



OVER BLACK:

Gunbarrel.

A souped up version of Monty Norman's iconic theme kicks in.

JAMES BOND 007, in full tuxedo, walks across the screen, turns and fires.

BANG!

Blood cascades down as the gunbarrel moves side to side, before gliding to the bottom right of the screen.

The view of a ROAD glowing in moonlight appears within the barrel as we begin to hear the distant, yet fast approaching, roar of a car engine.

The barrel then expands outward to fill the screen, and we
OPEN ON:

EXT. ROAD - NIGHT

The roar of the engine grows louder as we PAN UP from the moonlit road, flanked by attractive hedgerows, to see a the HEADLIGHTS of the approaching car...

...revealing to be a beautiful, sleek grey ASTON MARTIN DB5 (classic) which roars past our view as we WHIP PAN to track it snake off down the road.

CUT TO:

INT. ASTON MARTIN - CONTINUOUS

Moonlight glistens on the DRIVER of the car, interior as sleek as the exterior with crisp black leather.

We never entirely see him but JUMP CUTS reveal:

-- White HANDS gripping the steering column.

-- A trim CHEST covered by a pristine TUXEDO.

-- The driver's clean-shaven, perfectly square JAWLINE.

We don't fully see him. We don't have to. We know who this is.

CUT TO:

EXT. CASINO - NIGHT

A stunning, sprawling palatial CASINO which we PAN UP to fully reveal - a magnificent piece of 19th century classic architecture.

Monte CARLO

○

The ASTON MARTIN speeds down the entrance driveway, toward the front of the building.

EXT. CASINO

Screeching a little to a halt outside the front entrance, an impeccably dressed VALET moves swiftly toward the car, opening the drivers door.

VALET

Bonjour Monsieur.

The driver steps out of the car and stands as we TRACK UP with him to reveal, inevitably:

JAMES BOND

He looks every bit as you might imagine him. Tall, dark, handsome, mid 40's, dressed to kill.

Bond NODS politely at the Valet as he hands him the CAR KEYS, the Valet jumping into the car.

As it drives off to be parked, Bond saunters up the steps toward the casino, passing numerous DILETTANTES.

CUT TO:

INT. MONTE CARLO CASINO

The interior is vast, filled with TABLES hosting a variety of different card games. Hundreds of people mill around, the air filled with chatter and light music.

Bond makes his way through, blending in amidst the dinner wear. He watches the rich and wealthy throw their money away, sees CHEERS of victory from an OLD MAN - who's nubile young MISTRESS throws her arms around him.

Reaching the bar, Bond leans slightly against it as a BARMAN approaches.

BARMAN

Oui Monsieur.

BOND

Vodka on the rocks.

The Barman nods, moves off. Bond turns to take in the scene for a moment, scouring the tables.

His eyes rest on a VIP section in the corner, a table guarded by a ring of heavy SECURITY MEN in dark suits - trying not to look conspicuous.

BARMAN

(returns)

Monsieur.

Bond turns and takes his drink, looking back at the table - at it sits a balding MAN in his late-sixties, flanked by two gorgeous WOMEN half his age.

The man reeks of power and wealth. His name is DARIUS SIMEON.

Gulping back the vodka in one go, Bond replaces the glass on the bar top and strides off.

He begins to approach the table as he sees two MIDDLE-AGED MEN sitting across from Simeon, who stand up as the CROUPIER moves their chips to Simeon. They're cleaned out.

ANGLE ON TABLE

As Simeon scoops his chips almost hungrily, watching the Middle-Aged Men go - looking ashen faced at their loss.

SIMEON
(in French)
Better luck next time, gentlemen.

BOND (O.C.)
May I cut in?

Simeon looks up square at Bond - standing between two of the Security, a disarming look on his face.

A long beat as Simeon regards him with a stern expression - before it too breaks into a charming, disarming smile.

SIMEON
(American accent)
Why not?
(beckons to sit)
Please.

Bond takes his seat at the table across from Simeon, who nods to the Croupier. He starts shuffling.

Bond glances at the two women draped over Simeon. One is white, blonde - MIMI. The other olive-skinned, black hair.

Her name is AURORA and she gives him a piercing stare - but of suspicion or interest?

SIMEON (CONT'D)
Vingt-et-un? I like to keep things simple.

A little NOD of acceptance from Bond, Simeon nodding to the Croupier - still shuffling.

SIMEON (CONT'D)
(beat)
Your first time here?

BOND
Not exactly.

SIMEON
(curious)
I don't recognise your face,
Mister...?

Quick PAN IN toward Bond's face as he utters the immortal:

BOND
Bond. James Bond.

Simeon smiles and nods.

SIMEON

I welcome you, Mr. Bond, to my
pride and joy.

(beckons around)

I may own this place but I do enjoy
taking on my patrons... and most
often winning.

He chuckles. A thin smile from Bond.

The Croupier readies the cards, flipping two each in Bond and
Simeon's directions.

SIMEON (CONT'D)

(removes cheque book)

Shall we say... ten thousand
francs?

BOND

Make it twenty.

A bigger smile from Simeon, swiftly writing the figure on one
of his cheques.

Bond glances at his cards. We don't see them. He looks up and
exchanges a glance with Aurora - she's still observing him.

Simeon closes the cheque book and checks his cards. A beat.

He taps the table with his finger, the Croupier dealing a
third card. Simeon observes it, face inexpressive.

The Croupier looks at Bond. He waves his hand slightly - he's
sticking.

ON SIMEON - he checks his cards again. He looks at Bond, who
gives nothing away. A long beat.

Simeon waves, he's sticking too.

CROUPIER

(in French)

Show your hands, gentlemen.

Bond goes first. He flips his cards to reveal a 10 and 9.
That's 19.

A slight smile from Simeon, who looks at Bond - has he beaten
that?

SIMEON

You have played this before, Mr.
Bond.

Simeon flips his three cards - revealing a 4, 5 and 6. That's
15.

CROUPIER
(to Bond)
Monsieur wins.

