enter through a dilapidated door....)

Mitchell; “Make sure it’s clear in there...”

(The both enter, Mitchell heads up a rickety flight of stairs....Alex takes her gun out, begins checking rooms....)

(scene shifts to bottom floor...Alex and Mitchell meet....)

Alex: “All clear down here”

Mitchell: “Clear upstairs....”

(Mitchell takes a look at the warehouse across the street....)

Mitchell: “You ready?”

(Alex shifts the bag Mitchell gave her)

Alex: “Ready”

(Mitchell pulls out her cell phone....pulls up text with Angel’s picture...hits the phone icon....)

Mitchell: “Let’s do this...”

(scene shifts to the harbor....Gibbs and Caprice move quickly across the water...They can see the rocks coming up...and the waves crashing over them...)

Caprice: “Jethro..they have a safe area to jump to...but between us and that space....”

(He looks...starts to feel the spray from the crashing waves)

Gibbs; “Yea...I know”

(They both hear a muffled explosion from the other side of the warehouse....)

Gibbs; ‘Show time!...”

(Gibbs pushes the throttle ahead on the slim boat, and it leaps across the water...Caprice holds on to the side of the boat, ready to hit the large waves they are heading towards....)

(scene shifts to the warehouse, outside....Both guards see movement....)

Guard 1: “There she is...just like she said”

Guard 2: “You go get the drive....look..she’s holding it up....”

(scene shows Mitchell walking from across the street, holding one hand up in the air...in the hand, a single thumb drive is seen...She stops)

Mitchell: “Well? You coming or not?”

Guard 1: “You come here!”

Mitchell; “And walk into a bunch of crazy gangsters? You crazy?”

Guard 1: “I’ll meet you half way....no funny stuff...my partner behind me will cut you to pieces...”

(scene shows the other guard, standing by the building, his weapon up and trained on Mitchell)

Mitchell: “No worries..I just want my sister....Bring her out!...”

(She tosses the thumb drive...the guard catches it, jams it in his pocket, then his gun back up)

Guard: “Okay....thanks...and sorry....”

(Then the building across the street erupts in an explosion, then a second explosion...The guard turns his eyes toward the explosion....)

(scene shifts to Branch coming around the corner of the building, fast...He moves to the guard closest to the building, slides in behind him while he’s focused on the explosion, wraps arm around his neck.....and snaps it....Branch has the weapon in his hands before the man hits the ground....)

Branch: “HEY!”

(the guard that walked out to meet Mitchell turns at his voice....and only sees the pointed fingers rushing towards his throat, feeling the blow as it rams his adam’s apple, then nothing but the inability to breathe, as his larynx is crushed... Branch yells at Mitchell)

Branch “GET OUTA HERE!”

(Branch picks up the second weapon....He can hear Sophia’s powerful Mercedes roaring into the parking lot, slamming on the brakes....)

Branch: “Good girl”

(He hears both doors slam...then he hears the tires squeal as the car speeds off...he looks towards the warehouse....)

Branch: “Here they come....”

(the front office door slams open.....He raises both automatic weapons up, and pulls the triggers.....just as he begins running towards the door)

Branch: “ANGEL!...”

(the bursts from both guns mow down the 2 men running out....Branch leaps over the falling bodies, then runs into the warehouse....An empty floor is in front of him....He sees a circle of wooden boxes, and through the 3 foot opening in the circle, he can see Angel.....He sprints, just as bullets begin to rip the floor around him....)

Branch: “ANGEL!...HEAD DOWN!...”

(Branch keeps running towards the opening, both weapons firing into the air...he reaches the boxes on a dead run, drops to the ground, and slides on his back through the opening in the box wall...)

Angel: “LENNY!....”

(He pops up...pulls a knife out...cuts the zip ties....)

Branch:”TAKE THE GUN!...KEEP THEM BUSY!...”

(She looks at him in shock....)

Branch: “They’re set for 3 bursts...so pull the trigger! Count to 2...let go!...Do it again!...”

Angel: “Pull one two let go pull one two!...”

(Wood chips start to rain on them from bullets hitting the boxes.....)

Branch: “JUST LAY IT ON TOP OF THE BOX AND PULL THE TRIGGER!”

(He moves quickly for a single wooden box...He grabs one...strains...pulls it towards the back wall....He looks over his shoulder, and sees Angel ducked behind a box, eyes closed, the weapon laying on top of a box....)

Angel: “Pull one two let go...pull one two let go...Pull one two let go....”

(the weapon obeys her commands, effectively spraying the men firing at them with unaimed bullets...)

(scene shifts to Branch...He pulls out two grenades...he pulls the pins, drops them between the box and the wall, then runs to Angel)

Branch: “GET DOWN!”

(He throws her to the floor of the warehouse, and covers her head....Then the two grenades go off, tearing one side of the box to shreds, as well as the wall behind it....)

Branch: “KEEP SHOOTING!”

(He runs to the box...straining again, pulls it away from the wall, exposing the shattered boards of the wall....He takes the other automatic weapon, sets it to auto fire, and begins shredding the wooden wall...He drops the gun...picks up Angel....)

Branch: “HIDE YOUR FACE!”

(He pulls her close to his chest, and carrying her, he begins running towards the broken wooden wall.....)

(scene shifts to outside...Gibbs and Caprice hear the commotion....then...)

Gibbs; ‘THAT’S THEM!”

(scenes shows the boards of the building, 50 feet up, shatter outward...Branch is seen crashing through the wall, back first, shielding Angel from harm, then dropping the 50 feet to the water below....Angel’s screams can be heard over the explosions and the waves as she flies through the air...)

Gibbs: “HANG ON!”

(He guns the boat, and it shoots ahead into the huge waves.....)

Gibbs; “HANG ON TIGHTER!”

(the boat slips between two enormous rocks, and slides down the crest of a wave, the bow pointed almost straight down...The bow hits the foaming water, drenching both of them....In front, 15 feet, Branch and Angel hit the water, Branch’s back hitting the water first, and they disappear under the waves and the rolling ocean....)

Caprice; “I CAN”T SEE THEM!...”

(Then Angel’s head pops up out of the water...)

Caprice; ‘JETHRO!...THERE!”

(He sees...guns the throttle towards the bobbing woman....)

Caprice; “I DON’T SEE LENNY!”

(They reach Angel quickly.....Caprice leans over the side of the boat, grabs her arms, leans back, and pulls her into the boat....)

Gibbs; ‘I CAN’T SEE HIM!”

(Then Caprice spots him...laying face down in the water, the waves carrying him closer to the rocks...)

Caprice; “JETHRO!”

(Gibbs sees him.....whispers to himself...)

Gibbs; ‘I can’t get him....he’s too close to the rocks....”

(Then....)

Gibbs; ‘Never leave a man behind....”

(He guns the engine and rockets directly towards Branch, and the sharp rocks....Caprice moves to the side of the boat....)

Caprice; ‘SLIDE US SIDEWAYS!...I CAN GET HIM!”

(He understands...he swings out, then turns sharply into the waves...He heads straight for the man, and the rocks, and at the last moment, swings the wheel around, sliding the boat sideways, the side of the boat bumping against the rocks...)

Caprice: “I GOT HIM!”

(She is seen grabbing the back of his collar, Branch unconscious....Gibbs gets to Caprice quickly, grabbing the slack body as well....Then struggling, they get him into the boat...)

Caprice; “I GOT HIM! GET US OUT OF HERE!”

(Gibbs is at the throttle...he guns the engine, and swings the boat around, sending the boat straight up in the air as the bow hits a crashing wave, all four of them sent rolling to the back of the boat...then the boat crashes down on the other

side.....Gibbs gets up, steers the boat away from the waves, into the ocean water....then....he sees the blood mixing with the water in the boat)

Caprice; “JETHRO!....He hit his head on the rocks!...GET ME TO THE CAR!”

(Then Angel sees it...and screams...)

(scene fades out to Caprice holding Branch’s head, bleeding....)

PART 3

(scene opens at the Parlo Pisacane harbor, long narrow dockside of the boat rental area...Gibbs moving the narrow boat quickly to the dockside, swinging the boat so the side bumps against the tires hanging alongside the dock...Caprice looks up towards the street...)

Caprice: “Jethro...they’re here!...”

(Gibbs looks up....)

Gibbs: “Throw me my gun!”

Caprice: “No Jethro!...Our people are here!”

(scene shows Sophia’s black Mercedes parked near the dock, doors hanging open, Mitchell, Alex, and Sophia running down the old stone steps that lead from the road to the dock...Sophia running at the front of them, then immediately to the dock...)

Sophia: “Caprice!..Throw me rope!...”

(Mitchell walks quickly to the rear of the boat...Gibbs sees her, tosses stern end rope to her...both Sophia and Mitchell pull the boat to the side of the dock, quickly wrapping the ropes around the wooden beams on the dock...Sophia kneels on the dock, reaching towards Branch, still laying in the boat, his head bloody...Sophia’s face in anguish)

Sophia: “Let me help you...please, Caprice...My Leonardo....”

Caprice: “We need to get him out, honey...but we have to be careful...”

(Sophia nods...)

(Mitchell stands...holds a hand out to Angel....She takes the hand, and with her sister’s help, she steps from the rocking boat to the dock...Mitchell hugs Angel...)

Mitchell: “Angel...you stupid girl.....Are you okay?”

Angel: “I’m okay, sis...as okay as I can be after flying off a dock and falling a mile in the air...”

(Angel moves her head to look at Branch....)

Angel: “He came after me....”

(Mitchell hugs her sister tighter...)

Mitchell: “Of course he did, honey...You had to know he would”

(Angel stares for a moment at Branch, his eyes still closed)

Angel: “He’s hurt...”

(She watches as Alex, Caprice, and Gibbs struggle to get Branch’s heavy body out of the boat....scene shifts to Branch...)

Caprice: “The bleeding’s stopped...”

(Alex moves Branch’s hair aside with her fingers..)

Alex: “Laceration, clean...no swelling...no fluid leaking...”

(Alex pulls Branch’s eyelid open...places a hand over it, then quickly moves it away)

Alex: “Pupils responding...”

(Alex, still focused on Branch’s head, holds a hand out....a bottle of water is placed in her hand...without looking back, she opens the bottle, flushes the wound....lays the bottle on the dock...)

Alex: “No debris...3 inch laceration, blood clotting...no signs of fracture...”

(Alex finally looks up...Caprice is sitting on the dock, handing Alex items out of her medical bag...Caprice gives a small grin...)

Caprice; “It’s nice watching a professional work....”

(Alex looks at Caprice...then..)

Alex: “I’m sorry...do you want to....”

Caprice: “No...you’re doing everything you should be doing...I’d just get in the way...”

(Branch starts to moan....Alex and Caprice watch....)

Alex: “Branch...talk to me....”

(Branch tries to lift his head up....)

Alex: “Whoa cowboy...you might have head or neck trauma...lay your head back down...now...follow my finger...”

(Branch opens his eyes...blinks, his eyes follow Alex’s finger.....then in a small voice...)

Branch: “Damn....that had to be higher than 50 feet...”

“Ya think, Branch?”

(Branch slowly moves his head, sees Gibbs standing on the dock, looking down at him...)

Branch: “I saw the rocks...didn’t think you’d make it to us...”

(Gibbs shrugs)

Gibbs: “Never leave a soldier behind...right?”

(Branch nods...winces...)

Alex: “Okay..that’s enough....”

Branch: “No....I have to go back....”

Alex: “Back? Why?”

Branch: “Have to get Angel...lost her when I hit....She’s out.....”

(A hand reaches out...takes his...)

Angel: “I’m right here, Lenny...you didn’t lose me...”

(Branch blinks...tries to focus...Angel holds up 3 fingers...)

Angel: “How many fingers?”

(Branch looks at her hand...)

Branch: “You have all your fingers....” (pause) “..that’s good...”

Angel: “They didn’t cut any off...if that’s what you mean....”

(Branch starts to rise up.....)

Alex: “Hold on...”

Branch: “Got to get up...can’t stay here....This isn’t over....”

Gibbs: “He’s right...We need to get him out of here...”

(Branch wavers, then rises....with the help of Alex, he stands on the dock....Standing several feet away, arms crossed, Sophia stares at him...her face blank...He looks at her,,,small grin...)

Branch: “You must have done good....your car is here...Mitch and Alex are here...”

(She says nothing....stares at him...then she presses her lips together...)

Sophia: “You are stupid....you do stupid thing...”

(He shrugs)

Branch: “Yea...it was kinda stupid”

Sophia: “You go into building...Pow pow everywhere.....”

Branch: “Yea..there were lots of Pow pows...”

Sophia: “Then you fly out of building!...You were stupid!....”

(He shrugs again...then Sophia’s face breaks.....and she runs to him...)

Sophia; “You stupid brave stupid man....”

(She embraces him....)

Sophia: “I think you gone....I think you leave Sophia...”

Branch: “I’m here...”

(She hugs him close...)

Sophia: “For first time I feel what it be like without you....It was terrible terrible feeling...I die inside...”

Branch: “Hey...I’m here...it’s okay...”

(She nods...hugs him tighter...Then she leans back...looks at him in the eyes)

Sophia: “Now you know...I try to hide it, try to not tell you...”

Branch: “Hide what?”

Sophia: “That I love you...you stupid stupid wonderful man...”

(She hugs him again...Branch smiles)

Branch: “Guess it was worth it then...”

(Sophia looks at him, curiously)

Sophia: “This is time you say something romantic...this is what they call moment...”

(Branch looks at her, confused...)

Branch: “It is?”

(She kisses his cheek...)

Sophia: “You so stupid....you love Sophia...you know that, don’t you?”

(He looks at her, cocks his head...)

Branch: “Well yea...you liked my roast...what’s not to love?”

(Sophia rolls her eyes....shakes her head....)

Sophia: “I have much work to do on you....”

(Angel walks to them....hesitant)

Angel: “I hate to interrupt this Hallmark moment...but...Lenny...”

(She looks to him tentatively..Sophia reaches an arm out, pulls Angel into them)

Sophia: “You not interrupt anything....You two are only family Sophia have....”

(Branch looks at the two women...hugs both tightly....then...)

Branch: “Family...yea...I like the sound of that...”

Sophia: “But he still stupid man...you know that...right?”

(Angel’s head, against Branch’s chest, nods)

Angel: “But he’s our stupid man..”

(scene shifts to Caprice, standing next to Gibbs...both watching...)

Caprice; ‘You like him, don’t you?”

Gibbs: “Yea...good man”

Caprice; “You don’t see it...”

(He looks at her, confused)

Gibbs: “See what?”

(Caprice takes his arm, places it around her waist...)

Caprice: “He’s you”

(Gibbs looks...confused...)

Caprice; “Come on...let’s get everyone back to the office...we need to clean his head, then decide what to do next...”

(She pauses)

Caprice: “And I have a phone call to make...and then....”

Gibbs; “Then?”

Caprice: “Dry clothes and new hair....You drenched me, Jethro....I mean, you really drenched me!”

(He looks at her,,,small smile...)

Gibbs: “You did good on the boat, McGibbs...”

Caprice; “Of course I did, dummy....”

(pause)

Caprice: “...I’m your wife”

Gibbs: “No...you did good because you’re good...I don’t give you enough credit....”

(Caprice smiles a small smile...sighs...)

Caprice: “Jethro...you say the most romantic things....”

Gibbs: “Well yea...I’m a sweetheart!..I keep telling you that!”

(scene shifts to Naples NCIS office...Alex tending to Branch’s head, Mitchell and Gibbs taking statement from Angel....Caprice seen walking out of the office into the hallway, phone to her ear...)

Caprice: “I think he’s going to need some help...”

(listens)

Caprice; “He just took on the La Cosa Nostra....and they’re going to be pissed”

(listens...her eyes widen)

Caprice: “You already did?”

(She listens..shakes her head....)

Caprice: “No...that would be too many....if these guys see a lot of people coming in, they’ll react...and they have more men than we could ever have....Just two for now...then we’ll see...”

(Listens...)

Caprice: “Thank you Leon....and hey...you know who’s only 3hrs away by plane?”

(scene shifts to Vance’s home....Vance looking at the phone in his hand...his eyebrows go up)

Vance; ‘She’s right...too many would be bad....”

(He pauses...then...)

Vance: “Gibbs...I wonder if you know just how smart this woman really is..How much she protects you....”

(Vance closes his eyes....and whispers..)

“She’s just like you, Jackie...” (pause) “...I hope he sees that”

(Vance stops, then dials.....they answer...)

Vance; “Anthony Dinozzo....how’s the honeymoon?”

(scene fades out...)

6 HOURS LATER

(scene opens to airliner flying in night sky, clouds illuminated by full moon...scene shifts to inside....Tony and Ziva seen, sitting side by side, Ziva’s head on his shoulder, eyes closed...Tony kisses the top of her head, a small smile forms on Ziva’s lips....Tony looks out the window at the dark night sky....and whispers)

“We’re comin’ boss”

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens in large Italian villa, enormous grounds...armed guards walk the grounds, Italian architecture shown, ornate fountains seen in several places...On a large white stone patio, Mateo Denaro sits in a red velvet robe, fruit bowl in front of him, looking out over the expansive lawn, seeing the Italian Cypress trees lined up in rows, bordering a larger fountain with a stature of Cupid on top....Mateo turns his attention back to the man sitting across from him, working on a laptop....The man clicky clacks....)

