

PARAGON: SECOND CHANCE

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FADE IN:

EXT. CENTRAL DISTRICT - NIGHT

DOGWOOD CITY, a fictional version of New York City.

CENTRAL DISTRICT, a fictional version of the Manhattan Borough in New York City.

AERIAL SHOT OF THE CENTRAL DISTRICT SECTION OF DOGWOOD CITY. VIBRANT, TOWERING SKYSCRAPERS, HIGH-END STORES, LARGE CROWDS OF PEOPLE, AND PLENTY STREET TRAFFIC BELOW.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. JONES' HOUSE - SAME TIME

WIDE VIEW OF THE JONES HOUSEHOLD, PLACED ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF THE CENTRAL DISTRICT.

"20 YEARS AGO"

CUT TO:

INT. JONES' HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER

JACK JONES, 55, White Male.

NORA JONES, 50, White Female.

JACK sneaks into the house quietly, but he's met by NORA.

NORA

Jack, you told me you were done.

JACK

I am, tonight was the last heist. After tonight, it's over.

NORA

You've said that before.

JACK

I know, but the community still needed me. The people, our people.

NORA

Your son needs you. I need you. The hell with the people.

JACK

Nora.

NORA

No. Me and Nathan need you around here, but you care more about everything else.

JACK

That's not true. You and Nathan are my world.

NORA

Then make us feel as such!

JACK

(pauses)

I will, I promise. I'll be a better a husband, and father.

Jack opens a safe, puts a bunch of money in the bag.

NORA

What's all that for?

JACK

I have to disappear for a few days.

NORA

Are you kidding? Did you not hear anything I just said?

JACK

I did, Nora. I heard you loud and clear; I understood you.

NORA

Yet, you're leaving again.

JACK

I'm coming back, I just have to lay low for a while. I'm being searched for all across the city.

NORA

What if you get caught? What about me? Our son?

JACK

I've been at this over 20 years, and we've been just fine. Don't lose faith in me now.

Jack kisses Nora.

JACK (CONT'D)

Tell Nathan I'll see him soon.

EXT. JONES' HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Jack exits the house, he's met by countless cops with their guns drawn out front.

CHARLES LEWIS, 31, Black Male.

LIEUTENANT LEWIS

Jack Jones, this is Lieutenant Charles Lewis with the CDPD.

Jack Jones puts his hands up.

LIEUTENANT LEWIS (CONT'D)

You're under arrest for multiple counts of armed robbery, grand larceny, and conspiracy.

JACK

(looks back at Nora)
I'm sorry Honey.

Jack eases forward.

LIEUTENANT LEWIS

Do not move! Until you are told.

JACK

Officer, my wife and son are inside. I just don't want your guns pointed at the home they're in.

Jack continues to move forward.

LIEUTENANT LEWIS

I said do not move!

Nora runs out in front of Jack.

NORA

What are you doing? These men will shoot you! Quit it!

LIEUTENANT LEWIS

Ma'am move out of the way.

NORA

I'm trying to get him to cooperate, we're all on the same team here.

JACK

No we're not, I'll never be on their side.

NORA

You're not helping.

NATHAN JONES, 15, White Male.

NATHAN appears in the doorway.

NATHAN

Mom, Dad? Is everything alright?

NORA

Yes, dear. Just go back inside; I'll be there in a minute.

NATHAN

What about Dad?

JACK

It's okay buddy, listen to your mother.

NATHAN

Why are there so many cops?

NORA

Nathan go inside! Please.

Nathan goes back inside.

LIEUTENANT LEWIS

Ma'am last chance! Move out the way, or we will shoot you.

Jack moves Nora behind him. He walks forward, hands up.

JACK

I'm coming to you with my hands up, not a threat at all.

LIEUTENANT LEWIS

Stop moving!

JACK

Relax. No one needs to get hurt, I surrender.

Nora tries to jump in front of Jack to stop him again, she's caught in the crossfire; shot. She falls into Jack's arms.

JACK (CONT'D)

No, no, no, no. Nora.

Jack lies her on the ground.

JACK (CONT'D)

Come on honey, stay with me.

NORA

(gasping for breath)

Jack, I'm scared.

JACK

No it's okay dear, you're gonna be okay. We're gonna get you fixed up.

NORA

(gasping for breath)

Jack-

JACK

Save your breath, sweetie. Save your energy; you need it.

NORA

(gasping for breath)

Nathan.

Jack looks back, Nathan watches from the door way; a blank look of confusion. Jack looks back at Nora, her eyes closing.

JACK

No, no, no! Nora, wake up!

Police pounce Jack, pulling him off of Nora's body.

JACK (CONT'D)

Unhand me! You see what you did?! Help my wife!

Police pull Jack away, Nathan watches, Nora dies on the ground.

JACK (CONT'D)

Nora!!!

MATCH CUT TO:

INT. DOGWOOD PENITENTIARY - JACK'S CELL - DAY

JACK JONES, 75, White Male.

JACK stares at a photo of his wife Nora; reminiscing.

"PRESENT DAY"

A knock at the cell door.

PRISON GUARD

Jack, I need you to come with us.

You have a visitor.

Jack puts out his wrist, the guards handcuff him.

CUT TO:

EXT. ACTION HEADQUARTERS - DAY

ACTION, or Advanced Covert Tactical Intelligence Operations and Network.

ESTABLISHING SHOT OF ACTION HEADQUARTERS; BASED IN THE HEART OF DOGWOOD'S CENTRAL DISTRICT.

CUT TO:

INT. ACTION HEADQUARTERS - MEETING ROOM - SAME TIME

COMMANDER HELEN HART, 51, Black Female.

DEFENSE SECRETARY JAMES SULLIVAN, 60, Black Male.

COMMANDER HART enters the room, meets with SECRETARY SULLIVAN on a video chat via monitor.

SECRETARY SULLIVAN Helen, I would've never foreseen losing 25 ACTION agents under your leadership; yet here we are.

COMMANDER HART
It was very humbling, painful, and embarrassing to witness.

SECRETARY SULLIVAN This is bad publicity.

I know these turn of event make ACTION look bad, but I assure you-

SECRETARY SULLIVAN
This mess reflects terribly on
everyone up to the President.

COMMANDER HART

I understand that, and I take full responsibility. If I could just explain what really went down-

SECRETARY SULLIVAN Enlighten me.

FLASHBACK MONTAGE BEGINS: INT. NNO BASE - NIGHT

NNO, or Narco Nexus Organization.

COMMANDER HART (V.O.) The infiltration of NNO's base was going as planned; initially.

ACTION agents stealthily move through the base, taking out NNO mercenaries one by one; unnoticed.

COMMANDER HART (V.O.) We had the upper hand, we found

their chemist; Dr.Draper.

DOCTOR SEBASTIAN DRAPER, AKA DR.O, 60, White Male.

ACTION Agents bust into a lab where DR.DRAPER is creating the Oblivion drug; guns drawn.

COMMANDER HART (V.O.)

Their guys were contained, until some guy named Envy showed up.

ENVY, 35, White Male. Tall and shredded physique. Black bulletproof vest, Sleeveless, Martial arts gloves, Brown tactical pants, and Black boots. A Black mask with a vented mouth piece inspired by comic book Red Hood's red mask.

ENVY gruesomely killing off ACTION agents, one by one. He's dodging their gun attacks, he's leaping from one side of the room to the other with ease; too fast for agents to keep up.

COMMANDER HART (V.O.)

He was greatly enhanced, but it didn't stop there.

Envy uses a scepter, edged with a glowing red crystal. He's blasting ACTION Agents with it's energy. He uses the scepter to suck the life force out of an Agent, leaving them dead.

COMMANDER HART (V.O.) He had this weapon, we now know to be called The Spirit Relic.

Envy uses the Spirit Relic edged scepter to continuously suck the life force out of any ACTION agent who crosses his path. One of his NNO mercenaries are killed, Envy miraculously uses the relic to revive the guy.

COMMANDER HART (V.O.) That thing has power I've never seen. We can't match that.

AGENT JULIA HOPE, 35, White Female.

AGENT HOPE catches Envy off guard by shooting him with electrically charged bullets; temporarily disorienting him. Hope takes that moment to grab the scepter, and retreat.

COMMANDER HART (V.O.)
Thankfully, one of our agents were able to disarm him. Agent Hope; she retrieved the relic and got away.

Agent Hope speeds away in a armored vehicle.

FLASHBACK MONTAGE ENDS: BACK TO PRESENT

COMMANDER HART

She was the only surviving agent. Thanks to her, the Spirit Relic and Dr.Draper are both in our custody.

SECRETARY SULLIVAN
That's good, but it's not bringing back the agents lost. Any more on The NNO, or this Envy guy?

COMMANDER HART

Nothing as of now, we can't even find a real name. They operate off grid, and they're good at it.

SECRETARY SULLIVAN And this Spirit Relic? Life taking? Life giving?

Yes and yes. It got me thinking, what if that could be the missing piece to our Paragon Project?

SECRETARY SULLIVAN
Absolutely not, The Paragon Project
was a pipe dream. We don't need any
more unnecessary publicity.

COMMANDER HART Can you just hear me out?

SECRETARY SULLIVAN No. I want that thing stored away indefinitely. Understand?

COMMANDER HART

Yes sir.

SECRETARY SULLIVAN Good. You guys just focus on stopping The NNO, and if you fail; us higher ups will step in.

Commander Hart nods approval, they end the video call.

CUT TO:

EXT. DOGWOOD PENITENTIARY - DAY

DOGWOOD PENITENTIARY, a fictional version of Rikers Island Correctional Facility.

AERIAL VIEW OF THE ENORMOUS DOGWOOD PENITENTIARY.

CUT TO:

INT. DOGWOOD PENITENTIARY - VISITATION ROOM - SAME TIME

NATHAN JONES, 35, White Male.

Jack sits at a table, NATHAN joins him.

JACK

(surprised)

Nathan, you actually came. I thought for sure you wouldn't.

NATHAN

Trust me, I'd rather not be; but it sounded urgent so whatever.

JACK

Right, well thank you for coming anyways. Have a seat.

NATHAN

I don't have time to waste. I'm fine standing. What do you want?

JACK

Straight to the point I see. Okay well, I'm dying son.

NATHAN

(pauses)
Aren't we all?

JACK

My heart is failing, I likely don't have much longer here; and I wanted you to know that.

NATHAN

(chuckles)

Is that all that you wanted to say?

JACK

I know you hate me, you have every right to.

NATHAN

You damn right I do.

JACK

I just figured, as my son, you should know what's going on.

NATHAN

As your son? You stopped being my father 20 years ago.

JACK

Nathan-

NATHAN

No listen, I didn't even wanna come here; but I'm glad I did. This news will actually make my day.

JACK

Ok buddy, I get it. That's enough.

NATHAN

You sent my mother to her grave, now I get to see you prepare to lay in your own; that's poetic.

JACK

This was a bad idea, I think you should leave.

NATHAN

You asked me here, now you want me to leave? The nerve of you; insane.

JACK

Insane? I asked you here for a good reason. I was trying to do right by you, trying to be a good-

NATHAN

A good what? Person? Father? No. You're a nobody who failed to hold together his family; understand?

JACK

Actually, I do. I've made peace with that, and I'm not asking for forgiveness; but do know I'm sorry.

NATHAN

You're a disgrace, and when your time is up; I hope you rot in hell.

Nathan spits in the face of Jack, and storms out.

CUT TO:

INT. ACTION HEADQUARTERS - HALLWAY - DAY

Commander Hart walking fast with a purpose.

AGENT HOPE (O.S.)

Commander, wait up.

Agent Hope catches up to Hart.

AGENT HOPE (CONT'D)

How'd the meeting with Secretary Sullivan go?

COMMANDER HART

About as expected, particularly when a mission fails miserably.

AGENT HOPE

I see. Where are you headed now?

COMMANDER HART

To make our next move. Were you able to get anything from Draper?

AGENT HOPE

No, the guy's a true NNO loyalist. However, he did hint at Envy not being the one in charge.

COMMANDER HART

Then who is?

AGENT HOPE

He wouldn't say. All he said was that we'd know in due time.

COMMANDER HART

He's playing mind games, we'll catch all of them nonetheless.

Hart and Hope enter-

ACTION HEADQUARTERS - SCIENCE LAB - CONTINUOUS

DOCTOR CURTIS CALDWELL, 50, Black Male.

DOCTOR SELENA PRIME, 30, Latin American Female.

Hart and Hope approach DR.CALDWELL and SELENA.

COMMANDER HART

Caldwell, Selena, have a minute?

All four of them step aside.

DR.CALDWELL

Commander, what brings you down here to us science people?

COMMANDER HART

I actually need a really big favor.

DR.CALDWELL

I'm listening.

COMMANDER HART

The Paragon Project, I need it taken off ice asap.

DR.CALDWELL

That's probably not a good idea.

COMMANDER HART

We have no other options, you saw how they manhandled us.

SELENA

That maybe true, but what difference would The Paragon make?

COMMANDER HART

Envy; an irresistible force that we can't beat. The Paragon could be our counter, our immoveable object.

DR.CALDWELL

The Synthetic Parasite for the project has killed every life form it's ever touched.

COMMANDER HART

That's true, but the difference now is that we have a life manipulating ancient artifact.

DR.CALDWELL

That Relic means nothing to this topic.

COMMANDER HART

You know what that thing can do, we all saw! Imagine if we added just part of it to The Paragon Project.

SELENA

You think it can give The Paragon a life force that it's been missing.

COMMANDER HART

(head nods)

I think it's worth a shot.

DR . CAT.DWET.T.

No it's not. We don't know for sure that Relic is gonna solve anything?

SELENA

Not to mention the need for test subjects. No one's gonna take part in this project with its history.

I'll find willing subjects, don't worry about that. I just need you guys to hold up your end.

DR.CALDWELL

There is no end, I'm not risking any more lives with this Paragon nonsense.

COMMANDER HART

The Paragon WILL be what helps us stop The NNO, this ISN'T a debate.

DR.CALDWELL

All due respect; this is MY lab, and MY decision is final.

AGENT HOPE

Okay let's all relax, take a step back here; shall we?

COMMANDER HART

Listen to me, little man. This is MY building, MY rules. Your decision's already been overruled.

DR.CALDWELL

Wow, very unprofessional, very emotional. I expect better of you.

SELENA

Come on guys, this isn't necessary.

COMMANDER HART

Excuse me?

DR.CALDWELL

You heard me. I've given ACTION too many good years to be disrespected.

COMMANDER HART

(chuckles)

You know what I agree. As of now, you're fired. Hope, escort him out.

Hope is hesitant, but she takes Caldwell, and begins pulling him away.

DR.CALDWELL

Get your hands off of me! Hart!

Relax Doctor, she's just escorting you out of the building.

DR.CALDWELL

Wait! You can fire me, but The Paragon Project was my creation! I'm taking it with me!

COMMANDER HART

No sir, that's property of ACTION and the US Government.

DR.CALDWELL

You can't do this to me! I have rights!

COMMANDER HART

Quit being so emotional and unprofessional, I expect better.

Hope takes Dr.Caldwell away. Meanwhile, in the lab everyone looks on; there's an awkward silence.

COMMANDER HART (CONT'D)

What are you all looking at? Back to work! Selena, come with me.

Everyone dispatches back to work, Hart and Selena exit.

CUT TO:

INT. DOGWOOD PENITENTIARY - LUNCH ROOM - DAY

Jack in the lunch line, gets his food. On his way to a table, he's bumped by a young fellow Inmate 1. Jack keeps his head down, continues on to his table to eat. At this table, Jack's approached by the young Inmate 1 and his lackeys.

INMATE 1

Hey old man, you didn't see me when you bumped?

JACK

(avoids eye contact)
I've had a long day, my apologies.

INMATE 1

Yeah, I know it's your apologies, You know who I am?

JACK

(avoids eye contact)

An inmate, like the rest of us.

INMATE 1

Oh, you've got jokes? Think you're funny, huh?

JACK

(avoids eye contact)
Not at all. You asked me a
question; I answered it.

INMATE 1

Okay I have another question; you hungry old man?

Inmate 1 swipes Jack's tray of food to the floor.

INMATE 1 (CONT'D)

Go ahead, eat.

Jack doesn't move; he remains calm.

JACK

Come on, guys, I don't want any trouble.

Inmate 1 directs his lackeys to move him. Inmates 2 and 3 grab Jack, force him to the floor.

INMATE 1

I believe I said eat; now!

Inmates 2 and 3 try to force Jack's head to the floor, Jack snaps. Jack takes his fork, stabs Inmate 2 in the leg with it. He takes the tray and bangs it over the head of Inmate 3.

JACK

(regains his footing)
Why couldn't you just leave me
alone?

Jack turns his attention back to Inmate 2, bangs his head on the table a few times; knocking him out. Turning to Inmate 3, Jack puts him in a sleeper hold until he's also unconscious.

JACK (CONT'D)

(turns to Inmate 1)

This isn't who I am anymore. Why'd you have to bother me?

INMATE 1

(takes out a shank) Time to die, old man.

Time to die, old man.

Inmate 1 runs at Jack with the shank. Completely calm, Jack reverses the Inmate's attack and disarms him. Jack then delivers a crushing couple blows to the Inmate's liver area.

JACK

That's the liver shot, young man. I've been delivering that shot since before you were born.

Jack grabs the Inmate's hand, begins breaking each finger; one by one. The inmate screams in pain. Prison guards rush the area, pull Jack away, and handcuffs him.

