

DIABLO

Written by

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BLACK SCREEN:

SIRI VOICE (V.O.)
Remember the last time you dialed
911, and the line was busy? It's
still busy. Why risk it? Crime is a
pandemic on it's own with no
foreseeable cure or vaccine.

ON SCREEN: A violence-proof body suit, with mask, and helmet,
appears. A stylish, kevlar weaved piece, like a Stilsuit.

EXT. COFFEE SHOP - DAY

The civilian walks out with the suit on.

SIRI VOICE
If you thought infected people were
bad, super crime is even worse.

The civilian, in Bang suit, sips his **ice coffee**. Then is
swarmed by **METH ADDICTS**, that try to beat, and rob him. *

METH ADDICT 1
Come out yo fuckin pockets! *

METH ADDICT 2
Yeah, jewelry, cash, cards, phone! *

BANG SUIT GUY
You don't want to do this. *

METH ADDICT 2
Five, four, three-- *

He puts down his coffee, his FACE SHIELD GOES BACK UP. *

BANG SUIT GUY
TWO - ONE - FUCK YOUUUU! *

The BANG GUY, touches a small button, on his wrist releasing
gas + mace, with a small sonic flash--that **blinds them**. *

METH ADDICT 2
AGHHH! *

METH ADDICT 1
I CAN'T SEE! *

The meth addicts are choking and gagging, crawling on the
ground. The Bang Suit guy kneels to them, examining the awe
of his suit and pours his ice coffee on one of them. *

SIRI VOICE

The Bang Suit, comes in three different colors, with built in air filtration systems--and new kevlar zippers.

*
*

The Bang Suit guy walks off, cool and confident.

*

SIRI VOICE

Charging ports, L.E.D. light, pepper spray, and flash charges are not included.

The social media app closes out. **We're in a warehouse.**

INT. WAREHOUSE / LOFT - DAY

*

Meet MASHA (36) dark hair, icy eyes, and a scar on her forehead. A towel wraps her body, but still we can see the bullet holes. Masha is a SURVIVOR.

She brushes her teeth, and taps her armpits with deodorant.

Her home is a fallout bunker. She puts her **HEARING AIDES IN HER POCKET INSTEAD OF HER EARS. TUNES OUT LIFE.**

*

Her fridge is covered with pictures of people who are DEAD.

*

Loads of Journalism awards dot the walls.

*

Masha laces her boots, grabs her backpack, helmet, and bike.

*

She unlocks her **REINFORCED DOORS-ANDDDDD SHE'S OFF.**

*

EXT. SOME METROPOLITAN CITY - MORNING

Masha's POV: cycling, everything is **SILENT. IT'S BEAUTIFUL.**
WIDE: We can **HEAR EVERYTHING SHE CANT. LOUD AND UGLY.**

There's a crowd of people on a side street, taking photos.

*

She peddles her bike into the crowd wedging herself closer to BAM! **TWO DEAD COPS, THROATS SLIT**, BOUND TO A STREET LIGHT.
READS: **"LOOTERS"**. Masha is unmoved by the sight. She watches people talk, but it looks like a silent film to her.

*

*

*

EXT. RUSTY RED STORAGE CONTAINER - MOMENTS LATER

Masha punches in a code, and the sliding door unlocks.

INT. RUSTY RED STORAGE CONTAINER - SAME

The container is a full on **PODCAST STUDIO**. Sound and bulletproof, recording equipment, the works.

We see the some news articles headings that say: **Super Pandemic. Half Zombie, Half Man. The Eaters.**

ELMER (O.C.)

When are you really gonna teach me Muay Thai?

ELMER (29) Latin x male, a little pudgy, super sweet with a giant smile, he wears his heart on his sleeve, tinkers with some audio equipment.

SLIME

Now you want to learn Muay Thai.

SLIME (33) in the corner, hands wrapped hitting a punching bag. She shoots a head nod to Masha. Cute, bitchy and rude.

ELMER

Yes I do.

SLIME

What happened to your marathon training?

Masha walks in, ignoring everyone.

ELMER

My knee.

SLIME

And that throw class, where you were making the ashtrays?

ELMER

I was making a coffee cup, but it turned into an ashtray, I had no control of that.

SLIME

Pottery to Muay Thai is a big change of pace, I feel like you'd thrive more in like a sculpting class, or pole.

ELMER

That's fucked up.

SLIME

I don't trust people who sleep
through their alarms.

RAVEN (25) big eyes, delicate features, intern of the show.
Charming, sexy plus brains, holds a recorder. She loves
collecting sound bites of behind the scenes.

*
*

RAVEN

(into voice recorder)

Elmer still trying to shoot his
shot. She won't fuck him tho, his
schedules too open.

*
*
*

ELMER

Don't do that.

*

RAVEN

No ones talking about you.

*

ELMER

You were looking right at me tho.

RAVEN

That must be really exhausting.

*

ELMER

Huh.

*
*

RAVEN

I don't know, it's a scientific
fact that narcissism burns
calories. Something like fifty five
calories per thought.

*
*
*
*
*

SLIME

At that rate, you could eat what
you want.

*
*
*

ELMER

At *that rate*--shut your mouth.

*
*

The girls smirk. Mash goes through some papers, cracks open
her lap top.

*
*

RAVEN

Masha. HEY, MASH!

Raven holds up a sign; **"PUT IN YOUR HEARING AIDES!"**

Masha puts her hearing aides in.

RAVEN

Do I need to learn sign?

ELMER

I lose my voice every day.

Masha looks to Slime, who throws a hook, and just shrugs.

MASHA

You have my--

BANG BANG! Everyone flinches, and grabs a weapon.

WE SEE THE SURVEILLANCE VIDEO. (RING CAM)

ELMER

It's Lupita.

Masha, nods, they buzz her in. LUPITA (57) MEXICAN lady comes in. Elmer speaks to her in **Spanish**, and leads her to a sound room with two microphones. *

ELMER *

*Want something to drink, water, coffee? **

LUPITA *

*Water please. **

Masha looks to Slime, makes the money sign with her hands.

Slime hands the lady a beefy envelope.

LUPITA

Gracias, por todo.

INSIDE BOOTH: Masha enters the booth, and shakes Lupita's hand. We watch from the outside as they get started. *

Elmer operates a small camera, recording the interview. *

WE DROP IN MID CONVERSATION, in Spanish:

MASHA

That must have been insane. To-just-be-so early on, you know? Before anyone knew anything. Can you tell us about, what your daughter said before...

Lupita sighs.

LUPITA

After she attacked Diego-

MASHA

-Your Husband, her father?

LUPITA

*Yes. She came back upstairs, out of
breath and crying. Blood all over
her mouth, she looked so scared.
She locked herself in the bathroom.
She told me to barricade the door,
I asked what happened to her father--
and--and she said she didn't know.
The police came. They broke my
door, heavily armed.*

We zero in on Masha, her eyes work magic on Lupita.

LUPITA

*She kept saying, "I was so hungry,
I was so hungry, and scared. I
thought I was going to die if I
didn't... eat. And then everything
went black."*

MASHA

Her last words?

LUPITA

*Before she kill herself. Before she
jump out of the window.*

There's a long pause.

MASHA

What did the police say?

LUPITA

I didn't want to believe it.

A beat.

LUPITA

*They said she attacked her father,
and smash his head--and--*

*

The interview ends and Masha shakes her hand.

*

MASHA

*Crazy. Patient zero's mom in the
flesh.*

*

*

*

ELMER

It looks and sounds great.

*

*

Elmer comes in and talks to her, then escorts her out of the studio.

*

*

They all convene at grey folding table and some metal chairs.

*

Raven observes everyone, looking for the right moment. *

MASHA *
What are we doing with this piece? *

SLIME *
It's a one-off. *

MASHA *
We're grasping. *

SLIME *
We need to put out content. *

ELMER *
Or go into the labor sectors. *

MASHA *
How much did we pay her? *

SLIME *
Five-kay. *

MASHA *
Sound investment. How many more of *
these do you want to do? *

SLIME *
Masha. *

ELMER *
I hear Google is building a low *
income city where dodger stadium *
used to be. *

Raven observes everyone, really gaging Masha. *

MASHA *
You know, the labor sector is *
honest. A much simpler life. *

Elmer stays, still trying to engage Masha.

SLIME
What are we doing for lunch?

ELMER *
I brought yogurt, blueberries, and *
almonds. *

RAVEN *
Where are you getting the almonds? *
I haven't seen almonds in the store *
for like ten years. *

ELMER
I order them. Online. From China. *

RAVEN
Placebo almonds. And the blue berries? *

ELMER
Dried.

RAVEN
Is this like an emotional diet?

ELMER
I'm getting results. *

Elmer looks in the mirror, realizes maybe his diet isn't working yet. *

Slime throws a punch, but slows it down, until it connects to his chin, then walks over to Masha, looms over her. *

SLIME
What we have is good. It's going to keep people listening. *

MASHA
We had a good run. Two seasons. Millions of streams. There's no money in this. And the risk... isn't worth it. *

(off her look) *

Alphabet people got a green light on journalists. That includes podcasters. No body came this far to meet the death squads ten years after the fact. *

SLIME
Well what about us? *

MASHA
Have you learned nothing? *

There's a long beat. *

SLIME
That's super fucking comforting. Why don't we all just leave now? *

ELMER
I think we should all take a beat. Let's edit Lupita. Throw it up, and see what happens. *

Masha's computer dings. Excuse me. She goes into her cubicle/office. *

MASHA CUBICLE OFFICE: *

An **E-MAIL COMES IN from Raven; the Last Z**, cc'd: ALFONSO, editor of the New York Times/ podcast sector. *

She downloads: out of focus pic, of a woman in the woods, blood around her mouth, a time stamp with date and **geo pin**.

She **clicks the link. It takes her to Google Maps. She zeroes in. Cascade National Park. Near the Canadian Border.** *

HER PHONE BUZZES. It's Alfonso, but she ignores. *

MASHA

Raven! Can I talk to you?

Slime looks over, intrigued. Raven and Masha go in the booth.

MASHA

What is this?

(shows Raven the email)

I'd really love to not waste anymore colleagues on virus lore.

RAVEN

In the slight chance it's not a hoax, we have a duty to check it out. *

MASHA

Duty? *

RAVEN

To the survivors. The world... *

MASHA

I forgot what it's like to have that kind of confidence. *

RAVEN

Nobody got wasted. They were martyred investigating serious cases to tell the truth. *

MASHA

You rehearse this in the shower? *

There's a long pause. It looks like Raven is going to cry. *

MASHA

Don't ever CC one of my contacts again without clearing it with me first.

RAVEN

Wow. I'm so fucking sorry.

The phone buzzes. Masha, waves off Raven, and answers.

MASHA

Why are you entertaining this?

ALFONSO (O.S.)

I didn't send you that e-mail, and CC myself.

MASHA

Yeah, but you're collaborating.

ALFONSO (O.S.)

Explore. The show is dying.

MASHA

Do we even really want to know?

ALFONSO

Would you rather investigate climate change?

MASHA

I don't want to know anything anymore.

ALFONSO

Endangered penguins? Another A.I. piece? Do that and the show is dead.

MASHA

It's already dead. We're losing subscribers at a shocking rate.

ALFONSO

You know, I think about Doha. All the time. When I met you at the airport. Bright eyed, you didn't even have any scars yet, and enchanting. I had no idea we were both going to Mosul, to cover the siege.

MASHA

It's not going to work.

ALFONSO

You were the only female war
correspondent allowed into the
Caliphate.

(beat)

Why did you do it? Why did you put
yourself at risk, knowing that
journalists were getting beheaded
by the dozens?

MASHA

It was a different time, Alfonso.

She removes her hearing aides, smiles, and hangs up.

ELMER

Masha, who was that?

(off her look)

That's how you're gonna do me?

Masha shakes her head, gets up, and looks at everyone.

MASHA

Make the edits, make it sound like
something worth listening to.

ELMER

Got you. I think it's worth it. I
checked the stats from the last
episode. We still have a chance.

Elmer shows her his screen on the lap top.

ELMER

Over seven million pairs of ears.

(beat)

They're listening.

Masha considers the stats, jaded and unimpressed, she pans
her cold gaze to Raven.

MASHA

Just for future reference; anything
related to World Health or any
other government agencies is an
automatic no.

(walking away)

I'll fucking die old and poor,
Raven.

Masha shoots a look to Slime, acknowledging her existence,
but not respecting her position.

INT. MASHA'S PLACE - NIGHT

She unwinds, puts in her hearing aides, and plays music.

AFTER DINNER:

Masha sits in front of some large monitors reviewing videos that she has saved. *

THE VIDEOS show government agencies rounding up civilians. *

We see a few frames of patches (**W.H.O. AND OTHER BLACK-OPS PEOPLE**)... **suddenly, force people to kneel in a line, then summarily put them to death by firing squad.** *

She pulls up the e-mail. Stares at the **UNSETTLING IMAGE**. Infected person? **She zooms in, the woman appears to be wearing some kind of nurse scrub or medical uniform with a number.** *

MASHA *

What the fuck. *

She pulls up maps of the area and checks it out, nearest town: **DIABLO.** *

EXT. CASCADE WILDERNESS - SAME *

We track dirty feet blasting through the mud in a dense sprawling wilderness. *

INT. RUSTY RED STORAGE CONTAINER - LATER *

Masha (no hearing aids) has the crew rounded up. ANONYMOUS PICTURE E-MAIL BLOWN UP ON A SCREEN. Everyone is yelling.

RAVEN

(into tape recorder)

Masha declines the gig, maybe even considering retirement.

ELMER

**Mash, this podcast is your child.
And we like basically took an oath.**

RAVEN

The Journalist Creed, remember?

MASHA

An Oath? You gotta try harder.

RAVEN

No. Seriously. Why not then just quit right now? I mean, if the pandemic isn't really over, and we've been living in a state-sponsored matrix for ten years, then it's our fucking duty to uncover the truth and inform the public.

*

SLIME

We're all fucked.

MASHA

I got offers at the BBC, Telemundo, and chief editor at Cody Enterprises, run my own news paper company in the back country.

(off everyones look)

They even offerd me a Ranch.

*
*
*
*
*
*
*

ELMER

This could be something.

*

RAVEN

You don't wanna do it? Well, hey the world needs plenty of ranchers.

*
*

MASHA

Last time I checked, you were an intern.

*

RAVEN

Last time I checked you were the real deal.

*
*

ELMER

Guys. Please. There is no need for the dis records. Like, I don't know if anyone told you today, that they love you...

(to Raven)

But I love you.

RAVEN

I love you, too.

ELMER

And, Mash, I love you. Like I really do.

MASHA

Thanks.

ELMER
So lets all just--

SLIME
What the fuck, bro? *

ELMER
Oh, yeah. Slime, girl--I love you,
like truly. *

SLIME
Umhm.

ELMER
You're not gonna say it back?

SLIME
No.

A beat.

MASHA
I've made my decision. We're going
to pass on the lead. Let's put out
the Lupita segment, and preface it
with it being the final episode. *

Everyone's shocked. Did she just kill the podcast? *

MASHA
That's that! Thank you. *

EXT. SOME HIKING AREA / LA - LATER *

Masha sits at a look out point. Pacing, thinking, unsure of
the future. JUSTY (40's) scruffy, rough around the edges, but
handsome, war ready walks up to Masha. *

JUSTY
What's up, saw the bat signal,
figured it must be serious, since I
haven't heard from you in six
months. *

MASHA
Yeah. Need some perspective. *

JUSTY
It would be cool if this was a
reciprocal thing. *

MASHA
What do you want from me? *

JUSTY *
What's up, Mash? *

MASHA *
I don't know. *

JUSTY *
What happened with the job in Cody? *

MASHA *
I don't have it. *

JUSTY *
Thought you did. *

MASHA *
Me too. They gave it to someone *
else. *

JUSTY *
BBC? *

MASHA *
I don't want to move to London. *
(takes a beat) *
Okay, wait, how are you? *

JUSTY *
Thought you'd never ask. I'm great. *

MASHA *
Still doing the sober thing? *

JUSTY *
Yeah, two years now. It's okay lets *
skip all that, let me do what I do *
best... *help you*. Is there a third *
season? *

MASHA *
There is not, as of now. But there *
could be. That's my predicament, *
there's a lead, a rumor, I don't *
know, something about sightings of *
infected in Washington along the *
Canadian border. *

JUSTY *
Wonderful place. *

MASHA *
I know. *

JUSTY

Go prove it wrong, collect a check
and retire.