Mateo: “Well? Is it real?”

(The man shakes his head...)

Man: “So much that is real....The bank accounts are on here...and I have confirmed them...they are accurate...”

Mateo: “Money?”

Man: “That’s just it....the money is in there....”

Mateo: “My money....”

(The man shakes his head)

Man: “Don Mateo...yes and no..The accounts, they are not yours...the amounts are large...but not large enough for your operations....I am beginning to think this drive is not what it was purported to be...”

(Mateo stares at the man...)

Mateo: “Go on”

Man: “The people...I do not know them...but they are here...in your organization...and they are taking your money...”

(Mateo’s face gets red)

Mateo: “WHO ARE THEY?”

Man: “I do not know the names...However, until I check further, I cannot be sure...But I do know this....”

(He pauses)

Man: “The most dangerous man you have in your organization. A man that has multiple accounts in his name...accounts full of your money, Don Mateo....He is known as...”

(Mateo yells out)

“WHO?”

(The man looks at the screen....then at Mateo...)

“Marion Wayne”

(Mateo’s face reddens more...he slams a fist on the table, almost knocking his fruit bowl over)

Mateo: “THEN FIND THIS MARION WAYNE!...BRING HIM TO ME!...I WILL KILL HIM MYSELF!”

(Mateo looks off, then back at the man across from him...)

Mateo: “Now...tell me what you have found out about this NCIS people...”

Man: “A small group, nothing that I can see that would concern you, Don Mateo...”

(Mateo looks at the man....shakes his head...Then in low, emphatic tones...)

Mateo: “Luigi...you are my most trusted Consigliere...and your value, with the computers, it has risen due to the day and age we are in....”

Luigi: “Thank you, Don...”

Mateo: “But....but you show a lack of discernment, my friend...Think about it...We take a woman..Then a very well, and effective, I might add, attempt is made on recovering that woman...Distractions, then two of my best are killed by one man...then this man charges through a barrage of gunfire, only to explode a wall out, jump with the woman to the angry ocean, then to have a boat....”

(He exclaims)

Mateo: “A BOAT! IN THOSE WATERS!....And they are rescued?”

(He stares at Luigi for a moment....then...)

Mateo: “There is much more than meets the eye, here....”

Luigi: “Then, you want them dead?”

(Mateo shakes his head)

Mateo: “Non...I want you to tell everyone to leave them alone....”

(Luigi looks at Mateo, surprised)

Mateo: “We need to know more about them....I have not lived as long as I have by underestimating people, Luigi....and I will not start now....so...dig..call...payoff someone...but find out what you can about them...Until then, leave them alone...We have what we came for, the drive....”

(Mateo looks off....)

Mateo: “Marion Wayne...whoever you are...I will find you....”

Night..Naples, Italy

(scene opens in the seaside area of Naples, the Chiaia Riviera..Floodlights on buildings, multiple spotlights in the sky, people walking as couples, music in the air from various outside cafés...Gibbs and Caprice sit outside at a small table at the famous Salvatore alla Riviera Restaurant...Caprice has her natural hair, dark brown, done in style of early Sophia Loren, long, wavy, hanging over her shouldes. She is wearing a black sun dress with white bands on the front, scooped front, and the emerald pendant Gibbs gave her from their trip to Bermuda...)

Caprice: “Oh my god, Jethro...this is so beautiful!...This restaurant is famous, and look!”

(She points across the street)

Caprice: “The Hotel Palozzo Alabardieri! It’s so old, and historic...and.....”

Gibbs; ‘Supposed to be the most romantic hotel in Naples....”

(She stops...face blank...)

Caprice; “How would you know that?”

(He shrugs...)

Caprice: “And while we’re on the subject of you knowing something you wouldn’t know, where did you go this afternoon?”

Gibbs; “What?”

Caprice: “We got back to the hotel...you said you wanted to check something out....”

Gibbs; “Yea...so I checked something out...”

Caprice: “What did you really do?”

(He looks at her, then grins, shakes his head)

Gibbs; “McGibbs....you’re too suspicious....”

(She leans back, crosses her arms...stares at him...)

Caprice: “You go out and won’t tell me where...then you take me to the most wonderful, romantic, famous restaurant in all of Italy....and then you know about that hotel?”

(pause)

Caprice: “Damn right I’m suspicious.....spill it Gibbs....”

Gibbs: “Gibbs? What happened to Jethro?”

Caprice: “Because....”

(pause)

Caprice; “Just because...Now...quit changing the subject....”

(Gibbs grins....looks around....sees the waiter...raises his hand, then when the waiter sees him, Gibbs nods to him....The waiter smiles, picks up a small tray off his stand....)

Gibbs; “You caught me, McGibbs....”

(She stares at him....)

Gibbs; “Guilty”

(she continues staring...)

Gibbs: “I secretly met up with Sophia Loren....and damn...it was....”

(She throws her napkin at him....)

Caprice; “You’re lying!...You did NOT meet Sophia Loren!...”

Gibbs; “Gina Lollobrigida?”

Caprice; “NO!...Now tell me!”

(The waiter approaches...Gibbs nods...The waiter places the small tray in front of Caprice....She looks at it, sees a silver cover over the tray...she looks up at Gibbs)

Caprice: “It’s not time for dessert yet”

Gibbs; ‘Nope”

Caprice: “What is this, Jethro?”

(He hesitates....then...)

Gibbs; “You need to know I’m married to a wonderful woman...That’s all”

(She says nothing....then...)

Caprice; “Am I going to cry?”

Gibbs; “Yea...probably....Now look at it!...”

(She looks down again....then back up at him)

Caprice: “I’m afraid to uncover it”

(He raises, reaches for the cover...)

Gibbs: “Aw hell, Caprice...I’ll do it...”

(She slaps his hand, scowls at him...)

Caprice; ‘YOU WILL NOT!...”

(She reaches for the small handle on the cover....then pulls it off....She stares at the small silver tray....her eyes get wide...she looks up at Gibbs, astonished...then back at the tray....)

Caprice; “You went shopping. That’s where you went”

Gibbs; “Yea”

Caprice: “For these”

Gibbs: “Sophia Loren was busy...so...”

(She looks at the tray, and starts to cry....)

Caprice: “Oh god, Jethro...”

(view moves to the tray....a set of emerald drop earrings, perfectly matching the necklace he gave her...)

Caprice; “Jethro....they’re....”

(She looks at them...)

Caprice: “I’m afraid to touch them...”

Gibbs: “Gotta touch them to put them on....”

(She doesn’t move....Gibbs gets up, moves his chair next to her....he picks up one earing...She pulls her hair aside to uncover her ear....)

Gibbs: “What you did today....and what you have done for me...every day....”

(He places the earing in her ear...then picks up the other one..she turns her head towards him to show the other ear...)

Gibbs: “Hold on....Here...”

(He picks up the napkin, dabs her eyes and cheeks)

Gibbs; “You saved my life, Caprice...and you’ve been saving it ever since....You make calls, you talk to people, you manipulate me around your little finger, making sure I don’t do something stupid....”

(She stares at him, more tears fall..He places the other earing in...then leans back...)

Gibbs; “Don’t think I don’t see what you do….And don’t think I don’t know what you mean to my life....Now...let me look...”

(He looks....she stares at him, still crying.....)

Gibbs: “They look good....”

(The waiter walks back over....he hands Caprice a hand mirror....She looks at the waiter in shock...)

Waiter: “This man that loves you signora...he said you would need this....”

(She looks at Gibbs...shocked...then looks at the earrings in the mirror....She looks back at Gibbs....then back at the mirror...then back at Gibbs....)

Waiter: “And Signor Gibbs....I have received confirmation....Your suite for the night...it is ready...”

(Caprice’s eyes widen....She looks at the waiter...then at Gibbs...then across the street..then back at Gibbs....)

Caprice: “Jethro?...”

(he shrugs)

Gibbs; “It’s supposed to be nice...”

(She stares at him without expression....then she breaks down....sobbing....)

Caprice; “I...am.....so.....happy.....”

Waiter: “Excellent evening, signor...excellent...”

Gibbs; “Thanks, Andre...you did good...”

Andre: “Signor...Signora...in Naples, we look at love as the most wonderful thing there can be...and you...the two of you...” (pause) “magnifica...”

(Gibbs grins at Andre)

Gibbs; “Hey Andre...think I might get lucky tonight?”

(Caprice looks up at Andre)

Caprice; “The answer, Andre, is yes, and I think it’s time for our check.....”

(She pauses...stares at Gibbs, and in a whisper)

“God, I love you, Jethro...”

(Then she touches her earrings...takes out her phone...)

Caprice: “I’m sending pictures to the girls....”

(she grins...)

Caprice: “Before my hair gets all messed up”

(scene fades to black and white)

NEXT MORNING

(scene opens at the Naples NCIS bullpen....Mitchell on the phone in her office)

Mitchell: “No...the thumb drive is still here....”

(listens)

Mitchell: “Yes...they kidnapped my sister....”

(listens...then scowls...)

Mitchell: “You’re damn right we know what’s on that drive....And I don’t give a damn about your orders or anyone else’s!...That was my sister they had!..”

(She listens for a moment....then...)

Mitchell; “YOU CAN GO STRAIGHT TO HELL!”

(The call ends....then...Branch is seen standing in the doorway)

Branch: “Don’t worry...their bark is louder than their bite”

(Mitchell turns to him....concern on her face)

Mitchell: “They said they’d have me terminated”

Branch: “They won’t...in fact, they may give you a medal...”

Mitchell: “A medal? Why?”

Branch: “We....when I was with Interpol....We tried forever to get inside the organization....Now we are...”

Mitchell; “Giving them a false drive is not exactly inside them, Lenny....”

(Branch grins....Mitchell looks....)

Mitchell: “What?”

(He keeps grinning...)

Mitchell; “Leonardo!...What?”

Branchl: “When they opened the drive to check it out, there was a movie that Sophia uploaded to it....”

Mitchell: “Huh?...A movie...?”

Branch: “Yea...she uploaded the movie ‘McClinock...She’s got a funny sense of humor...And now, it appears, they think something is hidden in that movie upload...and they’ve downloaded it on 3 different systems, including Luigi Demore’s...He’s Mateo Denero’s right hand man”

(Mitchell is silent...waiting....then...)

Mitchell: “She didn’t....”

Branch: “Did”

Mitchell: “No way”

Branch; ‘Oh yea...way....”

(She waits..then...)

Branch: “Keystroke logger....Sophia is now getting every button they push, every letter they type....”

Mitchell: “Keystroke logger is old school....”

Branch: “And something the tech wiz people don’t look for....it’s there in plain site...”

(pause)

Branch: “Turns out they’re going nuts over finding Marion Wayne....”

(Mitchell laughs....)

Mitchell; “Oh my god....are you serious?”

Branch: “And they’re checking us out...including Gibbs and his wife...They’ll know who we are shortly...”

Mitchell; “Is that bad?”

Branch: “Hard to say....Mateo is a weird bird....but he’s ordered a hands off on us until he finds out more....”

(Mitchell does not reply...then...)

Mitchell: “That means we have a window to find out more about those people on the drive....”

(Branch grins....)

Branch: “Sure does.....boss....”

(scene shifts to Gibbs and Caprice, both eating room service on the balcony of the hotel suite)

Caprice: “Oh my god, Jethro...looks at the view!”

(Gibbs looks out...sees buildings...)

Gibbs; ‘yea...if you like buildings...”

Caprice: “It’s a corner room, dummy....the other one shows the ocean....”

Gibbs; “Then why aren’t we eating there?”

Caprice; “Because those buildings are historic!...They have history!”

Gibbs; “Hell...I have history...no one looks at me like that...”

(Caprice grins....)

Caprice; “I do”

(Gibbs gets up...kisses her cheek...)

Gibbs; “I’m calling Mitchell...let’s see what’s on the plate today for you and me”

(Caprice looks at him....)

Caprice; ‘You and me?”

(He looks at her, surprised)

Gibbs: “Yea..you and me”

Caprice: “You don’t want me to stay in the hotel? Or that office?...You know..out of the way?”

(He shakes his head.....then he sits back down....looks at her)

Gibbs: “Caprice...you’re my partner now....”

(She looks at him in shock)

Caprice; “Because...you want to keep an eye on me....right?”

Gibbs: “Yea...but no....”

Caprice; “What part is no...?”

(He looks at her, cocks his head, curious....then....)

Gibbs; ‘Look...”

(He holds up one finger)

Gibbs; “Battlefield nurse in Afghanistan...worked under fire...kept working...made good decisions”

(Holds up a second finger)

Gibbs; ‘2...Level 5 nurse in Zaire...you worked patients, the field, with Hanta and Ebola...full space suit gear, one slip, one tear, and you die....You made good decisions and didn’t crack”

(holds up a third finger...Caprice looks at him, blank face....)

Gibbs; “3...Trauma nurse...the best...split second decisions, life saving decisions...”

(a fourth finger goes up)

Gibbs: “You’ve managed the entire nursing team for Walter Reed...you see the big picture...and made good decisions....”

(She stares.....)

Gibbs; “Do I need to go on?”

(She slowly shakes her head....)

Gibbs; ‘You make good decisions...you’ve been exposed to a hundred more life or death events than any person I know....So....”

(He shrugs)

Gibbs; “You make a good partner”

(She stares at him more.....then slowly....)

Caprice: “You sweet talking man, you...Damn....”

(Gibbs looks at her...surprise...She grabs his phone...tosses it across the room)

Caprice: “You can call later”

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens at Mateo’s villa....Luigi sits across from Mateo, the laptop open...)

Mateo: “Tell me what you find....”

Luigi: “An abundance of information, Don Mateo...”

(Mateo waits)

Luigi: “The leader, Sarah Mitchell...competent, well respected, every intelligent”

(Mateo waits)

Luigi: “Alexandria Romani...agent and field medical...has seen much trauma, supposedly saved many lives when a bomber came into her unit....”

(Mateo nods)

Luigi: “Now....Leonardo Branch...This man...he is worth watching and being careful of....”

Mateo: “He is the one that carried the woman through the wall....”

Luigi: “Si...He is Navy Seal...then Interpol....He was member of Response team....”

Mateo: “The Response team...I remember something about one of those....”

Luigi: “Si, Don Mateo....Our organization bought off 4 of them....”

Mateo: “The one we wanted...he escaped....”

Luigi: “Si...he was the one that was close to killing you....”

Mateo: “This one that escaped...he was....”

(Luigi nods his head)

Luigi: “’Si...the same man that rescued the girl”

(Mateo leans back....silent...)

Mateo: “He is formidable”

Luigi: “So it would seem”

Mateo: “The men we paid for ….the ones that betrayed this man....what became of them?”

(Luigi shakes his head)

Luigi: “No one knows...it is as if they disappeared off the earth...”

(Mateo thinks)

Mateo: “He hunted them and killed them....didn’t he?”

Luigi: “This Leonardo Branch? It is said he did...but no one knows for sure”

(Mateo thinks...then nods)

Mateo: “He is the kind of man that would...and he would care not if anyone knew”

(pause)

Mateo: “Excellent work, Luigi...is there more?”

(Luigi nods...)

Luigi: “Much more, Don Mateo....”

(Mateo waits)

Luigi: “Caprice McNalley, now Caprice Gibbs...a nurse...”

Mateo: “A nurse? What do we fear of a nurse?”

Luigi: “A highly esteemed nurse...she is known world wide....and it would seem she has a friend?”

Mateo: “A friend?”

Luigi: “Si...and the friend goes with her wherever she goes....I will find more, but for now, all we know is the friend’s name is Justin”

(Mateo nods....)

Mateo: “Si...find out more about this Justin”

Luigi: “And now....”

Mateo: “There was another...he drove the boat...impossibly, but he did pick up the people....”

Luigi: “Si...His name is Leroy Jethro Gibbs...He is the Assistant Director of NCIS, world wide...”

Mateo: “A desk man....Who cares?”

(Luigi shakes his head)

Luigi; “No...This will take some time, Don Mateo...This man is well known and feared across a certain type of people...”

Mateo: “What type?”

Luigi: “People that would do his country wrong....This man, Don Pietro...he is known as one of the most dangerous men alive....and he is previously, a highly accomplished sniper....”

(Mateo looks at Luigi....)

Mateo: “Tell me more....”

(Mateo pauses)

Mateo: “And send two men to check this man’s hotel room..See if there is anything that may tell us more about him”

(pause)

Mateo: “Have them place some devices in his room...we should at least listen to what he has to say”

(scene shifts to the Naples NCIS bullpen....Mitchell standing, Alex and Branch sitting...)

Mitchell: “That wraps it up...Interpol wants my job, which means we have something they don’t want us to see...This something is why they kidnapped one of us....”

(She pauses)

Mitchell: “And we have, because of Lenny’s girlfriend....”

(Branch scrunches his face)

Mitchell: “Yes, because Sophia downloaded a virus into that system....”

Alex: “Personally, I think it was great!”

Branch: “Thank you Alex...”

(Alex pumps a fist)

Alex: “Girl power!”