PRISON GUARD

Knock it off old man, what's the
matter with you?

JACK

(looks down at Inmate 1)
Next time someone tells you they
had a long day, don't bother.

PRISON GUARD

Enough! You're going in the hole.

The Guards take Jack away.

CUT TO:

INT. ACTION HEADQUARTERS - HART'S OFFICE - DAY

Commander Hart and Selena enter the office.

COMMANDER HART

Tell me about more about The Paragon Project. What's wrong with it? How can it be fixed?

SELENA

Well the biggest issue has been the parasite's lack of stabilization.

FLASHBACK MONTAGE BEGINS: INT. ACTION HEADQUARTERS - SCIENCE LAB - DAY

Dr.Caldwell and Selena release the slime like, white synthetic parasite from its containment canister.

The Test Subject is strapped to an operating table as the parasite begins to actively size him up.

SELENA (V.O.)

We've been unable to get it out of this aggressive state.

The parasite wraps itself around the Subject's body, and absorbs itself into their skin. The Test Subjects screams in pain of the process, begins convulsing.

COMMANDER HART (V.O.)

Do you at least know the cause for its aggression?

The screams slowly lessen, the convulsing eases, heart rate and breathing begins to studies.

SELENA (V.O.)

Control was our guess. We noticed when it bonds, it begins to rewrite the DNA makeup of its host.

Suddenly, the Subject's veins begin to glow and intensify. The Subject begins to convulse more aggressively, begins coughing blood from the mouth.

SELENA (V.O.)

Naturally the human body will fight it like a virus; but it's no match.

The Subject is seizing profusely, foam pours from his mouth, eyes begin to roll back; he eventually flatlines.

COMMANDER HART (V.O.)

Resulting in a painful death.

FLASHBACK MONTAGE ENDS: BACK TO PRESENT

SELENA

Exactly.

COMMANDER HART

Okay, why not try to dial back its strength?

SELENA

That was considered, but Caldwell decided that may dilute the entire idea of a super agent.

Well there's gotta be another way to stabilize this thing?

SELENA

(pauses)

Honestly, your idea with the relic wasn't a bad one. It's just risky.

COMMANDER HART

I'm willing to take the risk.

SELENA

The Spirit Relic could destroy The Paragon Project entirely, sending us back to square one.

COMMANDER HART

Back to square one? We're already there; we have nothing to lose.

SELENA

I agree, I'm just not sure about it. I've got a bad feeling.

COMMANDER HART

(pauses)

Well, set those feeling aside. I want you to infuse the Relic with the Parasite, and see what happens.

SELENA

I don't know, Commander.

COMMANDER HART

Neither do I, that's why I'm putting you in charge to find out.

Agent Hope rushes into the office.

AGENT HOPE

Sorry to interrupt. Um, Commander we have a situation; The NNO.

CUT TO:

EXT. ACTION HEADQUARTERS - MOMENTS LATER

ACTION Agents are lined up across their door, guarding the entrance, weapons drawn. Across them are The NNO, their weapons also drawn. Commander Hart appears via monitor.

You guys have some nerve showing up on our turf after what you pulled.

ENVY (O.S.)

Today! We do not come in violence! We merely come with a request.

A shadowy figure walks through the army of NNO mercenaries; revealed to be Envy.

ENVY (CONT'D)

I would like to speak to the one in charge of this place.

COMMANDER HART

Commander Hart, you're looking at her. And you are?

ENVY

(chuckles)

You know who I am, I'm sure your army's told you of me. Maybe not, I did kill most of them right?

COMMANDER HART

What do you want?!

ENVY

You have belongings of The NNO.

COMMANDER HART

You mean The Spirit Relic?

ENVY

The Relic is one thing, but you also took our chemist.

COMMANDER HART

Dr.Draper, you need him too? What are you running out of Oblivion?

ENVY

(chuckles)

I like you, you talk a lot from behind that screen.

COMMANDER HART

Trust me honey, we'll talk plenty more in person when my agents detain you.

ENVY

Lose the pride. This isn't about me, or you guys. This is about The NNO's fate; you can't stop it.

COMMANDER HART

If it includes the relic or Draper, I think I already did.

ENVY

Commander, I'd rather not resort to alternative methods. We both know how that turned out before.

COMMANDER HART

I assure you it won't happen again.

ACTION Agents begin inching closer to Envy and The NNO.

ENVY

Last chance. Give me what I want, or I'm gonna give you more bodies.

COMMANDER HART

(scoffs)

Agents! Detain every single of these thugs, starting with Envy.

ENVY

Very well, have it your way. NNO ABOVE ALL!

ALL NNO MERCENARIES

NNO ABOVE ALL!

Both sides charge each other, a huge fight breaks out. They're trading bullets, blows, and plenty casualties.

Envy casually walks through the chaos, making his way to the entrance. Agent 1 tries to shoot him, without looking; Envy catches the bullet. Envy stares down Agent 1.

ENVY

This is the part where you run.

Envy quickly grabs a near Agent 2 by the neck, and snaps it. He uses their gun to shoot down a retreating Agent 1.

ENVY (CONT'D)

Idiot, you can't outrun fate.

A bold Agent 3 approaches Envy looking for a fist fight. Agent 3 lands a few body shots, but Envy's is unfazed.

ENVY (CONT'D)

My mother hit me harder than that.

Envy Samoan drops Agent 3 hard onto the ground. He then uses Agent 4 as a shield to get to the entrance, Agent 4 is shot and killed by his fellow Agents. Envy throws the body through the front glass entrance, makes his way into-

INT. ACTION HEADQUARTERS - MAIN LOBBY - CONTINUOUS

Envy is met face to face with Agent Hope.

ENVY

(turns to a Mercenary)
You fetch the goods, I'll handle
the pretty one.

NNO MERCENARY 1

Yes sir.

ENVY

(turns back to Hope)
You got away last time, you know I can't let that happen twice.

AGENT HOPE

Screw you.

Hope begins shooting at Envy. He's dodging her shots, and making his way towards her. When close enough, Envy disarms her and slaps her to the ground.

ENVY

You have heart, I'll give you that. It's your biggest strength, and but probably your biggest weakness.

Hope attacks Envy with her knives, she delivers multiple cuts before stabbing both knives into his shoulders. Envy shoves Hope, sends her flying hard into a wall.

ENVY (CONT'D)

(removes knives)

I applaud your courage, your bravery; it's admirable.

Envy charges Hope, at that last moment she shoots him with electrically charged bullets. Envy disoriented.

AGENT HOPE

You killed my brothers and my sisters, but you couldn't kill me.

Hope begins teeing off him, throwing punches nonstop.

AGENT HOPE (CONT'D)

You're a tough one, I'll give you that; but you're nothing I haven't seen before.

Hope goes for the knockout blow, but she's countered by Envy. Envy with strong combo of punches, knocks Hope to a knee.

ENVY

You think you can be beat me? You make ACTION look like a joke.

Envy picks up a battered Hope, and body slams her.

ENVY (CONT'D)

A joke that won't stop The NNO from taking over this District.

An NNO Mercenary brings Dr.O to Envy.

ENVY (CONT'D)

I only see the Doctor, where's the Relic; I need both!

Commander Hart enters the room with The Spirit Relic.

COMMANDER HART

It's right here, and don't make me use it. You're all under arrest, now get on your knees; slowly.

Envy quickly grabs a battered Hope as hostage.

ENVY

Decisions, decisions, decisions.

COMMANDER HART

I could kill you right now.

ENVY

You kill me, you kill her.

The NNO Mercenary attacks Hart, he tries to forcefully take the relic from her.

ENVY (CONT'D)

Doc, let's get out of here.

DR.DRAPER/DR.O

Supreme won't be happy if we leave without the scepter.

ENVY

Yeah well we can't just take it from her, that's a death wish. I have an idea, though. Let's go.

Envy takes Hope and retreats with Dr.O. Meanwhile, Hart in a back and forth tussle for the scepter. She points the scepter at The Mercenary, sucking away his life force. She quickly turns back, but Envy, Dr.O, and Hope are all gone.

COMMANDER HART

(throws the scepter)

Dammit!

FADE TO BLACK.

INT. DOGWOOD PENITENTIARY - SOLITARY CONFINEMENT CELL - NIGHT Jack laying on the cold floor in Solitary, sleep.

DREAM SEQUENCE BEGINS - INT. JACK'S HEAD

NORA (O.S.)

Jack?...Jack!

Jack jumps awake, looking around. He's surprised to see-

JACK

Nora? What is this? Did I?

NORA

You're not dead. You're dreaming.

JACK

Then why does it feel so real?

NORA

Turns out gods, afterlife, dreams, all that stuff we deem fantasy; it's all real. All connected.

JACK

Well if I'm not dead, what are you doing here? Why now after-

NORA

20 years. I spent that time trying to come to terms with my death. The truth still hurts.

JACK

I've spent every day feeling guilty over what happened. I'm forever sorry, Nora.

NORA

I assure you, there's nothing to be sorry for. You're a good man, and in due time you'll do great things.

JACK

Honey, I'm dying. We're going to be together again soon, really soon.

NORA

(fading away)

No Jack, we're not. I'll be watching though, rooting for you.

JACK

What? Wait. Nora? Nora?

DREAM SEQUENCE ENDS - BACK TO PRESENT

Jack in Solitary, he jumps awakes.

JACK (CONT'D)

Nora.

Frustrated, Jack punches the cement wall. A sudden chest pain makes him grimace, he takes a seat holding his chest.

CUT TO:

INT. ACTION HEADQUARTERS - MAIN LOBBY - NIGHT

Commander Hart stands over a balcony. Below her, many ACTION Agents are wounded and recovering from the NNO attack. Others are being carried out in body bags by paramedics. Hart remains silent, she's approached by Selena.

SELENA

Commander, you wanted to see me?

COMMANDER HART

They took Hope Hostage. Bringing her to safety just became our number one priority.

SELENA

I understand.

You saw what I saw today. There's no stopping them without a Paragon.

SELENA

I agree, and I'll do everything on my end to the best in my ability.

COMMANDER HART

The pressure is on, we don't know how long Hope has, or what they'll do to her.

SELENA

If we fail, then what? Would you ask that vigilante from The Southern District for help?

COMMANDER HART

The Outlaw? No, he and I met once. He's very adamant on working alone.

SELENA

The Paragon didn't become an idea until The Outlaw appeared, why?

COMMANDER HART

Outlaw's made it clear he's an orderless vigilante. Paragon's meant to be the exact opposite.

SELENA

Is this more about stopping The NNO, saving Hope? Or taking the opportunity to overshadow Outlaw?

COMMANDER HART

I see an opportunity to do both, but as I said; Hope's safety is my number one priority.

SELENA

Alright, well I'll get to work on the parasite. Any update on potential test subjects?

COMMANDER HART

I have a few low to no risk ideas, but for now don't worry about that.

Selena nods, and walks off.

INT. NNO BASE - NIGHT

Agent Hope arms chained, hanging from the ceiling; she's unconscious. Envy delivers a few crushing rib blows to wake her, she lets out a loud gasp.

ENVY

There you are, you've been out of it for quite sometime.

AGENT HOPE

Why bring me here? They'll come looking for me.

ENVY

That means nothing to me. I brought you here because I need you.

AGENT HOPE

Need me? What do you think I'm gonna help you? I'd rather die.

ENVY

Death isn't on the menu, yet.

Hope attempts to kick Envy, he catches her legs and counters with a couple more brutal rib shots.

AGENT HOPE

(grunts in pain)

Dammit!

ENVY

You will be my leverage, my insurance; to get back what I want.

AGENT HOPE

You think taking me will get you that Spirit Relic?

ENVY

Depending on how valuable you are, I'm banking on it.

AGENT HOPE

Then you're a fool, we don't negotiate with criminals.

ENVY

Until there's no other choice. Our destiny will soon be a fulfilled.

AGENT HOPE

Destiny?

ENVY

You'll all fall victim to Oblivion.

AGENT HOPE

Don't be foolish, Oblivion is no different from any other narcotics.

ENVY

Shall we test that theory?

Envy takes a vial out of his pocket, and grabs the head of Hope. She frantically turns, resisting Envy.

AGENT HOPE

What are you doing to me! Stop!

FNVV

Relax, you'll only want more from here on; I promise.

AGENT HOPE

Wait! Please! Stop!

Envy yank back the head of Hope, places the vial in her nose, sprays the Oblivion. Hope begins to cough and gag, her breathing speeds up.

AGENT HOPE (CONT'D)

What did you do?!

ENVY

Don't worry, it's quick. You'll soon feel a greater high than ever before.

AGENT HOPE

Why would you... Why would you...

ENVY

Told you. No difference you say?

Hope stumbling over her words, Envy begins to walk off.

ENVY (CONT'D)

Like you, the people will resist. That's where the scepter comes in, with it you'll all fall beneath me.

Hope continues to stumble over her words before passing out.

CUT TO:

INT. DOGWOOD PENITENTIARY - WARDEN'S OFFICE - DAY

WARDEN NORMAN LOCKWOOD, 55, White Male.

WARDEN LOCKWOOD watching footage of the earlier prison fight. There's a knock at the door; Commander Hart enters.

WARDEN LOCKWOOD

Helen Hart, long time no see. What brings you here today?

COMMANDER HART

I need to speak with every inmate in your system, asap.

WARDEN LOCKWOOD

You're kidding right? You know that goes against our protocols.

COMMANDER HART

The is urgent and classified, I don't care about your protocol.

WARDEN LOCKWOOD

You can't just disrupt our way of doing things whenever you want.

COMMANDER HART

(hands over a file)

Bribery, Contraband, Forced Labor, Discrimination, Sexual Misconduct; the list goes on.

WARDEN LOCKWOOD

(looking through the file) Where did you get this?

COMMANDER HART

That doesn't matter. Now, I'll be needing your desk. Shall we begin?

INT. ACTION HEADQUARTERS - SCIENCE LAB - SAME TIME

Selena has possession of a canister labeled Paragon Project; inside is the Parasite bouncing off the glass. She turns her attention across the room to The Spirit Relic.

INTERCUT MONTAGE BEGINS: COMMANDER HART & SELENA

COMMANDER HART sits across one of the inmates.

INMATE 1

Listen lady, I've got enough issues; I'm not interested.

Back to SELENA, she begins laser cutting a fragment of the Spirit Relic.

Back to HART, she sits across another inmate.

INMATE 2

Sign me up! No ego, but you know what I'd do with all that power?

Back to SELENA, she uses a robotic arm to transfer the fragment of the relic into the canister holding the parasite. She patiently waits for a reaction.

Back to HART, sits across another inmate.

INMATE 3

Honestly, your offer isn't bad.
I've just been here so long, I'm certain the world's left me behind.

Back to SELENA, she watches as the parasite slowly consumes the fragmented relic. Their colors merge, forming a white and red parasite.

SELENA

(deep breath)

I really hope this works.

Back to HART, Glimpses of her sitting with countless inmates, cycled in and out. Time lapsing-

INMATES

(inaudible)

COMMANDER HART

Next...Next...Next...Next!!!

INTERCUT MONTAGE ENDS

A frustrated Commander, slams her tablet on the desk. Suddenly, Warden Lockwood brings in Jack.

WARDEN LOCKWOOD

Last one, then you can leave right?

COMMANDER HART

Don't piss me off.

Lockwood leaves them. Hart goes over Jack's files.

COMMANDER HART (CONT'D)

Mr.Jones, so I have a proposition for you. I think it'll benefit us both. Care to listen?

JACK

Sure, I quess.

COMMANDER HART

(chuckles)

Okay, so there's this experiment called The Paragon Project-

CUT TO:

INT. NNO BASE - SUPREME'S OFFICE - NIGHT

VINCE MERCER, AKA NARCO SUPREME, 55, White Male.

Envy enters the office, approaches a physically imposing, shadowy, tailor suited figure; revealed to be NARCO SUPREME.

ENVY

You wanted to see me sir?

NARCO SUPREME

Yes, Envy, do you know how long I've operated atop The NNO?

ENVY

Two decades? Give or take?

NARCO SUPREME

Three. For thirty years, I've run the greatest underground operation in all of Dogwood.

ENVY

Indeed; no one will ever forget it.

NARCO SUPREME

I doubt that. Especially after you allowed MY base to be raided, and MY Spirit Relic to be taken.

ENVY

I understand your frustration, but-

NARCO SUPREME

Shut up. You're a disappointment, sometimes I wish I'd left you on the streets to die, but I didn't.

ENVY

And for that, I'm forever grateful. At my lowest point, I had no one; and you took me in as your own.

NARCO SUPREME

Stop making this personal, this is business; understood?

ENVY

Fully.

NARCO SUPREME

You realize that relic is the key to absolute power in this district?

ENVY

I'm aware that it gives, takes, and controls all life at a touch.

NARCO SUPREME

So you know its value, and still you let it get away from us?

ENVY

I messed up sir, I know. I'm working on getting it back, I just-

NARCO SUPREME

How? Hopefully not with that hostage in the next room.

ENVY

She's one of the agents sir, I'm using her as leverage.

NARCO SUPREME

Envy, I made you an enhanced man. Why would you need any leverage?

ENVY

I can't just take the relic from them, they could easily kill me.

NARCO SUPREME

Is that ego I hear? Are you putting yourself before our cause?

ENVY

Not at all sir, I just don't know what you want me to do.

NARCO SUPREME

You let them take what is mine. Now I order you to go and get it back.

Supreme storms off.

NARCO SUPREME (CONT'D)
I assure you, not following orders;
you won't like what comes next.