Grabbing the checkbook, Simeon quickly signs his name and rips the cheque off. He slides it across the table.

SIMEON
Enjoy your winnings. Please try and lose them at this casino.

A little smile and pleasant nod from Simeon as he gets up, Mimi and Aurora still on both arms.

Bond stands politely as he pockets the CHEQUE, walking around the table as he watches Simeon leave - flanking Security moving with him.

ANGLE ON TABLE

As discreetly Bond lifts one of Simeon's cards and slides it under his wrist out of sight.

He moves off from the table as more PATRONS arrive to start a new game, watching as in the distance Simeon and his entourage approach a private LIFT in the corner.

A security guard calls it, the doors opening allowing Simeon and company to enter - sealing behind them.

Looking around, Bond spies a STAFF DOOR to his right a short distance away, approaching it quickly.

With a final look around, Bond quickly moves through the door and it seals behind him - our view resting on a sign in French:

AUTHORISED PERSONNEL ONLY

CUT TO:

INT. STAIRWELL - CONTINUOUS

A barren set of metallic stairs, clearly built recently into the old building, now scaled swiftly by Bond.

He keeps his wits about him as he reaches the second level, discreetly opening the DOOR into:

INT. PRIVATE CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS

A very plush set of corridors, matching the classic French architecture - rooms sprouting off at numerous points.

Bond moves through as he sees several CAMERAS positioned up ahead near the LIFT which PINGS to denote it's arrival.

Quickly, he moves with his back up against an adjacent wall, by a fraction of a second not being noticed by Security as they spool out of the lift.

ON BOND as he peers around the wall - seeing Simeon move down the corridor with Mimi and Aurora the opposite way, Security following.

Aurora glances back briefly - does she sense a presence?

Once they're out of sight, Bond looks ahead the opposite way and sees a pair of DOUBLE DOORS which he carefully approaches.

To the side lies an advanced FINGERPRINT SCANNER.

Bond slides the playing CARD from out of his wrist pocket, looking around cautiously as he places the card on the scanner.

A beat then: **BEEP!**

The scanner turns GREEN and the doors automatically unlock, allowing Bond to swiftly re-pocket the card and enter into:

INT. SIMEON'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

An incredibly exorbitant and spacious office overlooking the front grounds of the casino, it's lush GARDENS lit up in the distance by the night.

Bond moves through toward the huge oak DESK by the window on which lies a state-of-the-art COMPUTER SYSTEM - a large monitor but tiny HARD DRIVE BOX next to it.

He stops just ahead of the desk, looking up at a CAMERA whirring as it scans it from directly above.

CAMERA P.O.V

Moving side to side covering the next, the shadow of Bond just visible in the corner - it doesn't see him.

ON BOND who removes a small DEVICE from his pocket which he activates, it whirring slightly as he throws it onto the desk.

CAMERA P.O.V

As the screen turns snowy... jamming device in effect.

CUT TO:

INT. CCTV ROOM - CASINO

Two very bored looking SECURITY GUARDS sit surrounded by junk food inside a room filled with dozens of camera feeds.

The one in the very middle turns snowy suddenly, noticed by both.

GUARD #1

(in French)

That's Simeon's office. Try the backup.

GUARD #2

(in French; typing)

I'm trying the backup... nothing.

(nods)

You better call him.

The first Guard, worried, grabs a PHONE and hits speed dial.

CUT TO:

INT. SIMEON'S OFFICE

Now at the front of the desk, Bond stands watching as the computer begins powering up - running through start up diagnostics.

He looks at the door. He checks his watch. He's clearly expecting trouble.

Bond removes another DEVICE, a thin strip of rectangular metal, which he places on the box powering up.

The screen activates and Bond waits. Nothing happens.

He looks at the door. He checks his watch. He looks up at the jammed camera. He doesn't break a sweat.

Finally, Bond sees the HARD DRIVE beginning to automatically download onto the metal strip.

20%... 30%... 40%...

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. STAIRWELL

SLAM!

A door thrusts open as four SECURITY GUARDS bearing very powerful SHOTGUNS charge up the metal staircase.

They quickly reach the door, bursting out into the corridor as we...

CUT TO:

INT. SIMEON'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

The drive continues downloading - 60%... 70%...

Behind the computer, Bond unfurls a piece of well wrapped up WIRE from his pocket and begins placing it on the WINDOW looking out at the casino entrance.

He's cooking up a plan.

CUT TO:

INT. PRIVATE CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS

The armed Security stride down the corridor toward the double doors, shotguns raised.

Simeon stands behind them looking incredibly annoyed, raising a GUN he cocks ready - no nonsense.

CUT TO:

INT. SIMEON'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

90%... 100%...

A BEEP as the drive finishes downloading and as Bond grabs the metal strip from the box:

SMASH!

The double doors fly open and the Security charge in and don't waste a second:

BANG! BANG! BANG!

They unleash a hail of shotgun blasts through the whole interior, aimed directly at the intruder by the desk!

Bond runs and DIVES acrobatically to the side as he simultaneously draws his WALTHER PPK - avoiding the main desk, computer and furniture as they're blasted to a pulp!

He hits the ground, sliding for cover behind an adjacent DESK he quickly tips over - contents SMASHING onto the floor!

Bond takes cover behind the wood - holes BLOWN through it as the shotgun blasts connect!

SIMEON (O.C.)
(in French)
Cease fire.

The voice is obeyed - the firing stops, to the surprise of Bond as he removes the safety from his Walther.

ON SIMEON - striding through the Security, weapons still poised, looking at the remains of his office.

SIMEON (CONT'D)
You can come out now, Mr Bond.
(beat)
Hands up. Lose the gun.

A long beat. No movement. Simeon sighs.

SIMEON (CONT'D)
You didn't really think I had no
idea who you were... did you?

Still nothing for a long beat... until the gun is tossed to the side from behind the desk.

Simeon watches, GUN to his side, as Bond stands - hands raised behind his head.

SIMEON (CONT'D)
(beat)
I assume you came for the contents
of that.