Mitchell: “Yea, you think that now...But wait until Interpol finds out we have the ability to read Mateo’s computers....you’ll have more men taking away that power than you can shake a stick at”

“Then don’t tell ‘em”

(They turn to the surprise voice...)

Mitchell: ‘Gibbs?”

(Gibbs and Caprice seen entering the office...Caprice has on tight black slacks, black long sleeve shirt, long straight purple hair, bangs)

Gibbs; ‘Don’t tell them you can read what they have....At least not yet....”

Mitchell: “Okay...I don’t disagree, but why?”

Gibbs; “Because they came after one of our own.....And we need to protect our own....Tell Interpol we have that ability, and I promise, they’ll take it away and leave this team out to dry....”

Mitchell: “Because they have bigger fish to fry”

Gibbs; ‘Yea...it’s how the big boys work...Trust me...I’ve had plenty of experience with it”

(The door to the office bursts open....Sophia runs in, looks straight at Gibbs.....)

Sophia: “They are sending men to your hotel room!”

(Gibbs looks at her....)

Gibbs; “Okay...so?”

Sophia: “Did you not hear me? They are sending men to your room!..They will ….they will.....”

Gibbs; “They will what? There’s nothing to find”

(Sophia stares at Gibbs....)

Sophia: “How you live so long and be so stupid?”

Gibbs: “Explain”

Sophia: “You think they find nothing...that what you think?”

Gibbs; “Well yea...there’s nothing to find”

Sophia; “They find place to put listening device...they find place to put bluetooth trap, stealing what is on your phone, they place camera, they put thing that go boom in your room....”

Mitchell: “Gibbs....she’s right....”

(Gibbs looks at Sophia...grins....She scowls at him...)

Sophia: “You know all along you care what they do! You make me tell you!”

Gibbs: “Well...yea...I wanted to see how you think...”

Sophia; “I think you stupid!”

Gibbs; “And I think you’re pretty smart....”

(He looks at Caprice)

Gibbs; “Want to rent us a car so we can see who’s coming to our room?”

Caprice: “Yes!...This could be fun!”

(She stops....)

Caprice; “Wait...what do we do if we see them?”

(Gibbs shrugs)

Gibbs: “Chase ‘em, I guess....”

Caprice: “Then what?”

Gibbs; “We want them to know we won’t lay down....We’re not hiding....Sooner or later, they’ll find out that drive was a fake, and they’ll come after the real one...And whether we have it or not, they’ll think we do...”

Branch: “And if we push the issue, we get to do it on our terms”

(Gibbs nods)

Gibbs; ‘Never let the enemy tell you what to do....Go tell them first”

Caprice; “Well...you boys flex your muscles, I’m going to get us a car”

(scene shifts to street outside the hotel, Gibbs and Caprice sitting inside a very small Fiat 500 rental car)

Gibbs; “Is this the golf cart taking us to our car?”

Caprice; “Don’t be a smartass, Jethro...it was all they had”

Gibbs; ‘Yea...no one else wanted it”

Caprice; “It’s Italy, Jethro! They all drive these cars!”

(Gibbs watches as other cars drive by them....)

Gibbs; “Audi...Mercedes....BMW...Another Audi...”

(Caprice punches his arm...)

Caprice; “Smart ass....”

(Gibbs turns his head towards two men parking a car, then walking to the hotel)

Gibbs; “That’s them”

Caprice: “How can you tell?”

Gibbs: “They parked a block away....there are spaces up closer...they don’t want to be seen”

(They watch the two men enter the hotel...Gibbs opens his door...)

Gibbs; “I’m going to go check out their car....Move over to the driver’s seat in case they come out fast...”

(Gibbs exits...Caprice wiggles her way out of the car, walks around to the driver’s door....)

Caprice: “Damn tiny cars.....”

(scene shifts to Gibbs opening passenger door of their car...gets in)

Caprice; “Anything?”

Gibbs; ‘It was a BMW”

(She punches his arm again)

Caprice: “Smartass”

(She sees movement.....)

Caprice: “Jethro!...It’s them!”

Gibbs; “Okay...settle down...just follow them...Let’s see where they go...”

(The two men walk casually down the sidewalk, enter the BMW...they start the car, then pull out...They drive slowly by Caprice and Gibbs...then even more slowly as they near their car...)

Gibbs; ‘Why the hell....?”

(The BMW passes slowly by....the window moves down...Both men inside the car, sunglasses on, look at Gibbs and Caprice closely....Then the BMW’s engine revs, and the car squeals its tires accelerating...)

Gibbs: ‘Follow them!...Now!...”

(Caprice puts the car in gear, then does a 180 degree screeching U-turn in the street....The small engine roars as they shoot ahead after the BMW)

Caprice; “We’re in a car chase!...This is so cool!”

(An arm comes out of the BMW window...a pistol is in its hand....Gibbs grabs Caprice by the shoulder and pulls her down, just as a bullet hits the hood of the Fiat....)

Caprice: “JETHRO! THEY SHOT AT US!”

Gibbs; “YA THINK?”

(Caprice straightens up, sees the BMW pull away from them.....She floors the tiny car.....)

Caprice; “Oh hell no!....”

Gibbs: “CAPRICE!...”

(Another shot is fired....Caprice swerves the car to one side, barely missing a parked car on Gibbs’s side...He looks at how close they came to the parked car...)

Gibbs; “This isn’t good.....”

(Gibbs looks up ahead, sees a familiar landmark...)

Gibbs; “Caprice...it’s a round and round....”

Caprice; “HOW COOL!”

Gibbs; “So not good....”

(small car shown sliding around the Piazza Venezia, the famous circular traffic circle, the huge statue of Victor Emmanuel II flashes by the car....a voice shouts out from inside the car as they narrowly miss a pedestrian...)

Gibbs: “Dammit McGibbs!...You’re supposed to chase them, not run over people!....”

(another voice, determined, shouts back)

Caprice: “IF I HAD MY JAGUAR THEY’D BE TOAST BY NOW!”

(scene shifts to inside the tiny car....Gibbs, holding onto a hand strap...)

Gibbs; ‘YOU'RE ON THE WRONG SIDE OF THE ROAD!”

(Caprice swerves the wheel, the tiny car squeals the tires as it changes lanes, horns honking...)

Caprice; ‘They built them wrong! It’s not my fault!...”

(The scene shifts to through the windshield of the car, a black BMW ahead of them, taking the curve easily, then accelerating ahead, pulling away)

Caprice; ‘They’re getting away!..”

Gibbs; “Thank god!....Now stop the car, Caprice!”

(Caprice’s eyes get big..... a car pulls out ahead of the BMW, blocks the small street....)

Caprice; ‘Jethro...look!...They’re stopping!”

(Gibbs sees...scrambles to pull his gun out....)

Caprice; ‘They’re giving up!...We got ‘em!..”

Gibbs; “What?...They’re not giving up...not to us!...”

Caprice; ‘Maybe my driving scared them enough to give up?”

Gibbs; ‘Hell...it scared me enough to give up!...”

(They look...two men exit the BMW, hands up....they step out of the car carefully...)

Gibbs; ‘What are they doing?”

Caprice: “Begging for mercy?”

Gibbs; “No...that would be me....”

Caprice: “My driving was not that bad!...”

(Two figures, on the other side of the BMW, step out of the car that blocked the street, then step towards the men, both holding weapons in their hands, pointed at the men....)

(scene shifts back to Gibbs....Gibbs grins)

Gibbs; ‘They got here....”

Caprice: “Who?”

(Caprice looks....then she smiles and shrieks...)

(scene shifts to the two new figures holding the weapons....they both grin....)

Tony: “Boss is surprised to see us so early..Hope you aren’t mad about coming...”

(Ziva gives him a small smile...)

Ziva: “We have had many days of each other, my husband...and now...”

(She grins...)

Ziva; “...we are in Naples...and we have guns..It is so romantic!....What woman could ask for more on their honeymoon?”

(Tony smiles...)

Tony: “Well...you know me...full of surprises....”

(The two men, hands up, look at Tony and Ziva, holding guns trained on them...then back at the car following them, seeing the driver step out, a

woman....long straight purple hair, bangs across the eyes...One man looks at the other, disbelief on both their faces.... and asks....)

“Chi e 'questa gente?”

PART 4

Narrator; “This portion of “Italian Disconnection” is proudly brought to you by...”

(Daisy runs by the screen holding a large chunk of Ham Jerky in her mouth...slides on slippery floor, paws racing in place, then she shoots around the corner)

“Ellie’s Ham Jerky!...Because only Ellie’s Ham Jerky....”

(scene shows a pack of dogs chasing Daisy around the corner...Snarls heard around the corner...the pack comes racing back, whimpering, running....Daisy comes around the corner, snarling....)

“...gives an Italiani woman the energy to fight off the men....Even Italian men...”

(Daisy sits...yips at the camera...)

“Ellie’s Ham Jerky...allowing women to make their own choices....”

(commercial fades out)

(scene opens in barely lit small room...rock walls, one small one way window on the wall...Dinozzo, Ziva, Mitchell, and Branch stand in the room, looking through the glass...Tony looks around....)

Tony: “This the Interrogation Room?”

Mitchell: “Yes...This building was constructed over the ruins of an Italian castle...this was part of the dungeon”

Tony: “uh...how far underground are we?”

Mitchell: “30 feet”

(Mitchell looks at Tony, grinning)

Mitchell: “Gives you the creeps...doesn’t it?”

(Tony looks at the solid stone ceiling)

Tony: “Yea...”

Ziva: “It is not unlike the rooms we used in Israel....I find they assist in getting to the truth much faster”

(Mitchell and Branch look at Ziva, both slight awe...)

Ziva: “Of course...there are other methods of bringing the truth out quickly....”

(Mitchell and Branch exchange glances....both nod...mouth silently to each other)

“Is it her?”

(They both stare at Ziva...Ziva stands by the glass, arms crossed....then she looks back at Tony)

Ziva: “It wouldbe best if I question them...”

Tony: “We need them alive, honey....”

(Ziva stares at Tony for a second....then nods)

Ziva: “Unfortunate...but you are correct. It is best I do not do this”

(Mitchell and Branch mouth again to each other)

“It’s her”

(scene switches to Gibbs in the interview room, one of the men that broke into his room, sitting, looking around at the walls....)

Gibbs: “Used to be a dungeon”

(The man looks at the walls....)

Gibbs: “We made it into an Interrogation room”

(The man keeps looking....)

Gibbs: “Kept part of the dungeon though....”

(The man snaps his head towards Gibbs)

Gibbs: “No one can hear you scream....Works out good”

(The man’s eyes widen...Gibbs looks at the man’s file....says nothing...then...)

Gibbs: “Marion Wayne...he’s on the list”

(scene switches to viewing room)

Mitchell: “What is he doing? He’s going to let that man know it’s fake...”

Tony: “Just watch”

(scene switches back to Interrogation Room)

Man: “I don’t know the name”

(Gibbs looks at the file)

Gibbs: “He’s dead....”

(The man stares at Gibbs....)

Gibbs: “At least we think he is”

(the man stares....nothing...)

Gibbs: “Maureen O’Hara....”

(Gibbs looks at the man..curious look on his face)

Gibbs: “Used to be a man...”

(the man’s eyes register shock....Gibbs gives a small grin....)

Gibbs: “You didn’t know that...did you?”

(Gibbs shakes his head)

Gibbs; “I hear she’s a looker now....”

(The man continues staring....)

Gibbs: “Anyone got a new girlfriend?”

(The man’s face goes blank.....Gibbs shakes his head)

Gibbs: “Oh...you do....Well..I’m sure it’s not him...or her....”

(Gibbs pauses)

Gibbs: “But none of that matters....”

(Gibbs stands abruptly...slams hands on the desk....The man’s eyes widen in shock)

Gibbs: “BECAUSE YOU BROKE INTO A UNITED STATES FEDERAL AGENT’S ROOM! AND I CAN KEEP YOU LOCKED IN THIS DUNGEON FOR YEARS!...YOU HEAR ME, PAISAN?.....” (pause) “YEARS!”

(Gibbs grabs the file...walks towards the door...)

Gibbs; ‘Have a nice stay”

(The man’s face turns to fear....)

Man: “Wait...you have not asked me anything....”

(Gibbs stops....turns....)

Gibbs; “I like people in the dungeon...I don’t care what you have to say”

(Gibbs turns back to the door...The man blurts out...)

Man: “THEY KNOW PART OF THE FILE IS FALSE!...THEY ARE COMING FOR THE REAL ONE!”

(Gibbs stops...turns....looks at the man....)

Gibbs; “Yea?”

(The man nods quickly....Gibbs crosses his arms, stares at the man....then...)

Gibbs: “Talk to me, paisan....”

(scene shifts to the viewing room....)

Tony: “Classic Boss....”

Ziva: “Effective...slow...but effective...”

(Mitchell and Branch look at each other...shake their heads...)

Mitchell: “We don’t have a dungeon.....”

(Tony grins...)

Tony: “You do now”

(scene switches back to the Interrogation room.....Gibbs and Mitchell in the room with the man....man talking fast...after 10 minutes....Gibbs looks at Mitchell...)

Gibbs; “You got it?”

Mitchell: “Yea...I got it...”

Gibbs; ‘Okay....”

(He looks at the man....)

Gibbs; “You can go....go on...get outa here...Don’t let me see you again...”

(Gibbs opens the door....The man gets up, hesitant...goes to the door....starts to exit...)

Gibbs; ‘No..the other way...you’re heading for the Torture Room...)

(The man stares at Gibbs...then nods....)

Man: “Grazi...”

(Gibbs turns to Mitchell....)

Gibbs; ‘Next?”

(Mitchell grins....)

Mitchell: “I’d like to do this one....”

(scene shifts to the new man being brought in....sits...Mitchell the only other person in the room....the man looks at the stone walls...)

(scene shifts to Viewing room....Gibbs watching with Branch, Ziva, Tony....They look through the window, ..Branch stares closely at the man....moves to the window, and hear Mitchell over the speaker)

“Did you know this used to be part of a dungeon?..They can’t hear you scream down here..”

(scene fades out showing Branch staring intensely at the man in the Interrogation Room)

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens in the Naples NCIS bullpen...Everyone gathered, including Caprice and Sophia)

Gibbs: “So there it is. They know the drive they have is a copy...We knew they’d figure that out sooner or later. And that means they’re coming for the original drive...and we have 2 days until Interpol comes for it. After that, we’re out of the loop.”

Mitchell: “Everyone’s out of the loop then...The Interpol people coming to pickup the drive are the ones on the list”

Gibbs: “Yea...which means it will disappear”

Mitchell: “One question....Why wait three days to come get the drive? Why not come and get it right away?”

Gibbs “Because you told them you saw what was on it...”

Mitchell: “But a lot of it is encrypted...they don’t know we broke their code....”

Gibbs; “They don’t know what you know...That’s why they’re waiting. They want to see what you do. That will tell them what you know and don’t know”

Mitchell: “And if they find out we know it’s a list of agents on the take?”

(Gibbs says nothing...stares at Mitchell...then his eyebrows go up...)

Mitchell: “They’ll want me quiet...”

Gibbs: “No, Mitchell, they’ll want you dead”

Branch: ”And the agents taking money get away with it”

(Gibbs nods)

Gibbs: “How’s that make you feel, Branch?”

Branch: “Like we need to stop them”

Gibbs: “Yea...me too”

Branch: ”So, Mateo will come after the original drive...He needs to know who’s inside his organization..”

Alex: “He’ll come here?”

Branch: “He’ll go wherever it is”

Mitchell: “Or wherever we take the drive....”

(Gibbs looks over at Mitchell...)

Gibbs; “They’ll bring men after it....”

(Mitchell looks at Gibbs)

Mitchell: “But we can control the playing field.”

(Gibbs looks at Mitchell, curious)

Gibbs: “We can’t go after the Cosa Nostra...we don’t have the manpower”

Mitchell: “We don’t want to fight them...we want to make sure they never get the real drive...that’s all”

(Gibbs thinks)

Gibbs: “Keep talking”

(Sophia gets up from her seat)

Sophia: “Because if they obtain the actual drive, they will see that I inserted the KeyStroke program...”

(Gibbs nods)

Gibbs: “And you don’t want them to know we’re looking at what they’re doing...”

Mitchell: “Exactly....I personally don’t care if they get to see what’s on that drive or not...We already know the names...we know who in Interpol is on the take...and if Mateo wants to kill them off...” (pause) “..well..that’s the choice they made when they went bad....A Nostra-Interpol fight? Hell, Gibbs, they’ve been fighting forever”

Gibbs: “But being able to open a window to the La Cosa Nostra whenever you want...”

(Mitchelll grins)

Mitchell: “Priceless”

(Gibbs nods...small grin)

Gibbs: “I get it...works for me”

(Gibbs looks off...thinks.. Then he looks at Tony and Ziva....)

Gibbs; “You in?”

(they both nod....)

(Gibbs looks at Caprice....She pats her tote bag)

Caprice “Of course....Me and Justin...we’re in”

(Then he looks at Sophia...)

Gibbs; ‘You’re a civilian...you need to....”

(She barks out...)