CUT TO:

INT. DOGWOOD PENITENTIARY - WARDEN'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Commander Hart still sitting with Jack.

JACK

I appreciate the offer, but I'm sure there's someone here more deserving than me.

COMMANDER HART

I can see you've given up, but why throw away what could be a lifeline?

JACK

When you've done the things I have, life stops being desirable.

COMMANDER HART

Jack, you didn't kill your wife.

JACK

Maybe not directly, but I played my part; and it destroyed my family.

COMMANDER HART

That's not fair to yourself, and you know it.

JACK

I know that I robbed the wealthy for decades. One better career choice, and my wife is still alive.

COMMANDER HART

I know about your bad heart. Jack, we can help each other. The Paragon would be doing us both a service.

JACK

I've lived 20 years in guilt, I'm tired. I want peace, and this bad heart is going to give me that.

COMMANDER HART

(pauses)

So that's just that? You're gonna give up on life? Is that what Nora would've wanted for you?

JACK

Miss, I suggest you watch it.

COMMANDER HART

What about your son? Nathan? How's he gonna react when he hears you chose death over a second chance.

Jack angrily bangs the desk between them as he stands.

JACK

Look! You leave me and my family out of your mess! You can take that Paragon stuff and shove it up your-

Jack pauses, his voice goes out. He takes a step back, grabbing his chest, grimacing in pain.

COMMANDER HART

Jack? Take it easy, you alright?

Jack collapses, Helen runs to his side.

COMMANDER HART (CONT'D)

Lockwood!

Lockwood runs into the office.

COMMANDER HART (CONT'D)

Get us a medic, now!

Lockwood runs off, Helen continues tending to Jack. Jack begins coding, his eyes start to roll back-

FADE TO BLACK.

INT. DOGWOOD PENITENTIARY - WARDEN'S OFFICE - LATER
Jack's corpse is covered.

(pacing)

What now? What now? Think Helen, there's always another way.

Hart freezes and turns to Jack's corpse. She makes a call.

COMMANDER HART (CONT'D)

(into the phone)

I need a team at The Penitentiary asap. I just found Paragon's host.

MONTAGE BEGINS:

A team of ACTION Agents rush the prison.

COMMANDER HART (CONT'D)

This way, he's in the office.

The Agents fill the Warden's office, they begin the transport of Jack's corpse.

COMMANDER HART (CONT'D)

Move people, hurry it up!

MONTAGE ENDS

Hart is confronted by Warden Lockwood.

WARDEN LOCKWOOD

Commander! You can't just take that man's corpse. His death has to be reported and processed by the book.

COMMANDER HART

You? By the book? That a joke?

WARDEN LOCKWOOD

Does it look like I'm joking?

COMMANDER HART

Did I forget to mention the rest? Extortion, Embezzlement, Torture?

WARDEN LOCKWOOD

(pauses)

You can't do this.

COMMANDER HART

I can do what I want. This isn't your prison anymore, I own it; I own you. Now step aside.

Lockwood steps aside, Agents continue to move Jack's corpse.

EXT. ROOFTOP - CONTINUOUS

Hart and Lockwood watch as the Agents load the corpse onto the helicopter.

COMMANDER HART

Don't look so defeated, you're secrets stay safe if mines do.

Hart and her team of Agents fly away via chopper, Jack's corpse on board.

CUT TO:

INT. ACTION HEADQUARTERS - SCIENCE LAB - NIGHT

Selena stares into the canister that contains The infused parasite. She startled when Agents flood the lab, they place Jack's corpse on an operating table. Commander Hart approaches Selena.

SELENA

I was told you found a host, not a dead man. Are you insane?

COMMANDER HART

Relax, he won't be dead much longer if you just do your job.

SELENA

There's no guarantee this works. This a human corpse, are you aware how unethical this is?

COMMANDER HART

In a time of desperation, I made a split decision.

SELENA

There's a fine line between desperation and corruption.

COMMANDER HART

If the ends, justify the means; results are all that matters.

SELENA

(scoffs)

Wow, you really believe that.

COMMANDER HART

I do. Now if you don't mind, we're wasting time.

SELENA

Fine, but if this goes wrong; I'm telling it to all your bosses.

Hart chuckles, Selena turns her attention to Jack corpse. As she approaches the corpse, Agents surround the room in dead silence; everyone watching closely. Selena places the canister next to the corpse.

SELENA (CONT'D)

(whispers to corpse)

Sorry about this.

Selena takes a few steps back.

SELENA (CONT'D)

Releasing the infused parasite in Three... Two.... One.

Selena hits the trigger button via monitor, the canister opens. Slowly the parasite makes its way out, begins sizing up Jack's corpse. The parasite begins to stretch and expand around the corpse, before absorbing into the skin.

SELENA (CONT'D)

Come on, please work.

Everyone anxiously awaiting Jack's resurrection, silence fills the room. Almost a minute goes by, Selena and Hart approach the corpse

COMMANDER HART

Nothing yet? Is there a pulse?

SELENA

(checks for a pulse)

No, nothing.

COMMANDER HART

Dammit Jack! I needed you, and you let me down; just like your family.

Out of nowhere, Jack's eyes pop open. He grabs Hart by the neck, and rises from the operating table.

JACK

I told you about mentioning my family.

Agents draw their weapons.

COMMANDER HART

(struggling to speak)
Don't shoot! Jack, I'm sorry. I
thought you were dead.

JACK

(looks around)

What did you do to me?

COMMANDER HART

Remember, we spoke about second chances, and-

JACK

A science experiment.

COMMANDER HART

The Paragon Project, yes. Mid conversation, you got pretty riled up, and died.

Jack releases Hart. He looks at himself in shock.

JACK

So you used put that Paragon thing on me anyway? Against my consent?

COMMANDER HART

Well I couldn't just let you die, that would be on my conscious.

JACK

I told you I was at peace with death, you took that from me!

Jack aggressively shoves the operating table across the lab, begins to make a mess of the lab in frustration. Suddenly, Jack falls to a knee visibly in pain; grimacing and grunting.

COMMANDER HART

Jack? Selena, what's happening?

SELENA

(checks his vitals)
Everything is spiking, but I don't
know why. We never got this far.

Jack's convulsing, his old man body begins to transform into the appearance his younger self, but in peak physical condition. Hart, Selena, and the other agents look on in awe. Jack body transformation is complete, he falls unconscious. COMMANDER HART (walks towards him)

Is he dead?

PARAGON, Jack's alter persona.

Jack grabs Hart by the neck again. As he rises, he transforms into The PARAGON. The white and red suit covers his body, with a letter P logo centered on the chest.

PARAGON

You're going to get this thing off of me, or I'm going to kill you right here; understand me?

Two ACTION agents shoot at Paragon, he grunts in pain; but the bullets fall right out of him. He tosses Hart aside and runs at the Agents. He disarms them, throws one through a wall, and knocks out the other with a combo of punches.

PARAGON (CONT'D)

(turns back to Hart)

Where were we?

As Paragon approaches Hart, Selena jumps between the two.

SELENA

Please! Stop! I'm begging you. Whatever you want, I'll make sure you get it. Just stop, please.

Paragon stares down Hart and Selena.

FADE TO BLACK.

INT. NNO BASE - DR.O'S LAB - DAY

Dr.O in his lab, mixing chemicals. A Mercenary enters.

NNO MERCENARY 1

Dr.O, you making the stuff?

DR.DRAPER/DR.O

What do you think son? It's my one and only job isn't it?

NNO MERCENARY

Okay smart guy, well I need some.

DR.DRAPER/DR.O

You report that to Envy, not me. As your superior, I'm sure he can have it subtracted from your pay.

NNO MERCENARY

Pay? Screw that doc, hook me up.

DR.DRAPER/DR.O

Not gonna happen. Get out of here, don't you have work to do?

NNO MERCENARY

(grabs Dr.O by the collar)
All the work I do for this place, I can't have just a little oblivion?

ENVY (O.S.)

No, you can't.

Envy behind him, grabs and tosses him out of the room.

PACKAGING AREA - CONTINUOUS

The Mercenary gathering himself, Envy slowly walks towards him; everyone else looks on.

NNO MERCENARY

Hold on, wait, I'm sorry.

ENVY

You did what you wanted to do. Now, I'll do what I'm suppose to do.

Envy throws a combo of punches, sending The Mercenary flying across the room. He slowly approaches him.

NNO MERCENARY

Please Envy! I made a mistake!

Envy picks him up by the collar.

ENVY

Mistakes are the illusion of free will; in a fate already written.

Envy begins banging The Mercenary's head against the cement wall, harder, and harder each time. Envy continues banging, he eventually bangs The Mercenary's head through the wall, leaving his body dangling from the wall.

ENVY (CONT'D)

(turns to everyone else)
Dr.O is the moneymaker of The NNO,
he's not to be trifled with!

ALL NNO MERCENARIES

Yes sir!

ENVY

Anyone who dare to do so, just remember this brave soul.

Envy storms off.

CUT TO:

INT. ACTION HEADQUARTERS - SCIENCE LAB - DAY

Jack looks in a mirror, in awe of his transformation.

JACK

I look young, but I don't feel it.

I feel hollow, I feel dead.

Meanwhile, Selena goes over to Commander Hart.

SELENA

(shows a monitor)

Commander, look at this. On the left is Jack's heart before, on right is his heart now.

COMMANDER HART

Like night and day.

SELENA

That's what I said. It's a miracle this all actually worked out.

COMMANDER HART

Makes me wonder is the parasite pulling it's weight or is this all the work of the relic?

SELENA

It seems to me that the relic does in fact adds a life force to the parasite.

COMMANDER HART

So much so, that it can resurrect a dead man?

SELENA

I think Jack being a corpse gives the parasite full control of a body as it needs. In return-

COMMANDER HART

The parasite revives the body.

SELENA

Yes, forming this symbiotic relationship where they need each other to function.

Jack storms over to them.

JACK

Excuse me miss, we need to talk.

COMMANDER HART

Selena, give us a moment.

Selena walks away.

COMMANDER HART (CONT'D)

Jack, hear me out-

JACK

No, you hear me. Death was my only way out of this guilt ridden life; you robbed me of that.

COMMANDER HART

You have every right to be mad, but believe me; I had no other option.

JACK

I don't want to hear it, take this thing off of me; now!

COMMANDER HART

Jack, there's a greater threat on our hands; and this district needs a Paragon to stop it.

JACK

I do not care!

COMMANDER HART

That's very clear, but I do; and I need your help.

JACK

Lady, this is your chance to make things right. I could kill you

COMMANDER HART

No, killing isn't you. Besides, I know all your weaknesses. Can you tell me your strengths?

Jack remains speechless, and balls his fist.

COMMANDER HART (CONT'D)

(pauses)

I didn't think so. Tell you what, I'll cut you a deal.

JACK

A deal?

COMMANDER HART

I'll give you the peace and death you so desire, but on the condition that you execute this one mission.

JACK

(shaking his head)
This is blackmail!

COMMANDER HART

You call it blackmail, I call it desperation.

JACK

And what if I say no?

COMMANDER HART

Jack, we'll either win together or lose together. You can decide.

Selena walks back over.

COMMANDER HART (CONT'D)

Think about it, Jack. In the meantime, Selena's gonna give you a tour while I go handle something.

Hart exits the lab.

SELENA

Mr.Jones, it's nice to meet you.

Selena shakes Jack's hand.

JACK

Jack is fine.

SELENA

Okay then Jack, are you ready for your tour of this place?

JACK

I suppose I don't have a choice.

SELENA

Sorry, after you.

Selena opens the exit door, she and Jack leaves The Lab.

CUT TO:

EXT. ACTION HEADQUARTERS - MOMENTS LATER

RAVEN MONROE, 40, Black Female.

Commander Hart exits ACTION Headquarters, she's surrounded by media and news outlets. RAVEN, gets her attention.

CDN, or Central District News.

RAVEN

Commander, Raven Monroe with Central District News. Any word on the attack?

COMMANDER HART

Um, I can't say much at the moment; but I can say it's under control.

RAVEN

Is there any truth to the rumors that the NNO was involved?

COMMANDER HART

Again, I can't say much. However, when I can; the district will know everything it needs to.

RAVEN

I'm hearing an Agent was taken hostage. Any truth to that?

COMMANDER HART

(chuckles)

Ms.Monroe, what sources do you have that help you come up with these questions?

RAVEN

A good reporter never gives up their inside sources.

COMMANDER HART

Well, they're fraudulent. You should probably find better ones.

Commander Hart receives a call from Hope's number.

COMMANDER HART (CONT'D)

Excuse me, I have to take this.

Commander goes back into-

INT. ACTION HEADQUARTERS - MAIN LOBBY - CONTINUOUS Hart answers the phone.

COMMANDER HART

Hope?

INT. NNO BASE - SAME

ENVY

Not quite.

INTERCUT PHONE CONVERSATION: COMMANDER HART & ENVY

COMMANDER HART

Envy. I don't know what your plan
is, but if you harm her in anyway-

ENVY

I already did, but relax; she's alive for now.

COMMANDER HART

Why are you calling me?

ENVY

Isn't it pretty clear? We both have something that the other wants.

COMMANDER HART

ACTION under my leadership will never negotiate with a criminal.

ENVY

And I'll never kill again; two things we know aren't true.

COMMANDER HART

I can show you better than I can tell you.

ENVY

As can I, so I suggest you think over my offer; you have until midnight.

COMMANDER HART

Then what?

ENVY

Starting with Hope, I'll kill every single agent of yours; and I won't stop until I get what I want.

COMMANDER HART

We'll see about that.

ENVY

(hangs up the phone) Indeed we will.

CUT TO:

INT. ACTION HEADQUARTERS - SCIENCE LAB - MOMENTS LATER Selena and Jack enter.

SELENA

So Jack, anything you wanna tell me about yourself? Break the ice?

JACK

I'm sure you've seen my file, it's all there.

SELENA

Alright, well maybe I'll tell you more about The Paragon Project?

JACK

Spare me.

SELENA

(chuckles)

I'm sure Helen's told you the main info. Synthetic parasite made from nanotech, enhances you physically-

JACK

Heal factor, yeah I've been told.

SELENA

Healing, memory projection, It's all great. However, to maintain control; your emotions are key.

JACK

What do you mean by that?

SELENA

The parasite bonds at a molecular level, making it omniscient to everything you think and feel.

JACK

No one thinks that's a little over the top?

SELENA

Maybe, but it's necessary. The parasite reacts to those triggers.

JACK

React how?

SELENA

Right now you're calm, but if I make you feel threatened-

Selena quickly grabs a knife in the lab, and points it at Jack. Within a second, Jack transforms into Paragon. Paragon takes the knife out her hand.

SELENA (CONT'D)

Paragon detects that feeling within you, and it'll react accordingly.

Paragon's suit retracts back into Jack's skin.

SELENA (CONT'D)

With multiple built in fighting techniques, in combat you're mostly just there for the ride.

JACK

It sounds good, too good even. Now tell me, what's the catch?

SELENA

The catch would also be your emotions, your greatest strength; but it can be a gaping flaw too.

JACK

A paradox if I've ever heard one.

SELENA

When emotions such as fear, doubt, and guilt are detected; The Paragon won't react in anyway.

JACK

Because in those instances, I'd be letting my guard down.

SELENA

Exactly. You'd be choosing to be vulnerable, and Paragon's designed to match your energy at all times.

JACK

Sounds like I'll be fine, as long as I can maintain self control.

SELENA

Correct. You should also avoid extreme climates and imperium when you can, they both can do you harm.

JACK

Imperium? Isn't that a myth to go
along with The Renegade assassins?

SELENA

It's no myth. It's extremely rare metal, but it's out there.

JACK

You people are putting too much faith in an old prisoner.

SELENA

I disagree, I think you're a good guy; you just made some mistakes.

JACK

That's an understatement.

SELENA

I know bad people, my ex abused me for years; and he never spent one night behind bars.

JACK

Selena, may I call you Selena?

SELENA

You may.

JACK

If you had to spend the rest of your life with me or he, knowing what we did; who would you choose?

SELENA

(stares into Jack's eyes)
You really want me to answer that?

JACK

(chuckles)

Probably best you don't. I think Hart wants us in the briefing room.

Plenty tension in the air, Jack and Selena eye to eye.

CUT TO:

INT. ACTION HEADQUARTERS - BRIEFING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Commander Hart walks to the center of the room.

COMMANDER HART

Everyone listen up for a moment, there's a few things to address.

Countless Agents in the room turn to Hart.

COMMANDER HART (CONT'D)

I just wanted to take this time to formally introduce you all to the newest member of our ACTION family.

Hart points to the entrance. Jack enters the room, Selena by his side. He receives a warm welcome, everyone applauding.

COMMANDER HART (CONT'D)

The name is Jack Jones, but you'll know him simply as; The Paragon.

Continued, drawn out applause.

COMMANDER HART (CONT'D)

Hold the applause. That's just step one, we know what comes next.

ACTION AGENT 1

Taking down The NNO, and bringing our girl Hope back to safety.

COMMANDER HART

That's right, and we're going to do that; without risking any of you.

The room goes silent.

ACTION AGENT 1

What do you mean?

COMMANDER HART

Envy has killed too many of you. I won't risk any more of your lives. This is a job for Paragon.

SELENA

What?!

COMMANDER HART

You sound surprised, this is what he was brought here to do.

SELENA

Yeah, but today's his first day. He still needs proper training, before picking a fight with Envy.