MASHA

What if I go prove it wrong, and
it's not wrong, and we're back to
the old days.

Justy hears her, remembers his own traumas and theirs.

JUSTY

Right. Well, look, the whole reason
things happened the way they did is
disinformation, and suppression of
the media.

(off her look)

They tried to keep it a secret, and
it spread.

MASHA

Why me?

JUSTY

Cause you're the best.

She peers off into the horizon, super confused.

MASHA

Would you come?

JUSTY

Psh, you can't afford me.

She nods, in agreement.

JUSTY

If there's nothing else...

She shrugs--no, he lifts his eyebrows cause this is standard
Masha--then he takes off. She looks at the city horizon as we
head into the twilight.

INT. MASHA'S PLACE - SAME

Masha spins away from the monitors still playing in the
background, and thinks hard on what to do. She removes some
of her clothes and walks to her sauna; she sits inside.
Sweating.

INT. MASHA'S PLACE - SAUNA - SAME *

We can see all the scars, and with each scar there will be a flash image of the past. *
*

INT. MASHA'S PLACE - MORNING *

Masha's eyes open. We know; *she has to do the mission.* *

INT. RUSTY RED STORAGE CONTAINER *

Masha holds court in the meeting room with her crew. They wait in anticipation for her to speak. She glares at everyone individually--seizing them up. *

MASHA

I've thought long and hard about this all night. I'm leaving the show, going to empower you all to do season three, on your own. *

ELMER

--Wait. For real? *

MASHA

Yep. I'm sure we'll lose millions of listeners with me gone, but who cares. *

SLIME

When can we start? *

RAVEN

I mean, I've already prepared a twelve episode outline... *

ELMER

It's only 17 hours to Diablo. *

Masha smirk is malevolent. *

MASHA

I feel so... loved. *

ELMER

We're grateful. *

Raven catches the rouse. *

RAVEN

Awh, fuck off. *

MASHA

I'd rather end up in a labor camp
punching license plates, then let
the three of you kill my child.

SLIME

Too good to be true.

MASHA

Fucking disaster season--where the
whole crew dies during production.

They all kind of rejoice, Masha is still in the game.

Slime does a couple shadow boxing moves. Masha smiles.

RAVEN

She's going. She's going, I fucking
knew it. All I had to say was; we
didn't need her! And that ego took
over--and said; *hell ya you do,*
bitch. You'a intern.

MASHA

Not my most profound moment.

RAVEN

Yo, its ***Paid Intern.***

Angle on: POSTER **WORLD WAR 3. Season 1.**

EXT. HIGHWAY - I 5 - MOVING

We push through the grapevine and head north. Different shots
of travel, B-roll, an ominous signs that horrible things have
happened along this highway.

ELMER

I really didn't see you passing up
on that Wyoming thing.

SLIME

Same.

RAVEN

Totally thought you were going to
be milking cows and getting into a
lot of entanglements with burly
white men with beards.

MASHA

You think that tape recorder is
blunt enough to fracture a skull?

RAVEN *
I love it when you talk dirty. *

Raven moans, trolling Masha. *

SLIME *
She has a type. *

ELMER *
Beards and flannels. Dirty-dirty *
men. Drug addicts. *

MASHA *
Did you send me your last invoice? *
I couldn't find it. *

ELMER *
Okay okay I'm sorry, I'll shut my *
gay little mouth. *

There's a beat. The girls look to each other thrown off by *
his remark. *

MASHA *
To be honest, I wasn't looking *
forward to seeing you three *
collectively tank a show. *

SLIME *
Really knew you believed in us. *

MASHA *
If I'm going to hang up the gloves, *
and retire, I need to do so with *
dignity and grace. This is my show. *
Sadly, you are all my legacy. *

ELMER *
What will you do when you retire? *
Like what's your dream scenario? *

She knows the dream all too well. *

MASHA *
I'd be somewhere quiet. Near a *
river. It's weird, but sometimes *
when I don't have my hearing aides *
in, I can like, hear the water. *

ELMER *
That's crazy. *

MASHA

Animals. A garden. Vegetables. A
real fire place. I don't know
there's something about just
cutting wood that I love. You're
just right there, splitting wood
with an axe, and nothing else
matters. The smack of the blade,
watching the wood split in half,
the steam rise up off the hot
coffee in a tin cup, pure
satisfaction.

ELMER

Is there a man there?

MASHA

I don't know.

ELMER

Kids?

MASHA

I don't know if I want to bring
another person into this world. But
yeah, maybe have a partner, someone
to resent as we grow old and
bitter.

ELMER

I see it for you, Mash.

MASHA

I see it for you too.

They keep driving. Masha removes her ear pieces. Elmer
doesn't see her do it, and keeps talking, eating his berries.
Masha's eyes get heavy.

I/E. BIG SUV - OFF ROAD TIRES / MILITARY CHECK POINT - NIGHT

Elmer rolls to a stop, there's a check point, manned by four
sentries, National Guard troops that look young and hard.
Smoking cigarettes, 18-22, they were kids when the carnage
happened. Soldier 1, peach fuzz, could have been a linebacker
walks up to Elmer.

SOLDIER 1

What'cha guys doing so far from
Cali?

ELMER

On a job, sir.

Soldier's 2-4 spread out around the car. The mischievous boys, notice the girls and their beauty. *

SOLDIER 2 *

Whoa-whoa we got some bitches in *

the truck. *

The girls ignore, remaining calm. *

SOLDIER 1 *

Out-of state travel documents? *

Masha hands them to Elmer. *

SOLDIER 2 (20's) looks in the car, really lets his eyes scan the girls bodies. He takes the barrel of his rifle, and taps the glass. *

SOLDIER 2 *

You. *

It's Raven she looks up, and says something into her voice recorder. *

RAVEN *

(to recorder) *

Great, the State sponsored snuffing begins. *

SOLDIER 2 *

What was that? *

RAVEN *

Hello, sir. *

He looks at the recorder. *

SOLDIER 2 *

Could you step out of the vehicle? *

RAVEN *

Absolutely not. *

Soldier 3, bright eyed, and ready for action. *

SOLDIER 3 *

We got a problem, Bunny? *

SOLDIER 2 *

I don't know, she got something in her hands. *

RAVEN *

It's a tape recorder. *

MASHA

Sir, can you please let us through?

SOLDIER 1

You got press passes, but this ain't a press free zone. This permits you to enter the state of Washington, but does not permit you to do anything other than sight seeing.

Soldier 2 keeps tapping the glass with his rifle.

SOLDIER 2

Get out of the fucking truck!

Raven opens the door.

SOLDIER 2

Turn around.

RAVEN

Are you serious?

He grabs her and slams her up against the truck face forward.

SOLDIER 2

Everybody knows the Press commits open acts of treason. You too pretty for all that.

He leans closer, smashing himself into her.

SOLDIER 2

You got any weapons on you?

SOLDIER 4

Hey, Sarge, I think they're a part of that burglary crew, they said it was three girls.

SOLDIER 3

I think they're fucking traffickers bringing shit in from Canada.

Each word spikes a bolt of fear into the crew. They know what the military does. Especially small rogue units like this one.

Soldier 2 frisks Raven, it's unbecoming, he violates her body. She holds it together, dead pan gaze and disassociates from the world going to another place.

We slow down time and see Elmer, Slime, and Masha arguing and pleading with the soldiers. *

SOLDIER 3 *

Let's fuckin do'em. *

These boys are evil, filled with anger and blood lust. *

Soldier 2 has Raven's tape recorder. They get a radio call from their command post. *

ARMY RADIO CALL (O.S.) *

This is BLUE HAWK 2, we have an 18 wheeler Exon Mobil gas truck hijacked three clicks from your position. Two dead, one wounded. Truck heading toward the I-5. Requesting interception. *

The boys hear the call to arms like an act of providence . They immediately don't care about Elmer, and the girls. *

SOLDIER 2 *

Country needs me, sweetie. *

He leans in and kisses Raven on the cheek. *

RAVEN *

My tape recorder? *

SOLDIER 2 *

I'ma hold on to it, why thank you! *

The soldiers retreat to their hummers, slam the doors, and burn rubber southbound. *

INT. BIG SUV - MOVING / DIABLO - MOMENTS LATER *

They're a little frozen in hesitation. *

ELMER *

Are you okay? *

RAVEN *

Yah, that was amazing, thanks for asking--can we go? *

Masha compartmentalizes her compassion and takes back out her hearing aides, offering no support, and nods to Elmer. *

EXT. BEAT UP GAS STATION - NIGHT

Elmer pulls into the lot, it's empty, ere, flickering lights and the sound of a back-up generator. The crew dismounts the vehicle and walks inside.

INT. BEAT UP GAS STATION - SAME

Everyone who works at the gas station looks afflicted by illness, and pale. The aisles lack inventory.

We follow Masha to the bathroom.

INT. GAS STATION / BATHROOM - SAME

It's grotesque, no water in the toilet, and an empty roll of paper. She sits for a leak, and checks her phone. No service.

INT. BEAT UP GAS STATION - CONTINUOUS

We track Slime and Raven down a hallow aisle.

SLIME

So what are we really doing?

RAVEN

What do you mean?

SLIME

Who sent you that e-mail?

RAVEN

Anonymous sender.

Slime not sure if she believes her or not, throws a fake jab at Raven, landing it slowly, harmlessly on her jaw. A tap.

ELMER: Moves through the shelves in search of

ELMER (O.C.)

You guys wouldn't happen to have any almonds or dried blueberries would you?

STOCK BOY (O.C.)

Nope. Got peanut butter. And... wait... I do got Pop Tarts.

Elmer looks over the shelf in front of him to be shocked at the STOCK BOY (20's) skeleton like, and blind in one eye.

STOCK BOY *
They have berries. *

ELMER *
Whahhh! fuck! Wait-what? *

STOCK BOY *
The Pop-Tarts have berries. *

Stock Boy hands him a Pop Tart packet. Elmer looks at the expiration date, it's years expired. *

INT. GAS STATION / BATHROOM *

Masha in the mirror, washes her hands. The water spits out rust, she lets it run for a second, and notices something scribed into the mirror. It looks like an upside down grave stone, with a cross. *

INT. BEAT UP GAS STATION - MOMENTS LATER *

Everyone is in line. Masha pulls out the company card. *

MASHA *
All right, I got all this. *

SLIME *
That's what the fuck I'm talking about. *

MASHA *
Business expense. *

There's a splinter of shame in Raven's eyes. *

They bring up their items to one pile, Masha swipes her card. She looks up at the CASHIER (40's) nasty scar on his forehead, pale, and rotting. *

MASHA *
Is there an energy restriction here? *

CASHIER *
Six to Six. *

Masha looks to Raven, for her to put her items with everyone elses, but Raven...

RAVEN *
I'm good. I can pay for myself. *
Thanks. *

She grabs the bags of snacks and water and leads the crew out of the gas station, taking one more look at the cashier. *

EXT. NEAR CABIN - LATER *

Headlights snake up a road through the woods.

EXT. CABIN / NEAR CASCADE RANGE - NIGHT *

Elmer pulls into the dirt driveway. There's another truck there, and a dim light on the porch. *

MASHA (O.C.)
Grab your headlamps.

Everyone straps headlamps to their skulls and gathers their things, exiting to the dirt road. *

I/E. CABIN / NEAR CASCADE RANGE *

SLIME (O.S.)
What is that smell? *

Justy sits on a stool, a glowing cigarette hangs off his lip, and he sips something out of a cup. He's in a flannel, and has a large futuristic pistol on his hip. *

JUSTY
The coal mining. Lotta dust and chemicals in the air. *

(off Slime) *

It's what's making everybody look sick, like crackheads with aids. *

Slime nods. *

MASHA
Want you all to meet our head of security. *

(and then) *

This is Justice. Justy. We've been through a lot together, and he's the best. Trust him with my life. *

SLIME
Hmhm feeling doesn't feel mutual. *

ELMER
Elmer, nice to meet you. Have I seen you before? *

JUSTY

I worked a couple weeks on your
season one. You definitely didn't
see me. But I saw you.

MASHA

And this is Slime, and Raven.

He nods, they return the nod. Not much for intros. Masha
notices the drink in the cup.

MASHA

Can I have a word?

The crew goes into the cabin, it's pitch black.

JUSTY

Yah.

She grabs the cup from him, sniffs it and pours it out.

JUSTY

It's just a little maintenance
juice. Gotta keep the blood
circulating.

MASHA

I thought you were fucking sober.
That's what you said.

JUSTY

Well, I am. Soberish... off drugs.
Women. Gambling.

MASHA

I can't fucking believe you.

She shakes her head in utter disappointment and walks inside.

INT. CABIN / NEAR CASCADE RANGE

Everybody enters the cabin, their lights leading the way.
It's rank, cobb-webby and cold.

ELMER

Awh hell no. How much did we pay
for this?

SLIME

The pictures were way different
online.

RAVEN *
Why didn't we just go to a hotel? *

Masha steps in, and pulls a few small lanterns out of her bag *
and sets them on a coffee table. *

MASHA *
Lets brief. *

SLIME *
Now? *

MASHA *
Yeah. Gather round. *

They all sit on some dusty couches, head lamps still glowing. *

MASHA *
Can you all switch to red? *

They nod, and tap a button on their headlamps, changing the *
lights to red. *

MASHA *
Slime do you have a season three *
outline prepared? *

SLIME *
Thought you'd never ask. *

MASHA *
Raven, episode breakdown? *

RAVEN *
Standing by. *

They all pull out their tablets. *

MASHA *
Slime; go. *

SLIME *
Season three titled: The Last Z. *

MASHA *
Give it to me. *

SLIME *
Well, if the anonymous tip turns *
out to be factual, and there are *
still infected people up here in *
the wilderness, then the podcast *
will be streamed live. With updates *
as information comes in. *

Each day potentially being a new episode capping at eight to ten days, but if that's a real thing (which I highly doubt)--then uh we'd be re-entering the Second Coming.

MASHA

Besides the point.
(off Raven)
Episode one outline?

We pan to Raven, who scrolls her notes on the tablet.

RAVEN

Episode one, the pilot; we intro a backstory on the town of Diablo, and the atrocities committed all along the Canadian border. Brief history, five-six minutes. Then go into Cascade back country to the dropped pin-location of alleged sightings of infected woman. We describe the photograph, time stamp, geography, dig up anything else on the town, mining culture, explore government operations in the area--and report our investigation from the site. Ten more minutes on discovery, then what we find out on the trail and in the woods. Forty to sixty minutes, Elmer shoots it for the youtube channel, sound designs it when we get back to cabin and boom! We drop the new episode one week after Lupe goes live--which is happening when?

ELMER

Lupita is dropping tomorrow morning 6:00am East Coast.

Justy walks in, still smoking, with a big rifle slung over his shoulder and a duffle bag. He's got a little limp.

ELMER

You really think we're going to run into something?

Justy shrugs his shoulders.

JUSTY

Need to take a piss. We're up at
0500. If you're not about to die
don't knock on my door.

He pans to everyone.

RAVEN

I think I'd let myself bleed out
before knocking on your door.

JUSTY

Copy that.

He winks and takes off upstairs.

SLIME

Charming fellow.

Masha doesn't care. She packs up her things and heads
upstairs as well.

