

HIGHLANDER: THE RAVEN

"Birthright"

Written by Frank Encarnacao

TEASER

FADE IN:

10601 EXT. AUCTION HOUSE - ESTABLISHING - NIGHT

10601

Nestled on the shores of a magnificent lake. Down below, the city radiates in its usual swirl of lights and smog. The only sound, a HEARTBEAT, growing more and more pronounced, finally settling into a smooth idle and underscoring what follows.

10602 INT. AUCTION HOUSE - NIGHT

10602

A faint shape emerges from the shadows through a glass skylight. AMANDA. In tight-fitting black outfit, velcro closures at her wrists and ankles - laden with gear. She sets her gear down, clips one end of a titanium-strength filament wire onto a mini-winch.

NEW ANGLE

Amanda descends, hanging from the wire like a giant spider on a strand of silk.

BELOW HER, THE MAIN GALLERY

Laser detection beams pulse throughout the room, guarding a glass case that imprisons an impressive selection of precious metal items set with gems.

A POSTER tells us they're riches recently salvaged from "THE MARIA ROSE", an eighteenth century ship that went down at sea. Below the poster, a scale model depicts The Maria Rose in stunning detail.

Amanda reaches the case, dangling over it, glass cutter in hand. She peeks in, fixing her gaze on

(CONTINUED)

10602 CONTINUED:

10602

A GOLD LOCKET

dented, and not at all spectacular, in fact rather insignificant compared to the rest. A faint smile plays across her lips as she steadies the glass cutter. Suddenly...

POOF! - the laser beams patrolling below her inexplicably disappear. She freezes, eyes sweeping the room. She sees

TWO FIGURES

slithering through a ground floor window directly behind her. Before either of them can step foot inside--

But it's too late. They're in.

10603 INT. AUCTION HOUSE - SECURITY OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

10603

A sleep-deprived SECURITY GUARD cocks open one eye as an alarm clatters to life, red lights flashing on the console before him. Galvanized, he reaches for a phone.

10604 INT. AUCTION HOUSE - MAIN GALLERY - NIGHT

10604

Quiet. Obviously, a silent alarm.

The two figures are frozen in place, stunned by the sight of Amanda dangling from the ceiling. One is SIMON CLARK, 40, Black, eyes pearly darkness set in a sad, gentle face. His partner, RILEY DEL DEEGAN, is hard-bitten, reedy.

ALARM VOICE

Warning, warning current activity  
is a breach of security system  
integrity, automatic containment  
procedures are in immediate effect.

Amanda hisses air through clenched teeth.

AMANDA

Damn.

She stabs a button on a tiny REMOTE CONTROL DEVICE.

ANGLE UP

the mini-winch whirs into motion.

10604 CONTINUED:

10604

AMANDA

ascends rapidly, flying back up towards ceiling as the sounds of hurried footsteps and loud voices advance. Far off in the distance, SIRENS wail.

Simon looks around.

SIMON

What the hell's going on?

RILEY

Move it!

Riley shoves Simon aside roughly, disengages a metal stand from its velour divider, (there for queuing purposes), and hurls it through the display case, sending shards of glass in every direction - including up at Amanda. Amanda sees Riley snatch what he can (gold locket included), then, in an instant, bolt for the window. Riley vanishes as a COUPLE OF ARMED GUARDS appear at the other side of swinging doors. Simon springs for the window.

Simon doesn't. The guard fires at him. Simon ducks under the volley. The bullet shatters the window behind him.

A second guard notices a figure disappearing overhead.  
BAM! BAM!

AMANDA

jerks up, toward the ceiling, through the skylight just as chunks of glass from a nearby window explode near her head.

SIMON

takes cover behind assorted works of art, moving crab-style toward a door marked exit.

10605 INT. AUCTION HOUSE - CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS

10605

Simon bursts through; runs for his life; the incessant HEARTBEAT we've been hearing now reaching warp speed.

The guards follow him in, one of them firing again, just missing, as Simon disappears around a corner... into a DEAD END.

(CONTINUED)

10605 CONTINUED:

10605

He's trapped. But there's a window. Simon peers out into the darkness - where a moon bobs restlessly in a choppy LAKE.

10606 EXT. AUCTION HOUSE - FIRE ESCAPE - CONTINUOUS

10606

Amanda emerges through a door onto the fire escape.

AMANDA'S POV

Simon flies through the window, headfirst, plunging into the lake. Awkwardly. He strikes the water with a loud SPLASH, disappearing under the surface. The HEARTBEAT SLOWS as we wait. And wait. The water is still, like glass. The HEARTBEAT goes FLATLINE.

FADE OUT.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

10607 EXT. AMANDA - DAY

10607

To establish.

10608 INT. AMANDA'S - LIVING ROOM - DAWN

10608

Amanda's in a rant. Sour. On the phone, tying on a silk kimono and wearing a hole in her carpet.

AMANDA

Wait a minute darling, it gets better. I had to toss most of my gear, the grapple hooks, the new winch I bought, its all history - all because of a couple of amateurs!

She fiddles with her watch, some earrings, removing them.

AMANDA

(continuing)

He didn't even know he was stepping onto a weight-sensitive floor!

The doorbell rings. Amanda calls to it.

AMANDA

Ono momento.

(into phone)

I'm not getting sentimental you know me. I just want what I want when I want it.

(beat)

I am so tired of hearing what the "Old Amanda" would have done. I'm the old Amanda.

The doorbell rings again.

AMANDA

(to door)

Coming!

She moves toward the door.

(CONTINUED)

10608 CONTINUED:

10608

AMANDA

(into phone)

Lucy please quit worrying.

(beat)

I love you, too. Please tell your  
sister I hope she gets better soon.

(beat)

Alright I'll call you later, bye  
bye.

She disconnects the call and opens the door. Nick blows  
past her carrying two containers of coffee and a couple of  
danish.

AMANDA

(looking at her watch)

Hi isn't it like 6:30 in the  
morning or something, its kinda  
early.

NICK

I was in the neighborhood.

He offers her a cup of coffee.

NICK

Coffee?

AMANDA

Not unless it's iced. This heat  
waves just killing me, is it  
bothering you?

NICK

Don't change the subject.

AMANDA

Oh is there a subject to change?

(beat)

Look, I would love to sit and have  
breakfast with you but I'm uh  
really tired.

NICK

Must've been a late night.

AMANDA

Evidently.

(CONTINUED)

10608 CONTINUED: 2

10608

NICK

Where'd you go?

She takes the bag with the danish from his hand. Peers inside. A handy distraction.

AMANDA

I don't think that that's any of your business.

(casually)

Oh is that a cheese danish? It's my favorite.

NICK

Amanda!

AMANDA

What, are you writing a story or something?

She turns away, he stays with her as she travels to the kitchen.

10609 INT. AMANDA'S - KITCHEN - CONTINUOUS

10609

NICK

About the Waterview Auction House. You know the one.

AMANDA

Waterview Auction House. Now that would be the auction house with the view of the water.

(beat)

Yeah I've been by there a couple of times.

NICK

One of those drive-bys, you didn't happen to smash open a few glass cases?

