

THE WEST WING

Enemies

Script Revision History

<u>DATE</u>	<u>COLOR</u>	<u>PAGES</u>
10/14/99	FULL PINK	1-68
11/3/99	YELLOW PAGES	1, 2, 2A, 3, SETS
11/4/99	GREEN PAGES	Add'l Scene A, Add'l Scene B
11/5/99	BUFF PAGES	1, 1A, 2, 2A, 3, 3A, SETS
11/9/99	SALMON PAGES	7, 7A, 7B

THE WEST WING

"Enemies"

SET LIST

INTERIORS

BARTLET'S LIMO

HOTEL RESTAURANT

WHITE HOUSE

Roosevelt Room
Toby's Office
Mural Room
Corridors
Communications Bullpen
Sam's Office
C.J.'s Office
Hoynes' Office
Leo's Office
Press Briefing Room
Oval Office
Mrs. Landingham's Office
Josh's Office/Bullpen Area

EXTERIORS

PORTICO - NIGHT *

"Enemies"

TEASER

FADE IN:

1 OMITTED 1
1A OMITTED 1A *
TITLE: 1:30 A.M. *
1B INT. OVAL OFFICE - NIGHT 1B *

BARTLET and JOSH are sitting in two chairs. JOSH is very tired and would like to leave... *

BARTLET *
Yellowstone, established through an act *
signed by Ulysses S. Grant, was the *
nation's first national park. *
March 1st, 1872. *

JOSH *
Sir, it's getting a bit late, I was *
wondering, are we through for the night? *

BARTLET *
Well, we're through with work, Josh, but *
this part's fun. *

JOSH *
What part is that, Mr. President. *

BARTLET *
The part where I get to sit you down and *
teach you a little somethin'. *

JOSH *
Ah. *

BARTLET *
Yes. *

JOSH *
You're not tired, sir? *

BARTLET *
No. *

JOSH *
Well, perhaps if you got into bed-- *

(CONTINUED)

BARTLET

I'm a national park buff, Josh. *

JOSH

I'm sorry, sir?

BARTLET

I say I'm a national park buff. I'll bet
you didn't know that about me. *

JOSH

Well, while I didn't know that about you,
I'm certainly not surprised.

BARTLET

Why's that.

JOSH

Because you're quite a nerd, Mr.
President.

BARTLET

Really.

JOSH

Yes, sir.

BARTLET

I assume that was said with all due respect.

JOSH

Yes, sir.

BARTLET

Is it nerd-like to know that Everglades National Park is the largest remaining sub-tropical wilderness in the continental United States, and has extensive mangrove forests?

JOSH

Just a little bit, yes, sir.

BARTLET

There are 54 national parks in this country.

JOSH

Please tell me you haven't been to all of them.

BARTLET

I have been to all of them. I should show you my slide collection.

JOSH

Oh, would you, sir?

BARTLET

Grand Canyon, Bryce Canyon, Badlands, Capitol Reef, Acadia, which is so often overlooked--

JOSH

Yes.

BARTLET

Dry Tortugas--

JOSH

Sir, you should by all means keep talking, but I need to go home so that I can be back in my office in four hours.

*
*

BARTLET

The volcanos on the island of Hawaii are designated national parks, and the island represents eleven of the thirteen climates, how 'bout that.

(CONTINUED)

THE WEST WING "Enemies" Rev. 11/5/99 (BUFF)
CONTINUED: (3)

2A.

1B

1B

JOSH

See, I can't really leave the room until
you give me permission.

(CONTINUED)

BARTLET

Petrified Forest, North Cascades, Joshua Tree, Shenandoah National Park right here in Virginia. We should organize a staff field trip to Shenandoah. I could act as the guide, what do you think?

JOSH

Good a place as any to dump your body.

BARTLET

What was that?

JOSH

Nothing, sir.

BARTLET

See and I was gonna let you go home.

JOSH

But instead?

BARTLET

We're talkin' about Yosemite.

*
*
*
*
*

CUT TO:

2

INT. HOTEL RESTAURANT - MORNING

2

LEO and MALLORY are having a nice breakfast at a D.C. power spot. A WAITER (TONY) puts the check on the table.

WAITER

Thank you, Mr. McGarry.

LEO

Thanks, Tony, hang on.

MALLORY

Let me pay for it.

LEO

No.

MALLORY

I said I was taking you to breakfast.

LEO

Yeah, but this is my hotel, Mallory.

MALLORY

Dad--

(CONTINUED)

THE WEST WING "Enemies" Rev. 11/5/99 (BUFF)
CONTINUED:

3A.

2

2

LEO

How much does a cup of coffee cost here,
Tony?

(CONTINUED)

MALLORY
Father, you have gone around the bend.

LEO
You want the tickets?

MALLORY
Yes.

LEO
You want to walk me back to the office?

MALLORY
Sure.

LEO and MALLORY get up from the table, as we:

CU

2A INT. MRS. LANDINGHAM'S OFFICE - MORNING

C.J. leans against a desk and waits.

C.J.
'Til two in the morning?

MRS. LANDINGHAM
Yes.

C.J.
They were talking about national parks
'til two in the morning?

MRS. LANDINGHAM
I'd imagine the President was doing the
lion's share of the talking.

The Oval Office door opens and BARTLET steps out.

BARTLET
We beat the banking lobby.

C.J.
It's gonna pass?

BARTLET
We beat 'em.

C.J.
You're confident?

BARTLET
Yeah, it's in the bag.

C.J.
Were you talking to Josh until two in the morning about national parks?

BARTLET
C.J., Everglades National Park is one of the --

MRS. LANDINGHAM
(indicating a phone call)
Mr. President?

BARTLET
Right. I'm gonna take this call so I can gloat about the banking bill.

C.J.
Enjoy yourself, sir.

BARTLET
Be talking about this today. This is the story.

C.J.
Yes, sir.

BARTLET
Crushed 'em.

C.J.
Yes, sir.

BARTLET
The California Live Oak, whether you know it or not, is --

MRS. LANDINGHAM
(indicating the call)
Mr. President.

BARTLET
Right.

C.J.
Have a good day, sir.

BARTLET
Twelfth round knockout.

C.J.
Yes, sir.

CONTINUED

BARTLET goes back into the Oval Office and...

3 INT. ROOSEVELT ROOM - DAY

A Cabinet meeting is about to get underway. The CABINET SECRETARIES stand around the table talking while AIDES are around the outside perimeter. This group of people don't get to gather that much, and this administration is pretty new, so there's a certain tempered feeling of excitement. A STENOGRAPHER (MILDRED) is taking notes. HOYNES walks in.

HOYNES

Good morning...

We HEAR some "Morning, sir"s and "Good morning, Mr. Vice President"s. HOYNES says hello to a few by name.

HOYNES

Let's take our seats. The President's gonna be a few minutes late and he asked me to get things started. I should begin by welcoming you to our third Cabinet meeting and our first in six months. I know that the President would want me to point out that these meetings are a unique opportunity for us to come together, exchange ideas and discuss our goals for the future. Surely our first goal has to be finding a way to work with Congress. We need to reach out to the House and Senate, and we need to--

HOYNES stops because everyone around the table has just stood up upon BARTLET's arrival--

(CONTINUED)

JOSH opens, glances down, reads.

SAM

Wow... "Two-Headed Buffalo Born in D.C. Zoo."

(if looks could kill)
...little joke.

TOBY

(points to page)
C'mon-c'mon-c'mon---

SAM

Cameron John's column..?
(reading column out loud)
"In a speech to the National Resource Council last night, Jed Bartlet once again spewed forth a haze of rehashed anecdotes, misfired quips, and disconnected applause lines that have been symptomatic of virtually every pronouncement he's made in the last six months. Apparently the stirring, meaningful, and coherent presidential address is a lost art to this administration."

JOSH lowers the paper. The others react.

C.J.

Not fair...

SAM

Below the belt.

JOSH

Yeah, not every quip misfired.

TOBY

So, as the incoherent writer in question, can I ask that we stop this petty charade at my expense?

Beat.

C.J.

Actually... Toby? We were talking about page one.

SAM

(turns to front, reading)
"World Labor Leaders Praise White House Conference on Child Labor Reform."

(CONTINUED)

TOBY just stands there, trying to maintain what little dignity he has left. Then:

TOBY

Oh. Well. Okay.

(off their silence)

Then isn't this where you jump to my defense and say there's no truth whatsoever in what she wrote?

A long beat. Then, pretending to beat a hasty retreat:

SAM

Don't we have some mingling to do?

JOSH

A little support to lend?

C.J.

And we can't miss those incredible shrimp-and-feta things--

And they rush off, TOBY still standing there as...

CUT TO:

MAIN TITLES

END OF TEASER

ACT I

FADE IN:

3 INT. WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ROOM - MORNING 3

The seats are filled with a number of business, religious, labor leaders, a backdrop reads: "White House Conference on International Child Labor Practices."

Seated in front of the audience on a riser is a round table of officials centered by Vice President JOHN HOYNES. The podium's to one side. Our group of staffers and other officials stand to the side of that. HOYNES has a microphone in hand, leading a discussion with audience participants who stand at mikes in both aisles.

HOYNES

I couldn't agree with you more, Reverend, and I'd like to thank the Coalition of Christians and Jews Against Child Labor Abuse for being here.

HOYNES turns to the next participant as Reverend Duffy steps away.

PARTICIPANT

Mr. Vice President, I'm Charlie O'Bannon...

HOYNES

Of course, Charlie, it's an honor to have such a distinguished representative of working Americans joining us here today...

PARTICIPANT

I'm honored to be invited, sir. I think all of us are anxious to stop the cruel and inhuman abuses of innocent children that continue to go on around the world, but I'm curious to know what exactly we can do to enforce any policies on foreign soil.

HOYNES stands up, smiling.

HOYNES

Funny you should ask...

There's scattered LAUGHTER as he unfolds a prepared speech and walks to the podium. And off to the side JOSH and SAM whisper to TOBY:

(CONTINUED)

BARTLET (cont'd)

Business leaders who walk with us, who eat with us, who go to church with us, in this conspiracy of silence, are responsible for crimes that, if committed in the United States, would put them behind bars. I want them exposed, and with your help, and the invaluable help of Vice President Hoynes and his task force, I will stop them.

Huge APPLAUSE, a standing ovation, he owns the crowd, and Hoynes stands to the side, applauding through his anger at being usurped.

CUT TO:

4 INT. WHITE HOUSE CORRIDOR - MINUTES LATER

4

C.J. is heading from the auditorium to the reception, DANNY catches up to her.

DANNY

Good speech.

C.J.

Good speaker.

DANNY

Good point.

C.J.

Good-bye.

She speeds up, DANNY catches her again.

DANNY

Probably thought we were finished, I'll forgive you this time.

C.J.

Danny--

DANNY

Way I see it, it's fine to talk about getting a fourteen year-old Guatemalan girl out of a sweat shop, but what does he expect her to do instead?

C.J.

I don't know, Danny, play jacks, go to a movie...?

(CONTINUED)

DANNY

I'm not saying I'm in favor of forcing these kids to work, but you tell a girl down there not to work for any wages, slave or otherwise, and she'll look at you like you're nuts.

C.J.

It's more complicated than that.

DANNY

'Course it is, probably worthy of a whole conversation.

C.J.

And I hope you find someone to have it with.

DANNY

You know what your problem is--

C.J.

I'm not walking fast enough?

DANNY

--your problem is you think I talk to you so I can get a jump on a story, you're angry at me because you think I use our friendship to help my career.

C.J.

And you don't.

DANNY

I don't.

She stops, so does he.

C.J.

This is my job, Danny, it's a job I take very seriously, I can't have it compromised because I'm spending what seems to be an inordinate amount of time talking to a single member of the press, and when I say "single"--

DANNY

Nice hair.

C.J.

What?

DANNY

Your hair. Did you cut it? Maybe just combed it a little dif--

C.J.

Danny, what are you after?

DANNY

A conversation, remember? Tell you what, this child-labor thing, why don't we discuss it over some food?

C.J.

Are you serious?

DANNY

Not Guatemalan, though. Maybe Italian. Tonight.

C.J.

You want me to discuss the child-labor issue, with you, over Italian food tonight?

DANNY

It doesn't have to be Italian. And we don't have to discuss the child-labor thing. But I'm kinda inflexible about the tonight part.

C.J.

Why is that?

DANNY

'Cuz you'd still have your hair that way.

C.J.

(a beat, taken aback)
I can't do that, Danny.

And she leaves Danny behind as she heads into:

5 INT. LOBBY - CONTINUOUS

5

A reception in full swing, food, drinks, people from the conference, and C.J. comes through, passing JOSH and a corporate-looking man--ROBERT TURNER--they're mid-conversation and we STAY with them now as:

(CONTINUED)

JOSH

...We have to mix it up sometimes, it's true, we've been through some battles, but I have to tell you we tend to be on the right side of those battles, and more often than not the winning side, all of which I only mention because--

TURNER

You want my money.

JOSH

No, no-no-no, we don't do that here...

MANDY walks up.

MANDY

You'll have to excuse him, he's just so used to soliciting women.

(to Josh)

Maybe "recruiting" would've been a better word...

JOSH

Robert Turner, Mandy Hampton, Mandy was hired to charm the guests.

MANDY

Actually I'm on staff here with Josh, but don't worry, we disagree about everything.

JOSH

I disagree.

(off MANDY's look)

Just showing 'im how it works, is there something we can--

MANDY

May I see you for a minute?

JOSH

I'm a little busy right now.

MANDY

That's funny, you being busy...

JOSH

That's funny?

(reacts to Turner)

She's a bit competitive, she knows very well that on a daily basis I do the work of three men around here.

(CONTINUED)

MANDY
Larry, Moe, and Curly.

JOSH
Did I hear your beeper?

MANDY
They'll call back.

JOSH
(turns his back on Mandy)
Mr. Turner, where were we?

TURNER
I don't know where you were, but I was
losing interest.

And he walks off, JOSH watching, frustrated.

JOSH
Tell me there's a reason you don't want
me making new friends.

MANDY
He shouldn't be here, I told Leo to take
him off the guest list. He's a major
stockholder in Mercury Corp, much of
whose sporting equipment is made by
Pakistani children for the grand total of
seven cents a days.

JOSH
(pause)
Oh.
(then)
Thanks.

MANDY
And by the way...

JOSH
You want something.

MANDY
Bill Franklin's maneuvered a photo-op
with the President and various other
VIPs, I wanted to see if we could not put
Franklin next to the President.

JOSH
Not put him next to the President.

MANDY

Other side of the picture, five, six bodies in-between, I just don't think they should be side-by-side.

JOSH

Why not?

MANDY

Because...

JOSH

Because isn't a reason, because is something you say when you're four years old and you don't want me to play in your sandbox anymore.

MANDY

I don't want you to play in my sandbox anymore.

JOSH

That's a separate conversation.

MANDY

Because he's bad, too, okay, I'm being a little bit careful because I'm still gathering information, but the word is there's been some questionable activities with several of the younger members of his staff. If it comes out, I don't think we're helping ourselves by standing shoulder-to-shoulder with him.

JOSH

You know he's the California Democratic nominee for the Senate, and that one of the chief functions of a little gathering like this is to show the Democratic senatorial candidates side-by-side with the President.

MANDY

Of course I know that.

JOSH

(a pause)
Okay... I'll see what I can do.

ANOTHER ANGLE

(CONTINUED)

TOBY and SAM are standing against a wall, surveying the reception.

SAM

Big day, some pretty famous people here, astronauts, computer billionaire, Hall of Fame shortstop, coupla movie stars, when you step back it's actually kind of exciting.

TOBY

Pinch me.

SAM

Still cranky, huh?

TOBY

I'm not cranky.

SAM

You are. You're cranky.

TOBY

I'm not cranky, Sam, you'll know when I'm cranky, when I'm cranky I get very IMPATIENT and very LOUD, and it usually happens when people standing next to me at exciting, star-studded White House receptions keep insisting I'm cranky!

SAM

So just to confirm, right now--

TOBY

I'm NOT CRANKY.

C.J. walks up.

C.J.

What was that about?

SAM

Toby's not cranky.

TOBY

And if I were cranky I'd have perfectly legitimate reasons, look at this, all the "undying support" and the "passion for a worthy cause," these people aren't here to help, they're here to be seen helping, it's the nouveau elite playing toy politics, it's faux activism, half these people wouldn't know the inside of a voting booth if their personal assistants built one around their butt-activated bidets.

C.J. and SAM look at each other, then:

SAM

You wrote that, didn't you?

TOBY

What?

SAM

It's very clever, toy politics, butt-activated bidets, I'm thinking that wasn't top of your head, I'm thinking you prepared a little material for the occasion, as if, perhaps, you were trying to prove something, say, about your ability with words.

C.J.

It did feel written.

TOBY

It wasn't written, it was spoken, spontaneously, I'm perfectly capable of ad-libbed cleverness, I'm a jocular guy.

SAM

(to C.J.)

"Jocular"?

C.J.

Also written.

TOBY

This second, I'm sorry I lobbied against automatic weapons.

JOSH walks up.

JOSH

How's it goin'?

(CONTINUED)

C.J./SAM

Toby's not cranky.

JOSH

And why should he be, the man was blessed with an almost magical way with words.

TOBY

Bite me.

JOSH

Case in point.

And TOBY walks off as we:

ANOTHER ANGLE

BARTLET is standing with a group of people, mid-conversation with ROBERT TURNER, who was talking to JOSH earlier. We SEE HOYNES a few feet away in another group. BARTLET and HOYNES actively avoid eye contact through:

TURNER

...the way I understand it, foreign bribery law says that corporations can't bribe officials overseas in pursuit of better contracts. Seems like a stretch to apply that to the child-labor issue.

BARTLET

It's not a stretch at all, Mr. Turner. If we can put an executive in jail for bribing an official in a foreign land, we should certainly be able to put an executive in jail for allowing his corporation to abuse a child in a foreign land.

MURMURS of agreement, approval, as STEVIE, the Vice-President's staffer, appears with a MAN with a camera.

STEVIE

Mr. President... Mr. Vice President... this is Jim Lefevre from Amnesty International. He was promised a picture with the two of you, if I could just...

He gestures that the two come together, and they do, it's tentative, awkward, but no one else notices as they rise to the occasion, Lefevre standing between them as the photo is snapped. AD-LIBBED thank yous, then BARTLET and HOYNES part company, discomfort evident.

(CONTINUED)

Nearby, JOSH has seen this, then he looks at his watch, he'd love to be somewhere else.

WOMAN'S VOICE (O.C.)

Look like someone who needs a reason to stay.

JOSH looks over as JULIE HYLAND approaches, late-20s-to-early-30s, beautiful, relaxed, she's a movie star. JOSH recognizes her immediately, tries to stay cool.

JOSH

No... no... I'm fine, it's just... I'm fine...

(a smile between them)

You're, uh... you're Julie Hyland.

JULIE

I knew that.

JOSH

Josh Lyman, I'm one of the White House guys.

JULIE

I knew that, too.

(then)

I'm glad I can be part of this, a couple of years ago I played a reporter who uncovered a Central American sweatshop and I actually saw one in operation while I was there.

JOSH

"Panama Exchange"... I saw the movie.

JULIE

Then we have something in common, I don't mean to embarrass you, but I've seen you on "Meet The Press," and I've heard a little bit about you from some friends, I was hoping I'd get a chance to meet you today.

JOSH

(a pause)

Really? Well, thank you... that's very... thank you...

She smiles, he blushes a little, a "moment" between them.

ELSEWHERE AT THE RECEPTION

(CONTINUED)

TOBY's near the food listening to a MIDDLE-AGED MAN.

MIDDLE-AGED MAN

"The wind may have changed direction, but it still blows warm," that's how I like to think of the current political climate, this administration has moments of extreme clarity and then, at other times, seems to veer back to the murkier middle road, a tendency, I have to assume, that's motivated by political expediency and not by passion or ideology.

TOBY

(just stares a moment, then)
You have a large wad of spinach stuck between your teeth.

The man reacts, walking off, as C.J. approaches having seen that.

C.J.

Party kinda pickin' up for ya?

TOBY

Has its moments.

C.J.

The vote's over, 127 passed.

(no response)

I said the vote's over, 127 passed.

TOBY

Great.

C.J.

Toby--

TOBY

I'm a writer who just got told he can't write, C.J., if you were expecting noisemakers and a lamp shade on my head--

C.J.

It was one person, and she didn't even mention your name.

TOBY

Everyone knows I write those speeches, and that "one person" was a reporter, their writing poisons everyone who can read.

(CONTINUED)

C.J.
(beat, defensive)
I don't think they're all trying to
poison people...

TOBY
Of course they are, the only difference
between reporters and snakes is that
snakes have enough backbone to kill you
in person.

And they just stand there, C.J. clearly thinking about her
encounter with Danny.

ANGLE ON JOSH AND JULIE HYLAND

sitting at a table now, talking as they drink, it's getting
intimate.

JOSH
...I see big differences between the
people who work in Washington and the
people who work in Hollywood, I don't
think they're after the same things...

JULIE
Power, sex, money...

JOSH
Not that there isn't some overlap...

JULIE
You may have heard, my last boyfriend was
a senator, he was certainly as in love
with himself as any actor I've ever met.

JOSH
A senator? In love with himself?

JULIE
If Brian was a black widow he'd be
convinced he was the only male the female
wouldn't kill after mating.

JOSH
I've actually met the man.

JULIE
Am I lying?

(CONTINUED)

JOSH

(shrugs)

You shouldn't get discouraged though.
For instance, I'm a Washington-based
political type, and I'm completely free
of that sort of blatant self-adulation.

JULIE

You really are?

JOSH

I really are.

(then)

It's one of the benefits of being
perfect.

They share a smile, she looks at him a moment, then she
finishes her drink and puts her glass down.

JULIE

Good. I was hoping you'd be perfect.

They're enjoying themselves, and we:

CUT TO:

6 INT. CORRIDOR - DAY - A FEW HOURS LATER

6

SAM and TOBY walk towards LEO's office as JOSH catches up to
them.

JOSH

So what's this meeting about?

TOBY

I don't know, Josh.

JOSH

Leo had that out-to-the-woodshed tone in
his voice.

SAM

(to Josh)

You got it, didn't you?

JOSH

Got what?

SAM

Her number.

JOSH

Whose number?

(CONTINUED)

SAM

You know whose numb--

TOBY

Do I really have to listen to this?

JOSH

("innocently")

Oh, you mean Julie Hyland.

(then, reprimanding)

Look, if I did get her number, do I really seem like the kind of guy who'd mount it on the wall like some sort of trophy kill for all the world to see?

(waves a piece of paper)

Hell yes, I'm absolutely that kind of guy, I'm having a banner hung inside the press room!

SAM.

No need, your three-and-a-half hour "lunch" with her at the Four Seasons'll be tonight's lead story.

JOSH

If you're suggesting our afternoon together involved anything more tawdry than food, I'll have you know out of respect and propriety I married her before we went up to the room.

SAM

You did?

JOSH

I did. Of course I got it annulled the minute we left, bell captains can do that, can't they?

SAM

I think so.

They're joined by C.J. at the door to LEO's office.

C.J.

So, guys, I'm sure you heard --

INT. LEO'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

As all enter.

TOBY

Yes, we all know about Josh and Julie Hy--

(CONTINUED)

C.J.

I'm talking about Langston DeVries, he went on CNN denouncing us for having Robert Turner at the conference today.

SAM

I thought DeVries was on our side--

JOSH

He's just like every other consumer advocate, he's his own party.

LEO enters, all business, marching to his desk.

LEO

And unfortunately a very noisy one. This could turn into a black eye for us, I hope none of you so much as smiled at Turner.

C.J.

I smiled at him.

JOSH

I talked to 'im for two minutes.

TOBY

We shared a cappuccino after racquetball and the steam room.

LEO

(a look, then)

His name was supposed to be taken off the guest list, somehow it wasn't, we've gotta do better, people. Which brings me to the President's banking reform bill.

C.J.

Good news, huh?

LEO

No, it's not good news, a land-use rider got slipped into the bill at the very last minute.

TOBY

What?

SAM

Who did it?

LEO

Dunno, I have calls into both chairmen--

(CONTINUED)

TOBY

What kind of land use are we talking about?

LEO

Don't know that either, but if you wanted to do something good with the land, would you stick it in a banking bill two minutes before the vote?

TOBY

We gotta know what this thing says.

LEO

Yes, we do. We all know how important this is to the President, it's his own bill and he's going to take this very personally.

SAM

(leaving)

I'll get a copy--

TOBY

And grab someone from Interior to translate it into English.

LEO

Anything the rest of you can do to expedite, do it, I want to reconvene with the President ASAP.

And as they turn and exit his room:

LEO

Josh.

He stays behind.

LEO

Franklin was pretty p.o.'d he got squeezed out of his photo-op with the President. I heard it was your idea.

JOSH

I just... I was taking precautions. I heard some things.

LEO

What things?

(CONTINUED)

JOSH

(pause)

I'm still gathering information.

LEO

Hope it's accurate, otherwise you'll be explaining to the President why you alienated a key Democrat for absolutely no reason.

JOSH remains stoic. LEO's clearly unhappy.

LEO

That's all.

JOSH exits and we:

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT I

ACT II

FADE IN:

8 INT. WEST WING CORRIDOR - SAME DAY

8

SAM'S on his way down a hall, when he sees MALLORY, carrying a box, coming the other way. He slows down to talk.

SAM

Mallory, hey, how you d--

MALLORY

Hi, Sam.

Clearly not in the mood to chat, she continues down the hall. SAM reacts, watching her go into:

9 INT. LEO'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

9

LEO, behind his desk, is surprised to see her.

LEO

(surprised to see her)

Mallory...

MALLORY

Hi, Dad.

LEO

(seeing the box)

What's this?

MALLORY

Mom, she... packed up a few more things. She asked me to bring them by.

(Leo says nothing)

The Secret Service went through it.

LEO

They would do that, yeah.

MALLORY

I tried to tell them it's just a sweater, books, personal things.

LEO

This is the White House.

MALLORY

They went through everything with a metal detector.

(CONTINUED)

LEO

It's okay.

She's clearly bothered. LEO takes the box from her.

LEO

Thank you.

This is awkward for both of them. He puts the box down next to his desk.

MALLORY

I probably should've taken it to the hotel...

LEO

I appreciate it.

MALLORY

(after a beat)

How are you, Dad?

LEO

I'm hanging in there. How's your mother?

MALLORY

Hanging in there, too.

Another awkward moment, then:

MALLORY

Have you started looking for a place yet?

LEO

I've been meaning to...

MALLORY

Dad --

LEO

Things are a little hectic around here.

MALLORY

Things are always a little hectic around here.

(and then)

It just... I dunno... makes me wonder.
Are you doing anything?

LEO

What do you mean am I doing anything?

(CONTINUED)

MALLORY

I mean if you're going to find an apartment, you should start looking. And if you're going to try to work things out with Mom, you should start doing that.

LEO

It's not that simple, Mallory...

MALLORY

Who said it was, you think I don't know that, it's all screwed up--

LEO

Mallory--

MALLORY

--it's a mess, but it won't solve itself. You come in here day after day and solve everyone else's problems--

LEO

Mallory--

MALLORY

--you solve the world's problems, but you won't lift a finger to solve your own!

A beat, LEO doesn't know what to say. Finally, calming:

MALLORY

Have you called that person--

LEO

I don't need to see a shrink.

MALLORY

It's just a precaution, Dad...the drinking and everything.

LEO

(stiffens)
I'm fine.

MALLORY

Okay... you're fine...

An awkward moment. Then:

LEO

I could maybe start looking for a place this weekend.

(CONTINUED)

MALLORY

I know a finder's service in Georgetown.
Do you want the number?

LEO

(beat)

Yeah... sure... give me the number.

And on her resigned look we:

CUT TO:

10 INT. WEST WING CORRIDOR - OUTSIDE ROOSEVELT ROOM - DAY 10

SAM waits by a corner, sees MALLORY coming down the hall, then bumps into her as if by accident.

SAM
I'm sorry.

MALLORY
Excuse me--

SAM

Oh... hey... Mallory. Funny running into you again. And here... outside the historic Roosevelt room...

MALLORY

Hi, Sam...

SAM

I mean historic for reasons other than being the place we first met...

(then, guiltily)

...and the place I gave your fourth graders the distinct impression this wing is staffed by at least one first-grader.

MALLORY

(preoccupied)

How are you?

SAM

Fine, fine... how are you?

MALLORY

Fine.

SAM

Peally.

MALLORY

Yes.

(CONTINUED)

SAM
Because--

MALLORY
Sam.

SAM
(and then)
Look, it's just that... y'know,
earlier...

MALLORY
I was in a hurry.
(and then, politely)
Actually, I am in a hurry.

SAM
Oh, hey, me too, I just... I'd like to
make up for it. My less than sterling
performance with your class. Maybe come
by, try it with 'em again.
(she hesitates)
I'll do my homework this time. I
promise.

MALLORY
(a beat, then)
If we could talk about this--

SAM
Another time, sure, no problem.

MALLORY
Thanks, Sam.

She leaves. SAM watches her go, calls after her.

SAM
You can call me here.
(and then)
Any time...
(and then, doubtful, to self)
...or not.

CUT TO:

11 INT. JOSH'S OFFICE - DAY

11

JOSH and DONNA watching one of the cable news networks on the
television in his office.

LANGSTON DEVRIES, a Nader-like consumer advocate, ON SCREEN,
is responding to an interviewer's question.

(CONTINUED)

DEVRIES (ON TV)

...What message are they sending, the man was at a conference on child-labor abuse and he's a stockholder in a company that uses child-labor overseas. And worse, several members of the White House staff were seen consorting with him.

JOSH

Consorting?

DONNA

You were consorting?

JOSH

We talked, that's all, he makes a lot of contributions to the DNC.

DONNA

I see your point, "hanging out with people so they'll give you money" isn't the actual dictionary definition.

JOSH

Thanks for the support.

DONNA

I'm saying, you probably have him on a technicality.

JOSH

Could we listen now?

DEVRIES (ON TV)

...it's the height of hypocrisy, in light of Robert Turner's presence at the conference I think the White House has de facto renounced its claim to be a supporter of the issues presented there.

JOSH

He's gotta be kidding...

DONNA

You don't think it was hypocritical?

JOSH

It was a mistake.

DONNA

But still...

(CONTINUED)

JOSH

There's no "still," I mean, it isn't fair, if people here, all of us, doing what we do, make a little mistake and have to, I don't know, put up with this kind of... you know... this kind of thing, well, it's wrong, that's all, I just think it's wrong.

DONNA

Wow, this must've been what it was like to hear William Jennings Bryan speak.

A look from JOSH, MANDY walks in, carrying her briefcase.

JOSH

Well-well, nice of you to join us.

MANDY

Excused absence, I have a note somewhere... I heard you wanted to see me.

JOSH

What happened at the photo-op?

MANDY

I wasn't there.

JOSH

I know you weren't there, I was wondering why you weren't there.

MANDY

Because I was somewhere else.

JOSH

You asked me to do this thing then you ducked out, Franklin's very upset, Leo's very upset, I'd like to know why you left and I'd especially like to know how you know about Franklin.

MANDY

I'm not telling.

(then)

What about you?

JOSH

What about me?

(CONTINUED)

MANDY

After I left. Rumor has it you were
batting your eyebrows at the world's
biggest box office star.

DONNA

Josh was flirting with Tom Hanks?

JOSH

Are you still here?

DONNA

And not going anywhere fast.

MANDY

It was Julie Hyland, apparently she has
designs on making Josh her next
Washington appointee.

DONNA

You're the man.

JOSH

Can we get back to my question now--

MANDY

I've seen this before, the kind of guy
who meets an actress, she's a little
shallow, but he gets sucked in by her
fame, what do they call it again, oh I
remember, a starfuc--

JOSH

--Lunch, we had lunch, okay, and I'd
really like to get back to my question
now.

MANDY

This is far more interesting.

DONNA

I'll say.

JOSH

I'm in the process of taking a bullet for
you, Mandy, I'd like some answers on
Franklin because I'd like to know with
some degree of certainty that it's true.

MANDY

I'll bet she's a Pisces. Pet peeves
include thermonuclear war and her biggest
turn-on is looking in the mirror...

(CONTINUED)

JOSH
I'm serious, Mandy...

DONNA
This is great.

JOSH
Donna.

DONNA
What?

JOSH
We're looking forward to running into you again sometime.

He ushers her out and closes the door, turning back to MANDY.

JOSH
Are you going to tell me how you know about Franklin?

MANDY
Are you going to tell me what you talked about with Julie Hyland?

JOSH
I told you we had lunch, I'm not going to tell you anything else.

MANDY
Why not?

JOSH
Because.

MANDY
So it is a reason.

JOSH
Because it's my personal life, Mandy, what you did is different, you dropped some hints about a U.S. Senate nominee being a bad guy, then you asked me to squeeze him out of a photo opportunity with the President. And then you snuck out, leaving me holding that particular bag, and I have a right to know why.

MANDY
(pause)
The White House isn't my only account, I'm a consultant.

(CONTINUED)

JOSH

So that's where you were, you were consulting.

MANDY

I was meeting with someone who'd like me to.

JOSH

Someone you're embarrassed to name.

(then getting it)

Someone wrong, someone you shouldn't be consulting for... someone who might've given you the Franklin information.

MANDY

Josh--

JOSH

The plot thickens.

MANDY

I've got evidence on Franklin, okay, and it's worse than I thought. And I haven't made my mind up about the job so I need you to back off 'til I do.

JOSH

Okay... sure... I'll back off...

(then)

Just give me a hint, shoe size, favorite color--

MANDY

Josh--!

DONNA pops in.

DONNA

The President and Leo wanna see everyone, I told them you're in the middle of something.

Off their looks.

DONNA

Kidding.

CUT TO:

12 INT. OVAL OFFICE - A LITTLE LATER

12

BARTLET is on the phone as JOSH, SAM, TOBY, C.J., MANDY and LEO enter. CHARLIE places papers in front of BARTLET as:

BARTLET

(into phone)

Yes, Mr. Prime Minister... I understand completely... no, no need to send the ambassador, we're in complete agreement... Thank you. Good night, Mr. Prime Minister.

(hangs up; to group)

You have no idea how much I love titles. Saves me from having to remember all those names.

(stands, crosses to chair)

You wanted to talk about my bill.

LEO

We got the text of the land use rider, ran it through Interior, and, well, it's not the best news.

SAM

Essentially... it opens up the Big Sky Federal Reserve in Utah to mining interests.

A beat, as BARTLET reacts to that.

BARTLET

They want to mine the Big Sky?

SAM

Strip mine it, to be precise, sir.

BARTLET

A tract of land I swore to protect when I campaigned for this office. A promise I staked my name on. A pledge, I might add, that helped carry that state.

An angry moment as BARTLET takes this in, no one knows what to say. And then:

BARTLET

Dammit!

(and then)

How did this happen?

(CONTINUED)

LEO

Broderick and Eaton snuck it into the conference report right before the--

BARTLET

I know that, Leo, I mean how in the hell did we let it happen? Seems like the wheels are falling off the wagon here, don't you think, Charlie?

CHARLIE

I, uh--I wouldn't know that, sir--

BARTLET

Doesn't matter, it was rhetorical, we're 0-for-2 today, people, Robert Turner shows up at a White House conference on child labor and we don't even know he's involved in child labor?

MANDY

We knew, sir, both Leo and I are looking into the invi--

BARTLET

And now strip mining at Big Sky? This was avoidable.

JOSH

What it was, clear and simple, sir, was retaliation, you veto their bill, they undercut yours.

TOBY

I don't think it was just about a veto.

LEO

Toby--

BARTLET

(snapping at Toby)

What, I'm not allowed to have an opinion?

TOBY

I'm just saying...

BARTLET

What?

TOBY

...that in hindsight, calling their emissions deregulation bill "the most noxious assault on clean air since man discovered how to pass gas," might've inched over the line.

BARTLET

So this is my fault--

TOBY

(respectfully)

Perhaps a more low-key approach would be advisable in the future.

BARTLET

Is that right? I guess a Toby Ziegler speech on the subject would've gone by unnoticed.

(Toby reacts)

Is that how I should've handled it? Is it?

LEO

(jumping in)

Sir... if we could spend our time here a little more constructively--

BARTLET

Constructively, they wanna spend it constructively, I thought we were being constructive, didn't you, Charlie?

CHARLIE

I come out about the same place I did on your last question, sir...

MANDY

We still have to sign. Call a press conference and declare a victory, we got the banking reform we wanted, no more 24% credit card interest, no more hidden charges in mortgage payments--

JOSH

It'll save people more real money than a tax cut.

MANDY

Exactly, dish out enough honey, they'll swallow the vinegar.

(CONTINUED)

TOBY

We can't sign this bill.

JOSH

Not sign the most important piece of economic legislation we've tried to put through?

LEO

If we let it go now, we'll never get it back.

TOBY

If we sign, the Republicans in Congress will hold us hostage, they'll spend the next two years attaching riders to every one of our bills.

BARTLET

What, and to stop that we answer one power play with another?

TOBY

Yes. A veto would show them we're not going to stand for this.

BARTLET

C.J., you're too damn quiet.

C.J.

Well, sir... as a charter member of Tree People, who'd love to protect that land... I have to say that the press'll have a feeding frenzy if you end up vetoing your own bill. Sign.

BARTLET

(barking

Sam.

SAM

A bill that benefits every family in America... versus a piece of land in the desert that can only be used recreationally four months out of the year...?

TOBY

So that's it? We're rolling over? And we're giving up a key campaign promise, not to mention one of the most pristine tracts of federal land in the country, without a fight?

(CONTINUED)

No one speaks, all eyes on BARTLET. Finally:

BARTLET

I'll give you twenty-four hours.

(then)

But God help us if you spend it the way
you spent your last twenty-four.

And he storms out.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT II

ACT III

FADE IN:

13 INT. PRESS BRIEFING ROOM - NEXT MORNING

13

TOBY leans against the wall watching C.J. take questions from a combative room of REPORTERS.

C.J.

--I'm saying it's a non-issue.

REPORTER #1

Then what do you say when Langston DeVries says that having a Robert Turner at such a conference shows, quote, a complete lack of understanding, sensitivity, and leadership on an issue that--

C.J.

That's his opinion. Frank?

REPORTER #2 (FRANK)

This afternoon's Congress Daily says the President is actually going to veto his own banking reform bill--

C.J.

I don't know how rumors like that make it into print, Deborah.

REPORTER #3 (DEBORAH)

That's not what Frank was asking, C.J.

C.J.

Double-teaming me, huh?

REPORTER #2

I'm asking if he's going to sign it and open the Big Sky Reserve to mining when he campaigned against that very--

C.J.

I don't know right now, Frank.

REPORTER #1

Are you saying you've been kept out of the loop?

C.J.

(trying not to snap)
I'm saying he's weighing his options.

(CONTINUED)

REPORTER #4

What options? Banking reform's been his only priority this session--

C.J.

I wouldn't say it's been his only priority, Greg, we've had the crime bill, we've had...

(searching)

...several other important...

DANNY

C.J.?

(off her nod)

Is the President going to support the IMF's plan to loan Russian another five billion dollars after Russia seems to have misplaced the 22.6 billion it's already received?

C.J. tries to hide how happy she is that DANNY has changed the subject.

C.J.

Well, as you know, Danny, the United States has everything to gain by helping the Russian economy meet the challenges of the 21st century, not only in terms of global stability, but also for the huge potential Russia represents as an export market for U.S. goods and services.

C.J. and DANNY exchange appreciative looks. As other VOICES begin shouting:

DANNY

If I may continue along the same line...

DISSOLVE TO:

14 INT. PRESS BRIEFING ROOM - A LITTLE LATER

14

It breaks up, C.J. about to leave as DANNY approaches.

C.J.

Thank you.

DANNY

Utterior movie. I need some follow-up on the subject of our conversation yesterday.

(CONTINUED)

C.J.
Which was...?

DANNY
Dinner. And I've amended it to include
tonight.

She considers a beat. And then, quietly:

C.J.
Okay.

He smiles, she smiles back tentatively, and she leaves,
walking into:

15 INT. BULLPEN - CONTINUOUS

15

She approaches the coffee machine where TOBY stands pouring a
cup. As she prepares one as well:

TOBY
That was a mistake.

C.J.
What was?

TOBY
(a nod to the press room)
Going out there without any raw meat.

C.J.
(nonplussed)
Some days you're the dog, some days
you're the hydrant.

She walks, he joins through:

TOBY
I hate that pack mentality, they're
making issues where none exist, Langston
DeVries and Turner, the land-rider--

C.J.
You don't really mean to say those aren't
issues.

TOBY
Not to the degree they'd have you
believe. Take DeVries, without the press
he'd just be a tree falling in the woods.
He's working them like they're a bunch of
trained seals.

(CONTINUED)

C.J.
For the record, some of those trained seals are friends of mine.

TOBY
I didn't mean "trained seals" in the unflattering sense.

C.J.
More sarcasm, right?

TOBY
And you don't really mean to say you enjoy standing up in front of a roomful of reporters, day after day, while they pounce upon your every nuance?

C.J.
No, but in their positions I'd do the exact same thing to whoever was standing up there.

TOBY
Really.

C.J.
Really.

TOBY
Because...

C.J.
It'd be my job.

TOBY
To damn and demean?

C.J. comes to a stop.

C.J.
"Damn and demean?" Look, I know you resent a certain reporter at the Post right now--

TOBY
No, right now I resent your implied defense of that reporter and every other reporter's freedom to run roughshod over the truth.

C.J.

For Christ's sake, Toby, I don't like what happened today any more than you do, but what I especially don't like is the kind of holier-than-thou attitude that conveniently overlooks the fact that you and I use and abuse them as much as they use and abuse us, so spare me the sanctimony, okay?

TOBY stands there, taken aback at her outburst. Then SAM rounds a corner, sees them.

SAM

There you are: Daniel Crane.

C.J.

And that would be...?

SAM

The lobbyist who walked point on this land-use rider. Toby had the idea to attack the problem from the other side.

TOBY

I'm on my way. Their pens may trump our swords, but there are always other weak and helpless opponents I can wield mine against.

And TOBY walks off. SAM looks questioning at C.J.

C.J.

It's a hydrant day.

And she leaves. SAM turns and walks back to:

14 SAM'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

16

SAM approaches his door as CATHY catches him.

CATHY

Mallory McGarry called.

SAM

(stops in doorway)
She did? And?

CATHY

She left a message.
(off his look)
Would you like to hear it?

(CONTINUED)

SAM
No need to set a precedent...

CATHY
She said she'd love to have you speak to her class--

SAM
"Love to?"

CATHY
I embellished.

SAM
I'm officially revoking your freedom to do that.

CATHY
But it's not her fourth grade class. It's her civics course, for adults about to become citizens. It's at Thomas Paine Elementary on Thursday at 2:30. The topic is, "What Every New Citizen Should Know About The President."

SAM
What every new citizen should know about the President?
(then)
Fine, that's fine, I just need you to get me something.

CATHY
What?

SAM
Someone to tell me what every new citizen should know about the President.

CUT TO:


17 INT. WEST WING CORRIDOR - SAME TIME

17

JOSH comes around a corner and sees MANDY, he catches up, walking with her.

JOSH
What the hell are you doing?

MANDY
I was thinking about grabbing a bagel.

JOSH

You know what I'm talking about.

MANDY

I have an inkling.

JOSH

The person who asked you to consult for him, it's Senator Cullem.

(no reaction)

Senator Nathan Cullem, the incumbent Republican from California, the opponent of the Democratic candidate you had me ace out of the photo-op with the President yesterday.

MANDY

You've heard of him.

JOSH

Mandy... listen very closely to what I'm about to tell you... we're Democrats.

MANDY

I know that, Josh.

JOSH

It's unethical, the thing you had me do with the photo-op alone was enough to get the DNC to fire your ass.

MANDY

I did that for the President, no other reason.

JOSH

Figure everyone'll buy that? You keep a guy from a shoulder-to-shoulder with the President while you're thinking about working for his opponent?

MANDY

It wasn't like that.

JOSH

It looks like that, you work for the White House, the DNC pays your salary, you know what people're gonna think when they find out you're helping a Republican senator keep his job?

(CONTINUED)

MANDY

Maybe they'll think I'm pulling for the better man.

JOSH

Yeah, that'll happen.

MANDY

You should all be thrilled, Cullem's more liberal than half the Democrats out there, he's pro-choice, he's anti-guns, and he's head of the finance committee, if he loses they'll replace him with another Republican who's a hell of a lot nastier, we need this guy to stay where he is.

JOSH

It's a little more complicated than that, and you know it.

MANDY

He's a Republican, Josh, he's not some half-man, half-goat, he has opposable thumbs, he stands erect--

JOSH

And he represents one very big vote against us on a huge pile of partisan issues.

MANDY

What is it with us, we put everything into neat little shoeboxes, the "good Democrat," the "evil Republican," the "traitorous consultant"...

JOSH

If the shoebox fits...

MANDY

I have a right to take a job.

JOSH

And Leo has a right to take one away.

(then)

You have to tell him.

MANDY

I will when I've made my decision.

(CONTINUED)

JOSH

Tell him, Mandy. If I can find out, so can plenty of other people.

She gives him a look as they arrive at:

THE DOOR TO JOSH'S OFFICE

And out of the door steps JULIE HYLAND, movie star.

JULIE

Surprise...

JOSH

(a beat, he's surprised)
Julie, what're you... I didn't know you were staying in Washington.

JULIE

Last minute thing, I managed to find a convenient room, though...

(off his look)

Upstairs, in the Lincoln Bedroom.

JOSH

Great... that's great...

MANDY's watching.

JULIE

I was asked to testify in front of a Senate subcommittee on those leg-hold traps they're using on minks and sable.

MANDY

Not effective enough?

JULIE

(a beat, turns to Mandy)
I'm actually against them.

MANDY

Sorry... mink coats, Hollywood...

JULIE

Have we met?

MANDY

(shaking her hand)
Mandy Hampton. I'm a consultant here at the White House and I have outside clients.

(CONTINUED)

A look at JOSH, JULIE noticing.

JULIE

Well, the truth is, Mandy, I think the whole fur industry should be indicted for what it's doing to those animals.

MANDY

You're right, I couldn't agree more, if man was meant to wear fur, God would've given him... fur.

She LAUGHS, JULIE LAUGHS along, trying to be nice. Then it trails off, all three stand there a beat.

JOSH

Maybe we should--

But DONNA walks up with a pen and paper.

DONNA

Excuse me... Ms. Hyland... could I get you to--

JULIE

Of course...

(taking pen and paper)

You must be Donna.

DONNA looks over at JOSH and smiles, he mentioned her. JULIE signs, then notices MANDY watching and gestures, does she want one, too? A beat, then MANDY realizes it.

MANDY

No... no, that's all r--

(then

I mean sure... you know... if it's not a bother...

JULIE signs one for her, too, then hands both back.

DONNA

Thank you... I loved you in "Wild Blue Yonder."

JULIE

Thank you.

Another awkward moment, all four of them just standing there.

JOSH

So...

(CONTINUED)

MANDY/JULIE/DONNA

So...

The women all look at each other, realizing, and MANDY and DONNA start backing away.

MANDY

Welp, you kids have fun, maybe try something "L.A."...

DONNA

...call each other on your cell phones...

MANDY

...a carjacking maybe...

DONNA

Or you could go to the mall...

MANDY

(laughs a little)

That's cute, "mall," "Washington Mall"...

JOSH

I'm sure we'll think of something. And Mandy, remember what I said.

And MANDY and DONNA turn and head off. A beat, then:

JULIE

Two questions... Do all the assistants have crushes on their bosses?

(he shrugs, modest)

And when did you and Mandy stop dating?

OFF JOSH's look:

CUT TO:

18 EXT. LINCOLN MEMORIAL-DAY

18

Against the magnificent backdrop--as if for effect?--TOBY approaches a professional-looking contemporary (DAN CRANE) who finishes up a call on a cell phone.

CRANE

(extending hand)

Toby, Toby, you didn't have to meet me down here, you know I'm at your beck and call.

(CONTINUED)

TOBY

(shakes hands)

Always nice to get out of the office.

(and then)

So... allow me to congratulate you on your victory.

CRANE

Victory? Me?

TOBY

The rider you attached to the reform banking bill. The one that allows Geotrax to strip-mine the length and breadth of Utah.

CRANE

My understanding is that Congressman Broderick and, I think, Eaton attached it to--

TOBY

They don't have the kind of muscle it takes, Geotrax hired you as their lobbyist, what, three weeks ago?

CRANE

(a beat, conciliatory)

Look, Toby, I can see you're bothered by this, if it's about the way it went down--

TOBY

What, you mean your last-minute-back-door tactics? Nah, Dan, all's fair in love and legislation.

CRANE

Geotrax has a very reasonable position on this, Big Sky represents scores of jobs, huge tax revenues for the state, and lots of--

TOBY

Endless blather. Unlike you, Dan, I'm here to play nice. I'm going to suggest something... something very reasonable. That you advise your client not to go ahead with the project--

CRANE

Not to go ahead--

(CONTINUED)

TOBY

--and in return... Geotrax gets an
equally attractive piece of land to slice
and dice.

CRANE

(a pause)

Where?

TOBY

In Wyoming.

CRANE

Where exactly?

TOBY

I'll know today.

CRANE

You want me to advise them to walk away
from one of the richest copper deposits
on the planet for a piece of land you
don't even know about? There's gotta be
more upside for Geotrax.

TOBY

There is. We promise not to stop them.

CRANE

You can't stop them now.

TOBY

A veto would stop them.

CRANE

Bartlet won't veto his own bill.

TOBY

He's thinking about it. My offer won't
be on the table if he does.

An unhappy silence. Then:

CRANE

I'll relay that to Geotrax.

(CONTINUED)

TOBY

You do that. And while you're at it, tell them that in Wyoming they wouldn't have this administration, and in particular my office, breathing down their collars, checking into the smallest perceived infractions on everything from OSHA to the tax code.

CRANE just looks at him, hardening.

CRANE

Does that represent Bartlet's position?

(no response)

Does it?

(still no response)

Because if it does, that sounds an awful lot like extortion.

TOBY hesitates. Finally:

CRANE

So I'll ask you again... does that represent President Bartlet's position?

TOBY clearly knows he's stepped over the line.

CUT TO:

18 INT. OVAL OFFICE - DAY

19

BARTLET is behind his desk reading. Vice President HOYNES enters.

HOYNES

Mr. President.

(BARTLET looks up)

Mrs. Landingham said this would be a good time to come by.

BARTLET rises, meets HOYNES halfway, they shake hands.

BARTLET

Of course it is, perfect time.

HOYNES

I'm, uh... I'm sorry about the rider on 127, I know how hard you worked on that bill, if there's anything I can do--

BARTLET

I appreciate it. Really.

(CONTINUED)

HOYNES

And that Turner snafu at the conference, I hope it didn't cause too much embar--

BARTLET

Blip on the radar, John, it's gone. What's on your mind?

HOYNES

Actually, I wanted to come by and thank you.

BARTLET

Thank me?

HOYNES

For being able to carve out some time yesterday, to lend yourself to my conference.

BARTLET

The little bit that I could do...

HOYNES

Oh, it was plenty. Believe me. It was the lead on the evening news, the wires, the cable nets...

BARTLET

Well then, I'm glad. It deserves to get out there, to be in a public forum.

HOYNES

No question --

BARTLET

An important issue--

HOYNES

Very important. One that I've been shepherding since, oh, pretty much the first week we got here.

BARTLET

Don't I know it? And you've been doing a fine job. In fact I told my wife it was a good thing, you taking the spotlight off her.

HOYNES

Beg pardon?

(CONTINUED)

BARTLET

Oh, y'know, it's been a pet issue with her since, oh, pretty much my second term in New Hampshire.

HOYNES

Really?

BARTLET

You didn't know that.

HOYNES

Funny, I don't remember her being that visible on the --

BARTLET

Well, you know Abbey, she's pretty low key, works the relationships more than the cameras.

HOYNES

Uh, huh... uh, huh.

(and then)

Well...

BARTLET

Well.

HOYNES

Again, I just... I wanted to thank you.

BARTLET

Please, no need, glad I could be there.

HOYNES

Right... always there with a helping hand. Goodbye, Mr. President.

BARTLET

Goodbye, John.

They share an uneasy smile, a beat, HOYNES exits.

CUT TO:

21 INT. LEO'S OFFICE - DAY

20

LEO sits, lost in thought. Deep thought. He picks up the phone, hesitates, then dials.

LEO

(beat, into phone)

Jenny?

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

LEO (cont'd)

(beat)

Hi...

(beat)

I'm good.

(beat)

Fine, the hotel is fine. It's--

(beat)

Is this a bad time?

(beat)

No, I just... I was wondering if I could drop by the house tonight...

(beat)

No, I don't need anything...

(beat)

Yes, she did. Thank you. I was thinking I might stop by--

(beat)

Would you like to have dinner out someplace?

(beat)

No, she didn't ask me to call you...

(beat)

That's what I told her.

(beat)

I told her I was giving you some space.

(beat)

I think she's as anxious as I am to resolve this, that's all.

(beat)

No, I'm not saying that this is something easily resolved, I just meant--

(beat)

Yes.

(beat)

Yes, I will.

(beat)

I'll wait to hear from you.

(beat)

I miss you, Jenny.

(beat)

Okay. Goodbye...

He hangs up the phone. After a long moment staring into the middle distance, MANDY knocks and walks in on him.

MANDY

Sorry that took a few, I was catching up with Toby, Crane's apparently going to get back to him tomorrow.

LEO looks up at her. Then:

(CONTINUED)

LEO
(quietly)
What the hell do you think you're doing?

MANDY
(pause; taken aback)
Like I said, I was just helping out on
the Geotrax sit--

LEO
We both know I'm talking about Nathan
Cullem.

MANDY
(beat)
I didn't think my outside consulting was
on the table for discussion--

LEO
It is when it conflicts with our agenda!

MANDY
Cullem represents our agenda a lot better
than Franklin does.

LEO
Do you have any idea how this makes me
look?

MANDY
You...?

LEO
(stands up, louder)
Yes, me! I pushed to get you in here,
Mandy, and I don't mind telling you the
first time I floated the idea it met with
rather heavy flak. And that's because
you were working for a Democrat who
didn't quite see eye-to-eye with our
President. After all that do you
honestly expect me to sit on my hands and
let you try to re-elect a Republican to
the Senate?!

MANDY
A Republican who happens to--

(CONTINUED)

LEO

Don't blur the issue with politics, I know the man's politics, I don't care if he's left of Che Guevara, I'm talking how this White House looks to every other Democrat out there, you're gonna have every last one of 'em looking over their shoulders! I'm telling you, Mandy, move one step forward on this and you're gonna have even fewer friends around here than you do now!

MANDY

(a beat, hurt)

What's that supposed to mean?

LEO

It means exactly what you think it means.

She just looks at him, angry tears forming. And then:

MANDY

Thanks, Leo. For the delicate touch. And if it does mean what I think it means, maybe you won't have to worry about my job with Cullem interfering with my job here, because maybe my job here isn't the job I want to keep.

She turns and leaves. A beat... then LEO realizes he was too strong.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT III

ACT IV

FADE IN:

21 INT. TABARD INN - NIGHT

21

C.J. and DANNY are eating dinner. The Tabard Inn is a quiet bed-and-breakfast-ish type place. A moment of silence, slightly uncomfortable, then:

DANNY
Your pork chop okay?

C.J.
Great. It's great.
(then)
Your squab?

DANNY
How could frying a pigeon go wrong?

A smile between them, then:

DANNY
Nice place.

C.J.
I think so.

DANNY
Kind of out of the way.

C.J.
(beat, defensive)
I thought that was a good thing.

DANNY
Me too, I wasn't complai--

C.J.
I mean, it's not like the idea's to be seen or anything, right?

DANNY
Not like that at all.

C.J.
This isn't the easiest, or smartest, thing I've ever done, I think a place like this was the perfect choice.

DANNY
C.J... it's okay... I like it.

(CONTINUED)

C.J.

(beat)

Right... right... I'm sorry...

(then)

I'm sorry, Danny, I just...

She trails off, takes a very deep breath, and then:

C.J. (cont'd)

So...

DANNY

So...

C.J.

I asked you about your squab, didn't I.

DANNY

You did, I think I said I liked it.

C.J.

I think that's right, I think that is what you said...

DANNY

I was pretty sure.

(then)

Maybe if we talked about your day.

C.J.

My day. Sure. We can do that.

(then)

There's a funny story from this afternoon, I mean, if you're really--

DANNY

Absolutely, what happened?

C.J.

Well, a few of us went out for lunch, and Suzanne Bray over in the travel department had a few too many martinis and started telling us about a trip she planned for the Attorney General and what am I thinking I can't possibly tell you that story.

DANNY

Why not?

(CONTINUED)

C.J.

Because it's a private story about a government official, God, this is so awkward!

DANNY

C.J.--

C.J.

I want it to be nice, Danny, being here with you, I just... this is very scary for me. I spend 51% of my time trying to please the President, and 49% of my time trying to please the press, I'm the only one at the White House with a 2% gap between my feelings for my boss and my feelings for the other side, and he's aware of that.

DANNY

I'm not trying to make your life harder.

C.J.

(shrugs)

I know you're not, it's just the way it's all set up. Friends and enemies. And when the line between them starts to blur...

(then)

Robert Turner's our friend with deep pockets, but when we learn about the other things his money supports we're suddenly fraternizing with the Lord of Darkness. We're backing a Democratic Senator who's a good deal uglier than his Republican enemy. And how do you think Toby feels about any of us fraternizing with the press? Everything's a battle, we spend our whole lives digging in against the enemy, and half the time we don't even know who the enemy is. Really, can't we all just get along?

A small smile between them.

DANNY

Catchy phrase.

C.J.

It's my job to be quotable.

(CONTINUED)

DANNY
And you didn't even mention Mandy.
(off her look)
You know, fraternizing with the other
side and all...

A beat, C.J. stiffens.

C.J.
How do you know about Mandy?

DANNY
(shrugs)
I'm the press.

C.J.
And you want a story, that's why you
brought it up?

DANNY
I'm just talking, C.J.

C.J.
And I'm not.

DANNY
Whadda you mean?

C.J.
I don't know what I mean, I just know
this whole thing has me so confused I
don't even know what side I'm on anymore.

DANNY
I heard about Mandy, I mentioned it,
that's it...

C.J.
(grabs her purse)
I can't do this, I'm sorry.

DANNY
C.J., this isn't--

C.J.
We get the bill, we split it, and we go,
okay? I really am sorry, I like you,
Danny, but right now I like my job
better.

The two just sit there, nothing left to say, and we:

CUT TO:

(CONTINUED)

21 CONTINUED: (4) 21

22 INT. CORRIDOR - WHITE HOUSE - NIGHT 22

JOSH leads JULIE from the West Wing to the residence; they're loose, enjoying themselves.

JULIE

...It's not just about my figure, I eat all the fruits and vegetables for health reasons, too.

JOSH

Be good to your bowels and they'll be good to you.

JULIE

I find you an ounce less charming as the night goes on...

JOSH

Then I'm getting better.

A small smile between them as they arrive at:

THE ENTRANCE TO THE RESIDENCE

A uniformed Secret Service OFFICER mans the area around the elevator.

OFFICER

Good evening, Miss Hyland. Mr. Lyman, do you have business in the residence this evening?

JOSH

I was just going to, uh... no... no business at all in the residence tonight.

The Officer stands there, stoic, JOSH won't be getting on the elevator. JOSH and JULIE exchange a look.

JOSH

Well...

JULIE

Well...

(then)

So much for my story about staying in the Lincoln Bedroom.

(CONTINUED)

JOSH
(smiles)
I, uh... I enjoyed the night.

JULIE
So did I. Thanks for dinner, and thanks
for the tour.

JOSH
My pleasure.

A beat, then JULIE leans in for a goodnight kiss. JOSH politely goes to kiss her cheek, but JULIE kisses him on the lips, and keeps kissing him, JOSH taken by surprise, conscious of the officer, but finally getting his bearings and kissing back, it gets more intimate, they embrace, it gets hotter, and finally they break apart.

JULIE
Well...

JOSH
Well...

They look over at the Officer who doesn't budge, doesn't look, and then:

JULIE
I guess this is good night.

JOSH
Yeah... I guess it is.
(then)
Good night.

JULIE
Good night.

She steps on the elevator and the door closes, JOSH standing there a moment, then turning to the OFFICER.

JOSH
So is that the kind of thing you have to,
you know, report?

OFFICER
I don't see a place for it on my forms.

JOSH
Good, that's good.

OFFICER
Goodnight, Mr. Lyman.

(CONTINUED)

JOSH

Goodnight.

And he walks off.

CUT TO:

23 INT. WHITE HOUSE OFFICE AREA - NIGHT

23

MANDY'S sitting at a desk, eating a candy bar, soda next to her, looking over some notes in an otherwise empty area. After a moment BARTLET casually appears next to her.

BARTLET

So this is the space they gave you.

MANDY

(looks up, starts to rise)
Mr. President... I didn't--

BARTLET

Siddown, siddown...

MANDY

(a beat, collecting herself)
Actually, this isn't mine, I don't have an office... I kind of wait for people to leave then I steal their desk for twenty minutes.

BARTLET

Seems a little "nomadic" for someone who helped put me in office.
(sits on desk next to her, indicating her candy bar)
I used to love the crunchy ones, still do if you wanna know the truth... I've gotta stay away from chocolate now, though, it makes me a little hyper. Be hard to tell the Joint Chiefs I sent troops into northern Africa because I was on a sugar buzz.

MANDY

(smiles a little)
Yes, sir...

BARTLET

I didn't mean to interrupt, I was just taking a walk, thinking about this bank bill.

(CONTINUED)

MANDY

I'm sorry it's become such a problem, Mr. President.

BARTLET

Republican posturing, that's all, just another round of partisan politics...

(a pause)

Did you know that the Constitution never once mentions political parties? The founding fathers never envisioned them, never conceived of a two-party system. Yet here we are. Because we're playing "shirts and skins" we end up putting into law provisions that we don't believe in, don't care about, simply because it's a way to win. We embrace candidates we don't like personally, accommodate elected officials we don't agree with, even share tickets with people we otherwise wouldn't share an evening with, all in the name of some hoped-for power base for our own party. Sometimes I hate it, most of the time I wish it was simply about a person and his or her ideas.

(Mandy's listening)

And then I think, "Well, it is what we have." I campaigned as an outsider, I came in that way, but I've become more and more aware of the value of the two-party system since I've been here. We don't have the instability they have in Europe because our government isn't split into dozens of small parties. And it's guaranteed a lively opposition to whichever party is in power, that's a healthy thing. It might well be that our government would stop working effectively without it, so ultimately I guess I end up playing the game. I fight the other side, even at the expense of losing things I don't want to lose. And I try not to send any messages, even small, symbolic ones, that might signal a lack of loyalty to that system.

There's a long pause, MANDY taking in everything he's saying-- and implying.

(CONTINUED)

MANDY

(re: Senator Franklin)

Sometimes your own teammates can hurt you more than the team you're playing against.

BARTLET

So I've heard. If that's the case, I suppose the team captain would be well-advised to keep them off his playing field.

(then, getting up)

Well, thank you for letting me work this through a little, Mandy, hope I didn't take any time away from whatever it is you're dealing with.

MANDY

(a small smile)

No, sir... not at all.

BARTLET

Okay then, I should get back and run the world.

MANDY

Good luck sir.

BARTLET

Thank you, I'm pretty sure I'll need it.

And he exits, MANDY watching.

DISSOLVE TO:

24 INT. OVAL OFFICE - NEXT MORNING

24

BARTLET works at his desk as LEO and TOBY enter.

LEO

Mr. President?

(BARTLET looks up)

Crane got back to Toby. No go with Geotrax.

BARTLET deflates visibly.

BARTLET

(to Toby)

Rough coupla days, huh?

TOBY

You might say that, sir.

(CONTINUED)

BARTLET
 (to Leo)
 Any other options?

LEO
 I'm afraid not, Mr. President.

BARTLET just sits there for the longest time, LEO watching, unsure. Finally:

BARTLET
 Have C.J. call a four o'clock press conference.

LEO
 What are you going to tell 'em?

BARTLET
 That I'm going to veto the bill.

LEO
 Just so someone says it... it's going to make us look bad.

BARTLET
 ...I don't have a choice.

CUT TO:

25 INT. MALLORY MCGARRY'S CLASSROOM - THAT AFTERNOON

25

Sam stands before a room of FOREIGN ADULTS, Mallory nearby.

SAM
 So... those are just a few of the things the President does for each and every citizen. Can you think of any others?
 (silence)
 What about for this school?
 (and then)
 For instance, the President allocates the taxes that keep it running.

PAKISTANI MAN
 Please to question... but don't President and Congress do that?

SAM
 Well... yes... technically.

Another silence, a hand goes up, SAM points.

(CONTINUED)

EAST EUROPEAN WOMAN
Why do we not elect President?

SAM
I'm sorry, but...you do.

EAST EUROPEAN WOMAN
No. Electoral college does.

SAM
Ah, right, yes, there are, um, 435 --

EAST EUROPEAN WOMAN
538.

SAM
538 electors who do... but you elect them.

CENTRAL AMERICAN MAN
Why do some Presidents be elected by the House of Representatives?

SAM
I don't think that's the way it--

CENTRAL AMERICAN MAN
Yes, Thomas Jefferson and John Quincy Adams were.

SAM
Ah, of course, I didn't realize you meant... that far back.

CENTRAL AMERICAN MAN
And Rutherford B. Hayes.

SAM
Well yes, he goes without saying, so, this is, uh, this is a really impressive class. I have to tell you, I don't think I've ever been around a group of people who liked learning about our government as much as you do.

(then)
You must have a pretty special teacher.

He looks over at MALLORY and smiles. She smiles back, self-consciously, then abruptly gets it back on track.

MALLORY
Is there anything else you can think of that our President does?

(CONTINUED)

KOREAN WOMAN
He gives us national parks.

SAM
And how does he do that?

KOREAN WOMAN
He just takes any land he wants and makes
it so.

SAM
Um, well, I don't think he can do it
quite that easily...

KOREAN WOMAN
Oh, yes. He can. With any public land.

SAM
That couldn't be.

MALLORY
Sure it could. Haven't you ever heard of
the Antiquities Act?

Off SAM'S look:

26 INT. WEST WING CORRIDOR - DAY

26

JOSH and MANDY meet as they come out separate doors, walking
together.

MANDY
I've made a decision.

JOSH
You have?

MANDY
I've decided to get a cat.

JOSH
I could've sworn you were a dog person.

MANDY
I'm fickle.

JOSH
So I've noticed.

MANDY
I've also decided to work for the right
man.

(CONTINUED)

JOSH
And who might that be?

MANDY
Jed Bartlet.

JOSH
You're my hero.

MANDY
I used to be.

An awkward beat, then:

MANDY
It's okay, isn't it... that I'm here?

JOSH
(beat)
Of course it's okay...
(then)
I mean, everyone else likes you.

A wry look between them, and then, changing the subject:

MANDY
So where's Ms. Hyland, on her way back to
Lost Angeles?

JOSH
She's actually gonna stick around for a
couple of days.

MANDY
Impressive. How'd you manage that, got
her in one of those Leg-hold traps?

JOSH
Bit right through it.
(pointing to his inner thigh)
See, I've still got the mark...

MANDY
(smiles, then)
So it's getting a little serious.

JOSH
Serious? I don't know. She's a movie
star.
(then)
You like her?

(CONTINUED)

MANDY
I don't not like her.

JOSH
She's smarter than you'd think an actress might be.

MANDY
Is she as smart as me?

JOSH
I probably got us into territory I--

MANDY
C'mon, is she? I bet I could kick her ass in Scrabble.

JOSH
I don't know, we haven't gotten around to a game...

MANDY
Has she ever even played Scrabble?

JOSH
She's pretty busy, what with her testifying about minks and stuff...

MANDY
I'm gonna invite the two of you over and I'm gonna kick her butt all over the Scrabble board, Josh.

JOSH
Sounds like a fun evening...

And they arrive at:

THE AREA OUTSIDE THE PRESS BRIEFING ROOM

LEO, TOBY, AND C.J. are waiting, and as JOSH and MANDY walk up, MANDY and LEO see each other. Then, in unison:

Sorry. MANDY

Sorry. LEO

LEO
I didn't mean it.

A small nod from MANDY.

(CONTINUED)

JOSH
He's really going to veto this thing?

BARTLET appears, he's pissed.

BARTLET
Yes, he is, and he's not at all happy
about it.
(then)
Let's get it over with.

He starts into the Briefing Room, but just before he gets
inside SAM rushes up and intercepts them, he's carrying a
large book.

SAM
Mr. President.

BARTLET
I'm a little late for my hanging, Sam.

SAM
If I could just have a minute first...

Off everyone's looks, we:

CUT TO:

27 INT. PRESS BRIEFING ROOM

27

BARTLET stands behind the podium facing the press, our group
all off to the side.

BARTLET
Allow me to read something I think will
be of interest...
(opens book; reading)
"The little known Antiquities Act of 1906
authorizes the President of the United
States to declare any landmark of
historic or scientific interest found on
land owned or controlled by the United
States Government to be a national
monument."
(stops reading)
Little known is right, the act is almost
a hundred years old and has only been
used on a handful of occasions, the first
time being an effort to save the Grand
Canyon from land developers.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

BARTLET (cont'd)

My guess is Senators Eaton and Broderick weren't aware of it when they attached a strip-mining provision to my bank bill the other day.

(scattered LAUGHS)

I hereby declare Big Sky Federal Reserve in Utah, under the Antiquities Act of 1906, to be designated a national monument, thereby forever prohibiting strip-mining or abuse of the land in any way. This clears the way for the signing of my banking reform bill first thing Monday morning...

FLASHBULBS, questions thrown out, as we move over to our group.

TOBY

Hollywood ending, Sam.

SAM

My horse is tied up out front.

AD-LIBBED congratulations, pats on the back for SAM.

MANDY

Gee, Josh, it's kinda nice when real life turns out like the movies...

A sly smile, JOSH smiles back, and we:

DISSOLVE TO:

28 INT. HOTEL ROOM -- NIGHT

28

PAN a dark, empty room to reveal LEO sitting on the bed alone, ostensibly LANGSTON DEVRIES on TV... but he's not really focusing on it and the sound is turned down, it's not where he wants to be tonight.

TRANSITION TO:

29 INT. C.J.'S BEDROOM -- NIGHT

29

PAN the room to see C.J., in her bed, also alone -- and looking like she wished it wasn't the case...

TRANSITION TO:

30 INT. TOBY'S BEDROOM - NIGHT

30

PAN the room as TOBY sits on the edge of his bed with a brown paper bag. He opens the bag and pulls out a prescription bottle. He regards it a moment, uncertainly...

(CONTINUED)

Then he futzes with the child-proof cap, gets it open, shakes two pills into his hand. He tosses them in his mouth, washes them down with a glass of water on his night stand. And as he continues to sit there, also alone...

FADE OUT.

THE END