I/E. CABIN / MASHA'S ROOM - NIGHT

Masha, hearing aides still in, goes to the master bedroom and
unpacks. Flicks on a battery powered lamp, and sets one in a
nearby bathroom. She has notebooks, tools, a knife, and a
handcuff key.

She sits on her bed, pulls off her boots, u7there's a knock
on her door, she tip-toes over, puts her ear on the wood.

JUSTY

(through the door)
I can hear you breathing.

MASHA

No you can't.

JUSTY

Can I come in?

MASHA

I don't think that's a good idea.

She waits... nothing then hears him step off, she second
guesses herself. Finally pulling out her hearing aides, she
gets undressed and heads into the bathroom.

INT. CABIN / NEAR CASCADE RANGE - MORNING

0500: Masha heads down stairs to find everyone up and moving.
It's still dark outside, head lamps and lanterns still on.

JUSTY (O.S.)
I never discuss my body count.

SLIME
We talking about fucking, or
killing?

RAVEN
I bet you kill more than you fuck.

Masha strides the last step on the creaky floor boards--
putting in her hearing aides.

MASHA
Hey, it's too early for his
inventory.

ELMER
And how many... Eaters?

JUSTY
Three-maybe-four times more than
the people I've done. You can't
really keep track of them. It's
like stepping on ants.
(off all their looks)
The real question is; what trifling
things did you all have to do to be
here today? Ain't nobody innocent.

There's an awkward silence broken by Elmer revving the engine
on a small generator.

MASHA
You're blowing exhaust fumes into
the cabin!

ELMER
Sorry, let me just-

Elmer pulls the generator outside and runs a cable into the
house to plug in electronics.

RAVEN
I might have to take some of that
per-diem and check myself into a
hotel.

ELMER

Me too, there's a lot of spiders in here.

SLIME

Oh fuck that.

Justy fires up a smoke, and pours some hot water into a cup of instant coffee.

JUSTY

You ever seen a camel spider before? About the size of a small dog, maybe bigger.

SLIME

Bro, please stop.

JUSTY

Huge. I was in a hummer one time, on a patrol, in the Anbar Province-- we ran out of fuel, had to fucking camp out in the truck on the outskirts of town in the desert. Felt something on my shoulder, I woke up and a two foot camel spider had crawled into the back in-between the armor plates.

SLIME

Ew-ew-no. what did you do?

JUSTY

It's not what I did, but my buddy, Striker, he started shooting that thing and a bullet ricochet off the door hinge and hit the driver in the neck. Fucking killed him.

RAVEN

And the spider?

JUSTY

Disappeared in the hummer.

SLIME

That's just not okay.

Masha shakes her head, she's heard enough Justy lore.

JUSTY

Listen up, we got ground rules and protocols in effect to keep everyone safe.

From 6-6 we're stone-age. Analog ain't no cops coming either if you try 911. Little towns like this got leveled. Our presence is known and entirely unwelcome.

SLIME

Is that a fact?

JUSTY

No I made it up. I wouldn't want you looking for anything in my backyard with a fucking a camera-- and microphone. Everything about what you do--brings heat.

(a beat)

Nobody goes into mountains alone. Nobody goes into town alone. Nobody is allowed to have a firearm but me, National Guard and local law will fuck you in the asshole for that. And under no circumstances is anybody allowed to leave at night. Cool. This has been a pleasure. We leave at 0600.

*
*

*

18 Masha touches Justy's chest, holds her finger there. 18
Slime clearly sees the tension, makes a note of it.

*
*

EXT. CABIN / NEAR CASCADE RANGE

*

They pack up their gear, and enter the vehicles. Justy leads in his truck. Doors slam, engines roar and they're gone.

*
*

EXT. TRAILHEAD NORTH CASCADES - DAWN

*

They arrive, exit the vehicles. Elmer pulls out a few pelican cases, whips out a camera, attaches a lens, and some mics.

*
*

Masha grabs her knife and medical kit. Slime and Raven look over a map, and have mini tablets.

*
*

Justy pours bourban into his coffee cup, washes it down, and blasts a cigarette. He's exhilarated.

*
*

SLIME

*

Morning supplements?

*

20 He winks, listening to Paula Cole *WHERE HAVE ALL THE COWBOYS GONE*, still playing in his truck. Just pulls out his assault rifle, pulls back the slide and squirts some gun lube into.

*
*
*

RAVEN *
What's that? *

JUSTY *
Lube. Why need some? *

RAVEN *
Don't be fucking disgusting. *

He pulls the slide back and forth to really get the lube in
all the crevices. *

JUSTY *
I love that sound. *

There's a beat. Everyone's ready, waiting. *

JUSTY *
We're here. The dropped pin looks
to be about 8 maybe 8.5 Miles from
here. We can take the trail most of
the way. So pack light. *

SLIME *
The Sniper Rifle is packing light? *

JUSTY *
Would you feel better if I brought
some sage, and crystals instead? *

SLIME *
This is a hoax. *

Slime's intrigue is part disgust, part fantasy. *

JUSTY *
And if you're wrong? *

SLIME *
Then kill me. *

JUSTY *
I'll make sure you get an open
casket. Make use of that face. *

Slime shakes her head and walks off. *

ELMER *
You didn't have to say all that. *

JUSTY *
Hey, almond boy, I'm here for you. *

Justy chambers a menacing round, flips the safety on. *

EXT. TRAIL TOWARD PIN - LATER

They troop uphill through a pine forest, the sky is opaque and dim, it wants to rain. Justy is fifteen steps ahead within ear shot. Elmer at the rear, Raven in front, and Slime in front of her.

On Justy, his eyes scan the forest, looking for threats.

Masha (hearing aides in) listens to the birds and wind.

ELMER (O.S.)

So what'd I really like to know, is how you and the Punisher over there got acquainted.

SLIME

Well acquainted if I might say.

MASHA

Once upon a time in Mexico, deep in the mountains of Guerrero, an Evil Cartel took over a small town. They were brutal in there methods. Extortion, kidnap for ransom, you name it. The towns people were so scared and fed up--that they took up arms, and with a little help from Uncle Sam--a weapons and explosive expert--was sent down into the jungle with bags of money and crates of weapons...

We focus on tight on Justy as he moves through the forest.

MASHA (O.S.)

And this American piece of shit trained them. Helped them build car bombs and rig C-4. Set up ambushes and clear rooms. He helped those people wipe out that cartel and take back their town.

ELMER

That's when you did the Sinaloa piece?

RAVEN

Yeah, the siege. That's where you lost your...

MASHA

-Negative. That was Syria.

EXT. DEEPER IN THE WILDERNESS - HOURS LATER

The crew is fatigued, taking a break. Packs strewn on the trail. Elmer massages Masha's shoulders. Slime shakes out her arms. Raven scans the perimeter with slight concern.

JUSTY

This is the part where we go off trail.

Near the geo pin, they come across some **TRASH, and a SHOE.**

Masha puts in her hearing aides, looks to Elmer, and nods. He pulls out a camera, and video tapes the scene.

They keep moving. Raven mics Masha.

RAVEN

Hold up... Just gonna tape this to your chest.

She attaches it to her waist, and collar shirt.

RAVEN

Don't worry, it's like non-stick tape. It sticks, but it doesn't stick, know what I mean? Okay, Say something.

MASHA

Something. Check-check-1-2-3-4.

RAVEN

You're gucci. You too mountain boy.

Justy turns, walks over to her. She slaps a mic on.

RAVEN

Elmer come here. I want to ask mountain boy some questions.

JUSTY

Not here for that.

RAVEN

Don't be that guy.

Raven bats her eyes.

RAVEN

Pleaseee. You're perfect for this episode. Come on--

JUSTY

-fine.

RAVEN

Great. Tell us who you are.

JUSTY

My names, Justice, Federal Deputy,
Executive Protection, former Delta
Force. You name it, I've done it or
been there.

RAVEN

Where do you hail from?

JUSTY

The infamous Fort Bragg. Where
else.

Masha traverses a sketchy ridge with mud and **slips, tumbles
down an embankment.**

ELMER (O.C.)

Mash!

DOWN HILL:

RAVEN

Masha! You good?

Masha is in the mud, coming to: her eyes mud level. She sees
it, a **human skull with a bullet hole in the head.** She looks
around, realizes she's in the middle of a crime scene.

Justy slides on the mud downhill to her.

JUSTY

You okay?

MASHA

Yeah-yeah watch out.

She shoves him back, taking in the scene.

MASHA

Elmer! Get down here! Slime!

JUSTY

Shieeet.

SLIME (O.S.)

I'm good! I'll wait up here.

MASHA

This is...

Masha covered in mud looks around: Bones, military uniforms. *

Dozens of skulls and combat boots. Soldiers were killed here.

There is a carving on a tree. An upside down tombstone--same carving from the mirror in the gas station *

Raven slides down the mud next. *

Elmer covers the scene with his camera. Zooming in the skulls and boots. *

ELMER

Can we please go? Oh my god, I think I gotta shit.

RAVEN

What are you shitting, guy? Fiber pellets?

Justy puts on some gloves, sees more skulls.

RAVEN

Whoa. We're recording. *

SLIME (O.S.)

Yo! Let's keep moving. Dead people. Bones. Skulls. Shoes, it's nothing new. Did some shit happen here? Yes. It's irrelevant-

Masha examines a skull.

MASHA

-It's a clean cut.

JUSTY

Bone saw.

She hands it to Justy. Both their hands are on the skull, sharing a sensual moment. He notices the leaves in her hair. *

JUSTY

Let me...

MASHA

What?

JUSTY

You got some--shit--

She allows it. He de-leafs her. Masha temporarily distracted-- examines the rest of herself. She's got a...

JUSTY

You-uh-got a huge tear on your--

MASHA

On my ass?

He nods. She attempts to check it out, but it needs to be closed. Her ass cheek spills out of her torn pants. *

MASHA

Got any tape?

He has three different kinds of tape hanging off his bag.

RAVEN

(to herself)

Justy's been waiting for someone to ask him to use that tape. *

MASHA

Will you?

JUSTY

Yeah, yeah, just-one sec.

He sifts through the assorted tapes hanging off his carabiner, and gets on his knees in the middle of a mass grave sight. Stretches the tape out.

JUSTY

Excuse me if--I kinda have to--

MASHA

You have... consent. This one time. *

JUSTY

Copy.

He grabs her butt-cheek, shoves it back in her pants. She's kind of aroused. Masha only has **ONE HEARING AIDE**.

He tapes the pants shut. Then he cuts another piece, and tapes her pants over her butt, palming her ass cheek with both hands. Elmer and Raven stare at them.

MASHA

It's not what it looks like.

RAVEN

Umhm. *

Elmer records video on both Raven and Masha.

RAVEN

What do we got here?

MASHA

It appears to be; an unmarked grave. Can't one hundred percent confirm, but the insignia on the uniforms seem to be...

JUSTY

Airborne. 101st.

RAVEN

And the skull fragments? Some look, operated on, post mortem?

MASHA

I don't know. The victims are of two different status groups. Some soldiers, some not. Still no proof of surviving infected person's in the area, however, what's interesting is; we know there are mass graves all over the country, and based off season one, we know who was responsible for a number of summary executions, forced disappearances--causing loss of civilian life.

RAVEN

War crimes.

MASHA

But we haven't seen too many of these.

RAVEN

Right?

The girls continue their live investigation with Elmer getting footage.

Angle on: Justy who's listening to the forest. Somethings wrong. It's too quiet up top.

EXT. DEEPER IN THE WILDERNESS - MORNING

Justy starts to trudge back uphill.

*

*

*

*

*

*

RAVEN (O.S.) *
Hey! Don't leave us down here. *

ELMER (O.S.) *
Wait for me! *

Justy makes it to the top and looks around. SLIME IS GONE. *
He checks the trail, looking for tracks, clues anything. *

It's bad. He finds her mic on the ground and tablet. *

Elmer, Raven and Masha make it back up. *

RAVEN *
What? *

Elmer notices next, that she's gone. *

ELMER *
Where is Slime? *

Everyone's face is smitten pale.

MASHA
Slime!?

RAVEN
SLIME!

MASHA
She's gotta be peeing.

JUSTY
Stop yelling! *

Justy pulls his rifle off his sling. Examines the area
through the eye of his red-dot sight.

ELMER
Stop fucking around!

Justy takes off running through the pines and finds her back *
pack. He stops for a brief second and continues the trek. *

MASHA
Justy!

Justy leaves them behind in a trail of mud and fear. The crew *
tries to catch up, but he takes off again, rifle in one hand, *
moving through the forest like a puma. *

We come back to Masha, Elmer and Raven--the fear and *
uncertainty is familiar. They pick up her personal effects. *

ELMER *
Should we call it in? *

MASHA *
Not yet. *

ELMER *
Why? *

MASHA *
We need to get out of here first. *

Raven's pacing around, looks like she's going to vomit. *

EXT. FIRE ROAD / MOUNTAIN - SAME

Justy makes it to the fire-road, where he sees fresh tire tracks in the mud. He looks in the direction of the tracks leading up the mountain. It sinks in, she's gone. *

The crew makes it to the fire road, beat from the uphill trek. Elmer, almost keels over. *

ELMER *
Water. *

MASHA *
I don't have that much. *

ELMER *
Ahhh, I'm getting a cramp. *

Justy looks at him in disgust. *

JUSTY *
You drank a liter of water already? *

Masha lets him sip from her camel back straw. *

MASHA *
Just a little-- *

Raven makes it to a tree and keels over spewing out fluids. Elmer sees the trees and the gloomy sky. Storms coming in. *

ELMER *
We have to find her. *

JUSTY *
-What do you think I'm gonna fucking do? *

RAVEN *
I can't walk all the way back. *

JUSTY *
Elevation. *

Justy pulls out an electrolyte packet and pours it in a water *
bottle he has, shakes it and gives it to her. *

RAVEN *
Are we going to report this? *

MASHA *
Great first episode right. *

RAVEN *
What is wrong with you? *

Masha shakes her head at Raven. It's her fault. Justy looks *
at the crew assessing their emotions. *

JUSTY *
The only objective right now is *
getting back to the cabin, once *
we're back, behind closed doors you *
can cry, and panic and have a full *
blown anxiety attack if you want, *
but until then-- *

They ignore him and trail down hill. Elmer whips out the *
camera and starts filming. Asking Masha questions in the b.g. *

JUSTY *
I'll find her. *

Justy follows suit and trails them back in to the forest. *

EXT. TRAILHEAD NORTH CASCADES - DAY

They make it back to the parking, soiled, and sick. There's a *
moment where Justy takes Slime's pack and throws it in the *
SUV. The crew sees it and feels the deficit. *

EXT. CABIN / NEAR CASCADE RANGE - LATER

As they get back to the Cabin the power turns off. Elmer and *
Raven get out of the car. *

RAVEN *
Are you recording? *

ELMER *
I can be. *

Elmer hits the record button. *

RAVEN

Weds, feb 28th 2030, 4:51pm. Slime goes missing. Whereabouts unknown. We were investigating--what appeared to be a mass grave. Based off clothing and items found at the sight, it looks like government soldiers were summarily put to death by firing squad. We found a few skulls that had been cut with saws.

*
*
*
*
*
*
*
*
*
*
*

Masha brings out Slime's gear, and takes it to the porch.

MASHA

What are we doing?

*
*

JUSTY

We're going to town.

*

Justy notices she's missing a hearing aide.

JUSTY

Hey, you lost one?

She touches her ear, then her other.

MASHA

Fuck.

*

Justy and Masha return to his truck, but he spins back to Raven and Elmer.

*
*

JUSTY

Under no circumstances are you to leave the cabin. NONE!

RAVEN

Obviously. I'm not trying to have ya'll find my shoe in the woods.

JUSTY

I don't know--he has that look--

ELMER

--Me? I'm not going out there!

Justy nods, and darts out the cabin. The truck engine roars.

I/E. JUSTY TRUCK - MOVING

Justy flies towards town. We see the signs. DIABLO 5 MILES.