AMANDA

You have a magnificent imagination. I do love a good piece of fiction.

She opens one cabinet, then another, looking for -- ah-hah! That'll do: a plate.

(CONTINUED)

10609 CONTINUED:

10609

NICK

Actually, it's True Crime it just happened.

AMANDA

Oh really?

She sets out the danish. Offers him one. He shakes his head. He's not playing.

NICK

There was a heist there last night. Fits your M.O. a little sloppier though. Figure you were in a real hurry.

Amanda regards him, holds his stare.

AMANDA

Goodbye, Nick.

NICK

Tell me you had nothing to do with it.

AMANDA

Would you please quit doing this.

She heads for the bedroom, he's on her heels.

10610 INT. AMANDA'S - BEDROOM - CONTINUOUS

10610

She finds a pair of slippers, puts them on.

NICK

Do what?

AMANDA

Interrogate me.

NICK

Then tell me how you had nothing to do with it.

AMANDA

I had nothing to do with it.

(CONTINUED)



10610 CONTINUED:

10610

Nick studies her for a moment. She checks her own reflection in the mirror. Not bad. She grabs a toothbrush.

NICK

Tell me again.

AMANDA

Look I am going to bed because I am sleepy, I think you know the way out.

NICK

Where were you last night?

AMANDA

I had a date.

NICK

Didn't happen to be with the guy who they fished out of the lake this morning did it?

AMANDA

Are you still here?

NICK

Who was he?

AMANDA

How the hell would I know?

(beat)

If, If someone was fished out of a lake this morning, it has nothing to do with me.

NICK

When you're a cop, little details tend to bother you.

AMANDA

You're not a cop.

He reaches forward, unexpectedly runs his hand through Amanda's hair; comes up rolling something between his fingertips.

(CONTINUED)

10610 CONTINUED: 2

10610

NICK

Like finding small pieces of glass  
in somebody's hair kinda makes you  
wonder how it got there like maybe  
they cut open the skylight.

Amanda loses her composure for a second. But just a second.

AMANDA

Didn't I ask you to leave.

NICK

Fine. Dig yourself out of this  
one. I'm done!

Nick turns for the door, frustrated, angry. Opens it to: A  
COUPLE OF DETECTIVES standing out in the hall, about to  
knock.

10611 INT. INTERROGATION ROOM - DAY

10611

Amanda sits alone, cool, relaxed. One of the detectives,  
HARMON FROST, 35, tall, burly, a chewing gum lover, hovers  
over her. He offers her a stick of gum.

AMANDA

No thanks. I find it unnatural to  
chew something I have no intention  
of swallowing.

He pockets the gum.

FROST

Been reading your file.

AMANDA

And your lips didn't get too tired?

FROST

Smart mouth. It was you who stole  
the Marshall collection.

AMANDA

Really?

(CONTINUED)

10611 CONTINUED:

10611

FROST

And before that you hit Federal Savings.

AMANDA

And before that I stole the Star of India from the Duke of Wellington.

FROST

Is this a confession?

AMANDA

Yes... It was in 1819. Maybe it was 20?

FROST

Smart lady.

(beat)

We know you slipped through a few nets in the past.

AMANDA

(shrugs)

Dumb cops got lucky.

Frost stands, eyes burning into her.

FROST

You won't again.

AMANDA

I wouldn't be to sure.

FROST

We got your gear.

AMANDA

Oh yeah did you get some prints?

(off his silence)

I guess not oh my god am I using that monogrammed stuff again.

FROST

Nick I.D.'ed it for us.

AMANDA

Nick who?

(CONTINUED)

10611 CONTINUED: 2

10611

FROST

You think he'll stick by you? Not a chance. Looking out for number one. That's our Nicky. That's what he does.

AMANDA

(feigns doubt)

Oh, my god, I am so confused, I'm just not sure who to trust.

Frost eyes her.

FROST

You know its a shame a pretty woman like you. Ten, twenty years in the can, you'll hardly recognize yourself.

AMANDA

You'd be surprised.

FROST

Have it your way. But you're taking the fall for this one only question is, do you want take it alone?

AMANDA

Where'd you get this tie?

10612 INT. A DIFFERENT INTERROGATION ROOM - DAY

10612

Nick sits across from a smirking CAPTAIN CARL MAGNUS.

MAGNUS

What happened to you, Wolfe?  
You're one of us, for God's sake.

NICK

Not anymore.

(CONTINUED)

10612 CONTINUED:

10612

MAGNUS

(tight)  
Your call... not mine.  
(beat; casual again)  
You know, Frost and some others  
think you were in it with her.

NICK

Really what do you think?

MAGNUS

(shrugs)  
I don't know beats the hell out of  
working for a living.  
(beat)  
Who's the guy who died?

NICK

You're wasting your time.  
(beat)  
And more importantly, you're  
wasting mine.

Frost enters.

FROST

Hey, Wolfe. Your girlfriend just  
rolled.

Nick knows better, shakes his head.

NICK

You remember how I taught you not  
to blink when you lie? You  
blinked.

FROST

Screw you. I layed it out for her  
and she signed on the dotted line.

NICK

She sighed.  
(beat)  
She still got all her teeth?

FROST

Sonuvabitch!

(CONTINUED)

10612 CONTINUED: 2

10612

Frost launches himself at Nick. Magnus gets in the way.

MAGNUS  
Alright get out.

FROST  
(to Nick; as a threat)  
Later.

MAGNUS  
Now!

Frost exits. Nick raises his eyebrows at Magnus.

MAGNUS  
(re-Frost)  
What? He's a good cop. He does his  
job.

NICK  
He remembers only what you tell  
him.

Magnus eyes him for a beat.

MAGNUS  
You were a good cop, too.  
(beat; earnest)  
I'm trying to help you here, Nick.

(beat)  
How deep are you in this?

Nick rises.

NICK  
We done here?

MAGNUS  
(beat)  
She really worth pissing it all  
away for?

Without a word, Nick turns and exits.

10613 EXT. MOTEL - DAY

10613

Crumbling away in a rubble of varicose brick. People loiter. A HOOKER, a DEALER, a couple of HUSTLERS... and just about every other terminal inadequate you can imagine.

RADIO VOICE

The weather mans predicting another scorcher, keep those AC's cranked up.

10614 INT. MOTEL ROOM - DAY

10614

With a view overlooking a drained pool that doubles as a waste dump.

Riley sifts through the stolen valuables: a gold bracelet, a diamond brooch, a few gold coins and a jewel-handled dagger. A shadow falls over him. Riley spins, instinctively reaching under his jacket for a GUN.

RILEY

That's a good way to get yourself dead.

WIDEN to reveal

SIMON

Alive. Mute. He leans over Riley, all business, scanning the merchandise. Riley reacts.

RILEY

(startled)  
You're supposed to be dead.

SIMON

Where is it?

RILEY

They said you drowned.

Riley puts his weapon away.

SIMON

Yeah well they were wrong.

RILEY

How'd you do it?

(CONTINUED)

10614 CONTINUED:

10614

SIMON

It doesn't matter. Just give me what I paid for.

Riley shrugs.

RILEY

I didn't get it. Sorry, you lose.

