

**The Ghost of Sherlock Holmes
in The Society of Secrets**

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FADE IN:

INT. MARIA'S COUNTRY ESTATE - MORNING

Detective Inspector MARIA MARTIN (25) and Constable HENRY GRUBER (23) are getting dressed for work in a massive walk-in closet. Maria has six casual pantsuits to choose from in her half of the closet. Henry has two Constable uniforms to choose from, which hang next to the previous homeowner's Chief of Police uniforms. Maria is in a bra and pants. Henry wears tight briefs.

HENRY

I'm glad the Chief left you his home in his will, but I don't know why you won't part with his clothes.

Maria leaps to hug Henry and taps her heart.

MARIA

I feel him here, like I do my Mum. They are still part of me.

HENRY

Do you still hear his voice, like you do Sherlock Holmes and Mum?

Maria turns sad.

MARIA

Not as much lately.

Henry kisses Maria.

HENRY

That's because HQ assigned that wanker of an Interpol Agent to take the Chief's job that should have been yours.

Maria HEARS the voice of her sweet, long-dead MUM (50s) in her head.

MUM (V.O.)

"Good things come to those who wait, but better things come to those who are patient."

Maria looks around, which Henry sees.

MARIA

Mum's right as always. Patience is a virtue.

Henry smiles at Maria's bra.

HENRY

I hope Mr. Holmes doesn't see you like this?

MARIA

He's the perfect gentleman and mentor.

Maria laughs and gently pushes Henry back a step.

MARIA (CONT'D)

And he knows I'll need his help and yours to identify our three victims. Come on, get dressed! I can hear him now--

(in Sherlock's voice)

The game is afoot!

They laugh and continue dressing.

INT. BASEMENT - DAY

In a dark basement somewhere in the world, three Hackers (16-22, two are women) sit in comfortable recliners with laptop computers. They stare at a large-screen TV on the wall. We never see the hackers' faces.

HACKER #1

I've got the 'Ndrangheta in Calabria, Italy, and the Camorra from Naples.

HACKER #2

I've got the Russian Mafia and the Yakuza from Japan.

HACKER #3

I've got the Sinaloa and Jalisco cartels in Mexico and the Triads in China and Hong Kong.

HACKER #1

This must be important if the
biggest and most secretive crime
families in the world are
discussing us in a video
conference. The least we can do is
listen in.

HACKER #2

Should we record this historic
night?

HACKER #3

No trace, remember?

The Hackers give each other a thumbs up.

On the large screen TV, we see the separate video frames for
the seven crime organizations, but no faces. We hear
screaming and swearing in Italian, Russian, Japanese, and
Chinese.

Below the video frames, fragments of closed-caption
translations blip on and off. The Hackers laugh hysterically
as they see flashes of threatening comments in subtitles"

"You BLEEP BLEEP thieves are tapping our offshore banks."

"We BLEEPING know you are BLEEP stealing from us."

"Death by a thousand BLEEPING cuts."

"We will find and kill you BLEEP BLEEPERS!"

HACKER #1

Should we tell them we were
listening in?

HACKER #3

If their hackers are any good,
they'll cut us off--

The TV screen goes blank.

HACKER #2

They know.

SILENCE

The Hackers laugh hysterically.

HACKER #1

Find you Bleep.

HACKER #2
Kill you Bleep Bleep.

HACKER #3
How much Bleep Bleep Bleep crypto
did we steal from them while they
were complaining about us tonight?

HACKER #2
One million Euros and change.

HACKER #1
Off the top, so they'll never
notice.

HACKER #2
Bleeping dinosaurs. Should we warn
the others?

Silence.

HACKER #3
No bleeping way!

They all laugh again.

EXT. POLICE STATION - DAY

Police Chief ART SIMMONS (35) stands tall and prepares to
brag to a female TV Reporter (25) who is holding a small
video camera on a tripod.

ART
Are we on yet?

TV REPORTER
No. When the red light comes on.

The red light on the camera is on. The TV Reporter points to
Art, who seems oblivious.

ART
I'd like to hurry and get this over
with.

CUT TO:

INT. POLICE FORENSICS LAB - SAME TIME

Maria, Henry, and Police Forensics Lab Technician RIHANNA
(25) stare at a murder board. The TV is on a side wall of the
lab, where we see Art fumbling with index cards.

The Murder Board is chaotic. It includes photos of the three victims. Assassin #26 (AKA John Doe) is listed as a Romanian Male, 20s, with a note, "Killed by Assassin #27." Assassin #27 (AKA Jane Doe #1) is listed as "German, female, 20s, killer of Assassin #26, and killed by the Driverless SUV. Assassin #28 (AKA Jane Doe #2) is listed as American, killed Assassin #27, and then was run over by the Driverless SUV.

They hear Art clear his throat for a long time, so they turn to watch the TV on the lab wall.

The Chief stares blankly at the reporter, who urges him with hand gestures to speak. Again, he seems oblivious.

HENRY

That's our Chief.

RIHANNA

Your Chief?

ART (V.O.)

Oh. We're live.

(bragging)

Yes, I recently saved five lives and ended a string of homicides and attempted murders in our little town with a little help from my staff.

MARIA

A little help?

Maria HEARS the voice of Sherlock Holmes in her head, while the ghost stares into the camera (fourth wall).

SHERLOCK (V.O.)

I began mentoring Detective Constable Maria Martin four challenging cases ago. For each complex case, she not only rose to the task, but she also exceeded even my expectations. I'm so proud of her. Why my protégée hasn't been promoted to Chief is beyond me. It's my fault. I've been distracted. I've grown fond of her mum in the spirit world--

MUM (V.O.)

That's enough, Sherlock. You have work to do.

Maria startles Rihanna when she yells.

MARIA
Knock it off, you two!

Henry whispers to Rihanna.

HENRY
Sometimes she hears voices in her
head, as we all do.

Rihanna looks at Henry and Maria like they are both crazy.

BACK TO:

EXT. POLICE STATION - CONTINUOUS

The TV Reporter continues her interview.

TV REPORTER
Wasn't one of the victims a
suicide?

While Art speaks, we SEE a clip from the scene from the
previous episode of Assassin #27 jabbing the syringe in the
arm of Assassin #26.

ART (V.O.)
I can't comment on the ongoing
investigation except to tell you
that we believe an organized crime
syndicate may be behind the large
quantity of illicit drugs found at
one crime scene, and the victim had
a syringe in his arm, suggesting a
suicide.

CUT TO:

INT. POLICE FORENSICS LAB - CONTINUOUS

MARIA
Suicide, my arse! He had a single
needle mark on his right forearm,
which was more muscular than his
left forearm. He was right-handed
and would have injected his left
arm, and there were no fingerprints
on the two vials of drugs in his
backpack. He was murdered!

BACK TO:

EXT. POLICE STATION - CONTINUOUS

TV REPORTER

Is it true that one of the other victims was handcuffed and in your custody when she was murdered, along with a Nurse's Aid?

While Art speaks, we SEE a clip from the previous episode of Assassin #27 in handcuffs, with her arms around the Nurse's Aid (Assassin #28).

ART (V.O.)

I can't comment on the ongoing investigation except to tell you that the first victim, John Doe #1, was a suspect in the shootings of a night watchman. A second person of interest is wanted in the attempted murders of two police officers, the town doctor, and a dummy.

TV REPORTER

Was the dummy hurt, and who would want to harm a cute Nurse's Aid?

CUT TO:

INT. POLICE FORENSICS LAB - CONTINUOUS

MARIA

They were hired assassins!

BACK TO:

EXT. POLICE STATION - CONTINUOUS

ART

And one of them, the cute Nurse's Aid, kidnapped a helpless child, barely 16 years of age.

CUT TO:

INT. POLICE FORENSICS LAB - CONTINUOUS

While Maria pauses to chuckle and recall a scene from the previous episode. We SEE a clip of LES ZLOBIN (16) yelling, while handcuffed, tied to a chair, and with a canvas bag over his head.

LES (V.O.)

Cut the shite! You know I tracked you down in Romania.

(MORE)

LES (V.O.) (CONT'D)

If anything happens to me or my dad, all my evidence on you from my ghost server goes to Interpol and to every open-source social network platform on the planet! You'll be ruined, and every mobster on Earth will come after you!

MARIA

Les Zlobin is far from helpless, and he's out for revenge.

BACK TO:

EXT. POLICE STATION - CONTINUOUS

TV REPORTER

Is it true that you've been unable to identify your suspects-slash-victims, and that you haven't yet notified their next of kin?

ART

I've assigned Detective Inspector Maria Martin and Constable Henry Gruber the simple task-- all that's left to wrap up these cases.
(smiles into the camera)
Now, if you'll excuse me, I've got a town to keep safe from an organized crime syndicate known only as Obsidian Hex.

INT. POLICE FORENSICS LAB - CONTINUOUS

Rihanna grabs the remote and turns off the TV. She is intelligent but sarcastic. She stares at the three photos on the murder board.

RIHANNA

So all you want from me is to identify your three stiff.

HENRY

How hard could it be, Gov?

Maria scowls at Henry.

MARIA

None of them carried ID when they died, and their fingerprints and DNA are not in the Interpol database.

Sherlock Holmes appears behind Maria, but only Maria can see and hear him.

She points to Assassin #26 and pleads to Rihanna.

MARIA (CONT'D)

We suspect his murderer dropped his
ID into a beaker of sulphuric acid
at the crime scene.

SHERLOCK
Rotten egg smell.

RIHANNA
Rotten egg smell.

MARIA

Exactly.

(points to Assassin 27)

She spoke German, but had no ID,
and her fingerprints were filed
down so much they weren't
recognizable.

HENRY

Ouch!

RIHANNA

That's more painful than it sounds.

Maria points to the Nurse's Aid.

MARIA

We now know the Nurse's Aid was
working under an assumed name.
We're hoping you can help with
forensic DNA linked to genealogical
databases to help track down living
relatives.

RIHANNA

So you can notify the next of kin?

MARIA

It's bigger than that. It's rare to
have three victims who couldn't be
identified in our small town.

(angry)

It's not a coincidence!

RIHANNA

Some people go out of their way not
to be found! They have secrets they
don't want anyone to find! They are
often hiding from a deranged
acquaintance, a violent family
member, or the law!

(MORE)

RIHANNA (CONT'D)

Some have excessive parking tickets.

(angry)

Many "lost" people don't want to be found!

Maria gets in Rihanna's face in a calm, scary tone.

MARIA

It's our job to protect our citizens from ending up like these three nutcases, and many more just like them. You're going to help us track down their identities and their next of kin so this cyber-crime syndicate we're after can't recruit any more young adults into their twisted mob!

(calmer)

Is that clear?

Henry's eyes and Rihanna's eyes open wide.

RIHANNA

Very clear.~

MARIA

My mum used to tell me that --

MUM (V.O.)

A secret is something you tell one person at a time.

MARIA (CONT'D)

A secret is something you tell one person at a time.

Maria pauses to look around. Henry and Rihanna stare at her.

HENRY

Sometimes she hears voices in her head. No big deal.