MASHA

I didn't make it this far to die in
a car crash with you.

*
*

JUSTY

Time is against us.

*

Masha pulls in a stress relieving breath, and exhales.

*

EXT. DIABLO SHERIFF DEPARTMENT - DAY

Justy pulls into the lot, screeching to a halt. They jolt
forward and both get out at the same time. Masha stops him
for a moment before they walk in.

*
*
*

MASHA

This is not on you.

*

JUSTY

My one job is to account for all of
you.

(he loses his shit)

And the girl goes missing. Right in
front of me. While I'm on my knees
playing with your fucking pants.

She pulls out her one hearing aid--to say FUCK YOU.

INT. TRAILER / MOUNTAINS - EVENING

*

Slime's eyes POV: her vision shifts from blurry to focus. She
sees her hands, they're bound, her feet too. There's a bright
light, like an operating room. Dirt and blood cake the walls.

*
*

LOUDSPEAKER

(woman's voice)

You're awake.

*

Nasty things have happened here.

LOUDSPEAKER

Try to relax, these are just
protocols for your own safety.

A masked NURSE (30's) comes in with a pair of scissors, and
starts to cut away her clothes.

*

SLIME

What are you doing? Where the fuck
am I?! Hey stop-stop-stop
(thrashing her body)
Get the fuck off meeeeeee!

NURSE

Please don't resist, they'll put you out again.

A man walks in, looks paramilitary, holding a hose with sprayer nozzle. He SPRAYS HER DOWN.

SLIME

Aghhh!!!

WATER MAN

Yeah, there you go! It's just water.

SLIME

Stop, stop, please--

He sprays her in the face. The Water Man holds Slime's Press Pass. Looks at it, looks at her.

WATER MAN

You guys don't deserve to live. *

(keeps spraying)

I told them to shoot you.

(and then)

But noooo. They wanted you for this and for that. Science. A greater purpose.

The Water Man stands over her naked wet-shivering body. He's completely enchanted by her beauty aroused by her weakness. *

WATER MAN

You are one of the most beautiful things I've ever seen.

He steps closer, to remove her restraints, hands her a towel, and some orange prison style scrubs.

She puts on the scrubs, carefully ties up her hair in a knot, shakes out her arms and ATTACKS THE MAN! **POW! BAM!**

He overpowers her in a **NASTY BRAWL** that is far from cute. Pins her down--as the Doctor walks in with the Sheriff. *

DR. LEPKE

That's enough.

DIABLO SHERIFF

Let her go, son.

Dr. Lepke pulls Slime out of there, gives her a bottle of water, and a blanket. A comforting gesture.

INT. DIABLO SHERIFF DEPARTMENT - SAME

Masha and Justy reach the front desk, MRS. GANDERS (67) no teeth, looking like death working a call center.

*
*

JUSTY
Need to talk to the Sheriff.

MRS. GANDERS
Well, he's not in right now.

JUSTY
Can you get a hold of him--

MRS. GANDERS
--in regards to:

JUSTY
To a fucking abduction.

MRS. GANDERS
Why are you cursing at me, Mister?

JUSTY
Cause I'm looking for someone!

*
*

MRS. GANDERS
And who are you?

*
*

Justy pulls out his Federal Deputy Badge and slams it on the counter.

*
*

MRS. GANDERS
You think that worthless hunk of tin gonna magically make the Sheriff appear, are you some kind of corn dog,? Those things don't carry the power they used to.
(off his look)
As a matter of fact, what's the expiration date on that shield?

*
*
*
*
*
*
*
*
*

Masha watches the scene in silence, Justy pounds his fist, saliva flies out of his mouth. He's deranged and losing his cool. The woman picks up the phone and dials someone.

*
*
*

INT. CABIN / NEAR CASCADE RANGE - SAME

Elmer paces around upstairs, unsure of himself and what to do. He fumbles with the wifi box, and tries to make a call. The Ranger Station goes straight to voicemail.

*
*
*

ELMER

Sorry, Slime--I'm trying.

He plugs in the chip from his camera and uploads the footage. Then pulls all audio files, and plugs it into some speakers, and plays with the audio filters on a sound program.

In the midst of crafting episode one, Elmer sees Raven outside on a satellite phone, being suspicious.

EXT. CABIN / NEAR CASCADE RANGE - EVENING

Elmer tip toes up to Raven trying to eavesdrop, but she hangs up--and he catches her off guard--frightening her.

RAVEN

Oh shit! You scared me!

ELMER

What are you doing?

RAVEN

Sorry, was calling search and rescue.

ELMER

With that?

RAVEN

Yeah. It's my back up.

ELMER

What they say?

RAVEN

Said she hasn't been gone long enough to launch a search.

They both walk back inside.

INT. DIABLO SHERIFF DEPARTMENT - SAME

Justy argues with Mrs. Ganders. Masha watches her lips move--but can still hear, and make out the faintest of speech.

MRS. GANDERS

It's a missing persons.

JUSTY

Lady.

MRS. GANDERS

48 hours.

Masha gets her shit together, and puts back in her one piece.

MASHA

Mrs. Ganders, sorry, Justy, go
sharpen your knife will yah?
Thanks.

(he steps out)

My friend, he's a little worked up.

MRS. GANDERS

I noticed. Out of towners can't
just come in here, short fused
causing all this commotion.

Mrs. Ganders CATCHES A WHIFF OF SOMETHING and **LOSES HER TRAIN
OF THOUGHT-MID SENTENCE.**

MASHA

You okay?

Mrs. Ganders stops talking, eyes go blank, she drools.

MASHA

Hey-hey-

MRS. GANDERS

-Excuse me. What were you saying?

MASHA

Could you please get a hold of the
Sheriff?

MRS. GANDERS

I said 48 hours. What exactly were
ya'll doing up there anyway? *

MASHA

Ughhh. Never-mind.

Masha exits the building.

I/E. JUSTY TRUCK - MOVING

Masha watches the small town and blur by. Justy picks up
speed and gets an intense look in his eyes. *

MASHA

Where are we going? *

JUSTY

I want a club sandwich. *

She knows this can't be great.

EXT. NEW HADES / COMPOUND - SAME *

Diablo Sheriff and Dr. Lepke escort Slime through a security compound. She sees the lights, the barb wire, resembles a prison. Doctors walk to and fro; **Slime catches the insignia on one of the badges; World Health.** *

SLIME *

Am I being held against my will?

DR. LEPKE

We didn't bring you to Diablo. *

SLIME

Can I use the phone? *

DIABLO SHERIFF

Honey, have you seen yourself lately? You're in orange pajamas.
(hocks and spits)

Sure, you can have my car keys along with the phone. Want my gun too?

DR. LEPKE

This is a high risk, secured, research facility. On Native land leased to the federal Government.

SLIME

That's a fucking loaded statement.

They pass a few men, that look paramilitary, with I.D. badges that have **C.I.A. insignia.**

DR. LEPKE

Want to show you something.

They approach a building that has faded flowers, and a smiling moon painted on it. A children's daycare. *

I/E. SIXES BAR AND GRILL - SAME

The bar is sprinkled with locals. Justy disappears to the furthest corner of the bar, and sits down--dismissing Masha entirely. *

JUSTY *
(to Bartender) *
Scotch, dry--and keep em coming. *

BARTENDER (40'S) hair down, pale like the rest with sunken *
eyes, looking half dead grabs the bottle. *

BARTENDER *
You got it, chief. *

Masha hovers behind him. *

MASHA *
What happened to the club sandwich? *

JUSTY *
They're making it right now? *

BARTENDER *
Can I get you anything? *

MASHA *
Soda water with lime, please. *

The bartender nods, serves just his scotch, then Masha--who *
grabs her drink and steps away from Justy in disgust. *

She sets a timer for **TEN MINUTES**. Then dials Elmer. *

MASHA *
What's up? No? Fuck. They're not *
helping, they said 48 hours. And *
won't acknowledge the abduction. *
Yeah-yeah-

Masha catches eyes with, CAUTIOUS (45) another mountain man, *
with the Diablo pale face, he's scruffy, and looks like he's *
been in this town too long, there's a power presence to him. *

MASHA *
I'll call you back. *
(she hangs up) *
Can I help you? *

CAUTIOUS *
I don't think so. *

MASHA *
Okay? *

CAUTIOUS *
He with you? *

Masha looks over, Justy shit-faced, telling war stories.

MASHA
Unfortunately.

*

CAUTIOUS
I didn't mean to interrupt, but I
overheard you say something about
the Sheriff's department being
unable to assist you?

MASHA
We're okay.

*

CAUTIOUS
I know the Sheriff personally. What
can I do?

*

His eyes are soft and welcoming, his tone disarms her quickly
as Justy get louder and louder.

*

*

I/E. SIXES BAR AND GRILL - MOMENTS LATER

*

Justy walks to the driver side, slurring, mumbling and losing
balance quickly, but Masha wedges herself between him and the
steering wheel.

*

*

*

MASHA
Give me the keys.

*

*

JUSTY
Fuck you, I can drive.

*

*

MASHA
Sometimes you can drive drunk, this
isn't it.

*

*

*

JUSTY
Fuck you piece of shit.

MASHA
Whoa. There he is, my little angry
King.

*

MASHA
You're not driving--

*

*

JUSTY
I'll walk.

*

*

MASHA
And waste valuable time on an
abducted team member?

*

*

*

There's a moment where Justy' eyes glaze over to ruthless, he *
grabs her throat, she lets it happen just for a second then *
rips his hand off her neck, yanks the keys from his palm and *
shoves him back. She jumps in the driver seat, slams the door *
and revs the engine. *

Justy having lost this battle meanders over to the passenger. *

INT. JUSTY TRUCK - SAME *

He gets inside slams the door real hard, and fires up a *
smoke. *

JUSTY *
At least I can be angry.

MASHA
Now isn't the time.

JUSTY
It's never the time.

There's a beat where Masha drives back to the cabin, in deep *
thought. *

MASHA *
Why didn't she just come down the *
hill? God, she's so unforgivingly *
hard headed. *
(off his look) *
She put herself at risk, but that's *
not your fault--which means pulling *
yourself together. I can't have you *
cracking up right now. *

JUSTY
The Pandi hollowed you out, huh.

MASHA
I got plenty of substance.

JUSTY *
Sure you do. *

MASHA *
It's just compressed. Like a *
diamond.

JUSTY
More like a fuckin-fuckin-
compressed turd.

MASHA

What do you want me to cry? Will that make you horny? You wanna kiss my tears? Fuck you. You need to sober up.

JUSTY

Her gone, makes a better show? Huh. More subscribers. More views. *

MASHA

There's still three of us that aren't missing. And we're still working! Which means you are too, and your job is to make sure we stay alive so don't go fucking that up--cause you've lost your sense of self worth, asshole.

Justy shakes his head.

JUSTY

Suck my dick.

MASHA

Maybe I would, if you weren't acting like such a little bitch.

Justy chuckles, *doesn't she know who he is?*. *

MASHA

You're worse than Elmer.

Her phones dings. *

MASHA

Search and Rescue has been alerted. They are looking for her.

JUSTY

Don't ever compare me to that guy. *

She doesn't acknowledge. *

INT. DIABLO / CHILDREN'S CENTER - AFTERNOON *

The mechanized doors locking and unlocking, peppered with buzzards and intercom voices is like strange music. The paintings on the wall depict a dark story in soft colors. Apocalypse. Dr. Lepke and Slime walk to a mirrored glass window, and watch. It's a Yoga class being taught to kids ages 7-12 all wearing **bite masks**. *

YOGA TEACHER

Okay, we're all going to step both feet back into downward dog, push your shins back, and shoot your hips to the sky.

(and then)

Very good. Wonderful.

(and then)

Hey, Christine, try and plant both feet on the mat. If you can, yes.

*

A dozen INFECTED KIDS learn Yoga. We see a few armed guards in there too, with thick plated armor and guns.

YOGA TEACHER

We're going to then, lift your right leg to the sky and shoot it all the way through into Warrior two.

TIMMY (13) face mask, sweet looking kid, loses his balance.

TIMMY

I'm having a little trouble.

YOGA TEACHER

That's okay, try and look down your arm--straight forward, right through me.

TIMMY

I am, but every time I do that I lose my balance.

YOGA TEACHER

When you're looking through me, are you worried about losing your balance?

TIMMY

Yes.

YOGA TEACHER

I want you to not think of that, and focus on your breath and try to-try-to like open up your vision okay, let go of everything.

Timmy exhales, fogging up the bite mask and lands the pose perfectly balanced.

Slime is smitten in disbelief and wonder.

DR. LEPKE

Nowhere in the world does this
exist.

SLIME

Are they?

Dr. Lepke nods in confidence, Slime absorbs the scene and all
it's meaning, it's risk, as an investigator, and a survivor. *
*

DR. LEPKE *
*

We're months away from history. *

The Doctor holds in her glory. *

EXT. CABIN / NEAR CASCADE RANGE - AFTERNOON

Masha pulls the truck back into the cabin, Justy flops out, *
looking rough--and swerved from the boos. She blows past him *
back into the cabin. *

INT. CABIN / NEAR CASCADE RANGE - SAME

Masha walks in, striding fast to her lap top. Without looking *
at Raven... *

MASHA *
*

Get a hold of anyone useful? *

RAVEN *
*

Negative. *

Masha rips through e-mails. Firing stuff off to Alonzo.

RAVEN

Mash, can I speak to you?

ELMER

No more speaking in private. We are
all a team.

MASHA

What?

RAVEN

Anonymous sender wants to meet.

MASHA

With you?

RAVEN

With you.

ELMER

They call on your anonymous phone?

MASHA

What is happening?

RAVEN

Nothing! Elmer's being paranoid.

RAVEN

She wants to meet tomorrow.

MASHA

Oh, *she*? Okay.

Elmer sits down for a moment, entering the early stages of grief. Raven steps over him, places a hand on his shoulder. *

RAVEN

We'll find her. *

Justy steps in, sits next to Elmer, crowding his space. *

He kicks off a boot, revealing his prosthetic leg. It looks futuristic. *

Elmer notices, imagines the pain. *

ELMER

Can you run with that?

Justy removes it, rubs the nub of his knee.

JUSTY

Even faster.

Justy reeks of scotch and gin, speaks slow, eyes glazed over. *

ELMER

Are you okay?

JUSTY

You know, I got this plant. You ever really watch a plant grow? Like talk to it, and feed it, apologize to it when you go out of town and come back and it's dying and all fucked up? When I let the plants down, I feel real real fucked up.

(and then)

Plants are like people, you know? If you don't take care of them; they... vanish. *

ELMER

Hey, I don't have any plants--but sometimes I forget to feed my dog on time, and I think I can relate.

Raven steps over, intrigued by the vulnerability.

RAVEN

Can I ask you something personal, Justice?

JUSTY

Shoot.

RAVEN

How'd you lose your leg?

He takes a long beat. Reminiscing.

JUSTY

It was week one. I was at the Walmart with my family. We had split up--for a coordinated supply run. The store was insane, man people running around everywhere, it was like time slowed down--watched two women fight over a basket, complete pandemonium. The fear... was'like nothing else

*
*
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*

Raven and Elmer are wrapped around his finger. Masha looks over, she's heard this one a thousand times, but it never gets old, and she's still in awe of his unflinching gumption.

*
*
*

We cut back and forth from him to her.

*

JUSTY

My wife took the kids.
(beat)
You know, the turn rate was different for everybody, but someone in the store was sick that day. The outbreak boomed in there, cause they were at max capacity. People turning real fast. I found my family, but they were hurt.

*
*
*
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*

Masha looks busy, trying not listen or sympathize.

JUSTY

My daughter bit me, in the leg.
(beat)
I was able to get away and make it to the hardware aisle.

(beat)
And-and-I uh, found a saw. *

RAVEN
Oh my god.

JUSTY
Yep, I already had a tourniquet on
me.