With contempt, Riley turns away and goes back to the stolen items. Simon grabs the jeweled dagger and puts it to Riley's throat.

RILEY

What the hell are you doing man?

SIMON

Now, I am going to begin calmly. Now I only cared about one thing and you knew that. Now I want you to explain to me in terms that I can understand why you'd leave it behind?

RILEY

Put down the blade, Simon, I'm going to make you eat it...

SIMON

We're going back for it.

RILEY

Not if you kill me.

SIMON

Well if that auction house sold it, or that woman got it, yes I will.

RILEY

OK just relax. If she has it, we'll find her OK.

Simon releases Riley.

SIMON

You know who she is?

RILEY

There's only a couple people in town could pulled that off.



10615 EXT. POLICE STATION - DAY

10615

Nick exits with Amanda. He checks to see they're not within earshot of potential eavesdroppers. Then...

NICK

Cut the crap. What the hell were you doing?

AMANDA

Leave me alone.

NICK

I took a walk down to Evidence. I saw the winch, I saw the cutters -- I recognized that stuff it's yours.

AMANDA

This has nothing to do with you, okay?

NICK

No not okay. I told them I'd never seen it before.

(beat)

What is it you broke, you need the money, you want a couple of bucks?

Amanda turns away, not able to meet his eyes.

Amanda heaves a sigh.

AMANDA

No. Look, I'm sorry you're in the middle of this.

NICK

What the hell is so important anyway?

TRANSITION TO:

10616 EXT. A CARIBBEAN ISLAND - 1720 - DUSK (STOCK)

10616

(PRODUCTION NOTE: Use old Highlander footage, if possible)

SUPER: NEW PROVIDENCE, THE BAHAMAS

A mass of mist-shrouded mountains rise from a palm-fringed shore. Fantastic. Mysterious.

10617 EXT. DOCKS - 1720 - DUSK

10617

Fog-shrouded.

The sound of waves lapping in the b.g. Noisy hustle and bustle as WORKERS haul crates of supplies up a gangplank that leads OUT OF FRAME to an OFF-SCREEN ship.

A group of SLAVES shackled with chains approaches. A SHIP'S OFFICER prods them from behind.

SHIP'S OFFICER  
Move along now, bails are almost loaded, hurry up. Stay in line, eyes forward, look sharpe there. Maintain an orderly queue!

The slaves stumble forward as a young, well dressed black couple, MARCEL and LOUISE, step into frame, hurried, breathing sharply.

MARCEL  
(to Ship's Officer)  
Excuse me, sir. Has the Maria Rose set sail?

The Officer eyes them with contempt.

SHIP'S OFFICER  
She departs with the evening tide. But not for your kind.

He gives one of the slaves another rough push forward.

SHIP'S OFFICER  
Not as passengers. Cargo perhaps. Not as passengers.

Marcel's eyes take in the chains binding the slaves' feet, clenching his fists in a slow rage. Louise lays a restraining hand on his arm.

She extracts a small tin box, opens it, proudly displaying the contents to the Officer.

LOUISE  
Here, a deed. And papers of manumission. Our former Masters passed away. They bestowed us with fifty acres of land. Our very own. Free and clear.

(CONTINUED)

10617 CONTINUED:

10617

The Officer laughs.

SHIP'S OFFICER

A few pieces of paper. Worthless!

Louise replaces the documents; tucks the tin box away.  
Growing more and more disconcerted...

LOUISE

But arrangements were made on our  
behalf for one-way passages. If  
you would just check the ship's  
manifest.

SHIP'S OFFICER

If you want the land that badly,  
then swim for it.

Marcel edges forward, stepping threateningly in the  
Officer's path. Nobody speaks to his wife that way.

The Officer takes exception; draws his sword.

LOUISE

Marcel!

SHIP'S OFFICER

What's this? A challenge? On your  
knees!

Marcel doesn't move, smoldering, defiant.

MARCEL

Never again, sir.

Louise grabs his arm.

LOUISE

Marcel! Think of the children.

The Officer jostles her aside. Marcel takes offense;  
shoves the Officer, but gets his arm wrenched instead.

SHIP'S OFFICER

On your knees, slave!

(CONTINUED)

10617 CONTINUED: 2

10617

The Officer kicks Marcel's legs out from under him; raises his sword. Louise wedges herself between them, protecting Marcel with her body.

LOUISE

No! Please!

MARCEL

Move away, Louise!

SHIP'S OFFICER

Do as he says, woman!

LOUISE

We are very sorry, sir. We did not mean any disrespect. Please, please spare my husband's life.

The Officer's unsympathetic; decides she's fair game. He slides the tip of his blade under a familiar GOLD LOCKET hanging around her neck. Fancy jewelry for a--

At that moment, his hat is knocked from his head. He whirls to see

AMANDA

brandishing her blade.

AMANDA

They're unarmed. I'm not.

The officer eyes her, appraising, as he recovers his composure.

SHIP'S OFFICER

A gentleman does not duel with a lady.

AMANDA

Well then you should have no problem.

(CONTINUED)

10617 CONTINUED: 3

10617

The Officer reacts to the challenge. He attacks her. Amanda defends. They parry round the dock, his brute force more than matched by her grace and finesse. Amanda quickly gets the upper hand, knocking the sword from his grip. She pins him against a stack of crates; presses her blade to his neck. Getting right in his face...

AMANDA

They'll be joining me on the Maria Rose. As my guests. I'm sure you'll make the necessary arrangements.

The Officer hesitates, humiliated. Amanda presses the blade a little harder against his throat.

AMANDA

Try moving your lips.

SHIP'S OFFICER

Yes. I shall see to it.

AMANDA

Excellent. I'd force you to apologize, but you're not worthy of their forgiveness.

Amanda sets him loose. He disappears after the slaves toward the gangplank. Tail between his legs.

Dusting off, Marcel follows Louise as she approaches Amanda.

LOUISE

Please accept our deepest gratitude.

AMANDA

You're quite welcome.

LOUISE

Louise. This is my husband, Marcel.

MARCEL

We are deeply in your debt, Miss...?

(CONTINUED)

10617 CONTINUED: 4

10617

AMANDA

Amanda.

MARCEL

How can we repay you, Miss Amanda?

AMANDA

Oh it's not necessary.

LOUISE

Oh please, Miss Amanda, you must tell us how.

AMANDA

Alright if you insist.

Amanda sheaths her sword. Louise and Marcel wait expectantly.

AMANDA

From now on, call me Amanda. Just that Amanda. C'mon. If he gives you any trouble at all, promise you'll come to me.

LOUISE

Thank you for your kindness.

Louise and Marcel smile. Amanda moves off into the fog.

TRANSITION TO:

10618 EXT. POLICE STATION - THE PRESENT - DAY

10618

Nick's still waiting for an answer.

NICK

You gonna talk to me about this?

AMANDA

Would you just let it go.

Nick holds her with his eyes.

NICK

That's code for Immortal.

(CONTINUED)

10618 CONTINUED:

10618

AMANDA

He's not Immortal, I swear. I'm  
telling you the truth.

She walks off, passing a row of four newspaper vending  
boxes.