Sophia; ‘I fight men for all my life!...And you need me...No one can tell you where they are...no one can tell you what they do....Only me....So...I in, or you have nothing....”

(Gibbs’s eyebrows go up....)

Ziva: “She is right...And she is the one that placed the program...She has earned the right to be part of this”

(Sophia looks over at Ziva....her eyes narrow, then nods at Tony)

Sophia: “This man...he is husband?”

Ziva: “Yes...”

Sophia: “You love him?”

Ziva; “Very much”

Sophia: “You no want my Leonardo?”

Ziva: “My husband and I have a daughter together....and we are hoping for another...I have only one heart, and that heart has room for only one man”

(Sophia stares at Ziva...Ziva raises one eyebrow)

Sophia: “There may be many Pow Pows...you not run like scaredy pantaloons?”

(Ziva laughs...)

Ziva: “No...I will be there....I have been in many Pow pows”

(Tony nudges her)

Tony: “How does it feel to be looking at you 15 years ago?”

(Ziva smiles...)

Ziva: “She is only making sure, Anthony....”

(Ziva looks at Sophia....)

Ziva: “Are we well and good now?”

(Sophia looks at Ziva...then small smile...looks at Branch)

Sophia: “I fight with her....She good woman”

(Mitchell lets out a long breath....)

Mitchell: “Well...thank god that’s over....So, Gibbs...what’s our next step?”

(Gibbs looks at Mitchell...shrugs...)

Gibbs; ‘I don’t know...it’s your case...your city...your team....You tell us, Mitchell”

(Mitchell nods....then...)

Mitchell “We take the drive out of here....and they’ll come after the one that has it...”

Branch: “That’s suicide for the person taking it....”

(Mitchell stares at Branch.....then...)

Mitchell: “No it’s not...not if everyone works together....as a team....”

(She lets the words soak in....then...)

Mitchell “What about it Branch?...We had your back at the warehouse...You ready to be part of this?”

(She waits....Branch says nothing....then...)

Branch: “I’ve seen enough.....”

(He opens his drawer...pulls out his gun and badge....They all watch, tentatively...then...Branch looks at Mitchell...places his gun and badge on his belt..)

Branch: “Call the play, boss ....I’m in....”

(Mitchell nods, then sees Sophia taking some small items out of her bag...)

Mitchell: “Sophia...what are those?”

Sophia; “Camera”

Mitchell: “Why?”

Sophia; “You think this first time I have seen information someone wants? I have had many come after what I produce...What my company produce...”

(Pause..)

Sophia: “Interpol has been one that come and try to take what I have....But they are stupid”

(Sophia takes one camera, puts double adhesive tape on it....She walks to the front door of the office...then presses the small camera between two filing cabinets)

Sophia; “They will come....and they will want to know what you know...”

Mitchell: “You’re setting up surveilance for when we’re not here....”

(Sophia nods as she moves to another corner of the room...She presses another camera in place)

Sophia: “Cosa Nostra will come...Interpol will come....someone will come....Sophia wants to see who it is...”

(Gibbs watches....)

Gibbs; “Smart”

Branch: “I’ve always said she’s smart....”

(Sophia continues to place another camera...)

Sophia; “You remember that if you ever try to see other woman....”

(Branch is looking away, blank expression on his face...Sophia watches, then...)

Sophia: “Good....that is good for your health...”

(Ziva grins, looks up at Tony)

Ziva: “That would have been me 15 years ago if we had been together”

(Tony looks down at her...)

Tony: “And now?”

Ziva: “It would still not be good for your health if you were to be so stupid”

(Sophia moves towards Branch....she touches his shoulder)

Sophia: “i have seen this before....what is wrong?”

(He pats her hand...)

Branch: “Nothing”

(Sophia looks up, sees Gibbs staring at them...then...)

Gibbs: “Someone needs to stay tonight...while the others leave”

(Branch immediately calls out)

Branch: “I’ll stay”

(Gibbs stares at him....then...)

Gibbs: “Not until we talk, you won’t”

(Branch looks back at Gibbs....the two men trade stares...)

Mitchell: “Uh...is there something I need to know about?”

(Silence...then..)

Gibbs; “Branch?”

(Branch says nothing....)

Gibbs: “Then I’ll stay with you”

Branch: “No...that’s not necessary....”

Gibbs: “Wasn’t a suggestion, Agent...”

(Gibbs gets up...moves towards Branch....)

Gibbs: “I know the look....I’ve seen it in the mirror....Now...You tell your team what’s going on, or you go home...”

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens in Mateo’s villa ...Mateo sits at the patio table, Luigi also...two silent guards stand on both sides, both dressed in black suits, white shirts....The two men that were captured and interrogated at NCIS stand nervously in front of Mateo...)

Man 1: “We told them nothing..!...I swear on my mother’s life, Don Mateo!....”

(Mateo nods....stares at the man...)

Mateo: “But they tell you of this Marion Wayne?”

Man 1: “Si!...They say he is dead!....” (pause) “..they hope....”

Mateo: “But they do not know.....”

Man 1: “It seem more like hope than know...but the woman...she tell me about Marion Wayne....”

Mateo: “And what did she tell you?”

Man 1: “That he is...” (pause) “...she use the term...badass to the bone....And very very smart....He was specialist undercover....”

Mateo: “Which means he could be here?...He could be anybody?”

(The man nods)

Mateo: “For all I know, he could be you...”

(Mateo nods at one of the guards....the guard pulls out a pistol, screws a silencer on the gun....)

Mateo: “Is it you? Are you the Marion Wayne that has my money?”

(The man shows fear.....the other, standing beside him, starts to take a step away...)

Man 1: “NO DON MATEO!....On my mother’s life!...I swear....!”

(The guard walks up quickly, places the gun to the man’s chest...pulls the trigger....The man crumples to the stone floor, moaning....)

Mateo: “One should never swear on their mother’s grave....it is so disrespectful....”

(Mateo turns to the second man....The man looks Mateo in the eye....)

Mateo: “You are not afraid....”

(The man looks at Mateo....)

Man 2: “They are smart...they have brought two others to join them....And they are not afraid either....They know much of who we are and what we do...It is obvious they have people inside us.”

(Mateo nods....)

Mateo: “Yes....tell me more...”

Man 2: “The one questioning me...she talks as if she is not concerned we have drive...”

Mateo: “Which means?”

Man 2: ”I do not know what it means...I only know it may mean something”

Mateo: “Such as?”

Man 2: “That things are not as they seem...”

(He pauses)

Man 2: “I am the one that planted the device in the U.S. Agent’s room....I can plant a similar one in their office...I suggest we find out what it is we do not know?”

(Mateo nods)

Man 2: “I mean no disrespect, Don Mateo...but these people...they are smarter than we think...and they are very confident. If it were me....I would want to know more before I act”

Mateo: “And do you think I have acted....hastily.....in the past?”

(the man thinks....then nods)

Man 2: “Yes, Don Mateo...I do”

(Mateo looks over at the guard who has drawn his weapon out of his coat.....he slowly shakes his head...The guard places the weapon back in his suit coat)

Mateo: “Grazie..a man that is not afraid to speak the truth to me....”

(Mateo looks up at the man...)

Mateo: “I remember you now...”

(a pause)

Mateo: “You were once with Interpol....You are Paulo Martinelli”

(The man nods, a realization comes over Mateo’s face)

Mateo: “I bought you”

(The man lets out a sigh...)

Martinellii: “You paid me to go where I wanted to go, but yes...you paid me”

Mateo: “This is why you know so much of what they do....You were once them...”

(Martinellli nods...)

Mateo: “But this...it seems personal to you....Why?”

(Mateo looks at him...waits...The man says nothing)

Mateo: “Once upon a time, I paid four to betray one”

(The man nods)

Mateo: “To lead a man that was close to killing me into an ambush...”

(The man does not reply...Mateo leans back, stares at Martinelli, standing in front of him)

Mateo: “Tell me, Paulo Martinelli...”

(pause)

Mateo: “What became of the men I paid?”

(Martinelli looks directly at Mateo)

Maratin: “Three are dead. Leonardo Branch hunted them. He hunted them one by one...and he found them...then he killed them”

(Mateo stares at Martinelli...then a smile forms on his face....)

Mateo: “And the fourth? What became of him?”

(Mateo smiles...waits...then)

Martinelli: “I am number four”

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens at studio loft of Sophia and Branch, glass wall overlooking ocean harbor...modern furniture, expensive décor...Sophia stands at the window, arms crossed, Branch standing behind her...)

Branch: “Sophia...I’m not trying to shut you out....”

Sophia: “Whether try or not...you do”

Branch: “What I do, Sophia...it’s not what you do...”

(She turns abruptly...faces him)

Sophia: “Every other time I say ‘yes, Leonardo’, ‘of course Leonardo’, ‘whatever you say Leonardo”....I understand!..I not stupid!....”

Branch: “I never said you were...”

Sophia: “But this time!...Is different!...I am part of it! I responsible for what happen!”

(He reaches out, takes her shoulders...)

Branch: “Baby...please...just tonight...I don’t know if anyone will come, but if they do, it won’t be anything but ‘your under arrest’ or ‘get out”...It’s not what you think it is”

(Pause)

Branch: “Look..I even convinced Gibbs to stay home....”

Sophia: “After you tell them...after you tell me!..What you tell them? You tell them the man they had was one of those that betrayed you!..”

Branch: “I had to....”

Sophia; “But you not tell whole truth, Leonardo....Sophia know....”

(He says nothing....)

Sophia: “You did not tell them you were the one that kill the others...”

Branch: “I...Sophia....”

Sophia; ‘What? You think that make a difference? You think they think bad of you?”

(He shakes his head....)

Branch: “No...I was worried...Sophia....Just stay here...please....”

Sophia: “You worry about what...?”

(He looks away....then)

Branch: “About you and me...what it would mean if you knew....If you knew that....”

(He stops....silent)

Sophia; “If I knew you kill them? Leonardo!...They betray you! They leave you to die!...How could I think bad of you for that?”

(He looks at her....then...)

Branch: “Some women would.....”

(She slaps him across the face....His expression stunned....She points a finger at his face...)

Sophia: “YOU NEVER THINK I LIKE OTHER WOMEN!....I AM SOPHIA! ONLY SOPHIA!...”

(Then her face changes....fear....)

Sophia: “Oh...Leonardo...I hit you...”

(Her hands cover her mouth...)

Sophia: “I hit you....I am so sorry.....My Leonardo...please.....”

(Her eyes moisten....)

Branch: “It’s okay...I deserved it...”

(She shakes her head....)

Sophia: “No...not you....my gentle sweet man....”

(She reaches for his face...Branch takes her wrist....holds it)

Branch: “Stay here....This won’t take long...”

(He releases her wrist, turns, and walks out of the apartment...The door shuts....Then Sophia falls to her knees, her hands covering her face, weeping...)

“What have I done....my Leonardo....What have I done...?”

(scene shifts to the NCIS building parking lot...a car circles, then leaves....the car is seen parking in the lot of another building...one man exits, another waits in the car....He walks along the buildings, in the shadows and under the overhangs, towards the one door marked NCIS Naples...He pulls out a lock pic...he inserts it in the keyhole....a few seconds later, the deadbolt clicks...The man looks around, slowly opens the door, then enters the office)

(scene shifts to Sophia....She is standing, looking at a picture of her and Branch, both smiling....)

Sophia: “I cannot stay...I have to go to him...I have to tell him how sorry Sophia is....”

(scene shows Sophia running out the apartment door)

(scene shifts back to the NCIS Naples bullpen...dark, no lights...The man places a bag on a desk, then pulls out a small transmitter microphone out of a leather case...He places it under the edge of a desk....He sees the glassed in office...He walks towards it....then...)

“Hello Paul”

(The man, his hand in his leather case, freezes....he looks around, sees nothing...then the voice speaks again)

“Long time no see”

(Then Branch walks out of the shadows.....the man looks at him, staring...)

Martin: “Branch....”

(Branch nods, still walking towards Martin)

Branch: “We have some unfinished business, you and I”

(Martin doesn’t move)

Branch: “Those are listening devices....you were always good at those”

(Martin looks at Branch....nods)

Martin: “It’s what I do, paisan....”

Branch: “Paisan? Hardly....”

Martin: “So what now...you’re going to kill me? Complete your revenge?”

(Martin slowly raises his hand from his bag....)

Martin: “I don’t think so....”

(Martin’s hand comes out, holding a 9mm gun. He trains it on Branch...)

(scene shifts to far corner of the office, in shadows....Gibbs watches...then as Martin pulls his gun out, Gibbs pulls his...he starts to walk out of the shadows)

(scene shifts to Branch and Martin....Branch walks closer, both hands up, empty)

Branch: “We have unfinished business, Paul..but not the kind you think...”

Martin: “What then?”

Branch: “No more killing...I’m done....”

(Martin looks at Branch suspiciously....)

Martin: “That’s not you”

Branch: “It is now....Call it a new perspective on life...call it whatever you want...Just give yourself up, give me the gun, and we’ll call it even”

(Martin is silent....he slowly lowers his gun....)

(scene shifts to Gibbs, still in the shadows....as he sees Martin lower his gun, he slides back into the shadows, but gun still trained on Martin)

(scene shifts back to Matin...)

Martin: “I’m tired of looking over my shoulder”

Branch: “All that can be over....”

(Martin stares...then shakes his head...)

Martin: “There’s only one way this can be over....”

(He raises the gun back up...aims at Branch....then a voice..)

“Pull that trigger and I’ll turn your head into dog meat”

(Martin freezes at the voice....Branch looks over....Sees Gibbs standing, gun pointed at Martin’s head....)

Branch: “Gibbs....What....”

Gibbs: “Had to make sure you were telling the truth about yourself”

(Gibbs walks closer to Martin)

Gibbs: “Put the gun down....You’re under arrest...”

(Martin’s phone buzzes....Gibbs walks to him, holding the gun to him...pulls the phone out of his pocket...Gibbs opens the phone....)

Gibbs: “Branch....”

(He hands the phone to Branch.....Branch looks at it....the text reads...)

“Look what I found!”

(Then a picture of Sophia, a man’s arm around her neck....)

Branch: “You son of a bitch...Now I’ll kill you!...”

Gibbs: “NO!”

(Gibbs stands in between Branch and Martin....)

Branch: “THEY HAVE SOPHIA!”

(Gibbs pulls out his phone....opens it....hands it to Branch...)

Gibbs: “Look”

(Branch looks at Martin....then at the phone...He sees a shotgun barrel pressed against the man’s head....Sophia no longer being held)

Gibbs: “Meet Justin”

(Gibbs moves to Martin, pulling his cuffs off his belt....the door to the office bangs open...Branch whispers....)

“Sophia”

(She runs to him, embraces him.....)

Sophia; “I am so sorry!...I had to come!...I am so sorry!...My Leonardo.....”

(He holds her....tight...)

Branch: “If they had hurt you.....”

Sophia: “No...Caprice...she and Miss Sarah...They there....They save me....”

Branch: “Sarah?”

Gibbs: “Told you to trust us, Branch....”

(Gibbs shakes his head...small smile)

Gibbs: “The young ones...they gotta learn the hard way”

(Gibbs starts to take Martin off....Mitchell enters the office....)

Mitchell: “I’ll take him Gibbs...Go see your wife....”

Gibbs: “You left her alone down there?”

Mitchell: “I think she’s got things handled, Gibbs....”

(scene shifts to parking lot...Caprice with shotgun pointed at the other man.....Sophia is at the trunk of the car, the trunk open, Sophia leaning inside)

Caprice: “Hey....”

(The man looks at her, glaring...)

Caprice; “It’s not polite to look at a lady like that....”

(The man spits on the ground)

Man: “And you call self a lady?”

(A thunk...the man’s eyes glaze over...he falls...and shows Sophia, tire iron in hand...She looks at the unconscious man on the ground)

Sophia: “She much lady!....”

(She spits on him)

Sophia; ‘I hate when man spit!...They so stupid!”

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens in the shadow of the parking lot...another man stands, night vision goggles to his face...he lowers them, takes out his phone...)

Man: “We’re too late...They know people are coming for the drive”

(He listens....nods...)

Man: “Affirmative....We’ll pickup the drive tomorrow...then I’ll make sure none of them survive”

(The man gets back in is car, closes the door....the front license plate of the dark blue BMW reads...)

INTERPOL

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(scene fades to black and white)

PART 5

(scene opens in NCIS Naples Interrogation Room, Paul Martin sits, chained to the table by his hands, staring at Branch, sitting across from him...)

Martin: “Are you going to kill me in here? Is that the way this ends?”

(Branch shakes his head....)

Branch: “No, Paul....but your life, working for Mateo...that does end. I was hoping, before you’re transferred to the Italian authorities, that some of what you used to be was still in you”

(Martin looks at Branch...)

Martin: “That died...a long time ago”

(scene shifts to Viewing Room...Gibbs stands at the window, Mitchell and Alex stand behind him)

Mitchell: ‘You still think it was a good idea to send him in there?”

(Gibbs looks at Branch....)

Gibbs: “I don’t know...But the man deserves some answers. Maybe he’ll get them”

Mitchell: “He kept his promise...He didn’t kill Martin..”

Gibbs: “Yea..I know....”