ELMER
And what about your family?

Justy swallows, really thinks on that.

JUSTY
They didn't make it.

Justy shoots a look to Masha. She knows. He killed them.

ELMER
I'm so sorry.

Justy pats Elmer on the shoulder.

JUSTY
Yah, and that's life. *

Then walks away to the kitchen. *

He opens a jar of blue powder, pours two scoops of pre-work
out into his mouth. 900 mg's of caffeine.

MASHA
What in gods name?

JUSTY
Dry scooping. Need to sober up.

Phoom! All the power shuts off. Headlamps flick on, then
lanterns. Masha lights a few emergency candles. *

JUSTY
It's looking moody in here. Sorry
bout whatever I may have said in
the car.

MASHA
No worries. I just want to find
Slime and do this job, both at the
same time if we can. *

(off his look) *

And I can't do it without you. *

He really hears that and nods his head. *

LATER NIGHT:

Elmer and Raven try to sleep, but can't.

MASH ROOM: Masha gets out of the shower, she's wet and looking refreshed. She brushes out her hair, doesn't hear him come, but sees him in the mirror. *

He walks up behind her, gauging her in the mirror. *

MASHA

Justy please. *

He ignores her, places his rough hands on her neck, and squeezes for a sec, the pressure released is immense, but would be so much more if he didn't stop. Still holding her, there's a vision, the two of them, and a life they could have had. *

He turns her around slowly, holding her tightly--she allows his finger float over the curves of her body. *

Their lips slowly meet and he kisses her neck, breast, then drops her on the bed and goes down on her. *

This moment where nothing else matters re-centers her. *

He flips forward and fucks her very slowly from the back, until she quickly orgasms. *

INT. CABIN / LIVING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

We zero in on Raven, did she hear something? A moan. Elmer heard it to. They both look to each other... *

ELMER

Who can do that, during-during this time of uncertainty? *

RAVEN

Depraved people, Elmer. Sex addicts. *

Raven thinks on it, a bit more. *

RAVEN

Honestly, might be healing to get fucked during a time like this. War sex? Stress sex? Fear sex... might be some of the best shit out there. *

Elmer fantasizes on her for a second, shooting her the look,
like; **should we?** *

RAVEN *
Absolutely not. *

Justy comes down, fist full of tactical gear and a jacket,
they all pretend to be busy. *

JUSTY *
What ya'll doing? *

RAVEN * ELMER *
Uh, nothing, just looking for* Oh-just-trying to call search *
and rescue *

Justy holds his big rifle looks at them. *

JUSTY *
Stay in the Cabin til the power
comes back on. *

Masha comes down, wrapped in a robe. Relieved. *

She catches a glimpse of Justy before he steps out into the
abyss. *

MASHA *
Hey, I just want you to know...
that I hate you. *

JUSTY *
I fuckin hate you too. *

A beat, he steps out, careless and fulfilled. *

RAVEN *
Where the fuck is he going? *

ELMER *
That's two down. *

Masha's flat cold eyes meets Elmer's wonder and fear. *

MASHA *
Do we have enough for a first
episode? *

Raven and Elmer both check the data, audio recordings, time
codes, video, pictures etc. *

RAVEN *
48 minute episode. *

ELMER

Yeah, real cliff hanger.

Masha feels the sarcasm.

MASHA

That man just walked out there into
the darkness to look for her, if
you feel like you're not doing
enough, and want to join him
(off their looks)
Be my guest.

A beat, they hang on her words and his absence.

MASHA

Otherwise slap together a powerful
episode.

They both nod, and get to work. Masha stares out into the
forest from the window. *Will I ever see him again?*

EXT. NEW HADES / WOODS - NIGHT

Dr. Lepke leads Slime to a secluded wooded area. There's a
few work lights up ahead, and we can see a silhouetted man.

DR. LEPKE

Here we discovered the virus can be
sexually transmitted.

SLIME

In a delayed turn time?

DR. LEPKE

A-symptomatic carriers.

Slime and the Doctor arrive uphill to meet Cautious and a few
security agents.

CAUTIOUS

A sex worker got pregnant.

SLIME

What do you mean? Got pregnant?

CAUTIOUS

-She signed an agreement and was
compensated for her contribution to
the research.

DR. LEPKE

Certain strains are vulnerable to
manipulation.

*
*

There's an eerie silence. Something is wrong. Through the fog
and lights--shadows move closer. Slime does the math on the
doctors statements. What does it all mean...

*
*

SLIME

Weaponization.

*
*

Slime sees two security agents pushing out two infected
persons with long poles that have wire nooses at the tips.

DR. LEPKE

This is the worst strain. Very
minimal neurological activity.

*

CAUTIOUS

Just the basic stuff. You know...
EAT.

Slime realizes what's happening and she TAKES OFF RUNNING!

EXT. CASCADE WILDERNESS / FIRE ROAD - SAME

*

Justy kneels down, rifle in hand, big pack strapped to his
back, and finds a HANDCUFF KEY. He keeps moving. He humps all
the way back up to the fire road and persists, and flanks the
barriers.

*
*
*

ELMER (V.O.)

I remember that week I was so
broke, down my last few bucks and
rent was due.

*
*
*

INT. CABIN / NEAR CASCADE RANGE - SAME

*

Everybody is eating out of MRE freeze dried food bags, and
survival spoons.

*
*

ELMER

Car, insurance, everything.

*
*

RAVEN

What you'd get?

*
*

ELMER

Beef Ravioli. You?

*
*

RAVEN

Korean BBQ.

*
*

ELMER *
Fire. I had no clue how I was going *
to survive. *

MASHA *
Bangers and mash. *

RAVEN *
Interesting. *

All eyes back to Elmer. *

ELMER *
Then out of nowhere, I get this *
call to start a seven day job, Oreo *
commercial, double chocolate. *

RAVEN *
How much was Oreo paying at the *
time, day rate? *

ELMER *
Shit, for PA's, think it was like *
two hundred, maybe two fifty. *

RAVEN *
Sheesh, times have changed. *

ELMER *
Would have been enough money to *
save me, but the job was FUBAR, *
Camera department and Art where *
filling the production truck with *
all kinds of shit, dolly's and *
lamps--I was at Panavision loading *
up the cube truck when I got the *
call from the coordinator, said to *
take everything out of the truck, *
take the truck back and go home. *
They shut down production. *

Off everyone's look. *

ELMER *
And just like that, rent didn't *
matter anymore. *

RAVEN *
What about you, Mash? I've always *
been curious, but like too *
intimidated to ask. *

MASHA *
My life is public knowledge. *

Masha looks down at her meal, and spins it with her spoon.

RAVEN
Your work is public, but I don't
know about your life.

*
*
*

MASHA
Maybe some other time.

*

Raven nods, masking shame.

*

EXT. NEW HADES / WOODS - NIGHT

Slime rips through the woods in a desperate attempt to escape--when she's **tackled by one of the Eaters.**

Slime kicks and wrestles up to her feet, then **SLAMS A HUGE ROCK INTO THE EATER'S HEAD** without being bitten and takes off running again.

She's almost escaped--when she's **HIT IN THE HEAD WITH A LOG BY THE SECOND EATER. Unconscious, the Eater smells her, and sinks his teeth into her neck.**

The Eater is about to feast on her--when a **SECURITY AGENT LAYS THE NOOSE COLLAR ON HIM AND YANKS HIM BACK.**

*

I/E. SMALL DINER - INTERCUT

*

Masha sits in a booth, drinks lukewarm coffee, stabs butter into a short-stack of pancakes. She drowns it in Maple syrup.

*
*

Dr. Lepke walks in, finds her and takes a seat.

*

MASHA
Anonymous sender?

DR. LEPKE
Dr. Lepke.

MASHA
Credentials?

Dr. Lepke pulls a fake ID badge, hands it to her. Masha pulls out a **TAPE RECORDER. HITS RECORD.**

DR. LEPKE
I didn't think you would come.

MASHA
Why not reach out to me directly?

DR. LEPKE
Raven was the contact I had been given.

MASHA
By who?

DR. LEPKE
Does it matter?

MASHA
Did you know she'd CC the editor of the New York Times?

DR. LEPKE
No.

There's a beat. Masha tries to read her. *

INT. CABIN / NEAR CASCADE RANGE - NIGHT *

Raven and Elmer work off lap-tops, listening to the first part of the episode, they love the way it sounds. We see the bass and treble move, then raven unplugs her headphones to hear it out loud. Elmer has added ominous music soundtrack. *

RAVEN (V.O.)
And the skull fragments? Some look, operated on, post mortem? *

MASHA (V.O.)
I don't know. The victims are of two different status groups. Some soldiers, some not. Still no proof of surviving infected person's- *

EXT. DEEPER IN THE WILDERNESS - NIGHT *

POV: In the moonlight someone trail blazes through the bush, trees and muddy terrain. There color blind POV presents everything in distortion, along with echoing sounds. *

MASHA (V.O.)
The last known infected person in quarantine or kept for study has since deceased over ten years ago.

INT. SMALL DINER - LATER *

We're back in the booth. *

MASHA
Why are we here?

Dr. Lepke lowers her voice.

DR. LEPKE
The harboring of infected people up
in those mountains.

MASHA
Harboring for what purpose?

DR. LEPKE
What do you think? They're not
pets.

MASHA
I break this story--and this little
province turns to ashes.

There's a beat.

MASHA
Are you from here?

DR. LEPKE
Yes.

MASHA
What's wrong with this place?

DR. LEPKE
Are you referring to C.W.P. ?
(off her confusion)
Coal Workers Pneumoconiosis.

MASHA
Pulmonary disease?

DR. LEPKE
I left when I was in middle-school,
to the bay area. Marin County. Then
to D.C. and New York.

MASHA
Where in New York?

DR. LEPKE
Worked in Manhattan, lived in
Brooklyn.

MASHA
Come back for the holidays?

DR. LEPKE

You know it. I spent a lot of time away from here, hence not breathing the dust for decades--which leads to Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease.

INT. CABIN / NEAR CASCADE RANGE - NIGHT

Raven and Elmer, close the lap tops. There's a sense of accomplishment, and wonder, but also the void and deep gut feeling that they lost their comrade--consumes them.

RAVEN

Should we upload it?

ELMER

Gotta clear it with Mash.

RAVEN

I know, but she's not answering.

There's a moment.

ELMER

Should we go in the town?

RAVEN

We don't have a car.

ELMER

It's like a twenty minute walk. Who know's maybe we'll find something out.

RAVEN

It's dark. Ah hell nah, I ain't going out there.

She points to the window.

RAVEN

You heard the guy.

ELMER

I gotta do something.

RAVEN

Don't die trying to be a hero.

ELMER

Well I, I know she would do the same for me.

RAVEN

Fuck it.

They pack a few things and Elmer heads upstairs.

EXT. NEW HADES / WOODS - NIGHT

Justy makes it to the outskirts of the compound. He heads uphill, kneels and pulls out a night vision optic, then scans the perimeter--searching for cameras and trip wires.

The coast is clear, and he cuts a hole in the gate with some small bolt cutters. He enters the compound undetected.

EXT. DIABLO - LATER

Elmer and Raven are a mile out, the woods are unsettling.

ELMER

When's the last time you went for a swim. You know? Like really took a dip in the ocean?

RAVEN

A year or two? I don't know. What about you?

ELMER

Last week, went early in the morning. Just jumped in. It was so cold. I had made a promise to myself, that I was going to jump in the ocean everyday for a month. To see if it would-like-help me.

RAVEN

With what?

ELMER

Just being present. I catch myself stressing, really like having crazy high cortisol levels.

RAVEN

You mean anxiety attacks?

ELMER

More like moments of discomfort, okay.

RAVEN

I feel that. Did you make it the whole month?

*
*

He shakes his head.

*

RAVEN

Sounds like a real commitment. I'll drive to the P.C.H. sometimes. The ocean is more visually pleasing for me, than like physically. I appreciate it from a distance, I know it's there if I need it.

*
*
*
*
*
*

ELMER

What if the claims are true?

*
*

RAVEN

Then we'd be back on the brink of collapse. Civil war sure to follow. A failed state.

*
*
*
*

ELMER

We barely made it out-

*
*

RAVEN

I mean look at Korea. It's all North. Borders changed permanently.

*
*
*

MASHA (V.O.)

Why would you oust your own people?

SMALL DINER:

DR. LEPKE

Ousting my own people? Or trying to save what's left of this planet?

*

MASHA

Did you know someone on my crew went missing in the Cascades?

*

DR. LEPKE

I did not, I'm sorry. Is there anything I can do?

Masha masks her feelings.

MASHA

Who do you think took her?

DR. LEPKE

I don't know.

MASHA

Is it not strange that you send a pin, and from that location, one of my people vanishes? She was abducted. Not attacked by an Eater.

DR. LEPKE

What did the Police say?

MASHA

One of the town locals helped me with the Sheriff's department which wasn't too keen on assistance. They've finally reached out to search and rescue.

DR. LEPKE

A lot of people get lost up there. *

DR. LEPKE

How many members of the Free Press have been disappeared, detained and or summarily executed during the pandemic?

MASHA

She's just collateral?

There's a beat. *

MASHA

Have you been to the pin?

DR. LEPKE

Yes.

MASHA

What happened to those soldiers?

DR. LEPKE

People don't end up in ditches by mistake. Especially soldiers.

MASHA

Did you witness any of the local and state faction conflicts?

DR. LEPKE

I'm aware.

MASHA

What about Central Intelligence launching drone strikes on Military positions?

DR. LEPKE
My battlefield is the laboratory.

MASHA
Right, cancer doctor.

Masha nods, scribbles a few notes, but doesn't believe her. *

EXT. DEEPER IN THE WILDERNESS - *

A small group of hikers push up a trail. One woman, one man.

GIRL HIKER
What about Glacier?

GUY HIKER
Zion, Zion and the Appalachians.
Once I did a six day horse-packing
trip in the Wind River Range.

GIRL HIKER
Glacier is like the last frontier.
Before Canada and Alaska.

GUY HIKER
I heard you can't camp in any tents
over there, like it has to be a
hard shell top on your truck or a
legit camper. Is that true?

GIRL HIKER
I don't know, I always sleep in my
Four Runner, but I did hear about
that woman getting dragged out of
her tent at night by a Grizzly.

GUY HIKER
Can I tell you something?

GIRL HIKER
Yeah.

GUY HIKER
I want to fuck you in every
national park along the continental
divide.

He kisses her.

GIRL HIKER
That's a lot of fucking.

Clothes fly off, tits, ass, crazy fucking in the woods. *

INT. SMALL DINER - SAME

Dr. Lepke seems sympathetic, wanting to help Masha.

DR. LEPKE

I will do anything to help you find your friend.

MASHA

That's fantastic, but why are we here? What is your mission?

DR. LEPKE

There is an infected person hiding in those woods. Either they're being harbored, or protected, but if it spreads past the mountain range...

(off her look)

Find her. Break the story.

MASHA

If you have any more **useful** information please don't hesitate.

She stops the recorder gets up and walks out.

EXT. NEW HADES / COMPOUND - SAME

Justy moves in silence like a panther, undetected, he takes cover and continues to surveil the area. He sees agents, doctors, and paramilitary personnel. He continues to weave through the trees and hillside, trying not to get caught.

Through night vision optics he sees a detention center.

JUSTY

(to himself)

I know you're here.

He drops the optic, pulls up his rifle and counts the men by moving the infrared dot around, letting us know how easily he could take them out.

DEEPER IN THE WILDERNESS:

The hikers are 69'ing. Nasty shit. Out of the peripheral we see a girl, the **INFECTED FROM THE PHOTO.** Dirty and unkempt.

EXT. DIABLO - NIGHT

Raven and Elmer make it into town, they stop at a memorial.
It's a wall that has a bunch of names. Titled the martyrs of
Diablo.

INT. SUV - SAME

Masha sees Elmer and Raven, she pulls over quickly.

MASHA
Get in!