CLOSE ON VENDING BOXES

Simon's corpse headlines all four front pages. The captions  
read: DEAD THIEF COMES BACK TO LIFE! "DEAD" SUSPECT  
DISAPPEARS. POLICE BAFLED BY VANISHING CORPSE. Etc.

RESUME AMANDA

Shocked.

Nick follows her gaze, reacts to the headlines.

NICK

(with disdain)  
Corps just gets up and walks away ,  
if thats not an immortal I don't  
know what is (beat) Right.

As they share an uneasy look.

10619 EXT. STREET - DAY

10619

Nick and Amanda stand by Nick's car, poring through several  
newspapers fanned out on the hood.

AMANDA

He's the lead story in every  
newspaper.

Nick steps back; looks at her expectantly.

NICK

Who is he?

AMANDA

I told you. I don't know.

(CONTINUED)

10619 CONTINUED:

10619

NICK

I thought you said he wasn't  
Immortal.

AMANDA

He isn't.

NICK

Right. They found a cure for  
drowning.

AMANDA

(disturbed)  
He's not an Immortal. I would have  
sensed him. I didn't sense him.

NICK

So what were you two after? Or  
were you just out working on spec?

AMANDA

Nick...

Her voice trails off as she studies his face, takes a long  
beat.

AMANDA

I told you I didn't see before last  
night.

NICK

OK we've established that you've  
never seen him before. You work  
alone. He broke in separately.  
Who got there first?

AMANDA

I did.

NICK

You did OK. He surprised you,  
that's why you hit and ran.

AMANDA

No that was his partner.

(CONTINUED)



10619 CONTINUED: 2

10619

NICK

(beat)  
Partner?! You guys holding a  
convention?

AMANDA

(pissed)  
I told you.

She turns and storms off.

NICK

Where're you going?

AMANDA

Away from you.

ON NICK

furious.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

10620 EXT. STREET - DAY

10620

Amanda walks away angrily. Nick's voice stops her.

NICK

Wait a minute.

AMANDA

What?

NICK

You're not getting off so easy.

AMANDA

What are you going to do arrest me?  
I don't have to answer to you or to  
anyone.

NICK

Why do you do it?

AMANDA

Why do I do what?

NICK

After all this time why are you  
still just a thief?

AMANDA

Why are you still a cop?

NICK

I'm not. You could be anything you  
want and something better. In  
twelve hundred years you could have  
been anything you wanted.

FLASHES OF AMAND'A LIFE:

Before her first death, starving, alone.

RESUME AMANDA

(CONTINUED)

10620 CONTINUED:

10620

AMANDA

That's your perspective on history?

NICK

That's the truth.

AMANDA

The truth...let me tell you something about the truth. It's an overvalued commodity. It changes with your perspective and it mutates with time.

Nick starts to laugh.

AMANDA

What are you laughing at?

NICK

You bob and weave more than Ali in his prime. Why don't you just answer the question, why do you do it?

AMANDA

You wouldn't understand.

NICK

Try me.

AMANDA

Do you know what they called women in the middle ages who tried to better their lives? Who demanded respect... They called them witches and they burned them at the stake. Now the men who travelled from town to town and sold their services... they called Knight-errants, Ronins, Mercenaries. The women they called whores.

(CONTINUED)

10620 CONTINUED: 2

10620

NICK

Spoken like a true Con, It wasn't my fault, my mother didn't love me, I had a bad childhood. My father drank. That's why I killed those people while robbing that gas station.

AMANDA

Your right you win... I steal because I like it. See you around.

10621 EXT. IMPERIAL BAR - DAY

10621

Establishing.

RADIO VOICE

The city continues to broil under the record breaking heat wave of this the hottest day ever in July, three deaths have already been attributed to the relentless temperatures.

10622 INT. IMPERIAL BAR - DAY

10622

Busy. Nick enters; scans the room; finds Magnus eating lunch in a corner booth. Magnus doesn't look up.

MAGNUS

I'm eating.

Nick sits. Magnus ignores him for a moment, then looks up.

MAGNUS

(with an edge)  
Look unless you're here to confess, find yourself a table.

NICK

You read the papers?

MAGNUS

I got budget cuts coming out of my ass. Coroner's pulling double shifts. Dead suspects he can't even hang onto. Do I need to read the papers?

NICK

Who is he?

10622 CONTINUED:

10622

MAGNUS

Tell me.  
(beat)  
Pass the mustard.

Nick passes it across the table.

NICK

Who's in town? Who could pull off something like that?

MAGNUS

You mean besides your girlfriend?

Nick takes a beat and lets the remark pass.

NICK

Alright, I'll just throw out some names. You just chew and nod.

Frost arrives, sandwich and beer in hand. He plunks down his food, leans over Nick.

FROST

This is a cop bar, Wolfe.

NICK

Don't worry. You eat fast enough, nobody'll notice.

Before Frost can respond, Nick turns to Magnus.

NICK

Thanks for the tip Carl.

Nick starts to rise. Frost glares at Magnus, who's struggling to swallow a mouthful of food.

FROST

(to Magnus)  
You gave him our lead? You gave him Del Deegan?

NICK

Del Deegan? Riley Del Deegan?  
He's out?  
(beat)  
Thanks for the tip Frosty.

(CONTINUED)

10622 CONTINUED: 2

10622

Frost realizes he's been tricked. He does a slow burn.

MAGNUS  
Stay clean, Nick.

As Nick turns to leave, Frost steps in his way. He drops his badge and service revolver on the table.

FROST  
I'm not a cop now, Wolfe you wanna dance?

BAM! Nick's fist shoots out like a pile driver, catching Frost right in the gut. The big guy doubles over, face drained of blood, searching for breath.

NICK  
No.

Nick eases him down into a chair, drops a twenty-dollar bill on the table.

NICK  
Lunch is on me.

Nick leaves. Magnus regards Frost.

MAGNUS  
Be smart. Let it ride.

Frost catches his wind, pushes his food away. Magnus eyes his sandwich.

MAGNUS  
So you gonna eat that?

10623 INT. AMANDA'S - DAY

10623

Basil's just arrived. He's excited at what he thinks is a pending sale. He sets down a box, begins to unwrap three fragile items.

AMANDA  
Lovely... You brought them.

(CONTINUED)

10623 CONTINUED:

10623

BASIL

Got your message, ducks. I just got in three little items I thought you'd be interested in. Came by them fair and square.

AMANDA

Of course you did.

BASIL

We have here a lovely crystal vase. Thought it'd look smashing on your sideboard there.

He pulls out a Tiffany lamp, tenderly holds it up to the light.

BASIL

A lamp for the library --

Amanda eyes the objects.

Basil starts to pull out a final item.

BASIL

And a delightful little oil by Mary Cassat. Circa 1900. I think you're familiar with it.

Amanda pushes it down in the box before it's seen.

AMANDA

Yes I can't believe that old thing is still making the rounds. Put that back.

BASIL

(disappointed)  
You're not interested then?

AMANDA

Nothing from the Maria Rose?

BASIL

(shrugs; lying)  
I wouldn't go near it. Too hot.

(CONTINUED)

10623 CONTINUED: 2

10623

AMANDA

Too hot? You burn down your own  
business to get the insurance money  
and you're bitching about too hot?

BASIL

A tragic accident.

AMANDA

That the police are still  
investigating.

(beat)

Now who's handling the Maria Rose  
Basil?

BASIL

Don't know, dearie.

AMANDA

You are such a terrible liar.

Basil gets it.

BASIL

You brought me here under false  
pretenses, you did. You don't want  
to buy at all.

AMANDA

So sue me...

BASIL

(a long beat)

It's the Immortal you're interested  
in, right?

AMANDA

I want you to sit down and tell me  
all about it?

Basil takes one of the crumpled sheets of newspaper that  
had been used for wrapping. He smooths it out for her.

(CONTINUED)



10623 CONTINUED: 3

10623

BASIL

Only what I read in the papers,  
ducky. I don't interfere in  
Immortal business if I can help it.  
I'm rather fond of my head where it  
is.

AMANDA

He's not Immortal Basil. I was  
there, I saw him. I didn't sense  
him.

BASIL

Really? Then how'd he rise from  
the dead?

AMANDA

I don't know.  
(guessing)  
Maybe he wasn't. Dead.

BASIL

Or maybe you need to give your head  
a shake. Your radar's wonky.

AMANDA

Basil, theres an item on the Maria  
Rose, it's very important to me,  
very personal.

BASIL

(mocking)  
Sentimental? You?

Amanda glares at Basil.

AMANDA

I want you to find the item and I  
want you to arrange a meeting.

BASIL

Maybe some other time.

Basil starts to gather his things. Amanda lifts the Tiffany  
table lamp -- drops it. SMASH! Basil reacts to the noise,  
actually shrieks when he sees it laying there in fifty  
pieces.

(CONTINUED)

10623 CONTINUED: 4

10623

BASIL  
Bloody hell! That's Tiffany!

AMANDA  
And what is this "smashing" little  
item?

She grabs the crystal vase, dangling it loosely in her  
fingers, tossing it in the air, catching it at the last  
second.

BASIL  
Waterford! Hand it here, ducky.

AMANDA  
After you make the phone call...  
"ducky."

Basil considers for a BEAT.

AMANDA  
(a warning)  
Oh this is quite heavy.

He scans her face carefully - she'll drop it too.

BASIL  
Alright you win. Hand it over.

AMANDA  
Get on the phone, Basil. My motor  
control is iffy when I'm  
irritated... Make the call, make  
the call

She feigns dropping it again. Basil gasps; reluctantly (but  
quickly) grabs the phone, stabs buttons.

10624 EXT. CITY STREET - DAY

10624

Degraded solid-faced storefronts. Graffiti-decorated.

A pimp, JAKE, large, stony, dangerous, surveys his  
territory, a couple of his GIRLS by his side.

(CONTINUED)

10624 CONTINUED:

10624

JAKE

Get your ass out on the streets you  
lazy broads.

HOOKER

Back off Jake I'm working... Hey  
here comes one now.

Nick approaches.

JAKE

Well, look who it is. It's  
detective...

(beat)

Oops, I'm sorry.

(a false smile)

It's nobody.

NICK

(to the girls)

Take a walk.

JAKE

You better listen to him, girls.  
Women have a way of dying around  
him.

(beat)

Like his partner.

HOOKER

See ya good lookin.

JAKE

Who's it killed that bitch? Rumor  
on the street had it was a cop.  
Can't imagine, cops killing cops.

(beat)

Like why can't we all just get  
along?

CUT TO:

10625 EXT. ALLEY - DAY

10625

Jake's face smashes up against a chain link fence.

(CONTINUED)

10625 CONTINUED:

10625

JAKE

You can't do that crap. This is my street. My rules! You're not a cop.

NICK

That's right Jake. I'm not a cop.  
(beat)  
Where's Riley Del Deegan.

JAKE

Time to die Wolfe.

Nick turns him around, throws a fist into his gut. Jake bends in half, winded.

NICK

Where's Riley Del Deegan!

Catching his breath, Jake moves swiftly, like a cobra. A

STRAIGHT RAZOR

fills his hand.

JAKE

Screw you!

NICK

You must be low on brains today.

JAKE

swings.

NICK

avoids the blade like a matador and slams Jake onto the ground.

JAKE

Back off!

NICK

grabs Jake's arm and takes the razor. He puts the blade to Jake's throat.

(CONTINUED)

10625 CONTINUED: 2

10625

NICK

Last time.

(beat)

Where's Riley Del Deegan?

JAKE

Screw you!

NICK

Hey c'mon give him up Jake, where's  
Riley Del Deegan?

(CONTINUED)

10625 CONTINUED: 3

10625

As the fear registers in Jake's eyes --

10626 INT. MOTEL ROOM - DAY

10626

Riley's packing the stolen items. Simon walks into the room wearing similar clothes as those he used in the heist.

SIMON

What're you doing? Why aren't you ready?

RILEY

Cuz I'm not going back in.

Simon's eyes grow fierce again. He steps forward, menacingly.

SIMON

Get dressed.

Riley pulls a gun.

RILEY

Maybe you didn't hear me.

Simon tenses. Riley watches his eyes, forgets about his hands. Quick as a mongoose, Simon grabs a floor lamp as he turns and hurls it at Riley, tackling him in the same fluid motion.

10627 EXT. MOTEL - CONTINUOUS

10627

Amanda steps over a homeless drunk as she arrives; cross-references the address on the notepad with the one on the building.

10628 EXT. MOTEL - NEAR BUNGALOWS - CONTINUOUS

10628

Amanda arrives, heads toward a room. She turns a corner; bumps into...

NICK

Tell me again how you don't know this guy.

(CONTINUED)

10628 CONTINUED:

10628

AMANDA  
I didn't... I don't.  
(beat)  
Look, just go away.

NICK  
(as an accusation)  
Riley Del Deegan.

AMANDA  
Who cares? It doesn't matter.  
(beat)  
As soon as you walk in there, you  
become an accessory.

NICK  
I already am.

A distant BAM. From a bungalow. Nick and Amanda react;  
was that a gunshot?

10629 INT. MOTEL ROOM - CONTINUOUS

10629

Still on their feet, Simon and Riley are locked in a  
wrestling match over the gun... upending furniture,  
shattering breakables.

INTERCUT:

NICK AND AMANDA

flying past parked cars.

SIMON AND RILEY

trip over an footstool, Riley landing on top. BAM! Simon  
grimaces.

NICK AND AMANDA

heard the shot. Almost there.

SIMON AND RILEY

find their feet, continuing to struggle.

(CONTINUED)

10629 CONTINUED:

10629

Another SHOT! This time, Riley staggers, gun still in hand. He steps back, aghast, examining his abdomen, stunned by the severity of his wound. He pitches to his knees, staring at the weapon like he's surprised to find it there. He collapses face-forward. Dead.

Simon slides his hand under his collar, eyes filled with pain. He's bleeding from a bullet wound just below his shoulder.

NICK AND AMANDA

arrive at Riley's door. Nick draws his gun.

SIMON

scoops up Riley's gun and vanishes through a window.

THE DOOR

opens. Nick and Amanda dash into the room. A few seconds too late.

Nick checks the window. Simon's long gone. He turns to Amanda, who is kneeling at Riley's body.

NICK

Dead?

As Amanda nods --

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO



ACT THREE

FADE IN:

10630 INT. MOTEL ROOM - DAY

10630

Nick's on the phone. Amanda's eyes cast about the room, as if searching for something.

NICK

That's right, 1410 Longley, room 12B. Call the coroner.

He hangs up; instinctively goes through Riley's pockets searching for clues.

NICK

If you'd been straight with me from the start, he still might be alive.

AMANDA

Okay, I apologize.

NICK

That's it?

AMANDA

Look he was a punk. He was a petty thief.

NICK

And you?

AMANDA

Never petty darling.

NICK

And never dead.

Amanda starts going through all of Riley's things.

NICK

What the hell are you doing?

AMANDA

What's it look like I'm doing?

NICK

This is a crime scene, Amanda.

(CONTINUED)

10630 CONTINUED:

10630

AMANDA

Nick you took the badge off a month ago.

NICK

What?

AMANDA

Must've been kinda difficult having your ex-captain grill you like that.

NICK

(tight)  
Let it go.  
(beat)  
That's evidence.

AMANDA

It's not evidence. It's mine.

She comes up with the locket; gazes at it fondly; loses herself in a memory.

TRANSITION TO:

10631 EXT. DOCKS - 1720 - DUSK

10631

Fog. Howling winds. There's a storm brewing.

Amanda stands at the end of the gangplank. Louise approaches, removes the gold locket from around her neck.

LOUISE

Here. For you... Amanda. It's a present.

AMANDA

No it's not necessary Louise.

(CONTINUED)

10631 CONTINUED:

10631

LOUISE

If it hadn't been for you, my  
Marcel would be dead.

(beat)

It was a gift from my missus. For  
thirty years she treated us kindly,  
decent. My babies were as dear to  
her as her own.

AMANDA

It's lovely. But it was a gift to  
you.

LOUISE

It was given to me as a slave and  
now I give it as a free woman.  
Please, do me the honor.

Louise puts the locket into Amanda's hand, closes her  
fingers around it.

LOUISE

To remember me by. (echo) to  
remember me by...

Amanda's eyes mist. On the moment between them.

TRANSITION TO:

10632 INT. MOTEL ROOM - THE PRESENT - DAY

10632

Nick's voice stirs her back from her memory.

NICK

Put it back, Amanda.

She pockets it, defiant.

AMANDA

Are you coming or not?

NICK

Not.

(CONTINUED)

10632 CONTINUED:

10632

AMANDA

What's to stay for?  
(indicates Riley)  
He's obviously not talking.

NICK

The police are on their way.

AMANDA

Even more reason for you to leave.

He doesn't move.

NICK

There's the door.

AMANDA

Fine.

She spins for the door; stops short; regards him, curious.

AMANDA

Well what are you going to say?

NICK

The truth.  
(beat)  
Don't worry. I'll leave you out of  
it.

AMANDA

Why?

NICK

What do you mean why?

AMANDA

Why would you do that?

Nick breaks her gaze; turns away. The sound of SIRENS.

NICK

You better get outta here.

A beat. She exits.

10633 EXT. AMANDA'S - NIGHT

10633

Establishing.

10634 INT. AMANDA'S - NIGHT

10634

Amanda enters, tired from a long day. She moves to her living room. Simon appears behind her, stepping out from the library.

He's dazed, shoulders drooping with fatigue, perspiration streaking his forehead.

There's a fresh pressure bandage tied around his shoulder, no evidence of blood.

He's also got Riley's gun trained at Amanda.

SIMON

Don't be frightened.

Simon coughs. Shallow. Liquid-centered. And his breathing is labored.

AMANDA

I'm not.  
(a realization)  
You're injured.

SIMON

It's nothing.

AMANDA

I um just missed you at the motel.  
You left quite a mess for the maid.

SIMON

Everythings all gone to hell. No  
one was supposed to get hurt.

AMANDA

They never are.  
(beat)  
Why don't you just put the gun down  
and we can...

Simon coughs some more.

SIMON

I will, I will but, but... there's  
something... first.

AMANDA

What is it?

(CONTINUED)

10634 CONTINUED:

10634

SIMON

The Auction house. I want you to break in. Tonight.

AMANDA

Interesting alright my turn. You were dead. Now you're alive. How did that happen?

SIMON

I wasn't dead. I was suspended between life and death.

He winces in agony. He eases into a chair, spent. But he's never looked more determined.

AMANDA

How?

SIMON

Drugs. Drugs.

(beat)

In the Caribbean there's certain herbs. You chew the leaves they slow your heartbeat slow down your breathing so it's barely detectable.

AMANDA

Really?

SIMON

My family were once slaves. They learned how to fake their own deaths that way. It stopped them from being beaten.

AMANDA

Those were terrible times.

SIMON

I don't want your sympathy.

Simon looks to Amanda.

SIMON

I want your help.

AMANDA

Ok lets put the gun down Ok?

10635 INT. IMPERIAL BAR - NIGHT

10635

Nick at the bar, a drink in hand. A match flares nearby. Frost lights a cigarette, eyes hawk-watching Nick.

FROST

Nice. Another dead body and you're still walking around.

NICK

Leave, Harmon.

FROST

You killed Del Deegan. Or you had him killed.

NICK

Brilliant. And then I called the cops.

FROST

That's because we gave him up to you. It was the only way you could cover your ass. You may have fooled the captain, but I know who you are.

Nick takes a drink, waits a beat.

NICK

It's never been about this case? This is about Ryan Blake.

FROST

This has nothing to do with that maggot.

NICK

Well the charges against him would've never been dropped if you hadn't beaten the crap out of him.

FROST

He stabbed my partner.

(CONTINUED)

10635 CONTINUED:

10635

NICK

So you broke his jaw and four ribs.  
instead of going to jail he does a  
short stint in a County Hospital  
and walks. Two weeks later he's  
out, holds up a Dairy Queen and  
kills the owner and his wife.

FROST

Maybe if you'd backed me up.

NICK

No you mean lie for you to the  
grand jury.

FROST

So instead you said nothing and  
that made me look even worse.

(beat)

He was scum. Who cared how his  
ribs got broken?

NICK

Ask the families of the two who  
died. See if they care.

Nick turns to leave.

FROST

Wherever you go, whatever you do,  
I'm gonna be all over your ass.

NICK

Why Frosty are you coming on to me?

Nick turns and walks off.

10636 INT. AMANDA'S - NIGHT

10636

On Amanda, her eyes filled with emotion.

Simon finishes up his story. He sounds like a guy who's  
just run a marathon.

(CONTINUED)



10636 CONTINUED:

10636

SIMON

-- Two hundred and seventy eight years. My family has waited long enough.

He regards Amanda, faced hardened by grief.

SIMON

So I'm asking you again. Will you do this?

Amanda blinks, composes herself.

AMANDA

It can't be done.

SIMON

There's got to be a way.

AMANDA

Look half my gear is gone, and by now they've doubled the security on that building.

SIMON

There's no one else.