Rihanna stares at Maria, perplexed, as she points at the three photos on the murder board.

MARIA

I want to know who they told their secrets to.

Rihanna sits at her desktop computer with three screens.

Maria, Henry, and Holmes stand behind her. Holmes is completely engrossed.

The left-most display shows the genetic summary of each body.

RIHANNA

What do we know so far? John Doe was Central European.

Rihanna points to the middle display.

RIHANNA (CONT'D)

He's genetically similar to other Southeast European and Balkan populations with a mix of indigenous pre-Roman Paleo-Balkan tribes and with substantial overlay of Slavic-associated ancestry, and minor Mediterranean or Roman components.

MARIA

His DNA relatives could be anywhere in Europe.

RIHANNA

However, the minority Romani possess a distinct genetic footprint pointing to a South Asian origin and carry a high frequency of Y-DNA Haplogroup H-M82.

HENRY

Is that good?

RIHANNA

John Doe represents only 3.4% of the population, so we have a much higher probability of hunting down DNA relatives.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)

Brilliant deductive reasoning.

MARIA

Assuming his relatives subjected themselves to DNA analysis, or they are in the Interpol database.

Rihanna turns to the third screen.

RIHANNA

I was able to track down an inmate at a nearby correctional facility. Female, age 32, with a 14.4% DNA match. That would make her a first cousin. You may want to visit her.

HENRY
What's she in for?

RIHANNA
Murder.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)
The road apple doesn't fall far
from the horse.

Maria and Henry begin the exit.

MARIA
Thanks, Rihanna. We'll be back for
the other two.

INT. PRISON VISITOR ROOM - AFTERNOON

Maria and Henry are seated at a small desk in the center of the room when ANDREEA SCHMIDT (32) is marched in by a female Guard. Andreea smiles at them.

MARIA
You can uncuff her.

The Guard shakes her head, "No," and cuffs her to a bar on the table.

The Guard exits, and Sherlock appears behind Maria.

MARIA (CONT'D)
I'm Detective Inspector Maria
Martin, and this is Constable Henry
Gruber. I'm told you speak English.

ANDREEA
I'm Andreea Schmidt, and I don't
trust you.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)
They didn't uncuff her, so you're
equal.

MARIA
And that's not your given name, is
it? We're looking to identify a
person of interest in an ongoing
case, and you share 14.4% of the
person's DNA.

Andreea perks up.

ANDREEA
Interesting, but I can't help you.

HENRY
A first cousin in the area,
perhaps.

Andreea smiles.

ANDREEA
We don't help the Bosses.

Maria pauses.

MARIA
Interesting choice of words.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)
Is that because Boss can refer to
the guards or the leadership of
Obsidian Hex?

Maria glances behind her.

MARIA
Precisely.

Henry and Andreea look puzzled.

MARIA (CONT'D)
Do you have any male first cousins
in the area around 20 to 24 years
of age?

Andreea shrugs.

ANDREEA
I can't help you.

MARIA
That's too bad. I could have
requested a few years off your
sentence in exchange for
cooperation.

ANDREEA
I'm safer in here.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)
Interesting.

HENRY
Interesting.

Maria stands.

MARIA

Let's go. We're done here.

Henry is shocked.

Maria takes a step toward the door but turns back and shows Andreea a photo of Assassin #26, lying dead in the forest with a syringe in his right arm.

MARIA (CONT'D)

It's too late to save our John Doe,
but you could have helped save
another cousin of yours.

Andreea's eyes open wide in anger. She battles her chains to escape and SCREAMS.

ANDREEA

You murdered him! He never used
drugs. Never! Idiots. Raphael was
right-handed.

Maria gets in Andreea's face.

MARIA

Raphael? His Bosses killed him.
What can you tell us about him and
Obsidian Hex?
(sarcastic)
I suppose his family name was
Schmidt, also?

Holmes analyzes Andreea as she turns away.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)

(smiles)

Fine strategy, Detective.

Maria's phone BUZZES. The caller ID for the text message reads, "Chief."

MARIA

Not now!

HENRY

What is it?

MARIA

The Chief says I must report to the
National Central Bureau, Bucharest
Office, immediately. You are to
return home for reassignment.

HENRY

Reassignment? After getting everything out of this convict, right?

Maria sadly reads the text message.

MARIA

Henry, I'll speak to the Chief. Andreea, we'll talk again very soon! Until then, start writing in a journal. Dates, names, and assignments.

Maria turns in a hurry to exit.

ANDREEA

(yells)

Get me out of here! I'll talk!

Andreea continues to yell at Maria and Henry.

ANDREEA (CONT'D)

Get me out of here! I want my revenge!

EXT. NATIONAL CENTRAL BUREAU, BUCHAREST - DAY

Maria trudges into the building.

INT. NATIONAL CENTRAL BUREAU, CONFERENCE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Maria enters to see Art is standing at the head of the conference room table with eight chairs. Only three chairs are filled, with disinterested Interpol Officers (two men and a woman, 30s). They raise their hand when identified below.

ART

Thank God you're here. This is Detective Inspector Maria Martin.

(points to the team)

This a highly specialized team of Organized Crime fighters from around the world. They are specialists in the Mafia, Yakuza, and the Vatican Police.

Maria sits down, and Sherlock appears behind her, but he is unsteady and wobbles from side to side.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)
(stunned)
The Vatican Police?

Art dims the lights in the room for a slide presentation.

Maria turns to see Holmes wobbling while Art turns to three organizational charts on the wall showing the Mafia, the Yakuza, and the Vatican Police.

ART
All organized crime families to date have had pyramid-shaped structures of some facsimile of a Big Big Boss, Big Boss, Boss, Captains, Sergeants, and foot soldiers.

Maria turns her head slightly to see Holmes falling to the floor to his right with a "thud."

Art points to the Big, Big Boss of each chart.

ART (CONT'D)
Our mission is to go after the "head of the snake."

Holmes stands with some effort, and Maria turns slightly to speak to him.

MARIA
Are you okay?

Art assumes the question is for him.

ART
Of course, I'm okay!

MARIA
I mean, we don't have a clue how Obsidian Hex is organized, where they reside, or how to get to them.

Maria turns her head slightly to the left to see Holmes falling toward the floor with another "thud."

ART
Let me give you all some background on the three organizations we know about.

The three team members appear wide awake as Art mumbles on.

CUT TO:

INT. POLICE STATION - SAME TIME

Henry sits at his computer analyzing clues from their interviews. Holmes stands unsteady behind him. He's failing to remain focused on Henry's computer display.

HENRY

Assassin #27 spoke of a Boss, a Big Boss, and a Big Big Boss like layers of an onion.

Henry turns his head slightly but doesn't see or hear Holmes falling toward his right to the floor with a "thud."

Holmes stands unsteadily behind Henry.

HENRY (CONT'D)

Andreea was about to tell us more about her first cousin Raphael, AKA Assassin 26, and Obsidian Hex.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)

Call her on your personal telegraph light-box, you idiot!

HENRY

What would Sherlock Holmes do if he were here?

Henry turns his head slightly but doesn't see or hear Holmes falling toward his left to the floor with a "thud."

HENRY (CONT'D)

I think we need to call her!

Henry dials a number and pauses.

HENRY (CONT'D)

The correctional facility isn't answering. That's odd.

BACK TO:

INT. NATIONAL CENTRAL BUREAU, CONFERENCE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Art turns up the lights to see that his three team members are fast asleep.

ART

Why don't we take a break for coffee before we reconvene in five minutes?

The three team members push each other awake and scurry out of the room.

Art turns to Maria.

ART (CONT'D)

I need to visit the loo. I'll be back in 4 minutes to get your sterling advice on how to find the head of the snake.

(smiles)

Naturally, I'll present it as my idea, but we'll both know how important you are to my team.

Art races out, and Maria quickly turns to Holmes.

MARIA

Mr. Holme's, are you okay?

SHERLOCK

(confused)

I split up. Half of me stayed with Henry, who needs my help as much as you do.

MARIA

And you feel weak as a result! You must go back and reconnect with your other half.

SHERLOCK

I don't know how! This is quite a conundrum, I assure you. Dr. Watson used to tell me --

Holmes looks away.

SHERLOCK (CONT'D)

Or was it Mrs. Hudson?

MARIA

What did they tell you that was so important?

Holmes looks sadly into Maria's eyes.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)

They both warned me that I was half a man for not having a family of my own.

MARIA

But you have Mum, Henry, and me.

SHERLOCK

That's the problem. Since I met your Mum in the ghost world, my powers of deduction have dwindled.

MARIA

Dwindled?

SHERLOCK

I can't tell the suspects from my persons of interest. I can't tell tobaccos apart, or the origins of thread in my grasp. I haven't tested dangerous chemicals for ages.

MARIA

Oh dear!

SHERLOCK

I can't tell the important clues from the red herrings.

MARIA

Oh my!

SHERLOCK

I can't tell a broad international conspiracy theory from a locomotive.

MARIA

You mean a local motive?

SHERLOCK

You see? I'm of little help to anyone.

Sherlock disappears as Art reenters the room to see Maria in a state of shock.

ART

Are you okay? You look like you've seen a ghost.

Art glances around but sees only Maria.

MARIA

I wish I did. I don't know how much help I'll be. I'm feeling a little lost without Henry, and I'm having a low self-confidence day.

ART
(smirks)
I'm afraid you'll have to get used to it. Henry will be reassigned to the "big city" when we return.

Maria collapses in her seat.

MARIA
We're a team. Not like this team. We depend on each other. We complete each other.

ART
You and I will too, in time. But first, what's your ingenious plan to find the head of the snake?

Maria struggles to be professional.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)
Tell him to look in the mirror.

Maria pauses, and the three team members return and take their seats in silence.

MARIA
I think we need to hold a mirror up to the new-age society. Would Obsidian Hex use an organizational chart that their great-grandfathers or fathers used? Hell no!

SHERLOCK (V.O.)
Brilliant.

MARIA
They are young, rebellious, and distrustful of authority. I think they would construct a lack-of-organization chart that mimics the currency they trade in: blockchain cryptocurrency.

Art tries to take credit for the idea.

ART
That's exactly what I told Maria at the break.

Maria looks stunned, and Art and the other team members see it.

ART (CONT'D)

I meant to say we thought of it together.

The team member covering the Vatican Police stands and points to a small camera in the back corner of the room.

TEAM MEMBER #1

HQ records all our conference room meetings.

Art gets an urgent phone call. Caller ID reads, "HQ."

ART

I'd better take this in the loo.

Art races out.

INT. NATIONAL CENTRAL BUREAU, LOO - CONTINUOUS

Art answers the call with complete confidence.

ART

This is Police Chief Arthur Simmons.

(pauses to listen)

Yes, Commander. Very private location.

We HEAR SCREAMING but can't make out the words. It goes on for a painfully long time.

Art's jaw drops in disbelief.

He signs off meekly.

ART (CONT'D)

Yes, Commander. Immediately.

CLICK. The call ends.

Art's eyes open wide as he trudges to the door.