They both get inside, and Masha punches the gas.

ELMER
We're ready to drop the episode.

RAVEN
Just waiting on you.

MASHA
Lets do it.

ELMER
Just to be clear we haven't dropped
Lupita yet.

Masha feels they might not make it long enough to drop the
episodes as planned.

MASHA
Lets do them at the same time.

ELMER
We've never done that before.

RAVEN
I don't think our listeners are
going to be mad about it.

MASHA
Can you do it from your phone?

BLRRRP! Sirens flash. They are being pulled over.

Masha checks the rearview, it's the Diablo Sheriff.

MASHA
You gotta be kidding me.

She pulls over.

ELMER

Guys.

RAVEN

Where you speeding?

MASHA

No, I don't think so--

The Sheriff walks up to the car, as Masha rolls down the window.

MASHA

Sheriff, just the person we've been looking for.

DIABLO SHERIFF

License and registration.

MASHA

What?-I'm sorry, yeah, one-sec.

The Sheriff looks at Raven, she's wide eyed, and then to the back seat at Elmer, nervous and sweating. *

DIABLO SHERIFF

You okay, son?

ELMER

No. I'm not. We're looking for our friend.

Masha hands him her license and Press Pass. The Sheriff examines. *

DIABLO SHERIFF

You were so much prettier.

MASHA

That's so sweet, thank you. *

We tried to file a missing--

DIABLO SHERIFF

Ya'll a bunch of Reporters-huh? Got anything to report? *

MASHA

As a matter of fact, yes.

DIABLO SHERIFF

I went by ya'lls cabin earlier.

MASHA

Our friend was abducted.

DIABLO SHERIFF

Right. Did you see who?

MASHA

Not exactly.

DIABLO SHERIFF

Okay, here's what we'll do...
follow me up to the Ranger Station.

Masha looks to Raven and Elmer--they're in agreement.

MASHA

That would be helpful. *

DIABLO SHERIFF

Don't worry, we'll find your
friend. *

He walks back to his truck, takes off, Masha follows. *

EXT. DEEPER IN THE WILDERNESS

POV: 1st person shooter frames, we only see her hands but
it's the girl from the photo, she grabs a rock, and hits the
guy over the head, he falls over and she kneels, as her hands
split open the skull, and pulls out the meat and consumes it. *

The Hiker Girl, screams, covered in blood runs for her life. *

EXT. DIABLO - MORNING *

BIRDS EYE: Masha tails the Sheriff into the woods, then moves
quickly to Justy's position as he exits the way he came. *

He picks up the pace from a fast walk to a jog, just missing
Masha and the crew. *

EXT. NEW HADES COMPOUND - LATER

Masha and the Sheriff arrive just outside the compound to
meet more security personnel. *

INT. SUV - SAME *

They take in the scene. Looks and feels military, a barracks,
maybe even a prison. *

RAVEN

This look like a Ranger Station to you?

MASHA

What does anything look like anymore?

Elmer stares out the window, as a GIANT GATE IS UNLOCKED.

They are waved in by security.

They see a sign; **WELCOME TO NEW HADES, Community Health Center.**

RAVEN

Feeling super welcomed right now.

There is another sign. **Ranger Station up ahead.** 3 miles.

MASHA

There it is.

They are stopped at another checkpoint.

ELMER

(to himself)

God, you know I've been a good Christian, and I've been trying to go to church, and even though I contemplated Islam for a few weeks-- I really fuck with you, Jesus-- please-

RAVEN

Elmer, why are you foxhole praying?

DEPUTY SMITH walks up to the drivers side, and DEPUTY EDWARDS walks up to the passenger.

DEPUTY SMITH

Can you put the car in park for a moment and step out please?

MASHA

What for?

DIABLO SHERIFF (O.S.)

It's protocol, Mam. Step out.

DEPUTY EDWARDS

You too, and in the back.

Masha comes out.

DEPUTY SMITH

You have any weapons or sharp objects that are gonna poke me?

MASHA

I have a knife in my bootstrap.

DEPUTY SMITH

Got it. Thanks, we'll give it back to you on your way out, okay.

MASHA

Okay.

He respectfully searches her. Raven then Elmer.

Elmer's face is turning yellow, STILL CLUTCHING HIS PHONE, the deputy searches him, doesn't find anything. The deputies move to the SUV and toss it up.

DEPUTY EDWARDS

Got something. Smith take a look at this beautiful piece of American metal.

Edward's finds a gun in the back under the driver seat, where Elmer sat. Smith walks over, Edwards ejects the magazine.

The girls look to Elmer who sees his life circle the drain.

The Deputies look to Elmer, who checks his phone, he has one moment to upload the file and air the two shows.

MASHA

We can explain.

RAVEN

We have a Federal Dep with us.

DEPUTY SMITH

Not here you don't.

DEPUTY EDWARDS

Okay, sir, put your hands on top of your head and interlace your fingers.

Elmer puts his hands, still clutching the phone--on top of his, as they come to put the cuffs on--he spins out, and makes RUN FOR IT.

MASHA

Elmer, NO!

He dashes off the road, Deputy Smith gives chase, but not before Elmer is able to hit the upload button. *

We see the girls in the background being held back by Edwards and other security. *

Elmer runs full speed, he turns his head back to see the distance on Smith, but when he whips he back around, he doesn't see the exposed tree root sticking out of the ground and trips hard, launching himself forward into the mud. *

After wiping out, he comes to, looks up to Smith standing over him. We hear the file upload all the way and go live. *

Smith reaches out his hand, and pulls Elmer up to his feet then without pause and shoots him point blank. The sound is a crack that sends the crows from the trees into the grey sky. *

Masha and Raven both feel the wind removed from their lungs when they hear the shot. The deputies usher them away and separate them into different vehicles. *

We spend a moment with each of their reactions in the back seats of the inevitable doom. *

EXT. NEAR CASCADE RANGE - DAY *

The Eater Girl has caught up to the girl hiker and takes her a part. There's a noise that catches her off guard, she turns her head and that's when we see the butt of a rifle come down on her and **WHAM! LIGHTS OUT!** *

JUSTY
Holy shit. *

He leans over her, touches her hair because she looks so much different than Eater's he's seen in the past. *

JUSTY
How long have you been out here? *

Justy pulls out his phone and captures a video of her, unconscious. *

JUSTY
Hope you're full, we're not going to stop for dinner. *

He pulls out thick plastic from his pack and wraps her up. *

I/E NEW HADES / LOCK UP TRAILER - SAME

Raven is brought into a trailer, un-cuffed, but against her will. She looks unwell, not only because Elmer is dead, but because she brought them here. She looks at her phone, there's no service. Deputy Smith stares into her eyes.

The door opens up and Cautious walks in.

CAUTIOUS

Sorry about your friend.

Raven looks up, trying to hold her composure.

RAVEN

I did what I was supposed to do.

CAUTIOUS

Yeah, I'm really proud of you. You went above and beyond. We only really wanted the deaf one. The trophy.

RAVEN

Please let my family go.

There's a beat where Cautious does the math.

CAUTIOUS

It took us a long time to track down all the survivors from your community. And their children. I was really impressed, but we are a global organization that specializes in gathering intelligence, our bounds have no limits nor does our authority, and use of force, approved by the Pentagon and the Supreme Courts to hunt down all urban terrorists. That means non-sanctioned armed militias who carried out lethal strikes against government agencies during the sickness.

(off her look)

There is no grand jury for your family. Only off country black-sites, and... well, you know the rest.

RAVEN

We had a deal.

He thinks she's vermin, and walks out.

EXT. NEW HADES - RANGER STATION - SAME

Deputy Edward's escorts Masha into the Ranger station. A prisoner of war, she buries her fear and anxiety.

INT. NEW HADES - RANGER STATION - CONTINUOUS

Nothing but C.I.A. Operatives posing as Rangers, they all wear plain clothes, body armor, cowboy boots on, and weapons holstered on the hips and thighs.

RANGER STOVER steps forward, wearing a cowboy hat, mustache, with a pack of chew in his cheek spits on the ground.

RANGER STOVER

We got your distress call.

MASHA

Which one? About the forced disappearance, or the summary execution?

(off his look)

You're not a fucking Forest Ranger. Cowboy hat doesn't look right on you. There's something about you that screams elite education. I don't know, Yale, Harvard, maybe started as an undecided, then moved to law, with business as a minor, didn't pass the bar and let down your father, but did well in business management-economics, and joined the army.

(beat)

You're tough, and have the schemer mind, but not Delta Force tough, Green Beret, maybe Ranger, working with J-SOC, guessing a few tours in Iran, and Venezuela, then got plucked by Central Intelligence.

He smirks and spits on her shoes.

RANGER STOVER

Great profile. Maybe we'll give you a second chance and an implant and you can work for us far far away in Sudan, maybe Yemen.

MASHA

I'd rather die.

RANGER STOVER
Got something better.

Ranger Stover hands her an envelope. She opens it up, it's her **DEATH CERTIFICATE**. Forged documents created by the CIA that states her time, place, and cause of death, which was yesterday.

EXT. TRAILHEAD NORTH CASCADES / PARKING - SAME

Justy loads the unconscious eater into the back of his truck bed, and takes off.

INT. CABIN / NEAR CASCADE RANGE - SAME

Justy drags the girl inside, pulls her out of the plastic, places her on a chair and duct tapes her to it. She regains consciousness, confused and looking around.

It's clear, she has full cognitive function.

KARA
Where am I?

JUSTY
What are you?

Justy puts on some thick kevlar gloves, and grabs a bottle of water.

JUSTY
Are you thirsty?

She shakes her head.

JUSTY
I'm just going to clean you up a little bit, okay. You not gonna bite me are you?

KARA
I don't think so...

He squirts the water over her face and cleans her up.

JUSTY
What happened to those hikers?

KARA
I don't know.

JUSTY *
You do know. *

Justy has a light bulb moment. Masha's mission, the podcast. *
He looks around finds a camera, tripod, and audio recorder. *
In lighting speed he sets it up, flicks all the recording *
buttons. He looks at the camera monitor. *

JUSTY *
You're... sick? *

She nods. *

JUSTY *
But you... can talk. *

Justy's mesmerized at this breakthrough. *

JUSTY *
How long? *

KARA *
Years. *

JUSTY *
How are you still alive? *

KARA *
I've been in observational quarantine. *

JUSTY *
Are there others like you? *

Kara nods. Justy takes a moment to process his actions.

JUSTY *
Can you... control it? *

She stuffs her fear, trying to be helpful.

KARA *
Sometimes. *

Justy looks into the camera, feeling his historical moment. *

EXT. NEW HADES COMPOUND / MOUNTAIN SIDE - SAME *

A few masked men take Elmer's body to a furnace area, that *
has a good fire going. Smoke billows into the sky. There's *
another man who has a vacuum that looks like a leaf blower. *

A bone saw comes out, and they sever the top of Elmer's skull. The Vacuum man sucks his brain out into a backpack-container. *

INT. NEW HADES / LOCK UP TRAILER - CONTINUOUS *

Deputy Edwards grabs Raven and leads her outside. *

RAVEN *

Where are we going? *

DEPUTY EDWARDS *

We're going to cut you loose, just need you to get finger printed and sign some paperwork--then you'll be on your way. *

She looks around, it's unsettling. *This is wrong.* *

EXT. NEW HADES / LOCK UP TRAILER *

He leads to a four wheel drive golf cart, a Gator. She gets in sheepishly. Weary and suspicious, she contemplates escape. They take off uphill deeper into the compound. *

INT. NEW HADES - RANGER STATION - SAME *

Masha sits in awkward silence, detained having just seen her death certificate--knowing she's in check mate. *

Cautious enters, this time in body armor, holding a manilla folder. All the men stand at attention. *

RANGER STOVER *

Sir. *

Cautious nods for them to leave, and they all step out. *

MASHA *

What a surprise. *

CAUTIOUS *

Where's peg-leg? *

MASHA *

I actually don't know... which isn't good for you. *

CAUTIOUS *

Tell me about your hearing. *

*

MASHA
Pre-sickness.

*

CAUTIOUS
Okay.

MASHA
Yeah. I was doing a piece in Syria,
for the AP, and my contacts got
into a fire fight with the Daesh--
50 caliber weapon discharged about
three inches from my head.

*
*
*
*
*

CAUTIOUS
Permanent damage?

MASHA
50 percent of my hearing. And I
took a bullet.

*

CAUTIOUS
Was it worth it?

MASHA
The world needed to know what was
happening over there.

*
*

CAUTIOUS
Do you feel the world needs to know
what's happening here?

*
*

MASHA
Is there something you want to tell
me?

*
*

Cautious presents his ID BADGE, CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE. Masha's
face turns pale, but she doesn't let him see her panic.

*
*

MASHA
What took you so long?

*
*

CAUTIOUS
A lot of red tape.

*
*

MASHA
Why not just send a shooter to my
door? You guys can do anything.

*
*
*

CAUTIOUS

Well you know how they are. They want us to do a job, then tie our hands to our dicks and blind fold us.

MASHA

Yeah, but you have a special team for this kind of thing.

CAUTIOUS

Yeah, your favorite team. As a matter of fact, take look at this.

He hands her the manila folder, she opens it up, and sees photographs of Agents, both men and women.

CAUTIOUS

They look familiar?

MASHA

I don't know.

CAUTIOUS

World War Three, Season one, Death Squads? Brilliant title. Catchy.

MASHA

Ground Branch killed a lot of civilians. That's what happens when the country asks you to do a job, and doesn't tie your hands to your dick, asshole.

CAUTIOUS

Every life taken, was a life lost before we got there. You leaked classified information that resulted in their deaths.

She holds up the folder.

MASHA

The world is a better place without them.

CAUTIOUS

I'm going to give you one last interview.

She nods and takes a beat.

MASHA

Where do we begin?

Cautious, unhooks her cuffs, and leads her out. *

EXT. NEW HADES - NEAR FURNACE - SAME *

Edwards snakes up a fire road, the furnace smoke is thick, and in view. Raven, still cuffed, **grabs the steering wheel and flips the Gator--throwing them both into the mud.** *

They tumble, but Raven is on her feet before he is. He looks up--and she kicks him square in the head, removes his handcuff keys and runs, unlocks herself while vanishing into the tree line. *

INT. CABIN / NEAR CASCADE RANGE - SAME

Kara checks out her surroundings, she's wrapped in plastic and still frightened. *

JUSTY
How did this happen? *

Kara shakes her head, her voice cracks to a whisper. *

KARA
Years. Of testing. *

JUSTY
What kind? *

KARA
Pathogen Enhancement. *

Justy realizes that she is a bio-weapon. Kara drops her head. *

KARA
Please. Kill me. *

Justy exhibits a moment of compassion. *

EXT. NEW HADES / COMPOUND - NIGHT *

Cautious leads Masha on a tour up the trail to another compound. They're being trailed by a few agents. The area is dotted with work lights, and the occasional 4x4 truck or Gator moving around. *

MASHA
Who controls this jurisdiction? *

CAUTIOUS

You are in a research facility, on
Native land.

(and then)

The facility is headed by a
partnership between the World
Health Organization and... Central
Intelligence.

MASHA

What face of the C.I.A.?

CAUTIOUS

Special Activities Division.

All her nightmares come to life. A radio call comes into
Cautious's ear piece.

RADIO (O.S.)

The girl has escaped.

He clicks the button on his speaker in his shirt.

CAUTIOUS

Which girl?

RADIO (O.S.)

The asset.

CAUTIOUS

Roger. Locate her.

MASHA

Who are those bodies in the woods?

CAUTIOUS

The short answer is; local private
contractors captured a rogue
Airborne unit operating in the
Cascades.

MASHA

Why didn't you put a leash on your
team, sir? Why not confirm people
were sick before extermination.

CAUTIOUS

We had to make difficult decisions,
with the tools we had--there was no
time for morality.

MASHA

--Ground Branch was openly
committing human rights violations.