COMMANDER HART

Training, really? The Paragon was designed and equipped to do all the stuff we do; but better.

SELENA

Jack's role is mental. What if he can't keep his emotions in check?

COMMANDER HART

He's gonna have to because I'm not about to lose my best agent.

SELENA

I understand you wanna save Hope, we all do. However if Paragon is the key, Jack needs more time.

COMMANDER HART

Time is something we don't have. If we don't rescue Hope by midnight, she's dead; Envy's words.

Selena long pause, speechless.

COMMANDER HART (CONT'D)

What's that? Nothing, silence? That's what I thought. Everyone else, that's all; back to work!

Everyone goes back to doing what they were doing, Jack approaches Hart and Selena.

JACK

I think Selena has a point. If Envy is what I've been told, I doubt I'm ready for that.

COMMANDER HART

You're ready because you have to be, because I need you to be.

JACK

I just think you're setting yourself up to be letdown.

COMMANDER HART

I didn't ask you to think. Bring me Envy, and bring me Hope; that's it.

JACK

You think this suit just makes me some hero? Erases my past? No, all it does it make me a liar.

SELENA

Those type of things don't matter to her. She's a know it all, thinks her way is the only way.

JACK

Understood. Oh well, you better hope you're right.

COMMANDER HART

You better hope the same. Now lets begin with their base, located on the district's outskirts-

Hart, Selena, and Jack viewing a large monitor with details on The NNO's base of operations.

CUT TO:

INT. NNO BASE - DR.O'S LAB - NIGHT

Dr.O working on Oblivion. Envy sits and stares at a clock.

DR.DRAPER/DR.O

You've stared at that clock for hours now. Waiting for something?

ENVY

Yes, the hour of no return.

CUT TO:

EXT. NNO BASE - THE GATE - SAME TIME

Jack is approaching the base on a motorcycle.

INT. ACTION HEADQUARTERS - BRIEFING ROOM - SAME TIME

Commander Hart and Selena watch from Jack's first person perspective body cam.

COMMANDER HART

Jack, there's two guards at the gate; remember the plan.

INTERCUT SCENE: JACK, COMMANDER HART, & SELENA

JACK

Yeah.

Jack is stopped at the gate by two guards.

NNO MERCENARY 1

Identification?

JACK

Oh no gentlemen, I don't work here. I'm here to meet with Envy.

NNO MERCENARY 1

Name?

COMMANDER HART

(in Jack's ear)

Do not tell him your name. Just tell him we sent you.

JACK

I'm here on ACTION's behalf.

NNO MERCENARY 2

You're not the Commander, she's the only one we're expecting.

JACK

She sent me to speak on her behalf.

NNO MERCENARY 1

Not gonna happen, now kick rocks.

JACK

Come on, could you at least contact him? Tell him ACTION sent someone?

NNO MERCENARY 2

(points his qun)

We said that's not happening, now turn that bike around and be gone.

SELENA

Commander, do something!

COMMANDER HART

(in Jack's ear)
Jack, give Paragon control.

JACK

Guys, the guns really aren't necessary. I'm no threat.

NNO MERCENARY 1

Did we ask for your opinion?

NNO Mercenary 2 pushes Jack to the ground.

COMMANDER HART

(in Jack's ear)

Jack, do it now!

Jack begins straining his muscles, trying to transform.

NNO MERCENARY 1

Now I'm gonna give you five seconds to disappear. At six, you're dead.

COMMANDER HART

Jack! In five seconds, you're gonna be full of lead. Let's go!

NNO MERCENARY 1

Five.

JACK

(continued straining)

I'm trying.

SELENA

Commander, let me speak to him.

Hart reluctantly hands the headset over to Selena.

NNO MERCENARY 2

Four.

JACK

(continued straining)

It's not working.

SELENA

Jack, it's Selena. Remember what we talked about? You have to relax. You think it, Paragon does it.

NNO MERCENARY 1

Boy you better move. Three!

JACK

Relax? With a gun in my face?!

NNO MERCENARY 2

Two!

SELENA

(in Jack's ear)

Just breathe, try to relax, and above all stop being afraid.

Jack stops straining, tries to relax for a moment.

NNO MERCENARY 1

One!

SELENA

Jack?

Both Mercenaries fire at Jack, but he instantaneously transforms into Paragon. Paragon stares them down as the bullets fall out of him.

NNO MERCENARY 2

(shocked)

What the hell.

Paragon attacks the Mercenaries. Uses his hand to hand combat to fight off both of them at once. He sends Mercenary 1 flying into the gate, turning his attention to Mercenary 2.

PARAGON

Don't be afraid now, young man. You're suppose to be tough right?

He attacks. Paragon dominates him, throws many calculated blows, before knocking him out with a roundhouse kick. He turns back, and sees Mercenary 1 trying to retreat.

PARAGON (CONT'D)

We have a runner, how nice?

Paragon opens a leg compartment built into the suit, grabs a baton, and throws it hard at Mercenary 1's head; sending him crashing to the ground. Paragon puts out his hand, the baton retracts to him.

PARAGON (CONT'D)

Selena, you didn't tell me about that one.

SELENA

(in Paragon's comms)
I figured I'd surprise you.

CUT TO:

INT. NNO BASE - MOMENTS LATER

Countless members of the NNO are packaging Oblivion. Suddenly, Paragon bust through the entrance. Everyone turns their guns on Paragon. In a momentary standoff, Paragon grabs both his baton; not backing down.

PARAGON

We gonna do this or what?

The NNO Mercenaries all begin firing away at Paragon. Paragon puts on a baton masterclass, he's deflecting all the bullets using the batons. Some of the bullets ricochet back at them.

Mercenaries on the upper level still shooting at him, Paragon throws his batons like a Frisbee; temporarily disarming them.

Paragon leaps to the upper level. He takes out one of them using his hand to hand combat. He then retracts his batons, and uses them to deliver devastating blows and take out the next Mercenary.

The Last Mercenary up there, Paragon makes quick work of him; shoves him over the ledge. Paragon then leaps back down to the lower level.

Still surrounded by many NNO Mercenaries, Paragon uses a combination of his enhanced physical abilities, martial arts, and batons to lay waste to one Mercenary after the next until there are none left standing.

COMMANDER HART

(in Paragon's comms)
Impressive. Still no sign of Envy,
search the building for Hope.

Paragon goes room to room in search of Hope. He eventually finds her in a room unconscious, arms chained to the ceiling.

PARAGON

(wakes Hope)
Agent, can you hear me?

AGENT HOPE

(drowsy) Who are you?

PARAGON

Hart sent me, I'm gonna get you to safety alright?

COMMANDER HART

(in Paragon's comms)

She's out of it, hurry and get her out of there.

Paragon carrying Hope out of the room. He's making his way back, as he approaches the exit-

NARCO SUPREME (O.S.)

You think you can come in here, take whatever; and just leave?

PARAGON

(turns to Narco Supreme) Who are you are?

NARCO SUPREME

Narco Supreme, the boss around here; and you're trespassing.

PARAGON

I suppose I am, now what?

NARCO SUPREME

(chuckles)

You die.

Envy attacks Paragon from behind, sending him and Hope crashing to the floor. Envy picks Paragon up by the neck.

ENVY

What are you?

Paragon frees himself and begins throwing countless punches. Envy dodges all of them, making Paragon look foolish.

ENVY (CONT'D)

(laughs in his face)

Is that's all you got?

Envy takes the offensive, begins hitting Paragon with punch after punch. Forces Paragon to fall to his knees.

ENVY (CONT'D)

You have the technique of a child.

Envy continues to tee off on Paragon. Paragon unable to fight back, Envy body slams him hard on the floor.

ENVY (CONT'D)

Why'd they bothering sending you? You're no match for me!

INT. ACTION HEADQUARTERS - BRIEFING ROOM - SAME TIME

Commander Hart and Selena watching the two fight.

SELENA

Commander! Send in back up!

COMMANDER HART

So the same thing can happen to them? I don't think so.

INTERCUT SCENE: NNO BASE & ACTION HEADQUARTERS

NARCO SUPREME

Finish him.

Envy gets on top of an incapacitated Paragon, puts both hands around his neck, and starts to squeeze the life out of him.

SELENA

Commander!

COMMANDER HART

He can't die! Just let it play out, and hope for the best!

Envy squeezes tighter, Paragon's suit begins to retract back into Jack's body; revealing Jack's identity.

JACK

(choking)

Please, please, have mercy.

Envy looks Jack in the eye, and instantly releases him.

NARCO SUPREME

What are you doing? Kill him.

Envy steps back from Jack, as if he's seen a ghost.

NARCO SUPREME (CONT'D)

Envy, I demand you finish him right
now! Kill him!

A hobbled Agent Hope swoops in, she grabs Jack, and they run away. Envy doesn't go after them.

NARCO SUPREME (CONT'D)

ARGH! You're gonna pay for this, I swear you are! You idiot!

Envy speechless, he's still frozen.

CUT TO:

INT. ACTION HEADQUARTERS - MAIN LOBBY - NIGHT

Jack and Hope return, battered and bruised; but safe. They're met by Commander Hart and many other Agents.

COMMANDER HART

Hope.

AGENT HOPE

Helen.

Hart and Hope embrace, share a long hug.

COMMANDER HART

I'm so happy to have you back here where you belong, and safe. I'm sorry it took this long.

AGENT HOPE

I never doubted you for a moment.

Jack stands back as the crowd forms around Hope and Hart. No one acknowledges him, or his role. Selena approaches him.

SELENA

(slight pause)

For a rookie debut, you did great.

JACK

Rookie? I have more years of experience than you have life.

SELENA

(chuckles)

I mean in this field.

JACK

Try telling that to them. It's like I did nothing out there.

SELENA

Everyone gets their flowers at some point, it just takes a little time.

JACK

(walking away)

Time, something I no longer desire.

CUT TO:

INT. NNO BASE - BASEMENT - NIGHT

Narco Supreme and Envy enter the basement, and approach Dr.O.

NARCO SUPREME

Is it ready?

DR.DRAPER/DR.O

(avoiding eye contact)

Uh, yes sir; it is.

NARCO SUPREME

Good. Envy, allow me to introduce you to The Pod; a long ago creation of my predecessor.

ENVY

Sir, I know I let you down-

NARCO SUPREME

Quiet. The Pod is how The NNO kept everyone in line, and of service.

ENVY

I'm forever of service-

NARCO SUPREME

Then shut up. Now, I've spent many nights here. Like you, I let my ego get in the way of The NNO.

ENVY

Ego? In the way? Is this some joke?

NARCO SUPREME

One more word, and you're out! I had consequences coming up, you didn't; until now. Get in the pod.

Narco Supreme opens The Pod door, the room goes silent.

NARCO SUPREME (CONT'D)

Now!

Envy slowly walks towards the pod, Supreme shoves him inside.

NARCO SUPREME (CONT'D)

I told you where not following orders would get you, but you didn't get the memo.

DR.DRAPER/DR.O

Sir, perhaps he made a mistake.

NARCO SUPREME

(close The Pod door)

Well, now he gets to learn from it. Strap him down and start it up.

Dr.O straps down Envy and locks The Pod door. Reluctantly, he starts it up. Within seconds, Envy begins choking.

NARCO SUPREME (CONT'D)

That's your oxygen being sucked away, leaving only enough that you won't die; though you'll wish to.

ENVY

(continued choking)
Please...I'll be....better.

NARCO SUPREME

I'm sure you will. I know from experience, The Pod quickly reminds one of who's the boss.

Envy falls to The Pod floor, hands pressed against the glass; reaching for mercy.

NARCO SUPREME (CONT'D)

You feel that? That's the power I have over you, never forget it. Let's go doc.

Narco Supreme and Dr.O exit the basement.

CUT TO:

INT. ACTION HEADQUARTERS - HART'S OFFICE - DAY

Paragon enters Commander Hart's office, joining her and Hope.

JACK

Oh I'm sorry, didn't know I was interrupting. I'll come back.

AGENT HOPE

No please, come in. Jack Jones is the name correct?

JACK

Yes ma'am.

AGENT HOPE

I never got the chance to properly thank you for what you did.

JACK

I just did my job to the best in my ability, clearly it wasn't perfect.

AGENT HOPE

I'd like to thank you nonetheless, it was a very brave act by you.

JACK

I appreciate the kind words. You're welcome.

COMMANDER HART

Jack you wanted to see me for something specific?

JACK

Yes, I wanted to talk about our agreement.

COMMANDER HART

Hope, a moment please.

AGENT HOPE

Of course, I'll leave you guys to it. Jack, I'll see you out there.

Hope exits the office, leaving alone Hart and Jack.

COMMANDER HART

I'm very grateful for you bringing Hope to safety.

JACK

I feel a but, coming along.

COMMANDER HART

But, Hope was only half the mission. Envy's still out there.

JACK

You saw what I saw, what I went through. I did all that I could.

COMMANDER HART

A deal is a deal. If you want me to hold up my end, you do the same.

JACK

We both know I can't stop him. Can't you guys take it from here?

COMMANDER HART

If that were the case you wouldn't be here.

JACK

None of this is my problem.

COMMANDER HART

My problems are your problems until I say otherwise.

Jack breathing heavy, angry. He transforms into Paragon. Paragon locked eye to eye with Hart for a moment, he takes a step back. He begins trying pulling at the suit, trying to yank it off of himself.

COMMANDER HART (CONT'D)

(pauses to watch)

Yanking at the suit will do you no favors. It'll take more than a set of hands to remove it.

Paragon continues yanking at the suit.

COMMANDER HART (CONT'D)

I know you didn't ask for this, and I'm sorry it had to be you.

Paragon gives up yanking at the suit.

PARAGON

(flips Helen's desk)

ARGH!!!

COMMANDER HART

But I'm a woman of my word. You will be free when Envy isn't.

Paragon takes a few breaths to calm down, the suit retracts.

CUT TO:

INT. NNO BASE - SUPREME'S OFFICE - DAY

Narco Supreme at his desk, Envy enters the office.

NARCO SUPREME

How was it?

ENVY

To be expected.

NARCO SUPREME

The doc tells me you fainted within hours, that true?

ENVY

Yes sir.

NARCO SUPREME

I once spent a week in that thing, it's not that bad. Anyways, what did you learn?

ENVY

To abide and obey you sir as my leader, and do so at all times.

NARCO SUPREME

Very good, and as always?

ENVY

NNO above all.

An awkward silence, Envy refusing to look Supreme in the eyes. Suddenly, an NNO Mercenary knocks at the door; enters.

NNO MERCENARY

Excuse me, Envy, Sir Supreme. There's someone here you may wanna speak to, say he can help us.

Supreme with a confused look on his face, a shadowy figure enters the room.

NARCO SUPREME

Gonna tell me who you are?

DR.CALDWELL

(steps into the light)
The name's Dr.Curtis Caldwell,

former head scientist for ACTION.

Envy immediately steps towards Caldwell, but Supreme pulls him back.

ENVY

He's one of the enemies sir. Permission to kill?

NARCO SUPREME

Denied. I wanna know why he's here, and how he thinks he can help us.

DR.CALDWELL

You want the Spirit Relic right? What if I told you I could help you get it?

NARCO SUPREME

I have an army, what makes you think I need you as well?

DR.CALDWELL

Sir, I keep up with the news. Where was your army when The Paragon came here and snatched up that Agent.

NARCO SUPREME

How do you know it was he who came?

DR.CALDWELL

Because that was the plan once Envy went on a ACTION agent kill spree.

NARCO SUPREME

Okay, you have my attention. How can you help us get the relic?

DR.CALDWELL

Well, It starts with The Paragon. I'm one of the few people who knows how to limit his power.

NARCO SUPREME

The enhanced one won't be a problem. If it weren't for a slip-up, he'd be dead already.

DR.CALDWELL

Except he can't die, he'll instead get stronger overtime.

NARCO SUPREME

So, you want to help us by giving up info that'll neutralize ACTION's best line of defense; but why help?

DR.CALDWELL

ACTION took everything from me, I'd do anything to watch them burn.

NARCO SUPREME

What makes you so sure that your intel will be of use?

DR.CALDWELL

I created The Paragon.

Supreme, Envy, and Caldwell; all frozen in a standoff.

CUT TO:

INT. ACTION HEADQUARTERS - MAIN LOBBY - DAY

Jack stands over the balcony in deep thought, Selena joins him. There's a drawn out silence.

SELENA

She's a piece of work isn't she?

JACK

You heard that?

SELENA

I overheard bits and pieces.

JACK

She too self serving, she can't understand where I'm coming from.

SELENA

Talk to me then. I'd like to hear out, listen to you, understand you. What makes a man desire death?

JACK

It's simple really; I lost everyone I ever cared for, I have nothing else left to live for.

SELENA

We've all lost people close to us.

JACK

Yeah? Try being the reason you lost them, only then would you get me.

SELENA

Jack, I read your file. You're not responsible for your wife's death.

JACK

That night played out the way it did due to my life choices.

SELENA

Maybe, but you didn't pull the trigger. Stop blaming yourself.

JACK

Then who should I blame? The police? They pulled the trigger.

SELENA

That's not what I read.

JACK

I'm sure you didn't, but that's what happened.

SELENA

Regardless, don't you think you've suffered enough?

JACK

(pauses)

No. It's a man's job to protect his family. I failed mine in every way.

SELENA

Maybe it's time to stop punishing yourself, and start making amends.

JACK

You barely know me, why have so much faith in me?

SELENA

Everyone deserves a second chance. Hart is giving you one, so take it.