INT. NATIONAL CENTRAL BUREAU, CONFERENCE ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Art trudges into the room. He looks sadly at Maria and the Team members.

ART

I've been asked to step away from my duties during an internal investigation of recent cases.

Immediately, the three team members happily leave the room.

MARIA

Why?

ART

It seems my body camera from a few nights ago showed that my pistol missed the driverless SUV and showed Constable Henry Gruber's pistol shot the tire out, while you pushed Doc and Les out of harm's way.

MARIA

You missed the vehicle entirely?

ART

I guess I was a little rusty in firearms training. But more importantly, they said I was wrong to take all the credit.

MARIA

That's no big deal for us.

ART

They said that my temporary assignment as your Chief wasn't in the best interest of either organization, and that I should return to Interpol's IT Division in London in a lower capacity.

MARIA

But we need you and your team to find Obsidian Hex. Will you be able to help us from London?

Art moves in, uncomfortably close to Maria.

ART

If you ask for my help, yes.

Maria politely takes a step back.

MARIA

Of course, we do. I'll call you.

ART

You'll be in charge now. They'll be offering you the temporary Chief's position.

Maria's eyes open wide.

ART (CONT'D)

If you can catch Obsidian Hex, or
at least slow down their operation.

MARIA

With just Henry and me?

Art glances at the camera in the back of the room, turns away with a finger to his lips, hinting that Maria should remain quiet.

ART

You've got this, Chief Detective
Inspector. You're the best I've
ever known.

Art walks out of the conference room with confidence.

Maria turns to see Holmes on the floor, fast asleep.

She sends an emergency text message to Henry, which reads,
"We need an encrypted VC on B in 10."

Seconds later, Maria receives a text. "OK, in 10."

Maria exits in a hurry.

SPLIT SCREEN of video call.

EXT. PARK IN BUCHAREST - DAY

Maria initiates a video call on a burner smartphone. She
looks worried.

MARIA

Henry, pick up.

EXT. PARK NEAR MARIA'S HOME - SAME TIME

Henry answers the video call and smiles at Maria.

HENRY

What's all the secrecy about?
Encrypted video call on burner
phones--

MARIA

Where is he?

HENRY

Who?

MARIA
You know who.

HENRY
(laughs)
I haven't seen him.

MARIA
(annoyed)
Very funny! Him!

Henry points his camera around him.

HENRY
Do you see him?

MARIA
Keep moving the camera!
(beat)
There he is.

Henry freezes the phone but doesn't see Holmes.

While Henry sees a green lawn, Maria sees Holmes sleeping at Henry's feet.

She turns her camera and sees Holmes sleeping at her feet.

MARIA (CONT'D)
We have a problem. I think my
mentor is dividing time between
protecting you and me, and he's
lost much of his crime-fighting
edge.

HENRY
How is that possible?

Maria winces.

MARIA
I don't understand any of this, but
I believe it has diminished his
powers of deduction. I hear his
nonsensical observations, and he
spouts logical fallacies and
jumbles his own quotes.
(beat)
He told me that Professor James
Moriarty wasn't a criminal
mastermind and that he was a
florist with a penchant for pink
petunias.

(MORE)

MARIA (CONT'D)

He thinks Obsidian Hex is the name
of a symphony composer in Berlin.

(beat)

He thinks I'm his long-lost
daughter! And we have three cases
to solve! This can't be happening!

HENRY

What are we going to do?

Maria whispers, and Henry listens with a worried look.

INT. NATIONAL CENTRAL BUREAU, CONFERENCE ROOM - AFTERNOON

Art is pacing in the conference room when Maria races in.

MARIA

I'm sorry, Chief. There's been a
medical emergency. Henry needs my
help.

ART

That's unfortunate. The wankers in
HR are sending me to Employee
Sensitivity Training. It's a two-
hour online course with a multiple-
choice test at the end where we
have to score 70 percent or better
to pass.

MARIA

We, Chief?

ART

I've got to find the head of the
snake. I don't have time for a
useless 2-hour online class. You've
got to step up and take one for the
team, Detective Inspector, or
you'll be a Detective Constable
before close of business today.

Maria is stunned. She turns and begins to walk away.

ART (CONT'D)

Wait, you'll need the login
information they sent me.

Maria turns and glares at Art as he hands her a yellow sticky
note with his login information.

ART (CONT'D)

Oh, and I'd like to score over 90 percent on the exam to look good to HR.

Art hands her a slip of paper and exits.

Maria turns and stares at the camera in the back of the room.

Art reenters the room and points to the camera.

ART (CONT'D)

Oh, I had them turn off the camera for security reasons. Obsidian Hex employs the best hackers in the world.

Maria's drops her head.

Sherlock stands beside her, but he is unsteady with a goofy expression.

SHERLOCK

I can see how your Chief could use Employee Sensitivity Training.

(beat)

I'm here if you need me.

He falls to the floor.

Maria rolls her eyes.

INT. POLICE FORENSICS LAB - AFTERNOON

Rihanna is evaluating DNA results on her computer when Henry storms in. A weakened Ghost of Sherlock Holmes stumbles behind him. They don't see or hear the ghost.

HENRY

How is the workup on Assassin #27 going?

RIHANNA

That's Jane Doe #1.

HENRY

Maria will be back anytime now, so I'm hoping we can show her positive results.

Rihanna stands and approaches Henry with a seductive walk and smile.

RIHANNA
Remember what I said about people
who want to remain hidden?

HENRY
I... I... We need something
positive to show the Gov.

Rihanna inches closer.

RIHANNA
Detective Inspector Martin? She
must mean a lot to you.

Henry looks away, embarrassed.

HENRY
We're in a relationship.

Holmes sounds weak, and he's distracted by Rihanna.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)
Stay strong, Henry. Detective
Inspector Martin needs you more
than ever.

Rihanna inches closer. Kissing close.

Henry takes a step back as Rihanna returns to her computer.

RIHANNA
Jane Doe #1 was definitely German.
Sadly, ancestry information was
complicated after World War II.
Many personal records were
destroyed by their owners, hiding
who they might be. Thousands of
local town halls were bombed, so
civil birth, marriage, and death
records were lost forever. Then,
Allied forces seized the remaining
documents to scrutinize Nazi-era
lineage and party records.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)
World War II again. Where have I
heard that before?

HENRY
So her family history was erased.

RIHANNA

We won't find any relatives if she changed her name, and there's a good bet she did.

HENRY

What about facial recognition? Can't we get a history from all the cameras out there?

RIHANNA

The computerized glasses she wore are in evidence. They were infrared-blocking glasses.

HENRY

Probably with reflective lenses to blind or confuse surveillance cameras.

RIHANNA

They make facial recognition nearly impossible.

Holmes scratches his head.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)

Pure poppycock! You're making no sense at all.

HENRY

And Assassin #26 wore the same eyeglasses as did the Nurse's aid. The uniform of soldiers.

(beat)

I should tell Maria.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)

I got this!

Holmes looks around as if lost.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)

Maybe after a rest.

He collapses to the floor and falls asleep.

INT. NATIONAL CENTRAL BUREAU, CONFERENCE ROOM - EARLY EVENING

Maria is alone with a laptop computer, watching an "HR Employee Sensitivity Training" film with an elderly male INSTRUCTOR who speaks in a slow, boring monotone.

INSTRUCTOR (V.O.)

A new employee asks her supervisor (you) where the "unisex" loo is located in the building. Do you respond: (A) I don't know, (B) I don't care, (C) I'm sure we don't have one, (D) Go ask someone else, or (E) I'm not sure, but I'll find out for you by calling building maintenance personnel who will get back to you within 24 hours?

Maria rolls her eyes in disgust.

Sherlock pops up behind with a sudden burst of energy.

SHERLOCK

Unisex? Interesting concept. What are you doing? We have three unidentified bodies to attend to.

Maria turns and glares at Sherlock.

MARIA

Are you fully back on your mentoring task? Henry and I could use your help.

SHERLOCK

I tried to help you here and Constable Gruber back home at the same time. It was a failed experiment, but I learned much, and I'm ready to succeed.

Art enters the conference room in a huff. Sherlock's ghost disappears.

Art points to Maria's body cam on her belt, which shows a small green light.

Art hands Maria a yellow sticky note: "You left your body cam on!"

ART

Of course, I'm back on my mentoring task. You and Constable Gruber need my assistance. I'm always here to help. Please, let me get back to my exciting HR Employee Sensitivity Training.

Maria turns off her body cam.

MARIA

I'm so sorry, Chief. The good news is that you passed with 95% correct answers.

ART

I passed? Really?

MARIA

I'm going home to help Henry ID our three dead bodies to notify next of kin and find out how many more assassins and foot soldiers are out there.

The Chief sits down at the computer.

ART

Fine. You concentrate on the feet. I'll stay here for the real work, hunting down the head of the snake.

Maria points to the computer before exiting.

MARIA

Remember to log out properly to record your score, or you'll lose everything.

Maria exits.

Art stares at the computer, taps a few keys, and then pounds his fists on the desk in anger.

ART

Shite!

EXT. NATIONAL CENTRAL BUREAU - CONTINUOUS

Maria walks briskly down the sidewalk, talking to herself as a few passersby stare at her like she's crazy.

MARIA

You go and help Henry stay out of trouble. Tell him all the assassins wore infrared-blocking eyeglasses, so forget surveillance video. Tell him to concentrate on DNA and the closest relatives.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)

Good idea, Detective.

MARIA

When I get home, I'm going to stop at the correctional facility to press Andreea Schmidt for a plea deal.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)

Good! She knows more than she's telling. And her body language suggests that she is worried.

MARIA

I didn't catch that, but I worry about Henry. It's Tuesday, so keep him away from Cat's Tavern on two-for-one night until I get there. I still don't trust Cat, and I'm four hours away on the next flight.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)

I think you had better hurry.

INT. TAVERN - NIGHT

SUPER: "4 hours later."

Henry is pulled into the Tavern by Rihanna, who wears a sexy black clubbing dress and high heels. Henry is in uniform, looking for a dark corner table to hide.

Cat is tending bar with a few of the regular barflies playing darts, including MAYOR ARIN DILLON (35), the town's first Indian Mayor, PASTOR (Liz Roberts, 40), and TAD DOOLEY (30). The Pastor and Mayor are drinking G&Ts, while the others have beer. All drinks are in sets of two.

Cat spots Henry and smiles. She yells.

CAT

Hi, Henry! The regular? What would your friend like?

All eyes turn to Henry and Rihanna.

HENRY

She's a work colleague. Rihanna, meet the gang. That's Cat behind the bar, and the town's leadership council is throwing darts.

Mayor, Pastor, and Tad wave politely but stare suspiciously at Rihanna.

CAT
Where's Detective Inspector Martin
tonight?

HENRY
Bucharest.

CAT
And the new Chief?

HENRY
Bucharest.

The crowd makes a suspicious "Hmmm" sound.

HENRY (CONT'D)
On business. Maria will be home
soon. I'll have water tonight, Cat.

The crowd makes another suspicious "Hmmm" sound.

RIHANNA
Two-for-one night? I'll have two
dirty martinis, please.