He motions towards the shattered HARD DRIVE BOX now in bits on the floor. Bond doesn't respond.

SIMEON (CONT'D)
(edges forward)
Hand it over.

Simeon extends his hand, waiting, as Bond just stares at him...

...before finally he pulls out the metal strip, placing it into Simeon's hand with a smack.

Simeon, fascinated, looks up at the strip in the light. He chuckles, then pockets it.

SIMEON (CONT'D)
On your knees.

Bond stares at him with rebellious eyes before finally he does as ordered. He gets to his knees.

Simeon moves directly behind him, checking his rounds for bullets before cocking the weapon once more.

Aiming his gun right at the back of Bond's skull, Simeon squeezes the trigger...

BOND
(quietly)
Not today.

And as Simeon goes to fire:

BOOOOOOM!!!

The wire, clearly timed, suddenly EXPLODES and causes the GLASS from the huge window to not only fly out... but in!

Bond hits the deck instantly as glass crashes all over Simeon and the Security, cutting them to ribbons as they themselves duck!

Quick as a flash from the distraction, Bond is up and turns to the cut and bleeding Simeon who goes to stand and with a growl fires:

BANG!

The bullet is deflected, smacking into a BUST nearby which shatters on impact!

Bond twists the gun out of Simeon's hand and with his other unleashes a hard PUNCH that knocks the old man spark out instantly!

Grabbing the gun, Bond FIRES at the Security as they begin getting up themselves:

BANG! BANG!

Two bullets strike one of the four, flying back as the other three unleash SHOTGUN BLASTS!

Bond runs, forward rolls, before KICKING one of the shotguns out of the nearest guard - jumping to his feet and spinning him around...

...several blasts impacting him right in the chest as Bond slides behind the main desk, grabbing the discarded shotgun along the way!

He swirls it around and as the remaining two fire blasts into the desk, churning it up around him, Bond waits for his moment...

...and rolls up and over, firing blasts into one of the guards as he rolls in SLOW-MOTION!

Bond lands on the opposite side and NORMAL SPEED RESUMES as he spins the shotgun around and smashes it into the nose of the last Guard with a CRACK!

Both men drop their guns as Bond grabs the bleeding Guard's head and RAMS it hard into the desk - so hard it goes right through the wood!

A beat. Silence. Bond surveys his surroundings.

A little 'hmmm' of approval at his handiwork before he approaches Simeon's prone form, removing the metal strip from his pocket as:

PPFFFFFFT!!!!

A hail of MACHINE GUN BULLETS churn into a bookcase near him and Bond looks back...

...to see a dozen new GUARDS, all armed with Uzi's, racing down the corridor seconds from the office!

PPFFFFFFT!!!!

More gunfire churns in as Bond pockets the strip, races across the office, leaps up onto the Guard lying prone in the desk, runs across it to the window...

...which he LEAPS THROUGH as bullets fly all around him!

CUT TO:

EXT. ENTRANCE - CASINO - CONTINUOUS

SLOW-MOTION as Bond launches through the window, sailing out the front of the historic casino, plummeting a good FIFTY FOOT DROP!

Shocked VISITORS and GUESTS around the front of the casino GASP at the sight of Bond free falling, careering toward certain death...

...before a MARQUIS jutting out from above the entrance doors braces his fall, Bond sliding across and off the end.

He comes to a neat landing on the road just in front of the entrance, stunned patrons and VALET STAFF watching his appearance.

Bond adjusts his BOW TIE, coughs a little and NODS with a smile at a STUNNED COUPLE standing before him.

BOND

Lovely night for a fall.

SHOUTS from within the casino lobby distract Bond, he looking to see a flood of Security racing through toward the exit.

Taking one look, Bond bolts away from the entrance toward the CAR PARK before we:

SMASH CUT TO:

A REVVING ENGINE

Before as Security race out to the casino entrance, they see the Aston Martin speed out of the car park!

ON THE ENTRANCE

As Simeon, sporting a cut but conscious, emerges and watches the Aston Martin head off.

It swerves around numerous other CARS, which honk horns at the almost-collision, before disappearing off down the road!

ON SIMEON - who's cold and angry expression turns into a worrying SMILE that creeps onto his face, off which we...

CUT TO:

EXT. ROAD - LATER

Moving at speed, the Aston Martin churns down the deserted and dark road...

...before coming to a stop at an isolated LAY BY next to the path, parking up quietly.

CUT TO:

INT. ASTON MARTIN - CONTINUOUS

Bond presses a BUTTON on the front dashboard, revealing a built in HARD DRIVE TERMINAL which ejects.

He removes the metal strip from his pocket and places it onto the terminal - pushing it back into the car.

A beat - as a small SCREEN begins to appear on the dash, a compact computer screen, uploading telemetry from the metal strip.

ON BOND as he studies the screen, hard drive contents popping up.

We see assorted words marked into folders:

SIMEON, ZOGRAPHOS, POLONIUM, JANE, AMCORP

He focuses on one in particular with a concerned frown: **MI6**

Bond touches the folder on the screen marking his agency and it opens, revealing the contents.

**MONSTER
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IN ASSOCIATION WITH
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PRESENTS
IAN FLEMING'S
JAMES BOND 007
IN

THE EDGE OF LIFE
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IDRIS ELBA

IAN McDIARMID

MARK DACASCOS

CHRISTOPH WALTZ

WITH

CLIVE OWEN

AND

BRIAN COX

AS 'M'

GRAPHIC ART BY

A. J. BLACK

'FEELING GOOD' WRITTEN BY

ANTHONY NEWLEY,

AND

LESLIE BRICUSSE

TITLE SONG PERFORMED BY

MUSE

PRODUCED BY

A. J. BLACK

CHRIS HAIGH

AND

PETE. D. GASKELL

WITH THANKS TO

PAUL ROBINSON

AND

ADAM SCOTT

WRITTEN BY

A. J. BLACK

FADE IN:

EXT. BAZAAR - DAY

Hot sun shines down through a blue sky onto a crowded BAZAAR filled with a mix of South East Asian people of all creeds and backgrounds.

