Season 31, Episode 3, “The Child”, Part 1

Previously On NCIS...

(scene opens at military housing....duplex house, living room.....scene shows a man, in Navy uniform, backing up...hands out in front of him....)

Man: “No honey...you’ve got this all wrong.....”

(scene shows a gun pointed at the man...a child like voice is heard)

Voice: “I don’t have it wrong....”

Man: “But...what you heard.....”

Voice: “What I heard and read, you mean...Remember, Tom? I have an IQ of 168, I think faster than any person you know, plus.....)

(The man continues back up...fear on his face)

Voice: “...my daddy told me that spies should be shot!...”

Man: “Your father’s dead!....He wouldn’t want....”

Voice: “Yes...he’s dead. You killed him....now...you’re dead too...”

(scene shows the weapon fire....scene zooms out to show a 6 year old girl holding the gun....The child lets out a bored sigh....)

Child: “I guess it’s time to call the MPs”

(She starts to dial...)

Child: “I do so hope I get an intelligent agent that questions me....I bore so easily”

(scene fades to black and white)

And Now....”The Child”

(scene opens to NCIS bullpen....Torres and Dawson sit at their desks....)

Torres: “Hey...what do you think?”

Dawson: “Me?..Yea...she’ll be okay.....I like her”

Torres: “Maybe....she’s smart....older...pretty brave...and older...”

Dawson: “Torres...she’s only a couple of years older than McGee..”

Torres: “Like I said...older...”

Dawson: “Not as old as Gibbs...”

Torres: “Oh...wow...that’s way older....”

(Dawson’s eyes widen...then close...)

Dawson: “Oh hell...”

(Torres looks at Dawson....then he closes his own eyes...)

Torres; “He’s behind me....isn’t he?”

“How could I hear you Torres? I’m way too old....”

(Gibbs walks into the bullpen...and barks out...)

Gibbs: “Both of you..get down to Interrogation....Navy officer dead....McGee’s meeting you there to interrogate the shooter”

Torres: “The shooter? If we know who shot the man, why interrogate him?”

Gibbs: “Her....and you’ll see why when you get there...”

(pause..looks at Torres)

Gibbs: “If I heard right.....Torres....”

(Torres says nothing...heads quickly out of the bullpen...Dawson follows)

(scene shifts to hallway outside the Interrogation Room....McGee and Pankow stand....Tolleson stands, talking...)

Tolleson: “She’s in the seat...”

McGee: “Okay...but we know she’s the shooter?”

Tolleson: ‘Yea...she’s the step-daughter...she confessed....and everything fits...”

McGee: “What do we need to find out? She’s confessed....case solved....”

(Tolleson shakes his head....)

Tolleson: “Not even close....You’ll see...”

(scene shifts to McGee walking into the Interrogation Room....he looks...stops...stares....)

(scene shifts to 6 year old girl sitting in the interrogation chair...a woman sits beside her....the girl looks at Mcgee, her stare firm....then...)

Girl: “I know what you’re thinking...”

(McGee shocked....the child shrugs..)

Girl; “What’s wrong with this picture?....Right?”

(scene shifts to viewing room....Pankow looks at the girl....)

Pankow: “My God...that’s Melanie....”

Torres: “You know her?”

Pankow: “Melanie Penn....She’s the daughter of my boss’s boss...Commander Penn....I’ve seen her at the office....”

Torres: “She important?”

(Pankow nods....)

Pankow: “Commander Penn has super high clearance....Intelligence expert....Runs Naval Intelligence, as a matter of fact”

(scene shifts to the Interrogation Room.....McGee sits...the woman next to the child speaks)

Woman: “I’m here to protect the rights of the child....My name is Susan Withers....Child advocacy....”

Child: “And very slow on her feet....”

(The child focuses on McGee)

Child: “I am 6 years old...I have an IQ of 168...the man I shot was my step-father...he has the codes to access each Naval satellite....he was going to use them to access the information in the hard drives....So....”

(The child smiles, raises her hands in a ‘touchdown’ motion)

Child: “So I shot him!”

(McGee still stares..then looks at the woman next to the child...)

McGee: “Mother?”

Woman: “She’s in Italy...or was...she’s on her way back...she should be here within the next 12 hours....”

(The child stares at McGee....

Child: “You’re Timothy McGee...MIT, IQ 152, you hold 3 technological patents, your wife is the Director of CyberForce....I can go over your academic achievements if you like....”

(McGee regains his footing...)

McGee: “Tell me why you shot your stepfather....”

Girl: “I already told you....he has the access codes to each Naval satellite...he was going to use them to access the hard drives, download the data, then sell it to the Chinese government....”

(pause...McGee shakes his head...)

McGee: “We’re putting this on hold....”

(McGee gets up....)

McGee: “I want an attorney for this child, and I want the mother here....”

Woman: “I’m going to have to take her to a Juvenile Detention judge..Her age mandates that”

McGee: “Okay...but I don’t want any more questioning until her mother is here and she has adequate legal representation”

(The girl knocks her knuckles on the table....McGee turns to her...)

Girl; ‘HEY!...Remember me?...”

McGee: “What?”

Girl: “You’ll be too late”

McGee; “Too late for what?”

Girl: “He’s already accessed half of your satellites....and the information is on its way to China....”

McGee: “Okay...and you know this how?”

(The girl lets out an exasperated sigh....)

Girl: “My gosh...grown ups....Okay....Call your wife”

(McGee looks at her...)

McGee: “Wife..?..”

Girl; “Call your wife and give her the numbers, 128.445.MK.999222.CAL...”

(pause)

Girl; “Oh...and be sure you call her on a secure line....You’ll thank me for that later....”

(McGee stares again at the girl....the child nods...)

Girl: “I know things. I have an IQ of 168”

(McGee continues to look at the girl,...then pulls out his phone....dials...)

McGee: “Honey....Strange request.....but does the number...”

(He looks at the girl....the girl rolls her eyes and repeats...)

Girl: “128.445.MK.999222.CAL....that’s for starters....try this one...Your wife should know it by heart...URL...49912,888,326.....”

(scene shifts to CyFo Ops room...Delilah on the phone....her face pales...)

Delilah: “Tim...get off your phone now!....Call me from MTAC!...”

(Delilah slams the phone down....yells at the room...)

Delilah: “SHUT IT DOWN!...ALL OF IT!....LOCKDOWN RED....REPEAT...LOCKDOWN RED!...I was just given the access codes to our satellites and the coded ISP to the main server here!....WE ARE UNDER ATTACK!...I REPEAT!....WE ARE...”

(scene shifts to judge’s chambers....Melanie Penn and the Child Advocate stand in the judge’s office, nameplate reads Honorable Edward Childers...The judge looks at Melanie...)

Judge “My god, Ms. Withers...!...She’s 6 years old?”

Susan: “I’m aware your honor...but she’s....”

(Melanie giggles....and in little girl sing song voice)

Melanie: “I’m speciaaaal....!”

(The judge smiles....leans forward...)

Judge: “I’ll bet you are....and cute to boot...”

(The girl blushes, lowers her eyes....then in a small voice....)

Melanie: “I want my mommy....”

Judge: “Honey...I know...I understand your mother will be here soon....”

(Melanie raises her head to look at the judge....tears run down her cheeks...)

Melanie: “Am I going to big person jail?”

(The girl locks her sad eyes with the judge.....the judge shakes his head...)

Judge: “No honey...not at all.....”

(The judge looks to the Advocate....)

Judge: “Remand her to temporary Juvenile holding...minimum security....”

Susan: “Your honor...She is accused of shooting a man....”

Judge: “Ms. Withers!...I hardly think a 6 year old child is a danger to anyone!....”

(scene shifts to Advocate....)

Susan: “You’re new to the bench, aren’t you?”

Judge: “I hardly think my experience has anything to do with my compassion for children!...”

Susan: “Your honor...I did not mean....”

Judge: “Minimum Security!....Or would you rather I put a contempt charge on you, Ms. Withers?”

(Susan shakes her head....)

Susan: ‘Yes, your honor....”

Melanie: “Mister Honor.....You’re nice.....”

Judge: “And you are a darling young girl....”

(Melanie looks up at Susan...)

Melanie: “Can we go now? Maybe I can play a game when we get there!”

Judge: “Of course you can....”

(scene shifts to sign outside large building....the sign reads....)

Juvenile Holding

(scene shifts to Melanie sitting at a table, a small laptop in front of her.....Susan seen nearby, talking to a guard....)

Susan: “The judge doesn’t know his ass from a hole in the ground....This little girl is trouble....”

Guard: “I was ordered to allow her computer access. My hands are tied, Susan...but it’s filtered....she can’t reach anything that would trigger adult information...”

Susan: “I don’t care....I want you checking her web history every 10 minutes....”

(scene shifts to Melanie’s computer screen.....a digital dragon flies across the screen, blowing fire at digital castles below....numbers scroll across the screen as each castle is destroyed....Melanie looks up, watches Susan walk away.....)

Melanie: “Right now they’ll be integrating all protection procedures.....”

(She presses the Control key...holds it...)

Melanie: “And of course by doing so, they don’t just log in, they enter every firewall, close it, and integrate the new firewalls...”

(She holds down the Shift key....)

Melanie: “Which ironically, allows a pathway into the entire system.....”

(She holds down the ‘N’ key at the same time...The screen turns black....on the screen it reads...)

YOU ARE IN INCONGNITO MODE – YOU ARE NO LONGER REGISTERING YOUR BROWSER HISTORY – HIT ‘Return’ TO HIDE THIS SCREEN

(The little girl’s hands fly over the keyboard, inputting numbers into the URL search bar....she hits ‘Enter’....leans back....on the screen letters appear...)

CFA – Authorized Access Only

(She types more....then the screen reads...)

Are You Sure You Want To Implement Shutdown?

(scene shifts to CyberForce Ops Room....Delilah sitting in front of keyboard, the screen asking...)

Are You Sure You Want To Implement Shutdown?

(Delilah hits the Return key hard....)

Delilah: “Hell yes!...”

(The screen reads....)

Shutdown beginning – All firewalls being disabled – Backup Starts in 10...9...8...

(scene shifts to holding room...Melanie watches her screen...smiles...she reads...)

Shutdown beginning – All firewalls being disabled

(She begins typing furiously....)

Melanie: “Now we can have some fun.....”

(She types more....)

Melanie: “Grownups are so predictable...”

(The screen changes....)

Backup Starts in 10...9...8....

(Melanie smiles.....the guard looks towards her...)

Guard: “You behaving yourself?”

Melanie: “Of course....”

(The child hits another key....the screen reads out...)

Copy Of Backup Generating

(Melanie sees the guard get up....She hits the ‘Escape’ key...the guard walks up...)

Guard: “Let me see your computer....”

Melanie: “Of course!”

(She turns the laptop around...the dragon blows more flame at the castles....)

Melanie: “I think I’m winning!”

(The guard nods....walks away....)

Melanie: “Of course I’m winning....I have an IQ of 168....”

(scene shifts to CyFo Ops....Tabby and Tommy clicky clacking....)

Delilah: “Are we in shutdown yet?”

Tabby: “Yes ma’am...but why are you backing up the backup?”

Delilah: “What? I didn’t ask for that...I wanted speed....”

Tabby: “Well...someone ordered the double backup....”

(Delilah clicky clacks....looks....)

Delilah: “What the....?”

(She looks over at Tabby’s screen.....then....)

Delilah: “Something’s wrong....”

(She thinks...then...)

Delilah: “CANCEL BACKUP! CANCEL SHUTDOWN!...”

(Tabby and Tommy immediately begin hitting keys....)

Tabby: “Shutting it down!....”

Delilah: “Get us back to normal!....Quick!...”

Tabby: “Yes ma’am...but I thought we were under a Cyber Attack?”

Delilah: “Maybe...I don’t know...but I want to slow this down.....”

(She clicky clacks....picks up her phone....)

Delilah: “Tim...I need you here now....fast!...”

(scene shifts to holding room...Melanie looks at the computer screen....her eyes widen...)

Melanie: “No!...Normal Status? What happened to my shutdown?”

(she hits more keys.....then she stomps her feet in frustration...Guard hears the commotion, turns to her...shouts out...)

Guard: “Hey!...What’s the problem?”

(Melanie’s eyes narrow....)

Melanie: “No problem....I just can’t get into the castle....My dragon won’t work....”

(The guard settles back down...shakes his head)

Guard: “I’m sure your dragon will be okay....”

(The girl sets her mouth....hits more keys....)

Melanie: “This means they’ll do a sweep....”

(more clicky clack...)

Melanie: “And I can attach to the crumbs they leave behind....There are always crumbs....”

(She smiles again...)

Melanie: “Grown ups are so predictable....”

(A pause...more key strokes)

Melanie: “And I have an IQ of 168....”

(another pause...the smile turns into a sneer....)

Melanie: “Maybe higher.....”

(She continues to hit the keys, her fingers a blur)

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens at the D Ranch...Ziva at the main house, sitting inside with Bishop, Nell, and Dil. Tony stands at the sink, leaning against the counter, watching, listening.....)

Ziva: “And that is what she has asked me to do...”

Nell: “So? It sounds wonderful!”

Bishop: “Uh huh...and what was it you said to me that you’d do if you had it to do all over again?”

(Ziva thinks....then nods...)

Ziva: “To do what you do, my friend...”

Bishop; ‘To influence...to do good...to help, more than just helping steal a file or catch one man....”

Nell: “Yes!..And wouldn’t this mean just that?”

(Ziva looks off...then at Tony....)

Ziva: “But it would mean....It would mean I leave my Tali....and Anthony....To leave them...to turn away....”

Nell: “Uh...Ziva...I hate to ask this...But...are you saying each one of us in here is wrong for doing what we do?”

(Ziva looks at Nell in confusion....)

Ziva; “I do not...understand....”

Nell: “I work...Ellie works...Tony is gone each day training NCIS teams....Delilah works, Tim works....”

(Ziva’s face drops...)

Ziva: ‘NO!...I would never say that!....”

Bishop: “Just did, Sis....”