Henry whispers to Rihanna.

HENRY
You just ordered four dirty
martinis.

She whispers back seductively.

RIHANNA
I hope I can't trust you.

Standing behind Rihanna is the Ghost of Sherlock Holmes.

Cat brings two dirty martinis to their table and keeps a
subtle but watchful eye on Rihanna the rest of the evening.

Rihanna gulps down the first martini.

HENRY
You'd better go easy on those.

EXT. TAVERN - SAME TIME

Maria exits a cab with a small suitcase and a backpack. She
glances at the cars parked on the street.

MARIA
Henry, the Mayor, Pastor, and Tad.
The usual suspects.

Maria is about to enter the Tavern when her phone buzzes.
Caller ID says, "Correctional Facility."

MARIA (CONT'D)
Detective Inspector Maria Martin.

A female CORRECTIONAL OFFICER (40s) speaks slowly.

CORRECTIONAL OFFICER (V.O.)
Detective Martin, may I ask who you
visited here at our facility
yesterday?

MARIA
Andreea Schmidt. Inmate number--

CORRECTIONAL OFFICER (V.O.)
I'm afraid there's been an
accident.

MARIA
Accident?

CORRECTIONAL OFFICER (V.O.)
You may want to get here as soon as
possible.

CLICK. The call ends.

Maria gets another text message. Caller ID says, "Les
Zlobin." The message reads, "Save Andreea Schmidt, now!"

Maria races into the Tavern.

Seconds later, Maria and Henry race out of the Tavern and hop
in Henry's fancy old car.

INT. HENRY'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

Henry drives while Maria vents. She's angry.

MARIA
Get us to the prison, fast!
Andreea's life is in danger.

HENRY
How do you know?

SHERLOCK (V.O.)
Yes, how do you know?

Maria adjusts the rearview mirror to see Sherlock hanging on for dear life as Henry drives like a madman.

MARIA
The correctional officer called. So did Les. Don't change the subject.

Henry readjusts the rearview mirror, but sees no one in the back seat.

HENRY
I wasn't--

MARIA
Was that tart Rihanna after some of your DNA? While the cat's away, the mouse will play, huh?

SHERLOCK (V.O.)
Don't answer that, Henry. It's a trap.

HENRY
It wasn't like that at all. I was drinking water. She said she'd tell me more about forensics if I took her for drinks.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)
That's the truth from what I saw.

MARIA
Uh-huh. Do you still have a burner phone in your car?

HENRY
In the glovebox.

Maria takes it out and calls Les. She puts him on speaker.

MARIA
Hi, Les. How did you know Andreea Schmidt was in trouble?

LES (V.O.)
I've been tracking you both on the dark web to keep you alive.

HENRY
Thanks, Les.

LES (V.O.)
No problemo, bro.

Henry smiles.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)
How did Lester Zlobin know?

MARIA
I never mentioned Andreea's name to
anyone outside of Henry and the new
forensics Lab Tech--

LES (V.O.)
Rihanna Gutenberg.

MARIA
I didn't know she had a last name.
Please, go on.

LES (V.O.)
Right after your last visit to the
prison, dark web social activity
went wild. Your name and the prison
visitation log showed up.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)
Lester appears quite handy with the
electronic newspaper light boxes.

MARIA
The prison has a leak.

HENRY
Is Maria in danger?

LES (V.O.)
Maybe, but some hacker cross-linked
Andreea Schmidt with Obsidian Hex,
and instantly, every organized
crime family website lit up like
New Year's Eve.

MARIA
We're not the only ones after
Obsidian Hex.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)
The enemy of my enemy is my friend?

MARIA
Organized crime is never my friend.

HENRY

Mine neither.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)

But this means they have a leak also, and that may be helpful to you.

MARIA

Either way, we have to find out what Andreea Schmidt knows before they do. Thanks, Les. Stay hidden. We'll call you tonight.

INT. PRISON, SHOWER - NIGHT

Doc steadies Andreea Schmidt, who is heavily bandaged. She wears a bathrobe and slippers. She is panicking.

ANDREEA

How did they find me? How did all of them find me?

DOC

I have no idea.

Maria and Henry are guided into the shower by the same Correctional Officer. Sherlock is right behind them.

MARIA

What happened here?

ANDREEA

This doctor saved my life.

Doc whispers to Maria.

DOC

Les warned me. 'Something is going down.' This prison. 'Tonight, Andreea Schmidt.' He told me to get here quickly.

ANDREEA

How did Les know this?

The Correction Officer looks away, which only Sherlock sees.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)

I think we know.

Maria glances toward Sherlock to see his ghost glaring at the Correction's Officer.

Maria glares at the Corrections Officer.

MARIA

I'll text the Chief. We'll need to move the prisoner to a safer place until we can sort this out.

Maria sends a text to the Chief.

CORRECTIONAL OFFICER

That will do no good. It takes days or weeks to get the appropriate paperwork together.

Maria turns to Andreea.

MARIA

So, what happened here tonight?

ANDREEA

I was ambushed. Six inmates, maybe more. They put a bag over my head and started punching and kicking.

DOC

I should keep an eye on her to rule out internal bleeding.

Maria looks around the shower room.

MARIA

Do you have any CCTV cameras?

CORRECTIONAL OFFICER

It's a private shower, not a dancehall!

MARIA

There's nothing private about an ambush.

Maria gets a text message. Caller ID says 'Chief.' The message reads, "will u do my HR training?"

Maria angrily responds, "Yes."

Maria turns to Andreea.

MARIA (CONT'D)

You'll have to agree to tell us everything.

Andreea looks away.

HENRY

If they can't protect you in here,
you're going to need us to stay
alive.

CORRECTIONAL OFFICER

We can protect her in the hole.

ANDREEA

Solitary confinement? I'm
claustrophobic.

The Correctional Officer raises her hand.

CORRECTIONAL OFFICER

You should have thought of that
before your crime spree. You're not
going anywhere!

She starts to slap Andreea when she gets a text message.
Caller ID reads, "Superintendent of Corrections." The text
message reads, "You are to release the prisoner to DI Martin
pending an internal investigation." Maria is looking over her
shoulder to read the text.

Maria turns to Henry.

MARIA

Cuff the prisoner, Constable. She's
coming with us.

CORRECTIONAL OFFICER

Where are you taking my prisoner? I
need the location for my report.

ANDREEA

I need my bible from my cell.

The Correction Officer goes ballistic.

CORRECTIONAL OFFICER

No personal items can come back
with you when they're done with
your sorry arse!

Maria stares at her phone.

MARIA

Shite, I left it on record by
mistake.

The Correctional Officer's eyes open wide.

MARIA (CONT'D)
Doc, would you mind coming with us
to monitor your patient?

CORRECTIONAL OFFICER
(false compassion)
She could go to the hospital.

MARIA
That hasn't been too safe lately.

Maria, Henry, Doc, and Andreea exit. Sherlock is right behind them.

EXT. SAFE HOUSE - NIGHT

Les sits on the front steps wearing black pants, shoes, and a black hoodie pulled down.

Maria, Henry, Doc, and Andreea walk up with worried looks on their faces.

Les holds out two small spy cameras in the palm of his hand.

LES
You were smart to come here. Your
home was bugged- front and back
doors.

MARIA
That's how they've known our every
move. We parked down the way under
some trees. We know they have drone
support too.

Andreea glares at Les, who hugs his father.

MARIA (CONT'D)
That's Les, Doc's son. He can be
trusted.

ANDREEA
You can't protect me here. I saw
the cons who attacked me. They were
from every gang.

MARIA
Is that unusual?

ANDREEA
Unheard of.

Les holds up his hand-held electronic bug detector.

LES
I'll go scan your car.

Maria adds a tiny camera of her own by the front door and hands a second one to Henry.

MARIA
Henry, please add this to the back door.

INT. SAFE HOUSE - CONTINUOUS

Doc, Maria, and Andreea (still handcuffed) enter the dark house.

MARIA
Shades and curtains.

They all begin lowering shades and closing curtains.

Henry enters from the back door with bags of groceries.

HENRY (O.C.)
I grabbed the groceries from the boot.

MARIA
Thanks, Henry. I could use a cup of coffee.

HENRY
You've got it, Gov.

Andreea eyes Les's backpack, which is filled with a laptop and electronic equipment.

ANDREEA
Can I get the handcuffs removed?

MARIA
No. And I have a taser gun set on dinosaur if you try to escape.

Maria hears Sherlock in her head.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)
Powerful enemies with long arms.

ANDREEA
Whose house is this?

MARIA
That's classified.

Les enters the unlocked front door.

LES

The car is clean, but check it daily. And I'd keep all doors and windows locked.

Les begins to set up an office on the dining room table.

He plugs in a laptop computer, a portable satellite WiFi system, and a burner smartphone with a charger.

Maria has an iPad, smartphone, and burner phone.

Doc is almost asleep in an easy chair.

Henry enters the dining room and pats Les on the back.

HENRY

What does the dark web say we're up against, Les?

Les pulls up a list of the top organized crime groups in the world.

Maria and Holmes stare over Les's shoulder.

As Les reads, his screen reads:

'Ndrangheta and Camorra, based in the Calabria and Naples areas of Italy.

Russian Mafia, operating from the former Soviet Union.

Yakuza, from Japan.

Sinaloa and Jalisco Cartels, based in Mexico.

Triads, from China and Hong Kong.

LES

Before last month, organized crime syndicates never mentioned Obsidian Hex.

HENRY

And now?

LES

These groups are all over the dark web, offering a million Euros for the head of anyone connected to Obsidian Hex.

Andreea's eyes open wide before she squeezes behind Henry and leans around him to peek at Les's screen.

MARIA

Obsidian Hex must be skimming from their laundering of drug money in cryptocurrency.

LES

At least now, they're stealing from criminals, but I'm focused on finding Obsidian Hex for revenge.

MARIA

You'd have to turn over their names and locations to the proper authorities. They deserve their day in court!

ANDREEA

If they found me, the others would never live to see their day in court. They're not dealing with hackers; they're dealing with people who will hack them into pieces and feed them to the fishes.

Doc stirs in the recliner.

DOC

Did someone say 'fish'? I could use some fish and chips.

Everyone stares at Doc as Les laughs.

LES

Not if you knew what was in the fish.

Maria turns and glares at Andreea.

MARIA

I suggest you use the loo before I handcuff you to the brass bed in the spare room. We'll get your statement in the morning.

ANDREEA

I'm not talking. You saw how easily they found me.

MARIA
 (sarcastic)
 Think about all your other options
 tonight!

Andreea puts her head down.

ANDREEA
 I'm dead already! I've got a
 million-Euro price on my head.

They all glance at Andreea, who looks frightened as she
 trudges away.

LATER

The dining room lights are dimmed. Maria, Henry, and Les
 stare at Les's computer.

Doc is asleep in the recliner.

Les points to a graph showing a map of "communication
 activity" with hotspots around London, Naples, Rome, Hong
 Kong, Tokyo, Mexico City, Jalisco, and Bucharest.

LES
 See, the communication traffic
 increased for all the organized
 crime groups, and we can't confirm
 it yet, but they might be working
 together.

MARIA
 For the first time?

LES
 We may need Interpol's IT Division
 to confirm it.

HENRY
 The Chief?

Maria panics and pulls out her laptop computer.

MARIA
 That reminds me, I've got an HR
 test to take online for the Chief.
 I'll call him afterward.
 (to Henry)
 Can you check on our detainee?

HENRY
 (laughs)
 Do you mean prisoner?

MARIA

See that she's still sleeping. She
was out thirty minutes ago.

Henry walks down a hallway and opens a door a few inches,
then the entire way.

HENRY (O.C.)

(yells)
She's gone.

Maria mumbles a few choice curse words as she races to Henry.

MARIA

How could she be gone?

Henry checks his pants pocket as Maria and Henry return from
the dining room.

Les is checking his backpack.

LES

She stole my disguise kit.

MARIA

What disguise kit?

LES

I'm avoiding facial recognition,
too. Obsidian Hex is after me for
impersonating them online.

MARIA

What's in your disguise kit?

LES

Oversized reflective eyeglasses, a
bulky knit cap, a fake beard, and
jaw distorters.

MARIA

Jaw distorters?

LES

Fake teeth that exaggerate my mouth
and jaw.

Sherlock's ghost appears, standing behind Les's computer.

HENRY

She broke a railing off the brass
bed! One cuff must be on her hand.

Sherlock points and smirks at Les's computer.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)
Presumably, she plotted her escape
while everyone was ogling at the
Googling light-box.

LES
That must be when she stole my
stuff.

He races down the hall and returns quickly.

LES (CONT'D)
She stole my favorite black hoodie.

MARIA
To hide the handcuffs. She can't
have run far. I have the keys to
the car.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)
You've got to find her.

MARIA
We need to split up.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)
Last time I tried that, it was
disastrous.

Maria checks her phone for the time.

MARIA
The Tavern is still open.

Henry is excited.

HENRY
And it's still Two-for-One Tuesday.

Maria and Sherlock glare at Henry.

MARIA
Les, stay here with your dad, in
case she comes back to turn herself
in. Henry, let's go.

Sherlock's ghost disappears.

Maria and Henry race out.

INT. HENRY'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

Henry drives, and Maria looks for Andreea.

MARIA
We've got to switch cars. This one
is too distinct.

HENRY
We could drive your old sedan. It's
in the garage. Does it have petrol?

MARIA
Yes. I think so.

Sherlock's ghost appears in the backseat. Maria hears him.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)
Look at you two going undercover.

MARIA
Any other tips?

HENRY
To remain incognito.

MARIA
Yes.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)
Incognito is Italian, meaning
"unknown" or "unrecognized." Try to
blend in seamlessly with the
surrounding environment.

MARIA
Henry, we must try not to be
noticed.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)
Precisely. In a Tavern, I dressed
plainly and held a newspaper up to
my eyes.

MARIA
People don't hold newspapers up
anymore.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)
Hold a light-box up.

MARIA
A tablet. We'll take iPads to cover
our faces. First, I need to call
the Chief.

She calls, and Art answers, sleepily.

ART (V.O.)
Yes, DI Martin.

MARIA
Andreea Schmidt escaped. We need an
Interpol APB for Andreea Schmidt.
It's not her real name. She's
thirty-something, average height,
and average build. She's disguised
in a black hoody and wearing one
handcuff.

ART
That description matches every teen
in Europe! Did you finish my HR
training yet?

MARIA
We don't have time to talk, sir.
We're in pursuit.

EXT. COUNTRY ESTATE, GARAGE - NIGHT

Maria hops out of Henry's car.

MARIA
We'd better change into nondescript
clothes and grab our iPads.

HENRY
I'm on it.

LATER

Maria enters the garage in casual clothes, and Henry enters
dressed like Sherlock Holmes, with a tweed coat and a two-
brimmed deerstalker hat.

Sherlock appears and hits his empty palm to his forehead.

MARIA
(to Henry)
Lose the hat, Henry!

Maria removes a car cover from her cheap, nondescript sedan.
No one notices the tiny RED BLINKING LIGHT under the car as
Maria drives away with Henry beside her and Sherlock in the
back seat, hanging on for dear life.

INT. TAVERN - NIGHT

Maria and Henry stroll into the Tavern. Sherlock enters and takes a seat in a dark corner. He covers his face below his eyes with a menu.

Rihanna slurs her speech at the bar while "educating" the patrons (the Pastor, Mayor, Tad) who are equally tipsy.

Cat stands off to the side, eyeing Rihanna suspiciously.

RIHANNA

It's easy to avoid facial
recognition on all those cameras
all over town. You get yourself a
pair of infrared-blocking glasses
for under fifty quid, and over-
accessorize with floppy earrings.

TAD

Does that work for men, too? I
can't wear floppy earrings.

Rihanna isn't listening. She's on a roll.

RIHANNA

You can add cotton rolls in your
cheeks to exaggerate asymmetry, or
use Botox and shadowing makeup.

Maria interrupts and shows the crowd a photo of Andreea.

MARIA

Has anyone seen this woman in the
past hour? Thirty-something years
old, average height and weight,
black hoodie.

PASTOR

That doesn't narrow it down.

MARIA

One handcuff on the right hand.

MAYOR

That does. Haven't seen her.

CAT

Did she escape custody?

TAD

(frightened)
Escaped custody?

HENRY

We're looking for her. That's all.

Rihanna turns to see Henry and runs to him, wraps her arms around him, and plants a long, wet kiss on his lips.

Maria's eyes open wide.

Henry pushes Rihanna back.

Before anyone can react, two heavily armed Italian Mobsters (40s, in dark suits, scruffy facial hair, and thick wool ski beanies) enter with a pistol in one hand and a bug-detector app in the other. They wear thick-rimmed glasses and black latex gloves.

Cat ducks behind the bar as Maria hides Andreea's photo in her blouse.

Behind the bar, Cat snaps a handy electronic jamming bracelet around her right ankle, then stands nonchalantly.

Maria glances at Cat to call 9-9-9.

Cat gives her a subtle okay sign.

The Mobsters pace slowly around the bar toward the patrons.

Rihanna drunkenly points at the mobsters.

RIHANNA

Do you see how their puffy beanies,
bulky eyeglasses, and facial hair
obscure their facial features?

Italian Mobster #1 gestures with his pistol across his neck for Rihanna to shut up. He yells.

ITALIAN MOBSTER #1

Stai zitto!

Maria hears Holme's whispering to her.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)

He asked her to remain quiet.

Maria rolls her eyes in disgust. She knew what he said.

Italian Mobster #2 gestures with his index finger for Rihanna to sit.

ITALIAN MOBSTER #2

Sedere!

SHERLOCK (V.O.)
This one asked her to be seated.

Again, Maria rolls her eyes.

Rihanna sits down, frightened. Maria, Henry, Cat, and the patrons freeze in fright.

Maria repositions herself to aim her "body camera belt buckle" at the mobsters.

The Monsters pace and wave their bug finders around.

Maria shuts off her body cam.

The Monsters are frustrated that their bug finders come up empty.

Italian Mobster #1 shakes his bug finder at Italian Mobster #2.

ITALIAN MOBSTER #1
Queste cose non funzionano!

SHERLOCK (V.O.)
I believe he said the electric box
of his is not fun.

ITALIAN MOBSTER #2
Tre metri, 'sto cazzo!

SHERLOCK (V.O.)
This one is questioning the three-
meter range of the devices.

The mobsters pull out a photo of Andreea and glare at the females in the Tavern.

They shake the photos angrily.

ITALIAN MOBSTER #1
Controlla il bagno.

Italian Mobster #2 races back to check the loo.

Sherlock sounds puzzled.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)
Control the banjo?

Maria rolls her eyes.

Italian Mobster #2 reenters and shrugs his shoulders.

Italian Mobster #1 draws his pistol and shoots a few bottles of liquor behind Cat.

ITALIAN MOBSTER #1
Merda!

SHERLOCK (V.O.)
Oooh. He said a bad word.

The Mobsters turn and exit.

Everyone is relieved, but Maria is angry.

MARIA
Rihanna, see you at the lab
tomorrow at 8 AM sharp!

Rihanna leaps to Henry, but Maria pulls him out of the Tavern, with Holmes strolling behind.

EXT. TAVERN - CONTINUOUS

Maria turns to the Ghost of Sherlock Holmes.

MARIA
Control the banjo?

Henry laughs.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)
I admit that my Italian is a little
rusty. But you might want to check
your car for tracking devices.

Maria is already investigating the undercarriage of the car.

MARIA
My thoughts exactly.

She stands and presents a clunky transmitter with a red blinking light.

Maria looks around and sees a parked fish delivery vehicle.

She runs to the vehicle and puts the tracker on the undercarriage.

MARIA (CONT'D)
Buying a little time.

HENRY
Will the driver be in danger?

MARIA

That's Mr. Zucco's truck. The
Italians won't bother him.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)

Organized crime is after your
escapee, too.

MARIA

We have to find Andreea before they
do!

They hop in Maria's car. Henry takes the wheel.

INT. MARIA'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

Henry drives. Maria calls Les on her burner phone. Les
answers on his burner phone.

HENRY

Where to, gov.

MARIA

The safe house.

(to Les)

Les, I need a map of vacant homes
and businesses radiating from the
safe house. Throw in parks and open
space areas, too. Thanks.

LES (V.O.)

You got it.

MARIA

Two Italian mobsters dropped by the
Tavern tonight--

LES (V.O.)

Two-for-one night. Who could blame
them?

MARIA

I'd like you to look for an uptick
in local communication on the dark
web in the past two hours.

LES (V.O.)

Mapped, of course.

MARIA

Lastly, we're going to swing by and pick up your dad and your best bug-finder for a side project. Make him coffee if he needs it.

LES (V.O.)

He's not gonna like that.

MARIA

I'll make it up to you both.

Maria ends the call.

INT. MORGUE - NIGHT

Maria enters cautiously, followed by Henry, Doc, and the Ghost of Sherlock Holmes.

Doc is half-asleep as he returns his keys to his pocket.

MARIA

Don't touch anything.

HENRY

Huh?

Holmes looks around, worriedly.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)

When nothing looks out of place, that's when your powers of observation are most needed.

MARIA

Just a precaution. Doc, may we see John Doe #1?

SHERLOCK (V.O.)

Assassin #26.

Doc moves to the refrigerated storage boxes and slides out Assassin #26.

Doc stares at the sheet covering the body and freezes.

DOC

What are we looking for?

MARIA

Anything unusual.

Doc peels back the sheet.

DOC
I don't remember being that neat
with the sheet.

Maria takes out Les's bug finder and examines the body from head to toe.

Maria freezes when she sees a small incision on the right ankle.

Sherlock steps back in amazement.

Maria points to a spot on the ankle.

MARIA
Doc, did you cut here?

Doc sounds worried.

DOC
No.

MARIA
Can you please see how deep the
incision is?

Doc walks to a counter with autopsy instruments. Sherlock and Maria follow.

He stares at the neat, clean, carefully arranged instruments.

DOC
Should I use gloves?

SHERLOCK (V.O.)
Professionals.

MARIA
There won't be any prints on them.

Doc grabs a scalpel and returns to the body.

He probes the incision.

DOC
Three to six millimeters.

MARIA
You can put him back.

Doc covers and slides back the body.

HENRY
GPS locator transmitter?

DOC
Want to see the other one?

MARIA
There should be two more. But their
transmitters also will be removed.

Doc points to a second storage box.

DOC
Jane Doe #1 is there, but Jane Doe
#2 is in my garage cellar.

Maria grabs Doc's sleeve and pulls him toward the door.

MARIA
We need that transmitter. It may
lead us to Andreea.

HENRY
Let's roll.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)
He means I need to buckle up.

EXT. TAVERN - NIGHT

Across the street from the dark Tavern, Andreea trudges back and forth and glares intermittently at the front door.

She stands behind a parked black SUV.

She HEARS the roar of a loud car racing down the street. She ducks behind the SUV as a "low-rider" black sedan with heavily tinted windows races by the Tavern.

Andreea peeks out to see that the car lacks a tail license plate.

When the car is out of sight, Andreea crosses the street to go to the back side of the Tavern.

She doesn't see the security camera on the side of the SUV filming her every move.

INT. DOC'S GARAGE CELLAR - NIGHT

Doc removes a tiny transmitter from the ankle of Jane Doe #2.

HENRY
The Nurse's Aid.

DOC
I didn't complete my autopsy notes.
I'm sorry.

MARIA
You saved the day!

DOC
It's four in the morning.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)
Nice work, Detective and team.

MARIA
We need to know the frequency.

DOC
Les!

EXT. SAFE HOUSE - PRE-DAWN

Henry races up to the house just as Les runs out with his backpack.

LES
Keep driving! Open the door!

Doc opens the back passenger door and moves across the seat.

Les tosses his backpack in the moving car, dives in, and shuts the door.

INT. HENRY'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

Maria turns quickly back to Les as Henry speeds up. Sherlock's ghost is pinned against the other door.

MARIA
What happened?

LES
That crazy escaped convict stole my smartphone. Get us away from here, Henry. Under a bridge would be great!

HENRY
I know just the bridge.

MARIA
What do you mean, she has everything?

LES

My phone was unlocked. She has all my passwords, access to secret Interpol and Obsidian Hex websites, everything! And that's not all!

The car sways back and forth on the windy road, with Holmes getting squished half the time.

LES (CONT'D)

I was monitoring the dark web and noticed increased traffic in our area originating from Asia. It looked like a red dome over our town.

MARIA

Uh-oh. Then what?

LES

Then it disappeared from my screen.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)

A power outage in the light-box?

LES

They learned how to cover their tracks.

Henry pulls under a bridge.

HENRY

On the dark web?

LES

The Asian mobsters became better hackers than the Central Europeans working for Obsidian Hex.

Maria holds up a plastic evidence bag containing a tiny GPS transmitter.

MARIA

It's even more important to find the frequency for this GPS transmitter and our escaped convict!

Sherlock's ghost tries to pay attention to Les, but he looks ready for sleep.

Les grabs the bag and examines the chip.

LES

We'll need a spectrum analyzer up
to three gigahertz connected to a
suitable antenna.

Les, excited, looks at Doc while Sherlock's ghost's eyes
close.

LES (CONT'D)

You see, all GPS satellites
broadcast on one of two carrier
frequencies: L1, at 1575.42
megahertz, and L2, at 1227.6
megahertz.

Maria hears Sherlock SNORING.

MARIA

Who has a spectrum analyzer?

HENRY

Dr. Fitzgerald at the University.

MARIA

We don't have time for that. Don't
all chips have a tiny part number
on them?

Doc squirms in the back seat, like he's sitting on something.
He looks around and doesn't see Sherlock's ghost, but he
reaches under his butt and pulls out Sherlock's large
MAGNIFYING GLASS.

DOC

Look what I found in the crack of
the backseat!

LES

Dad, you're a genius!

Les uses Maria's smartphone flashlight to search the tiny
chip for a part number. Doc looks on.

LES (CONT'D)

I got it. T-R-U-3-X.

Les looks up the part number on the Internet.

LES (CONT'D)

L2, at 1227.6 megahertz.

MARIA

I'll call Art for drone support
from Interpol.

INT. TAVERN - DAWN

Cat enters the Tavern holding a cup of coffee and a small paper bag.

Andreea holds a gun to Cat's head and holds Les's phone in the other hand.

Cat sees the bulge of handcuffs under Andreea's sweatshirt sleeve and picks up on her German accent.

ANDREEA

Thanks for the pistol. I found it behind your bar, unlocked and loaded! That's very unsafe.

(yells)

What's your name?

CAT

What's yours, German girl?

Andreea pushes the pistol into Cat's skull.

ANDREEA

I won't ask again. You are part of a murder-suicide this morning. I don't have much time. If you can help me out of this impossible mess, I may let you live.

Cat sounds defiant.

CAT

My name is Catherine Dunlop. I'm 25 years old and from Ireland, and this is my Tavern.

ANDREEA

You might be 25 years old and from Ireland, but Catherine Dunlop is not your real name, and I know a thing or two about real names.

Cat's eyes open wide as Andreea yells like a madwoman.

ANDREEA (CONT'D)

You lied to me!

Andreea hits Cat over the head with the pistol, and Cat collapses to the floor.

INT. MARIA'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

Maria is on her smartphone with the burner phone in her other hand.

MARIA
Thanks for the drone support,
Chief, and I'll be sending you the
results of your HR exam in about an
hour.

CLICK. She ends the call.

Sherlock is wide awake and puzzled.

Les stares at a MAP of the area on his laptop.

MARIA (CONT'D)
Les, watch for the first sign of a
ping from the drone.
(to Henry)
Henry, swing by the station. We may
need more firepower and bulletproof
vests again.

Henry RACES off. Holmes holds on for dear life as Doc, Les,
and he swerve in the backseat.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)
We know at least one mob family is
here.

MARIA
The Italians, but I'm thinking that
the break-in at the morgue was the
work of the Yakuza.

HENRY
Much more subtle than the Italians.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)
Do you think there may be other
organized crime families involved?

Everyone's eyes open wide.

INT. TAVERN - MORNING

Cat regains consciousness and is tied to a chair.

ANDREEA
Good. You're awake. We don't have
much time.
(MORE)

ANDREEA (CONT'D)

An international group of organized crime families wants me dead.

Cat stares at Andreea compassionately.

ANDREEA (CONT'D)

I'm not buying your faked compassion. You're going to die after I get the information I need, whatever your name is.

Cat speaks with a more pronounced Irish accent.

CAT

I was forced to change my name from Kathleen Dooley because my step-brother Tad Dooley brought too much attention to our family's association with the IRA.

ANDREEA

The Irish Republican Army? Go on.

CAT

From generation to generation, my Irish Catholic family in Belfast was hounded by the Brits.

ANDREEA

Hounded?

CAT

Not hounded as much as hunted.

ANDREEA

So, you immigrated.

CAT

No, we escaped. And I resented my brother keeping his name because it would lead the Royal Blacks, a violent secret society within the Orange Order, who hunt down past and present members of the IRA with extreme prejudice.

ANDREEA

They kill them?

CAT

They "disappear" them. No evidence. No crime.

ANDREEA

Why isn't your stepbrother afraid of them?

CAT

He doesn't understand fear. I do.

Andreea pauses, almost sympathetic.

ANDREEA

(snickers)

Do you? I caught up with you before the Brits did. The result, I'm afraid, will be the same.

(in Cat's face)

You see, I know much more about you than that.

Andreea shows Cat Les's smartphone.

ANDREEA (CONT'D)

I have Les Zlobin's unlocked smartphone. He's quite the hacker, not as good as me, but he was good enough to steal from Obsidian Hex and live to tell about it. That means that he has secrets that can put my old organization away for life.

CAT

(suspicious)

Did you work for Obsidian Hex?

ANDREEA

I can tell you this because you're not getting out of here alive. Yes. I was a contract employee for one job ten years ago.

CAT

You got captured, and they put you in prison.

ANDREEA

They could have killed me in the joint at any time, but they kept telling me they weren't killers, only hackers and thieves.

Cat turns away.

CAT

They invaded this Tavern weeks ago
and killed the owner, Winston
Edwards, right in front of me.
Then, Obsidian Hex sent assassins
to clean up their mess.

ANDREEA

What happened to them?

CAT

Three of them were killed.

Andreea's eyes open wide.

ANDREEA

Was it at the hands of organized
crime families?

CAT

No, the police!

ANDREEA

Police? That's absurd.

CAT

Detective Inspector Maria Martin is
smarter than you think. And I think
she has help from Interpol and the
townsfolk.

ANDREEA

How can the townsfolk be of much
help?

CAT

I don't know. She relies on one
Constable, the Coroner, and his
son, Les.

ANDREEA

I have Les's phone, but most of the
apps are locked.

CAT

It's probably double encrypted.

Andreea glares at Cat.

CAT (CONT'D)

I hear that's what hackers do. I
don't know.

(MORE)

CAT (CONT'D)

My family farms potatoes, except
for my stepbrother, who went into
carpentry, and I became a barmaid.

ANDREEA

The plaque on the wall says you own
the place.

CAT

Willed to me by the previous owner.

ANDREEA

(snickers)

Not a total surprise, is my guess.

Cat looks away.

They HEAR a fast older-model Italian Coupe race up to the
Tavern, and slam on the brakes.

CAT

Who do you suppose that is? Cut me
loose, and I'll help you escape.

Andreea peeks out the front window, looking back frequently
at Cat.

CAT (CONT'D)

How many of your enemies are out
there? Do you have another viable
option?

Andreea sees the older black Coupe parked further up from the
front door.

Andreea sees that all the vehicles have heavily tinted
windows.

EXT. POLICE STATION - SAME TIME

Maria and Henry hand out bulletproof vests, riot gear, and
helmets. Maria and Henry have tasers and nightsticks.

Les is inside Maria's car, staring at a MAP of the area on
his laptop. Les SCREAMS.

LES

We got her! She's at the Tavern!

MARIA

Doc, go get your Coroner's wagon.
Park a few blocks away until I call
you.

DOC
You got it!

Doc exits.

Henry and Maria pile into Maria's car.

Sherlock's ghost appears, squished in the backseat.

Henry RACES off as Sherlock holds on for dear life.

INT. MARIA'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

Maria turns from her front passenger's seat.

MARIA
When we get there, only Henry and I
will enter the Tavern. We'll arrest
Andreea Schmidt and take he back to
prison.

HENRY
Won't she be in danger?

MARIA
Yes, but solitary confinement can
keep her safe until we get the
information we need from her.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)
Good point, Detective. I've always
said it's better to be a live stool
pigeon than a dead duck.

Henry steps on the gas.

Sherlock MOANS.

EXT. TAVERN - DAY

A small, white SUV crossover with heavily tinted windows
creeps up and parks a little bit back from the Tavern's
entrance and well behind the black Italian Coupe.

Andreea peeks out the window to see the white SUV crossover.

INT. TAVERN - SAME TIME

CAT

It sounds like it's getting crowded outside. Do you think I should hire a valet?

Andreea glares at Cat.

ANDREEA

I wish I knew what to do. Maybe I should kill you now. Is there a back door to this dump?

CAT

No, but I wish there were.

EXT. TAVERN - CONTINUOUS

Henry is 100 yards from the Tavern when a fancy grey sports sedan zooms past them from behind.

They watch as the back window rolls down and an assault rifle aims at the Tavern and fires.

INT. TAVERN - SAME TIME

Andreea and Cat hear BAM BAM BAM BAM BAM BAM BAM BAM as bullets hit the wooden Tavern door.

Andreea dives to the floor as she hears the sports sedan speed away.

EXT. TAVERN - CONTINUOUS

Henry drives up cautiously and parks in front of the Tavern.

Everyone in Maria's car is ducking down as the grey sporty sedan disappears.

HENRY

Should we chase after them? Please say no.

They slowly peek out the windshield.

MARIA

Our first task is to apprehend Andreea.

Henry wipes his brow of sweat.

Maria and Sherlock look around suspiciously and see a black SUV across the street, a small white SUV crossover parked behind them, and a black Italian coupe parked in front of them. The vehicles all have heavily tinted windows and no license plates.

Sherlock, Les, Maria, and Henry strain their necks to look at the three cars.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)
I don't like the looks of this. You
can't see into the horseless
carriages.

Maria stares at the SUV.

MARIA
The SUV has been parked there
overnight, and it has a tiny camera
pointed at the Tavern's front door.

HENRY
How can you tell it's been there
all night?

SHERLOCK (V.O.)
Elementary, Henry.

MARIA
Leaves have collected around those
tires, but not around the other car
tires.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)
Exactly, Detective.

MARIA
Let's go, Henry. Tasers primed.

Henry and Maria exit the car with their tasers held out. They both wear bulletproof vests and body cams.

They turn to see the two Italian Mobsters exit the black Coupe and stand by their vehicle in black suits. They wear Earbuds, thick-rimmed sunglasses, and aren't intimidated by the tasers.

Maria and Henry turn toward the white SUV crossover to see two Asian gangsters in white cotton suits standing beside the car. They wear Earbuds, thick-rimmed sunglasses, and aren't intimidated by the tasers.

Maria and Henry look back at the black SUV across the street. No one exits the SUV.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)

Stay calm, but know that the gentlemen standing have bulging coats suggesting pistols with shoulder holsters.

MARIA

Henry, we brought tasers to an automatic pistol party.

Henry looks worried, but he stays as strong as Maria.

Les crouches inside Maria's sedan, with his laptop open and a satellite smartphone next to him.

When Maria yells, everyone hears her well, including Cat and Andreea inside the Tavern.

MARIA (CONT'D)

I'm Detective Inspector Maria Martin, and this is Constable Henry Gruber. We're apprehending an escaped prisoner inside. Stand aside! Anyone who interferes will be arrested for impeding a police investigation, a felony carrying up to two years' imprisonment and a €300,000 fine!

It's clear from the blank expressions on the gangsters' faces that none of them fully understands Maria. They tap their Earbuds frequently and speak in broken English.

ITALIAN MOBSTER #1

What is apprehending?

ITALIAN MOBSTER #2

You kill her?

The Ghost of Sherlock Holmes hits his forehead with his palm.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)

They don't understand English.

Maria yells.

MARIA

We're taking her in alive!

ASIAN MOBSTER #1

What is impeding?

ASIAN MOBSTER #2
Will you kill her later?

Holmes and Henry stare at the Asian mobsters.

Maria yells.

MARIA
No. We're taking her back to
prison.

The gangsters eye each other suspiciously and reach inside their jackets, but do not brandish their weapons.

CUT TO:

INT. TAVERN - SAME TIME

CAT
If you don't cut me loose, the
police will add assault,
kidnapping, and false imprisonment
to your sentence.

Andreea gets in Cat's face.

ANDREEA
You don't understand! I have a
death sentence waiting for me out
there.

CAT
Not if Detective Martin takes you
in peacefully.

ANDREEA
Whoever she is yelling at out there
has no intention of me being taken
into custody. They don't want me to
talk. They want me dead.

CAT
Let the police use a taser when
they walk in that door, and you'll
live to tell your story.

Andreea turns away and looks toward the front window.

ANDREEA
The others waiting for me might
assume that I'm dead.

CAT
Exactly.

Andreea turns back to Cat.

ANDREEA

Does it hurt? Being tased?

CAT

Protect your heart with your hands,
and you'll be okay.

They hear loud KNOCKS on the Tavern door.

MARIA (O.C.)

Detective Inspector Maria Martin
and Constable Gruber are coming in.
Step back from the door.

From down the street, everyone HEARS the roar of the grey sports sedan RACING toward them.

The grey sedan skids to a stop outside the Tavern.

Two Mexican Mobsters #1 and #2 step out of the car wearing grey suits, Earbuds, and thick-rimmed sunglasses. They brandish automatic rifles and point them at Maria and Henry.

The Italian and Asian Mobsters pull out automatic pistols but are uncertain where to point them.

Andreea can't take her eyes off the chaotic and dangerous scene.

EXT. TAVERN - CONTINUOUS

Maria glares at the Mexican mobsters.

MARIA

You're late, and now I have to
repeat myself.

The Italian and Asian mobsters groan and shake their heads in disgust at the Mexicans.

Inside Maria's sedan, Les is crouched low but holding up his phone and videotaping the scene, rotating his smartphone camera and watching the action on his laptop.

MARIA (CONT'D)

I'm Detective Inspector Maria
Martin, and this is Constable Henry
Gruber. We're apprehending an
escaped prisoner inside. Stand
aside!

(MORE)

MARIA (CONT'D)

Anyone who interferes will be arrested for impeding a police investigation, a felony carrying up to two years' imprisonment and a €300,000 fine!

The Asian and Italian mobsters aim their pistols at the Mexican Mobsters.

MEXICAN MOBSTER #1

What is €300,000 in pesos?

MEXICAN MOBSTER #2

That's almost six million pesos.
That seems unreasonably high.

ASIAN MOBSTER #1

Not so bad for us. That's only 2,693,347 Hong Kong Dollars.

ITALIAN MOBSTER #1

No, no, very bad! Over 580 million Italian Lire.

The Ghost of Sherlock Holmes hits his palm on his forehead.

MEXICAN MOBSTER #1

Al menos llevamos rifles
automáticos a un tiroteo de
pistolas.

Subtitle: "At least we bring automatic rifles to a pistol fight."

The Italian and Asian mobsters look confused.

MARIA

He said, "At least we bring
automatic rifles to a pistol
fight."

Italian Mobster #1 rubs his fingers, asking how much they cost.

ITALIAN MOBSTER #1

Quanto sono costati?

Subtitle: "How much did they cost?"

MEXICAN MOBSTER #2

No los compramos; los robamos.

Subtitle: "We don't buy them. We steal them."

The Asian and Italian Mobsters touch their Earbuds.

MEXICAN MOBSTER #1

(laughs)

Los estúpidos estadounidenses nunca
los guardan bajo llave de forma
segura.

Subtitle: "Stupid Americans never lock them up safely."

After a translation pause, the other mobsters laugh.

The mobsters continue aiming their weapons at each other as
Maria and Henry sneak into the Tavern.

The mobsters continue to miscommunicate in their foreign
languages while Maria and Henry are inside.

INT. TAVERN - SAME TIME

Maria enters to see Andreea holding a pistol at Cat's head,
while Cat is tied to a chair and gagged.

Maria and Henry aim their tasers at Andreea.

HENRY

That's Cat's pistol. She keeps it
behind the bar.

Maria glares at Andreea.

MARIA

Don't make this worse for yourself.
You've added theft of a pistol,
kidnapping, and false imprisonment
to your list of crimes. And
several mobsters outside want you
dead. You need us to get you out of
here alive. They're heavily armed
and could kill us all.

Cat's eyes open wide.

ANDREEA

What is your plan to get me out of
here alive?

MARIA

You hand over the pistol and untie
Cat. We fire Cat's pistol in the
air. The mobsters hear it and
assume you were shot.

(MORE)

MARIA (CONT'D)

I call Doc, who is around the corner, and tell him we have your body to pick up. The mobsters will be monitoring police radio traffic. Doc bags you and takes you out to his van and drives you to safety, while Henry and I get help to detain the mobsters.

HENRY

How do we get help?

MARIA

The black SUV across the street is filled with heavily armed Interpol agents. Les and I have been keeping Art informed with video the entire time.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)

Nice work, Detective. I get prouder of you by the moment.

MARIA

I've had a good mentor.

Andreea slowly hands over the pistol to Maria as Henry removes Cat's gag and unties her.

Cat winks at Maria and SCREAMS at Andreea, loud enough for the mobsters to hear outside.

CAT

I won't let you rot in prison, Andreea Schmidt! I'm going to shoot you now!

Maria winks at Andreea, Cat, Henry, and Sherlock before she fires the pistol in the air.

Cat whispers.

CAT (CONT'D)

They're blanks to scare robbers and drunks. I hate guns.

Andreea glares at Cat.

Maria gets on her radio and speaks loudly.

MARIA

Doc, we have a fatality at the Tavern. Please bring the Coroner's van.

Maria whispers the plan to the others.

LATER

Doc enters with a body bag and sees Andreea sitting sadly in a chair.

DOC

Don't worry, Andreea. The mobsters outside are standing together outside waiting to see your dead body. I always leave my body bags open a few inches for air, just in case.

Doc lays out the body bag.

Andreea panics and leaps out of the chair, heading to the door.

Henry aims his taser at her. His hand shakes.

MARIA

No!

Andreea instinctively covers her heart with her hands, as Cat instructed. The handcuffs are visible to Maria.

Henry doesn't fire his taser, so Cat grabs his hands and squeezes the trigger.

The taser fires with prongs in the upper-left back behind her heart and in the lower-right of her back.

Andreea falls back on the prongs, forcing them deeper into her body.

The 50,000 volts gather at the handcuffs grasping Andreea's heart.

She shakes uncontrollably for several seconds, then suddenly stops.

Doc and Maria keep everyone back.

Maria is furious with Cat but doesn't raise her voice.

MARIA (CONT'D)

What did you do that for?

CAT

She was getting away. They would have killed her outside, right?

Doc feels for a pulse and doesn't find one.

He initiates CPR.

Henry hangs his head.

HENRY

I forgot to remove her handcuffs.

MARIA

They were hidden in her sweatshirt sleeve.

(pauses)

But why would she cover her heart with them?

CAT

Maybe she panicked, as I did. I'm so sorry.

Henry hugs Cat for compassion.

Cat hugs Henry back with passion.

Maria looks up from Andreea and Doc, who is shaking his head in sadness. Maria sees Cat hugging Henry.

MARIA

This is awful. Ms. Schmidt lost her life while she was in our custody.

HENRY

And before she could tell us about Obsidian Hex.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)

Curious, that!

CAT

So sad.

Maria sounds unconvinced.

MARIA

Uh-huh. But let's finish what we started. I'll do the talking outside.

EXT. TAVERN - CONTINUOUS

Doc and Henry carry out the body bag, which is of great interest to the mobsters.

Maria, Cat, and the Ghost of Sherlock Holmes follow.

MARIA

There's nothing to see here. We had a fatality in the Tavern. Nothing more.

Cat yells to the mobsters.

CAT

She tried to kidnap me and held me at gunpoint, so I shot her in self-defense!

The Italian and Asian mobsters nod in approval and holster their pistols. The Mexican mobsters toss their automatic rifles in the back seat of their sedan.

Suddenly, Art and three heavily armed Interpol agents (various types and ages) hop out of the black SUV across the street and handcuff the gangsters.

ART

I'll take it from here, DI Martin.

Art waves at Les.

ART (CONT'D)

Thanks for the intel, Les.

Art points to the camera on the back of the SUV that focuses on the Tavern door.

ART (CONT'D)

We got it all. The Italian mobsters shooting up the bar, and the Mexican mobsters driving by and shooting the Tavern door. We don't know what the Asian mobsters did, but we'll find something.

MARIA

They broke into the morgue and removed GPS-transmitting chips hidden in the ankles of the Obsidian Hex assassins, but it will be difficult to prove. Our security cameras were jammed.

The Asian mobsters smile weakly.

CAT

I'm not pressing charges against the Italians.

(MORE)

CAT (CONT'D)

They shot a few cheap bottles of
booze on the lower shelf.

The Italians give Cat a thumbs-up sign.

CAT (CONT'D)

And if the Mexican mobsters repair
the door, I won't press charges
either. I want to make patrons, not
enemies.

The Mexican mobsters give Cat a thumbs-up sign.

MARIA

We're still going to book them to
get their photos, prints, and DNA.

Cat reenters the Tavern with a hidden smile.

Off to the side, Art poses for photos with the handcuffed
mobsters.

INT. BASEMENT - NIGHT

In the same dark basement in the opening scene, somewhere in
the world, three Hackers (16- 22, two are women) sit in
comfortable recliners with laptop computers. They stare at a
large-screen TV on the wall. We never see the hackers' faces.

INTERWEAVE a phone call with Cat in her Tavern.

HACKER #1

We're still monitoring the
Italians, the Japanese, the Triads,
and the Mexicans.

HACKER #2

And our new "Boss-Boss" neutralized
Assassin #1. Those idiot mobsters
will likely pay you the million-
Euro reward.

CAT

Of course. My plan worked as
promised. Andreea Schmidt is in the
morgue-- for now.

HACKER #3

How did it go down?

CAT

Easy.

BEGIN FLASHBACK

INT. TAVERN - DAWN

Cat enters the Tavern holding a cup of coffee and a small paper bag.

Andreea holds a gun to Cat's head and holds Les's phone in the other hand.

Cat sees the bulge of handcuffs under Andreea's black sweatshirt sleeve and picks up on her German accent.

CAT (V.O.)

My first two objectives were to draw police attention to the Tavern and gain Assassin #1's confidence.

ANDREEA

Thanks for the pistol. I found it behind your bar, unlocked and loaded! That's very unsafe.

(yells)

What's your name?

CAT

What's yours, German girl?

Andreea pushed the pistol into Cat's skull.

ANDREEA

I won't ask again. You are part of a murder-suicide this morning. I don't have much time. If you can help me out of this impossible mess, I may let you live.

Cat sounds defiant.

CAT (V.O.)

I told her my name was Catherine Dunlop, 25 years old, and from Ireland.

(beat)

It was all fake, of course. But you know that!

Cat sits in a chair.

CAT

If you don't believe me, open the cash drawer and look under the tray.

Andreea walks slowly to the bar, steps behind it, and opens the cash drawer.

CAT (V.O.)

While Andreea is distracted by the documents in the cash drawer, I removed the metal jamming device for my GPS transmitter chip. I knew the police would pick up my signal and think it was Assassin #1.

INT. HENRY'S CAR - DAWN

Les studies the map on his laptop and sees a red blinking light in the location of Cat's Tavern.

LES

We got her! She's at the Tavern!

END FLASHBACK

INT. BASEMENT - CONTINUOUS

The Hackers give each other a thumbs up.

CAT

Our Funeral Services contacts picked up all four bodies this afternoon during all the commotion. Our Mayor received a court order to cremate them all immediately.

The three Hackers laugh hysterically.

HACKER #3

We love that Mayor of yours. We'll send him a political contribution like last time.

CAT

The Italians, Asians, and Mexicans are expecting less of a cryptocurrency tariff in the future as a sign of continued cooperation.

HACKER #1

Fine, Boss-Boss.

HACKER #2

They're doing favors for us so we rob them less.

HACKER #3

And we're making more money than
they are. Those fools.

The three Hackers laugh hysterically.

INT. POLICE STATION - NIGHT

Art, Maria, Henry, Les, and the Ghost of Sherlock Holmes
study Maria's expansive murder board. We see the photo of
Andreea's dead body on the board next to the first three
Assassins.

ART

I'm still confused. You say Cat
used Henry's taser to kill Andreea,
but you didn't arrest her. Why?

(laughs)

Never mind. After I arrested six
mobsters, Interpol offered me the
head of Interpol's Organized Crime
Unit in London, with a hefty salary
increase. I'm leaving immediately.
You're on your own, Acting Chief
Detective Inspector Maria Martin.
I'm out of here!

He waves insincerely and exits.

One at a time, Les, Henry, and the Ghost of Sherlock Holmes
hug Maria. Sherlock's hug lasts the longest, and they share a
moment which the others don't see.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)

You're the Chief now. I think my
time mentoring you has come to an
end. I'll miss you dearly.

MUM (V.O.)

Me too? Are you leaving me, too?

Maria speaks in a stern, confident voice.

MARIA

You two aren't going anywhere. Our
biggest battles are yet to be won.
I need you now more than ever!

Henry and Les stare at each other, perplexed.

MARIA (CONT'D)

As Acting Chief, my first order of business will be to promote Henry to Detective Inspector and recruit Les for the early training process to become a Constable.

Les and Henry shake hands and cheer. Henry pulls Les over to the side to tell him the joys of police work.

Meanwhile, Maria and the Ghost of Sherlock Holmes quietly confer about the murder board, which looks to Henry and Les like Maria is talking to herself.

Holmes speaks proudly of his protégée.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)

You should be proud of the way you handled this investigation.

MARIA

(sadly)

I lost a potential informant.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)

It wasn't your fault.

MARIA

She was murdered!

SHERLOCK (V.O.)

She was murdered.

Les and Henry glance over briefly but continue whispering about police work.

MARIA (CONT'D)

We have it all recorded on our body cams.

Maria checks her body cam footage and finds it is corrupted.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)

You told me that in Doc's initial autopsy report of Andreea, he couldn't find her locator chip, however it works.

MARIA

So, if Andreea wasn't sending signals from the Tavern this morning, who was? It has to be Cat Dunlop.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)

Exactly.

Maria raises her voice.

MARIA

And she jammed out body cams inside the Tavern. It could be that Cat has been playing us to be the fools this entire time.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)

Precisely, my conclusion as well.

MARIA

And why didn't those convicts kill Andreea in prison when they had the chance?

MARIA (CONT'D)

Cat wanted to kill her.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)

Cat wanted to kill her.

MARIA (CONT'D)

Because she had something to gain? The million-Euro payout, maybe a promotion in her secret society, or both!

SHERLOCK (V.O.)

And gain the respect of the other organized crime families.

Maria paces and glances back at the murder board.

MARIA

We still don't know the actual names of the assassins.

Henry overhears Maria and chimes in.

HENRY

Doc told me a funeral service showed up at the morgue with a court order to cremate all four bodies.

Maria is furious.

MARIA

Who would do such a thing? These are open murder cases!

HENRY

Someone high up in the government.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)
Remember, Chief Detective
Inspector, the finest tapestry of
deception is woven from threads of
partial truths.

Maria speaks emotionally to Sherlock, but she appears to be talking to the group.

MARIA
That's why I need you.

Maria and the Ghost of Sherlock Holmes share a moment.

Maria makes eye contact with the others.

MARIA (CONT'D)
That's why I need all of you!

Holmes, Maria, Henry, and Les pause to reflect.

Maria points to Cat's photo.

MARIA (CONT'D)
All the evidence points to Cat, and
we have one new lead that might
take her down.

Maria holds up Andreea's prison bible.

MARIA (CONT'D)
Andreea dropped this on the back
steps of the safe house while
making her escape. She wrote in the
margins of every page.

Maria skims a few pages; Henry and Holmes are keenly interested.

HENRY
A gold mine?

SHERLOCK (V.O.)
A treasure trove, indeed.

MARIA
Andreea Schmidt's real name was
Gertrude Gutenberg, from Ulm,
Germany. She was Assassin #1, the
first recruit of the wealthy
hackers in Central Europe.
(MORE)

MARIA (CONT'D)

She was captured by police before she could steal a vast amount of cryptocurrency from a Swiss banking mogul. It was her seventh assigned "wrench job."

HENRY

What's a "wrench job," again?

LES

That's where crypto owners are held at gunpoint to reveal their account numbers and passcodes.

MARIA

Andreea or Gertrude didn't name names, but we now have enough details to penetrate the organized crime ring.

Maria puts Cat's photo at the top of her murder board.

SHERLOCK (V.O.)

What led Andreea or Gertrude to the Tavern?

Maria looks to be talking to herself.

MARIA

Good question! What led Andreea or Gertrude to the Tavern? Isn't it odd that Rihanna's surname and Andreea's actual surname were Gutenberg?

HENRY

(guessing)

Hey, that's right! And the Tavern is where Winston Edwards was killed, too?

SHERLOCK (V.O.)

Too many coincidences, which neither of us believes in.

LES

And the Tavern is where we all heard the voice of Obsidian Hex!

MARIA

And, to what town were Assassins #26, #27, and the Nurse's Aid -- Assassin #28-- sent?

HENRY

Our town.

MARIA

And where did organized crime families descend like rats?

LES

Our town.

MARIA

It's no coincidence that Cat has become wealthy overnight. And I don't believe that her actions this morning were an accident.

Maria points to Cat's photo.

MARIA (CONT'D)

I bet Cat's bosses are rejoicing that Andreea was killed. They probably maintain a stranglehold over the other international crime families.

She holds up Andreea's prison bible.

MARIA (CONT'D)

We don't know what happened between Assassin #1 and #28. We don't know how Cat's bosses continue to operate so freely, but I'm vowing to bring their Society of Secrets down!

INT. BASEMENT - NIGHT

In a dark basement somewhere in the world, three Hackers (16-22, two are women) sit in comfortable recliners with laptop computers. They stare at a large-screen TV on the wall. We never see the hackers' faces.

On the large-screen TV, we see photos of Maria, Henry, and Les.

Ominous audio.

FADE OUT.

THE END