Riau Islands, SINGAPORE

○

A large black HELICOPTER flies over the hustle and bustle of the bazaar, over the stalls and smells and noise.

TRACK WITH it as the helicopter begins to land in a stretch of GRASSLAND just south of the bazaar.

One Week LATER

○

ANGLE ON THE HELICOPTER

As the side door thrusts open from the inside, out stepping a tall, strong black MAN in his late 30's - decked out in a smart casual suit. His name is BILL TANNER.

He looks back into the helicopter as he hears:

MALE VOICE (O.C.)

Is he here?

Tanner looks at the crowded sight just a few hundred yards ahead of them.

TANNER

(nods)

All the intel we have points to that fact, sir.

PULL UP from the helicopter side door as another MAN steps out - early 60's, well built, heavy grey hair turning white and glasses perched on his nose.

This is M - and he doesn't seem to like his surroundings.

M

Good. Let's get this done.

On that, M begins striding off toward the bazaar as Tanner makes a signal to the chopper pilot before following.

CUT TO:

INT. BAR CANTINA - BAZAAR

A series of CLOTHS and WARES from a bazaar stall cover the bar entrance Tanner now moves through, M trailing just behind him.

The two men stop as they clear them, taking in the atmosphere around them.

ANGLE ON BAR

It's as seedy as they come. Stained walls, dirty tables, an old FAN spiralling on the crumbling ceiling. An old Elvis SONG plays from an antiquated JUKEBOX in the corner, an unappealing CHINESE STRIPPER dancing to it on a pole.

M and Tanner exchange a look of equal distaste.

Both turn upon hearing Chinese barked at them from nearby, seeing two visibly armed, vest-wearing CHINESE HEAVIES approach them.

They repeat what is clearly Chinese for 'what do you want?'. Not used to visitors.

TANNER
(flawless Chinese)
We're here to see Colton.

Both Chinese Vests share a glance, momentarily uncertain, before barking at both men to raise 'spread 'em'.

Tanner and M get the gist and do so - both men frisked firmly by the Chinese guys, one of whom relieves two GUNS from Tanner.

He doesn't look happy as the Vest relieves both of their bullets before handing the weapons back.

The two men bark in Chinese, beckoning across the corner of the bar... where several MEN are playing cards at a table, the stripper just ahead of them.

M and Tanner both cross the bar toward the table.

ANGLE ON TABLE

Where two MALAYSIAN MEN IN SUITS are guarding a rather deleted pot of CHIPS as they guard their cards.

MALE VOICE (O.C.)
(British; confident)
You fellas planning to make a move?

TRACK AROUND to reveal the man they're playing against.

He's on the cusp of thirty, movie star features chiselled with an edge, hair shaven into a crew cut.

A CIGARETTE hangs from his mouth as he talks. A glass of WHISKY is in the hand not holding his cards.

His name is JOE COLTON.

COLTON

Or am I just gonna play by myself?

A beat as Colton waits for a response, back to where M and Tanner approach out of focus.

TANNER

Joseph Colton?

Colton doesn't look around, simply continues studying the cards in his hand.

COLTON

Last person who called me 'Joseph' was my dear old Mum, on her death bed.

(beat)

She'd called me Joe all her life.

He downs his whiskey, replacing the glass on the table as he removes the cigarette upon taking a drag.

Tanner remains behind - M keeping back behind him - both seeing Colton glance a little over his shoulder, briefly.

COLTON (CONT'D)

You're not pulling off the undercover casual, chaps. You're clearly government.

TANNER

And we've read your file.

(beat)

We know you're ex-Special Air Service. Cashiered. Now you spend your days cleaning out businessmen and roughing up Singapore's criminal element, for the right price.

COLTON

(nods)

When you write my biography, I'll do the foreword. How's that sound?

Colton remains casual, uninterested, as he takes a further drag of the cigarette.

The Malaysian Men remain sweating in front of him, picking up more cards.

TANNER

We can make all those misdemeanors
go away, of course.

(nods)

All we'd ask in return is your help
on a very special mission.

COLTON

(uninterested)

What kind of special mission?

M

(not missing a beat)

To become James Bond.

That gets Colton's attention, he looking up as he remains
facing the other way. He CHUCKLES.

M (CONT'D)

You've heard of him?

COLTON

'Course I've heard of him. The
bloke's a bloody legend in the
forces.

Colton continues finding it amusing as he turns to face
Tanner and M, stone-faced.

COLTON (CONT'D)

You're serious?

(off their looks)

Who are you?

TANNER

My name is Tanner. This is M.

(beckons)

And we're not the type to joke.

A slight smile from Colton as he looks back at M, sharp frown
on his face.

COLTON

(continues smiling)

Though I have plenty of irons
already in the fire, I'll consider
it... on a condition.

TANNER

Name it.

COLTON

(beat)

The location of Cheng Zha and his
Twin Dragon cartel.

(off their looks)

They ripped me off some time ago,
left me for dead.

(MORE)

COLTON (CONT'D)

Let's just say, I'm overdue in
paying my old mate Cheng a visit.

Tanner glances back at M, not looking happy at the request.

M

(finally)
That's highly classified intel--

COLTON

(quickly)
And it's a non-negotiable offer.
(shrugs)
Take it or leave it, spooks.

Colton turns back to his card game as Tanner continues
looking back at M, deliberating.

M

(to Tanner)
Get him what he needs.

On that, M strides off towards the exit without another word.

ON COLTON - a smile creeping back over his face.

TANNER

We'll be in touch.

A little salute from Colton in Tanner's direction as he
follows his boss out.

Turning back to the card game, Colton smiles the grin of a
victor.

COLTON

(to Malaysians)
Now then... about making you boys
bankrupt.

CUT TO:

EXT. TEMPLE FORTRESS - DAY

A ruined, ancient Buddhist TEMPLE lying at the heart of lush,
hot jungles - themselves flanked by ocean flowing through the
archipelago of islands.