Alex: “I hate to bring up something that might hurt one of us....But now that we know about the other 3....I mean..he told us he killed them”

(Silence....then...)

Mitchell: “What do you want to do with him, Alex? If you could....what would you do?”

(Alex is quiet.....then...)

Alex: “He’s a part of us....”

Mitchell: “Yes...he is”

(Alex is silent....she continues to look at Branch through the window...)

Alex: “He did what any of us would want to do....and as far as I’m concerned, they deserved to die”

Mitchell: “Yea...but it’s against the law to take those matters into your own hands. And we are law enforcement...”

(Alex nods...Gibbs turns slightly...speaks..)

Gibbs; “Tough call, agent...duty and what you feel is right...It’s going to come up again...Might as well learn to face it”

(Alex nods....then...)

Alex: “I know...and I ave...but....You’ll have to do it without me”

(Mitchell looks at Alex....)

Mitchell: “Meaning what, Agent?”

Alex: “I can’t turn a man in for doing what I’d do. And for all I know, it didn’t happen...All we have are rumors, and Lenny’s story....and he’s not believable”

Mitchell: “He’s not? But you trust him....”

Alex: “Come on, Mitchell...that man in there grabbed a woman, crashed through a wall, fell over 50 feet into dangerous waters, then he faces a Cosa Nostra mobster without his weapon?...”

(Alex shakes her head)

Alex: “He’s obviously off his rocker....Who can believe what he said?”

(Mitchell grins...then...)

Gibbs: “Works for me....The man’s word obviously can’t be trusted”

Alex: “Then it’s settled....Lenny is nuts”

Mitchell; “Nuttier than a fruitcake”

(Mitchell grins....nods towards Gibbs)

Mitchell: “If doing all that makes Lenny nuts...what about Gibbs? That man has a history of that stuff...”

(Alex looks at Gibbs....)

Alex: “Pure psycho...”

(Gibbs turns, scowls....)

Gibbs; “Psycho?”

Mitchell: “Yea...I agree...psycho....”

(Gibbs shrugs....)

Gibbs: “Well....that would explain a lot...Now...let’s see if that one can find out anything for us””

(scene shifts back to Interrogation Room)

Branch: “You were part of us. You were a good agent. In fact, a real good agent”

Martin: “Tried to be”

Branch: “Then what happened?”

(Martin looks at Branch....shakes his head)

Martin: “I don’t know, Len....It just....It just happened”

Branch: “I don’t buy that, Paul...not from you....”

(Martin looks off to the side....then...)

Martin: “We didn’t know....”

(Branch looks at Martin....curious)

Branch: “Didn’t know what?”

Martin: “J.R....”

Branch: “Stansky?”

(Martin nods)

Martin: “J.R. told me and Prentis that they wanted to grab you and interrogate you....”

Branch: “Interrogate me? What the hell are you talking about?”

(Martin turns to Branch...scoffs....)

Martin: “Of course you....Why not? The golden boy of Interpol? The one that was closing in on Mateo? Leonardo Branch, the man rising to the top of the food chain and being groomed for bigger and better things?...Yea...They told J.R. they wanted to find out how you got that close to Mateo...And plug whatever hole there was in their own security...then they were going to let you go”

(Silence.....then...)

Martin: “You can believe me or not....We took the money...we’re guilty....”

Branch: “I didn’t kill Prentice...I’m guilty of Stansky...I own that...But Prentis...”

Martin: “I know...you shot him up....but you let him live...or at least that was your intention...and hell, Len...Stansky was trying to kill you...what the #$%^ were you supposed to do? Now Prentis...you did shoot the shit outa him”

Branch: “Yea...a bullet in each arm and leg...it left message enough...but I didn’t kill him”

Martin: “You left him with his gun, Lenny....”

(Branch leans back....stares at Martin....)

Branch: “Are you saying he killed himself?”

(Martin shakes his head...)

Martin: “You shot him...then you turned your back on him...you walked away....that was a mistake, Lenny....”

(Branch stares at Martin....)

Branch: “How do you know all this...that was exactly how it happened...”

Martin: “Because I was there....you didn’t look close enough...but I was there...”

(Martin shakes his head...)

Martin; “I should have killed you while I had the chance....”

Branch: “Wait a minute....Prentis....his cause of death....”

Martin: “It wasn’t gunshot wounds like the report said....It was a snapped neck.....”

Branch: “Paul...I didn’t do that....”

Martin: “I know...but you left him his gun, Lenny...you got careless....and when you turned to leave, he was going to shoot you in the back....”

(pause)

Martin: “I hated you....I hated you because I hated me....But dammit, you didn’t deserve to be backshot....”

(Branch looks at Martin, in shock....)

Branch: “Paul...you killed him....”

(Martin shrugs....)

Branch: “Jesus....but Daglianni.....”

Martin: “Daggy killed himself....”

Branch: “No...I saw the car blow up.....”

Martin: “He wasn’t inside, Paul....he had remote start on his car....”

(Martin leans back....)

Martin: “J.R?...yea..that one’s on you....no denying that one brother....but...the others...Your heart just wasn’t in it, Lenny...You tracked us...hunted us...made our

lives miserable....You were a scary son of a bitch, Lenny....but a cold blooded killer?....”

(pause)

Martin: “Just wasn’t you....”

(Martin offers a small grin....)

Martin: “Wuss...”

(Branch stares at Martin....)

Martin: “You were scary as hell, Lenny...none of us could sleep at night....but brother...you never verified your kill....You were hell on wheels...but you just didn’t have it in you to be a killer...”

(scene shifts to Viewing Room)

Mitchell: “Well I’ll be damned....”

Alex: “Thank god...I was going to have to protect a killer...”

(Gibbs keeps staring at Martin....)

Gibbs; “There’s more....the man wants to talk....”

(scene shifts back to the Interrogation Room)

Branch: “Paul...I don’t know what to say....you have no reason to lie...”

Martin: “I’m not...wish I was, though....I wish you were the son of a bitch you thought you were...”

(pause)

Martin: “But you’re not....Damn golden boy....”

Branch: “Then help me, Paul...help me keep my own people safe....I know Mateo will come after them....”

Martin: “Mateo? He’s easy enough to fight....no discipline, no training, just guns....The one you need to worry about are the boys on that drive, Lenny....Interpol boys...”

Branch: “Do you really think....”

(Martin turns away.....then he mutters to himself....)

Martin: “Dammit....dammit to hell....”

(Martin snaps around....looks Branch straight in the face...)

Martin: “Get your people outa there....Get ‘em out now, Lenny!”

(Branch looks at Martin, blank face....)

Martin: “GO!”

(scene shifts to the Naples NCIS bullpen...Sophia, Tony, Ziva, and Caprice, all sitting at desks, talking...then up from the stairway, Branch runs...Gibbs, Mitchell and Alex behind him...)

Branch: “GET OUT!...NOW!....”

(Gibbs stands at the door, opens it...Caprice runs out, Tony and Ziva behind her...Alex and Mitchell run out....then Sophia gets up, and runs directly into a desk, falling over the chair...)

Branch: “SOPHIA!”

(She tries to get up.....)

Sophia: “I CANNOT STAND!”

(scene shows Branch running to Sophia...he picks her up, carries her out of the bullpen, through the door....Gibbs sees them get out, then runs through the door...)

(scene shifts to outside...the team running into the parking lot, Branch carrying Sophia, Gibbs next to them...Then the glass explodes outward, as a blast thunders from in the office, flames shoot out of the broken windows....They hit the ground, laying on the grass, covering their heads...Branch covers Sophia with his body as the glass and concrete rains down on them...)

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens in hallway to Interrogation Room...Navy personnel present, blocks of old stone litter the hallway, dust still hanging in the air.....Branch climbs over stones, trying to get to the Interrogation Room...)

Branch: “PAUL!...CAN YOU HEAR ME!...PAUL!...”

(A sailor stops Branch....)

Sailor: “Sir...you can’t go any further...it’s dangerous...”

Branch: “There’s man in there!....I have to....”

Sailor: “Sir! Everything past me...It caved in....”

(Branch looks over the sailor’s shoulder.....)

Branch: “Oh Jesus...no....”

(Branch feels a hand on his shoulder....)

Gibbs; “He’s gone, Branch....”

(view shows sailors carrying a black zipped up body bag out of the Interrogation Room door....)

Branch: “Oh no....no....not Paul....”

(Branch leans against the wall....eyes closed....)

Gibbs; “Bubba...his last act was to save you....He saved everyone....”

(Branch, eyes still closed....nods his head)

Branch: “I know”

Gibbs: “There was something good still in him, Branch....and you brought it out”

(Branch shakes his head)

Branch: “No...he brought it out...it was him...”

Gibbs: “You want him to die for nothing?”

(Branch opens his eyes....looks at Gibbs....face stern....)

Branch: “Those men...Interpol....”

(Gibbs stares....nods his head...)

Branch: “They did this...not Mateo...”

Gibbs: “Uh huh...so what do we do?”

(Branch looks at Gibbs....)

Branch: “We go get them...but we need Mateo off our backs....”

Gibbs; ‘I know”

Branch: “But how do we do that?...The man still thinks we’re the enemy”

Gibbs; “We are...just not his enemy right now....”

Branch: “How do we let him know that? How can we.....”

Gibbs; “I know the person that can make it happen, Branch....”

Branch: “Make what happen?”

(Gibbs looks at Branch....then...)

Gibbs; “We’re going to have a sit down with Mateo....”

(Branch looks at Gibbs, disbelief....)

Branch: “You’re crazy....”

Gibbs; ‘No....the word is Psycho...But just trust me....”

(Gibbs pulls out his phone...dials....)

Gibbs: “Hey Don...How are things in the East Coast Mafia?”

(scene fades out to Branch’s face, listening, eyes getting wider and wider, mouth dropping open)

(scene shifts to large banquet room inside the famous Impasto 55 Restaurant, Naples....multiple tables in the room empty, only Mateo, Luigi, Gibbs, and Mitchell sit at table in the middle of the room...Mateo looks at Gibbs...)

Mateo: “So...the father of Don Pietro’s grandson is a director of the famous NCIS....”

(Mateo shakes his head)

Mateo: “This business...it make for strange friends...no?”

Gibbs; ‘Yea...from time to time”

Mateo: “I value Pietro’s word, Signor...otherwise....”

Gibbs; “Yea..I know...you’d kill me...or whatever....”

Mateo: “Or you would kill me....no?”

(Gibbs looks around...)

Gibbs; “With 10 of your boys sitting just outside the room?”

(Gibbs shakes his head)

Gibbs; “Nah...I’d pick you off from a quarter mile away...cleaner...”

(Mateo looks at Gibbs....then...)

Mateo: “Ah...the man that shoots from afar....you are the one”

Mitchell: “He is...but me...hell, I’d kill you up close....”

(Mateo looks at Mitchell....then laughs....)

Mateo: “I love this!...Enemies breaking bread....”

Gibbs: “Need your help, Mateo”

Mateo: “And why should I help you? I sit with you because a friend asked...There was nothing in the conversation about helping you”

Gibbs; “I can tell you what’s fake on the drive and what’s not”

(Mateo and Luigi both stare at Gibbs....)

Gibbs: “And I can tell you where to find Marion Wayne”

(Mateo’s eyes widen.....then...)

Mateo: “How can I help you, Signor Gibbs....”

Gibbs; “Gonna cost you....”

Mateo: “I would expect nothing less....”

Gibbs: “We give you the straight scoop on the drive...You lay off NCIS for a while...let us do what we need to do”

Mateo: “Interpol....”

Gibbs; “You know?”

Mateo: “Of course I know...it is my business to know”

Gibbs; “It’s not Interpol...it’s 7 men that went bad...”

Mateo: “Si...I am aware of them too”

(pause)

Mateo: “And if I agree?”

Gibbs: “We give you the information you want”

Mateo: “And Marion Wayne”

(Gibbs grins...)

Gibbs: “And Marion Wayne”

(Mateo looks over at Luigi...Luigi nods)

Luigi: “It would be worth it, Don Mateo.....”

(Mateo looks back to Gibbs...then at Mitchell)

Mateo: “You agree to this?”

(Mitchell nods...)

Mitchell “I do”

Mateo: “And in return, you no come after me for this time?”

Mitchell: “Sir..We’re only interested in you when you get involved in U.S. Navy, Marine, or related crimes....You want to go nuts in Naples? Knock yourself out...that’s between you and Naples...”

Mateo: “I own Naples....”

Mitchell: “You do not own the United States Navy or the Marines”

Mateo: “No...but some of them are very good customers....”

Mitchell: “You get caught selling to them, we come after you....You lay off for a while, allow us to do what we need to do, you won’t hear from us....”

(Mateo stares at Mitchell...then at Gibbs...Mateo signals for the waiter....)

Mateo: “Finest bordeaux....”

(He turns to Gibbs and Mitchell)

Mateo: “We toast to our agreement....”

(Gibbs lets out a breath....)

Gibbs: “Yea...okay....”

Mateo: “I am glad I not have to kill both of you today....I love this restaurant...”

Gibbs; “Yea..I’ll drink to that”

(Mitchell looks at Gibbs...mild shock)

Mitchell: “That was an option?”

Gibbs; “Well yea...always is”

(Mitchell leans back, crosses her arms...then...)

Mitchell: “Psycho...we were right...”

Mateo: “Now, Signor...Senorita...the information?”

(Gibbs grins....)

Gibbs; “Let’s start with the names....”

(scene shows Gibbs talking, then Mateo talking, then Mitchell talking...)

15 MINUTES LATER

(scene shows Mateo laughing, wiping tears from his eyes...Luigi sits, in shock, shaking his head....)

Mateo: “Marion Wayne is John Wayne? American Cowboy?”

(Gibbs grins, nods)

Mateo: “And no people inside my organization?”

Gibbs: “Not from the list...other than that, I don’t know...These men from Interpol put the word out that it was a list of undercover people inside your place...That was so you’d come after it, take it, and the drive would disappear”

Mateo: “The accounts...the money...”

Mitchell: “True enough...these men had some of yours under their thumb...they are taking payoffs from your men, putting them into their own accounts”

(Mateo listens.....then...)

Mateo: “These men...they take my money...and you want them....”

Gibbs: “yea...bad”

(Mateo leans back....then...)

Mateo: “Don Pietro tells me you are a very dangerous man”

(Gibbs doesn’t reply.....)

Mateo: “I would like to see that be the truth”

Gibbs: “Only to my enemies, Don Mateo....and so far...you’re not one of them”

(Mateo looks at Mitchell)

Mateo: “Please...give my apologies to your sister”

(Mitchell, wide eyed...nods)

Mateo: “Signor Gibbs.....We have a deal....and I give you one more thing to cement our temporary friendship....”

(Gibbs waits...then...)

Mateo: “I will tell you where to find these men....”

(Gibbs says nothing....then...)

Gibbs; “Works for me, Don Mateo”

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens outside single building, all concrete, very modern...one story, no other buildings around it...white marble walls, one front wall all glass....Mitchell parks her car, turns off the engine...)

Gibbs; ‘This where everyone is?”

Mitchell: “Yes...Sophia’s office....She’s given us a room and equipment to use while they figure out what to do with our blown up office”

(Gibbs looks...)

Gibbs; “She has an office here?”

Mitchell: “Gibbs.....”

(He looks at her...)

Gibbs; “Yea?”

Mitchell: “She owns the building....this is her company....”

(Gibbs eyes widen....)

Mitchell “Yea...Sophia’s big time...very big time....”

(Gibbs continues to stare at the building....)

(scene shifts to inside the building....glassed in work area, a dozen computer programmers working at terminals...Sophia is seen leaning close to a monitor, instructing the programmer....Tony leans over to Branch...)

Tony: “She that far sighted?”

Branch: “Worse...she can see okay as long as you’re 10 feet away or more...but up close...she can’t....”

Tony: “Can’t she get it fixed?”

(Branch shakes his head....)

Branch: “Neurological damage....there’s only one man that would even try...and he’s the best in the world...We’ve tried...no one can reach him”

(Branch pauses)

Branch: “Another year...maybe two...she’ll be blind...It’s progressive.”

Tony: “This doctor....who is he? Or her?”

Branch: “Doesn’t matter....He’s disappeared....rumor has it he got married....has a sick kid...He wants to take care of his family...”

(Tony grins....)

Tony: “Name?”

(Branch looks at Sophia.....then quietly to Tony....)

Branch: “Dr. Calesti Nuntio”

(Ziva claps her hands.....smiles big....Branch looks at her, curiously)

Branch: “What’s she so happy about?”

Tony: “Nothing...she’s a goofball...”

(Ziva takes Tony’s arm, hugs it....)

Ziva; “Call him...call him now, Anthony...”

(Tony pulls out his phone....walks away, Ziva still smiling at Branch....)

Branch: “Is there something I should know?”

(Ziva says nothing...smiles bigger...)

Ziva: “I am in love with happy...My new life...it is happy...”

(Tony walks back up..hands the phone to Branch...)

Tony: “Here...this man might know where Dr. Nuntio is....”

(Branch looks at Tony...then takes the phone...)

Branch: “Hello....”

(slight pause)

Branch: “I guess Tony told you who I was looking for....and why....”

(He listens....)