(Ziva looks off...her face in anguish....then she looks back to Tony...)

Ziva; “Anthony....help me....tell them...I love them...”

(Tony nods....)

Tony: “You do....I know you do....”

Ziva: “Then what is it I am trying to say?...I cannot find the words....I can only find the feeling!....”

(Tony walks to the table....sits...looks at Dil....)

Tony: “Want to give me a hand here?”

(Dil nods....)

Tony: “Ziva...you’ve lived your life without a family....”

(Ziva nods...)

Tony: “Then you came to us....to the team....”

Dil: “You got a taste of it....”

Ziva: “Yes!...It was the first time I felt it....”

Dil: “Your first real family feeling...”

Ziva: “And it was wonderful....”

Tony: “Wonderful enough to pretend you were dead....to protect that family....”

(Ziva stares at Tony....shakes her head....)

Ziva: “It was beyond horrible....”

Dil: “Then you had Tony here...and Tali....in Paris...”

(Ziva nods....a small smile...)

Ziva: “Yes...my own family.....”

Tony: “Then we came back....”

Dil: “Here...the ranch...”

Ziva: ‘Yes...this now...you....the other ones....I am part of the most wonderful family....”

Dil: “Hard to leave that behind, isn’t it?”

(Ziva nods)

Ziva: “I cannot do that....Then I will say no....”

(Tony and Dil look to Bishop....she stares back...she slowly nods....)

Bishop: “My god...I didn’t see it....”

(Both Tony and Dil shrug.....Bishop looks at Ziva....then reaches across the table..takes Ziva’s hand...)

Bishop: “Ziva...you’re not doing a me”

(Ziva looks at Bishop...blank face....)

Bishop: “You’re not saying good bye....you’re not leaving anyone....”

(Bishop takes a breath)

Bishop: “This is not the same thing, Ziva....You are not me...”

(Ziva stares at Bishop....)

Bishop: “You hate what I almost did....and you hated me for doing it....”

Ziva: “No!..I did not....”

Bishop: “Yes you did...you couldn’t understand why I would do it....You hated me for leaving everything and everyone behind....”

(Bishop leans back...)

Bishop: “Ziva...I’m not trying to talk you into this....If you want to stay home, be a mom, be pregnant, and Tony is okay with that, then hell...I’d like that too....”

Nell: “Me too!...But my job....it’s important to me....”

Bishop: “Mine too...I love what I do...”

Tony: “Ziva...do you think either of them are bad mothers?”

Ziva: “NO!...I think they are wonderful mothers!...”

Nell: “Wow...here it is....”

(The look at Nell...curious)

Nell: “The question....the one she’s asking herself....”

Ziva; “Please!...Tell me! I do not know!...”

Nell: “Am I turning my back on everything wonderful that my life has become?”

(pause)

Nell: “And more importantly....Will this decision change this wonderful life?”

Bishop: “She’s right, you know....that really is the question...”

Tony: “It’s 9 to 5, honey...it’s not leaving for Russia, or Bagdad, and it’s not breaking into private compounds and stealing documents....”

Dil: “And it’s not being gone for months at a time....”

(Ziva looks at Tony.....)

Ziva: “Anthony....”

Tony: “All they’re saying, Ziva...”

Bishop; “Is what Tim and Gibbs said to me that day....”

Tony: “You have a choice....”

Dil; ‘And neither choice means your family will change how we think of you....”

Tony: “Or how you should think of yourself...”

(Ziva is silent....then...she looks at all of them..)

Ziva: “You will not think of me as a bad mother....”

(pause)

Tony: “Do you remember what Tali said about it?”

(Ziva looks at Tony, curiously...)

Ziva: “We have not asked Tali....I do not know what you mean”

Tony: “Yes you do....You told me Tali was having trouble believing you wouldn’t leave...”

Ziva; “Yes...I remember...she is still frightened...”

Tony: “And you told me she said that Bishop went to work, Nell went to work, Torres, even Gibbs....”

Ziva: “And because they went to a job...those jobs provided an anchor....to keep them here...”

Nell: “Sounds like a smart girl to me....”

Bishop; “Sure does...in fact...if you’re happy sitting at home every day, eating donuts....”

Ziva: “Shrimp Chips...I eat shrimp chips all day....”

(Bishop’s eyes widen...)

Bishop: “Shrimp Chips? They were my favorite!...”

Ziva: “My friend...your friend...Clayton....he introduced them to me...”

Tony: “Amazon...a case every two weeks....She’s addicted...”

(silence....then...)

Bishop: “Ziva...my time at CyberForce started as probationary....”

(Nell grins)

Nell; ‘We took care of that real quick....”

(Bishop grins...)

Bishop: “They did....they wanted me sooner....”

Ziva; “It is a good thing to be wanted....”

(She looks back up at Tony....)

Ziva: “Are you alright, my Anthony....with this...I cannot make this decision by myself...it is not only about me”

Tony: “Ziva...everything you’ve done....every bad thing you’ve felt...every time you almost died...”

Ziva; “I can teach that....”

Tony: “Every time you had to fight...and to kill....”

Ziva: “I can teach how to avoid that...”

Bishop: “And this family...the one you found after....”

Ziva: “You...everyone...”

Tony: “Me...Tali....”

Dil: ‘The things you know are more important than anything....”

Ziva: “I can give others a chance to do the same....”

(She thinks...then turns to Bishop)

Ziva; ‘You said probationary period....Do you feel Isabella would do the same?”

Bishop: “Doesn’t hurt to ask, Ziva...”

(Ziva thinks...then looks at Tony...questioning...)

Ziva: “Our Tali....”

Tony: “Ziva...Tali will love it....I’m pretty sure of that...And it’s not like you’re leaving her alone....”

Dil: “Tali? Alone during the day? She’s my best ranch hand!...”

(Ziva looks at Dil, smiles...)

Ziva; “She loves working with her Uncle Dilbert during the day....And she loves this Ranch....”

Dil; “She has family here, Ziva....Her family...your family....”

Tony: “Oh...and not to be the greedy capitalist here....but you would get paid....”

(Ziva looks up...surprised....)

Tony: “Which means we could get the new house finished quicker....”

(Ziva looks at Tony...starts to smile)

Ziva: “My house....”

Tony: “You Home....”

Ziva: “Yes...my family’s home....it would happen faster....”

(Tony gets up....)

Ziva: “Anthony?”

Tony: “Come on...Let’s go take a look at the training course...”

Ziva: “We cannot simply show up at the CIA training course! I do not know if Isabella even wants me to come out!...”

Tony; ‘Oh yea she does....”

(Ziva looks at him, curious...Tony looks at his phone...)

Tony: “She’s only texted me every hour on the hour asking if you’d made up your mind....”

(Ziva looks on in shock..Tony shrugs.)

Tony: “She feels like she’s got one shot at bringing agents home alive and maybe them having a life....and you’re that shot....”

Ziva; “Me?...No...there are others that can do what she asks....”

Bishop: “No, Ziva...there aren’t...I should know....”

(pause)

Bishop: “And if you think about it...you’ll realize it too....”

(Ziva looks on in shock....then....)

Ziva: “No.....there is not anyone else. No one has lived what I have lived.....”

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens at CyberForce Ops room, McGee sitting at main console, clicky clacking, looking at the monitor...)

Delilah: “How much did they get?”

(He reads more....)

McGee: “None....”

Delilah: “But the girl said her stepfather had already retrieved half of what he wanted....”

(McGee reads the monitor more....hits a few keys, reads....then....)

McGee: ‘Nope...nothing....In fact....”

(He looks at the data closely)

McGee; “There’s no sign of unauthorized entry until directly after you ordered the shut down....”

(He turns to her...)

McGee: “When you ordered them to stop shutting down, it stopped the download...You didn’t lose anything”

Delilah: “So....I was right...”

(McGee nods)

McGee: “It was a good call....The order to shut down the system triggers the firewalls to turn off momentarily...that moment is what allowed the outside access....You restarting back to normal blocked everything outside....”

(pause)

McGee: “So...What caused you to stop the shutdown...?”

Delilah: “Because I was doing it out of a panic reaction...And I wanted time to think before taking any actions....and there was this thought...”

(She stops...thinks...)

McGee; “Thought?”

Delilah: “Yea...thought...”

(pause...then..)

Delilah: “WWTD?”

(He looks at her, blank face...waiting...)

Delilah: “What would Tim do?”

(McGee look changes to surprise....)

Delilah: “Tim wouldn’t panic....Tim wouldn’t react without thinking....and most of all....Tim would look at the whole picture before he did anything....”

(She shrugs)

Delilah: “Don’t let it go to your head, big boy....but I do that a lot”

(McGee looks at her in mild surprise...)

McGee: “Thank you....”

Delilah: “Ne Nada....You’re a thinker, Tim...a processor...you consider all the factors before acting and you make a decision based on that process....It’s something we could all learn from”

(She pauses)

Delilah: “Of course, there is the fact that you process and think faster than anyone I know, and sometimes it makes it look like you’re making a snap decision....But you aren’t...”

McGee: “You wanted to start over before doing anything....”

(She nods)

Delilah: “Pretty much”

(He thinks....then...)

McGee: “You may have saved every bit of data you have from being compromised, by doing that.....Look...”

(He clicky clacks..points to a line of code...)

Delilah: “It bounced....”

McGee: “Uh huh...your restart triggered all the firewalls I installed at once...It overwhelmed the attack code, forcing it to sort of....I guess...copy the behavior of what you were doing...So it circled back to its own source....”

Delilah: “And can you tell where that source is?”

McGee: “I can...but first I need to wash the codes...”

Delilah: “You don’t need to do a sweep?”

McGee: “No...That’s what we would normally do....I don’t want to do the norm...I want to change the process up some...”

Delilah: “Why?”

McGee: “Because someone has already implanted bugs....”

(He clicky clacks)

McGee: “The attack was designed to leave bits and pieces behind....those bits and pieces attach themselves to broken data...The broken data gets swept into a bin, which is attached to the main program....I don’t want anything this program does near the system brain....I want to do a wash...”

Delilah: “Shred every broken data string where it sits...”

McGee; “Uh huh....and then watch to see what the other person does...”

(pause)

McGee: “Hackers are so predictable....”

(scene shifts to Juvenile Holding....Melanie sits, staring at the screen of the laptop....her face red....)

Melanie: “They’re washing my codes!....”

(She clicky clacks....then stops....)

Melanie: “Wait...that was not expected....the odds of that happening are upwards in the realm of mathematical impossibility....”

(She hits a few keys...)

Melanie: “It has to be automated....Or....”

(She shakes her head)

Melanie: “No...no one is that smart....No one could know I was in there...”

(pause)

Melanie: “But if they do....I’ll be able to do what I want with what they do....After all...I have an IQ of 168....”

(scene shifts to McGee....)

Delilah: “Okay...what next?”

McGee: “Keep everything up and running....track your satellites but don’t communicate with them until I get back”

Delilah: “Where are you going?”

(He gets up....)

McGee: “I just got word that the girl’s mother is back....I want to talk to her”

Delilah: “Why? Don’t you need to do what you do here and make sure we stay secure?”

McGee: “I’ve got a feeling that no one can keep it secure....Not until I find out where it came from and how to fight it”

(pause)

McGee: “And I think that mother has the answer”

Delilah: “The mother?”

McGee: “Yea....when the attack circled back, it told me the location of the device attacking....”

Delilah: “Then where? China? Russia?”

McGee: “No...the Juvenile Holding tank at Falls Church...”

(Delilah looks at him,...shock...)

Delilah: “Are you telling me a 6 year old girl did this?”

McGee: “A 6 year old girl that murdered her step-father....Don’t forget that part”

(He walks away)

McGee: “And maybe the mother can give me a clue on how to fight this girl.”

(He exits...Delilah looks at the closed door...)

Delilah: “When I was 6, I cried because I lost my socks....”

(she shakes her head)

Delilah: “Times change..”

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens in the NCIS conference room.....McGee walks in.....woman in her late 40’s, Naval officers uniform on, sits....)

McGee: “Commander Penn...thank you for coming...”

Penn: “If this involves my daughter, it is only natural...so please...let’s be brief....I have a funeral to plan while weighing the factors surrounding my daughter’s accusation”

(McGee looks at her curiously)

McGee: “Factors?”

Penn: “Do I hire a criminal defense attorney or do I hire an attorney with mental health experience...Or possibly I leave her in your custody until I finalize the arrangements for the burial....”

McGee; ‘Ma’am...forgive me...but you are not reacting the way I thought you would...”

Penn: “Oh...so I assume that now makes me a suspect?”

(McGee shakes his head...)

McGee; “No, Commander...you were a suspect long before you started acting as if you didn’t care”

(The woman's eyes widen....)

McGee: "You weren't in Italy, and you weren't at your office, and you weren't at home....Your alibi is a lie, any excuse you could give is blown, and you aren't an experienced liar....So....Let's start over...."

(The woman looks away....face pales...)

Penn: "I was at an attorney's office"

McGee: 'Divorce?"

(She shakes her head...)

Penn; "No...I was signing the necessary paperwork to have my 6 year old daughter committed to an asylum....."

(The woman's face begins to tremble...she looks back at McGee)

Penn: "Do you have any idea what it's like to have your own daughter hold a gun to your head and laugh? Do you know what she said when I woke up, saw the gun and screamed?"

(McGee looks on in shock...)

McGee; "No ma'am..."

Penn: "She said..."Grown ups are so predictable"

(She nods to McGee...)

Penn: "I know who you are, Agent McGee...and I know your achievements...I both admire them and salute both your life and your intelligence....But...."

McGee: "But...what?"

Penn: "My daughter's brain works maybe 5 times faster than yours and mine put together...You can't out think her or outsmart her....."

McGee: "She attempted an entry into a Federal Agency's system today"

Penn: "Your wife's agency, I assume...."

(McGee says nothing...then he nods...)

McGee: “She wanted the data in the hard drives...She’s selling it...”

(Penn gives a sad laugh...)

Penn: “Data? Selling it? Do you seriously think that’s what she’s after?”

(McGee says nothing...waits...)

Penn: “Agent McGee...what was the original function of the CyberForce Agency?”

(McGee thinks...)

McGee: “To link to the naval ships with satellite capability.....share the responsibility”

(She shakes her head)

Penn: “No, agent...think again”

(McGee frowns...then...)

McGee: “The submarines....First it was the submarines....”

(She nods)

Penn: “Agent McGee.....Our satellites carry the internal control codes for all of our Ohio Class submarines.....”

(McGee’s eyes widen...)

Penn: “And the software for that...What is the most outdated of all the software CyberForce has?”

(McGee stares at the woman....his face slowly showing the realization)

McGee; “My god....She wants control of the nuclear missiles on those subs...”

(She nods...)

Penn: “She wants to see if any country acts unpredictably during chaos...And the best way, in her mind, is to launch those missiles.....”

(She pauses...then in a wavering, small voice...)

Penn: “She’s evil, agent McGee....My daughter...my own 6 year old daughter...”

(pause)

"...is a monster"

(scene fades to black and white)

Part 2

(scene opens at McGee's apartment, Delilah and McGee in twin's bedroom, looking at them both, tucked into twin beds)

McGee: "It's weird, looking at them....it seems like yesterday they were babies"

Delilah: "They're still babies, Tim....."

McGee; "They're 4 years old..."

(He thinks....then...)

McGee: "I wonder....what's going through their heads....Do you think they have thoughts we don't know about?...Like..."

Delilah: "No...and stop it"

(McGee looks at them again....nods...)

McGee: "That obvious?"

Delilah: "Yes....it is...."

McGee: "I wonder if Commander Penn had this same thought 2 years ago....she turned off the light and didn't know her daughter was planning on creating a nuclear winter..."

Delilah: "The only war these two are planning are with each other...."

(Tim grins....)

McGee: "Who will get the biggest present on Christmas....and if the other one gets it, war will be waged..."

Delilah: "Yes...and none of it will involve nuclear missiles...."

(McGee stares into the room....then his eyes settle on the floor....Bright orange and blue plastic guns are seen)

McGee: “Unless you think the Nerf guns are gateway weapons to bigger things...”

(Delilah looks into the bedroom....sees the same toys...then quickly wheels into the room, picking up both children’s Nerf guns and placing them in her lap....she wheels back out....)

Delilah: “Just in case....”

McGee: “Good thought”

(McGee closes the door, leaving it partially open...turns off the light....pauses....opens the door back up, gives the ‘V’ sign with two fingers, and whispers into the room...)

“Peace and love”

(closes the door back up....looks at his wife...)

McGee: “Just in case....”

(Delilah nods...)

Delilah: “Good thought...subliminal conditioning...”

McGee: “Simultaneously....”

Delilah: “So they’re both receiving the same input...”

McGee: “And it’s not world domination”

Delilah: “It’s the next best thing to being able to read their minds....implant warm and fuzzies...”

McGee: “Holding each other in check.....”

(He stops...Delilah looks up at him....)

Delilah: “What....?”

(McGee is silent....)

McGee: “They will need guidance...Children want that...”

(He looks down at her...)

McGee: “You just gave me an idea....”

Delilah: “I did?”

McGee: “Yea....you’re brilliant!...”

Delilah: “I am?”

McGee: “You already know you are...but yes...you are...”

(McGee heads to the living room.....pulls out his cell....dials...)

McGee: (into phone...) “Boss...I have an idea....”

(scene shifts to the Gordon House....Gibbs on cell...his eyebrows raise high...Caprice watching, curious...)

Gibbs; “McGee!.....You want to do WHAT?”

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens in Juvenile Holding room....Melanie sitting at large table, talking to a guard...)

Melanie: “So, it’s obvious..your skin is dry, your eyes are dull, and you walk with a slump...”

Guard: “So?”

Melanie: “Major organ failure....You’re going to die soon....I’d prepare for it...”

(The guard looks at the small child...shakes his head...)

Guard: “You’re a piece of work, little lady....”

Melanie: “I have an IQ of 168....I know things...”

Guard: “Yea...but that doesn’t make you an expert on me....So...play your little mind games on someone else...Pretty soon you’ll be assigned your own room, and play time out here will be over”

(The child crosses her arms...shrugs...)

Melanie: “Okay...but don’t say I didn’t warn you...You get off in what...3 hours? I’d go home and rest....”

Guard: “2 hours...and I’ll take your advice under counsel...”

(The guard walks away....Melanie watches....then she pulls the small laptop towards her, clicky clacks...She raises her eyes, looking at the guard as he sits at the watch station, straightening his posture, then running his hand over his other arm, staring at his skin....She smiles to herself...)

Melanie: “Shift change in 2 hours...not 3...”

(She shakes her head, her fingers a blur over the keyboard, still looking at the guard as he inspects the skin on the back of his hands.....)

Melanie: “Grown ups are so, so predictable....”

(She hits the keys to enter the Incognito mode, the black screen comes up....she types in the URL bar....the screen reads...)

Delaware Juvenile Detention Center – D,C, Unit - Personnel Console

(She types more....another screen flashes...then comes up...)

Guard Schedule

(She types...a list of names and profile pictures appear...she looks, sees the image of the guard that just left...right clicks.....then begins reading the personal profile information..)

Melanie: “Sargent Grant Howard...35yrs old...2 years on the job...not married....”

(scrolls...then she smiles big, claps her hands, bounces in her chair)

Melanie: “Goody goody!...You have the security clearance I need....”

(She begins clicky clacking....)

Melanie: “Hurry Melanie....your game time is almost up....the other Mean Mister Guard will be coming soon....”

(She stops typing...smiles...)

Melanie: “Admin password DCDETENT_553”

(She repeats the phrase to herself several times...then...)

Melanie: “Vocal repetition increases the ability to recall the information...”

(pause...looks at the picture...)

Melanie: “And I’m sorry I made you feel uncomfortable... But I need you to feel all squirmy around me so you avoid me whenever you can...”

(pause...then)

Melanie: “Which, by the way, is predictable...grownups are so afraid of perceptive children”

(another pause)

Melanie: “...and of course...I know things”

(She clears the screen...hits ‘escape”...a digital dragon flies across the screen, shooting fire at running digital knights in armor.....then another voice barks at her....)

“Turn the monitor around...”

(She looks up...another guard has approached...She turns the screen around for the guard to see...)

Melanie: “Do you want to play?”

Guard: “No....I don’t play kid games....”

Melanie: “Oh...You’d be surprised....See how the knights run from the fire?....I bet real people would do the same thing...”

Guard: “Doubtful....Dragons aren’t real...”

(Melanie gives a grin...)

Melanie: “But fire in the sky is...”

(The guard stares at her....then....)

Guard: “Wrap it up....you’ll be assigned to living quarters later tomorrow....and you can kiss your game playing good bye...”

Melanie: “Maybe...maybe not...it all depends...”

Guard: “On what?”

Melanie: “Whatever door the world opens for me...”

(The guard stares....slight confusion on his face)

Guard: “Shut it down...get some sleep...you’ll have company for a little while tomorrow...”

Melanie: “Company?”

Guard: “Yea....a regular...been here before...you’ll love him....”

(She dramatically rolls her eyes)

Melanie: “Hardly....But I’ll bite...why would I love him?”

Guard: “Because he’s smarter than you....Shrinks think he might be the smartest kid on the planet....”

(The girl looks at the guard...frowns....)

Melanie: “I hardly think so...”

(the guard shrugs...)

Guard: “Suit yourself....But try not to take it so hard....There’s nothing wrong with being the second smartest person in the room...”

(The guard walks out....Melanie quickly pulls up the Admin console again.....hits several keys, scrolls...the clicks on a file...)

INTAKE

(She clicks...then she sees....)

(Name Redacted/Classified...age 12...Previous incarceration charges:

Digital Theft

Digital Theft

Unauthorized digital entry

Unauthorized digital entry

Banking Fraud

Identity Theft

Unauthorized use of military assets – digital

Attempted Homicide (charges withdrawn)

(She continues to read....)

CLINICALLY ASSESSED PROFILE TRAITS

Superficial charm

Socially irresponsible

Lack of remorse or empathy

Extreme Intelligence

Highly dangerous – Possibly homicidal

Manipulative

(She keeps reading.....then closes out the program, goes back to her dragon burning up the running knights)

Melanie: “Extreme Intelligence..Hmph!”

(her face scowls.....)

Melanie: “Well...we’ll just have to see about that.”

(She stares off to the side...then she turns back to the monitor, scrunches her face and sticks her tongue out at the screen.....)

Melanie: “Meanie!”

(the lights turn out in the room....her face panics...)

Melanie: “NO!..DON’T!.”

(The guard’s voice is heard)

Guard: “That’s the signal that it’s time for you to go to your bed....”

(She replies, hesitantly)

Melanie: “Sir....will there still be some light?”

Guard: “Some...just go to bed”

(The guard leaves, then turns back..)

Guard: “By the way...Your mother was cleared to come see you....Something about her position, or she would have been here sooner....She’ll be here to see you when the 9 am visitor time begins”

(Melanie’s face goes blank....no expression....She gets up from the table, then enters one of the small rooms off the table area...She lays down in the hard bunk, then covers her face with the blanket...a small voice is heard from under the covers...)

“Mommy....”

(Quiet crying can be heard from under the covers)

(scene shifts to McGee’s apartment....McGee and Delilah looking at the monitor, both smiling...)

Delilah: “I can’t believe you’re doing this...”

(pause)

Delilah: “And Caprice went along with it?”

(McGee nods...smiles....Delilah replies, disbelief...)

Delilah: “Tim!...All this because of some Nerf guns? My god!”

(McGee continues to type....)

McGee: “I am.....unpredictable”

(scene fades to black and white)

Next Morning

(scene opens at CIA HQ, Langley, Virginia....Isabella walking Ziva and Tony outside the main building, then towards a field full of obstacles, running track, shooting range...)

Bella: “Physical conditioning....”

Ziva: “Yes...it is important....”

Bella: “But what I wanted to show you is in that building....”

(She points to a hangar style building....)

Bella: “I’ve had our best people set it up....”

(They pass by the shooting range....men and women lined up in booths, firing weapons at silhouette targets....)

Bella: “These are some of the men and women you’ll have in your first class....”

Ziva: “If this is what I decide to do....”

Bella: “Yes...if you do....”

(Ziva watches the men and women shoot....)

Ziva: “Which one of these people is the best?”

(Bella looks at the group....then...)

Bella: “Edward Cally.....but...”

Ziva: “But he has an issue with attitude....yes....it is written on his face....”

(Bella looks at her, mild surprise....)

Bella: “Yes...he does think a lot of himself...but his test scores are off the charts....and his physical tests...”

Ziva: ‘I care nothing for tests....Not your tests”

(Ziva surprises Bella by walking away from them, towards the man....)

Bella: “Agent Dinozzo...what is she doing?”

(Tony gives a small grin...)

Tony: “Humility....She wants to see if he has any....”

(scene shifts to Ziva approaching Cally....the man sees her, stops firing....turns to her...)

Cally: “May I help you?”

Ziva: “I am told you test well...”

(The young man smiles....)

Cally: “The best of the best....”

Ziva: “And you are what....right handed?”

(He nods...curious)

Ziva: “Shoot for me....”

(He grins...raises his weapon....)

Ziva: “Left handed please....”

(He frowns...then switches hands....fires three rounds...The hit the edge of the target...)

Cally: “I’m not left handed!...”

(Ziva holds out her hand....)

Ziva: “Your gun please....”

(He looks up...Bella nods....He hands the gun to Ziva...)

Ziva: “You are only half of a shooter....”

(Holding Cally’s gun in her left hand, she instantly whips out her own pistol in her right, then quickly fires six shots, 3 from each hand, simultaneously....She stands still, both arms outstretched, both barrels smoking....)

Ziva: “Results please”

(Cally picks up the spotter scope....looks through it....turns back to her, shocked...)

Cally: “All dead center....That’s impossible....Muscle memory dictates....”

Ziva: “Evidently it does not....”

(She hands his gun back to the man...)

Ziva: “Please...continue your shooting.....Thank you for showing me how little you know”

(Ziva turns, walks back to Bella and Tony....)

Ziva: “The building...I believe you wanted to show me....”

(Bella stares at Ziva....disbelief...She looks over at Cally, still standing, shaking his head....looking at his left hand....)

Bella: “Uh...wow....”

Tony: “Humility....it’s her specialty”

Bella: “Yea....okay...then let’s go look at the building....Hell...that didn’t happen to me, and I’m humbled...”

Tony: “Might want to get used to it....”

Ziva: “If it is what I decide to do....”

(Ziva nods towards the building)

Ziva: “May I ask...what is its purpose?”

Bella: “Mock up...It’s set up as a worst case scenario....an agent is inside one of the rooms, he’s discovered....can he get out?”

(Ziva nods...)

Ziva: “Excellent....it is a wonderful idea....”

Bella: “Not really...”

(She pauses)

Bella: “I had our field team construct their worst nightmare....”

Ziva: “Nightmare? Please...explain....”

Bella: “The last 3 nameless stars we put on the board....All three of them died while inside a building, their presence discovered....and they couldn’t get out....”

(Ziva stops...looks at the building....then...)

Ziva: “Show me....”

(screen fades to black and white)

(scene opens at the Juvenile Detention Holding room...Melanie sits alone, waiting...then the door buzzes...she looks over to the opening door....a woman walks in....Melanie stares....then...)

Melanie: “Mother”

(Commander Penn walks in, uniform on...looks back at the guard...)

Penn: “We can be alone....I’ve been cleared....”

(The guard nods....)

Guard: “I’ll be right outside...”

(The guard closes the barred gate....Sarah Penn walks to her waiting daughter....stands in front of her on the other side of the table)

Penn: “Hello Melanie”

Melanie: “Mother”

Penn: “How are they treating you?”

(The girl shows no expression on her face....)

Melanie: “They haven’t tried to put me in a looney bin....So, better than you did”

(Penn sits....)

Penn: “You were going to capture the control signals to weapons, honey.....”