Pulau BUKOM

We PUSH IN toward the fortress as a pair of burly CHINESE MEN
carrying assault rifles pass our view, arms exposed.

They both hold tattoos of TWIN DRAGONS coiled together,
intertwined.

The whole fortress is occupied by at least two dozen similar-looking men - patrolling the compound, loading CRATES onto TRUCKS. It's a full blown operation.

The whirr of a distant HELICOPTER is audible on approach as we...

CUT TO:

INT. TEMPLE FORTRESS - CONTINUOUS

CHENG ZHA, a vicious-looking, fortysomething criminal in very trim shape - who strides along a long stretch of the fortress, lined by vestiges of ancient Buddhist architecture.

He's flanked by two burly GUARDS as he passes rows and rows of MACHINERY work to methodically cut up huge packets of DRUGS, Twin Dragon WORKERS proceeding to pile them into crates.

The sound of the HELICOPTER continues to grow, as if passing overhead. Zha stops.

ZHA
(in Chinese)
Do you hear that?

Zha listens out, as do his Guards, looking up through the exposed parts of the roof...

...as a BLACK HELICOPTER flies directly over the compound, moving away toward the jungles.

ZHA (CONT'D)
(shakes his head)
That was not a usual military fly
by.
(concerned; to Guards)
Tell the men to be extra alert.

With that, Zha continues striding on through his criminal empire.

CUT TO:

INT. BLACK HELICOPTER - CONTINUOUS

The chopper makes a loud rotation as it flies over the jungles away from the compound behind.

In the rear, an MI6 RECON AGENT places a headset over his ears as he taps into a LAPTOP.

RECON AGENT
Base camp, this is Thunderbird. Do
you receive?

CRACKLE.

TANNER (V.O.)
 (snowy)
 Thunderbird, base camp. We receive.
 Report.

CUT TO:

INT. MOBILE COMMAND CENTRE - JUNGLE - CONTINUOUS

A series of TENTS and VANS erected in the jungles a few miles away from the compound.

Our focus lies in the central one, M and Tanner standing amidst a small field of MI6 AGENTS operating electronic field equipment.

RECON AGENT (V.O.)
 Sat imagery transmitting. Estimate
 around twenty-five Twin Dragon
 hostiles. High yield ammunition.
 (beat)
 It's a major smugglers ring down
 there, base.

ANGLE ON TERMINAL SCREEN

As SATELLITE IMAGERY showing a top-down view of the compound transmits in, observed by M with interest.

TANNER
 Alright Thunderbird, come on in.

RECON AGENT (V.O.)
 Roger that.

Tanner removes the HEADSET he was using, approaching where M watches.

TANNER
 (beat; sceptical)
 Sir, are we really expecting Colton
 to wipe out an entire smuggling
 cartel?
 (shakes his head)
 He's just one man.

M
 (beat; eyes on screen)
 We'll see.

CUT TO:

EXT. TWIN DRAGON COMPOUND

PPFFFT!!

A silenced bullet zips through the air, impacting a GUARD on the south perimeter wall in the neck!

He grabs his exploding NECK but is dead before he can properly cry, falling silently off the wall into shrubbery below!

WHIP PAN to a few hundred yards across where Zha emerges from one of the temple entrances, on edge, looking around as he sees more crates being piled onto the trucks.

Barking routine orders in Mandarin, Zha patrols around as we WHIP PAN to the right - another perimeter wall:

PPFFT!!!

Another bullet flies into the heart this time of a patrolling GUARD, he flying back out of sight - dead instantly.

PULL BACK from our vantage point to reveal the shooter:

COLTON

Dressed in full camouflage, he holds a long SNIPER RIFLE from his concealed position high up in the undergrowth. An assortment of other weapons are strapped to his belt and back.

PPFT!!

He fires another shot but our focus is on him, a cold look in Colton's eyes as he swiftly pulls off the silenced business end of the rifle.

From his belt, he removes a large REVOLVER which he attaches the sniping muffler to with a quick screw, locking and loading the weapon ready.

Colton reattaches it to his belt, dumps the rifle and moves out of the bushes like a snake.

CUT TO:

INT. MOBILE COMMAND CENTRE - CONTINUOUS

The satellite imagery is registering numerous INFRA-RED targets blinking from red to black.

Tanner stands watching behind the sitting M, both realising what it means.

TANNER

Perimeter guards are being picked off.

M

(nods)
He's there.

CUT TO:

EXT. TWIN DRAGON COMPOUND - CONTINUOUS

CRACK!

The neck of a GUARD on patrol under the left perimeter wall goes down in a slump as his neck is cracked, Colton letting him slip limp to the floor.

Colton drops to a camouflage position behind a set of ROCKS adjacent to the wall, just a few hundred yards now from the trucks.

He pulls out a compact pair of BINOCULARS, looking through:

BINOCULAR P.O.V

As Zha is visible, barking more orders at the MEN as the last crates full of contraband are loaded onto the trucks - the doors sealed up.

Zha stalks back into the entrance of the temple as the three loaded TRUCKS begin powering up, engines rumbling into action.

END BINOCULAR P.O.V

Pocketing the binoculars, Colton instead pulls out the adapted silenced revolver and aims it out - right at the trucks.

PFFFT! PFFT! PFFT!

Three bullets are fired, one per truck, impacting with seemingly no effect as the vehicles begin rumbling off away from the compound.

Watching them go from his position, approach the jungle road adjacent to the temple, Colton pulls out a small grey BOX...

...a DETONATOR with a switch. He flicks it.

BOOOOOM!!!! BOOOOOM!!! BOOOOOM!!!!!!

The bullets were explosives which now erupt in a massive blast - Colton ducking for cover as the aftermath is felt!

The explosive ferocity not only incinerates the trucks and their cargo but most of the GUARDS remaining on patrol outside the temple!

Those who aren't blown up are crushed by massive chunks of WALL which blow out and collapse from the extent of the blast!

Shielding himself, Colton looks up - sees a piece of the wall above him crashing down!