CAUTIOUS

According to who?

MASHA

International law.

There's a long beat.

*

CAUTIOUS

You know we didn't think Raven was
going to do it at first.

MASHA

How did you get to her?

CAUTIOUS

We had something she wanted.

EXT. CASCADE WILDERNESS - INTERCUT

*

Raven blasts through the forest with nothing, using moon
light only. She stops for a moment, unsure if she's lost. She
checks the stars, the sky is clear tonight.

*

*

*

CAUTIOUS (V.O.)

*

Her family collaborated with
paramilitary groups that were
responsible for the deaths of three
Agents and two Doctors.

*

Raven moves through a dark horizon of trees.

*

MASHA (V.O.)

Where?

CAUTIOUS (V.O.)

*

Mount Shasta, Crater Lake.

*

Edwards is so far behind he falls to his knees at a loss--he
radios for assistance.

*

*

INT. CABIN / NEAR CASCADE RANGE - SAME

KARA'S POV, the viral psychosis takes effect, changes her
vision, she can see Justy's heat.

*

*

KARA

There's people in town who have never had a symptom.

JUSTY

Carriers?

KARA

They're not gonna hurt anybody. *

JUSTY

Do they have cure? *

Kara's losing control of her speech. She wants to talk but can't spell out the words. *

JUSTY

Is there a vaccine? *

Her eye color starts to shift, she can't talk anymore. She nods her head. *

JUSTY

Jesus fucking christ! *

Kara's eyes are dilated, almost entirely black. *

JUSTY

Can you hear me?

Kara spazzes a little. Squirms. Her body moves strangely.

JUSTY

Can you see me?

Justy waves the knife in front of her. Justy then pokes his finger just a little, enough for a drop of blood to come out. *

Justy looks into the camera, still recording. Justy ZOOMS IN.

JUSTY

(into camera)

You're gonna love this.

He holds his cut finger above KARA WHO GOES INSANE. *

A drop of blood falls into Kara's mouth.

THE TAPE SPLITS. She's squirming too much to be held in the chair. Justy THRUSTS HIS BLADE INTO HER CHEST THROUGH THE PLASTIC WRAP. IT DOES NOTHING, she JUMPS OUT OF THE CHAIR, RIPPING THE DUCT TAPE--until Justy **SHOOTS HER DEAD.** *

I/E. NEW HADES / OBSERVATIONAL QUARANTINE - SAME

Masha sees a building up a head, with a few agents standing
as sentries with rifles. *

MASHA *

You have her family. *

CAUTIOUS *

They are in a labor camp. Three
life sentences for murder, treason,
and urban terrorism resulting in
the death of State Agents. *

Masha processes the info, but is still confused. They are
waved through to a door. *

INT. NEW HADES / OBSERVATIONAL QUARANTINE - CONTINUOUS *

BZZZZ, the door opens, Masha and Cautious walk inside. There
are COLOR CODES ON THE WALL. Blood smears. Doomish. *

It's a bullet proof glass maze. *

CAUTIOUS

Brace yourself.

She stumbles for a moment, trying to internalize.

Another DOOR IS BUZZED AND MASHA WALKS THROUGH. *

L1Z1 INFECTED VISITING:

VISITING BOOTHS like jail, stalls with phones, thick glass
separating the families from the inmates.

Masha slowly walks down, seeing the families talk to people
on the other side of the glass. *

Masha sees THREE COLORS. **RED**, **YELLOW** AND **BLUE**.

Red and Yellow both wear faded WOLF COLLARS. *

RED COLLAR INMATES have a transparent **BITE/SPIT FACE MASK**
covering their nose and mouth attached to the collar. *

RED COLLAR INMATES ARE **CHAINED TO VISITING BENCHES**, AND
WRAPPED IN CUFFS. **HIGH-POWER**. *

YELLOW COLLAR, ARE ABLE TO MOVE MORE FREELY. Chains no mask. *

OBSERVATION IS THE LEAST RESTRAINED. *

Masha walks past each visiting booth, witnessing history.

She ends her stroll at the last booth.

INT. VISITING STATION 21: - INTERCUT

**IT'S SLIME, her eyes open. She stands up and grabs the phone.
Masha grabs the other phone.**

SLIME

Bro. What the fuck?!

Slimes face is soooo annoyed.

MASHA

It's my fault.

SLIME

I should have came downhill.

MASHA

Do you remember anything?

SLIME

Yeah. I mean no. I don't remember much from the dropped pin--but I can say that we are truly fucked.

MASHA

What's the collar?

SLIME

Tracking device.

MASHA

What's with the color code?

SLIME

Blue is observation.

MASHA

You're a test subject?

SLIME

I'm a fucking petri dish. *

MASHA

Are you?

(off her nod)

Wow. Okay, I'm-I'm so sorry.

SLIME

Oh, look, you have your hearing aides in. Lovely. *

MASHA
I lost one, but yeah.

Masha rejoices in her humorous bitterness.

SLIME
If we ever make it out of here--
it'll be one hell of a show.

Masha **contains her emotions.**

MASHA
We were set up.

SLIME
Who?

MASHA
The intern. *

SLIME
That little cunt. *

MASHA
They got her family in a labor
camp.

SLIME
Yeah, well thanks to her, I'm a
fucking zombie now. Literally.
Masha, the *research*... *
(off her look) *
There's every kind of Eater. Kids. *
Adults, almost positive there's
breeding program. *

MASHA
You think they have a cure? *

SLIME
I think they have much more. How
did you find me? *

Masha remembers... hasn't had a moment to grieve. *

MASHA
We got pulled over. *

SLIME
Where is everyone? *

MASHA *
Elmer is I think dead. And they *
separated me and Raven. I don't *
know where she is. *

SLIME *
This is place is an Area 51 - *
Guantanamo Bay fucking black-site *
on U.S. soil. *

MASHA *
I know. *

SLIME *
And Justice? *

MASHA *
Out there looking for you. *

Slime's feelings catch up with her. *

SLIME *
Elmer. He's gone? *

There's a long beat. Masha shrugs her shoulder, *YEAH*. *

MASHA *
He uploaded the Episode before... *
we heard the boom. *

SLIME *
You serious? *

MASHA *
He died uploading that video. *
(off her look) *
It's live. *

SLIME *
I'm really hungry. They gave me *
beans and some kind of Spam? Or *
ham. *
(and then) *
And... god it's so cold. *
I witnessed child eaters *
participating in a Yoga class. *

MASHA *
That's incredible. *

SLIME *
It's diabolical. *

The door opens behind Slime, and the Doctor steps out.

DR. LEPKE

Lab work.

MASHA

Doctor?

Slime puts **her palm up on the glass**, Masha meets her palm.

Deputy Edward's and a few agents come in and grab Slime.

*

EXT. CABIN / NEAR CASCADE RANGE - INTERCUT

Raven, covered in sweat, and mud--makes it to the steps of the cabin almost passing out.

*

*

INT. CABIN / NEAR CASCADE RANGE - SAME

*

Justy rummages through his equipment, and everyone else's personal belongings, looking for something.

RAVEN (O.S.)

You're alive!

JUSTY

Ahh!

They jump into each others arms.

JUSTY

I should have never left.

RAVEN

You did the right thing.

STILL HOLDING ON TO EACH OTHER FOR DEAR FUCKING LIFE. Raven notices the dead girl rolled up in plastic.

RAVEN

Wait, who the fuck is that?

JUSTY

I'll explain later. Where's Masha?

RAVEN

At the compound.

JUSTY

New Hades. I conducted a surveillance mission--we can slip in, find her and vanish.

*

*

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RAVEN *
Did you find Slime? *

JUSTY *
No, but I found *her*. *

RAVEN *
I can see that. *

JUSTY *
You're not gonna believe it, but *
it's the girl from the photo. *
(off her look) *
Take this.

Hands her a shotgun.

JUSTY
And this.

And body armor.

JUSTY *
And this too. Wait, where the fuck *
is my Knight Hawk? *

RAVEN *
Elmer stole it. *

JUSTY *
Is he? *

She nods, remorsefully. He fishes through Elmer's bag, and *
finds a **SMOOTH FLAT BOX**. *

JUSTY *
Really liked that guy. *

It's the **BANG SUIT**. From the opening advertisement.

JUSTY *
What in the? You gotta be shitting *
me.

Justy unravels the Bang Suit pulling it out of the bag. *

JUSTY *
Whoa, this thing is kinda cool. *

Justy caresses it way too sexually, takes his knife and tries *
to stab it. *

JUSTY *
Very tough material. *

RAVEN
Justice! We don't have time! *

JUSTY
Fuck! *

RAVEN
And I can't walk, but we have to
like go back somehow. *

JUSTY
I got the whole place dialed. *

He brings her over the kitchen and grabs his pre-work out.
Pulls out the scooper. *

RAVEN
Guy. *

JUSTY
You want some fucking gas in the
tank? *

RAVEN
Fuck it. *

They both pour loads of pre-work out powder into their mouths
and we see their eyes light up. Followed by the itching. *

Justy grabs all the hddrives, and any digital storage,
chips, laptops and throws them in a bag. Raven follows suit,
collecting all important data. *

Their blood surges with caffeine--as they burst out of the
cabin. *

EXT. NEW HADES COMPOUND / NEAR FIRE ROAD - SAME

Cautious, Deputy Smith and some Ground Branch men with
beards, in tactical, enter the fire-road with search dogs. *

DEPUTY SMITH
She came through here. Must of come
down that ridge, took the road for
a little bit then moved south into
the wilderness. *

CAUTIOUS
Close the roads.

DIABLO GUNNER
Their cooked. No escape routes.

The Diablo men nod, and disperse.

INT. NEW HADES COMPOUND / SLIMES CELL

There's a bunk, small desk, sleeping mat, blanket, place to sit, and a toilet-sink. *

Slime is brought into her cell, she sticks her hands out through the FOOD SLOT--to be un-cuffed.

INT. NEW HADES COMPOUND / L1Z1 OBSERVATION

Dr. Lepke sits at a desk. Guards bring in Masha, cuffed.

DR. LEPKE

I've been studying L1Z1 since it's outbreak in Mexico City.

Dr. Lepke slides over her real credentials.

MASHA

Your joint operation is frightening. *

(off her look) *

Just add F.E.M.A. and the E.P.A. and we have the four horseman. *

DR. LEPKE

I really am sorry.

MASHA

What do you want with me?

DR. LEPKE

Well you know, they have their needs and wants, but mine is more research based.

MASHA

Yeah, is that right? Want to see if I'll be a high grade bioweapon? *

Masha leaps over her table, reaching for Dr. Lepke's neck, **but the Doc fights back and punches her in the ear. Clothes rip, breasts exposed, clawing and scratching, hair pulling-- it's not a sexy fight, it's grimy.** *

Diablo Sheriff comes in with a **cattle prod.** *

DIABLO SHERIFF *

Okay, that's enough. *

ZZZAP! He blast her in the neck--knocking her out. *

INT. HALLWAY / OBSERVATION - SAME *

Diablo Sheriff drags Masha down the hallway. He drops her in front of a cell with a small square window. Slime rushes to the window and peers out. *

DIABLO SHERIFF
Get up, get up! You're okay. *

SLIME
No! Leave her alone! *

INT. SLIMES CELL - MOMENTS LATER *

Slime can see the Sheriff **pull Masha up to her feet.**

DIABLO SHERIFF
You're getting a bunky. *

The Sheriff unlocks Slime's cell and tries to shove Masha in there but Slime blocks the door with her body. *

DIABLO SHERIFF
Back away from the door! *

SLIME
I will not let you put her in here. *

DIABLO SHERIFF
If you make me come in there, I'll blow her fucking brains out all over your cell--and watch you lick the walls and eat her up off the floor for fucking breakfast! *

SLIME
Stop, please--just let her go. *

DIABLO SHERIFF
Back away from the door now! *

The Sheriff draws his pistol and chambers a menacing round. The sound echos through the hallway and Slime backs away from the door, allowing him to shove Masha inside. *

INT. SLIMES CELL - SAME *

There are two cameras perched up in the corner with a **BLINKING RED LIGHT** to signal **recording in progress.**

Masha and Slime take a beat, then melt into each other. Slime *
and Masha figure out a game plan.

MASHA

How long?

SLIME

I don't know, maybe it won't even
happen.

Slime rips her sheet to strips, then weaves them together.

MASHA

Okay, I love the jail hacks.

SLIME

(smirking)

D.U.I. I was inhaling whip-its and
taking shots--then blinked for a
second too long--and crashed into a
parking enforcement car in Santa
Barbara.

MASHA

Iconic.

SLIME

My college days.

MASHA

The virus can take up to 72 hours-

SLIME

Gag me, tie me up. Go full sub-dom.

MASHA

Stop. You're not going to hurt me.

SLIME

We tie me up to the top bunk real
good. My feet, my hands, then we
gag me. If I go into viral
psychosis--and start trying to you
know--then you know I have it. You
take your mattress and wrap it
around yourself. With the
restraints and the mattress, I
won't be able to bite you.

MASHA

Until when?

SLIME
Just please let me do this.

MASHA
If I do this, I'm not gagging you.

SLIME
Fine.

Masha nods, and Slime gets up on the top bunk.

INT. NEW HADES / CAMERA ROOM - SAME

Dr. Lepke watches Masha and Slime.

INSIDE SLIME CELL:

Masha finishes binding her down.

MASHA
Try and get out.

Slime squirms and thrashes, tries to get out. It's tight.

SLIME
Solid.

Masha jumps up on the top bunk and sits with her, between her feet which are tied. **She's spread eagle like an X.**

INT. CABIN / NEAR CASCADE RANGE - SAME

Cautious and a few Diablo Gunners search the cabin. Looking for hard-drives, recording equipment and weapons. They stand over Kara. He kneels over and checks a tattoo ID number on her wrist 4202.

CAUTIOUS
4202. Deceased.

DIABLO GUNNER
Are we taking the body?

CAUTIOUS
Leave the body. Take all electronics, and burn the cabin.

DIABLO GUNNER
Copy that.

He finds a 2 TERABYTE HARD DRIVE, throws it into a plastic bag, and pours gasoline on everything else including Kara.

*
*
*
*
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*
*
*
*
*

INT. SLIMES CELL - CONTINUOUS

Slime and Masha spend their last moments together.

SLIME

If I turn... I want you to end me.

MASHA

What? How?

SLIME

Fucking strangle me. Who knows
maybe I'll finally have an orgasm.

Masha's finally able to be present and let go.

EXT. DIABLO - SAME

Justy fishtails out onto the highway, BURNING RUBBER.

RAVEN

I need to tell you something.

JUSTY

What?

Justy swigs a bottle of Jose Cuervo.

RAVEN

Never-mind.

JUSTY

I need you to get dialed.

RAVEN

I'm dialed! What's the plan?

JUSTY

I'm figuring it out!

RAVEN

Slow down, there's a check point up
ahead. You see it?

JUSTY

No, oh yeah, fuck okay--

RAVEN

What are we going to do?!

JUSTY

Calm the fuck down!

RAVEN

I should have never dry scooped
with you, oh my god, my heart, I'm
so fucking itchy!

JUSTY

Just listen to me!

Justy turns off his head lights and slows to a rolling stop,
then pulls off the road and out of sight.

EXT. FURTHER DOWN ROAD - SAME

The four soldiers from earlier, converse, vaping, and
drinking.

SOLDIER 4

I don't know it just feels right.

SOLDIER 2

I'm telling you, getting married
for the benefits just isn't worth
it. How old are you again?

SOLDIER 4

19.

THE OTHER SOLDIERS

Awh, bro! Fuck that! Lame!

SOLDIER 2

This is what you do, Private
Retard, now I'm only going to say
it once, because if you don't
listen, and you marry an Army girl,
(who are literally the biggest slut-
whores on the planet)--is you get
engaged, okay, you get a little
stupid ring, and tell her you're
going to marry her. If you're gonna
get married Private Retard, you
marry a fucking girl that you meet
off base, preferably one that
hasn't had a train run on her by
the entire unit.