Branch: “Sir...excuse me?”

(Branch listens...then collapses into a chair....)

Branch: “Sir..Doctor....”

(Branch tries to speak....can’t....then...)

Branch: “Yes sir...I don’t know....I don’t know...what....”

(His throat clogs again...Tony takes the phone...)

Tony: “Hey Cal...thank you brother....”

(listens...nods)

Tony: “Yea..see you when you get here...and hey....”

(pause)

Tony: “Are you going to poof? Or do we need to get you at the airport....”

(scene shifts to large work area room...computer terminals, desks, workstations, all empty....Sophia stands, talking...)

Sophia: “Jean will take you one by one and enter you into the handprint system...each of you will have access to the side door only, and into this office....Because of my security agreements with the Polizia and Italy, I cannot allow you access to any other areas”

(pause)

Sophia; “Except the bathrooms and break room...however...do not engage in conversations with my employees....”

(Gibbs leans to Mitchell)

Gibbs: “Government?”

Mitchell: “She handles security software and tracking programs for both police forces and the Italian army...does some satellite stuff too, but that’s over my head.”

(Mitchell digs in her pocket....shows Gibbs a thumb drive)

Mitchell: “By the way, the thumb drive in my office? It was destroyed in the blast”

Gibbs; “Yea...I know...that was bad....We needed that”

Mitchell: “Copy”

Gibbs; “Copy of what?”

Mitchell: “The thumb drive...Sophia, when she did the dummy copy for Mateo, she made another copy of the original....”

(Mitchell looks at Gibbs)

Mitchell: “yea..illegal as hell..but she did it”

(Gibbs looks at the drive...then at Sophia....)

Gibbs; “Good for her....”

Mitchell: “Good for us...”

(Mitchell waits...then)

Mitchell: “You want these men...is this about Truth, Justice, the American Way? A “I’m just doing my job” thing?”

(Gibbs shakes his head)

Gibbs: “No”

Mitchell: “Then why?...Why not let the authorities that handle this handle it?”

Gibbs: “Family”

(She looks at him curiously)

Gibbs; “My wife...”

(silence)

Gibbs; “My friends”

(more silence)

Gibbs; “My family”

(Mitchell nods....)

Mitchell: “Okay...so...what are the rules?”

(Gibbs looks at Caprice...then at Tony, then Ziva...he sees them laughing, talking, smiling....then he turns to Mitchell...)

Gibbs; “There are no rules”

(Mitchell nods....)

Mitchell: “Then let’s go get them”

(Gibbs nods)

Gibbs; “Yea....works for me, Mitchell...”

AND NOW, PART 6 OF
“ITALIAN DISCONNECTION”
ON THE NCIS MOVIE CHANNEL!

(scene opens at Naples Airport, the limousine driver looks at the passengers exiting the airport entrance, waiting by the car....He sees a man in his later 30’s, curly brownish blonde hair, wearing a thin T-shirt, casual slacks, sunglasses, leather fold over suit bag hanging off one shoulder....The driver calls out, hesitantly...)

Driver: “Dr. Nuntio?”

(Cal hears it, gives a wave....walks quickly to the car....and in perfect Italian....)

Cal: “Grazi...Si...Casa di Curi Villa de Fiori Acerra....”

Driver: “Yes...the hospital....Doctor...do you have luggage?”

(Cal gets in the back seat...)

Cal: “Non...”

(The driver enters the limo, turns to Cal...)

Driver: “You are Doctor Nuntio....?”

Cal: “Si...Is there a problem?”

Driver: “Non...I was told I was picking up a doctor of much esteem and experience...I mean no offense...but you look...”

Cal; “Younger? Yes...I have been told”

Driver; ‘Si....If you do not mind, Doctor...How old are.....”

Cal: “I mind...Drive please...”

(Cal looks over in the seat next to him....an older woman, stylishly dressed, glasses perched on her nose, sits...)

Cal: “Dr. Santo....thank you for coming...”

Santo: “When Dr. Calesti Nuntio calls...”

Cal: “We do not have much time, Doctor....you have read the files I sent you...yes?”

(The woman nods....)

Cal: “And you have seen the diagnosis of this woman...”

Santo: “Yes...Progressive Neurological Nerve Disease...”

Cal: “And...?”

Santo: “I am not a doctor of the eyes, Signore...I am an Oncologist....”

Cal: “Doctor....your opinion please....I did not call you to discuss what you cannot do...”

(The woman sighs...opens a file she has on her lap....turns to a CAT scan photo...)

Santo: “There is no deterioration of nerves...there is no difference in the thickness of lenses, compared to tests taken 3 years ago....”

Cal; “Then tell me, Dr. Santos...Why is her eyesight failing?”

(Santos shakes her head....)

Santo: “I do not know....”

Cal: “Thank you...I do not know either...but there is something certain....”

(The woman nods...)

Santo: “It is not the correct diagnosis....”

Cal: “Si...And I would like you to help me find out what is....”

Santos: “You have a suspicion...do you not?”

(Cal nods...he leafs through the doctor’s file...finds the MRI of the optical area of Sophia...he taps one area of the MRI...)

Cal: “What do you see there?”

(Santos looks....shakes her head)

Santos; “Nothing...”

Cal; “Look again...Where is the nerve juncture leading to the temporal and occipital lobe?”

(Santos looks...her eyes widen....)

Santos: “It is not there!”

Cal: “It is there...it is simply hidden by something that does not show....”

(Santos looks again....)

Santos: “Shadow...there is a shadow....so slight....it could have been caused by the breathing of the patient...any slight movement...But.. that you point it out to me...it could be....”

(Cal nods....)

Cal: “And now, Dr. Santos...you are aware of why I requested you to assist me...”

(scene shifts to Sophia’s office building....Everyone in a larger conference room...)

Gibbs; “Mateo told us where they’d be...But do we trust it?”

Sophia: “I can locate them...but I have no phone numbers....”

Gibbs; “Yea..it would be nice to verify....I don’t like where they are...”

Mitchell: “And neither would the Italian authorities...they get kinda upset when you tell them a firefight might happen in one of the historical ruins around here”

Gibbs; “They that into it?”

Mitchell: “No...Well..some might be...but the ruins are major tourist spots...And the guides have a hard time explaining bullet holes in 2500 year old buildings”

Sophia: “They are located at, so we are told...Herculaneum....”

Gibbs: “Hercu what?”

Sophia: “Herculaneum...it was a city of almost 5000 people...it is 5 miles southeast of here...”

Mitchell: “At the base of Mount Vesuvius....It was covered before Pompeii felt the first shock wave....”

Tony: “Wow...so this is the disaster movie before there were any disaster movies....”

Ziva; “Anthony...everything is not a movie...”

(Tony is thinking....he ignores Ziva)

Tony: “The Last Days of Pompeii...1959...Steve Reeves, the best Hercules ever, plays Glaucus...”

(they turn to stare at Dinozzo....)

Tony: “Sorry...Steve Reeves...my first hero....”

Gibbs: “Can we get back to what’s important?...”

Sophia: “Yes...I cannot confirm they are there...but what I can confirm is that....”

(She clicky clacks her laptop)

Sophia; “They have emptied the bank accounts....a total of 14 million American dollars....”

Gibbs: “Enough to get them out of the country and set up....”

Sophia: “Half in cash...half is in 2 different Bitcoin accounts....Both originating in the Robin Hood Trading site...”

(Mitchell looks at Sophia....shakes her head)

Mitchell: “We don’t have warrants to get that information....This is Interpol....”

Sophia: “No...it is Don Mateo’s money....and we have his permission to monitor these accounts....”

(Gibbs looks over at Branch...watching him work his phone, scrolling....)

Gibbs; ‘Branch...what do you have?”

(Branch scrolls....then...)

Branch: “Ray Mason...”

Gibbs: “Yea?”

(Branch looks at Sophia...)

Branch: ‘Plug in 39-442-2-1193"

(Sophia looks at Branch for a second, then types in the number....Gibbs and Mitchell both look also....)

Sophia; “That is local cell....”

(She clicky clacks....then hits enter...the computer scrolls....)

Sophia: “Yes...but it is downtown....”

Branch: “Where downtown?”

(She clicks....)

Sophia; “Government mall....it could be at any number of Italian Government offices...”

Branch: “Including the Interpol office...now try 39-437-2-5300"

(She enters the number....hits enter....waits....then looks up at Branch...)

Branch: “The ruins?”

(She nods her head....)

Branch: “That’s Ray Mason’s burner phone....The first one was his Interpol phone...”

Gibbs; “Ray Mason....?”

Branch: “If anyone was going to steal money and run, it was going to be him....Great investigator....lousy ethics...always buddied up to mob men..and their women”

Gibbs: “He have partners?”

(Branch is scrolling again...)

Branch: “Yea...a few....”

(He stops scrolling...)

Branch: “Baby.....try this one....”

(She smiles at Branch....Branch blushes....)

Branch: “Sorry....not good....”

Sophia: “You may call me baby any time you like....”

Ziva: “Yes...a woman needs to know what her man thinks of her...even in the most dire of times....”

(Gibbs rolls his eyes....)

Gibbs: “Ah hell...here we go...”

Caprice: “I know! Even Jethro does it!”

Alex: “Seriously? Him?”

Caprice; ‘Uh huh....in fact, some of the most romantic moments we’ve had....”

Gibbs; ‘McGibbs!....Please!...”

(Caprice whispers loudly to Alex)

Caprice: “He’s a lover AND a fighter!”

(Gibbs lays his head on the table....Ziva looks at him and smiles to Tony)

Ziva: “There was a time when Gibbs would....”

(Gibbs raises his head...yells out)

Gibbs; “PEOPLE!...DO YOUR JOBS!..”

(Ziva leans to Tony...)

Ziva; “it is still that time...”

Sophia: “It is wonderful that the love flows through this room...but....yes...the second number...it is at the same location as your Ray Mason”

(Branch looks over at Gibbs)

Branch: “Running buddy of Mason...two enough for you?”

Gibbs: “Yea....Mitchell?”

(Gibbs looks over...nods...)

Gibbs: “Tourists....”

Sophia: “Busy season...but after 4pm...3 hours from now...the site closes down....and no one is allowed in...”

Gibbs; ‘So, they’re posing as tourists, and simply won’t leave when the others do”

Sophia; “It is good place to hide...but also good place to run....”

Gibbs; “Run.....?”

Sophia: “Torro Del Greco..2 miles south of the ruins...3 airfields, 5 helicopter landing sites....Many of the tourist site seeing trips are centered out of there...and it is on the ocean, with yacht basin that supports ocean going vessels....”

(Gibbs stares at her....Branch shrugs)

Branch: “I told you she was smart....”

Mitchell: “yea...but we didn’t know this smart”

(Sophia leans back....crosses her arms...scrunches her mouth...Ziva laughs)

Sophia; “Sophia not stupid...it obvious why they choose ruins...very protected after dark...much security....”

(Ziva leans over to Tony...whispers)

Ziva; “She looks like Eleanor...”

Tony: “Yea...a cross between Bishop and Dez...”

Sophia: “Sophia blind as a Batman...but can think...”

(Tony leans to Ziva..)

Tony: “And Ziva David too....”

(Sophia looks at Tony and Ziva...)

Sophia: “You make fun of Sophia?”

Ziva; “No, Sophia...in fact, we were comparing you to two of the most wonderful women we know....”

(Sophia stares at Ziva....then...)

Ziva; “And they are fierce warriors, as well....”

(Sophia smiles....)

Sophia: “Then Sophia thank you....But as Signor Gibbs says...we must work...or all the thinking we do become Moo point....”

(They look at her, confused...)

Branch: “Moot honey....Moot point...”

(Sophia looks offended)

Sophia: “No..I say Moo I mean moo!..Like cow thinks!...Cow thinking mean nothing...! It is Moo point!”

(Tony leans to Ziva...Ziva punches him in the side)

Ziva; “What she said made perfectly good sense!”

(pause)

Ziva; “I like her....”

Tony: “Yea...me too....”

(Ziva punches him again)

Tony: “But she’s not very pretty”

Ziva; “That is better...You are a smart man, Anthony”

(Gibbs looks at Tony and Ziva...)

Gibbs; “You two done?”

(Gibbs turns to the rest....)

Gibbs: “There are 6 of us....”

Sophia: “No....seven....”

(Gibbs looks over at Branch....Branch turns to Sophia...)

Branch: “You’re not going”

(Sophia looks at Branch, furious....)

Branch: “You’re about to have surgery...Honey...it’s the most important surgery you’ll ever have....”

(Sophia stares at Branch....)

Sophia: “It not because you think I weak? Because I woman?”

(He shakes his head....)

Branch: “Look around you, Sophia....Gibbs’s wife is with him...Tony’s wife...then two other women....”

(Sophia looks at Branch....then gets up....)

Sophia; “Sophia go with you....”

Branch: “Sophia!...NO!...”

Sophia: “Just not like you think....”

(She walks quickly out of the office.....Gibbs looks at Branch)

Gibbs; ‘What’s she doing?”

(Branch shakes his head....)

Branch: “She’s smart....damn, that woman’s smart....”

(Sophia comes back in the office, pushing a wheeled cart, laptop on it, control console on it....)

Sophia; “i tell you I do the programming for the polizia....”

Gibbs; ‘Yea?”

Sophia: “That programming include drones...I have one we working on....”

(Gibbs grins....)

Caprice: “Careful, Jethro...your daughter will get jealous”

(Sophia leans down....pulls two headsets off the cart shelf)

Sophia: “I have two...One for operator, one for base....”

Gibbs; “Give it to Mitchell...”

(Mitchell stares at Gibbs....)

Gibbs; “Your team...your city...”

Mitchell: “Where are you going to be?”

(Gibbs shrugs...)

Gibbs; “Everywhere”

(scene fades to black and white)

NIGHT

(scene opens in Herculaneum ruins, once the city of Campania...stone walls, arched openings, mosaic murals on the wall...large stone pool in middle of the room....7 men sit on stone benches, surrounding the pool...)

Man 1: “Used to be a sauna...”

Man 2: “Public hot tubs....The Romans loved their hot tubs...”

(Another man watches the two....then...)

Man 3: “Anything?”

(One of the other men checks his phone...shakes his head)

Man 1: “Nothing yet...but it’s early, Ray...”

(Ray Mason looks off)

Man 1: “You nervous?”

(Mason shakes his head)

Man 1: “Branch is with them...you know that don’t you?”

(Mason nods)

Man 1: “He’s enough to make anyone nervous”

Mason: “Yea...I know...and how the hell did Martin let himself get caught?”

Man 1: “They brought 2 more in....a man and a woman...”

Mason: “5...They have 3 men....5 women...”

(silence)

Mason: “3 soldiers and 5 they’ll try to protect...That gives us an advantage"

Man 4: “Wait...you’re saying they’ll come here? Is that what this is leading to?”

Mason: “Branch will come....and that NCIS gal...Mitchell...The bitch told me to go to hell....She’ll come...”

Man 2: “The others?”

Mason: “I don’t know...one is the NCIS field nurse...one is the woman that owns the programming company....the other 2? I don’t know....one’s older, and one’s small...but she moves like she knows what she’s doing...”

Man 2: “Well, Ray...you’re the ladies man....Any of them interest you?”

(Mason grins...)

Mason: “The smaller one...she showed up late...Dressed in black, tight pants tight shirt...dark hair.....A looker....”

Man 2: “Well..you know what they say....The smaller they are...”

Mason: “...the easier they are to pick up and carry....”

(Mason pulls out a pistol...)

Mason: “But don’t underestimate any of them.....Men...do a weapons check...we’ll be hearing from Torro soon when the chopper lands just outside the entrance...Maybe they won’t come....Hell...Maybe there’s nothing to worry about...”

(He pauses)

Mason: “In any case, there are 3 of our guys on that chopper, armed...they can back us up....If needed”

(Man 1 looks at his phone....then at Mateo)

Man 1: “They’re on their way...ETA 20...”

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens at Sophia’s building, roof top...white solid dish rotating....)

(scene shifts to inside the building..Sophia watching the monitor for the radar..._

Sophia: “it only covers 5 miles...To see if air clear for drone test....But that....”

(She sees a blip on the radar...)

Sophia: “Coming from Torro.....190 mph....low....Heading is 230 north....”

(She clicky clacks...)

Sophia; “Heading for ruins....”

(she snatches the headset off her head, runs out of the office....)

(scene shifts to front lawn of the building...the sound of rotors can be heard approaching....Then the large chopper roars over the building, past her, heading towards the ruins...she stares at the solid black aircraft as it swiftly leaves her area...On the side of the chopper, the large letters can plainly be seen...)

INTERPOL

Sophia: “Interpol?”

(She stares at the black chopper, getting smaller as it goes along its way....)

Sophia: “This is not good.....This so not good....”

(She turns and sprints towards the office....)

(scene shifts to the ruins...The team is on the ground, approaching the stone buildings...)

Mitchell: “This is the outskirt...their location is 200 yards west of us...Sophia still has them grouped....”

(headset crackles.....Mitchell listens...shakes her head....)

Mitchell: “Dammit!”

(She looks at the sky...)

Mitchell: “Sophia picked up a chopper on radar....it’s coming out of Torro, headed to us...”

Gibbs; “Their pickup?”

Mitchell: “I don’t know...probably...but that’s not the problem....”

(she scans the sky again)

Mitchell: “It’s an official INTERPOL chopper....”

Tony: “Maybe the good guys?”

(Branch shakes his head....)

Branch: “There’s no INTERPOL station in Toro....no presence, no hangar for them, nothing....”

Gibbs; ‘So...the chopper coming is not the good guys...”

Branch: “We don’t know...that’s just it...”

Gibbs; “And we won’t know until they land and we see what they do...”

(Mitchell thinks....looks at Gibbs....)

Mitchell: “Gibbs...this is now over my paygrade, out of my ballpark....”

(She pauses)

Mitchell: “I need some help, Director....”

(Gibbs nods)

Gibbs; “Sometimes we all do, Agent...The good ones know when to ask for it”

Mitchell: “Well...I’m definitely one of the good ones....because Gibbs.....I’m asking...”

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens at the ruins....Mason’s phone signals a text....he looks at it...surprise on face)

Mason: “Who the hell has this number? And texting me”

(scene shifts to Sophia’s office....she sits, holding the phone....)

Sophia; “I am Gibbs...I know what to say...but how Gibbs say it?”

(she thinks...grins...then begins texting.....)

Sophia: “He John Wayne....”

(scene shifts to Mason...he looks at the phone...face goes blank....)

Mason: “What the hell?”

(He looks at the text)

Okay Pilgrim. I am sending lady folk to palaver. She will be at middle of stage in 10 minutes. This is your chance to give up, pilgrim...Put them there guns down, and tell your men to come out, hands high

(She smiles...)

Sophia; “Yes...that is how John Wayne would do!”

(She hits ‘send’)

(scene shifts to Mason...shock on his face...)

Mason: “He’s crazy!”

(Mason signals his men close to him....)

Mason: “Listen...they’re asking us to give up...it’s nuts...But they’re sending one of the women to talk....”

(He looks at one of the men...)

Mason: “Pat...you come with me...The rest of you, take cover where you can see us, and be ready to open fire....”

Man 1: “Want us to just kill her?”

Mason: “Yes..but not until I find out about the drive...Remember....our names and our bank accounts are on there”

(scene shifts to Ziva and Tony, in the doorway of ancient house...)

Tony: “You sure you’re okay with this?”

Ziva; ‘Of course...I will go talk, they will not listen, and we will fight...”

Tony: “You’re going to be in the open, Ziva”

Ziva; “As will they....I highly doubt anyone will begin shooting with their own man so close to me”

(Tony looks at her...grins)

Tony: “You miss this...don’t you?”

(She nods....and grins back)

Ziva; “Yes...but what I miss most of all is doing this with you....We worked well together before, yes?”

(He nods....then kisses her...hard....)

Tony: “Nothing stupid, Ziva....I don’t want to lose you now....”

(She kisses him back)

Ziva; ‘We have a family to grow, Anthony....”

(Then she turns, walks out into the open.....)

(scene shifts to steps of auditorium....Mason and his partner, Pat, see Ziva walk out alone)

Mason: “Gotta give the woman credit....she’s not scared”

Pat: “Damn..and she’s fine looking too...”

Mason: “Yes she is....”

(Mason and Pat begin to walk down the stairs towards Ziva....then they meet in the open stage area, surrounded by stone benches and pillars...)

Ziva: “Thank you for coming...it was very gracious of you”

Mason: “I think you’re nuts lady....but here we are...”

Ziva: “Yes...we are....So...you were given a chance to surrender....how do you answer that?”

(Mason grins...)

Mason: “Lady....About the only thing I want to surrender right now are my clothes....”

(He grins at her....Ziva rolls her eyes)

Ziva; “Why is it men always turn every moment into sex?...Please...”

Mason: “Okay...business....we want the thumb drive”

Ziva; “The one with your names, your accounts, the money, who sent it to you....Do you mean that one?”

(Mason scowls....)

Mason: “Yea...that one”

Ziva; “I am sorry...but that is impossible...”

Mason: “You know...if you know about it...”

Ziva; ‘You have to kill me...yes, yes...of course....”

(scene shifts to one of the pillars....one of Mason’s men slowly comes out from behind the pillar, gun in hand...)

(scene shifts to Gibbs, laying on top of a house, 100 feet away....he looks through his scope....)

Gibbs; “You just couldn’t play it straight....”

(He sees the shadow on the stone floor move...then a shoulder appears from behind the pillar...then the gun can be seen)

Gibbs: “You weren’t invited to the party)

(He takes a breath, lets it out....then...)

(scene shifts to Mason and Ziva....A scream....then a shot is heard...)

(scene shifts to the man behind the pillar...He is laying on the stone floor, holding his bleeding shoulder....)

Mason: “What the hell?”

Ziva: “He was not killed...only wounded to show you we have superior positioning....now...let us continue our talk...”

(The man laying on the ground, reaches with his good arm for his weapon...He changes it to his good hand, then yelling, he aims the gun at Ziva...)

(scene shifts to Gibbs....the man is in his crosshairs...)

Gibbs; “Bad choice, Bubba...”

(scene shifts to the man....)

Man: “BITCH!...”

(Then is chest explodes as a high powered bullet hits it dead center....)

Ziva; “He chose badly....Now..as we were saying....Do you give up yet?”

(Mason looks at her in shock....)

Ziva; ‘Focus!...You are a man...focus!...”

(the man stares at Ziva....She shakes her head...)

Ziva: “Do you like my legs?”

(Mason looks at her....)

Mason: “What? Lady!...You’re nuts!”

Ziva: “Fine...be that way....”

(Mason stares at her...)

Mason: “Legs?”

Ziva: “Yes...legs”

(Ziva snap kicks her leg up high, her heel smashing into Mason’s chin...He takes two steps backwards, then falls...Pat looks at her...shock....Then Ziva spins, the side of her other heel catching him directly on the jaw, sending him down to the ground....Ziva reaches around her and instantly has her pistol in her hand...)

Ziva; ‘ANTHONY!...NOW!...”

(Tony seen running out of the doorway, one pistol in each hand, firing as he runs....The INTERPOL men come out from behind pillars and walls, firing...They head towards Tony and Ziva....out into the open....Tony and Ziva run towards them firing round after round.....Then two of the men veer off, back towards the side of the arena...)

Mitchell: “NOW!”

(The Naples NCIS people come out of the shadows, Alex, Branch, Mitchell, all holding their weapons on the running INTERPOL agents, now in the open, no

cover, superior firepower overwhelming them....One of the men sees the dead bodies, on the ground...and their leader, Mason....He lowers his weapon.....)

Mitchell: “Time to call it a day, son....don’t be stupid..I will kill you”

(the man drops his weapon...hands in the air...The second one follows suit)

Man 1: “Don’t kill me...please...!”

(scene shifts to Gibbs....He hears the roar of the chopper nearby....)

Gibbs; “You ready?”

Caprice; “Always....”

Gibbs; ‘Go...and you wait!..You remember?”

(She is gone.....)

Gibbs; “Dammit....I hope she remembers...”

(scene shifts to chopper landing....3 men pile out of the side door, weapons up....then a voice...)

Gibbs; “NCIS!...You’re under arrest!...”

(One of the men turns to Gibbs...starts to raise his weapon...)

Gibbs; “Hey...are you good guys or bad guys?”

(The soldier looks at Gibbs for a moment....)

Soldier: “Sure as hell not the good guys..”

(The man raises his automatic rifle to his shoulder....)

Gibbs; “NOW!”

(The man flinches...then is lifted off his feet by the blast of a 12 gauge shotgun....The other two soldiers snap their heads around....the sound of the pump on the shotgun is heard....Caprice steps out from behind a fallen pillar....)

Caprice; ‘Weapons down....be smart...don’t make me turn you into hamburger helper.”

(One of the men starts to lift his gun....a shot..and the gun shatters in his hand...The man groans, blood running from his wrist....Gibbs stands, his rifle still at his shoulder, sliding another round into the gun)

Gibbs; 'She told you to put your weapon down...You try that again, and her shotgun sends you to hell"

(looks at the dead soldier on the ground)

Gibbs; "Like him...."

(The other two soldiers drop their weapons, hands behind head...Then the motor of the chopper roars, and the aircraft starts to lift off....)

Gibbs; "McGibbs! Shoot the rotor!"

(Caprice raises her shotgun, aiming it at the base of the large propeller...fires...the blast hits the rotor assembly, sparks fly...the chopper keeps rising...She pumps the gun....fires again, hitting the motor....smoke comes out of the exhaust port....The chopper still rises, then at 40 feet, tilts...then starts sliding sideways in the air.....It veers left, then crashes into a solid rock wall, falling to the ground, rolling over, then the fuel tank exploding, a fireball lifts 50 feet into the air....)

(scene shifts to Caprice....her eyes wide....)

Caprice; "JETHRO! I KILLED A HELICOPTER!"

(Gibbs looks at the crash, burning....the pilot lays on the ground, moaning.....Gibbs walks to the pilot...kneels down....)

Gibbs: "You just got shot down by my wife....I'm pretty proud of her...Aren't you?"

(The pilot, face full of fear....nods....Gibbs pats his shoulder)

Gibbs; "Good...glad you agree..."

(Caprice seen, her gun on the two soldiers...excited, she yells at the captive men....)

Caprice; "I shot down a helicopter!...Did you see that?...Did you?"

(The two soldiers, on their knees, hands behind their heads, look at the flaming chopper, and Gibbs leading the pilot back, rifle pressed against his shoulders. Then they look at the open stage, next to them..dead bodies, two being handcuffed..One of the soldiers looks back at Caprice....face confused....Caprice smiles....)

Caprice: “Go ahead..ask...!”

Soldier: “Ma’am...?(pause then...) “...Who the hell are you people?”

(Caprice gives an arm pump...then..)

“Yes!”

(Sound of multiple choppers approach....Caprice looks up....)

Caprice; “Jethro....”

Gibbs; ‘These are the good guys, Caprice....I called Vance...he got real INTERPOL on the horn...”

(The choppers land.....dust and debris kicked up....two men in suits come out....one, older, walks up...)

Man: “Director Gibbs?”

Gibbs; ‘Yea...”

Man; “Anyone else still alive?”

Gibbs: “The smart ones...yea...”

(Gibbs nods towards the arena...Tony and Ziva leading a man each up the hill...Mitchell and her crew walking up, carrying two leather satchels)

Gibbs; ‘About 7 million cash, I think...The rest is in digital money....We have the accounts and the transactions on file. Don’t get attached to the money...it belongs to someone else”

(The man stares at Gibbs....)

Man: “How’d it all happen?”

(Gibbs nods towards a boulder next to them....a lone camera drone hovers, waggling it's wings....)

Gibbs; 'It's recorded...."

(The man sees Ziva pushing Ray Mason up the hill....The man walks towards Mason....he reaches him....)

Man: "Ray Mason?"

(Mason looks at him, nods....The suited man backhands his face, hard....)

Man: "I'm going to see you hang for this if it's the last thing I ever do"

(The man looks at Gibbs....)

Man: "Gunnery Sargent Jethro Gibbs, right?"

Gibbs; 'Yea"

Man: "Then you understand loyalty and duty, don't you?"

(Gibbs nods.....The man leads Mason to the waiting choppers...the other men are taken by INTERPOL Agents....The suited man stops...looks at Gibbs...)

Man: "Semper Fi, Marine"

(Gibbs nods back...then..)

"Oorah"

(scene fades to black and white)

THE CONCLUSION

(scene opens, night time, Gibbs and Caprice walking along a Naples sidewalk, arm in arm...people around them walking, laughing, music in the air)

Gibbs: "Sorry"

(She looks at Gibbs...curious)

Caprice: “Why, Jethro?”

(He looks around...)

Gibbs; “This is supposed to be romantic....”

Caprice; ‘It is!...”

(He pauses....thinks....)

Gibbs; ‘Know what’s romantic to me, McGibbs?”

Caprice; “Tell me, Jethro...I’ll see if I can make it happen...”

(He stops walking...looks directly at her...)

Gibbs; ‘You”

(She cocks her head...)

Gibbs; “You...you’re my beach...my foreign city..my flowers....Just you....That’s what romance is to me....”

(she looks at him in shock...he starts walking again, she slips her arm back in his)

Gibbs; “So, yea..I’m sorry....I just don’t see what other people see”

(Caprice pulls him closer....)

Caprice: “You’re forgiven, Jethro”

(She stops...looks at him...)

Caprice: “You really meant that”

Gibbs; “Well yea...”

(She kisses him on the lips....)

Caprice: “Jethro...that was maybe the most romantic thing any man has ever said to any woman....”

(Gibbs stares...)

Gibbs; ‘I did something right?”

(She shakes her head)

Caprice; “Jethro...you have no idea how right you did....It would be pretty hard to top that...”

Gibbs: “We still have the hotel room”

Caprice: “The famous one? Seriously?”

Gibbs; ‘Yea..I guess”

(She embraces him, on the sidewalk)

Gibbs; “You okay?”

(She nods)

Gibbs; “Hey....”

(She turns her head away)

Gibbs; “You’re crying....”

(She nods...)

Caprice: “I’m happy Jethro....I’m just happy”

(Gibbs dries her face, and they begin walking again....They stop in front of the same restaurant they ate at two days before....and they see Andre....he sees them, smiles...)

Andre: “Ah...my two favorite people in love so much....Come in...have late night dessert...On Andre...”

(Gibbs looks at Caprice)

Gibbs; ‘you up for something sweet?”

(Caprice looks at Gibbs, her eyelids drop seductively)

Caprice: “Yes...and I am going to devour it”

(pause)

Caprice: “and yes...I’d like some dessert too....”

(Andre looks at Caprice, and with a knowing grin...)

Andre: “Ah...a small and quick dessert...Andre will be quick..”

(Gibbs looks at Caprice....nods)

Gibbs: “Real small, Andre...and real quick...”

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens in Tony and Ziva’s hotel room...large, luxurious, balcony overlooking the mountains that border Naples. Ziva standing, looking outside, Tony sitting on the bed, taking off his shoes)

Tony: “Hey...you’ve been quiet since we got back...you okay?”

(She nods....)

Tony: “You miss Tali?”

Ziva; “Yes...”

Tony: “Why not bring her here for the next couple of days? She’s having fun in Portugal, meeting cousins and people that knew your sister, but Sophia is having her surgery, and I know you’d like to be here when she comes out”

(She turns to Tony....)

Ziva: “Anthony....”

(She walks to him...kneels on the floor, lays her head on his legs)

Ziva; ‘How do I make all those years up to you?”

(Tony looks down at her..)

Tony: “I thought we’d put that behind us...We have a future to look forward to”

(She nods)

Ziva; “Yes...you are right...”

(silence)

Ziva; “It does not go away”

(Tony slides off the bed, on the floor, next to Ziva)

Tony: “I know...I still think about them too”

(She lays her head on his shoulder)

Ziva; “What do we do?”

(Tony thinks....then...)

Tony: “We take every good thing that we have..that we are going to have...and remember...what happened is not what it was.....what happens next is our life”

(She nods....then...)

Ziva: “Anthony....”

Tony: “Yea?”

Ziva: “Love me”

(He looks at her curiously)

Tony: “I do”

Ziva; “No...love me Anthony....love me tonight....love me like I am your hope, your love, your everything....I need that from you....I need to feel that you have forgiven just a small part of then....That what you feel now is new, and not chained to that past...I need to know you have hope and trust for us”

(Tony takes her face.....)

Tony: “I already do, Ziva....but as far as tonight...”

(A pause...then...)

Tony: “Gladly....and it starts with this...”

(He takes her hand, pulls her up...she looks at him, curious....)

Tony: “Do you want to know how much I trust our future?”

(She nods)

Ziva; “Yes...I need to know you do, Anthony”

(He gives her a small smile, runs his hand through her hair as she looks up at him...then he says...)

“Give us another child”

(She smiles....and nods....and whispers back)

“Yes.....It is what I want as well.....”

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens in hospital room....Sophia laying in the bed, propped up...Branch sitting next to the bed)

Branch: “Things might be different when you wake up”

Sophia: “I know...I am so nervous....What if it does not work?”

Branch: “It’ll work...You have the best there is operating on you”

Sophia: “But what Dr. Nuntio told us...Dr. Santos....”

Branch: “That it’s not nerves? It’s not what they thought it was?”

Sophia: “Yes...that they feel it may be a small tumor...benign...but it is pressing as it grows, and as it grows, my vision worsens....”

Branch: “Part of what makes Dr. Nuntio so famous, I guess.....He’s good...”

(she looks at Branch...)

Sophia; ‘Are you happy for Sophia?”

Branch: “Of course I am....”

Sophia: “Come closer, beautiful man....”

(He draws closer....she places her hands on his face, begins moving them across his cheeks, his jaws...)

Sophia: “This is how I see you....”

Branch: “Yea...I know...up close, you’re blind as a Batman...”

(She smiles...)

Sophia: “After this is over...I finally get to see this face...”

(He nods...then takes one of her hands....)

Branch: “Yea...about that...”

(Her face shows surprise...)

Branch: “Sophie....When you see me...”

Sophia; “Stop....you stop....You are not ugly, homely, rough, any of those things...I hate when you say that”

Branch: “Sophie...you are...You are so beautiful...Any man would want you..” (pause) “...Just remember...when you see me....I mean, really see me...If you decide I’m not what you expected....”

(She pats him on the cheek)

Sophia; “That was hard slap across your face....Sophia never hit you again, but Sophia want to....”

(He shrugs)

Sophia; ‘Then I will not have the surgery...I get up, I tell them I not will do....”

(She starts to sit up...He presses her back down)

Branch: “Okay...you win....everything will be fine....”

(She looks at him...shakes her head)

Sophia: “You do not know how to lie, Leonardo....you never have...”

Branch: “No... not to you...”

Sophia; “And that is one of the many things I love about you....Now tell me...Do not lie”

(He waits)

Sophia: “Do you have faith in me?”

(Branch nods)

Sophia: “I yell, I curse at you, I am terrible....Why do you stay with me?”

(He looks at her....then shrugs...)

Branch: “I guess...hell, Sophie...you don’t hide things...I don’t have to guess at what you feel..”

Sophia: “But I get so angry....I horrible angry...”

(He shakes his head)

Branch: “No....But you are scared...Under all that anger is fear.....You yell at me to get out of your life...But...what you mean....”

Sophia; “But I mean please tell me you do not want to leave”

Branch: “You tell me that I’d be happier with someone else...”

(She nods)

Sophia; ‘I am wanting you to tell me you no want someone else”

(He shrugs again)

Branch: “See? It’s all fear...and I know that...And every time you tell me to get out, or you tell me to find someone else, what do I do?”

(She stares at him, and smiles...)

Sophia; “You no yell back....You tell me just what I want to hear....”

(She leans up, embraces him....)

Sophia; ‘You see? I could never find a man so sweet as you...that know me like you do...How does Sophia tell you she loves you so much..?”

(He smiles...He takes her hand, places it on his mouth....)

Sophia; “A smile!....”

Branch: “Yea...I don’t do that much”

Sophia; ‘How I make you smile? Tell me and I will do it over and over!”

Branch: “Just tell me...tell me we’re okay.....”

(She stares at him....then...)

Sophia; “Close your eyes”

(He closes his eyes....She takes his hand, places it on her mouth....He grins...)

Sophia; ‘That is my smile....that is how I see yours...Yes, I see you from long way away...but this is how I see you up close...”

Branch: “I kinda like it....”

(She kisses him....hugs him...)

Sophia: “Now go home...get some sleep...big day tomorrow...”

(Branch nods, they speak more...then he kisses her again, and walks out of the room...)

(scene shifts to the hallway...The older man from INTERPOL walks out of a doorway, intercepts Branch....)

Man: “Agent Branch....”

(Branch looks at at the man...recognizes him)

Branch: “Director Barnes...what are you doing here? You’re supposed to be in Paris”

Barnes; “Trying to rectify a mistake my agency made...”

(scene shifts to other end of hallway, Mitchell stands, watching....shakes her head)

Mitchell: “Dammit...I knew they’d do it....Damn them....”

(scene fades to black and white)

MORNING

(scene opens in Tony and Ziva’s hotel room...Tony still asleep, Ziva standing on the balcony, looking at the sunrise come up over the mountains...below, the historic architecture of Naples shows itself, people beginning to stir, opening

doors...She places a hand on her stomach....and turns....to see Tony standing behind her..She looks to him....)

Ziva: “Anthony....”

(He looks at her....)

Tony: “Yea?”

(She stares at him, then begins to smile....)

Tony: “Are you sure?”

(She says nothing....then...)

Ziva; “A woman knows...”

(scene fades out to Tony’s smile becoming bigger.....Ziva’s voice is heard..)

“My love...My Anthony....I think...” (pause) “I feel...we will need to trust the future.....”

(scene shifts to the hospital operating room...Cal and Dr. Santos look down on the sleeping Sophia, half her face covered in a white pad, anesthesia mask over her mouth and nose, a metal box, 3 inches by 3 inches on a stand near her temple, a long, thin rod from it travels into a small hole above Sophia’s right eye...A whisper...)

Caprice: “Keyhole surgery...they’re looking now”

(Caprice looks at the monitor showing vitals)

Caprice; “All vitals green..normal BP, respiration good...pulse 62....”

(Caprice leans to Alex again)

Caprice; “Now they’ll decide...”

(scene moves to Cal and Dr. Santos....)

Cal: “It is there....”

(Dr. Santos looks at the live TV screen feed of the area behind Sophia’s eye...)

Santos: “As you felt it would be...Now, Dr. Nuntio..what is it you....”

Cal: “I am not an oncologist, Dr. Santos, you are....the question is, can you remove it?”

(Santos looks at the TV)

Santos: “Can I remove it without damaging the nerves it is growing on....and blinding her forever...?.”

Cal: “Yes...that is the question. And it is the risk. Unfortunately, it is up to you and you alone”

(Dr. Santos looks again...slightly moves the view to the side of the small tumor. She moves the scan to the other side, inspects it further....then, finally....)

Dr. Santos: “Yes....I can”

(Cal smiles under his mask....)

Santos: “Dr. Nuntio....this would not be possible if you had not....”

Cal: “Dr. Santos....I would be glad to assist you”

(Santos looks at Cal...shakes her head)

Santos: “Are you always one step ahead of people, Dr. Nuntio? It almost seems as if you know what is coming next...”

(Cal looks at the TV...then at Dr. Santos)

Cal: “What comes next...we do not know...It is in your hands and the hand of things greater than we are...So....”

(scene shifts to Caprice...she watches the exchange...)

Caprice: “Get ready for surgery....”

Alex: “We are...we have everything....”

Caprice: “No...get ready to keep up..These two are the best, and they do not tolerate incompetence....The best never do.....and do not freeze...whatever you do...do not freeze....they won’t show it, but they are scared enough as it is, we don’t need to add to it”

(pause...then Caprice adds...)

Caprice: “They are the best...Our job is to give them the tools and information they need. That means we’re on the clock just as much as they are”

(The camera probe is slowly drawn out of the small incision in Sophia’s temple....then...)

Santos: “Micro blade now...pad now...spreader on incision...now....”

(Alex watches as Caprice quickly and efficiently has what Dr. Santos needs...Santos looks at Caprice...)

Santos: “Thank you....”

Caprice: “Welcome...now keep going, Doctor. Alex and I have our part covered...go do what you do....”

(Santos looks at Cal...)

Santos: “You were right to insist on her...”

Cal: “Yes...I am aware....”

(Santos turns back to the TV....sees the laser blade approaching the tumor....)

Santos: “Call out the....”

(Caprice has them ready...She begins speaking before Santos finishes her sentence)

Caprice: “Readings... normal frequency transfer in optic nerves, bp steady, pulse rate steady...reflexes normal...left eye dilation sub par by 42%...right hand dilation sub par by 63%...all optical nerve responses sub par, doctor...”

Santos: “There is a difference between right and left?”

Caprice; “Yes doctor...just as I called out. It’s been consistent from the beginning till now”

(Santos looks at Caprice)

Santos: “Are you sure? That means the tumor is pressing more on one branch of the nerve roadway than the other...That makes a difference in how I approach this”

(Caprice looks her in the eye...)

Caprice: “100% sure, Doctor”

(Santos looks at Caprice....nods..)

Santos: “Thank you”

Cal: “Dr...you told me you were not an expert on the nerves....Now...show us what you are an expert at....”

(Santos moves the control for the laser blade carefully...she presses a small button on the handle....and a whisper....)

“I’m coming for you, you son of a bitch...”

(scene fades out, showing the laser blade approaching the tumor area)

2 HOURS LATER

Santos: “Now....we see...”

(image shows the tumor breaking free of the nerve cluster it is attached to....then it floats free in the fluids around it....Santos looks towards Caprice..Caprice is ready....)

Caprice: “Voltage in synapses steady, bp steady...right eye reflexes still normal and steady....Checking target pupils now....”

(Caprice takes a penlight...flashes it on the open eye of Sophia....flashes it again....and smiles....)

Caprice: “Dilation response increased by at least 50%, Dr. Santos....”

(caprice looks at another monitor....)

Caprice; “All synapses show normal.....temporal and occipital signals firing normal...”

(Caprice looks up at Dr. Santos, her smile evident underneath her mask)

Caprice: “The optical nerves, Doctor....they’re responding!”

(Santos’s eyes reveal a small smile...)

Santos: “Thank you nurse Gibbs....now....”

Caprice: “You are switching to Ultrasound...We’re with you, ma’am.”

(Santos slowly and carefully retracts the laser blade from the incision....Caprice detaches the laser blade from the small square near Sophia’s head...she pushes it away, places the power to the blade on ‘ready’ instead of ‘off’..She rolls another stand into its place....Santos looks at Caprice)

Santos: “Why do you place it on ‘ready’ nurse? We are done with it”

(Caprice continues to work on the ultrasound device)

Caprice: “If you get in ma’am, and see something you missed, ‘idle’ allows me to hook it back up and you can operate it instantly...If I switch it off, it will take me 90 seconds to recalibrate to the settings you are already using”

(Santos nods)

Santos: “And 90 seconds could mean sight or blindness....”

(Caprice nods as she works)

Caprice; ‘Yes ma’am...No sense in leaving that to chance”

(Santos looks to Cal....Cal gives a slight shrug...Santos uses her hand to lower her mask, and mouths to Cal)

“She is brilliant”

(Cal raises his eyebrows in a ‘told you so’ manner)

Caprice: “Connecting Ultrasound....”

(Santos watches Caprice work, instructing Alex as she proceeds, Santos’s eyes show slight awe...she hears a voice whisper to her...)

Cal: “it is why she is known as the best....”

(Santos shakes her head...)

Santos: “I see now....”

(Santos looks at Caprice...)

Santos: “You are wonderful, nurse.....”

(Caprice continues to finish attaching the ultrasound rod....)

Caprice; “Damn right I’m good...I shot down a helicopter....”

(Santos’s eyes widen....)

Cal: “Another story...but yes...she did....just yesterday”

Caprice; ‘Ultrasound gun locked and loaded, ma’am, settings a go, power full, patient ready...Now.....Go break up that son of a bitch....”

(Santos nods...then...)

Santos: “Gun in place....Nurse....”

Caprice: “Frequency of tumor is reading at 1000hz...mass identifies as tumor per frequency...tell me when to increase, Doctor....”

(Santos peers into her eyepiece, seeing the tumor through the fiber optic scope attached to one eye...Her breathing begins to slow....Caprice turns to Alex and whispers in her ear...)

Caprice; “She’s breathing slower..watch.....that means she’s calming, getting ready...”

(Santos breathes even slower...then...)

Santo: “Now, nurse...”

(Caprice has her fingers already on the pulse button...)

Caprice: “Setting at 1250..starting now.”

(The scene shows the tumor, still, unchanging....Santos looks at Caprice, nods)

Caprice; “Increasing to 1300hz...”

(No change in the tumor...Caprice looks at Santos, her eyebrows raise....Santo nods slightly)

Caprice: “Going to 1350hz...”

(pause..no change..without prompting, Caprice continues..)

Caprice: “1400 hz...”

(scene shows the tumor, it begins to vibrate....then pieces of it start to break away....then the tumor breaks up into hundreds of pieces that will dissolve in the body fluids.....Dr. Santos whispers...)

“Die.....Die you harmful son of a bitch....”

(scene fades to black and white)

Late Afternoon

(scene opens in Sophia’s hospital room....Sophia’s eyes covered with gauze pads and wrapping....Gibbs and crew stand in back of room, watching, Branch with them....Dr. Santos, with Cal, lean over Sophia)

Santos: “Now, Sophia...I am going to remove the bandages....It may take some time for you to adjust to the light...do not be afraid..it is normal...)

Caprice; “BP rising, 140 over 82....pulse rate rising...86...”

(Santos begins unwrapping the bandages....they are off, only the eye pad over Sophia’s right eye remains....left eye still closed....Santos removes the pad....)

Santos: “Sophia...slowly....open your eyes....”

Caprice: “BP rising...pulse rising...”

(A whisper....)

“Leonardo....”

(Caprice looks at Santos.....)

Caprice; “He’ll help her calm down....”

“Leonardo...please....”

(Santos nods to Branch...he walks up hesitantly....He takes Sophia's hand....)

Branch: "I'm here, honey...."

(Her eyes still closed, Sophia weakly whispers to him)

Sophia: "I am so afraid....."

Branch: "I know...I am too....but whatever happens...I'm here..."

(Sophia slowly nods her head....)

Sophia: "You love me still? Even if...."

Branch: "That never changes, Sophie...Now...listen to me....I'm here...we're good...You can do this..."

Caprice; "BP lowering....Pulse at 75....She's calming, Doctor..."

Branch: "It's time, honey.....open your eyes...."

(Sophia's eyes flutter...then they open. She blinks several times...she raises her hand in front of her face...stares at it.....then she slowly turns her head towards Branch....She stares at him...He lowers his head)

Branch: "I know...I'm sorry...."

(She reaches up, touches his face...)

Sophia: "There is problem...."

(Branch nods...)

Branch: "It's okay...."

Sophia: "Your eyes...the women...they will see and know you never lie...."

(Branch looks at her curiously....)

Sophia: "This face...so strong...so much a man's face...The women will know you never afraid of what can hurt them...."

(Sophia nods...)

Sophia: "A thousand times I have imagined what this face look like...It is..."

(She pauses)

Sophia: “It is more beautiful than anything I imagine....”

(She nods)

Sophia; “Yes..we have problem...now I see how beautiful you are....now I know why women want my Leonardo more than ever....I will have to buy bigger gun....”

(Caprice smiles, watching....)

(scene shifts to Branch’s face...he turns it to one side....Sophia reaches up, touches his eyes)

Sophia: “Eyes wet...Leonardo’s eyes never wet.....”

Branch: “I’m okay honey...glad for you...that’s all....”

Sophia: “You are horrible liar, Leonardo...just horrible...”

(He nods...)

Branch: “I know....”

(He takes her hand from his face, kisses it...)

Branch: “Welcome to your new world, baby...”

Caprice; “Dr. Santos....I believe your surgery was a success.....”

Santos: “We’ll wait for all the tests, Nurse....but yes..it appears so...”

Caprice; “It was just tested.....but yea, go ahead...test away....”

(Santos turns to Cal...)

Santos: “She always that way?”

Cal: “Yes....and it is wonderful....”

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens outside Sophia’s hospital room....Branch sits alone in a chair while the others visit with Sophia....Mitchell walks up....)

Mitchell: “Hey...”

(Branch breaks from his thoughts..looks up...)

Branch: “Hey”

(She sits next to him in a chair)

Mitchell: “I’m glad for Sophia....”

(Branch, slight nod....)

Branch: “Yea..thanks...me too...”

(silence...then...)

Branch: “I need to tell you something....”

(She nods...)

Mitchell: “I know...I saw....”

Branch: “Saw what?”

Mitchell: “The director of Interpol...they want you back....and hell, Lenny...I don’t blame you...classier image, the pay is more....a lot more.....I just....”

(A pause....shakes her head)

Mitchell: “I just hate losing you.....You’re a good agent, Lenny....one of the best...But...I can’t stand in the way....”

Branch: “I told him no”

Mitchell; “Your life..your career...It’s what's best....”

Branch: “Sarah...I said no”

(She stops...stares at him.....)

Mitchell: ‘What?”

(He gets up....)

Branch: “I told him I was happy where I was....”

Mitchell: “But...you wanted to tell me.....”

Branch: “I wanted to tell you I need a couple of days off...I want to take care of Sophia...I mean, if that’s okay....”

(She looks at him, shocked....Branch looks back...)

Branch: “Money never meant that much to me...and you pay me okay...but mostly, Sarah....”

(He shrugs...)

Branch: “I respect my boss...and I trust my boss....I trust Alex. During that whole ordeal, she never flinched or hesitated once.....She did her job”

(She continues to stare, still in shock....Branch starts to walk away....then he stops, turns back to her....)

Branch: “I don’t know how to put a price on respect, Mitchell....and there sure as hell is no price on Family....”

(He shrugs...)

Branch: “I’ve got to go in and see Sophia...you okay with a couple of days off?”

(She slowly nods....)

Branch: “See you in a couple of days then.....but you know you can call me if you need me, boss...”

(He walks into the room...Mitchell still sits, her jaw open.....)

“He’s a good one”

(She looks up...Gibbs standing next to her....she whispers)

Mitchell: “He’s staying.....”

Gibbs: “Yea...I heard”

(silence...then...)

Gibbs: “You’re doing a good thing here, Mitchell....Keep doing it”

(Gibbs walks off, towards the hospital room.....she whispers quietly...)

Mitchell: “What the hell do I do now?”

(A voice from in the hospital room sounds out)

Gibbs: “You’ll figure it out....”

(She looks at the voice in shock....then...)

Mitchell: “He hears everything!...I’m shutting up....”

(silence...then...)

“Works for me”

(She scowls at the voice....then starts to smile.....she leans back, crosses her arms over her chest, and smiles some more....She sees her team inside the room, smiling, laughing....congratulating Sophia.....She gets up....and enters the room...)

THE END