In a quick dive and roll, Colton escapes the stone as it CRASHES hard onto precisely where he was concealed!

Getting to his feet, Colton dusts himself off and pulls out a standard GUN he cocks ready while stalking toward the temple entrance, burning fire licking all around.

With a GROAN, one of the crushed GUARDS sees him and raises the gun in his hand:

BANG!

Colton raises his weapon and calmly shoots him first, the Guard sprawled dead as Colton - not even blinking - walks up the entrance steps.

CUT TO:

INT. TEMPLE FORTRESS - CONTINUOUS

The central chamber, roof long crumbled to dust, holds a towering stone effigy of Buddha. It still looks beautiful despite the decay.

Well-armed GUARDS are running around panicked after the explosions, Zha at the heart of the maelstrom angrily barking orders.

GUARD

SIR!!!

The call alerts Zha, who steps across to where the Guard is pointing: the entrance.

Through which Colton now strides, bold as brass, gun at his side - to Zha's clear surprise.

COLTON

You and I have some unfinished business, Cheng.

At least a dozen RIFLES are raised at Colton by GUARDS as he walks in - but Zha raises his hand.

ZHA

(in Mandarin)

WAIT!!

The Guards do as ordered as Zha, growing oddly amused, approaches where Colton now stands.

ZHA (CONT'D)

Joe Colton. And here was me thinking you were dead.

COLTON

Sorry about your trucks.
(slight smile)
(MORE)

COLTON (CONT'D)

I've only dented your operation.
Just pay me the money I'm owed and
I'll leave the rest of it intact.

Zha can't help but laugh. You really can't blame him.

ZHA

I truly admire your temerity.
(nods; to Guards)
Kill him before he does any more
damage.

Stepping back, Zha leaves Colton exposed to the dozen Guards dotted around the temple - all aiming weapons on him.

A beat. Silence. Colton doesn't look fazed.

Then in a quick motion, he raises his gun and FIRES:

BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG!

Four bullets, four Guards down - expert quick shots taking them out as a hail of bullets fly into Colton as he races aside!

Tossing his spent weapon away, he takes cover behind one of several PILLARS dotted around, stone chipping and flying all around him as the bullets fly in!

The bullets stop as two Guards reach his position and Colton grabs the weapon of one, his foot SMASHING into the man's KNEE as he cries in agony!

With the butt of his weapon, Colton SMASHES the second Guard in the face before swirling it around and shooting him in the chest!

More bullets fly into the pillar as Colton turns and shoots dead the first Guard - now trying to get up despite his broken knee!

Too much stone now chipped away, Colton waits for a break in the firing... and darts out!

PPFFFT! PFFFT! PFFFT!!!

Colton races hard through the temple, bullets just missing him, as he FIRES his own rifle at the enemy!

Bullets impact three more of the guards - all flying back from fatal entry wounds!

Three left - who keep firing as Colton reaches a second pillar, checking his liberated rifle. The clip is empty.

His face says it all. Damn.

Bullets chip more stone until they stop. Colton looks around, sees the three Guards angrily throwing their rifles aside. They're out too. He smiles.

Until of course he sees the watching Zha flip open a nearby CRATE full to bursting of weapons - barking angrily at the men in Mandarin.

As they move to restock, Colton makes his move.

He runs out from his vantage point and draws a KNIFE from his belt, throwing it at one of the Guards as he runs - embedded right in his back!

He collapses dead as the other two Guards reach the crate, turning with new rifles right at Colton as he races toward them and:

PPPPPPPPPPFT!!!

A hail of machine gunfire impacts the second Guard in the chest as Colton leaps and kicks the first Guards rifle, deflecting the discharge!

The weapon goes flying as Colton SWEEP KICKS the Guard, leaping onto his torso and punching him hard in the THROAT - a death blow!

Colton stands. A litter of dead Guards surround him.

Behind the crate stands Zha, his whole force wiped out. He looks angry and nervous.

COLTON
(irriated)
Now can I get my--

With a growl of ferocity, Zha grabs a BLADE from within the crate and leaps over it - swiping at Colton.

Defenceless, Colton avoids the swipes by dodging backwards, managing to pull out a large SWORD fixed to his back from it's sheath.

Ducking and rolling a Zha swipe, Colton matches the next one with his steel - clashing as they lock eyes.

COLTON (CONT'D)
(struggling)
This would have been much...
easier... if you'd just paid your
debts!

Zha GROWLS again and pushes Colton back, he jumping as Zha attempts to SWEEP KICK him from under!

Colton swipes his blade but Zha is a good match, both dancing a series of swipes and parries around the centre of the fortress amidst the bodies!

In a powerful swipe, Zha's larger blade finally cuts Colton's in two and he KICKS Colton in the gut - sending him sprawling back!

As Colton hits the ground, the shattered piece of sword still in hand, Zha TWIRLS his sword and with a shout prepares to impact his prey!

Colton rolls quickly as Zha strikes - his blade impacting the floor!

Quickly, Colton WRAPS his feet around Zha's neck, spins him around onto the floor and leaps back...

...embedding his severed sword into Zha's chest with a strength that CRACKS the man's rib cage, expelling right out his back!

Zha GARGLES as blood coughs up from his mouth, eyes going wide... and he DIES.

Colton stares at him silently for a moment before standing. He leaves the blade piercing him.

Looking around, Colton sees the adjoining corridors converted into drug production centres - machinery still holding a variety of processed contraband.

Pulling out the REVOLVER, Colton tips the explosive bullets out onto the floor over and around Zha, before walking toward the exit.

CUT TO:

EXT. TWIN DRAGON COMPOUND - CONTINUOUS

Fires from the earlier explosions still rage as Colton emerges from the temple, popping a CIGARETTE from a packet tucked in his pocket.

He pulls a MATCH, lights it on the stubble adorning his face, the flame lighting the cigarette he proceeds to puff as he walks through past the burning trucks.

Colton keeps his cigarette in his mouth as he pulls out the DETONATOR and flicks the switch.

BOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOO!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

The biggest EXPLOSION yet as the inside of the temple blasts hugely, a fireball churning through the roof and every exit point - blowing much of the ancient structure apart.

Not looking back, framed by the devastation, Colton walks on toward the jungle. He takes no joy from his victory.

CUT TO:

INT. MOBILE COMMAND CENTRE - CONTINUOUS

The infra-red now covers the entire satellite image on the terminal within the tents - clearly showing the devastation wrought.

Tanner can't help but look shocked, while impressed, looking at M as he watches indifferently.

M
(finally)
He's our man.

SMASH CUT TO:

EXT. CITY - DAY

A familiar English skyline, filled with cloud cover, which the HELICOPTER we saw earlier flies over.

LONDON, England

○

CUT TO:

EXT. ROOF - VAUXHALL CROSS - DAY

The unique MI6 HEADQUARTERS building towers over the side of the Thames, the rest of London visible from it's roof - including the helicopter as it comes in to land.

ANGLE ON A STAIRWELL DOOR

Through which emerges a smartly-dressed Tanner, approaching the PAD as the helicopter finally lands.

It's side door opens and Colton - looking slightly cleaned up (but not much) - emerges, flanked by two impeccable MI6 AGENTS escorting.

TANNER
Welcome back to England, Mr.
Colton.
(extends hand)
Bill Tanner. Chief of Staff.

Colton reaches him and after a beat, he shakes Tanner's hand.

COLTON
What's with the escort?
(nods back)
(MORE)

COLTON (CONT'D)

Afraid the traitor was gonna do a
bunk?

A diplomatic little smile from Tanner as the handshake ends.

TANNER

(beat)
M is waiting.

On that, Tanner moves toward the stairwell door and flanked by his escort, Colton reluctantly follows.

CUT TO:

INT. OPERATIONS - MI6 HEADQUARTERS

A large, quite sleek and open-plan Operations hub filled with DESKS, OFFICES and indeed AGENTS - they move around, talk, answer ringing phones. The usual.

Tanner leads through Colton, still being flanked.

Colton takes a good look around, his swagger not going anywhere despite receiving looks from many AGENTS dotted around. They clearly don't like him.

Two very attractive female CLERKS walk past Colton, gaining his attention swiftly.

COLTON

(smiles)
Morning ladies.

Both of the Clerks smile encouragingly, looking back as Colton continues on - despite everything, they find him attractive.

A little cough from Colton as the two AGENTS escorting give him disapproving looks.

Tanner strides on, leading the party toward glass doors that lead into:

INT. SITUATION ROOM - CONTINUOUS

A large, spherical situation room holding a long TABLE in the centre. At one end, a window overlooking the Thames. The other a huge INTEL SCREEN filled with data.

Briefly knocking on the door, Tanner enters with his party.

TANNER

Joseph Colton, sir.

Colton enters to find M standing present and correct at the head of the table.

M

Mr. Colton. Welcome to MI6.

As M approaches him, Tanner NODS at the two AGENTS escorting - who depart, sealing the door behind them.

M shakes Colton's hand briefly as the man looks around, soon catching sight of another MAN present.

M (CONT'D)

This is Sir Frederick Grey, current
Minister of Defence.

SIR FREDERICK GREY - balding with some white hair, late 60's, thin with a lined face but impeccable tailoring - stands.

Grey makes no motion to greet Colton like the others, merely nodding brusquely at him. Conversely, Colton is nonplussed at the government big wig himself.

COLTON

Now we're all so well acquainted,
why don't we skip the wine and
cheese and get on with it?

Tanner would expect M to fire on the spot anyone else for such an attitude, by the look on his face.

Grey also visibly bristles but if M is offended, he doesn't show it.

M

Very well. I'll get straight to the
point.

(quick beat)

James Bond is dead.

And for the first time, Colton shows real interest in his surroundings.

COLTON

Dead? But--

M

You're familiar with the Double-0
section?

COLTON

(nods)

Yeah, they often recruit from the
SAS. A fair few of the chaps from
my unit were drafted.

(beat)

I heard Bond was the best.

M

007 was.

M doesn't blink. Any emotion he may have over this is staunchly repressed.

COLTON

How did he die?

Tanner steps over from the door as he provides the response.

TANNER

Bond was killed in Monte Carlo while looking into the murder of an FSB Agent operating in London, himself killed with Polonium 221.

GREY

The poison of choice after Litvinenko.

Colton glances at Grey briefly at that mention.

M

Bond believed the assassination was linked to this man.

He presses a BUTTON on a remote, at which point a photo-fit image of DARIUS SIMEON fills the screen. He's sitting in his casino.

TANNER

Darius Simeon. American. Global industrialist, philanthropist, take your pick of elegant titles.

M

007 also believed Bierko - the FSB agent - had intel on one Sergei Nemerov.

M presses the button again, the image of a strong Russian Man - Nemerov - talking on a cell phone overlapping that of Simeon.

M (CONT'D)

A Russian mobster with links to active Vory v Zakone gangsters here in London. Their connections to organised crime and indeed to Simeon may have been what Bierko died for and we want to expose them before the Russians do.

TANNER

Or worse still Nemerov destroys the evidence first.

COLTON

So Nemerov killed Bierko?

M

It's very likely. As is Nemerov having details on whoever was supplying Bierko with his information, an unknown third party we need to find.

(nods)

They may be able to expose whatever connection Nemerov has to Simeon... whatever got 007 killed.

COLTON

(realises)

Let me guess... this is where I come in.

A beat as M glances the way of Grey - looking at him with a disapproving frown.

M

Bond was making headway, quite possibly by cultivating leads and contacts only he can extract intelligence from.

(nods)

You need to go undercover, posing as James Bond, to complete his assignment.

Colton understands, looks at the men around the room as he considers.

COLTON

It's obvious you don't have too many men out there up to this task or you wouldn't have dragged me out of purgatory all this way.

(thinks)

I'll do it. In exchange for full immunity for all my past crimes. Everything.