All the guys laugh, until Soldier 2 sees something about a
100 yards away, off in the distance.

SOLDIER 1

What is that?

They all look.

SOLDIER 3
Think it's a girl.

*
*

The guys smirk, what could be better.

*

INT. SLIME CELL

*

Masha and Slime on the top bunk:

MASHA
What was the one thing you missed
the most?

SLIME
Damn, that's a hard one.

MASHA
Come on there's gotta be one thing.

SLIME
I would have to say, Ramen. I
wanted Ramen so bad. Little
dumplings. You know? Good Ramen.

MASHA
I do. I feel that. I really missed
a good Smash Burger. Just like, how
the ends are flat and crispy.

SLIME
So good. Okay, what's one thing you
loved about it?

MASHA
I mean there's a lot I loved. I
feel like everyone got reduced to
the same social class. Survivor.

SLIME
Facts.

MASHA
But if I had to pick one thing. I
would pick the complete loss of
power.

SLIME
Yes! Me too! Like, bro, no one
could charge their phones anymore.

MASHA
It was so good.

SLIME

Wifi. Out.

MASHA

DM's, dating apps-

SLIME

-Social media. Buh-bye.

MASHA

All the people (myself included)
who were attached to their phones--
got a rude awakening when the power
didn't come back on in two weeks
like they promised.

SLIME

People were selling gasoline for a
hundred a gallon.

MASHA

I'll say this. It really changed
what I thought was important in
life.

SLIME

Same.

The despair of reality settles back in. They stay quiet.

MASHA

I'm glad you don't have to do this
alone.

SLIME

Me too.

There's a long beat. Masha unties Slime's legs.

SLIME

What are you doing?

MASHA

It's okay.

SLIME

Stop, please.

She moves to Slime's hands and unties her.

MASHA

Hey, let it happen.

SLIME

It doesn't have to be this way.

Slime is loose. Masha's hearing aide blinks red. *

SLIME

You're running out of battery.

MASHA

Won't need it where I'm going.

SLIME

Where are you going?

MASHA

Into the abyss.

A beat.

SLIME

Maybe they'll find us in time.

MASHA

Maybe we'll eat everyone in this compound.

SLIME

I got dibs on the Doctor. Fuck that bitch.

Masha sticks out her hands and Slime reciprocates, they hold each other.

EXT. MILITARY CHECK POINT / ROAD NEAR DIABLO - LATER

The Soldiers see the girl, it's Raven, she's hobbling towards them, **feigning injury**. *

RAVEN

Help. I'm shot--

The four soldiers turn their attention to Raven and **WHAM!** *

Justy walks up behind them and lets off--**HEAD SHOTS. PLAH!** *
PLAH! There's one Soldier left, covered in blood, Justy has *
the drop. He's pissing his pants, and Raven steps forward. *

RAVEN

Hi. *

SOLDIER 2 *

Hi. It's you, wait-wait I have *
something of yours--I wanted to- *

He pulls her tape recorder out of his vest and hands it to her--hoping for mercy. But Raven's lost in bout of internal rage. She lifts the sawed-off shot gun to his cock. *

RAVEN *

Justy what are the chances you
think I live long enough to be
tried in court for this? *

JUSTY *

13 percent chance. *

RAVEN *

Umhm. *

And blows his dick off. Justy loads all his bags into the hummer and gets in the driver seat. *

INT. NEW HADES / CAMERA ROOM - SAME *

Dr. Lepke watches Slime and Masha from the camera in the corner. Taking notes, collecting data. *

INT. SLIME CELL - SAME *

Masha and Slime are cuddled together in the same bunk.

Slime **starts to moan. She's sweating. Her stomach grumbles insanely. SHE SPAZZES. LIKE A HORNY ZOMBIED OUT EXORCISM.**

MASHA

Hold on.

SLIME *

I think-somethings--happen-

Slime can barely get her words out. SHE'S SEIZING.

SLIME

Shvv-yurshelvvvvvr

SAVE YOURSELF. Masha whispers something in her ear.

SLIME CONVULSES. SCREAMS. TURNS TO MASHA, AND FLINGS HER OFF THE BED, AND ATTACKS HER. MASHA STANDS UP--AND GRABS SLIME. PULLS HER IN, **AND LETS SLIME SINK HER TEETH INTO HER NECK.**

JUST AS SLIME SLAMS HER INTO THE WALL, AND GRABS HER HEAD, TRIES TO PUT HER THUMBS IN THE EYES, THE DOOR POPS OPEN.

THE GUARDS COME IN WITH PROTECTIVE SUITS, AND PRY SLIME AWAY. *

Masha wakes up. Looking pale, and sick. Deathly. She has been bandaged and cleaned. There is a fentanyl patch on her neck. *

Deputy Smith comes in--and grabs Masha. He cuffs her and throws a mask on her, and leads her out. *

I/E. HI-JACKED ARMORED VEHICLE - MOVING

Justy wearing Army clothing over his Bang suit, and Raven also disguised as a soldier pull up the front gate. *

A guard steps forward. Justy is ready to blow him away if this goes bad, gun on his lap. *

GUARD
What's going on? *

JUSTY
You tell me! Open the fucking gate!
We got a distress call on the
radio! *

GUARD
Wait-what? *

The Guard is confused. *

JUSTY
Don't make get out of this truck,
asshole! *

GUARD
Okay-okay! Chill! *

He opens the gate lets them through, then the second gate opens up as well. *

They slip into the compound undetected. *

INT. NEW HADES / COMPOUND - MOVING *

Justy heads up towards the Observation center, and parks a little off the main trail. *

RAVEN
What are you doing? *

JUSTY
I'm getting our girl. *

Raven clocks his love for her. *

JUSTY

Hang tight. Get in the driver's
seat and be ready to take off.

RAVEN

What if you don't come back?

He blinks.

JUSTY

Raven. This is what I do.

He grabs his rifle, which now has a silencer, and extra mags,
and puts on his night vision, slipping into the darkness.

We follow Justy through the compound as he moves in silence
killing his way to the observation center.

He slits a few throats, and blasts off a few compressed
rounds, remains undetected until, the flood lights come on.

And the sirens go off.

He tries to blend into the compound, taking out a few more
agents, until he sees some movement up ahead by the entrance.

Diablo Sheriff and one other Agent leads Masha out in chains,
a bite mask, she looks sick and can barely walk.

The Sheriff opens fire on him, but the suit works.

JUSTY

Fuck that hurts!

Justy aims, zeroes in. **BAM! HEAD SHOT. Sheriff down.**

MASHA FALLS TO THE GROUND WITH HIM. She looks up.

MASHA

Justy?

He throws her over his back, and runs downhill to see Raven
pull up in the hummer.

MASHA

Wait! We gotta--

JUSTY

We don't have time!

INT. HI-JACKED ARMORED VEHICLE - SAME

Justy puts Masha in the hummer, and runs to the driver's side pushing Raven over and taking control of the wheel.

Justy hits the gas and finds his way back to the fire road.

RAVEN
Did you find Slime?

Masha shakes her head, lies. *Raven doesn't deserve to know.*

RAVEN
Masha I, I need to--

MASHA
I know.

RAVEN
They said if I got you down here to prove the photo was a hoax--then they'd release my family.

MASHA
I know, angel. It's okay.

Raven can see it, knows she's sick. Justy throws a long HAND CUFF key to Raven, who UN-CUFFS her. Masha fades out.

JUSTY
We gotta get to the border.

RAVEN
Uhh--What's the bigger picture here, sir?

JUSTY
They gotta BOOM this place! Nothing but blinding lights as far as the eye can see and heat!

BOOM! CRASH-CLINK!

JUSTY
Fuckkkkk!

They run straight into a ditch. TIRES SPINNING OUT.

JUSTY
Everybody okay?

Justy helps Masha.

JUSTY
I'm gonna take this off okay. *

MASHA
Don't.

He removes the mask, and they all eject the vehicle.

EXT. CASCADE WILDERNESS / DEEP FOREST - SAME

They trek through the woods, dragging Masha along.

JUSTY
Fuck this thing is hot!

MASHA
Wait, what are you wearing?

JUSTY
You're not gonna believe it--

RAVEN
Elmer must have bought it before
the trip.

JUSTY
Pop Tarts never got to put it on.

They keep going.

EXT. NEW HADES / OBSERVATIONAL QUARANTINE *

Cautious and the other Agents line up the bodies and cover them with a tarp. Dr. Lepke talks to Ranger Stover and a few other lab personnel. The Rain starts to dump. Impossible to conduct a search. *

RANGER STOVER
We can't track in the rain. *

CAUTIOUS
First light. *

Everyone nods, and disburses. *

INT. CASCADE WILDERNESS / CAVE - NIGHT *

Raven strokes Masha's hair, comforting her. Justy starts a fire, removes the Bang suit. He's bruised from the gunshots.

MASHA

Still want to know where I was when
it all kicked off?

*

RAVEN

I do.

Raven knows Masha's going to turn soon and it's her fault.

MASHA

I was on my way home from the
office. You know my ex-husband had
just dropped off my son that
weekend. And I walked in the house
and I just felt this-this heavy
smothering weight in the air. I saw
the baby sitter, Abby, in the
kitchen, her back to me, scrubbing
herself, sobbing. She turned to me,
covered in blood, all over her
shirt, and mouth, and just fell to
her knees, saying sorry, that she
didn't know what happened. I
screamed for my son--went into his
room and saw his feet and and--

RAVEN

Shsh, catch some rest. It's okay.

He pulls out BIOFREEZE, and sprays the BRUISING.

RAVEN

Those look like they hurt.

JUSTY

They feel how they look.

RAVEN

Justy.

JUSTY

Yeah.

Masha passes out again.

RAVEN

She's sick.

*

JUSTY

What do you want me to do?

RAVEN

I don't know. But we can't do
nothing and hope it works out.

There's a beat.

JUSTY
Put on the suit.

RAVEN
What about you?

JUSTY
What about me? I got her. *

He goes into his pack, and pulls out a WATER PROOF BAG.
INSIDE ARE TWO **HARD DRIVES**, AND A **TAPE RECORDER**.

JUSTY
Put it on.

She strips down to her panties, then puts on the suit.

JUSTY
I'll stay with her.

His gesture punches Raven in the soul.

He pulls out a **MAP, COMPASS, HEAD LAMP, and a FOOD RATION**.

JUSTY
Finish what'chu started. *

She examines the **HARD DRIVES**. *

RAVEN
I got you.

JUSTY
The suit will keep you warm. The
backpack has a water filtration
system. 1,500 Calories bar.
(off her look)
But go now.

She hops up.

RAVEN
Where am I going? *

JUSTY
We're not far from the Canadian
border. *

He shows her their position on the map and where she needs to
go. *

RAVEN *
Now? In the rain? *

JUSTY *
It's the best time. *

RAVEN *
Hey, I'll see you when I see you? *

JUSTY *
Sure thing. *

She kneels over Masha, hugs and pecks her on the forehead.

RAVEN
(whispers)
I'll make it up to you.

Her ear piece is officially dead. Raven takes it. Puts it in her pocket, and DISAPPEARS OUT OF THE CAVE, INTO THE RAIN.

INT. CASCADE WILDERNESS / CAVE - EARLY MORNING

Justy whips out his Tequila bottle. Masha wakes up, disoriented, and in pain.

MASHA
Where's Raven?

JUSTY
Fingers crossed, she makes it to the border with the HARD DRIVES, tape recorder and V-cards.

Masha thinks hard on that, SHE REALIZES SOMETHING.

JUSTY
You can hear me?

MASHA
Yeah, I can hear... everything.

Masha takes in the sacrifice, and holds Justy.

MASHA *
What's on the V-cards?

JUSTY
I found something in the woods.

MASHA
What?

JUSTY

The girl from the photo.

MASHA

No you didn't.

JUSTY

Justy put on his director hat, and journalist voice. Justy started asking a lot of questions and hit the record button.

MASHA

Why did you do that?

JUSTY

How could I not. I mean, usually turn time, after they've consumed human flesh is minutes to hours tops--but they don't revert back to full human consciousness.

Masha feels the love.

JUSTY

I got the whole thing. It's going to be a really scary story and bring down a lot of heat on some very powerful people. But we did it. She had a name. Kara.

MASHA

I don't know what to say.

JUSTY

Yeah, then I stabbed her and shot her in the face.

A beat. Justy needs closure.

JUSTY

Is it too late to apologize?

MASHA

I stopped saying sorry to people a long time ago, so don't insult me.

JUSTY

Copy.

MASHA

Just want you to know you're a dream. And it was an honor to know you.

JUSTY

Likewise.

MASHA

It's coming.

He nods.

MASHA

You know what you have to do.

She FALLS TO HER KNEES. HER EYES DILATE. SHE RISES AGAIN.

JUSTY REACHES FOR HIS GUN.

SHE CHARGES HIM, AND HE LETS HER BITE INTO HIS NECK. HE HOLDS HER FACE DOWN, AND PUT HIS BARREL UNDER HER CHIN. *

HE WHISPERS SOMETHING INTO HER EAR.

He shoots her. **THE BULLET BLASTS UP THROUGH HER HEAD AND GOES THROUGH HIS, KILLING BOTH OF THEM AT THE SAME TIME.** *

EXT. CASCADE WILDERNESS / MT. SPICKARD - MORNING

Raven rips through all terrain. She stops to filter water in her pouch from a stream. She drinks. She cracks open some of her CALORIE BAR, takes a bite, and keeps moving.

EXT. CASCADE WILDERNESS / CAVE - MORNING

Masha and Justy's die in each others arms. Some boots enter frame. It's Cautious. He kneels over, respects their actions.

DR. LEPKE

Where's the other one?

DIABLO SHERIFF

There are tracks leading out of the cave, north, but the rain.

CAUTIOUS

Search and Rescue has a shoot on sight order for her.

ANGLE ON MASHA. The side of her face that isn't blown off is beautiful. She's at peace.

EXT. NEAR THE CANADIAN BORDER - SAME

Raven is a mile and half from the border. She passes a hiking marker that lets her know, when she sees a man up ahead on the trail walking towards her, its Ranger Stover.

She turns around to go the other way when she sees Deputy Smith coming down the trail from behind her.

She's trapped.

RANGER STOVER
Slow down. Lemme see your hands.

DEPUTY SMITH
Do you have any weapons?

RAVEN
No, I don't have anything!

She puts her tape recorder to her mouth.

RAVEN
It's a fucking tape recorder.
(into tape)
I finally got this piece of shit back. Missed so many good notes and now I'm lost in the Canadian wilderness.

Stover and Smith approach with caution.

RANGER STOVER
We're not going to chase you anymore. We have a shoot on-sight order, okay, hon.

RAVEN
Copy. I give up.
(into tape recorder)
I'm the last one left. And before I die, I'm going to see if those infomercials were for real.

RANGER STOVER
What was that?

Raven slowly raises her hands then taps the button, just in time to blast Stover and Smith with a blinding flash, and tear gas, sending them for cover coughing and screaming.

Raven shoots choking pepper spray out of her sleeve into Smith's face and kicks him in the balls, then walks over to Stover who's on his knees vomiting.

She hits another button and a bright blast blows out his eyes. Permanently blinding him.

*
*

RAVEN

Bang bang.

*
*

She's satisfied with the maiming and runs into Canada.

*

WE FADE TO
BLACK:

EXT. TOWN OF DIABLO - MONTHS LATER

**B&W, NIGHT VISION, SATELLITE IMAGING OF U.S.A.F. DRONE CAMERA
WITH A CROSSHAIR TARGET ON THE NEW HADES COMPOUND.**

**WE WATCH THE TARGET AND SEE A SMALL MISSILE ENTER--AND BOOM!
EVAPORATE EVERYTHING. BLINDING WHITE LIGHT!**

FADE OUT: