

NCIS : HAWAI ' I

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COLD OPEN

EXT. MAMALA BAY - DAY

Blue sky, blue ocean, mountains a shade of green found only in paradise. QUICK CUTS - GIRLS in Bikinis and GUYS in board shorts sunbathing, playing beach volleyball - as an OUTRIGGER CANOE slices through the waves, filled with TOURISTS from cold and far-away places having the time of their lives...

Instagram memories that will last forever.

Suddenly, a confusing ROAR drowns out every other sound. The Tourists look up as an F-35C FIGHTER JET shrieks toward them. A SONIC BOOM sends the OUTRIGGER reeling, and the Jet arcs overhead on a collision course with the mountains. KABOOM!!! It CRASHES... a FIREBALL against the unyielding volcanic rock.

Off the shock of our Tourists... Welcome to Hawai'i! PRE-LAP SCREAMING...

EXT. SOCCER FIELD - KAHALA - DAY

But not out of fear... It's a youth soccer game. Two teams of 9-year-old girls compete, one in vibrant pink camo.

TENNANT (O.S.)
Come on, Malia! Stay in your lane!

ON JANE TENNANT (40s) in a matching pink camo tracksuit, coach and chief strategist of the Kahala warriors. Canny and confident, with deep justice and kindness at her core.

The ball is passed to JULIE TENNANT (9), Jane's midfielder daughter. Tennant sees her Team's opening -

TENNANT (CONT'D)
Julie! Right wing! Right wing!

Julie passes the ball - A goal in the making - WHOOP! WHOOP! Short bursts from a SIREN as a NAVY PATROL CAR rolls up - lights flashing. Two MASTER AT ARMS shoo players off the pitch. TENNANT sighs and checks her cell phone. *Yep, messages.* She turns to her son - ALEX TENNANT (15) - not happy to take mom's clipboard.

ALEX
I don't know anything about soccer.

TENNANT
They don't care. Just have --

The rest is swallowed by the WHIR of a HELICOPTER. Everyone moves as it lands center field, tossing dirt and grass.

Tennant throws a last smile to Julie, jogs to the Copter, climbs into the jump seat. It takes to the air and we CUT TO:

INT. HELICOPTER/ EXT. MAMALA BAY - DAY

Tennant surveys THE CRASH SITE from a bird's eye view. A scar of debris is scattered at the foot of the mountains. EMERGENCY RESPONSE WORKERS spread out amongst the wreckage.

EXT. CRASH SITE - MAMALA BAY - DAY

FIND A SCRUM OF MEN at an impromptu command center - Military, Local PD, FBI, NTSB. Tennant exits the Helicopter and approaches; the only woman in the sea of Alphas. NAVY CAPTAIN JOE MILIUS (40s), handsome, confident, with fighter jock swagger, is giving orders.

MILIUS

Set a two-mile perimeter. I want every scrap tagged, bagged and back to base before -

TENNANT

Excuse me, Captain. You can't move anything. It's a crime scene.

Flash of annoyance from Milius, not used to being interrupted. He eyes her. Tennant holds up her credentials.

TENNANT (CONT'D)

Jane Tennant. Special Agent in Charge. NCIS Pearl Harbor.

He ignores the credentials, but clocks the pink track suit.

MILIUS

This is an *accident* scene.

TENNANT

Not until I say it is.

MILIUS

well, Special Agent in Charge Tennant, I'm Captain Joseph Milius -

TENNANT

- Commanding officer of Air Test and Evaluation Squadron 11 - *The Pathfinders*.

MILIUS

Yes. So you know that's my plane in pieces. My pilot who died. And I have operational control.

TENNANT
Can we talk for a minute?
Privately?

MILIUS
Will it end the conversation sooner?

TENNANT
Worth a shot.

Milius follows Tennant away from the Alphas.

TENNANT (CONT'D)
Can't be sure this was an accident.

MILIUS
Because...?

TENNANT
Your pilot reached out to my office
twelve hours ago. Wanted to file a
report.

MILIUS
About what?

TENNANT
Don't know. Until I do, this is a
crime scene.

MILIUS
Appreciate your dedication. But I'm
running a top secret program here.
Call this site whatever you want, I
say how we proceed.

He starts to leave. Tennant stops him.

TENNANT
I know your next move, Captain.
Gonna run this up the chain of
command. But I also know what's
gonna come back down: I'm in
charge. All you're doing is
delaying my investigation. Which
isn't fair to Commander Walters,
your other pilots, or even... you.

For all his bravado, he's capable of seeing her point. But
his ego only allows for a slight nod of affirmation -

TENNANT (CONT'D)
(re: the Alphas)
You should tell the wolf pack this
was your idea. It'll sell better.

Now Tennant starts to walk, Milius stops *her*.

MILIUS
Let's give it a beat.
(off Tennant)
Make it more believable...

Unexpected cooperation, which she accepts. We...

ZOOM OUT OF THE CRASH SITE AND FLY ACROSS THE ISLAND TO -

INT. UNCLE CHICK'S BAREFOOT BEACH - DAY

A dive beach bar on the leeward side of the island. Not for *haole* (non-locals). But a pair of drunk MAINLANDERS argue with A TATTOOED *MOKE* (tough local) and a FEMALE BARTENDER, as TWO HPD OFFICERS suss out the situation.

[NOTE: Dialogue in italics represents the words and languages spoken in Hawai'i: Pidgin, 'olelo Hawai'i, Japanese, etc.]

HPD OFFICER 2
Someone wanna say how the fists
started flying?

MOKE
Dis *okole* touched my girl.

MAINLANDER 1
Just her nice necklace.

BARTENDER
You need to keep your hands to
yourself.

MAINLANDER 2
where's your spirit of *aloha*?

The Moke lunges for a Mainlander, but the HPD Officer grabs him and slams him on a table.

HPD OFFICER
Ok. That's it! You're coming in.

BARTENDER
(pointing at Mainlanders)
Those guys started it!

HPD OFFICER 2
Keep it up, you'll go too.

KAI (O.S.)
officers please... your tactics are
harshing my mellow.

Reveal KAI DIMOND, 30s. Former Marine. Kai's sexy, but could give a shit. Smarter than he lets on.

HPD OFFICER
Mind your own business, sir.

KAI
Had a simple situation. These ass
clowns disrespected the barkeep. My
tattooed friend tried to protect
her honor. Most of them had too
much to drink. What do you do?
(not waiting for reply)
Separate them? No. Have a thoughtful
conversation about the power of
listening? *No*. You kick ass, take
names and hope no one's filming.

Kai stands, starts for the exit. Officers step in his way.

HPD OFFICER
Your ID. Now.

KAI
I'm a citizen who's done nothing
wrong. There is absolutely no
reason for me to share it with you.

HPD OFFICER 2
It's not a request.

The Second Officer puts a hand on Kai's shoulder.

KAI
This is what I'm talking about. You
could ask nicely... But instead,
you're a dick. *Escalation*.

Kai pulls away, continues off as - WHAP, he's pushed against the wall and cuffed. Annoyed but not surprised.

HPD OFFICER
You're going in too, smart ass.

As they empty his pockets his PHONE RINGS. On the caller ID: TENNANT. But Kai can't answer as he's cuffed.

ZOOM OUT OF THE BAR AND FLY ACROSS HILLS REVEALING OCEAN AND -

EXT. JOINT BASE PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM - DAY - ESTABLISHING

Aircraft Carriers, Destroyers, Subs and NCIS PEARL HARBOR.

INT. NCIS PEARL HARBOR - BULLPEN - DAY

Like the island, the office is a contradiction. Serious shit happens here, but out every window, stunning views of Puuloa.

We find LUCY SANTOS (30), confident in the way that reflects a lifetime of achievement and youthful enthusiasm. She balances a tray of coffee and an armful of files as she heads for the SAC's Office.

TENNANT (O.S.)

Santos!

Lucy swivels, finds Tennant behind her.

LUCY

Pajama day?

Tennant, still in Pink Camo, keeps moving. Lucy follows.

TENNANT

I wish. Youth soccer. Game at
"almost-dark thirty."

(then)

Gonna need the rundown on our
dead pilot, Commander Walters.
Background, fitreps-

LUCY

- MOS, current assignment, friends
and family, recent activity-

Lucy hands Tennant the files and then:

LUCY (CONT'D)

And dark Ho'lua'loa. Splash of soy.

Tennant takes the coffee as they enter -

INT. NCIS PEARL HARBOR - WAR ROOM - CONTINUOUS

where we find a conference table, work stations, plasmas.

TENNANT

AFMES is fast tracking the autopsy.

LUCY

was there anything *left* to autopsy?

JESSE (O.S.)
Experimental F35-C had an emergency
failsafe.

ON JESSE BOONE (40s), former homicide detective, current
poppa bear - suit pants under hiking shirt. Jacket and tie in
one hand, tray of coffee in the other.

JESSE (CONT'D)
Plane goes out of control,
automatic ejection. Though at that
speed, force of the ejection is
probably what killed him.
(re: Pink Camo)
You win?

TENNANT
Hope so. Up by two with fourteen
minutes on the clock.
(re: his top)
4-H weekend?

JESSE
Cleaning camp sites at Bellows Field.
Jesse hands Tennant a coffee. But she already has one.

LUCY
It's my day, remember?
Clearly he didn't, shrugs as he looks around.

JESSE
where's the new guy?
Jesse holds up another cup. "New Guy" is written on the side.
Tennant checks her phone. Nothing.

TENNANT
Not sure. But at some point, that
will get old.
(then)
what else do we know?

LUCY
Our pilot was at the stick of a top
secret experimental aircraft with
self-flying capabilities.
Lucy sends the INTEL up to the PLASMA.

LUCY (CONT'D)
Program's in Beta. Billions in DOD
contracts riding on a green light.

TENNANT

So he called here last night, told the switchboard he had something to report. Did he say what?

JESSE

No. I called and left a voicemail. Never heard back.

LUCY

Could be criminal activity, fraud, security leak, something personal...

JESSE

And the crash could be unrelated.

TENNANT

Program's on hold until we figure out what happened. That's going to create heat. So, Santos, go to AFMES for the autopsy results. Jesse -

JESSE

Hook up with the Kahuna. Dig into Commander Walter's private life.

TENNANT

Please and thank you.

There's a BUZZ on Tennant's phone. She checks a TEXT, doesn't love what she sees. Heads out with purpose.

TENNANT (CONT'D)

I gotta handle something.

LUCY

You left both your coffees!

But Tennant is already gone.

INT. NCIS PEARL HARBOR - KAHUNA'S LAIR - DAY

Cross between an NSA Clean Room and a man cave. Monitors and super-charged servers mixed with PHOTOS of surfers, notorious thinkers, a massive surf board.

Jesse enters to find CYBER INTELLIGENCE SPECIALIST ERNIE GRUBIC - AKA *The Kahuna*. He's doing seven different things at once - working computers, watching a rugby match, teaching himself Mandarin.

JESSE

Kahuna! On the path to enlightenment?

Ernie sees Jesse, takes out his earbuds.

ERNIE

(in Mandarin, subtitled)

*If small holes aren't fixed, then
big holes will bring hardships.*

JESSE

Mandarin?

ERNIE

Wanna read *Journey to the West* in
the original. As Wu Cheng'en
intended.

JESSE

Hoping you can give me insight on--

Ernie slides his roller chair across the room to a monitor.

ERNIE

Commander Benjamin Walters.
Graduated the US Naval Academy with
honors. Multiple combat tours. Went
Top Gun three years ago, transferred
to The Pathfinders as a test pilot
and instructor.

JESSE

I'm looking for more color.

ERNIE

Like why he was coming into NCIS
before the 'kaboom'?

(off Jesse)

Don't sweat it. I'll piggy-back on
his social media, get a full sense
of the man: hopes, dreams, weird
fetishes if he had any...

JESSE

You know fighter pilots don't have
social media, right? Because of the
security risk.

This gives Ernie pause - but only for a nanosecond.

ERNIE

Everyone else does. His friends,
family, dental hygienist. He may
not post, but they certainly do.

(Mandarin, subtitled)

*All things are difficult at the
start.*

Earbuds in. Back to work. Conversation over.

EXT. HPD KAPOLEI DISTRICT - DAY

Tennant leans against her car, ignores stares of HPD OFFICERS taking in the pink camo. Kai comes out of the station.

KAI

How'd you know where I was?

TENNANT

Duty Sergeant texted me when he saw your credentials... I got fifty resumes for your job, interviewed a dozen highly capable candidates, including you. You seemed to want it more, but...

(then)

Getting arrested two weeks in, makes me question my judgement.

KAI

Officers at the bar weren't being professional. Local and vocal don't always jibe. It was my obligation to correct their behavior. No need to involve the badge.

Tennant considers.

TENNANT

I won't pretend to know your experiences. And I respect where you're coming from...

KAI

Thank you--

TENNANT

Not done. When anyone on my team gets in trouble, I'm the first call. Can't help if I don't know. You don't want to live with that, then this isn't going to work.

She looks at him... waits until:

KAI

Understood. won't happen again.

(then)

You know, I left my car at the bar.

TENNANT

Getting you out of jail was my personal favor for the day. We're going to my place for clothes, I'll fill you in on the case.

Off Kai - fair enough.

INT. PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM - AFMES OFFICE - DAY

A glass partition separates the office from the autopsy room where LCDR Walters' body lays on a table. A pair of ME TECHS work as Lucy enters, walking through a door that reads "Armed Forces Medical Examiner System (AFMES)."

LUCY

Hey all, gonna need Commander Walters' results ASAP.

WHISTLER (O.S.)

Gonna have to wait, Santos.

Lucy sees DIA (Defense Intelligence Agency) OFFICER KATE WHISTLER (late 30s), cool, calm, and haughty. Lucy and Whistler don't mix well.

LUCY

Whistler. What's DIA doing here?

WHISTLER

"What are you doing here?" is a more pertinent question.

An ME TECH has the Autopsy File - not sure who to give it to.

LUCY

Investigating a suspicious death.

WHISTLER

Of a pilot who worked a top secret defense project. National security trumps... whatever you do.

LUCY

Yeah, yeah, yeah. Silos, clearances, stakeholders... spare me. We've been read in.

WHISTLER

And yet Captain Milius, the project's commanding officer, asked DIA to handle the dissemination of sensitive information, so you'll get the report when I clear it.

Lucy dismissed as whistler takes the report from the ME TECH, starts reading. Lucy takes a new tact.

LUCY
You're right.

WHISTLER
I know.

LUCY
I shouldn't be so pushy.

WHISTLER
It's not a good look.

LUCY
And I should respect the hierarchy.

WHISTLER
It would be refreshing.
(closes file)
Still can't see it.

And she sweeps out of the room, taking the file with her.

EXT./ INT. LCDR WALTERS HOUSE - DAY

Kai pulls up in an NCIS JEEP PATRIOT to find Jesse waiting in front of the modest house. As Kai steps out, on the phone -

KAI (ON PHONE)
I'll spell it. I.N.O.K.I. Inoki...
Ok, I'll call back then.

(to Jesse)
Sorry. Got tied up.

JESSE
Not to pile on, New Guy. But I abandoned a conservation weekend to get here. What's your excuse?

KAI
Got locked up by HPD.

Jesse reacts, not expecting this. They enter WALTERS' HOUSE.

KAI (CONT'D)
Been two weeks. New Guy has a name.

As they begin to search:

JESSE
Kai Dimond. Born just over the hill
in Wahiawa.
(MORE)

JESSE (CONT'D)

Still holds the record for strike-outs in the Inter-scholastic League. Six years Marine CID before joining NCIS... See, I listen.

KAI

Not bad. And you are Jesse...
Something with a B?

Jesse smiles as he takes a look at the collection of PRESCRIPTION PILLS lined neatly in a cabinet.

JESSE

Dextroamphetamine. Go pills.

As Jesse bags the bottles, Kai slips open a drawer that is decidedly messier than anything else in the house.

KAI

No surprise. Almost standard issue for fighter jocks. This however is unexpected.

He sorts through a stash of receipts, stickers, coasters and matchbooks from all over the island. Jesse joins and notices handwritten notations of dates and times written on them.

JESSE

Keeping a record of when he visited.

KAI

Don't see a lot of uniforms at places like these.
(surveys the house)
No photos or bottles of booze. TV's covered in dust. We got pills, dozens of manuals... Walters was a slave to his work. But he's going to local places all over the island. Anything suggest he upped his drug profile?

As Kai returns to looking through the souvenirs. Jesse joins.

JESSE

Squadmates say in the last few weeks Walters was withdrawn, worn out. But he wasn't saying why.

Kai reacts when he sees a sticker from "Duke's Surf School," but covers.

KAI

Let's check the bedroom.

And they head off, Kai troubled, though it's not clear why.

INT. NCIS PEARL HARBOR - BULLPEN - DAY

Lucy reports to Tennant.

LUCY

Commander Walters had a massive amount of dextroamphetamine in his system. 100 to 120 milligrams. There were signs of toxic psychosis and probable cardiac arrest.

Tennant holds out her hand. Lucy doesn't move.

TENNANT

Can I see the autopsy report?

Kai and Jesse approach with evidence bags, including one with LCDR Walters' prescriptions.

LUCY

I didn't "technically" get it. Mean girl from DIA told me to wait my turn. Request from Captain Milius.

TENNANT

Throwing his weight around. How did you learn about the drugs?

LUCY

While Whistler read it, I read it too. Upside down.

Tennant looks at Lucy, it's unclear how she feels about this.

LUCY (CONT'D)

Trick I picked up during a summer Congressional internship.

TENNANT

So we're looking at an overdose, intentional or otherwise.

JESSE

We only found legit scripts.

KAI

Though it looks like he's been hitting every back alley on the island.

TENNANT

I only talked to Captain Milius for ten minutes, but he didn't seem like a guy who'd miss one of his pilots having a drug addiction.

As Ernie joins them -

ERNIE

There are few pursuits that compel a man to retreat within himself. In the east, it's often a sacred vow of silence. In the west, *a girl...*

JESSE

No hint of one at Walters' place.

ERNIE

Maybe not. But back home in Grand Rapids, they were abuzz. He sent a photo to his sister who tagged it for the rest of the family to see.

Ernie throws the PHOTO on the PLASMA - LCDR Walters and a PRETTY GIRL, sitting cliffside in an old Jeep Wrangler.

ERNIE (CONT'D)

Name's Noelani Inoa.

KAI

Local.

ERNIE

Yep. And according to little sis, she "rocked his world". Her social media went dark a few weeks ago. But I tracked the plates on that Jeep in the photo.

Ernie throws the info up on the PLASMA.

ERNIE (CONT'D)

1999 wrangler with expired registration... The original owner cared enough to install Lojack - height of technology at the time. Of course, the subscription lapsed.

TENNANT

You able to activate it?

Off Ernie's beaming smile -

INT. NCIS JEEP PATRIOT/ EXT. WILDERNESS - DAY

Jesse drives the barely two-lane road high on the cliffside as Lucy sits shotgun, frustrated by the GPS on her TABLET.

LUCY

Turn back around again. According to Lojack we are literally on top of it.

Jesse pulls over to the side of the road.

LUCY (CONT'D)

What are you doing?

He's already out of the car, popping the hatch and starting to sort through a hiking satchel. Lucy joins.

JESSE

Wrangler's clearly off road.
Lotta these trails are a hundred
and fifty years old. Not gonna
register on the tablet...

(pulls an old map)

But they will on this. OG GPS.

(then)

You'll need a hat and sunscreen.

EXT. MOUNTAIN TRAIL - DAY

Jesse works his way down the narrow trail in a broad brimmed sunhat and hiking boots followed by Lucy who slides in her Nikes and can barely contain her disdain for her sunhat.

LUCY

Hat doesn't work for me at all.

JESSE

Your dermatologist will thank me in
twenty years.

LUCY

Sound like my dad...

JESSE

Careful. I am the only one of us
who knows the way back.

LUCY

I withdraw the comparison...

JESSE

Pretty fancy trick sneaking a peek
at the autopsy.

LUCY

Not sure Tennant thought so.

JESSE

Worked for her a year now. You know she doesn't hide where she stands.

LUCY

Jim Carver worked for her longer. And she fired him.

JESSE

Carver put himself over the team. This is different. You put the team over the 'mean girl'.

(off Lucy)

It's fine. I was here when Tennant took over so she obviously loves me best, but I'm sure you're her second favorite.

Lucy smiles, until she gets hit in the face by a branch.

LUCY

You really think Noelani managed to get her Jeep down this way?

JESSE

I know she did.

He points to the bottom of a ravine - the wrangler. Jesse works his way down. Lucy behind him.

LUCY

Someone tried to dump it.

JESSE

It... And her.

Reveal NOELANI'S DEAD BODY in the driver's seat. And, we...

END TEASER

ACT ONEEXT. MOUNTAIN TRAIL - NIGHT

Now a CRIME SCENE. HPD and FORENSIC TEAMS scour the area. Jesse and Lucy on SPEAKER PHONE as they linger by the wrangler where ME TECHS attempt to move Noelani's body.

JESSE
ME thinks Noelani's been here for days. Neck broken.

LUCY
Car was in neutral, she's just laid out across the driver's seat. Doesn't look like an accident.

JESSE
Place is next to nowhere. There's easier ways to kill yourself.

TENNANT (V.O.)
She could have been lured. If it was Walters, maybe they argued. He lost his temper, killed her...

LUCY
But the guilt's too much, and he calls us to confess.

TENNANT
Maybe.

INT. NCIS PEARL HARBOR - TENNANT'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Tennant's on the phone with Jesse and Lucy, not liking this idea at all. She spots Captain Milius coming toward her.

TENNANT
Keep working the scene.

She hangs up. Braces for -

MILIUS
Hoping for an update.

TENNANT
Investigation is ongoing. Accident seems increasingly unlikely.

Milius doesn't love this response. Keeps it cool.

MILIUS

Giving you wide berth here, out of respect for the position you're in. But Walters' mother and sister are flying in to take his remains.

TENNANT

You know that can't happen until the case is closed.

MILIUS

There is no case. My people reviewed the mission computer. Walters went into G-LOC. Crashed.

TENNANT

The level of dex in Commander Walters' system is suspicious -

MILIUS

Not for a pilot -

TENNANT (CONT'D)

Even for a pilot -

TENNANT (CONT'D)

- And there're extenuating circumstances. He was involved with a girl whose body was dumped in the mountains.

This lands. But not in a good way -

MILIUS

You implying that he killed her? Then killed himself in my plane?

TENNANT

The investigation is on-going.

MILIUS

You'd humiliate a man's grieving family in the process. Put a billion dollar program at risk. All to play police.

TENNANT

I'm doing my job, Captain. And no matter how hard you try to manage me, I will continue to do it until I know what happened to your pilot.

MILIUS

Your jacket says top of your class at FLETC, only agent to receive the Congressional Badge of Bravery three times. (MORE)

MILIUS (CONT'D)

But you know what *people* say?
You're stubborn and incapable of
staying in line.

TENNANT

If I were *you*, they'd say I was
persistent and dedicated.

Milius is undeterred.

MILIUS

Let me be clear. Take aim at my
Pilot's reputation, won't just be
you who takes the fall if you're
wrong. It'll be your entire team.

He storms out, passing Kai, who lingers at the door -

KAI

That was rough.

Tennant collects herself.

TENNANT

Captain Milius has a lot of
feelings. Just needed to express
them.

The lack of ego is surprising. Not lost on Kai.

TENNANT (CONT'D)

Go home. I'll call if something
comes up.

ZOOMING OUT OF NCIS ACROSS THE ISLAND TO FIND -

EXT. WAHIAWA / INT. NCIS JEEP PATRIOT (DRIVING) - NIGHT

Kai drives in the heart of the island. A town that went from
the birthplace of kings, to pineapple plantations, and is now
a quiet, diverse community of Asian and Native Hawaiians. He
pulls up to a modest, ranch home, scoops a bag off the dash.

INT. KAI'S FAMILY HOME - NIGHT

Kai crosses the threshold into a time capsule of his youth.
He drops the bag on the table. ON THE STOVE, noodles boil.

WALLY (O.S.)

I'm making your favorite.

Kai's dad, WALLY (60s), walks in. Cancer has aged his
appearance but not his spirit. Has a bucket list, though it
has only one item... And it's standing in front of him.

KAI
Medicine's in the bag. I gotta split.

WALLY
Go stay eat this time. What's the rush. That boss of yours is treating you like she's *mastah* or something.

Tennant? Kai smiles at the notion.

KAI
She's not bad.

WALLY
Then she won't mind you eating some *saimin*.

wally smiles as Kai seems to ease. Maybe he will stay -

WALLY (CONT'D)
Look what I found.

He motions to the couch. Kai sees an old 'ukulele, picks it up as wally tends to the noodles.

WALLY (CONT'D)
Oh, and I saw your friend the other day. Pretty boy with the long hair.

KAI
Bula?

WALLY
Come as a big surprise when I tell him you're home. We should have a party like the old days. Let everyone see you. Be *'ohana* again.

Just like that, the mood changes. Kai sets the 'ukulele down.

KAI
No parties.

WALLY
Need to show off my successful son.

Couldn't be farther from Kai's truth. But he won't engage.

KAI
I can't stay for dinner. Got work.

WALLY
You sound like me in the *hanabaddah* days.

KAI

Except I'm here when you got sick.

It lands. Wally looks away as the pot of noodles BOILS OVER. He shuts it off.

WALLY

She wouldn't want this.

KAI

A little too late for you to start caring about what mom wanted.

Kai leaves his father standing there, defeated.

INT. NCIS PEARL HARBOR - BULLPEN/ TENNANT'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Jesse and Lucy report to Tennant -

JESSE

ME's initial report says Noelani's neck break was too clean to have been caused by the car crash.

LUCY

And there were no other injuries from the crash, pretty clear she was dead before she hit the ravine.

JESSE

She had some DNA under her fingernails. ME's sending it for analysis.

TENNANT

Nothing in Walters' file points to him being violent. I don't think he killed her. Let's focus on Noelani. Figure out who she was...

CLICK, CLACK, CLICK, CLACK... high heels hitting the floor. Lucy looks up, eyes wide. There's whistler -

LUCY

Oh, crap.

WHISTLER

I need a word.

LUCY

Listen, I can't -

WHISTLER

Not with you. Her.

whistler blazes past them and into Tennant's office. Tennant looks to Lucy for any sort of sign of what's coming. Lucy shrugs as Tennant goes into the OFFICE and whistler faces her.

WHISTLER (CONT'D)
I brought Commander Walters'
declassified incident report.

TENNANT
Terrific.

Tennant reaches for the report, whistler pulls it away.

WHISTLER
But I didn't need to. Because I was
informed by Captain Milius that
NCIS already saw the report. And by
informed, I mean yelled at.

TENNANT
Look, we -

WHISTLER
I told the Captain the report hasn't
left my sight. That I take my work
and security protocols seriously.
He wondered how that was possible,
since I failed so completely at both.

whistler points out the window at Santos who watches with deep concern. Tennant lowers the blinds.

WHISTLER (CONT'D)
I'm filing a complaint against
Special Agent Santos.

TENNANT
If you've got an issue, it's with
me. I'm the one who passed the
information to Captain Milius.

WHISTLER
which you couldn't have done if she
hadn't stolen it.

TENNANT
She saw few key phrases from a
report you are now delivering to
us. No harm, no foul.

WHISTLER
No. *Harm. Foul.* I'm an intelligence
agent. My whole mission is to
protect the intel.

(MORE)

WHISTLER (CONT'D)
Pissing off future admirals will
not help my career.

TENNANT
Can I see the report please?

Whistler reluctantly lets Tennant have it.

TENNANT (CONT'D)
No need for a complaint. I'll clear
it up with Milius.

WHISTLER
All due respect. He's more pissed
at you than he is at me.

Tennant knows it's true, but she's distracted by the report.

TENNANT
The dextroamphetamine bottles we
pulled from Walters' house were
labeled 20 milligrams...

WHISTLER
Pills you sent to the lab had 5
times that dosage.

TENNANT
Someone tampered with them.

Off Tennant - this case no longer quite so simple.

INT. TENNANT'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Tennant is doing the evening hustle - prepares dinner while
she oversees Julie's math homework in the next room.

TENNANT
Don't forget to carry the
remainder.

She hustles to a boiling pot of stew and throws some spices
in as Alex trudges through the room -

TENNANT (CONT'D)
Alex, can you grab some rosemary
from the backyard?

But he keeps trudging by, oblivious or moody, hard to say -
as there's a KNOCK on the door.

TENNANT (CONT'D)
...Or maybe get the door?

JULIE

Did I remain the right one, mom?

TENNANT

Hold on, Julie... Alex!!

Alex comes back in - airpods in his ears.

ALEX

what?!

Ernie appears.

TENNANT

Never mind.

Alex sighs with teenage exasperation, walks out.

ERNIE

Door was open.

He can read that, however calm and cool she is at work, this is ten times harder. He instinctively multitasks, steps over to the cutting board, starts chopping. Tennant tends to stew.

ERNIE (CONT'D)

Jesse and Lucy found Noelani's phone at the crime scene. Pulled the sim card... Online profile only goes back a couple months. Most of her friends on social media are bots. Most of her pictures, photoshopped.

TENNANT

Anything actually real about her?

ERNIE

She *really* worked as a cocktail waitress at a place called Namaka Ale House. Paystubs go back a few weeks. Then they abruptly stop.

(then)

Stew smells amazing.

Tennant talks it through.

TENNANT

Commander Walters didn't overdose on purpose. He was set up. This Noelani is clearly the reason why. And she's dead, too...

(then)

Alex!!

Alex reluctantly appears as Tennant gathers her things.

TENNANT (CONT'D)
Need you to finish up dinner.
Probably get Julie ready for bed...

ALEX
Honestly??

ERNIE
I could help.
(off Alex)
Or mind my own business and go home.

Tennant takes a quick look at Julie's homework.

TENNANT
That's exactly how you do it,
Julie. Great job.

ALEX
I'm sick of babysitting her.

TENNANT
Shoulda thought of that before you
got suspended from school.

And she's gone. Alex looks at Ernie who's tasted the stew.

ERNIE
I'd add rosemary.

EXT./INT. HALE PIA 'O NAMAKA (NAMAKA ALE HOUSE) - NIGHT

From Queen Lili'uokalani to Eddie Aikau and Bruddah Iz, pictures of legends line the walls. Behind a small stage, a door with the word, *Kapu* ("forbidden").

Tennant approaches the bar, clocking the crowd. All appear to be LOCALS. At the end of the bar, a happy-go-lucky BARFLY knocks back a drink as Bartender, MYRA, comes up to Tennant.

MYRA
You lost, ya? Happens a lot. You
want Mary's Mai Tai. Up the road.

TENNANT
(shows Noelani's photo)
No. This is the place. I'm looking
for information on Noelani Inoa.

Myra's eyes flick to the photo. Back to Tennant -

MYRA

Oh. You police. What happened?

TENNANT

She got into some trouble.

MYRA

Not much to tell you. She cocktailed for a while. One day didn't show. No more Noelani.

TENNANT

Didn't that worry you?

MYRA

People come, people go. That's the bar business.

TENNANT

Mind if I talk to the staff?

MYRA

Look, you're just doing your job, I get it. But this is the *pau hana* crowd. They wanna relax. Can't do that with cops around. You feel me?

TENNANT

Promise I'll be discreet.

MYRA

Half the people in here are already watching you.

Tennant looks. They are. Barfly drunkenly winks at her. Tennant turns back to Myra.

MYRA (CONT'D)

Please?

Tennant's Spidey sense is tingling. She's not sure why.

TENNANT

Another day then.

Myra nods, smiles at Tennant who smiles back. RING, RING. Tennant's phone. She answers as she walk out of the bar -

TENNANT (CONT'D)

Hey, Kai. I was just about to call.

INT. NCIS PEARL HARBOR - BULLPEN - NIGHT - INTERCUT

Kai's at his desk looking through evidence.

KAI

I'm at the office. Thinking about
Commander Walters and Noelani.

TENNANT

Murder-suicide makes no sense.

KAI

None. Those souvenirs from the
places he visited. There were
dates on them, some from *after* she
died.

TENNANT

(already there)

He was looking for her.

(then)

And, if he got shut down like I
just did at the bar she worked, I'm
guessing he didn't get far.

KAI

Mainlanders won't. I'll go.

TENNANT

We don't know what we're looking
for yet. But we need to find out.

KAI

(looks at a sticker)

One of the souvenirs was from
Duke's Surf Shop. I know a guy.
I'll check it out tomorrow.

TENNANT

Where should I meet you?

KAI

I gotta go alone.

TENNANT

You're new so you haven't had the
pleasure of my "we work as a team
speech". But I'm sure you can guess
the bullet points. Last person who
had your job couldn't.

KAI

Look. I'm local. People will talk
to me. Isn't that one of the
reasons why you hired me?

TENNANT

It is.

KAI
Allow me to impress you. I'll let
you know what I know as soon as I
know it...

*ZOOM OUT OF PEARL AND FLY ACROSS HILLS WATCHING THE SUN RISE
OVER THE OCEAN AND -*

EXT. WAIKIKI BEACH - DAY

TOURISTS soak up the sun on the most iconic beach in Hawai'i. Indifferent to its deep history. Kai crosses the boardwalk. Indifferent to them. Passes one surf shack after another until he reaches...

DUKE'S SURF SCHOOL

A faded sign outside with a cartoon-likeness of Duke Kahanamoku (just like the decal from Walters' house). Kai walks past the stall, crossing--

LINES OF STICKS (long, short, paddle-boards) in an area reserved for a true "Waikiki Beachboy," like the bronzed man with long hair hosing off a surfboard. This is BULA, 30s.

Kai recognizes his old friend. Eases into a different mode. Almost a different person.

KAI
*Ho, brah, I think you miss a few
spots, yeah?*

Bula turns to see Kai smiling. Bula drops the hose.

KAI (CONT'D)
... Been a while.

WHAM! Bula cold-cocks him. Kai hits the ground. Stares back.

BULA
welcome home, brah.

ON THE BEACH - LATER

Kai sits on the sand. Bula brings over a can of beer. Both a cold compress and an olive branch. Kai puts it to his cheek.

KAI
Not very *Aloha*.

BULA
I gotta hear from your pops that
you're back.

KAI
I've been --

BULA
Busy? Nah, you've been hiding.

KAI
Thought your right hook did all the talking, but I guess I was wrong.

Bula hesitates. Not one for talking about feelings.

BULA
So why you come now?

KAI
Honestly... work.

Kai hands him the decal he found at Walters' home.

KAI (CONT'D)
A pilot had this at his house. He died. Then we found his girlfriend yesterday. Murdered.

BULA
I don't know about no murders.

Kai shows him a picture of Noelani.

KAI
Maybe you know her. Name's Noelani.

Bula looks. Confused -

BULA
That's not her name. This is Allana.
(off Kai)
We use' to hang with her cuz from Nanakuli High. She taught *wahine* tourists how to drop in on two footers until someone offered her a new job a couple of months ago.

KAI
What kind of job?
(off Bula's hesitation)
I'm here so other cops won't be.
You can talk to me. We're *hoaloha*.

BULA
Same 'friend' who joined da Marines and left for the mainland. Not even a 'see ya'.

KAI

I had to get out, Bula. I didn't want to talk about it.

BULA

And now? No 'hey, I'm back.'

KAI

Look, I understand you're mad at me...

BULA

We all got troubles, Kai. Still, *you never turn your back on the ocean.*

Kai doesn't want to talk about it. Not now.

KAI

What about *Allana's* troubles?

Bula sighs. Finally relents.

BULA

Some *buggah* offered her a job. Sorta like a hostess. Get close to guys. Make them feel special... Paid good. Sounded sketchy to me...

KAI

Who made the offer?

BULA

Don't know. Never saw him. Big dude, lots a cash. Acted local, but we don't think he was... Had a *funny kine* nickname... Big Luna.

INT. NCIS PEARL HARBOR - WAR ROOM - DAY

Ernie works a computer as Kai watches.

ERNIE

Nothing in any Law Enforcement database about a *Big Luna*. Either he knows how to stay hidden or your source was playing you.

Tennant enters.

KAI

If my source says there's a "Big Luna," there's a Big Luna.

TENNANT

Ok. Let's focus on Noelani or...
Allana. What else do we know?

Ernie presses screen-share. INFO up on the PLASMA.

KAI

She had a type.

ON A BIG SCREEN: a photo of "Allana" with a buttoned-up mainlander, DON SLOANE (30s). They're in RUNNING CLOTHES. Caption reads: "10k done!"

ERNIE

Don Sloane. Dated our girl a few months last year. She disappeared. He filed a missing persons report.

Ernie throws more information on the screen.

TENNANT

He's a DOD Engineer?

KAI

And works on top secret aircraft.

TENNANT

A local woman who dates men with need-to-know information. Works them. Until she becomes a ghost.

KAI

At best we're dealing with a con woman. At worst...

Tennant says what her gut's been telling her...

TENNANT

... A spy.

ERNIE

When I was at NSA, I worked a case. Chinese used locals to gather intelligence outside the Defense Language Institute in Monterey.

KAI

Guessing whoever's running the ring killed Noelani when Walters started looking for her... Made sure she couldn't be tied back to them. Then made sure Walters stayed quiet too.

TENNANT

They're tying up loose ends. Me showing up at the Ale House is going to spook them. Do we know where Don Sloane is?

ERNIE

He's locked his location apps.

Kai at the photo of Noelani and Sloane jogging.

KAI

See if he has a fitness tracker. A few guys got busted for using them on deployment. Dudes take every precaution until they want to log their miles.

Clickety-clack. Just like that, Ernie has Sloane's location.

ERNIE

He does.

(notices something)

Also got an anonymous IP logged into his account. We're not the only ones tracking him.

Off which -

EXT. DIAMOND HEAD - RUNNING TRAIL - DAY

Handful of people run along a picturesque trail. Out in front, finishing a run, is DON SLOANE. He turns along a road. Farther back, a CRAP GREEN SEDAN begins to speed up. But this sedan has no intention of giving Sloane a wide berth.

It speeds toward him, about to strike, when -- WHAM! Jesse comes flying in from the other direction -- tackles Sloane out of the way! Lucy runs over to a toppled over Jesse and a scared shitless Sloane. They're both okay, but the sedan is long-gone...

JESSE

You get the plates?

LUCY

(shakes her head)

At least you're not dead.

Off this minor miracle.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWOINT. NCIS PEARL HARBOR - WAR ROOM / OBSERVATION ROOM - DAY

Sloane sits with Jesse. Lucy presses a button - stunning views disappear as the glass becomes opaque. High-tech equipment records all. Jesse slides a photo of Noelani/ Allana to Sloane.

DON SLOANE

You found Allana? Is she ok?

JESSE

She was murdered.

INSIDE OBSERVATION Tennant watches on a series of monitors - various angles of Sloane, biometric readouts, etc... as BACK IN THE WAR ROOM Sloane flinches at the revelation.

LUCY

And that car on the running trail
was gonna do the same to you.

JESSE

The person driving was tracking
you. They hacked your phone.

DON SLOANE

I-I don't understand...

JESSE

You work on the sixth-gen fighters.

DON SLOANE

I can't talk about my work.

LUCY

Not ever? Not even with Allana?
Late at night, couple drinks in. A
little pillow talk?

DON SLOANE

We dated for months. That would be
reckless disclosure. Look, I've had
OPSEC training. I know the red flags.

JESSE

How did you meet?

DON SLOANE

At a bar where she worked.

JESSE

Namaka Ale House, right? You don't fit the profile of their clientele.

DON SLOANE

An Uber driver recommended it.

LUCY

Don't you think it's weird? The bar where you don't belong is where you meet the girl of your dreams... who one day just - *poof* - disappears...

DON SLOANE

Allana wasn't a spy.

Jesse slides the PHOTO of Noelani and Walters.

JESSE

Allana changed her name. Targeted someone else *who also works on sixth-gen fighters.*

Sloane's world starts to spin. Lucy stays on point.

LUCY

Ever lose sight of your government-issued equipment? Laptops? Cell phones? Even for an hour or two?

He looks between them, then realizes -

DON SLOANE

There was one night. We hit the town. Ended up doing kava shots. Next thing I know I'm in bed alone and it's morning... Phone was where it always is. But I lost ten hours.

JESSE

where did you black out?

DON SLOANE

...Namaka Ale House.

ON TENNANT: *It all goes back to the bar.*

EXT. PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM - 'ONO GRINDZ FOOD TRUCK - DAY

Kai in line at a food truck on his phone. Tennant approaches.

KAI (ON PHONE)

How about six tomorrow? Can I get Inoki then? Okay, I'll be there.

(MORE)

KAI (ON PHONE) (CONT'D)
(hanging up)

Hey.

TENNANT
Everything ok?

KAI
Yeah...
(to business)
watched the tape of Don Sloane's
interview. Seems like a victim in
all this. Got played by Allana.

TENNANT
Question is, did she know what she
was doing?

KAI
Espionage?... No. Lotta people on
the island barely getting by. Need
money. She got used and tossed away.

TENNANT
Not just her. Uber driver led
Sloane to that bar. We're looking
at a network.

KAI
Locals aren't running it.
(gets to window)
Kalua pig. Manapua. Loco moco.
Extra gravy, ya?
(to Tennant)
want anything?

TENNANT
That's all for *you*?

KAI
Been here two weeks, haven't paid
for a single coffee. Figured I'd
bring some culture to the Team.

TENNANT
Pleading vegetarian on this one.
(off his look)
Things we do for our kids...

Kai smiles, drops some cash. Steps away with her.

KAI
You're a good mom to give up the
finer things in lunch.

TENNANT

My daughter would agree. My son,
not so much. Thinks I'm a monster
cuz he got caught with weed at
school.

KAI

Being a mom's hard. Being a son is
too. What's his dad say about it?

TENNANT

Dad's not around much these days.

KAI

My dad checked out when I was a
teenager. I did stupid stuff too.

Something clicks for Tennant.

TENNANT

How's your father doing, any
better?

KAI

How did you --

TENNANT

It's in your file. It's why you
wanted this job, isn't it?

KAI

He's fine. Thanks for asking.

He clearly doesn't want to talk about it. She shifts.

TENNANT

This whole case goes back to the
bar. Someone there's using locals
to steal military secrets.

KAI

Only lead we have is a name. Big
Luna. Need to find him and shut
this down.

INT. NCIS PEARL HARBOR - BULLPEN - DAY

Lucy works at her computer as Jesse walks in carrying files.

LUCY

Looks like our spy ring didn't
compromise Walters. His credentials
aren't being used at anomalous IP
addresses or multiple locations.

JESSE

well, they spoofed the hell out of Don Sloane's phone, cracked his passwords. Got specs on the jet, code revisions, *Personnel lists*.

LUCY

Hoping there's something they *didn't* get.

JESSE

Just what they needed from walters: info on the unmanned aerial capabilities. Basically, *the user manual*.

LUCY

who on the personnel list would have access?

JESSE

That's the irony. The spies know. But *we* don't have access to that intel, unless... DIA gives it to us.

Jesse smiles at Lucy, raises his eyebrows.

JESSE (CONT'D)

Time to practice our apologies...

EXT. HOUSE (HAWAI'I KAI) - NIGHT

Lucy walks up, takes a deep breath and knocks on the door. Whistler opens it, surprise quickly turns to frustration.

WHISTLER

Look who's here. Come by to clean up your mess and save your ass? Or maybe take a swing at me--

LUCY

I came to apologize. I was out of line and put you in a jam. Wasn't right or fair. And I'm sorry.

whistler looks at Lucy, who smiles. And *suddenly Whistler kisses her*. It's intense. But quick. She pulls away. As surprised as Lucy that it happened. Then -

Just as suddenly, Lucy kisses her back. They're both into it as they fall into the house and we -

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREEINT. WHISTLER'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Lucy and Whistler cross the threshold, still kissing. They are pulling at clothes; an urgency of months of unexpressed sexual attraction. When, suddenly, Lucy pulls away -

LUCY

No. This is wrong.

Whistler pulls back too.

WHISTLER

Yes... A horrible mistake.

LUCY

Well, I wouldn't say *horrible*.

WHISTLER

Complete breach of etiquette. We work together.

LUCY

We work *adjacent*. Same government. Different sandbox. And *you* started it.

WHISTLER

I'm agreeing with you.

Mood killed. For now at least. Whistler moves away, goes to the kitchen for a jelly jar and wine bottle. She pours a glass, looks at Lucy. Takes a sip.

LUCY

No that's ok. I'm not thirsty.

WHISTLER

Why are you here?

LUCY

To apologize... And ask for help.

WHISTLER

What kind?

Business has been brought to the front burner. Intense sexual attraction will be set aside. Though it ain't easy.

LUCY

Commander Walters was murdered. So was the girl he was seeing.

(MORE)

LUCY (CONT'D)

We think there's a spy ring stealing intel on sixth-gen fighters. We can catch them... with your help.

WHISTLER

You want to know who else is working on the project. Possible targets. You think I'll slip you the names without raising flags.

(off Lucy's nod)

What's in it for me... professionally speaking?

LUCY

Do your job, stop the bad guys, general sense of satisfaction.

whistler takes another sip of wine.

LUCY (CONT'D)

I could use a drink.

WHISTLER

I think you should go.

LUCY

And the list of names?

WHISTLER

I'll think about it.

And whistler gestures to the door for Lucy. Off which -

INT. NCIS PEARL HARBOR - WAR ROOM - DAY

ON THE PLASMA - photos of employees from the fighter project.

LUCY (O.S.)

These are our most likely targets, all DOD contractors and employees.

PULL OUT TO Tennant, Kai, Jesse and Ernie, all impressed.

TENNANT

whistler came through. But twenty names. Any way to narrow it down?

LUCY

Sloane and Walters were both single and without dependents. From the list, eight are married with families.

(MORE)

LUCY (CONT'D)

Two others started dating each other during the course of the project.

KAI

That leaves ten.

TENNANT

We're looking for someone with access to the same self-flying data as Commander Walters.

Ernie works the keyboard and brings one PHOTO to the front.

ERNIE

Charles Randolph. Chief designer of the automated flying system. Been at Pearl on and off for two years.

TENNANT

Relationship status?

JESSE

Separated. Seems to have been mopey until about two weeks ago.

LUCY

He met a girl.

ERNIE

According to an email he sent from his work computer - *yes*. Her name is Sally. Cocktail waitress.

TENNANT

At the Namaka Ale House?

ERNIE

Yep. And there's an anonymous IP address tracking Randolph's phone. Just like Don Sloane's.

TENNANT

They didn't get what they wanted from Walters. They need this piece or the rest of it's useless.

INT. NCIS PEARL HARBOR - KAHUNA'S LAIR - DAY

Kai watches as Ernie lovingly pulls out a small black box. Opens it to reveal what looks like a circular adhesive.

KAI

It's... a bandaid?

ERNIE

(in Mandarin)

Blessings come in disguise.

(in English)

An adhesive strip with a flexible molybdenum disulfide communications chip in the center, capable of absorbing sound waves.

KAI

And blood if I cut myself.

ERNIE

Outside the box tech for our inside man. Stick it behind your ear.

Kai complies. Tests it out as Ernie puts on headphones -

KAI

(in Hawaiian)

There is life in a kindly reply.

ERNIE

(in Hawaiian)

No kind deed has ever lacked its reward.

KAI

How many languages do you speak?

ERNIE

A gentleman never tells.

KAI

I can see why they call you Kahuna. You're a sorcerer.

ERNIE

Just a conduit for the *mana*, chief.

Tennant enters.

TENNANT

According to his phone, Randolph's headed to the bar. You're up, Marine.

Kai stands. Ready to roll -

TENNANT (CONT'D)

we only get one shot. They find out we're onto them, they close up shop, slip into the shadows.

KAI
Guess we better not screw up.

EXT. NAMAKA ALE HOUSE/ INT. TENNANT'S CAR - NIGHT

Tennant sits in her car in the parking lot watching Kai enter the bar. She speaks into her earwig.

TENNANT
Eyes open. Kai's going in...

Flash of headlights from across the street where Lucy and Jesse sit in an unmarked surveillance car.

ON JESSE AND LUCY in the car - both on comms.

JESSE
You get in trouble. Just say 'I'm
new to the island'. We'll come.

INT. NAMAKA ALE HOUSE - NIGHT

Kai enters, blending in easily. Finds a spot at the bar a few seats from The Jolly Barfly in his usual perch. Kai surveys the room. Makes note of CHARLES RANDOLPH (40s) - DOD Designer, and SALLY (20s) - his "girlfriend", having the time of their lives at a table. Myra the bartender approaches Kai.

MYRA
what you drinking?

KAI
Hirata *Shochu* if you have it.

MYRA
New batch coming for the holidays.

KAI
Green bottle's fine.

She grabs a Heineken as he looks around. In his ear he hears:

LUCY (O.S.)
Shochu?

INT. NCIS PEARL HARBOR - KAHUNA'S LAIR - INTERCUT

If possible, Ernie has more screens active than before.

ERNIE
Local spirit. Made with sweet
potatoes. Nectar of the gods.

ON TENNANT who watches the bar with focus -

TENNANT

Any action in there, Kai?

BACK IN THE BAR - Myra brings Kai's drink. He pays. She leaves... He eyeballs Randolph and Sally as they down shots. She puts her hand on his thigh, gestures to Myra for another round. Kai sees *Myra reach under the bar for a special bottle.*

KAI

(sotto)

All foreplay... But the bartender's serving Randolph off the menu...

JESSE

Could be dosing him, like they did Don Sloane.

TENNANT (V.O.)

Kahuna, what do we know about the bartender?

ON ERNIE at his workstation - working the keyboard. Myra's info comes up: Driver's License, etc.

ERNIE

Myra Lee. Born and raised in Honolulu. A few semesters of community college. Been the manager of the Ale House for three years.

TENNANT

She a pawn or a player?

BACK ON KAI as he watches Myra head to Randolph with a tray of shots. But something else catches his eye -

KAI

(sotto)

I got something else here...

The Barfly surreptitiously watches Randolph through the mirror behind the bar. His drink's still full.

KAI (CONT'D)

Big dude at the bar hasn't touched his drink. Too busy watching Randolph and the girl...

ERNIE (V.O.)

"Big?" Got anything more to help? Tattoo, Parrot on his shoulder...

LUCY (V.O.)

Signed affidavit he's a spy...

Kai slides down a few stools until he's closer to the Barfly -

KAI
Dead tonight, eh? Where's the party?

BARFLY
Everywhere's the same these days.

KAI
Used to be a joint. Helena's. 2 dollar tallboys. BBQ *broke da mouth...* You know it?

BARFLY
Barely a joint, just a shack. Dey stay on School street.

KAI
That's right...

Kai sees through the mirror - *Sally whispers something too good to be true in Randolph's ear...* AS Myra leads them through the door that reads "Kapu"... Barfly's seen it too. He stands, drops money on the bar. And *heads to the Kapu door.* Kai calls out -

KAI (CONT'D)
Hey. You know which way from here? To get to Helena's?

Barfly doesn't miss a beat -

BARFLY
East, brah.

And disappears through the Kapu door. Kai, into comms -

KAI
Randolph's in play. Being taken to the back. Big guy's not a local. He's in on it.

Kai's already on his feet, heading to the Kapu door -

He catches the door, just before it locks closed - Squeezes into - THE BACK HALLWAY - dark, seemingly empty, with a staircase leading up to a second floor... Hears FOOTSTEPS leading up the stairs - Starts to follow when -

BARFLY
where you goin'?

Kai turns. Barfly looks bigger now. Menacing -

KAI
Restroom...

Kai hears LAUGHING upstairs. A door opens and closes. The Barfly - hand in pocket - stands in the way. Kai steps forward, but Barfly pulls out his hand, revealing a knife. This is definitely Big Luna.

KAI (CONT'D)
Hey, *I'm new to the island!*

OUTSIDE: Tennant, Jesse and Lucy begin rushing to the bar.

TENNANT
I'll take the back.

IN THE HALLWAY: Kai disarms Big Luna, but before he can pull his own weapon, Big Luna tosses him across the hallway. Jesse and Lucy crash in from the BAR - weapons drawn.

Big Luna doesn't skip a beat - sprints out the BACK EXIT.

KAI
Randolph's upstairs.

And he heads after Big Luna as Jesse and Lucy head UPSTAIRS -

OUTSIDE: Kai slams through the back exit, gun drawn, only to find himself face to face with TENNANT, also aiming her gun.

KAI (CONT'D)
where'd he go?

VROOM! A *crap green sedan* speeds past them. Big Luna driving. Without a word, they rush back towards Tennant's car.

INT. NAMAKA ALE HOUSE - SECOND FLOOR - NIGHT

Jesse and Lucy come up the stairs. Three doors. They flank one. Jesse counts down - BAM, kicks it open: EMPTY. *Shit!*

EXT. ROAD/ INT. NCIS JEEP PATRIOT - INTERCUT

Tennant speeds down the road trying to catch the Sedan - its red lights in the far distance their only guide -

TENNANT
How'd you know he wasn't local?

KAI
I asked where Helena's was, he said "east." Real local woulda said *mauka*.

Suddenly the *Sedan's lights disappear in the distance.*

KAI (CONT'D)
He cut the lights.

TENNANT
Ernie, you got eyes on his vehicle?

INT. NCIS PEARL HARBOR - KAHUNA'S LAIR - INTERCUT

Ernie watches a satellite view of the road. Spots the Sedan -

ERNIE
Heading leeward at the fork.

KAI
How far behind are we?

ERNIE
Three clicks.

TENNANT
In non-satellite terms?

ERNIE
Let's just say, *go faster*.

INT. NAMAKA ALE HOUSE - SECOND FLOOR - NIGHT

Jesse and Lucy on door 3 - BAM! They push in to find -
Randolph passed out on the bed. Sally leans over him. His
phone, wallet, etc. spread out.

JESSE
Federal Agents, hands where -

There's a noise behind them. Myra was by the door. She RUNS
into the hallway.

LUCY
I got her!

Lucy sprints out, tackling Myra at the STAIRS. They tumble
down together - struggling the entire way. But at the bottom,
Lucy's got the upper hand, cuffing Myra on the ground. Jesse,
from the landing -

JESSE
Remind me never to piss you off.

EXT. REMOTE ROAD/ INT. NCIS JEEP PATRIOT - NIGHT

Tennant slows to a roll on the impossibly dark road.

ERNIE (V.O.)

Suspect turned off-road a quarter-mile ahead of your position. Slowing down. Guess he thinks he lost you.

KAI

Kinda feels like he did.

INT. NCIS PEARL HARBOR - KAHUNA'S LAIR - INTERCUT

Ernie pulls up daytime images of their position.

ERNIE

Daytime surveillance shows a cabin a hundred feet from the coast. No moon tonight. Hard to see.

TENNANT

Not so hard.

Tennant points to an orange flicker in the distance -
Something's on fire!

INT. OLD CABIN - NIGHT

Ablaze with flames. Despite the chaos, Big Luna calmly hammers a hard drive to pieces. Unaware that Tennant and Kai approach through the smoke, weapons out -

TENNANT

Hands where we can see them!

Big Luna barely flinches as in one quick, lethal turn, he tosses the hammer at them, pulls a pistol - FIRES! Tennant and Kai take cover as Big Luna runs THROUGH THE FLAMES and into the night. Kai and Tennant share a look -

KAI

Who is this guy?

They make chase, jumping through flames too -

EXT. CABIN/ SPITTING CAVES CLIFF - NIGHT

Big Luna races through trees and brush - a hunted animal - followed by Kai and Tennant - until Big Luna stumbles onto -

THE CLIFF'S EDGE - nothing but a 70 foot drop to the ocean. Kai and Tennant arrive, out of breath and weapons raised -

TENNANT

That's it. You're outta road. So put your hands on your head and -

Big Luna puts his hands up. Smiles slyly, then takes a step backward, turns and DIVES OFF THE CLIFF into the ocean below.

KAI
what the hell?!

But Tennant doesn't respond, simply takes a running jump...
AND DIVES AFTER HIM!!

KAI (CONT'D)
Really?

In a split second, Kai makes the only decision he can. But he's not at all happy about it as he runs and LEAPS in after Tennant! We FREEZE, on Kai suspended over the void.

END ACT THREE

ACT FOUREXT. SPITTING CAVES CLIFF - NIGHT

Kai free falls and SPLASH! He's underwater - everything suspended in slow motion - then... He pops up, gasping for air - eyes surveying the landscape where he sees -

TENNANT AND BIG LUNA IN THE SHALLOWS, fighting, and though he's a bull - she backs him off, reaches for her weapon. Big Luna knocks it away and it skitters onto the rocks.

Kai swims fast as Big Luna dives for the gun - Tennant grabs Luna from behind. They trade blows, rocking in the unforgiving waves. She holds her own, *but barely*. Big Luna grabs the gun as Kai arrives and tackles him into the rocks. Gun going off - bullets fly wildly. They disappear under the water. Tennant looking for them.

Kai and Big Luna pop to the surface - Kai, thrown against the rocks as Big Luna takes aim - Tennant pushes Kai out of the line of fire. BAM! BAM! BAM! Bullets hit rock -

Kai frees *his* weapon from its holster - turns to face Big Luna - whose back is to the ocean and doesn't see what Kai does...

A ROGUE WAVE about to wreak havoc.

KAI

Tennant!

She grabs hold of a rock. Kai dives to get below the wave's full force. Big Luna realizes what's coming - *but too late* - CRASH!! THE WAVE OVERWHELMS HIM - sweeping him away. Kai pops to the surface as the wave passes, joins Tennant.

KAI (CONT'D)

Never turn your back on the ocean.

They hold onto the rock, as the ocean keeps raging.

KAI (CONT'D)

So, uh... You got us into this, there a plan to get us out...?

As if in response, a SEARCH LIGHT comes flashing their way. *Just as Tennant expected.* They cover their eyes as they behold - a CIGARETTE BOAT emblazoned with the NCIS logo. AN NCIS AGENT pilots with Ernie standing beside him -

ERNIE

Boys in the motor pool owed me one.

They jump in the water and swim to the boat. Climb in:

ERNIE (CONT'D)
Big Luna?

KAI
Shark food.

TENNANT
Though that's probably not what
we'll put in the report.

ERNIE
I don't know. It's got color.

NCIS AGENT revs the engine and roars off -

EXT. PEARL HARBOR - DAY

The sun rises over the giant ships and planes. Peaceful,
despite the underlying menace.

INT. NCIS PEARL HARBOR - BULLPEN - DAY

Kai sifts through burned evidence with Lucy and Ernie, as
Jesse works in the background.

KAI
This everything we recovered from
Big Luna's safe house?

LUCY
Hard drives smashed. Files and
photos burnt.

ERNIE
Just the kind of puzzle that gets
my circulation going.

LUCY
Did find this.
(indicates evidence bag)
Counterfeit Dextroamphetamine. 100
milligrams per pill.

KAI
Big Luna must have snuck it into
our pilot's house to dose him.

LUCY
DNA on his knife matched what was
under Noelani's fingernails. He
killed her, too.

KAI
we still don't know who he worked
for or how much of the jet program
was compromised.

JESSE
Speak for yourself there, New Guy.

Jesse throws his arms up in victory as Tennant joins them.

TENNANT
Assume that means you found
something?

JESSE
Bartender Myra. Claims she's a
victim like our girls and the Uber
drivers. But she served spiked
drinks, led Randolph up into the
room, gave as good as she got goin'
down those stairs with Lucy.

LUCY
Did not.

JESSE
So I called a friend at Commerce and
Consumer Affairs, found out who owns
the bar. Contacted *their* bank and
Treasury about some money transfers.

He spins his screen around to Tennant - she smiles.

LUCY
Did you time this for when she
walked in?

JESSE
No. That's just clean living.

INT. NCIS PEARL HARBOR - INTERROGATION/ OBSERVATION - DAY

Tennant enters INTERROGATION with whistler where Myra waits.
The rest of the Team watches from OBSERVATION -

MYRA
That man forced me to help him.
Threatened my family. You saved me -

TENNANT
A compelling story, Myra. Just not
quite accurate, is it? The bar you
work for is owned by a company
called the 'O Ahi Group.

(MORE)

TENNANT (CONT'D)
Hawaiian LLC. Financed by a holding
company based in Beijing.

MYRA
Okay...

TENNANT
It's a cover. For the Chinese
Ministry of State Security. Our
theory is you were born in
Honolulu, but trained by MSS.

Myra opens her mouth, about to reply -

TENNANT (CONT'D)
I'd really think hard about what to
say next.
(re: whistler)
Because my friend here hates spies.

As whistler sits down -

WHISTLER
Let's talk about experimental jets.

INT. NCIS PEARL HARBOR - BULLPEN - LATER

Kai, Jesse and Lucy step out of OBSERVATION to meet Tennant
and whistler coming out of INTERROGATION.

LUCY
Good guys win this one.

Lucy holds up a hand to high-five whistler who looks to
Tennant -

WHISTLER
I'll update my bosses. We'll take
custody of Myra in the morning.

And she's gone, leaving Lucy hanging. Kai saves face by
completing the high five.

KAI
Nice work, Lucy.

JESSE
Unexpected praise from Kai.

KAI
What? No more "New Guy?"

JESSE
Busted a spy ring together.

TENNANT
We're practically family... Might
even be willing to give you that
ride to your car.

Tennant heads off with Kai following.

JESSE
Got some BBQ slow cooking back home
if you wanna join us for dinner...

LUCY
I got plans. But thanks, Jesse.

JESSE
Anytime, Lucy.

Lucy walks away. A beat, then -

ERNIE (O.S.)
I'm free for dinner...

Jesse turns to see Ernie leaning out the door of his Lair.

JESSE
Ok. But new rule. You can't teach
the boys anymore hacker codes.

ERNIE
Buzz kill...

ZOOM OUT OF PEARL HARBOR DEEPER INTO THE ISLAND AS WE'RE AT -

EXT. UNCLE CHICK'S BAREFOOT BEACH - PARKING LOT - DAY

Tennant pulls up in her car, Kai in the passenger seat -

TENNANT
Hope your car still starts.

Kai doesn't climb out. Looks at the scenery instead.

KAI
Left the island a long time ago.
Never thought I'd be back...
(then)
You were right. I did come for my
dad. Promise I made to my mom before
she died... And this job was
supposed to be a place holder. I'd
work cases until it was time to go
back to real life.

TENNANT
You'll let me know when that is.

KAI
Not sure now. More fun to do the
work with someone you'd follow off
a cliff.

She smiles.

TENNANT
That was dumb.

KAI
Absolutely... Inoki!

Kai climbs out of the car. Immediately, a dog pops up from
the back seat - INOKI - a big smile on his face.

KAI (CONT'D)
Thanks for the ride. And for
helping me pick him up too.

TENNANT
(to Inoki)
Aren't you glad to be out of
quarantine?

KAI
They're throwing me a "welcome
back, *okole*" party? Inoki's gonna
be my wingman...

TENNANT
That'll be fun...

KAI
For *him*... Come, Inoki.

Inoki follows Kai to his car. As Tennant drives away.

EXT. PEARL HARBOR-HICKAM - NIGHT

An HONOR ESCORT TEAM puts LCDR Walters' casket in a hearse as
his MOTHER and SISTER are put into another car by Captain
Milius. He spots Tennant at a distance. Joins her.

MILIUS
Something you need, Special Agent?

TENNANT
Commander Walters came to NCIS
because he suspected a spy ring.
(MORE)

TENNANT (CONT'D)
wouldn't have been able to stop it
without him... wanted to pay my
respects.

Milius nods with appreciation - they watch as the Hearse and family car pull away... an awkward silence.

MILIUS
I'm known to be somewhat bull-
headed.

TENNANT
Somewhat?

MILIUS
Ok. Completely. But if my attitude
was... off-putting...

TENNANT
You threatened the careers of my
entire team. wouldn't even take my
call on whistler's behalf.

MILIUS
I am passionate about my people...
Tempers rise in the heat of battle.

Tennant regards him with an amused look -

TENNANT
Is this you apologizing?

MILIUS
I... Yes.

TENNANT
It's very uncomfortable.

They both laugh.

MILIUS
You did good work. Protected the
honor of my Squadron and my pilot.

TENNANT
Apology accepted.

And she strides away leaving Milius with a small smile.

INT. TENNANT'S HOUSE - NIGHT

Tennant enters, sees Julie asleep on the couch, nestled on Alex's shoulder. He's watching TV with virtually no sound.

TENNANT
How long has she been asleep?

ALEX
Long enough for my arm to go numb.

Tennant puts her things down.

TENNANT
I'll take her to bed. You can
restore blood flow.

She's about to move Julie but sits across from Alex instead.

TENNANT (CONT'D)
But first, I want to say something
I probably should have said awhile
ago... I know how difficult it must
be for you... Dad got remarried,
now they have a baby.

Alex turns away. Not really looking for a heart-to-heart.

TENNANT (CONT'D)
It doesn't mean he doesn't love you
just as much, but it *does* mean he's
busier. Babies are hard. They fall
asleep and you don't want to move
because they might wake up and need
feeding or changing or... something
else you can't anticipate.

ALEX
why do people bother?

TENNANT
Because they grow up and turn into
fine young men. Who take care of
you when you're old.

ALEX
(laughs)
we'll see.

TENNANT
I'm confident.
(then)
But, you need to learn how to let
me help you when life gets hard.
Otherwise, it's going to spill out
in all sorts of ways.

ALEX
Like being suspended from school.

TENNANT
As a for instance...

She leans in, kisses him.

TENNANT (CONT'D)
I love you, Alex.

He doesn't pull away... which is probably all she can hope for. But she'll take what she can get.

EXT. KAI'S FAMILY HOME - NIGHT

Festive Christmas lights ring a patio filled with Captain's chairs, a plastic table covered in Hawaiian fare, and PEOPLE, all the ones who once made this Kai's home.

Kai approaches, Inoki at his side. Not sure what the night will bring. Bula sees him, grabs a beer and runs over.

BULA
Ho brah, we were just about to *talk stink*.

KAI
I was saving the world.

BULA
Sure you were.

Bula hands him the beer. He looks at Inoki.

BULA (CONT'D)
Hey, pup.
(to Kai)
Come on, everybody's here. Dey wanna give you a hard time.

Bula moves off as Wally comes the kitchen with more food.

WALLY
(re: the dog)
who's this now?

KAI
Inoki. Just got out of quarantine.

WALLY
Aren't you a fine looking fellah?
(a beat)
He reminds me of...

KAI
Hachiko.

WALLY

Your mother loved that dog.

Kai sees that wally is caught in a moment from long ago.

WALLY (CONT'D)

I bet Inoki could use a walk, after two weeks in the big house.

He reaches for the leash.

KAI

I already --
(but)
Yeah, I bet he could...

WALLY

Listen, Kai, about the other day--

KAI

Pop, we'll have plenty of time to talk... why don't you two get to know each other?

wally nods. Heads off, Inoki following him.

WALLY

So, Inoki, *mauka* or *makai*? *Mauka* is more trees, but *makai*...

Ukulele MUSIC fills the air. Kai sees Bula is playing his old uke as others sit and enjoy it. Just a few steps for him to walk and be welcomed back into the warmth of 'ohana...

As he starts that journey -

The Music leads us up and we *ZOOM ACROSS THE ISLAND* -

EXT. HAWAI'I - ESTABLISHING

Over O'ahu - past Pearl Harbor and its warships docked in paradoxical serenity... beyond Waikiki... To Hawai'i Kai -

EXT. TENNANT'S HOUSE - LANAI

Tennant looks over the island, the ocean. *Her home*. And, we...

END PILOT