JACK

Why would I want anything from her? My wife was shot down, by someone just like Hart.

SELENA

(stares into his eyes)
Don't make it about them, make it
about Nora. Be the man she believed
in, the man I believe in.

CUT TO:

EXT. LIBERTY PARK - DAY

LIBERY PARK, a fictional version of Central Park.

Countless members of the media and the general public fill the park for a press conference. Commander Hart walks onto the stage, and up to the podium. COMMANDER HART

Hello everyone. First off, thank you all for joining me here at Liberty Park on such short notice.

RAVEN

What's this about?

COMMANDER HART

As you all know, there's been many rumors going around that an ACTION agent was taken captive by the NNO.

Agent Hope walks onto the stage.

COMMANDER HART (CONT'D)

I can confirm, those rumors were true. Agent Hope was captured, but she's since been rescued.

RAVEN

Meaning you lied to us before. Why should we take your word now?

COMMANDER HART

I did my job, and I always do it well; that's why.

REPORTER 1

Could you name the Agents that executed the rescue mission?

COMMANDER HART

The rescue was actually led by just one man. A man who's sole purpose is to fight crime by ACTION's side.

The media and public chatters, skeptical and confused.

COMMANDER HART (CONT'D)

Someone to inspire good, and look up to, a true hero. Ladies and Gentlemen, The Paragon!

Paragon walks onto the stage, goes to stand by Hart's side. Photos being snapped over and over.

COMMANDER HART (CONT'D)

This man took it to the NNO solo, and he didn't leave until he got our own out of there as well.

The media begins to all speak over each other with questions; it's muffled.

COMMANDER HART (CONT'D)

With The Paragon by our side, The NNO's days are numbered!

RAVEN

(everyone quiets down)
Do you have any idea if the NNO has
a bigger scheme in place?

COMMANDER HART

Yes, we can confirm they have a plan in place to unleash an Oblivion epidemic on the District.

The media writing down the breaking news.

COMMANDER HART (CONT'D) We also believe they're in search of the Spirit Relic; a very powerful ancient artifact.

RAVEN

Is there a connection between the two? Should we be worried?

COMMANDER HART

We're unsure of any connections, however with the relic in a safe location; there's no need to worry.

ENVY (O.S.)

You sure about that?

Everyone looks back, a path is cleared as Envy appears and slowly walks through.

ENVY (CONT'D)

I have a question, not for you Commander; but instead for all you people.

Liberty Park is filled with NNO Mercenaries, surrounding everyone in sight at gun point. They force Agents to give up their weapons. Now, Silence and fearful faces fill the Park.

ENVY (CONT'D)

Why listen to her? Nothing she says or does can stop what is coming.

INT. ACTION HEADQUARTERS - MAIN LOBBY - SAME TIME

More NNO Mercenaries blitz Headquarters, bullets flying all over the place.

INTERCUT SCENE: LIBERTY PARK & ACTION HEADQUARTERS

COMMANDER HART

(mumbles to Paragon)

Jack, now would be a good time to show the world what you're made of.

ENVY

The Central District is doomed.

Back at Headquarters, Agents and Mercenaries still in a gun fight. The Agents caught off guard, and visibly losing.

Back at Liberty Park, Paragon meets Envy face to face.

PARAGON

Enough is enough Envy, your terror ends today. Stand down.

ENVY

(looks around)

Is this what you people look up to?

Envy quickly hits Paragon with a combo of punches, before striking him with a power gut kick sending him to the ground.

Back at Headquarters, Agents are laid out all over the place. Suddenly, Dr. Caldwell enters. A wounded agent notices him.

ACTION AGENT 1

Traitor.

Dr.Caldwell chuckles, picks up a gun and shoots him.

Back at Liberty Park, Envy approaches the downed Paragon.

ENVY

Was round one not bad enough?

PARAGON

(regains his footing)

Are we counting day one jitters?

Paragon attacks Envy, the two fight and forth all over Liberty Park. They trade hand to hand combat, hitting each other with severe blow after blow.

Back at Headquarters, Caldwell and the Mercenaries enter the lab. He goes over to a vault, Selena jumps in his way. The Mercenaries point their guns at her.

DR.CALDWELL

Selena, move aside or these men will kill you.

SELENA

How could you? I looked up to you.

DR.CALDWELL

(moves Selena aside)

I said move!

Back at Liberty Park, Paragon finally knocks Envy down.

PARAGON

What's going on Envy? Round two not going as expected?

Paragon takes a steel chair from the scuffle of people and begins to beat Envy badly across the body and back, the chair folds in two from the force.

Back at Headquarters, Caldwell enters the code to a vault.

Back at Liberty Park, the media records and cheers for Paragon as he dominates Envy.

PARAGON (CONT'D)

It's not always how you start kid.

Paragon with a sturdy uppercut, knocks Envy off his feet; face down on the ground. His mask fell off. Paragon picks up Envy's head, going for the knock out blow-

PARAGON (CONT'D)

(winds up)

It's how you finish!

At the last second, Envy reveals his face to the world.

NATHAN

Dad! Wait! It's me! Nathan!

FLASHBACK BEGINS: INT. DOGWOOD PENITENTIARY - DAY

Nathan spits in the face of Jack.

FLASHBACK ENDS: BACK TO PRESENT

Paragon freezes in stun disbelief, he releases Nathan from his clutches, the suit begins to retract; revealing Jack to the world as The Paragon.

JACK

Nathan?

NATHAN

(into comms)

Do you have it?

Back at Headquarters, Caldwell opens the vault, and grabs the glowing red Spirit Relic edged scepter.

DR.CALDWELL

(into comms)

The relic is in our possession.

INTERCUT SCENE ENDS

Back at Liberty Park, Jack still shook.

JACK

Son, why would you do all of this?

NATHAN

(pauses)

NNO above all.

Nathan low blows Jack, momentarily disabling him. He begins to tee off on Jack. Jack doesn't try to fight back, Nathan bloodies his father badly. Jack crashes to the ground, out of it.

NATHAN (CONT'D)

(looks to everyone else)

If this is who you plan to put your faith in, you're all fools!

Everyone chattering, visibly disappointed in Paragon.

NATHAN (CONT'D)

He's a prisoner, an ex con! He's the reason his own wife is dead!

The Media records Nathan making these bold claims.

NATHAN (CONT'D)

This man can't protect this District, he couldn't even protect his own family. From himself!

With a snap of Nathan's finger, The NNO Mercenaries begin to fall back; they're leaving.

NATHAN (CONT'D)

Believe me when I tell you, we're all better off without Jack Jones.

With Nathan and his army gone, Jack regains his footing. He's surrounded by a bunch of people, looks of doubt and disdain.

FADE TO BLACK.

INT. ACTION HEADQUARTERS - HART'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Commander Hart alone in silence, she turns the TV up. Glimpses of interviews in the aftermath of events.

CIVILIAN 1

(through the tv)

A prisoner going around playing hero, seriously? We'd be better off with that other vigilante.

CIVILIAN 2

(through the tv)
I'd like to know who would even
allow this blasphemy to take place?

RAVEN

(through the tv)

Jack Jones is the furthest you'll get from a Paragon. I don't know what ACTION was thinking, but-

Hart turns the TV off. A knock at the door, Hope enters.

AGENT HOPE

Commander, The Defense Secretary's on the line. He asked for you.

Hart exits the office, goes over to-

MEETING ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Hart enters the room to meet with Secretary Sullivan via video chat.

COMMANDER HART

Sullivan?

SECRETARY SULLIVAN

Was I not clear enough when I said I wanted that relic stored away?

COMMANDER HART

You were very clear, but they blindsided us; and took it.

SECRETARY SULLIVAN
Now there's a dangerous weapon out
on the streets, and lets not forget
all the fallen agents in the news.

COMMANDER HART
You think I'm happy about this?

SECRETARY SULLIVAN
I think you're making all of us look really bad. President Parker is furious, by the way.

COMMANDER HART
He has every right to be, but I assure you; I'll handle everything.

SECRETARY SULLIVAN
You can start with Paragon, I told
you that was gonna be bad news.

COMMANDER HART
The Paragon Project was a success.

SECRETARY SULLIVAN
To who? And at what cost? The public questions our government!

COMMANDER HART So? The Paragon is needed if we're gonna deal with the larger issue!

SECRETARY SULLIVAN Make another way! I want that criminal removed immediately!

COMMANDER HART
Give me a day. I'll get the relic
back, and I'll prove Paragon's
worth; just give me a chance to.

SECRETARY SULLIVAN (long frustrated pause)
One day, after that we step in.
Both ACTION and the NNO will be put down; is that clear?

COMMANDER HART

Yes sir.

Sullivan ends the video call.

INT. NNO BASE - PACKAGING CENTER - NIGHT

Members of the NNO packaging Oblivion, they all stop when Nathan and Dr.Caldwell enter. Caldwell with the Scepter in hand, he and Nathan are met by Narco Supreme.

NARCO SUPREME

Finally, the missing piece. Thank you for your services Caldwell.

DR.CALDWELL

(hands over the scepter)
Anytime, look forward to doing
great things in the future.

NARCO SUPREME

Indeed.

NATHAN

Now that we have the relic, what's next for The NNO?

NARCO SUPREME

Hold that thought. The Paragon, I told you to kill him; correct?

NATHAN

I did something even better; I turned the public against him.

NARCO SUPREME

That's not what I asked of you though. Have you learned nothing?

NATHAN

Of course I did. I was trying to impress you with my actions.

NARCO SUPREME

That's your problem, you always want to stand out.

NATHAN

No sir, it's not like that.

NARCO SUPREME

Enough! Envy, you've been great
soldier over the years.

NATHAN

And I'll continue to be for many years to come.

NARCO SUPREME

No, you won't. You've become more a distraction than a contributor, I can't tolerate that. You're out.

NATHAN

You serious right now? After all we've been through?

NARCO SUPREME

I do care about you; but I can't let you get in the NNO's way.

NATHAN

In the NNO's way? What is the NNO without me? I'm the heavy lifter!

NARCO SUPREME

That's correct, you were. However, me and Dr.Caldwell had some talks.

NATHAN

Caldwell, I'll kill you right now.

Caldwell steps behind Supreme.

NARCO SUPREME

Caldwell has agreed to make us our own, stronger version of Paragon.

NATHAN

So you're gonna replace me? You were like a father to me.

NARCO SUPREME

I don't wanna be a father, I wanna be a god; and your replacement will obey my every word as such.

NATHAN

My replacement will never see the light, that I assure you.

NARCO SUPREME

Envy don't make this personal, it was Caldwell's one condition. He gives me a puppet, and I drop you.

NATHAN

(chuckles)

No. You drop me, and I drop him.

NARCO SUPREME

(waves over two men)

I tried to be professional, I did. You two, get him out of here.

Two NNO Mercenaries try to escort Nathan out, he doesn't move. Mercenary 1 tries to pull Nathan away, Nathan grabs his arm; breaks it. Nathan then throws him hard across the room.

Mercenary 2 tries to point his gun at Nathan's head, but Nathan is quick to redirect the gun. Bullets fly in the air, Nathan then disarms Mercenary 2 by knocking the gun back in his face. Nathan quickly uses the gun to shoot him down.

NATHAN

(approaches Supreme)

You really think these clowns can stop me? Have you learned nothing?

NARCO SUPREME

Kid, don't do something you're gonna regret later on.

NATHAN

Deal.

Nathan shoves Supreme out the way, attacks Caldwell. Caldwell is slapped around by Nathan.

NATHAN (CONT'D)

Prove yourself doc.

Nathan continues to slap him around.

NATHAN (CONT'D)

Fight back, don't be scared.

Nathan grabs him and begins choking him out.

DR.CALDWELL

(choking)

Please.

NATHAN

Please? Really? I don't think so.

Nathan choke-slams Caldwell onto the hard cement. Stands over him for a few seconds.

NATHAN (CONT'D)

Cowards like you never get it. To replace a man, you must face a man.

Nathan stomps Caldwell's head into the cement, killing him. Narco Supreme tries to blindside Nathan with the relic edged scepter, but Nathan catches the attack; knocks it out Supreme's hand. Nathan slowly walks towards Supreme.

NATHAN (CONT'D)

You took me in as a boy, taught me all that I know; but at some point-

Supreme back pedaling in fear of Nathan, backs into a cell.

NATHAN (CONT'D)

(slams cell door shut)

Every boy becomes man of the house.

NARCO SUPREME

Kid, you're making a grave mistake.

NATHAN

Shut up, I don't work for you. There's a shift in power here.

Nathan turns to the countless members of The NNO watching.

NATHAN (CONT'D)

You people will no longer work for Narco Supreme.

Nathan puts on his mask.

ENVY

I'm the number one guy now, The NNO starts and ends with Envy.

Everyone looks on at Envy, speechless.

CUT TO:

INT. ACTION HEADQUARTERS - PRIVATE ROOM - NIGHT

Jack sits in silence until there's a knock at the door.

JACK

This room is occupied.

The door opens, Commander Hart enters.

JACK (CONT'D)

Please go away.

COMMANDER HART

Sure thing, right after you explain what happened out there.

JACK

You saw the same thing I did.

COMMANDER HART

I saw that you could've finished Envy, and you chose otherwise.

JACK

You saw Envy, I saw my son. I'm not fighting my own child.

COMMANDER HART

Your child is a grown man who happens to be a mass murderer.

JACK

Why? Could it be because I left him fatherless when he was just a boy.

COMMANDER HART

We're not doing this again.

JACK

Helen, my son is a monster. People aren't born that way, things happen that change them for the worse.

COMMANDER HART

And you think you going to jail is what changed him.

JACK

I think Nora's death changed him.

COMMANDER HART

And you blame yourself for that too. Okay, even if that's the case; why not stop him? Try to help him?

JACK

Help him? Would you want help from someone who hurt you?

COMMANDER HART

(long pause)

The amount of guilt that pumps in your veins is disturbing.

JACK

Well, you did rob my one way out of this guilt ridden life.

Jack, you're son's on a dangerous path; one that likely ends in death. Are you okay with that?

JACK

Of course not, but there's nothing I can do.

COMMANDER HART

If you made the monster, you can slay the monster. Save your kid.

JACK

You make it sound so easy.

COMMANDER HART

It won't be, but it's worth a shot. A shot any parent would take.

Jack remains silent in a face to face with Hart.

COMMANDER HART (CONT'D)

(walks off)

Think it over, Jack. You'll save many lives, Nathan's included.

CUT TO:

INT. NNO BASE - ROOFTOP - DAY

Envy stands at the ledge, watching the sun rise. Dr.O Walks up beside him.

DR.DRAPER/DR.O

Boss, you have moment?

ENVY

Boss. That feels good, it feels earned. What's on your mind doc?

DR.DRAPER/DR.O

Well after the shift in power, I got to thinking. What does your vision of The NNO look like?

ENVY

Our mission remains the same, we'll just be louder about it.

DR.DRAPER/DR.O

How do you mean?

ENVY

My NNO won't hide in the shadows, that's for cowards like Supreme.

DR.DRAPER/DR.O

Supreme's way of things is the reason we run underground crime.

ENVY

Yet no one above surface cares who we are. That's gonna change.

DR.DRAPER/DR.O

Why does that matter when business will be good regardless?

ENVY

Business isn't everything. Respect is worth so much more, and my NNO will take everyone's.

DR.DRAPER/DR.O

How will you handle those who try to stop you? ACTION is relentless.

ENVY

As am I, but they don't concern me.

DR.DRAPER/DR.O

What's your endgame? What makes you different from Supreme?

ENVY

Oh, that's easy. Supreme wanted to be a god, I intend to be Satan.

CUT TO:

INT. ACTION HEADQUARTERS - LOCKER ROOM - DAY

Hope looks around to make sure she's alone. She then goes into her locker, takes out a vial of Oblivion; sprays it in her nose. Once she's finished, she puts it back to her locker. Hope closes the locker, behind her is-

AGENT HOPE

(shock)

Commander.

COMMANDER HART

(shakes her head)

This is extremely disappointing.

AGENT HOPE

(begins to cry)

I know. I'm so sorry.

COMMANDER HART

(grabs and reads vial)

My most valuable agent, at her locker sneaking Oblivion; really?

AGENT HOPE

(sobbing)

I've tried to stop, I just can't.

COMMANDER HART

How long has this been going on?

AGENT HOPE

(sobbing)

Envy was forcing it into my system, he turned me into an addict. I can't function without it!

COMMANDER HART

Okay, calm down. Don't be too loud, no one can see you like this.

AGENT HOPE

(sobbing)

My career is done, my reputation, all down the drain-

COMMANDER HART

Hope! Listen to me. Relax, this stays between us understand? I was never here, you got me?

Hope slows her sobs, and nods understanding.

COMMANDER HART (CONT'D)

I have greater issues at hand, and less than a day to solve them.

AGENT HOPE

You need any help?

COMMANDER HART

All I need you to do is stay in this building, and avoid as many people as you can.

Hart walks off.

AGENT HOPE

I'm sorry I let you down Commander.

I know you are. When this is over, we're gonna get you help, and I'm gonna get my agent back.

CUT TO:

EXT. CENTRAL COLISEUM - DAY

CENTRAL COLISEUM, a fictional version of Madison Square Garden.

ESTABLISHING SHOT OF THOUSANDS ENTERING THE VIBRANT CENTRAL COLISEUM.

CUT TO:

INT. CENTRAL COLISEUM - MOMENTS LATER

DOGWOOD HOUNDS, a fictional version of The New York Knicks.