AMANDA

It's a two-man job.

SIMON

Fine. I'll help.

AMANDA

Look at you. You can barely stand up.

SIMON

I'll do it if I have to, please.

He reaches into his pocket and takes out a photograph.

SIMON

(continuing)  
Please if not for me huh, then for my son and my daughter. I can't tell them I failed?

(CONTINUED)

10636 CONTINUED: 2

10636

SIMON

Can I trust you?

AMANDA

You're here aren't you?

He considers it; hands the gun to her.

10637 EXT. AMANDA'S - NIGHT

10637

Nick pulls up; We follow his look of surprise to

AMANDA AND SIMON

as they emerge from her apartment building. She's got his arm around him, his head lolling on her shoulders. From this angle, they might look like lovers.

AMANDA

How you doing, you OK there?

SIMON

So far so good.

AMANDA

One way or the another we'll take care of this.

SIMON

I know it, I'm sorry I have to lean on you like this.

AMANDA

Don't worry its fine lets just get you in the car, you'll feel a lot better when your sitting down.

SIMON

Sand is so, so white.

(CONTINUED)

10637 CONTINUED:

10637

AMANDA

By morning it will be yours and  
we'll both be drinking champagne  
darling.

ON NICK

visibly disturbed.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

10638 EXT. AUCTION HOUSE - NIGHT

10638

We see a smattering of security personnel patrolling the grounds.

10639 INT. AUCTION HOUSE - SAME TIME

10639

Amanda and Simon stand together. He's looking even worse now. Eyes glazed, jaundiced, labored breathing - the bullet wound taking its toll.

AMANDA

You gonna be OK?

SIMON

Yeah fine. I'm fine!

She fastens a harness around her torso; ties a rope to it. In her hand are two little portable headsets; she hands one of them to Simon.

AMANDA

Alright alright look this is what were gonna communicate with.

SIMON

Alright.

AMANDA

When I say "Stop," that means stop lowering me. That means right away.

SIMON

Yeah OK.

Simon nods. Amanda wraps the rope around a railing before handing it to Simon.

AMANDA

OK were gonna use this for leverage.

(CONTINUED)

10639 CONTINUED:

10639

He nods again. She's almost in position, about to put on her headset and climb down, when...

NICK

Clove hitch? I perfere using a bow line.

Amanda and Simon spin to see Nick standing right behind them, gun trained.

AMANDA

It's not what you think Nick.

NICK

Oh no no your not here to break in. You were just up for a bungee jump.

Simon drops the rope, eases toward Nick.

NICK

Hold it. Look I know this might not kill you, but from what I understand it still stings like a bitch.

AMANDA

You are so wrong, Nick.

NICK

Let's go partys over.

Simon stumbles to his knees, dizzy. Weak. Fading fast now, but never as resolute.

SIMON

I have to get the deed before it's gone in the morning.

NICK

Hold it.

SIMON

It's gonna be sold tomorrow morning!

AMANDA

Look just let him, let him talk, let him...

(CONTINUED)

10639 CONTINUED: 2

10639

SIMON

Fifty acres. Freedom. All gone...

He's overcome. Amanda cuts in.

AMANDA

His ancestors went down with the Maria Rose. There were documents that gave them their freedom and some land that went down with them. Their orphaned children were sold into slavery. He's just here claiming what's rightfully his, I'm going to help him.

NICK

Well tomorrow we can pick up a paddle and make a bid.

AMANDA

Are you kidding? Those papers were signed by George the First. It's gonna go for at least a quarter of a million dollars.

Simon grimaces in pain - fading. Amanda moves to him, cradles him as she opens his jacket to reveal blood seeping from the pressure bandage. Simon looks to Amanda.

SIMON

(struggling)

Please. Send it to my family.  
Send it to my children...

AMANDA

Yes.

His voice chokes, eyes closing, his arm coming to rest suspended over the edge above the gallery. Nick checks his vitals. Dead.

NICK

How much longer before he comes  
back to life?

AMANDA

He's not coming back.

Nick rises. Amanda just stands there. A stone-faced statue.

(CONTINUED)

10639 CONTINUED: 3

10639

AMANDA  
Will you help me.

NICK  
You really buy this guy's story?

AMANDA  
It's not a story. I was there.

TRANSITION TO:

10640 EXT. OCEAN - 1720 - DAY OR NIGHT

10640

Foggy. Debris floats in a patch of water: chunks of wood, bottles, torn shreds of sail cloth.

Clinging to a section of the ship's mast, lips blue from the cold, Amanda and Louise struggle to stay alive in the icy waters.

LOUISE  
(feebly)  
Marcel... Marcel...

AMANDA  
It's okay, Louise. I'm here.

AMANDA  
(continuing)  
Tell me again about your children about Renee -- the one who made your bonnet.

LOUISE  
That's Eloise. Renee is the singer.

AMANDA  
And she has a pretty voice?

(CONTINUED)

10640 CONTINUED:

10640

LOUISE

(nods) Yes.

AMANDA

Yes.

LOUISE

Like an angel. She's only ten. She cried when we left. Nearly broke my heart. I promised her that she'd be fine, we'd all be fine.

(shivers)

That the next time we saw each other would be our very own land.

AMANDA

Yes, the land, tell me about the land, the fifty acres of paradise.

Louise struggles, running out of strength. She licks her salt-dried lips, closes her eyes.

LOUISE

(weakly)

I'll never see it.

Amanda strokes her hand, her voice soothing.

AMANDA

(urgent)

Louise open your eyes. You can see it. Think about the sky, Louise. How its the most wonderful place in the world. How the water sparkles like sapphires and the sand is so white it hurts your eyes.

Louise's hand slips from hers. Amanda grabs it, pulls her closer.

AMANDA

(continuing)

Open your eyes Louise and listen to me... Louise, Louise.

Amanda reaches across, feels for a pulse at her throat. Louise is dead. That takes some of the fire out of Amanda. She rests her head on the mast. Sleep would be so nice.

(CONTINUED)



10640 CONTINUED: 2

10640

Amanda's eyes close. Keeping her grip on Louise's hand, slowly, both women drop away from the mast... disappearing below the water's surface.

TRANSITION TO:

10641 INT. AUCTION HOUSE - THE PRESENT - NIGHT

10641

Amanda watches Nick absorb this.

NICK

You knew them.

AMANDA

Look Nick I watched them die.

(beat)

I know you're not a thief. This probably pushes all your buttons.

NICK

Amanda...

AMANDA

(cutting him off)

I don't want to hear about how this is illegal.

(beat)

You know slavery was legal. I should know I was there. It was legal, and it was wrong.

NICK

(getting pissed)

Will you just shut up for a minute?

AMANDA

No. Sometimes breaking the law is the right thing to do.

NICK

I know.

AMANDA

You know?

NICK

Let's do it.

(CONTINUED)

10641 CONTINUED:

10641

Really? AMANDA

Really. NICK

Amanda takes a beat. Nick picks up the headset that Simon had dropped.

AMANDA  
Are you sure about this?

NICK  
(impatient)  
When are you going to learn to take  
yes for an answer.

She takes his face in her hands and kisses him. For real.  
This is a big choice for him and she knows it.

AMANDA  
For luck.

Nick's speechless. Amanda whips into action.

AMANDA  
Alright, so we can communicate.

10642 INT. AUCTION HOUSE - MAIN GALLERY - CONTINUOUS

10642

Amanda slides down. They both now wear headsets.

INTERCUT:

NICK  
peering in after her, squinting into the gloom.

AMANDA  
being lowered toward the floor below.

NICK  
lowers her, muscles straining. He peers down after her.

(CONTINUED)

10642 CONTINUED:

10642

NICK  
(through the headset)  
Are you alright?

AMANDA  
(a whisper)  
Fine... A little lower.

NICK  
lowers her a little more.

AMANDA  
takes out an aerosole can and sprays for lasers. The beams  
appear.

AMANDA  
Stop.

AMANDA  
comes to rest just a fraction of an inch above a laser  
detection beam. She gazes up through refracted light at  
Nick.

AMANDA  
Fine stop here.

NICK  
fights to do just that.

He doesn't notice

A TINY RIVULET OF BLOOD

rolling down Simon's outstretched arm... a single drop  
makes its way to the edge.

AMANDA  
spots Simon's deed, extracts her glass cutters. Goes to  
work.

THE DROP OF BLOOD

(CONTINUED)

10642 CONTINUED: 2

10642

journeys down the edge... finally dropping into the auction house's main gallery.

AMANDA

cuts a neat hole in the display case... far too engaged to notice it plop onto the floor directly beneath her.

10643 INT. AUCTION HOUSE - SECURITY OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

10643

RED WARNING LIGHTS. A BUZZER. The drop of blood activated the silent alarm. The security guard grabs the phone.

ALARM VOICE

Warning, warning current activity is a breach of security system integrity, automatic containment procedures are in immediate effect.

10644 INT. AUCTION HOUSE - MAIN GALLERY - CONTINUOUS

10644

Amanda pops the glass.

INTERCUT:

NICK

is fading... strength getting taxed. He peers down after her again.

NICK

How much longer?

AMANDA

is swaying slightly now because the rope's no longer as taut.

AMANDA

Keep still. You're moving me around.

NICK (O.S.)

Hurry up.

AMANDA

Almost there. Almost there.

She reaches in carefully.

NICK

10644 CONTINUED:

10644

hears SIRENS in the distance. Nick instinctively gives the rope a tug. That sudden movement sends

AMANDA

swaying through a laser detection beam... just as she grabs the deed.

LOUD ALARMS NOW. FLOODLIGHTS snapping to attention. Amanda tugs on the rope.

AMANDA

Okay, let's go, let's go!

NICK

was already doing just that. Muscles screaming.

AMANDA

climbs as she's being pulled, deed clenched between her teeth.

10645 EXT. AUCTION HOUSE - SAME TIME

10645

The cruisers screech to a stop, doors flying open, cold-eyed cargos discharging.

10646 INT. AUCTION HOUSE - MAIN GALLERY - SAME TIME

10646

AMANDA

disappears as the main doors burst open below her, security spilling into the room.

10647 INT. AUCTION HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

10647

Amanda unhooks herself from the rope.

NICK

Amanda we gotta go.

10648 EXT. AUCTION HOUSE - SAME TIME

10648

POLICE scramble up the front steps, swarm in through the front doors.

10649 EXT. AUCTION HOUSE - FIRE ESCAPE - SAME TIME 10649

Amanda moves toward the fire escape.

10650 INT. AUCTION HOUSE - SAME TIME 10650

THREE UNIFORMED COPS

COP  
Freeze Police... They're over  
there.

COP  
Where?

rush up and see

10651 EXT. AUCTION HOUSE - FIRE ESCAPE - CONTINUOUS 10651

The Two Uniforms burst onto the fire escape and notice the  
ELECTRICAL WIRE

stretched taut... threatening to snap. He moves to the edge  
of the fire escape; gazes over to see

TWO FIGURES

disappearing into the shadows of the adjacent building. He  
slams his fist as we --

10652 INT. AMANDA'S - NIGHT 10652

Nick, out of breath, shedding his jacket, runs into the  
library. He sticks an envelope between some books.

Amanda is on the phone.

AMANDA  
Thanks.  
(hanging up; impatient)  
Now. They're in the elevator.

NICK  
Remind me to put your doorman on my  
Christmas list.

(CONTINUED)

10652 CONTINUED:

10652

AMANDA

Hurry.

They disappear into the bathroom a split second before --  
POUNDING on the door.

FROST (O.S.)

Police! Open up!

Frost barge through the door, followed by Magnus and a small  
group of UNIFORMED COPS.

FROST

Wolfe, we know you're in there.

Frost starts going from room to room, gun drawn.

AMANDA

(O.S.) oops careful.

FROST

They're in there, you go.

MAGNUS

(to Frost)

Better hope you're right.

Frost goes to the closed bathroom door. A smug smile  
crosses his face.

10653 INT. AMANDA'S - BATHROOM - CONTINUOUS

10653

The door flies open. Frost enters to find flickering  
candlelight... burning incense... Nick and Amanda enjoying a  
luxurious bubble bath, sipping champagne from a half-empty  
bottle.

AMANDA

Hello boys. You know two's company  
but uh four can get you busted.

RADIO VOICE

The auction house was hit fifteen  
minutes ago.

(CONTINUED)

10653 CONTINUED:

10653

HOOKER

Where were you?

NICK

(to Magnus)

You gotta be kidding me.

Frost looks over his shoulder at Magnus.

FROST

Twenty bucks says he's completely dressed under there.

Nick hesitates; doesn't budge.

FROST

Get up.

Nick locks eyes with Magnus.

NICK

Carl?

MAGNUS

Do it.

Nick reluctantly sets down his champagne glass, rises from the tub.

Completely naked. We don't see this, of course, but Frost's expression tells the story.

Magnus takes Frost by the arm.

MAGNUS

You can pay me outside.

They disappear as Nick grabs a towel.

We hear the front door slam.

AMANDA

Ah just made it.

Amanda rises, fully dressed. She reaches into the tub and comes up with Nick's soaking wet clothes.

FADE OUT.

(CONTINUED)



10653 CONTINUED: 2

10653

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT : TAG

FADE IN:

10654 INT. AMANDA'S - LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

10654

Nick lounges on the sofa dressed in a white terry cloth robe.

Amanda enters, locket in hand. She eyes him, smiles.

AMANDA

Well. That is one way to cool off.

(beat)

Your clothes will be dry any minute. Would you help me put this on?

AMANDA

So. I want you to tell me how the heist made you feel.

Nick doesn't answer, struggling with the clasp.

AMANDA

Did it make you feel really alive and exhilarated.

NICK

It wasn't terrible.

The necklace is in place. She turns to face him.

AMANDA

Well then smile because we did a good thing.

NICK

This goes to his children.

She takes a beat, fingers the necklace. Then...

(CONTINUED)

10654 CONTINUED:

10654

AMANDA

I only have one question  
(peers up at him)  
-- what is the story behind the  
tattoo on your butt?

Off Nick's reaction --

FADE OUT.

THE END