Melanie: “Were? You say that, mother....As if it’s in the past....”

(Penn stares at her daughter....then...)

Penn: “I forget sometimes that you don’t talk like a 6 year old...Then I forget sometimes that you are a 6 year old...”

Melanie: “I am a quandary...I’m sorry I disappointed you, mother”

Penn: “You didn’t disappoint me, honey....”

Melanie: “But I scare you....don’t I?”

Penn: “You killed Sidney,.....You shot him in cold blood”

Melanie: “It was necessary”

Penn: “He loved you....”

(The girl’s face reddens....she shouts out...)

Melanie: “HE DID NOT! MY DADDY LOVED ME!....AND YOUR BOYFRIEND KILLED HIM!”

(Penn’s face doesn’t change....)

Penn: “No, Melanie...Your father killed himself....you know that...”

(Melanie wipes her eyes....looks away)

Melanie: “You left him....”

Penn: “We’ve been over this before, Melanie....Your father left us....He left us for another woman....”

Melanie: “No....”

Penn: “And I was alone.....”

Melanie: “Daddy found out you were with someone else...That’s when he did it....”

Penn: “No, sweetheart....your father killed himself because he was sick....”

Melanie: “Go....just go away, mother....”

Penn: “Melanie....please....please know that what I’m doing is for your own good....”

Melanie: “Go mother....”

Penn: “Baby....hurting the world isn’t going to bring your father back....”

(The girl erupts...screaming...)

Melanie: “BUT I CAN MAKE THE WORLD PAY!.....I CAN MAKE IT PAY FOR WHAT I FEEL!”

(The girl breaks.....starts crying....)

Melanie: “Please go.....”

(Penn gets up...moves to Melanie....)

Penn: “Melanie...you’re still my daughter....I love you...”

Melanie: “NO!....”

(The girl jumps on the table, leaps at her mother, her hands scratching and clawing the woman’s face...they both fall away from the table.)

Penn: “MELANIE!...NO!....”

(The gate opens....three guards rush in.....they pull the clawing and screaming girl off her mother, both on the floor...the mother’s face seen bleeding profusely....)

Penn: “Melanie....don’t....”

(scene changes instantly to Penn sitting next to Melanie...)

Penn: “You did that thing again...”

(The girl smiles wickedly...)

Melanie: “I did....I just imagined me clawing your face off...”

(The girl stares at her mother)

Melanie: “The creation of chaos gives us a window to the avenue we want....”

Penn: “And did hurting me give you that avenue?”

(The girl shakes her head)

Melanie: “No...it would result in my closely monitored incarceration....and that would not give me what I want....”

(The girl grins)

Melanie: “But it did give me some satisfaction....”

(The mother looks away...then back at the girl....)

Penn: “He found you out...didn’t he?”

(Melanie says nothing....)

Penn: “Sidney found out what you were going to do...”

Melanie: “Are you just now coming to that conclusion, mother?”

(pause)

Melanie: “The obvious blinded by the emotional.....”

(She shakes her head)

Melanie: “Predictable”

Penn: “I love you, Melanie....”

(The woman stands....)

Penn: “I love you but I hate what you are”

Melanie: “The two cannot be separated...you should know that by now”

Penn: “I’ll do what I have to do to stop you, Melanie....”

Melanie: “And what would that be, mother? Have me locked up? Do you really think that will stop me? Do you think you can convince these people to.....”

(The girl smiles, puts a finger to her mouth....and in sweet little girl voice...)

Melanie: “I’m just 6 years old and I’m scared.....Will you help me not be scared?”

(The finger drops....the girl arches her eyebrows....)

Melanie: “Do you think they would do that to a sweet little girl?”

(The mother stares.....shakes her head...)

Penn: “No...I don’t think they would”

(The woman turns.....)

Penn: “But I can stop you”

Melanie: “Really?...How mother? How can you, my own mother...stop me?”

(Penn stops...does not turn...)

Melanie: “You know the only way to stop me is to kill me....kill me before I do what I want to the world....But you’re my mother....and a loving mother would never do that....”

(Penn turns....her face caring....)

Penn: “I used to think that too....”

(The woman signals the guard....the gate opens....Penn walks out....)

Melanie: “Mother?...”

(The woman does not turn....she continues walking...)

Melanie: “Mother?.....”

(The girl yells out....)

Melanie: “YOU CAN’T DO IT!....YOU CAN’T DO IT, CAN YOU?”

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens at CIA Langley...Bella, Tony, and Ziva stand inside the building....office desks set up in groups of 4, laptops on each....an office with a closed door is seen on the other side of the desks....3 men and 1 woman stand to the side...)

Bella: “We’ve constructed a replica of the last infiltrate and retrieve mission....”

(Bella points to the desks...)

Bella: “Normal office setup...secretaries and an office....The office housed an agent for the Chinese government.....We needed what he had in that office....”

Ziva: “Guards?”

Bella: “2 up front...2 in the rear...they would have been dressed as workers....”

Ziva: “And this is where you train your people to infiltrate an office....”

Bella: “Yes....it only makes sense....”

(Ziva looks at the 4 agents standing to the side....)

Ziva: “Where is this office supposed to be?”

(An agent steps up....)

Agent: “China ma’am....”

(Ziva looks at Bella...)

Ziva: “It is no wonder you fail....”

Bella: ‘I...I don’t understand...”

(Ziva calls out to another agent...)

Ziva: “Russia...if this were in Russia...would this training representation suffice?”

(The agent looks at Isabella....then back at Ziva...)

Agent: “Yes ma’am....it is a standard office set up....”

(Ziva shakes her head....)

Ziva: “In China, the desks would be in single file, not in blocks...Single file gives the man in the office a straight line view of the desks....The desks would be positioned sideways as to give him a clear view of their faces.....”

(She walks towards another desk...)

Ziva; “Russia....These desks would be far from each other....facing away from each other....Russia does not allow the capacity to share information with each other, nor do they allow conversation with each other....”

(Ziva looks back at Bella....)

Ziva: “And the guards...There would be none...each worker would be trained, each with a pistol under the front of their desk, each in quick release holder....Russia...There would be two uniformed guards inside....two outside...”

(She is quiet for a moment....)

Ziva: “It is like training a swimmer with no water.....your training would fail....which means....”

Bella: “Our agent would fail....”

(Ziva nods)

Ziva: “He or she would become a nameless star...Or worse.....”

(Bella looks at Ziva....then....)

Bella: “Help us.....Please...I’m sick of our people dying or never being heard from again....”

(pause)

Bella: “Help us, Ziva David”

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens in the Juvenile Detention holding room....The buzzer sound on the gate....Melanie, sitting at her table alone, the laptop open, sees the gate open...she clicks on the laptop....the schematic showing the cell blocks clicks off....She looks up at the new person walking in....)

Melanie: “Who are you?”

(the 12 year old black child smiles...)

“My name is Daniel...but you can call me Danny”

(Melanie smiles back....)

Melanie: “Hi....I have an IQ of 168....and I know things...”

Danny: “Huh....well...we’ll see...”

(Danny sits at the table, to the side....Melanie moves her laptop so the screen can’t be seen...)

Danny: “What are you working on?”

(she ignores him...her fingers blur over the keyboard....)

Melanie: “I’m playing a game....butt out....”

Danny: “No you’re not....”

(She looks over at him...)

Melanie: “AM TOO!”

Danny: “You’re inputting code...and you can’t get past line 17....That’s because you screwed up on line 4....most people do....”

(She stares at him...then she looks at her screen....it reads...)

ACCESS DENIED

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

Danny: “I can’t see your screen, but I can see your fingers...”

Melanie: “So?”

Danny: “I can read what you type by looking at your fingers.....and it’s a standard code...you keep typing in a beta code when a meta code is needed....”

(he pauses...)

Danny: “Predictable”

(Her face reddens...)

Danny: “Don’t get so mad little girl....I can’t help it if your fingers move too slow”

(She looks at him for a moment....closes the laptop....)

Melanie: “If you’re such a smarty pants....what am I planning to do?”

(Danny shrugs)

Danny: “Make someone’s day go from good to bad?”

(She smiles)

Melanie: “You have no idea”

Danny: “Then let me help....I’m bored....These guards are watching right now, but in about 30 minutes, they’ll get bored....They always do”

Melanie: “I know.....”

Danny: “You think...I know”

(Danny gets up...walks towards the back of the room)

Melanie: “Where are you going?”

Danny: “Checking the place out....they covered the vent I got out of last time....I’m looking for a new way out”

Melanie: “You want to leave?”

Danny: “Yea...I have some things to do....”

Melanie: “What kind of things?”

Danny: “My kind of things....you wouldn’t understand....They involve bad people, bad things, and money....”

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

Melanie: “Money? As in you actually have money?”

Danny: “Of course I have money....”

Melanie: “I need money”

Danny: “Who doesn’t?”

Melanie: “If I get you out of here now....How much will you pay me?”

Danny: “Nothing...I can do it on my own....Go back to your games, little girl...”

(She opens the laptop....hits several keys....The door buzzes....)

Melanie: “I don’t play games....I create chaos.....and I pay the world back for what it’s done to me....”

(The door to the room pops open....She gets up....)

Melanie: “Better hurry if you want out of here...this is only the first door....”

(She walks out of the room....Danny looks at the open door, wide eyed...)

Danny: “i didn’t see THAT coming!...”

(scene shifts to NCIS bullpen....Gibbs talking to McGee and Commander Penn....)

Gibbs: “Commander...my son is far advanced for his age...and all he’s going to be doing is watching, monitoring your daughter, and reporting to us what she might be doing....That’s all....”

(Gibbs phone buzzes....he looks at the ID....he answers...)

Gibbs: “Hey honey...I’m in the middle of.....”

(He listens...stops...eyebrows go up....)

Gibbs: “He what?”

(He listens...then ends the call...He looks at Penn and McGee...)

Gibbs: “She’s escaped....”

Penn: “Oh god no....”

Gibbs: “And.....Danny went with her....”

(scene shifts to Danny and Melanie, city street.....)

Melanie: “Okay smarty pants...what now?”

(Danny looks around....then....)

Danny: “Bathroom....I need to go the bathroom....”

(She rolls her eyes....)

Melanie: “In the back of that store, I’m sure....”

(scene shifts to Danny in office bathroom...he leans down, pulls a flip phone out of his sock....dials....a voice can be heard as it calls out over the earpiece....)

“WHAT ARE YOU DOING?”

(Danny takes a deep breath....then...)

Danny: “She left...I made a judgement call, dad....I did what you would do...”

(More yelling heard over the earpiece....)

Danny: “Dad..please...She’s got the codes...that stuff you and mom showed me in her file last night....it’s real...She can do it....All she needs to do is get hold of a decent computer, and she can do it!....”

(scene shifts to Gibbs...McGee and Penn watching, both in shock....)

Gibbs; ‘NO!...YOU TELL ME WHERE YOU ARE!...I’ll COME GET YOU!....”

(He listens....then he looks at the phone....Gibbs looks at McGee, shock...)

Gibbs: “He said he had to do what he had to do....”

(Gibbs stares at McGee)

Gibbs: “.....Then he hung up...”

(Gibbs continues to stare at the phone....)

McGee: ‘Well boss...like father like son....”

Gibbs: “But.....he hung up....”

(scene shifts to DC city street....A 12 year old boy and a 6 year old girl climb on a city bus.....the bus doors close....)

Danny: “Where are you taking us?”

Melanie: “I need a good computer system.... I know just where one is....”

Danny: “Yea? Where?”

Melanie: “I’ll tell you when we get there....”

(The girl whispers to herself...)

“125 Terrace Court..Apt 24...125 Terrace Court...Apt 24...Agent Timothy McGee....”

(She turns to Danny...)

Melanie: “Repetition assists in the brain recalling information....”

(pause)

Melanie: “I have an IQ of 168....I remember things....”

(scene fades to black and white)

Part 3

(scene opens on DC city bus, Danny and Melanie sitting in seat, the city buildings passing by the window...)

Melanie: “We’re almost there...I will be getting off soon”

(Danny looks out the window at the buildings)

Melanie: “Where will you go?”

(Danny continues to look at the buildings...)

Danny: “I know this area...”

Melanie: “I don’t...”

Danny: “You have an address but you don’t know where you’re going? That's weird”

Melanie: “No...it’s efficient...I don’t need to know where I’m going so long as what I need is where I’m going.....and I’m quite sure it is”

(She nods for emphasis)

Melanie: “In fact, I’m sure it is”

(The bus begins to slow....)

Melanie: “Here we are!...”

(pause)

Melanie: “Pretty soon I’ll have everything I want”

Danny: “What is it you want? You’ve been pretty quiet about that part”

(She watches the driver bring the bus to a stop)

Melanie: “I want people to know”

Danny: “Know what?”

(The girl looks out the window...)

Melanie: “That I’m smarter than they are....and I know things....”

Danny: “Stupid reason.....”

Melanie: “IT IS NOT STUPID!...”

(The bus comes to a stop.....Danny looks at the building outside his window.....his eyes widen slightly....)

Danny: “Hey...is that where you’re going? That building?”

(Danny points to the high rise apartment building outside the bus)

Melanie: “Yes....”

(Danny stares at the sign by the front doors to the building)

Danny: “You wouldn’t happen to be going to a certain apartment....would you?”

Melanie: “Yes...I need a computer...A man by the name of Timothy McGee lives here...”

Danny: “NCIS....”

(Danny holds his breath....Melanie turns to him quickly....)

Melanie: “How did you know?”

Danny: “He’s arrested me twice....I did some research on him....i didn’t want to get caught by him again....”

(She studies Danny’s face.....then..)

Melanie: “Smart boy....I have studied him too....He is quite intelligent, you know....”

(She gets up from her seat....)

Melanie: “Which calculates into him having possession of the best technology...”

(She moves to the aisle....)

Melanie: “It is predictable....”

(Danny gets up....she looks at him curiously...)

Danny: “I’m going with you”

Melanie: “And why would I allow that?”

Danny: “He has two small kids....and that means there will be a nanny at home....”

(The girl gives a small grin...)

Melanie: “Of course there is...but I am prepared for that....”

(She reaches in the pocket of her detention center issue sweat pants....pulls out a small box....)

Melanie: “I took it off of one of the guards....”

Danny: “Stun gun.....”

Melanie: “I asked to be held.....it was so easy”

(pause)

Melanie: “Grownups are so predictable”

(She starts walking away, towards the front of the bus.....she calls out over her shoulder..then she smiles, breaks into a run towards the front of the bus....)

Melanie: “Come on!....Last one there’s a rotten egg!”

(scene shifts to NCIS bullpen....McGee, Dawson, Torres at their desks...Gibbs stands by McGee’s desk, Commander Penn standing to the side)

Gibbs: “Still nothing?”

(McGee clicky clacks...)

McGee: “Afraid not boss....he’s got his phone turned off. No power, no GPS, no GPS, no location”

Gibbs: “Doesn’t want it going off and showing her he has it...He’s being smart...”

McGee: “Well...I wish he wasn’t so smart....”

(Gibbs pauses....then...)

Gibbs: “Yea...me too”

Penn: “She’s looking for a computer....I promise you...”

(Gibbs looks at her....)

Penn: “She has this in her head...And once something’s in her head, she doesn’t give up...”

Gibbs: “What kind?”

Penn: “A system with power....”

McGee: “But she accessed CyberForce from a laptop.....”

Penn: “That was ISP hacking....”

(McGee thinks...)

McGee: “Accessing the control systems is ISP based....but to take control of the weapons firing systems.....”

Penn: “They’re based at Naval HQ....You need to muscle your way into that system...”

McGee: “Like.....”

Penn: “She could have done it from my home system....Dell XPS 8930 tower..It’s got the strength to fight it out with the firing system control....”

McGee: “No....I’ve been to the Pentagon and seen it....”

Penn: “You’ve been to a safeguard system.....They’re protected by IBM Summits...you would need a like system to fight it out with them...But we don’t have the Summit...”

(McGee thinks)

McGee: “The Budget cutbacks last year...”

(She nods)

Penn: “We tried to tell Congress....They gave us a choice between the Summit and a 5% increase in Officer’s pay.....Which one do you think won?”

(McGee shakes his head.....)

McGee; “Then we don’t know where she’ll go....”

Penn; “We better find out soon.....Or several of our attack subs will be launching nuclear missiles soon....”

(scene shifts to CyberForce Ops room.....Delilah sits behind the consoles....Nell and Bishop sitting at their control desks....Tabby and Tommy at theirs, to the side....all of them watching a line of monitors...)

Tabby: “No unauthorized access yet.....”

Tommy: “All firewalls up and secure....”

Delilah: “We’ve shut off the transmissions to all submarine satellite communications systems except for our monitoring frequency”

Nell: “If she finds a strong enough system, she’ll be able to break in....”

Delilah: “I know...God what I wouldn’t give for those subs to be on maneuvers....”

(Nell thinks....turns to Delilah.....curious face....)

Nell: “Maneuvers.....?”

(Delilah looks at Nell....)

Delilah: “Are you thinking what I’m thinking?”

Nell: “I don’t know....what are you thinking?”

(Delilah turns to Tabby and Tommy...)

Delilah: “Depth...at what depth do subs lose satellite ability?”

Tommy: “I have no clue...but I know we can’t do updates or any monitoring when they’re submerged....”

Tabby: “And right now.....”

Nell: “We’ve got every one of them on the surface....So we can communicate....”

Delilah; “Which is exactly what that girl wants!....Nell..!...”

(Nell is picking up the desk phone...)

Nell: “Already on it, ma’am!...”

(Bishop watches both of them....blank face....)

Bishop: “Could somebody fill me in on this? It’s way way over my head....”

(Delilah picks up her phone....starts pressing buttons....)

Delilah: “We’re calling Sec Nav now....we need all of our at risk submarines to get the hell outa Dodge!....actually, under Dodge....but same thing”

Nell: “In other words....we need them to dive....”

Tommy: “We’ll lose contact with them....but at least no signals can be sent or received through the satellite coms systems....”

Delilah: “I don’t like the idea of not being able to talk to them....but this way she can’t breach the control systems of the missiles....”

Bishop: “Like driving into a tunnel and losing cell signal...”

Nell; “Uh huh...that’s exactly what it’s like....”

Delilah: “So...we send our boats into that tunnel....”

Nell: “Tommy...how many subs do we have that can be reached by our Navy Coms satellite?”

Tommy: “6 ma’am...the others are a combination of dry dock, existing underwater maneuvers, or standard patrol patterns....Those we won’t have to worry about for several weeks”

(Nell nods while looking at the monitors....)

Nell: “Now, all we have to do is convince the Secretary of Navy that it’s worth it losing satellite communication with them....”

Delilah: “Uh huh...which means we have to let him know the Navy’s nuclear missile controls are about to be hijacked by a 6 year old girl because officers got a 5% pay raise.....”

(Nell points at Delilah....shakes her head...)

Nell: “That’s your call, boss.....”

(Delilah lowers her eyebrows....)

Delilah: “Every time you call me boss, it means you’re telling me it’s my responsibility....”

Nell: “Uh huh....”

Delilah: “But he really likes you.....”

Nell: “And I’d like to keep it that way.....”

(pause)

Nell: “Remember....it was his decision to not upgrade our computer control system....I don’t want to the one that tells him just how much that decision cost us...”

(Delilah looks at Nell....then looks at Bishop....)

Delilah: “It would be good experience for her....”

Nell: “Absolutely...a chance to build a relationship with SecNav....”

(Bishop stares at both of them....then her face shows shock...)

Bishop: “Oh no....”

Nell: “It’s a great opportunity....”

Delilah: “One that might not happen again for a long time.....”

Bishop: “No...please no....I don’t want to call him.....I don’t know him....”

Nell: “And you’re good buddies with POTUS...That’s important, you know.....”

Delilah: “Oh yea....in fact, it’s perfect....”

Bishop: “NO!...You can’t expect me to....”

(The door buzzes....they turn...the door opens....John Kirby walks in....)

Kirby: “I got here as soon as I could...where are....”

(He stops...he sees the entire room staring at him....)

Kirby: “What....Uh...why are you women staring at me like that?”

(silence....then...)

Delilah: “John....how would you like to show our newest Deputy Director what real power and diplomacy looks like...?”

(scene shifts to McGee's apartment building, hall way....Danny and Melanie enter the lobby area....)

Melanie: "Elevators...11th floor...let's go"

(Danny hesitates...then...)

Danny: "Bathroom break...."

(She looks at him, scowls....)

Melanie: "Again? You just went!..."

Danny: "Nervous...I gotta go...."

(She stares at him....then...)

Melanie: "That does not match your profile...."

(She continues to stare at him...)

Melanie: "Neither does you wanting to come with me....it says you avoid people...."

(Danny scowls right back...)

Danny: "Evidently you didn't read far enough...."

(pause)

Danny: "You want to use the equipment....I want to steal it and sell it....And I don't want to be walking out of this place holding laptops and have to stop and go pee...It's called preparation planning, little girl....."

Melanie: "I am not.....!"

Danny: "Yea you are...you're smart...but you don't have the experience I have.....So...."

Melanie: "Wait...that makes sense....I don't want to get up there and get caught with the same problem..."

Danny: "Ok...good...you go, I'll go, then we'll go up...."

(scene shifts to lobby restroom....Danny pulls the cell phone out of his sock...then banging at the door...a voice on the other side..)

Melanie: “Come on slow poke!...”

(Danny looks at the phone....then at the door....then...)

Danny: “Can’t call....okay...but maybe the next best thing...phone on...ringer off....”

(He slides the phone back in his sock...he whispers to himself..)

Danny: “Mr. Tim...I sure hope you’re doing what I hope you’re doing.....”

(scene shifts to NCIS bullpen....McGee clicky clacks....shakes his head...)

McGee: “Still nothing boss....”

(scene shifts to Danny and Melanie riding the elevator....Melanie pulls the stun gun out of her sweats....turns it on....then turns it towards Danny....)

Melanie: “I think I should test this on you....”

Danny: “Uh huh...and have me flip flopping around making noise....What’s wrong with you, girl?”

Melanie: “Just as well...it needs to recharge after using it....I want to be sure when I zap whoever answers the door...that they get a full charge.”

(scene switches to Danny’s sock...the light from the phone comes on....through the thin sock, it reads...)

WELCOME TO BELTWAY MOBILE

(scene shows the elevator doors open....)

Melanie: “When we get inside, just stay out of my way.....”

(She girl is seen holding the stun gun, green light on.....She hurries down the hallway...Danny follows....)

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens in CyberForce Ops room....John Kirby lays the phone back in its cradle, softly....he looks up...)

Kirby: “He wasn’t happy....”

(Delilah shrugs....)

Kirby: “I have just been torn a new.....” (pause) “....opening....”

(Nell shrugs....Kirby turns to Bishop....Bishop quickly points at Nell and Delilah)

Bishop: “It was them!”

(Kirby turns back...stares at Delilah and Nell...then....)

Kirby: “You are both evil and should be destroyed....”

(He allows a small grin....)

Kirby: “He agrees that the budget issue was a mistake....The subs are being given orders now...to submerge....No one onboard knows why, they just have the orders...SecNav does not want any of them knowing a 6 year old was about to hijack their nukes”

(He gives them both a nod)

Kirby: “Nice thinking....but...”

(pause)

Kirby; “....you are both still evil....”

(he walks to the desks....)

Kirby: “Now...let’s watch...If this girl is really that smart, we’ll be able to see her access the satellites....”

(scene shifts to NCIS bullpen.....)

Gibbs: “Torres...Dawson....get hold of Metro PD....do a quick urgent BOLO on the both of them....”

Torres: “On it....but hey....”

Gibbs: “Yea?”

Torres: “It’s been a long time since I was 6, but I’m not taking a cab and I can’t drive...So I’m travelling.....”

Gibbs: “On foot or....”

Torres: “City bus....drivers don’t blink twice when a 12 year old and his little sister get on....Cabs would...Uber would....”

Gibbs: “And the BOLO would cover the streets....”

Torres: “You know....The bus center has onboarding cameras....Each bus...”

Gibbs: “You could get them to pull all the onboardings for the last hour....”

Torres: “Might get lucky, Gibbs....”

(Gibbs nods to Torres....)

Gibbs: “Good thinking....You and Dawson....”

(Torres and Dawson get up....put badges on....)

Gibbs: “Take a two way.....Dawson...yours....”

Dawson: “Copy that, sir....I’ve got the PD frequency chip....If we hear anything over the street reports, we’ll let you know ASAP....”

(Torres and Dawson exit the bullpen....)

Gibbs: “Commander Penn....”

(She turns to Gibbs...)

Gibbs: “If we have any contact with your daughter....can you stop her?”

Penn: “I hope so, Director....I hope to god so....”

(Gibbs continues to stare at the mother....she nods...)

Penn: “I know....If I can’t....if none of us can....I know you can’t let her do what she wants to do....”

(Gibbs shakes his head)

Gibbs: “I promise Commander...it’s not what we want to do.....”

Penn: “I know....”

(pause)

Penn: “I know what you have to do if we can’t....”

(McGee glances at his terminal....he begins clicky clacking quickly....)

McGee: “Boss!...”

(clicky clacks...)

McGee: “His phone came on!...”

Gibbs: “Then where the hell....”

McGee: “Locating now....give me....”

Gibbs: “WHERE IS HE?”

McGee: “Signal weak..inside....he’s at....coming up....”

(McGee’s eyes widen.....)

McGee: “No....”

Gibbs: “McGee.....”

McGee: “NO!....”

(McGee bolts up.....grabs gun and badge....)

McGee: “They are at my building!....She wants my system!....JOHNNY AND MORGAN ARE IN THERE!...”

(Gibbs, McGee, and Penn run towards the elevator....)

(scene shifts to inside McGee’s apartment....older lady hears a knock at the door....Johnny and Morgan are seen sitting on the couch, playing a video game....)

Lady: “Well...who could that be?”

(She walks to the door....looks through the peephole....)

Lady: “That’s strange...no one’s there”

(another knock....she opens the door....then her face shows surprise....a small 6 year old girl stands there, smiling...then the woman sees Danny....)

Lady: “Why Daniel!...It’s so good to see you!...”

(Melanie plunges forward....The lady grunts.....scene shifts to Melanie pushing the stun gun into the woman’s belly and pushing the button....The woman falls on the floor, quivering.....Melanie turns to Danny)

Melanie: “SHE KNOWS YOU!....”

Danny: “Wait!...We can work this out....!...You can stop this!.....”

Melanie: “I HATE YOU!”

(She thrusts the stun gun towards Danny.....hits him in the chest.....Danny shudders....falls back....)

Melanie: “YOU LIED TO ME!....”

(Danny seen rolling over on his side...holding his chest....)

Danny: “The twins...”

(he rolls over again....moans...)

Danny: “Give me.....”

(She steps forward...hits him again with the gun....)

Melanie: “LIAR!”

(She slams the door shut....She looks around the room....She sees a trophy on a shelf....it reads...)

Cyber Warrior Gamefest Champion

2012

Timothy F McGee

(She yanks the trophy down..She latches the deadbolt on the door....then slams the marble base against the latch on the deadbolt, again and again...the latch flies off....)

Melanie: “No one in or out....not even me....”

(She looks towards an open bedroom door....she sees the computer system set up.....)

Melanie: “Yes....exactly what I need....”

(She looks down at the woman she knocked out.....)

Melanie: “And stay down....But just in case....”

(She runs into the computer room...looks around...sees them....smiles...)

Melanie: “Zip ties....for all computer cable management....”

(She starts pulling out the longest zip ties....)

Melanie: “Predictable....”

(She turns to Johnny and Morgan...both twins stare at her, frightful.....)

Melanie: “You two...come with me....on the movies they call you insurance....”

(She pulls Johnny by the arm)

Melanie: “Me...I just don’t want to be alone.....”

(She sits at the computer station...she turns it on....)

Melanie: “I don’t know the password...but this building surely has a guest WiFi signal....”

(She watches...then smiles...)

Melanie: “And they do....I don’t need your programs, Mr. Agent man....I just need the power you have....”

(She begins to clicky clack...)

(scene shifts to CyberForce Ops room...All eyes on the monitors....)

Kirby: “Will it signal if....”

(monitors suddenly display green letters across screen)

ACCESS GRANTED

Delilah: “Oh Christ...she’s in.....”

Nell: “Tommy..Tabby....block variable channels....”

(Both begin typing furiously....Nell puts a hand on each shoulder...)

Nell: “Calmly...get it right the first time.....”

(Both slow down...)

Nell: “Better...one step at a time.....”

(Nell sits at her desk...)

Nell: “Instituting training download....”

Kirby: “TRAINING!...WHAT THE HELL....”

(Delilah touches his leg...)

Delilah: “When you install the training program it slows the system....she’s buying time...”

Nell: “Training install instituted....Now...downloading upgrade....”

Kirby: “Delilah....Tell me that makes sense....”

Delilah: “Upgrades are the quickest way to place the systems in reboot mode....Not what they’re designed for, but they do slow it down and they do temporarily block any inbound commands....”

Kirby: “Can’t she just shut it off? Stop it?”

Delilah: “no....That green message? It’s top level admin...no one can stop it....We can just buy time....”

(scene shifts to apartment...Melanie types...then screams....)

Melanie: “NO NO!.....”

(She types quickly....)

Melanie: “Top priority Flash Traffic message.....That will open the gates.....”

(scene shifts to CyberForce Ops....)

Nell: “Emergency reboot of remote server.....Tommy...Tabby...Buoys?”

Kirby: “Buoys?”

Delilah: “We have buoys out there, John...one way transmission devices to subs...they work when the satellites aren’t in position....”

Kirby: “Christ!...How do you....”

Delilah: “How do we know this?...John...it’s our job...”

(pause)

Delilah: “And it doesn’t hurt that smart girl there researches everything there is to know about our job”

Nell: “Starting satellite antenna remote reboot”

(Nell hits a key....the screen reads...)

(scene shifts to apartment.....the screen reads...)

Remote Reboot...5...4...3....

Melanie: “Enough of this....showtime....”

(She types....)

Melanie: “Come out come out wherever you are.....”

(a smile....screen reads out...)

Launch Protocol

(scene shifts to CyFo room....)

Delilah: “She’s in.....”

Nell: “And just a matter of time until she finds out the subs are submerged....And hopefully we’ve given Gibbs and them time to get to her....”

Delilah: “What if he doesn’t?”

Nell: “We keep the subs under....She’ll have to take a different route....”

(scene shifts to apartment....the girl shakes her head....)

Melanie: “You thought you’d block me out by putting the subs underwater?”

(She clicky clacks...)

Melanie: “How predictable....”

(She types more...hits ‘enter’...waits....then she smiles....she reads the screen...)

USS NEVADA – Air FILTRATION SYSTEM

(She clicky clacks....then watches the screen...)

CO2 FLUSH Y or N?

(she hits the Y button....)

(scene shifts to CyFo Ops room....Delilah’s eyes widen....)

Delilah: “NO!...She didn’t!...”

Kirby: “WHAT?”

Delilah: “Tommy...verify!...”

(Tommy click clacks....)

Tommy: “Linking with DC Naval now....”

(He hits keys....then...)

Tommy: “Christ...she did it....”

Kirby: “Did what?”

Tommy: “She turned off the scrubber on the Nevada.....”

Delilah: “The scrubber takes the CO2 out of the internal air system....”

Kirby: “What...that’s bad...?”

Delilah: “No...it’s not normally critical....but the air can get toxic in a small closed area if the CO2 is not filtered out....”

Kirby: “The sub has to surface...doesn’t it?”

(Delilah nods....then shakes her head...)

Delilah: “Damn....that’s smart....She’s forcing one sub to the surface to get clean air...and one is all she needs....”(

(scene shifts to apartment.....Melanie smiles while she types...the computer voice begins announcing...)

Computer: “Missile 1 Activation...”

(She waits...)

Computer: “Missile 1 Activation Complete”

(then...)

Computer: “Missile 1 Ready....”

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens outside the apartment door, in hallway...Danny stirs....)

Danny: “Oh god...”

(he starts to get up....)

Danny: “Stun Gun didn’t recharge....it didn’t knock me out.....”

(On his hands and knees, he looks at the door to McGee’s apartment....he moves himself upright....gets to the door....tries to open it....)

Danny: “Jammed...oh no....The twins....Johnny and Morgan....they’re in there...I saw them....”

(He pushes on the door...nothing...He rams his shoulder into the door....nothing....)

Danny: “I have to...I have to get in there.....Johnny....Morgan....”

(He looks to the side of the door...small hallway...at the end of the hallway is a window....)

Danny: “Maybe....god...maybe.....please....”

(scene shifts to outside the apartment building...high up...Danny is seen looking out of the opened window...)

Danny: “Uh uh.....This is a Torres no bueno moment....”

(scene shows a 12 inch concrete ledge running the width of the building...and he sees the living room window to McGee’s apartment....)

Danny: “No....I can’t....I can’t do it.....”

(He stares at the window, 10 ft away....)

Danny: “Dad...help me.....”

(He looks at his legs...)

Danny: “Please work....”

(scene shifts to Danny crawling out of the open window....placing feet gently on the ledge...he pulls the rest of his body out....then faces and hugs the concrete wall....)

Danny: “10 feet...that’s all....”

(He slides his left foot out 6 inches..then some more..... the right one follows...his arms spread out, pressed against the concrete.....)

Danny; “9 feet...only 9 feet to go....”

(the scene shows Danny against the wall, 150 feet up in the air....scene shows him sliding his foot again, then the right foot comes in.....)

Danny: “8 feet...only 8 feet....”

(pause)

Danny: “Open your eyes....”

(He opens his eyes....he sees the rooftops across the street..)

Danny: “Oh damn Danny close your eyes!....close your eyes...don’t look down....”

(He slides his foot again...and feels his cheek rub against the concrete as he moves closer...)

Danny: “6 feet....”

(silence..he closes his eyes tightly....)

Danny: “I’m too scared.....I can’t do this..not like this.....Dad....help me....Dad.....help me....”

(scene shifts to Gibbs, McGee, and Penn in NCIS car, speeding down city street....)

McGee: “Torres and Dawson are on their way!..They have DC Metro on their way....”

(Gibbs listens...nods....then...)

Gibbs; “He’s in trouble.....”

McGee; “Who?...Boss?...WHO?..Is it Johnny?”

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

Gibbs: “I’m’ coming...and whatever you have to do...you can do it....You’re my son.....”

(scene shifts to Danny....he moves his foot again....)

Danny: “Almost there...I can do this....I’m Daniel Gibbs and I can do this.....”

(scene shows the edge of the window in sight....)

Danny: “2 feet....Johnny...Morgan...I’m coming....”

(Then....a scream.....)

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens in CyFo Ops....)

Nell: “Missile 1, Nevada!..Activated!....”

Kirby: “Crap!.....”

Nell: “Tommy!...Request launch confirmation!....”

(Tommy clicky clacks....)

(scene shifts to the apartment...Melanie at keyboard.....)

Melanie: “okay...so someone wants a fight....”

(She types....the screen reads...)

CONFIRMATION RECIEVED

Melanie: “Now.....”

(She holds her finger over the ‘enter’ button....)

Melanie: “Chaos....”

(A scream...then the sound of glass shattering.....)

Melanie: “No...not now!...”

(She gets up...pulls Johnny towards her.....Morgan runs towards the door....)

Melanie: “GET BACK HERE!...”

(scene shifts to outside the door....)

Danny: “No locks....go....”

(Danny hits the door with his shoulder while at the same time twisting the door knob....He falls inside, knocking Morgan down to the floor.....Danny looks up as Melanie releases Johnny and heads towards Danny)

Danny: “JOHNNY!...RUN!...HIDE!....”

(Melanie reaches for the gaming trophy she used on the front door latch....)

Melanie: “GO AWAY!....”

(She swings the trophy....the marble base connects with Danny’s shoulder.....He gets up....grabs Morgan by the arm....)

Melanie: “NO!...GET OUT!...”

(Danny pulls Morgan towards him...he starts to pull her out of the room.....then the girl hits him across the back of his neck with the trophy...and he falls....)

Melanie: “LET GO!...”

(Danny lays on the floor, outside the bedroom door...Morgan, terrified and panicked, lays half in and half out, ...Danny holds her ankle....)

Melanie: “LET HER GO!...”

(She pounds Danny’s hand with the trophy, once for each scream...)

Melanie: “LET HER GO LET HER GO LET HER GO!...”

(Danny screams with each strike.....)

Melanie: “LET HER GO!...”

(She pounds Danny’s hand again....)

Danny: “I WON’T!....I WON’T LET HER GO!.....”

(the girl swings again....Danny screams again.....)

Melanie: “THEN GET OUT!....”

(The girl, exhausted from swinging the trophy, runs back to the computer....Danny pulls Morgan.....he screams at the pain as he pulls...Then he replaces the battered hand with his other....he grips Morgan...gets up....panicked fear causes both of them to tumble into the living room as Danny pulls them.....)

Melanie; “AND STAY OUT!...”

(She slams the door shut.....Danny turns to Morgan....tears flood his cheeks as he cries out...)

Danny: Hide..oh god it hurts.....hide...find Johnny...hide...oh god oh god.....”

(scene shifts to hallway of the apartment....Gibbs, McGee, Penn race down the hallway...then they hear the screams.....)

McGee; “BOTH OF US!....”

(Gibbs understands...both he and McGee race towards the apartment door...)

(scene shifts to Danny.....He struggles to make it to the bedroom door....he pushes it open....Melanie turns and sees him....screams out....)

Melanie: “GET OUT!...”

(She gets up from the chair...she runs towards him....then with both her arms outstretched, she slams her small hands into his chest.....He falls back.....)

Danny: “No...can’t stop....”

(He struggles to his feet, the useless hand dangling.....He starts to move to the door again....then falls to his knees.....)

Danny: “I can’t...god...help me....I can’t.....”

(The apartment door bursts violently off the hinges as Gibbs and McGee smash it inward....Danny looks.....his eyes roll back in his head....)

Danny: “Stop....her.....”

Gibbs: “DANNY!...”

Penn: “I’ve got the woman!...Find your kids!...”

(McGee looks around.....panicked...)

McGee: “MORGAN!...JOHNNY!.....MORGAN...!...”

(Along the apartment wall, piles of cushions are pushed outward....McGee hears the highpitced screams...)

“DADDY!....”

(He turns...Johnny is pushing the pillows Danny stacked on them.....)

“DADDY!...”

(Johnny and Morgan both appear from under the pillows....McGee runs to both of them, fear on his face....and he reaches them....embraces them both as each twin embraces back, crying....)

Danny: “Dad....”

(Gibbs hugs Danny....)

Gibbs; “I’m here son....”

Danny: “Dad...stop her....you have to ….”

(Danny’s eyes move....a flash of orange runs by them as they embrace.....and then runs out of the doorway....)

Gibbs: “McGee!....The computer!...”

(McGee runs into the bedroom....he sees on the screen....)

(scene shifts to CyberForce Ops....)

Delilah: “We’ve done all we can.....I think you need to call Loretta....”

(The screen reads out....)

6...5...4...3...2....

(then it stops....)

(scene shifts to apartment.....view shows McGee’s finger pressing a key..a message pops up.....)

Abort Launch

Deactivate Missile 1?

Y/N

(McGee pushes the ‘N’ key....)

Missile 1 Deactivated – Countdown Reset To Sleep

(scene fades out to McGee sitting at the computer, Morgan and Johnny coming to him....Gibbs comes in, holding Danny in his arms....)

Gibbs: “She got away....”

(Penn walks in...)

Penn: “She ran to a doorway....the sign on it says Roof Access....”

McGee: “Lay him down, on the couch boss....I’ve got them....Go get her...”

(Penn looks at the screen...She can see the launch information....)

Penn: “My God...she almost did it.....”

(She turns...)

Penn: “Director Gibbs...we need to go get my daughter....”

(she begins to move towards the door...)

Penn: “And stop her....forever....”

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens on the rooftop of the hi-rise apartment building....Melanie is running....)

Melanie: “NO!...I picked the wrong door!...I can’t have!...I can’t have!....”

(She runs towards the entrance door to the building....it opens before she reaches it....Melanie stops...)

Melanie: “Mother”

(Penn steps onto the rooftop....)

Penn: “Melanie...do you know what you almost did?”

(Melanie smiles....)

Melanie: “Chaos...I almost got it launched....”

Penn: “And killed a million people...”

Melanie: “Started a war, mother...more than a million....”

(Penn steps towards her...)

Penn: “We can get you help honey....”

Melanie: “Help? I don’t need help...I just need a computer and some privacy....”

(Melanie backs up as Penn approaches....)

Penn: “This is not you.....”

Melanie: “Of course it’s me, mother....I have an IQ of 168....I know things.....”

Penn: “You can’t really want to kill all those people....”

(the girl gives a small smile...)

Melanie: “Oh yes I can, mother dear....”

(The girl walks away....turns and faces her again...)

Melanie: “How does it feel to have a daughter that can change the world? How does it feel, mother?”

Penn: “Horrible...shamed....hurt....sad....”

(The girl stomps a foot...yells out...)

Melanie: “GOOD!...I WANT YOU TO HURT!...”

(Gibbs seen coming out the access door onto the roof...gun drawn....)

Melanie: “What are you going to do, Mr. Gibbs? Shoot a 6 year old little girl?”

(Gibbs begins to walk towards her....)

Melanie: “That boy ruined everything....”

Gibbs: “That boy is my son”

(She gives a slight smile)

Melanie: “How’s his hand? I bet I did a job on it”

(She giggles...)

(Gibbs moves closer....Penn holds up a hand...Gibbs stops...)

Gibbs: “I can’t let her leave”

Penn: “I know”

Gibbs: “I don’t want to shoot her...but...”

Penn; “I know...but you won’t have to, Director...”

(She moves towards her daughter....)

Penn: “I’m the only one that can stop her”

(Penn moves towards her daughter)

Penn: “Honey....let’s go home....let’s go home and get you some help...”

Melanie: “NO!...I DON’T WANT HELP!...”

Penn: “You’d do it again?”

Melanie: “Of course, mommy....1 year in a looney bin, me and the doctors....then them saying this sweet little girl is fine?....Then yes...I will do it again....”

(Penn lowers her head....)

Penn: “I thought you’d say that....”

Gibbs: “Commander....”

Penn: “She has to be stopped, Director...”

(Penn takes a step to her daughter...)

Penn: “And I’m the only one that can stop her....”

Gibbs: “Commander!...Don’t!...”

(Penn moves to her daughter...she reaches her....she kneels....)

Penn: “I love you honey....”

(Penn reaches out to her daughter...)

Penn: “I'm sorry....please forgive me...”

(In a flash, the mother embraces the daughter...stands up, squeezing her small body close to hers...the girl kicks against her...)

Melanie: “NO!...LET ME GO!..”

Penn; “I’m sorry....I love you so much, honey....”

Gibbs; “COMMANDER! ….NO!...”

(Penn takes two steps to the edge of the roof....Then the mother, holding the child, without looking back or any hesitation.... steps off the rooftop.....)

(McGee reaches the roof.....he sees Gibbs standing, face in shock...his weapon lowering.....Then he hears screams from the street below...tires screeching....)

McGee: “Boss.....what....”

(Gibbs shakes his head....head lowered....)

Gibbs; “She stopped her....”

(sirens start to be heard in the distance....)

(scene fades to black and white)

CONCLUSION

(scene opens in Walter Reed Hospital....Danny laying on the bed, sleeping...one hand in cast...Gibbs and Caprice sit by the bed...the doctor comes in...)

Doctor: “Director...ma’am...I’ve looked at the XRays...”

(pause)

Doctor: “It’s broken in several places....”

(Gibbs and Caprice both nod...)

Doctor: “Dr. Nuncio has done the MRI...he says fortunately there’s no nerve damage”

(Another pause....then...)

Doctor: “Sir..ma’am...I heard what this young man did.....the pain he suffered was unimaginable...I understand he simply would not let go”

(Gibbs nods...Caprice wipes her eyes....)

Doctor: “Saying he was brave...that doesn’t seem to describe it well enough...”

(Gibbs nods...)

Doctor: “Well...I’ll leave you alone now....anyway...it will heal...it will take time, but it will heal...”

(Gibbs nods...)

Gibbs: “Thanks doc...”

(The doctor exits....Gibbs and Caprice sit...looking at Danny....finally....)

Gibbs: “I don’t know what to say, Caprice....”

Caprice; “Neither do I”

Gibbs: “I know you blame me....and I deserve it....I’ll do whatever you want....move...quit...I don’t want this to happen again....”

(Caprice lays a hand on Gibbs’s leg....)

Caprice; “He’s his father’s son....”

Gibbs: “I know...that’s why I will...”

Caprice: “He’s going to do it again...and we’ll be here again....”

(Gibbs looks at her...)

Caprice: “This is who I married, Jethro...I married a damn hero....and I’m raising a son that’s damn heroic too.....”

(silence...she lays her head on his shoulder...)

Caprice: “So...let me look at my son that I’m so proud of.....I’ll worry later, and I’ll cry some more...then I’ll worry some more....but it’s the life I’ve chosen....”

Gibbs: “No..it doesn’t have....”

Caprice; “Jethro...shut up....”

(She kisses his cheek, lays her head back down on his shoulder....)

Caprice: “I’m proud of him”

(Gibbs says nothing...)

Caprice: “Delilah and Tim are waiting outside....they want to see him....”

(Danny stirs....both Caprice and Gibbs straighten up.....)

Caprice: “Danny...be still....”

(Danny turns his head...then groggily.....)

Danny: “Is Morgan’s leg okay?”

Caprice: “Danny...yes...how are you feeling?”

Danny: “Loopy....”

Caprice: ‘That’s the morphine, baby...it helps your pain”

(Danny lays his head back...)

Danny: “Okay.....but....”

Caprice: “What, honey?”

Danny: “Keep any girls out of the room...”

Caprice: “What? Why?”

Danny: “Isn’t morphine how you got dad to marry you?.....”

(shock on Caprice’s face)

Danny: “I’m not ready to get married...”

(He closes his eyes...then the soft sound of him breathing is heard...Caprice lays her head back down on Gibb’s shoulder..)

Caprice; ‘He is his father’s son...”

(Gibbs lets a small grin escape)

Gibbs; “That one was on you, McGibbs...”

(She smiles...)

Caprice; “My heroes....”

(pause)

Caprice: “We’re not moving, Jethro, so stop saying that...I love my house....just so you know”

(Gibbs grins...)

Gibbs; “Yea...i know...”

Caprice: “And my basement shooting range”

Gibbs; “Yea..that too....”

Caprice: “And my shotgun under the dining table....”

(silence..then..)

Gibbs: “Yea...he’s got some of his mom in him too”

(She straightens up...looks at him disbelief)

Caprice: “You’re not saying I’m part of why he does this stuff.....Are you?”

(Gibbs shakes his head)

Gibbs; ‘nope...wouldn’t say that”

Caprice; “Good...”

(silence..then...)

Caprice: “Maybe a little bit....”

(scene shows McGee and Delilah coming in, all four of them sitting by the bed, softly whispering....John Kirby watches from the hallway, standing by Nell and Dil...he looks at the family in the room....)

Kirby: “Nell...I gotta ask...”

(Kirby looks back in the hallway...he sees Dez, Torres, Bishop holding Andreas, Torres holding Nickie..Ziva and Tony with Tali, the young girl laughing with Morgan and Johnny...)

Kirby: “You know what my question is....”

(Nell grins...)

Nell: “The answer is ‘I don’t know...but I’m glad I’m part of it”

(Kirby nods...)

Kirby: “I understand”

(silence..then)

Nell: “We’re a family, John....that’s all...Nothing less, nothing more...We’re just a family”

(Kirby nods....)

Kirby: “Best one I’ve ever seen”

(Nell gives a small smile...)

Nell: “Me too”

(scene fades to black and white)

The Epilogue

(scene opens on the back deck of the Thomas House, night, Dez seen sitting in her chair, rocking, looking up towards her waterfall....Cal seen exiting the house, walking towards her....still looking up at the hillside, Dez speaks out...)

Dez: “Don’t scold me, okay? I know I’m supposed to be in bed”

(Cal walks to her, places his hands on her shoulders from behind...)

Cal: “How is the pain?”

(She reaches up, lays a hand on one of his....)

Dez: “It’s pain....I’ll get through it”

(silence....)

Dez: “How is Danny?”

Cal: “In pain....thankful it is over....in disbelief about what happened...”

Dez: “How are Gibbs and Caprice?”

(A pause....then...)

Cal: “In pain...thankful it is over....in disbelief about what happened..”

Dez: “I can’t believe she did what she did..”

Cal: “The mother or the child?”

Dez: “The mother.....I don’t have any problem believing the kid did what she did”

(silence...then...)

Cal: “As sorrowful it is what you say.....it is a truth...”

Dez: “We live in such a #$&@ed up world”

(Cal doesn’t reply....then...)

Dez: “I’m sorry, Cal”

(He looks down at her...confused...)

Cal: “Sorry for what, beloved?”

(She is quiet....then...)

Dez; “You left a perfect world of your own to be with me.....I bet sometimes you regret it.....I would...”

(Cal says nothing....then...)

Cal: “You understand so little of what my world was like...and you understand even less what I feel”

(Here eyebrows furrow....she turns her head slightly....)

Dez: “I can’t believe you just said that to me!...”

Cal: “But it is the truth...”

Dez: “Then before I get really pissed off at you, explain what you just said..”

(He walks to the front of her....leans over, wraps his arms around her...)

Dez; “Cal....what the hell are you doing....?”

(He lifts her out of the chair...cradles her...)

Cal: “I cannot tell you what I meant without showing you what I meant....”

(He begins to carry her to the hillside....)

Cal: “I will show you how right you are....and how wrong you are...”

(She looks at him....then at the hillside...)

Dez: “You’re taking me up the trail....aren’t you?”

Cal: “Yes....”

(she looks at him, quizzically...)

Dez: “I don’t understand, Cal...”

(He begins to carry her up the rocky trail...)

Cal: “I know....”

Dez: “I know? Is that all you’re going to say?”

Cal: “Yes....for now....but that will change shortly...and then you can tell me if you understand, or not...”

(She shakes her head....)

Dez: “You are so weird, angel boy....”

(He gives a slight grin....)

Cal: “You cannot fathom the truth of what you just spoke....” (pause) “...but you will”

Dez: “Now you’re scaring me, Cal...”

Cal: “Good...it is how you should be”

(Her eyes widen....then she turns her head from facing him to looking up the trail....he veers off the path...)

Dez: “Cal..I don’t want to go there....”

(He says nothing....keeps walking...)

Dez: “Cal!...I know where you’re taking me!....I don’t want to go there!....I don’t want to go to where she’s buried!....”

(He still says nothing....then...)

Cal: “Neither do I...But I have to”

(scene shifts to The D Ranch House...Bishop sees Dil at the kitchen table, coffee in front of him, alone...)

Bishop: “Hey Dil....Where is Nell? I wanted to tell her something....”

(Dil pushes a chair out with his foot...)

Dil: “She’s putting Andreas to bed...then reading her a story....Sit a while...keep me company”

(She pours herself a cup of coffee...then sits....)

Bishop: “You know...what I saw today....your wife is amazing...”

(Dil gives a small smile....)

Dil: “I know....She amazes me every day”

Bishop: “She’s also intimidating....The way she thinks...how fast...and how much she knows about what she does....I’m never going to be her”

Dil: “It’s funny...I hear you say that...but if she were to hear you, she’d be shocked to hear you say that”

Bishop: “She doesn’t believe it....does she?”

(Dil shakes his head....)

Dil: “No....She doesn’t”

Bishop: “You know...I knew her when she worked for NCIS LA....She was pretty much a small part of that team...”

Dil: “Uh huh....they didn’t see what she could be....”

Bishop: “I think Hetty knew....but it sure took a while”

Dil: “Gibbs and Leon knew....”

Bishop: “Yea...they’re the ones that knew she was a natural tech geek...And a badass decision maker....and more....”

(Dil smiles....)

Dil: “Yea...but it’s not natural....”

(Bishop looks to him....)

Bishop: “What do you mean?”

Dil: “She works hard at what she does...She’s constantly studying, researching, scared to death she’ll miss some detail....Scared to death she’ll fail...”

Bishop: “I didn’t know she did that....I thought she just knew it...”

(Dil looks up at her...gives a small grin...)

Dil: “Want to see her studying?”

Bishop: “I thought she was reading a bedtime story..”

Dil: “She is....”

(He gets up)

Dil: “Come on...but be quiet....”

Bishop: “Quiet?”

Dil: “Yea...we’re sneaking up on an unsuspecting Nell...”

Bishop: “Why sneak up?”

Dil: “Because she wouldn’t want you to hear the bedtime story....”

Bishop: “What? That doesn’t make sense!...”

Dil: “It will.....come on....”

(scene shifts to Walter Reed Hospital room...Danny awake, Gibbs sitting by the bed...)

Danny: “Dad...where’s mom?”

Gibbs: “Talking with the doctor....”

(Danny grins)

Danny: “Telling him how to do his job?”

(Gibbs grins back...)

Gibbs: “Yea...”

(Danny is silent...then...)

Danny: “Are you mad at me?”

Gibbs: “Mad? No...Scared? Yea....Mad at myself for putting you into that position...?”

(Gibbs nods...)

Gibbs: “Yea....pretty much”

Danny: “It wasn’t your fault....I went AWOL…”

(Gibbs chuckles...)

Gibbs: “You didn’t go AWOL as much as you tried to think for yourself.....It’s hard to get mad at that....”

(he pauses...then...)

Gibbs: “I just didn’t think you’d get there at 12 years old....”

Danny: “Dad...I’m not 12...not really...”

(Gibbs looks at him, curiously...)

Danny: “I’ve seen a lot that most kids don’t....I’m around things that most kids don’t get to see....I think that ages you quicker”

(Gibbs looks at Danny....surprised....)

Danny: “Just keepin’ it real, dad.....”

(Danny shrugs his shoulders...)

Danny: “And dad....please don’t do what you’re thinking of doing...”

Gibbs: “Okay...but tell me what I’m thinking of doing....I don’t even know”

(Danny is quiet...then...)

Danny: “Changing everything”

(Gibbs looks at his son...waits...)

Danny: “Changing my life....taking me away from our friends...trying to keep me from seeing what I see and what you do....”

Gibbs: “Danny....maybe....”

Danny: “I love my life....”

(pause)

Danny: “I know it’s crazy, and I know all our friends are crazy, and I know you and mom are crazier than any of them....”

(Gibbs’s eyebrows go up....)

Gibbs: “Your mother?”

(Danny rolls his eyes....)

Danny: “Justin Case? Napoleon Blownapart? Her own shooting range in our basement?....”

(Gibbs grins....)

Danny: “She even shot down a helicopter!....Mom’s a bad...”

Gibbs: “Son...”

Danny: “Butt...mom’s a badbutt...sorry....”

Gibbs: “Son...all that is good...and maybe true....but you were on a 150 foot high ledge, no safety net....then you rescue two little kids, and manage to break your hand in 4 places.....”

Danny: “I probably should have handled that one differently.....sorry...”

(Gibbs scowls)

Gibbs: “Ya think?”

Danny: “Maybe...And maybe I need to wait a few years until I go undercover again....”

Gibbs: “Decades....you need to wait decades son...”

Danny: “But...I love my life....and I love it because of you and mom....”

(pause)

Danny: “I love most of all...our family....My uncles, my aunts....my cousins...I’m part of the coolest family there ever was!...But most of all....”

(Gibbs waits...)

Danny: “I love you and mom...”

(Gibbs looks away....then nods...)

Gibbs: “We love you too son...very much...we’re just scared...Sometimes we’re afraid of what this will do to you later....”

Danny: “How is Miss Pam?”

(Gibbs stops...)

Gibbs: “What does Pam have to do with this?”

Danny: “She’s like older than dirt...and she got scared...”

Gibbs: “Uh son...yea..she’s older...but I’d be careful about the older than dirt thing...”

Danny: “She went home...right?”

Gibbs: “Yea...she just needed some time to settle things in her head....She’ll be okay...”

Danny: “Did she quit her job?”

Gibbs: “What? No....she’ll be back in the office Monday...she said it was the best thing for her....”

Danny: “Shouldn’t she get away from the people and things that made what happened to her happen?”

Gibbs: “No....she knows that running from things is not the best way.....”

(He stops...looks at Danny sideways....)

Gibbs: “Stop it”

(Danny grins)

Gibbs: “I know what you’re doing....”

Danny: “What’s that, dad?”

Gibbs: “You’re using my words against me....”

Danny: “And making sense?”

(Gibbs scowls...)

Gibbs: “Yea...but she’s not our son!....”

Danny: “Is she family?”

Gibbs: “Yea...she’s family....”

Danny: “And we fight for our family....right?”

Gibbs: “Well..yes.....”

Danny: “And people shouldn’t run from bad things....”

Gibbs: “No...”

(Danny nods...)

Danny: “I’m glad you see things my way dad.....”

Gibbs: “What?....”

Danny: “Love you....I want to sleep some now....”

(View shows Caprice standing in the doorway, her arms folded over her chest, watching and listening....Gibbs gets up, turns...sees her...She shrugs)

Caprice: “Like father like son”

(He shakes his head...)

Gibbs: “Oh no....”

(He turns to Danny...then back to her...)

Gibbs; “That thing that just happened? He got that from you, McGibbs!”

Caprice: “Me? How can you....”

Gibbs: “Yea, you!...He took my words and shot them right back at me!....That’s a you thing!...”

Caprice: “Well...was he right?”

Gibbs: “It doesn’t make any difference!...”

Caprice: “Right doesn’t make a difference?...”

(She pats his cheek)

Caprice:”You silly man...you know full well that right always makes a difference....”

(She kisses him on the cheek....then walks to Danny, calls out to him as she walks to the bed)

Caprice: “I’m glad you see things clearly now...You are such a smart man, Jethro...”

(Gibbs stands...blank face....)

Gibbs: “What the hell just happened?”

(Caprice looks at Danny....she winks....he winks back...She whispers to him...)

Caprice: “He’ll come around...”

(Danny whispers back...)

Danny: “I know...he’s just hard headed....”

(from the hallway....Gibbs calls out)

Gibbs: “STOP WHISPERING!...”

(Caprice and Danny share “EEEK!” look....Caprice whispers again...)

Caprice: “You know...if you really love this life...maybe I can talk your dad into...you know...showing you some things....”

Danny: “Like training me?”

Caprice: “No..no...don’t use that word...it would be more like protecting you....”

(Danny whispers back, excited)

Danny: “Yes!...It would be so cool!”

Caprice: “Then let me work on him....but no guns, son....”

Danny: “I know!...But cool stuff....like being sneaky...”

Caprice: “Don’t say sneaky...say quiet, or undetectable....”

(View shifts to Gibbs, outside the door....small grin....he walks off...)

Gibbs: “I love it when a plan comes together.....”

(scene shifts to Dez and Cal....they reach the top of the other trail....He lowers Dez to sit on a large rock...)

Dez: “Cal...why did you....”

(Cal points to a grown over area under some trees...)

Cal: “This is grief....”

Dez: “I know what grief is, Cal....”

Cal: “But I did not”

(He points through the trees.....part of the waterfall is seen....)

Cal: “That...That is hope”

(She looks...nods....)

Dez: “I know”

Cal: “But I did not”

(He kneels in front of her....)

Cal; “You once told me you wanted to see things through my eyes....my mind....”

Dez: “Well yes...because Cal...We don’t talk about it..not really...but you’ve seen so much...felt so much.....”

Cal: “Seen? Yes....Felt?....”

(He shakes his head....He stands...)

Cal: “For thousands of years, I saw....I saw the evil that men do, I saw the harm that man did to each other.....”

(pause...then...)

Cal: “I escorted men and women from this world to the next....There was not death, there was not life....there was only the transition from this place to the next, where ever that might be....”

(She looks at him wide-eyed....)

Cal: “I saw stars being formed....and I watched worlds destroyed....”

(He walks to the patch of earth...)

Cal: “And because there were neither life nor death, here or there....I saw...I witnessed...but I never felt...”

(He kneels by the small grave of Ahnjong...)

Cal: “Now...I grieve....”

(He looks back at the waterfall...)

Cal: “Now...I have hope...”

(He stands....)

Cal: “And because of you....I love....”

(He looks around...)

Cal: “Because of all this....”

(he looks around...)

Cal: “I feel”

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

Cal: “And going back.....going back to what I was....”

(He looks directly at her....)

Cal: “It would be hell”

(Dez stares...wide eyed....then she looks at the small grave...)

Dez: “You miss her”

Cal: “Terribly”

Dez: “And...you love me?”

Cal: “Wonderfully”

(Dez looks again at the grave...then back at Cal...)

Dez: “Those two things...grief and love....”

(He nods...)

Dez: “They’re the same....Aren’t they...”

Cal: “Are you asking me or telling me...?”

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

Dez: “Can we go to the waterfall now?....I’d like to see her there....”

Cal: “Yes, My Destiny....”

Dez: “Through your eyes, angel boy?.....”

Cal: “Of course....”

(He picks her up....she cradles her face against his chest)

Cal: “And I will see through yours...”

(He pauses...grins at her...)

Cal: “....angel girl ..”

(scene shows Cal carrying Dez towards the mist of the waterfall....)

(scene shifts to The D Ranch House....Bishop and Dil approach the master bedroom, door slightly ajar....)

(Dil points to the opening....Bishop, curious, looks....then hears Nell....)

Nell: “And oh my goodness! The satellite frequency ratio shifts downward as the sunspot radiation reaches the stratosphere!...”

(Bishop peers through the opening...sees Nell reading from a technical manual....Andreas in her crib, looking up at her, transfixed...)

Nell: “Then the evil sunspot radiation BURST through the gamma layer in the stratosphere, increasing the interference!....And delaying data for every 1.4 seconds per 10 second transmission!....”

(Bishop leans back...looks at Dil....her mouth gaping open....They both move away....)

Bishop: “I don’t believe it!....”

Dil: “She gets to study, and Andreas gets to hear her mother’s voice....it’s a win win...”

(They both walk back, quietly, to the kitchen....)

Bishop: “Why does she do that?”

Dil: “Fear...commitment...loyalty to Delilah....love of her job and country...It changes...but it’s always about not letting anyone or anything down...”

Bishop: “I didn’t know....”

Dil: “I didn’t either...until I saw it...knocked my socks off”

(She stares at Dil for a moment...)

Bishop: “You’re proud of her...aren’t you?”

(He grins....nods...)

Dil: “It’s hard not to be...”

Bishop: “That’s why you stopped doing what you did...the missions...Isn’t it?”

(He shrugs)

Bishop: “You did it for her....and your daughter....”

(He says nothing....)

Bishop: “You love her so much....”

(He nods...then...)

Dil: “Like Torres does you and Nickie....”

Bishop: “Yea..he does....”

(she grins...)

Dil: “But you don’t know how much...do you?”

(She looks at him curiously....)

Dil: “You really don’t know.....”

Bishop: “That Nick loves us?...Of course I do....”

Dil: “Uh huh....”

(She looks at him...curious...)

Dil: “Italy....Hawaii....”

Bishop: “What....”

Dil: “FBI...INTERPOL....”

Bishop: “What are you saying.....”

Dil: “The jobs he’s turned down....That’s what I’m saying....and he’ll turn down more....”

(She looks at him, shocked...)

Bishop: “Jobs...what jobs?”

Dil: “His own team in Italy....The same in Hawaii....an elevated position with the FBI in Human Analysis....but it would have been in L.A....INTERPOL offering him a position in Berlin....”

(She looks at him in shock...)

Dil: “But each one would mean you guys would have to move....and it would mean it would take you away from your role in CyberForce....”

(He shakes his head)

Dil: “He loves what that job has done for you....And he loves that you’re happy...but most of all, he loves that you’ve been recognized for what you’re really capable of...”

Bishop: “No...you’re lying....”

Dil: “Nope...your husband happens to be your biggest cheerleader....”

(She leans back...still in shock...)

Dil: “And of course he didn’t tell you....Nick would never do anything that would either disrupt his family or take away what you’ve accomplished....”

(She still sits...shocked...Dil nods towards the bedroom door...)

Dil: “That’s love....”

(He nods to Bishop)

Dil: “That’s Torres’s love”

(She is quiet....then....)

Bishop: “Why are you telling me this?”

(He shakes his head....)

Dil: “Honestly...I don’t really know....Kinda wish I hadn’t...”

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

Bishop: “Thank you”

Dil: “He’s going to be muy pissed at me....”

(Bishop shakes her head...)

Bishop: “Not if I don’t tell him, he won’t....”

Dil: “Hard to ask you not to....”

(Bishop is quiet for a moment...then...)

Bishop: “No one’s ever given up anything like that for me...”

Dil: “Look around, El....every couple here...our family....everyone gave up something for the other...it’s part of what love is....”

Bishop: “Yea...but I didn’t give up anything for Nick.....”

Dil: “Yea you did”

Bishop: “What? NCIS? That’s hardly.....”

Dil: “You came back down those steps....You gave that up and came to him....”

(she looks at him...shocked...)

Dil: “That was the greatest gift you could ever give him....”

(he pauses)

Dil: “And he’ll never stop trying to pay you back”

(Bishop sits..still in shock....)

(scene fades to black and white)

(scene opens at CIA Training Center....night...Bella escorts Ziva and Tony outside gates, a car waiting for them...the sign on the gates read...)

Camp Peary

(Bella stops...)

Bella: “Camp Peary...”

Ziva: “Yes...The Farm...”

Tony: “6 months of training for every covert operative.....”

Bella: “Intense...drop methods, surveillance, torture, interrogation....the whole 9 yards...”

Ziva: “Surely you do not expect me to teach this group...They are well trained and prepared for the field work they do....”

Bella: “They are...but then there is Shadow....”

(Ziva nods...)

Ziva; “I am familiar...”

Bella: “The small group chosen for the most dangerous work we have....”

Ziva: “Again...yes...I am aware....But...what is it you ask of me....”

(The rear door of the car opens...an older man steps out and....)

“She expects the impossible....”

(Ziva and Tony turn to the man.....after a moment, Ziva’s face lights up...she barely speaks the name....)

Ziva: “David....”

(The man looks at her...they both stand still...then....He smiles...)

David: “Is that any way to greet an old enemy?”

(Ziva smiles...The two of them embrace....)

Ziva: “You were both enemy and ally, David Fleming....And you were the best I ever encountered....”

(She breaks the embrace...smiles again..)

Ziva: “....both friend and enemy”

Bella: ‘David has something to ask you, Ziva...”

(He looks at her...the smile disappears....he asks one thing...)

“Please help us”

The Next Morning

(scene opens in CIA classroom....5 men and 2 women sit at their desks, a small monitor on each desk, all of them waiting...the classroom door opens...David Fleming walks in, stands at the front....All eyes on him...)

David: “Shadow.....”

(He stops....)

David: “The Farm has taught you technique...it has taught you methods....Out of the 60 that enrolled, 25 were taught to kill in every fashion there is....It is our hope you never have to use that skill, but it is a false hope....Someday, you will be called to defend yourself or defend our country through the death of an enemy...”

(He stops.....lets the words sink in...)

David: “We have been remiss in teaching you the most valuable skill there is....”

(pause)

David: “Staying alive”

(The class looks at him curiously....)

David: “Now....on page 2 of the electronic file in front of you....”

(each student presses their monitor...}

David: “On page 2, you will find a list of people....There are 8 names on that list...These names, ladies and gentlemen, are the legends of our trade...the best there ever was...From our country, to Russia, to Germany....all of them...”

(A student raises their hand....David recognizes her....)

Student: “Your name sir....It’s not on that list...”

David: “John Crow....”

(pause)

David: “John Crow is on that list....John Crow was my cover name....I lived as John Crow for 22 years....” (pause) “It is not my real name...But yes...I am on that list...”

(He pauses....then...)

David: “You think you are ready.....”

(He pauses)

David: “You are not”

(The class looks at him, curiously)

David: “There is someone I want to tell you about...This someone was an agent for another country, and I can assure you..in all my years....I never faced a more dangerous enemy, nor have I had a more fierce ally....And this agent was at one time or the other...both...”

(another pause)

David: “You are about to enter 30 days of the most intense, cruel, dangerous, valuable, and necessary training of your career....Your instructor....”

(He looks to the side...nods...The door opens, Ziva walks in...all eyes on her...)

David: “Look on page 2...the small list of the best in our field....”

David: “You will see a name...Ziva David....Mossad....She was the daughter of the Director of Mossad....She was trained from childhood in our craft...and she was the deadliest person I knew, male or female...She was the best covert operative I’ve ever seen...male or female.....She was killed in a farm house explosion, almost 10 years ago....”

(Ziva steps to the front...)

Ziva: “Good morning”

(She pauses)

Ziva: “I am going to show you to be ghosts, to be invisible, to move without making a sound....”

(They listen...transfixed...)

Ziva: “And if you do not wish to learn these things?....Please..raise your hand...And I will simply kill you myself now and save us the time...”

(She gives a small smile...)

“Because.....”

(pause)

“I can teach you to come back from the dead”

(another pause)

“I am Ziva David”

(scene fades to black and white)

THE END