The DOGWOOD HOUNDS making their way onto to the basketball court, preparing for their game, shooting around.

Suddenly, shots go off. Fans try to evacuate, but they're forced back at gun point by countless NNO Mercenaries surrounding the arena.

ENVY (O.S.)

Citizens of The Central District. Allow me a proper introduction.

Envy walks out of the tunnel, the glowing Spirit Relic edged Scepter in hand; he goes onto the basketball court.

ENVY (CONT'D)

I go by Envy. Leader of The NNO, and also your new face of fear.

Envy walks to the center of the court.

ENVY (CONT'D)

I would say that I come in peace, but that's a lie.

A Guard tries to attack Envy, he uses the Scepter to blast them with the Relic's energy.

ENVY (CONT'D)

I very much intend to bring chaos upon you here today.

INT. ACTION HEADQUARTERS - MAIN LOBBY - SAME TIME

Hart and her many ACTION agents watching the live feed of Envy's attack on the Coliseum.

COMMANDER HART

(into comms)

I want every agent at Central Coliseum right now! Move!

INTERCUT SCENE: CENTRAL COLISEUM & ACTION HEADQUARTERS

ENVY

Today, I'm going to give each and every one of you a purpose.

Another Guard tries to attack Envy, he uses the Scepter again; blasting him too with the Relic's energy.

ENVY (CONT'D)

I'm going to free all of you from this bondage you call freedom.

Envy blasts more of the Relic's energy in the direction of an innocent fan.

ENVY (CONT'D)

I'm gonna introduce you to a far greater bondage, a drug called Oblivion; ring any bells?

Back at Headquarters, Jack still alone in a private room, watching Envy's attack at the Coliseum. Hart enters.

COMMANDER HART

We're rolling out, are you coming?

Jack remains silent, avoids eye contact.

COMMANDER HART (CONT'D)

Jack, this could be it. We need you, Nathan needs you.

JACK

Nathan's far gone beyond saving.

COMMANDER HART

So you're just gonna give up on him?

JACK

I'm part of the reason he's become Envy. I'm not doing any more damage!

COMMANDER HART

You not doing anything, that damage will be catastrophic.

Hart slams the door, Jack is left in his own head.

INTERCUT SCENE ENDS

Back at the Coliseum; chatter fills the arena. Envy goes over to the players, taps one of them with the Relic.

ENVY

Oblivion and this scepter are all I need to gain full control over you. I can make you my obedient soldier.

The Hound's player goes from appearing afraid, to totally blank; appearing zombified.

ENVY (CONT'D)

Or I could just kill you.

Envy uses the Relic's to suck away the player's life force. Fear and shock echo throughout the arena.

ENVY (CONT'D)

Good news though, I don't want to kill any of you.

Envy uses the relic to restore the player's life force, resurrecting him.

ENVY (CONT'D)

I'd rather be a Tyrant, rule over you, control you, stuff like that. The bad news though-

Envy taps the floor with the scepter, the red energy from the Relic begins to spread in the ceiling like clouds.

ENVY (CONT'D)

Someone has to be the example. That's where you all come in.

Chaos ensues, people try to run through the NNO Mercenaries blocking their path. The Mercenaries shoot warning shots, backing the civilians to their seats.

ENVY (CONT'D)

Today, I baptize you people in the name of Oblivion; and the rest of this District is soon to follow.

Envy taps the floor again with the scepter. The red energy from the Relic, falls from the ceiling, onto the people.

CUT TO:

EXT. CENTRAL COLISEUM - MOMENTS LATER

Countless ACTION vehicles pull-up, joining police, as well as a bunch of civilians; all standing outside the Coliseum.

COMMANDER HART

Hustle up! Lets move! Lets move!

ACTION agents readying their weapons.

COMMANDER HART (CONT'D)

Alright listen, we lost all eyes inside. We're going in left handed.

ACTION AGENT 1

Is that Jack?

COMMANDER HART

What?

A motorcycle speeding fast towards the Coliseum, stops right in front of Hart. Jack steps off the motorcycle, he's met with boos by civilian people of he Central District.

CIVILIAN 1 (O.S.)

Look everyone, the inmate's here to save the day!

COMMANDER HART

What changed your mind?

JACK

This is my only path to peace. That was the deal, remember?

COMMANDER HART

Win together or lose together.

JACK

Exactly. After this, I'm done.

COMMANDER HART

A deal is a deal.

Jack makes his way towards the Coliseum, as he does; he transforms into Paragon. Paragon is showered with boos.

COMMANDER HART (CONT'D)

(turns back to Agents)

Move in!

Paragon backed by a team of ACTION agents move in on The Central Coliseum.

CUT TO:

INT. CENTRAL COLISEUM - HALLS & CONCESSIONS - CONTINUOUS

Paragon and the Agents stealthily move through the Arena hallways. No one in site, and it's creepy silent.

PARAGON

(into comms)

Halls and concessions are clear. We're moving in on the court.

COMMANDER HART (O.S.)

(in Jack's ear)

Be careful, it could be a trap.

THE ARENA - CONTINUOUS

Paragon and the Agents make their way into the Arena. They step on to the court, surrounded by thousands.

ENVY (O.S.)

I think that's far enough.

Envy and The NNO appears on the opposite side of the court, parallel to Paragon and the Agents.

ENVY (CONT'D)

I knew you come, I was wondering what took you so long.

Paragon looking around, thousands of fans dead silent; seemingly in a trance.

ENVY (CONT'D)

You look like you've seen a ghost.

PARAGON

Nathan, what did you do to all these people?

ENVY

Nathan is dead!

PARAGON

(pauses)

My apologies, Envy?

ENVY

I did what I said I'd do. You're looking at the new world order.

PARAGON

That's not how the world works, you can't just control whoever at will.

ENVY

Oh, but I can; and this is just the beginning.

PARAGON

No, this is actually where it ends. It's over for you and your lackeys.

ENVY

They really have you convinced you're some hero; it's laughable.

PARAGON

Laughable? You intend to be a dictator with daddy issues.

ENVY

Good one, but you can't have daddy issues without a dad.

Envy bangs the scepter, under his control the thousands of civilians begin to slowly close in on Paragon and the Agents.

ENVY (CONT'D)

Peasants! Bring me his head! Stop at nothing until you retrieve it.

The Civilians rush Paragon and the Agents, they attack. Envy and his army look on from the stands, happy with the chaos.

An ACTION attempts to shoot one of the controlled Civilians, but Paragon puts his hand over the gun, takes the shot.

PARAGON

No guns! These people are innocent, they have no control!

Paragon and the Agents begin taking down the civilians using non lethal methods; martial arts, knockout, tasing, etc. Paragon uses his batons to take down multiple at a time.

ENVY

How noble you are, right? Have fun cleaning up my mess.

Envy catches on, he and his men retreat.

PARAGON

Helen, they're getting away!

COMMANDER HART (O.S.)

(in Jack's ear)

So go after them!

PARAGON

I can't just leave the team behind.

COMMANDER HART

They'll hold these people off, you just worry about Envy! Go!

Paragon exits the arena in pursuit of Envy.

CUT TO:

EXT. CENTRAL COLISEUM - CONTINUOUS

Envy and one his Mercenaries sneak out of the back entrance, but they're met by a SWAT team.

SWAT OFFICER

Freeze! You're surrounded!

Envy uses his scepter, and blasts the entire SWAT team back with the energy from the Relic.

NNO MERCENARY

Boss, quick! The truck.

Envy and the Mercenary quickly hop in the SWAT truck.

ENVY

Move it!

As the Mercenary speeds off, Paragons runs out the Coliseum. He sees Envy getting away, takes a police motorcycle; speeds off in pursuit.

EXT. CENTRAL DISTRICT - CONTINUOUS

The Mercenary swerving through traffic, cruising through the District. Envy notice Paragon swerving through traffic, on their tails.

ENVY

He's behind us. Drive faster, I'll handle him.

The Mercenary speeds up, Paragon does the same. Other cars blowing their horns nonstop. Envy opens the backdoors of the truck, scepter in hand.

ENVY (CONT'D)

You love to fight a losing battle.

Envy begins blasting the Relics energy in Paragon's direction. Paragon swerves blast after blast.

PARAGON

You think you're stupid relic is gonna stop me? It's apart of me!

ENVY

Fair enough.

Envy finds tactical knives in the SWAT truck, he begins throwing them at Paragon back to back. Paragon still swerving everything Envy throws his way.

ENVY (CONT'D)

Impressive, but if I can't stop
your relentless pursuit-

Envy grabs grenades in the truck, throws them under a car.

ENVY (CONT'D)

I'll just hold you off.

The car blows up, forming a wall of fire separating Envy and a pursuing Paragon.

ENVY (CONT'D)

That should do the trick.

Paragon doesn't stop, he's headed right for the wall of fire. At the last second, Paragon leaps off the motorcycle, forward into the air, and over the wall of fire.

At ground level, the motorcycle goes through the fire. On the other side, Paragon lands perfectly back onto the motorcycle, and continues to pursue Envy.

ENVY (CONT'D)
ARGH!!! Why won't you die!

Paragon closes in on the truck. Envy frustrated, he begins firing random guns at Paragon. Paragon is hit by one of the shots, but it doesn't stop him.

Paragon takes a baton from his built in leg compartment, and throws it between a tire. The SWAT truck immediately tips over, and slides down the street to a complete stop.

Paragon gets off the motorcycle, as he's approaching the Truck; Envy's hopping out as well.

NNO MERCENARY

Boss, give me a hand. I'm stuck.

ENVY

You're useless.

Envy uses the Relic to suck away the Mercenary's life force, he then turns his attention to Paragon.

ENVY (CONT'D)

You old people can never just let go, and accept what's inevitable.

PARAGON

Nathan this ends here.

ENVY

I told you Nathan is dead! You'll soon be the same.

PARAGON

You have to stop this, one way or another.

ENVY

How about you try and stop me?

PARAGON

I'm not gonna fight my son, I want to help him.

ENVY

That's ashamed. That mentality will get you killed.

Envy attacks Paragon. Envy begins throwing punch after punch, but Paragon is blocking everything thrown his way.

PARAGON

Just stop, I'm not fighting you!

Envy still attacking, Paragon still blocking him.

PARAGON (CONT'D)

Please, just let me help you!

Envy still attacking, Paragon still blocking him.

PARAGON (CONT'D)

Nathan!!! Stop Goddammit!

Envy freezes, speechless.

PARAGON (CONT'D)

This mess ends right here, right now! I'm taking you in, and you're gonna get help! Now drop the mask!

Envy removes his mask, Nathan stands across from his father with a tear in his eye. Paragon suit retracts, Jack hesitantly steps towards Nathan.

JACK

I let you down in childhood, I won't do it again now!

NATHAN

Mom would be so disappointed in the man I've become.

JACK

We all make mistakes. We can't our past, but we can change and be better for the future.

NATHAN

Why do you hold out hope for me, I'm a lost cause.

JACK

I'll never give up on you because that's my job as your father.

Nathan hugs his father. Jack surprised by this, he's hesitant to hug him back.

NATHAN

I've caused you a great pain, and I regret it everyday. I'm sorry dad.

Jack hesitantly hugs Nathan back.

JACK

Don't be, we've both made bad decisions. We've gotta move on.

NATHAN

You turned your back on me years ago. Now I get to stab you in it.

JACK

What?

Nathan stabs Jack in the back, he falls down in pain.

NATHAN

You really fell for that? You vulnerable, naïve, old prick.

Nathan removes his knife from the wound, blood gushing out.

NATHAN (CONT'D)

A false hero, who's weakness is their feelings? You're pathetic.

People in the background chatter and record.

NATHAN (CONT'D)

Now I'm trying to be merciful old man, but this is the last time.

Nathan applies pressure on Jack's wound; Jack in agony.

NATHAN (CONT'D)

Next time you get in my way, you're as good as dead.

Nathan grabs his mask and the scepter, then walks off.

FADE TO BLACK.

INT. ACTION HEADQUARTERS - HART'S OFFICE - NIGHT

Commander Hart watching the news on the television.

CIVILIAN 1

(through the TV)

He's no hero! This District deserves so much better!

CIVILIAN 2

(through the TV)

He's suppose to save our District, and he can't even save himself. I've had it with this guy.

RAVEN

(through the TV)

Jack Jones was always unworthy of being our Paragon. He's a criminal that belongs in a cage.

Commander Hart turns the TV off. She receives a text message from Secretary Sullivan, demanding "The Paragon Parasite and Jack Jones be separated Immediately!" Hart texts back simply; "Yes sir."

CUT TO:

INT. ACTION HEADQUARTERS - PRIVATE ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Jack and Selena sit together, Commander Hart enters.

COMMANDER HART

Selena, could you give us a moment.

JACK

No need, I told her everything. She knows our agreement.

COMMANDER HART

Okay fine. Our agreement, that's why I'm here.

JACK

Save it, I'm done. You won't hold this over my head any longer.

COMMANDER HART

You'll want to hear this.

JACK

I don't wanna hear anything from you. I'd rather be miserable than fight with my own son.

COMMANDER HART

You'll no longer have to fight him. We're removing the parasite.

SELENA

What?

COMMANDER HART

It's not my call, but we all know it wasn't working out.

SELENA

That would kill him!

That's been Jack endgame all along.

JACK

Is this some joke?

COMMANDER HART

Not at all.

JACK

Wow, I didn't see this coming. I don't know what to say.

COMMANDER HART

Say nothing. For what it's worth Jack, I'm sorry truly for all that I put you through.

Commander Hart exits the room. Selena follows her into-

THE HALLWAY - CONTINUOUS

SELENA

So you're just gonna throw away all that hard work? Let him die?

COMMANDER HART

That's exactly what's gonna happen.

SELENA

What about those who care about him? Have you considered them?

COMMANDER HART

They don't exist, that's what made him the perfect candidate.

SELENA

What if you're wrong? What if I've grown to care about him?

COMMANDER HART

(pauses)

Then I'm sorry. Now if you'll excuse me-

SELENA

Wait. Can we at least tell him the truth about that night?

I don't think that's a good idea, that man is scarred enough.

SELENA

He deserves to know. He's lost enough, let him have this; please.

CUT TO:

INT. NNO BASE - PACKAGING CENTER - NIGHT

Narco Supreme still in a cell, Dr.O slides him some food. Supreme kicks the food back out the cell.

NARCO SUPREME

You think I'm some prisoners? Release me right this instance!

DR.DRAPER/DR.O

I'm sorry sir, on Envy's authority I can't do that.

NARCO SUPREME

Envy's authority? He has none! You both work for me!

DR.DRAPER/DR.O

Not anymore, sir. I'm sorry.

NARCO SUPREME

Draper if you don't unlock this cell, I assure you-

ENVY (O.S.)

He assures you of nothing, because he has nothing.

Envy enters.

ENVY (CONT'D)

Doctor, I assure you that you're on the right side of history.

NARCO SUPREME

You listen to him if you want. He can't be trusted.

ENVY

Coming from the man who tried to out me. Doc, you're NNO for life. Don't worry about this prisoner.

DR.DRAPER/DR.O

How'd everything go out there?

ENVY

We got our point across. The District's on notice.

DR.DRAPER/DR.O

That's good.

ENVY

Yes, but no time to celebrate. I'm not satisfied, I want more.

DR.DRAPER/DR.O

What are you thinking?

ENVY

A bigger stage. I want to suck away whatever hope this place has left.

CUT TO:

INT. ACTION HEADQUARTERS - PRIVATE ROOM - NIGHT

Commander Hart and Selena enter the room, rejoining Jack.

JACK

So this is it huh?

SELENA

Not quite. We need you for one more thing.

JACK

Of course you do. Why would I even get my hopes up with you guys?

COMMANDER HART

Relax, you won't have to leave this room.

JACK

Okay, so what is it?

SELENA

Remember I mentioned memory projection, one of your abilities?

JACK

Loosely, what about it?

You have a rare ability to use the nanoparticles within you, and recreate any memories you have.

JACK

Okay, and why are you telling me this now?

SELENA

Because there's something you should know about the night Nora was killed.

JACK

(pauses)

And you want me to recreate that memory? I don't even know how to access that part of me.

SELENA

Most of what you do is mental, remember? You just relax, think it, and allow Paragon to do the rest.

JACK

What if I don't wanna relive that?

COMMANDER HART

I think you'd do anything to see your wife's face again.

SELENA

Take us back to that night, please.

Jack pauses, deep breath. He transforms into Paragon. He relaxes, thinking back to that night. Nanoparticles from Paragon's suit begins to spread across the room, they form a holographic flashback of the night Nora died.

HOLOGRAPHIC FLASHBACK: EXT. JONES' HOUSE - NIGHT

SELENA (CONT'D)

Think you could walk us through it?

Paragon, Hart, and Selena watch a younger Jack exit his home surrounded by police.

PARAGON

I was busted for my past.

LIEUTENANT LEWIS

You're under arrest for multiple counts of armed robbery, grand larceny, and conspiracy!

PARAGON

And I was in no position to resist, so I looked back to my wife-

JACK

(looks back at Nora)
I'm sorry Honey.

PARAGON

I was surrendering, giving up. I only had one request-

JACK

Officer, my wife and son are inside. I just don't want your guns pointed at the home they're in.

PARAGON

Those guys weren't hearing it though, things escalated. Nora ran out there trying to deescalate-

NORA

What are you doing? These men will shoot you! Quit it!

PARAGON

Little teenage Nathan ends up seeing everything from our doorway.

NATHAN

Mom, Dad? Is everything alright?

PARAGON

That might've been the first time I saw Nora actually scream at him-

NORA

Nathan go inside! Please.

PARAGON

But yeah, I was trying to move the conflict away from my family.

Jack walks forward; hands up.

PARAGON (CONT'D)

I remember that cop fussing at me, but all I could think-

SELENA

Was your family being surrounded by guns, that makes sense.

PARAGON

Exactly. Next thing I know, Nora trying to stop me, she eats a bullet that had my name on it.

Nora tries to jump in front of Jack to stop him again, she's caught in crossfire; shot. She falls into Jack's arms.

PARAGON (CONT'D)

I shouldn't be here, she died for me; you police people killed her.

COMMANDER HART

Are you sure about that?

PARAGON

What do you mean am I sure? Of course I'm sure.

COMMANDER HART

Play back her getting shot.

Paragon plays back the hologram.

COMMANDER HART (CONT'D)

Pause. Look around, no officer fired their weapon. That bullet came from the other direction.

Paragon looks around, eventually realizing only other person with a gun pointed at Nora is Nathan; and the bullet flies from his direction.

PARAGON

What? No. No. That's not how this happened.

COMMANDER HART

Your memories Jack, we don't touch them, and we can't alter them.

PARAGON

No, you're lying. You're lying!

Paragon suit begins going in out, back and forth between Jack and Paragon.

I think it was easier for you to blame us and yourself, rather than blame the one actually responsible.

PARAGON

STOP IT! This is not real! You fabricated this, you evil piece of-

SELENA

Jack! I'm sorry, but this time she's really not lying.

Paragon transform back into Jack, steps close to Selena.

JACK

So you knew all this time, and didn't tell me.

SELENA

Jack, I truly wanted to tell you; but I had orders.

JACK

Screw your orders! I thought we had something genuine.

SELENA

We do, that's why I begged Helen to tell you the truth.

JACK

You're just like the rest, you're trash. Stop pretending to care.

COMMANDER HART

The only one who pretended at times is me. Selena cares, and it shows.

JACK

How long have you known?

COMMANDER HART

I saw your file in prison, I knew something was off. I did some digging, found what I needed.

JACK

Yet you withheld that information, and used me like a dog.

COMMANDER HART

Correct. My obligation is to protect Dogwood, not Jack Jones.

JACK

You have no morals.

COMMANDER HART

That doesn't change the fact, you let your heart trick your mind into believing a lie.

JACK

That's enough.

COMMANDER HART

For two decades you rotted behind bars for something you didn't do.

JACK

I said enough!

COMMANDER HART

(points at the hologram)
Tell that to Nathan! He killed your
wife! He killed his own mother!

Jack transforms into Paragon.

PARAGON

(punches hole in the wall)

ARGHHH!!!

Paragon transform back to Jack. On his knees, Jack cries.

SELENA

Commander, that's enough. We should give him a moment.

COMMANDER HART

(deep exhale)

When you're ready for the procedure, we'll be right outside.

Hart and Selena leaves the room. Jack sobbing turns into heavy breathing, and anger. He transforms back into Paragon.

CUT TO:

INT. ACTION HEADQUARTERS - HALLWAY - SAME TIME

Commander Hart and Selena outside Jack's private room, they're approached by Hope.

AGENT HOPE

How's he taking it?

As expected I suppose. Selena suggested we clear the room for whatever reason.

SELENA

Whatever reason? You just told a man that he was imprisoned 20 years for a crime he didn't commit.

COMMANDER HART

Are we gonna ignore his past as a heist leader? He was always gonna end up behind bars.

SELENA

For two decades without parole? I doubt it. You remember the last time he got angry in here?

COMMANDER HART

I do, but that was then, and this is now. What's your point?

SELENA

He was emotionally unstable then, and he is now. Telling him truth in what happened only adds to it.

COMMANDER HART

I wasn't gonna tell him a damn thing, that was your idea!

AGENT HOPE

Woah, you weren't gonna tell him his truth? Isn't that his right?

SELENA

Exactly!

COMMANDER HART

Hope you should sit this one out.

AGENT HOPE

You took advantage of a wrongfully convicted man!

COMMANDER HART

I did what I had to do while trying to protect this District!

SELENA

Yeah? How'd that turn out? You can't just cut every corner!

Corners are meant to be cut!

AGENT HOPE

I looked up to you, and you do this? It's disgusting.

COMMANDER HART

Hope, I don't think you have any room to judge me.

The three women are startled by the sound of busted glass.

COMMANDER HART (CONT'D)

What the hell!

SELENA

Jack.

PRIVATE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The three ladies run into the room where Jack was, he's gone. There's nothing but a busted window.

COMMANDER HART

Dammit, Selena! This is why we shouldn't have told him anything!

AGENT HOPE

Can't you track him?

COMMANDER HART

(grabs her tablet)

I can.

Hart scrolls through the tablet, finding out where Jack's headed.

COMMANDER HART (CONT'D)

This is bad.

SELENA

What is it? Where's he going?

COMMANDER HART

(speaks into her comms)

All available Agents! I'm sending you The Paragon's location! Get to him as soon as possible! Move out!

AGENT HOPE

Where is he headed?

Straight for the NNO, not good.

SELENA

He's gotta be going for Envy.

COMMANDER HART

Yup, and he'll need plenty of backup for that. Gotta go.

Hart walking off, Hope follows her.

COMMANDER HART (CONT'D)

Hope stop. You know I can't let you tag along, I'm sorry.

AGENT HOPE

Oh yeah, that's right. It's fine I understand.

Hart storms off, joining the countless ACTION Agents in the background moving out quickly.

CUT TO:

INT. NNO BASE - PACKAGING CENTER - MOMENTS LATER

O.S. "HUMAN" by RAG'n'BONE BEGINS PLAYING.

O.S. "RADIOACTIVE" by IMAGINE DRAGONS BEAT DROPS("I feel it in my bones...").

NNO Mercenaries are packaging drugs, they freeze when they hear screaming outside the door. The room goes silent, suddenly Paragon kicks the door down and enters. Guns pointed at him, Paragon walks to the center.

PARAGON

You won't be needing those, I'm not here for you. Where is Envy?

The NNO Mercenaries don't respond, they simply keep their guns pointed. Narco Supreme on from his cell.

NARCO SUPREME

(chuckles at Mercenaries)
You fools have no idea. It's so
over for you idiots.

PARAGON

I'm in no mood for the standoff game you kids love to play. I'll ask one last time; where is Envy?

O.S. "HUMAN" by RAG'n'BONE BEGINS PLAYING. ("I'm only human, I'm only, I'm only, I'm only human, human...")

The Mercenaries remain in solidarity, guns stay pointed.

PARAGON (CONT'D) Okay, have it your way.

O.S. "HUMAN" by RAG'n'BONE CONTINUED LYRICS. ("Maybe I'm foolish, maybe I'm blind...")

Paragon grabs the batons from his leg compartment, in a stand off with the mercenaries.

O.S. "HUMAN" by RAG'n'BONE CHORUS LYRICS ("I'm only human after all, don't put your blame on me...")

A drawn out moment as they stand off.

NARCO SUPREME I tried to warn you all.

Out of no where, Paragon throws one of the batons knocking out a Mercenary. He retracts to baton back to him, and all chaos breaks loose; everyone firing at him.

O.S. "HUMAN" by RAG'n'BONE BEAT DROPS. ("Some people got the real problems, some people out of luck...")

Paragon uses the batons to deflect the bullets, while also using the them to deliver combo attacks. A Mercenary attacks Paragon face to face, Paragon dodges every swing.

Paragon hits him with brutal body and face blows before tossing him completely across the room. He lands on the control panel, inadvertently opening Narco Supreme's cell.

O.S. "HUMAN" by RAG'n'BONE BEAT SLOWS. ("Don't ask my opinion, don't ask me to lie...")

Paragon fighting an army of mercenaries, Narco Supreme uses the distraction to sneaks off during the chaos.

Meanwhile, another Mercenary attacks Paragon. Paragon immediately counters him, and breaks his arm.

O.S. "HUMAN" by RAG'n'BONE BEAT DROPS/CHORUS LYRICS. ("Some people got the real problems... I'm only human after all...")

Paragon goes on a rampage, using batons, martial arts, and the environment; he disposes of every Mercenary in sight.

O.S. "HUMAN" by RAG'n'BONE STOPS PLAYING. ("I'm just a man, I do what I can, don't put the blame on me...")

With no Mercenary left standing, Paragon goes on to-

THE LAB - CONTINUOUS

Paragon bust through the door. Dr.O has a gun pointed at him.

PARAGON

Envy, where is he?

DR.DRAPER/DR.O

Stop right there, shoo-

In one motion, Paragon grabs the gun, gun whips Dr.O, and unloads the gun.

PARAGON

I asked you a question.

DR.DRAPER/DR.O

Even if I did know, why would I-

Paragon punches him in the mouth.

PARAGON

Where is he?!

DR.DRAPER/DR.O

I don't know! He left out, and he didn't say where to.

PARAGON

That's not good enough.

DR.DRAPER/DR.O

That's all I know, I swear.

Paragon takes a table and tosses it through the glass window. He then grabs Dr.O and takes him to the window ledge.

PARAGON

That's a long fall, you sure you don't know anything?

DR.DRAPER/DR.O

I don't, and you dropping me out of a window won't change that.

PARAGON

You better tell me something, otherwise I'll kill you right here.

DR.DRAPER/DR.O

What?

PARAGON

Three!

DR.DRAPER/DR.O

I'm telling the truth!

PARAGON

Two!

DR.DRAPER/DR.O

I don't know where he is!

PARAGON

One.

DR.DRAPER/DR.O

Just wait!

Holding Dr.O by the collar, Paragon dangles him over the ledge.

COMMANDER HART (O.S.)

Jack, stop.

Commander Hart and her Agents fill the lab, surround Paragon. Hart waves them off, they lower their weapons.

COMMANDER HART (CONT'D)

Jack that's a bad man in your hands, but if you drop him to his death you become no better.

PARAGON

That doesn't matter. The world's better off without him, without Supreme, and without Nathan.

COMMANDER HART

I agree, but this isn't the way.

PARAGON

Then what is?

COMMANDER HART

The justice system. Let the system handle it. I promise these guys will never see the sun again.

PARAGON

The same system that failed me? The same one you manipulate at will?

COMMANDER HART

The same one that gave you a second chance at life, cured your illness, and now can clear your name.

Paragon speechless, looks at Dr.O, then down at the ground far beneath him; considering it.

PARAGON

A criminal, a false hero, Jack those things becomes true if you drop him. Please, don't do it.

Paragon with a long pause, he then throws Dr.O back into the lab. Agents immediately cuff Dr.O, and take him away. Hart and Paragon alone, there's a long silence.

COMMANDER HART

Moments like these determines which side of justice you're on.

PARAGON

There's no telling which side I'll be on when I find him.

COMMANDER HART

Wherever he is, it can't be far. I have Hope back at HQ, she'll find him. Oh and Jack, nice job here.

Hart leaves Paragon alone. He looks out the window over the Central District.

FADE TO BLACK.

INT. ACTION HEADQUARTERS - BRIEFING ROOM - SAME TIME

Hope's alone, staring at an investigation board.

AGENT HOPE

Envy, Envy; where are you?

Using her detective skills, Hope looks over everything they've gathered on Envy and The NNO.

AGENT HOPE (CONT'D)
Mass control, Oblivion, The Relic,

Liberty Park, The Coliseum.

Hope looks over at a map, slightly pauses.

AGENT HOPE (CONT'D) He's targeting places with large crowds, sending a message.

Hope gains access to live feeds throughout the city. She runs facial recognition for Envy at major locations starting with Liberty Park and Central Coliseum.

AGENT HOPE (CONT'D) Let's see; the park's destroyed, the coliseum's still a mess.

The monitors blinks red with no match for Envy in the area of either location.

AGENT HOPE (CONT'D)
Okay nothing. What about One Unity
Tower, let's give that a look?

ONE UNITY TOWER, a fictional version of One World Trade Center.

Hope views live feed of the skyscraper ONE UNITY TOWER, the many floors within, and the monitors still reads no match for Envy in the area.

AGENT HOPE (CONT'D)
He's gotta be at one of these
places, it fits his M.O. perfectly.
Let's try Central Square.

CENTRAL SQUARE, a fictional version of Time Square.

Hope pulls a live feed of CENTRAL SQUARE. The monitor lights up green, reading there's a match. Hope sees Envy via live feed, walking with the scepter throughout Central Square.

 $\begin{array}{c} \text{AGENT HOPE (CONT'D)} \\ \text{There you are.} \end{array}$

EXT. NNO BASE - SAME TIME

NNO Mercenaries are being carried away by ACTION Agents, Commander Hart and Paragon looking on; Hart's phone rings.

COMMANDER HART (answers the phone)
Tell me you've got something good.

INTERCUT PHONE CONVERSATION: COMMANDER HART & HOPE

AGENT HOPE

Envy! I Found him! He's at Central
Square! Wondering in plain sight!

COMMANDER HART

Perfect! We'll be there in ten!

AGENT HOPE

Hurry Commander, he has the scepter with him. These people are in danger and don't even know it!

INTERCUT PHONE CONVERSATION ENDS

COMMANDER HART

(hangs up the phone)
All Agents! Get to Central Square
Immediately! Envy's been ID'd.

All Agents rushing out.

COMMANDER HART (CONT'D)

Jack, listen to me-

Hart turns and sees Paragon speeding off on his motorcycle, she then gets in her SUV and speeds off behind him.

CUT TO:

EXT. CENTRAL SQUARE - MOMENTS LATER

THE BEACON STEPS, a fictional version of The Red Steps of Time Square.

Envy moving slowly towards THE BEACON STEPS, his Scepter in hand. Civilians begin to realize-

CIVILIAN 1

Hey, isn't that the guy from TV?

CIVILIAN 2

Isn't that the Envy guy?

Policemen approach Envy.

POLICE OFFICER

Excuse me sir, I'm gonna need you to come with us.

The Officers try to grab Envy, but Envy's quick to beat them down with his scepter before sucking away their life force.

Civilians all across Central Square try to run off, but Envy's army of NNO Mercenaries and recently enslaved followers have the area surrounded; there's no where to run.

EXT. CENTRAL DISTRICT - SAME TIME

Paragon speeding through the District, not too far behind him is Commander Hart and the other Agents.

COMMANDER HART

(into comms)

Hope, give me an update.

INTERCUT SCENE: PARAGON, ENVY, COMMANDER HART, & HOPE.

AGENT HOPE (O.S.)

(over comms)

He just took out a few policemen, and made this a hostage situation. We're running out of time guys.

PARAGON

We'll make it.

Paragon accelerates even faster in a race to Central Square.

Back at Central Square, Envy's headed up The Beacon Steps.

ENVY

Fear, power, and control, I've worked hard to establish all four-

Envy reaches the top of The Beacon Steps, then turns back to the people below him.

ENVY (CONT'D)

Now finally, we bare witness to the fruits of my own labor.

Envy bangs the ground with his Scepter. It's red energy begins to form a cloud over Central Square. The Civilians try to shield themselves with whatever they can find.

ENVY (CONT'D)

There's no outrunning the inevitable.

When Envy bangs the ground again, That cloud of red energy crashes down on the innocent civilians, knocking them down.

INTERCUT SCENE ENDS

Back to Paragon, Hart, and the team. As they're approaching Central Square, Hart notices-

COMMANDER HART

It looks like they've got five guys guarding this entrance. We have a few ways we can go about it-

Out of no where, Paragon drifts his motorcycle right into two of the Mercenaries; Three left.

PARAGON

(faces the other three)
Gonna stand down, or I've gotta put
you all down?

The Mercenaries begin shooting, Paragon uses his batons to deflect their bullets, until he disarms them. Agents try to step in, and help Envy; Commander Hart stops them.

COMMANDER HART

He's got this. Let him get his warmups in.

Hart and the Agents stand down. They let Paragon go to work.

PARAGON

Alright, who's first?

Paragon backhands one of the Mercenaries so hard that they go flying completely across the street, another Mercenary tries to stab him. Paragon blocks the attack, and the two trade blows until Paragon slams him hard into a car hood.

PARAGON (CONT'D)

(turns to last Mercenary)
Come on kid, get it over with.

The last Mercenary tries to shoot Paragon, but Paragon is quick to disarm him. Paragon uses the gun, shoots the Mercenary in the leg; he screams in pain.

PARAGON (CONT'D)

Quit whining, you'll be fine.

Hart and the agents look on in awe, Paragon continues on.

PARAGON (CONT'D)

You coming or what?

Hart and the Agents follow Paragon's lead, they enter the streets of-

CENTRAL SQUARE - CONTINUOUS

Paragon and his team walking towards The Beacon Steps.

ENVY (O.S.)

You just don't know how to stay away, do you?

Envy appears across from Paragon.

PARAGON

You're gonna wish you killed me when you had the chance.

ENVY

Spoken like a good man, but you're not. In fact, you're the opposite.

PARAGON

We both know that's not true.

ENVY

Oh, but it is; and there's nothing you can do to change that.

PARAGON

I can't change my past, but I can prevent your idea of a future.

ENVY

My idea of the future? That future's already become present.

PARAGON

Well that's a shame, it's gonna be short lived.

ENVY

This is MY District now, these are MY streets, and they're walked on by MY people; look around.

PARAGON

(looks around)

All I see is a bunch of helpless, controlled, innocent people.

ENVY

They understand, they're the sacrifice to something much bigger.

PARAGON

By that you mean a world that sees you as the end all be all?

ENVY

Precisely, but to get there we must first dispose of you.

ENVY'S LEGION, a combination of NNO members and the enslaved followers of Envy.

ENVY'S LEGION begins to close in on Paragon and ACTION.

PARAGON

Leave them out of it, don't get them entangled in this mess.

ENVY

We're on the same side, a united front; my mess is their mess.

PARAGON

The only side you're on is your own's, and we both know it.

ENVY

If that's your opinion, so be it. Legion! Kill them all!

The Legion attacks Paragon and ACTION, the war has begun. Screams, groans, bullets flying, bodies falling. Back and forth battle, neither side getting the best of each other.

Envy joins the fight, he's dominating every ACTION agent who crosses his path. They stand no chance against his force combined with the power of the scepter.

Meanwhile, Paragon combines his batons with his hand to hand combat. He's destroying every Mercenary in site, but also pulling his punches with the innocents under Envy's control.

As the battle continues, Envy and Paragon eventually come face to face.

ENVY (CONT'D)

You ready to die, old man?

Envy tries to strike Paragon with the scepter, but Paragon catches it and disarms him. Paragon throws the scepter aside.

PARAGON

(slight pause)

Are you?

Paragon begins teeing off on Envy, backing him down punch by punch. He then slams Envy so hard it dents the ground.

PARAGON (CONT'D)

All this time, you neglected the truth, just to see me suffer.

Paragon rips a pole from its hinges.

PARAGON (CONT'D)

It's your turn.

Paragon gruesomely beats Envy's back over and over with the steel pole. Envy battered, Paragon drops the pole. He stands over Envy and grabs him by the collar.

PARAGON (CONT'D)

Why you'd do it, huh? How could you do it? Why shouldn't I kill you right here?

ENVY

That's not how my story ends.

Envy grabs a brick laying next to them, knocks it across Paragon's head. Paragon gazed, Envy regains his footing to attack Paragon.

Envy begins delivering his own sharp, gut wrenching blows.

ENVY (CONT'D)

I once couldn't buy your attention. Now I can't get rid of it.

Envy kicks Paragon, sending him flying into a glass building entrance. He follows Paragon into-

INT. CENTRAL SQUARE TOWER - CONTINUOUS

CENTRAL SQUARE TOWER, a fictional version of TIME SQUARE TOWER.

Chaos in the background outside as Envy steps through the broken glass.

ENVY

You really think this is a fight you can win?

Paragon regaining his footing. Envy continues his beat down on Paragon.

ENVY (CONT'D)

No matter how many needles they put in you, I'll always whoop your-

Paragon quickly grabs a piece of broken glass, and cuts Envy.

PARAGON

Watch your mouth. You young people have no respect.

Envy now bleeding, Paragon takes this opportunity to beat down Envy, punch after punch, kick after kick, each harder than the last. Paragon infuriated, he throws Envy through the ceiling. Paragon leaps onto the second level with Envy.

PARAGON (CONT'D)

Every Son awaits the day where he can take his father on.

Paragon kicks Envy across the face.

PARAGON (CONT'D)

Now, I've given you chance after to chance to stop trying me.

Paragon tosses Envy into a wall.

PARAGON (CONT'D)

And each time, you gave me your behind to kiss.

Envy stumbles away through a side door, into-

CENTRAL SQUARE TOWER - FIRE ESCAPE - CONTINUOUS

Envy retreating up the stairs, Paragon is right behind him.

PARAGON

Envy runs from a fight? No, this must be the coward Nathan.

Paragon throws one of his batons at the back of Envy's head, he stumbles but keeps retreating.

PARAGON (CONT'D)

I thought I failed you as a father, but the truth is you failed as a son. You failed as a person.

Paragon throws his other baton, but Envy quick to catch it. Envy breaks it in half and stabs Paragon in both his sides. Paragon falls down the stairs. Envy begins to leap up the vertical shaft retreating to-

CENTRAL SQUARE TOWER - ROOF TOP - CONTINUOUS

Envy runs up to a helicopter, but as he does he's blasted to the ground by energy from the relic. Narco Supreme appears, scepter hand.

NARCO SUPREME

Thought you could keep me caged away forever? Not a chance.

Envy looks like he seeing a ghost.

NARCO SUPREME (CONT'D)

The NNO is mine. The NNO will always be mine.

Supreme points the scepter at Envy, he's backing up.

ENVY

You need me, you can't do this without me. We can rule together! Just listen!

NARCO SUPREME

You listen! I don't need you! I made you! And now, I'll unmake you.

Supreme fires countless blasts of energy at Envy, going for the kill. Envy's running circles, leaping all across the rooftop, trying to avoid being hit by the Spirit Relic.

EXT. CENTRAL SQUARE - SAME TIME

Commander Hart and her agents still in a chaotic battle with the NNO, bodies from both sides laid everywhere. Hart notices they're on the roof of Central Square Tower.

COMMANDER HART

(into comms)

Hope! What's going on up there?!

INTERCUT SCENE: GROUND FIGHT & ROOFTOP FIGHT

AGENT HOPE (O.S.)

(into comms)

Well according to the sky cam, Jack and Envy were back and forth-

Hart shoots down an NNO Mercenary.

COMMANDER HART

(into comms)

What do you mean they were?

AGENT HOPE (O.S.)

(into comms)

I don't see Jack anymore, Envy's fighting the Narco Supreme guy now.

COMMANDER HART

Just when you think things can't get any more chaotic, they do.

Hart takes down, then shoots down another Mercenary.

Back to the rooftop, Envy's still dodging Supreme's attacks with the relic. He takes cover behind a barrier.

NARCO SUPREME

It was foolish of me to try and fix you. Think we could do great things together.

ENVY

Yeah, and why's that?

NARCO SUPREME

All you could ever be is a stepping stone. A pawn looking for a daddy.

Out of no where, Supreme is knocked to the ground by a bloody baton. Paragon appears, ripping the other baton from his side. He approaches Supreme.

PARAGON

This is a family affair. I'll deal with you later.

Paragon head butts Supreme, then knocks him out with a spinning heel kick. Before Paragon could refocus, Envy sneak attacks him, stabbing him with the split batons again. Paragon falls to his knees, Envy stands over him.

ENVY

This mask is that the last thing you get to see.

Envy begins pulling as hard as he can at Paragon's suit. Trying to forcefully separate Jack and the parasite. Paragon in agonizing pain, Envy is making progress.

ENVY (CONT'D)

Goodbye, old man.

Suddenly, nanoparticles from the suit form a holographic image of Nora. This instantly freezes Envy.

ENVY (CONT'D)

What the h-

Nora is shot, this stuns Envy; he releases Paragon. He unmasks.

NATHAN

What is this? How are you doing that? Stop it.

PARAGON

Why? What's the matter?

Paragon replays the holograph of Nora being shot repeatedly.

NATHAN

Stop that! Make it stop! Please!

PARAGON

I threw away two decades blaming myself for something I didn't do. That's time I'll never get back.

Paragon continues to replay Nora's death.

PARAGON (CONT'D)

All this time you knew the truth, and used it against me.

NATHAN

I don't know what you're talking about. Would you please-

PARAGON

STOP LYING TO ME! I know it was you Nathan, you took her from me, you took her from us.

Paragon releases more nanoparticles, this time forming the holographic image of a younger Nathan; shooting down Nora.

PARAGON (CONT'D)

In the end, always and forever; justice prevails.

Nathan stands speechless, but slowly he begins to laugh.

NATHAN

You got me. I did it, I did. If I could undo it, I wouldn't.

PARAGON

You're a monster.

NATHAN

A monster made by you. Envy is a direct product of you and Nora.

PARAGON

Don't blame us for your mistakes.

NATHAN

All a son really needs is validation from his father. To know he's enough-

PARAGON

You're saying you didn't know that?

NATHAN

How could I? You were too busy playing robin hood, robbing banks.

PARAGON

All this because I wanted to help struggling people in my community?

NATHAN

You chose them over me, you chose mom over me. Hell, I came last. For 15 years I was a ghost to you.

PARAGON

That's not true.

NATHAN

It is, and mom didn't see it either. All she saw was you. I envied the bond you two shared.

PARAGON

So you killed her out of revenge, why not me too?

NATHAN

I wanted to break you, and I knew taking her away would do just that.

PARAGON

Wow, and what about the others? What did this District do that warranted all this chaos?

NATHAN

You made my world feel like it was constantly falling. It's only right that everyone knows that feeling.

PARAGON

But what are you getting out of it?

NATHAN

Reparations, I suppose. When all is done, everyone will feel my same pain, and they'll acknowledge Envy.

PARAGON

Your mother would be disappointed.

NATHAN

Well then, it's a good thing I killed her, right?

Paragon's heard enough, he attack Nathan. Throwing every punch like it's his last, Paragon bloodies Nathan's face.

Nathan tries to fight back, but Paragon is quick to counter everything; he's dominating Nathan. Paragon hits Nathan so hard, he goes flying over the ledge.

Back on the ground, Hart and her Agents have dealt with most Envy's Legion; they have control of the situation. They look up to see Nathan hanging on to the ledge by a thread.

COMMANDER HART

Holy shi-

Back to the roof top, Paragon watches Nathan as he dangles off the ledge. He pauses for a moment, the suit then retracts, and Jack grabs Nathan's arm; trying to pull him up.

JACK

You're not getting off that easily.

Jack tries to pull Nathan up, but Nathan resists.

JACK (CONT'D)

Are you insane?

NATHAN

What a headline this would be, huh? Paragon kills the notorious NNO leader known as Envy.

JACK

I'm not letting you die, you deserve much worse.

NATHAN

And I'm not gonna let you win.

JACK

This isn't about winning or losing.

NATHAN

It is for me, and I won't give you that satisfaction.

Nathan releases from Jack's clutches, falling to his demise. Jack doesn't hesitate, he jumps after Nathan, and summons the suit in the process. When Paragon gets close enough-

PARAGON

(grabs Nathan)

Got you.

Paragon maneuvers the two of them so that he takes the fall damage. A long fall, Paragon hits the ground first shielding his son from any lethal harm.

A huge dent in the ground, both men can barely move. They're surrounded by Hart and her ACTION agents, guns drawn.

COMMANDER HART

Hold fire.

Paragon slowly regains his footing, the last man standing. Nathan looks up, he sees Paragon standing over him; backed by ACTION.

FADE TO BLACK.

EXT. ACTION HEADQUARTERS - DAY

Paragon unloads Nathan from the back of an armored vehicle. Surrounded by press and civilians, Commander Hart by his side, Paragon takes Nathan into ACTION custody.

CIVILIAN 1 Give it up for Paragon!

Everyone claps and cheers on Paragon.

CUT TO:

INT. ACTION HEADQUARTERS - JAIL - MOMENTS LATER

Paragon forces Nathan into a cell.

PARAGON

Get comfortable. We can't risk placing you in a regular prison.

NATHAN

And you think this cell can actually hold me?

PARAGON

Yes, I'm told it was made of imperium.

NATHAN

Imperium, I've heard of it.

PARAGON

Good, then you know it's strong enough to contain superior beings like us.

NATHAN

We'll see about that.

CUT TO:

INT. ACTION HEADQUARTERS - HART'S OFFICE - SAME TIME

Commander Hart sits at her desk, Hope enters the office.

AGENT HOPE

You wanted to see me?

COMMANDER HART

Yes, real quick.

Hart approaches Hope face to face.

COMMANDER HART (CONT'D)

That was some good work you did out there, and you did it in here; that was impressive.

AGENT HOPE

I'm just trying to help the team however I can.

COMMANDER HART

Well, you did great. Next thing we're gonna do is get you checked into rehab.

AGENT HOPE

Yes ma'am, I've already begun looking into programs.

COMMANDER HART

Very good. Next time you're in a situation, please just talk to me.

AGENT HOPE

I know I should've, I just didn't want you to look at me differently.

COMMANDER HART

Hope, you're like a daughter to me. No matter what you do, I'll love you all the same.

AGENT HOPE

(sheds a tear)

Thank you for the reassurance.

COMMANDER HART

Anytime. Whatever it is, we'll always get through it together.

Hope hugs Hart, they embrace. Suddenly, Hart receives a call.

COMMANDER HART (CONT'D)

That's Sullivan. If you'll excuse me, I have to take that.

AGENT HOPE

Oh yeah, no problem. I'll talk to you later.

Hope rushes out of the room. Hart answers the video call, Secretary Sullivan appears on the monitor.

COMMANDER HART

Secretary?

SECRETARY SULLIVAN

Commander, I've heard and seen the news. You took one hell of a risk.

COMMANDER HART

That's the only way you get a big reward, isn't it?

SECRETARY SULLIVAN

Maybe. Regardless, I'm happy you were able to pull through. You've shown that ACTION's in good hands.

COMMANDER HART I appreciate that, sir.

SECRETARY SULLIVAN
The U.S. Government, would also
like to thank Jack Jones, The
Paragon for his service.

COMMANDER HART I'll be sure to let him know.

SECRETARY SULLIVAN
Great, then please do also inform
him that we'd like to keep him
around as The Paragon.

COMMANDER HART Wait, what? Really?

SECRETARY SULLIVAN I'll admit, I doubted the entire thing; but I'm glad I was wrong.

COMMANDER HART Me too sir, me too.

SECRETARY SULLIVAN
Jack saved our people, and as a
token of appreciation; we're going
to exonerate him of his past.

COMMANDER HART Wow, I don't know what to say.

SECRETARY SULLIVAN
Just be sure he gets the message,
that's all. Any update on the
Spirit Relic?

COMMANDER HART
I have it stored away in custody.
Only I know its location now.

SECRETARY SULLIVAN
That's for the best. What about the people under its control?

COMMANDER HART
I have a team working on how to undo that. However, as long as the Relic is stored away-

SECRETARY SULLIVAN

They'll be unaffected. Okay that's fine, good work by your team. If anything comes up, let me know.

COMMANDER HART

Will do.

SECRETARY SULLIVAN Alrighty then, until next time.

COMMANDER HART

Hopefully, no time soon.

They end the video call.

CUT TO:

INT. ACTION HEADQUARTERS - PRIVATE ROOM - LATER

Jack in his room, looking out his previously busted window, looking over the Central District. Commander Hart enters the room, and joins him.

JACK

So Supreme got away?

COMMANDER HART

He fled before we could get to him. I'm sure we'll find him soon. He's not the threat Envy was.

JACK

Don't underestimate him.

COMMANDER HART

Right. Everyone here is thankful for what you did, so much so they want you back; higher ups included.

JACK

Is that so?

COMMANDER HART

Yup. They want to give you a clean slate. However, I made a promise that I intend to keep.

Jack remains quiet, speechless.

COMMANDER HART (CONT'D)

You earned your way out, you don't have to continue if you don't want.

JACK

It's been two decades, since I was last of service to these people.

COMMANDER HART

Except this time ACTION gave you the proper platform to be of service without robbing others.

JACK

Eh, I'm sure those rich morons were barely impacted by what I took.

COMMANDER HART

That's beside the point.

JACK

It is. You know, things started out pretty bumpy between us.

COMMANDER HART

(chuckles)

That might be an understatement.

JACK

(chuckles)

I question your methods at times; however, I've come not to question your commitment to good.

COMMANDER HART

I would never have expected to hear that coming from you.

JACK

You gave me another chance in life, with that in mind-

COMMANDER HART

Jack, stop right there. You don't owe me anything.

JACK

I know, I'm just finally starting to see that death isn't the only way to forgiveness for me.

COMMANDER HART

Almost everyone's deserving of a chance at redemption, you included.

JACK

I think what I did out there would've made Nora proud, that's why I'm thinking I'll stick around.

COMMANDER HART

Are you sure that's a commitment you want to make?

Jack suits up, transforms into The Paragon.

PARAGON

I'm very sure. I look forward to teaming with you and ACTION.

Paragon offers a handshake.

PARAGON (CONT'D)

It's all about protecting the people. This is just the beginning.

They stare each other down, Hart then firmly shakes his hand.

COMMANDER HART

Look at you; The New Face of Justice, The Deadman.

PARAGON

The Paragon.

CUT TO BLACK.

CREDITS

POST CREDIT SCENE

EXT. GRAVEYARD - DAY

Jack walks through a graveyard. When he stops, he looks down; it's Nora's headstone. Jack kneels and places a bouquet of flowers in front of the headstone. He grieves in silence.

OUTLAW, 32, white male, athletic physique. A black and blue single lens half mask that covers the entire face, except one eye. Black tactical pants, boots, and gloves. A blue armored vest, and body armored plates covering his extremities.

Suddenly he hears something, he pauses and looks around. In defense mode, he instantly suits up; transforms into Paragon. He turns around, and he's met face to face by OUTLAW.

OUTLAW

I'll admit, the suit up looks a lot cooler in person.

PARAGON

What do you want?

OUTLAW

To meet Dogwood's so called first superhero? It's funny, considering they found him in a cage.

PARAGON

What's funny is that I stand for everything Wyatt Wilson once did.

OUTLAW

Is that what Hart told you?

PARAGON

If it weren't for Hart protecting you, I'd take you in right now.

OUTLAW

I somehow doubt that. You're just the system's pet.

PARAGON

I'm no one's pet.

OUTLAW

Sure. Look, just do everyone a favor here; and stay out of my way.

PARAGON

And if I don't?

Paragon and Outlaw in a standoff.

CUT TO BLACK.