GREY

(stands up)

Now just one moment--

M

(quickly)

Done.

M shoots Grey a sharp glare before the old man has any time to respond as intended.

M (CONT'D)

Mr. Tanner, fill him in on anything else he needs to know. Whatever assistance he requires, please provide.

TANNER

Yes sir.

On that, Tanner flings open the door and beckons for Colton to step through.

Colton shoots a slightly smug smile the way of Grey before moving through the door, Tanner following as it swings shut.

GREY

Forgive my bluntness, M, but have you gone mad?

(off M's look)

Employing someone as uncouth and...
rogue... as that man Colton to pose
as a Double-0?

M

(sharp)

We need James Bond.

M approaches the glass of the door, sees Colton - with Tanner - heading across the open-plan floor.

M (CONT'D)

And he's the closest thing we've
got right now.

CUT TO:

EXT. APARTMENTS - DAY

A tall, new-build set of wealthy apartments constructed in one of the capital's more affluent areas.

KENSINGTON

TANNER (O.C.)

Bierko's residence is on the third
floor. Far left.

PULL BACK to reveal Tanner, next to Colton, looking up at the complex of apartments from across the busy STREET.

COLTON

Pretty fly for a covert spy.

TANNER

This is what happens when men like
Roman Abramovich flood your secret
service with money.

COLTON

(nods to doors)

Reckon he pays those two good
money?

Tanner looks to where Colton nods - the main complex doors, now flanked by two towering MEN in black suits and overcoats. They look like BOUNCERS.

COLTON (CONT'D)

If they're not Russian, I'll eat my license to kill.

TANNER

(quickly)
You don't have a license to kill, Colton.

COLTON

The name is Bond, remember?

Tanner ignores his flippancy as they continue studying the human obstacles.

COLTON (CONT'D)

If Vory gangsters are already here, anything Bierko left behind could be on it's way to Nemerov pretty quickly.

TANNER

(nods)
Agreed. Cause a distraction, I'll get inside and search.

COLTON

Hmmm. I've got a better idea.

And saying no more, Colton quickly heads out into the street and begins weaving his way through the traffic.

TANNER

(frustrated)
Colton! Colton!!

His words don't get through as Colton crosses the road... and walks right past the Bouncers.

They see him dart into a side alley but not - as Tanner does - with the poise of a lemur start climbing his way up the building via a sturdy PIPE.

ON TANNER - who sees the Bouncers frown as they look toward the alley, wondering what he's up to.

TANNER (CONT'D)

(sighs)
Bloody Hell.

With that, Tanner cuts into the traffic - weaving his way through - until he crosses the street.

Gaining a profound swagger as he lifts up the collar of his coat, Tanner approaches the Bouncers.

TANNER (CONT'D)
(pronounced Cockney
accent)
Alright fellas, wots occurin'?

The Bouncers turn toward the approaching, grinning Tanner - suckered in by his role play.

CUT TO:

EXT. THIRD FLOOR BALCONY - APARTMENTS

Shimmying up the pipe, Colton reaches the balcony attached to Bierko's apartment and as quietly as possible flips over onto it.

Glancing down, Colton sees Tanner in faux-wideboy discussion with the Bouncers - suitably distracted.

He stops as he begins to hear voices from within the apartment, angling toward the window.

As he does, the voices and language become clear: Russian.

Colton keeps his back to the wall but peers through the slightly drawn CURTAINS into the apartment...

...which has been visibly turned over, three swarthy-looking RUSSIAN MEN - in suits and overcoats like those below - having tipped the place upside down.

They group together in Colton's eyeline, grumble in Russian for a moment... and make for the exit. It seems they haven't got what they came for.

SLAM!

The sound of the door shutting is Colton's cue, he sliding open the balcony door and slipping through.

CUT TO:

INT. BIERKO'S APARTMENT - MOMENTS LATER

Colton, himself turning over what's been turned over - quickly rifling through discarded CLOTHES, PAPERS, BOOKS, anything lying scattered in the attractive apartment.

He's not finding anything, to his frustration. He knows time may be against him. As Colton thinks, we...

FLASH CUT TO:

INT. OPERATIONS - MI6 HEADQUARTERS - EARLIER

Standing near one of the desks in the busy operations area, Colton faces Tanner - listening.

TANNER

...in studying Bierko's transmissions thanks to our monitoring of FSB channels, we estimate his contact is a woman.

(beat)

We also suspect the dropsite location for Bierko's intel is hidden inside his apartment. We find it... we find her.

FLASH CUT TO:

INT. BIERKO'S APARTMENT

As before.

Colton is now feeling his way across the wall lining the back of the apartment, approaching a beautiful wall-mounted PLASMA SCREEN LCD-TV.

He feels around the TV before finally resting his hand on something directly under it.

Colton looks down and sees a small BUTTON... which he presses.

CLICK!

A noise from behind the TV. Colton proceeds to lift the TV off it's hinges, revealing a hidden COMPARTMENT in the wall now slightly ajar.

Quickly, Colton opens the compartment and reaches in to find one item he retrieves: a PDA.

Activating it, Colton sees an encrypted MI6 DATABASE access screen pass over it, to his surprise.

COLTON

MI6?

His finger touches the TOUCH SCREEN and it instantly begins scanning his print... before it BLEEPs and flashes GREEN.

He's in. Colton can't help but look surprised.

COLTON (CONT'D)

That was easy.

*Getting access to Bierko's files, Colton begins scanning through them until he finds one marked: **DROPSITE DETAILS***

Accessing it, Colton begins reading the information, a look of victory on his face.

COLTON (CONT'D)
Intel to be dropped by one of
Jane's London associates.
(wonders)
Jane...

Pocketing the PDA, Colton pulls his CELL PHONE and hits speed-dial. He connects.

COLTON (CONT'D)
Tanner, I got it. Blades Club,
Mayfair. The contact is...

He stops, hearing nothing from Tanner on the other end.

COLTON (CONT'D)
Tanner?

Nothing.

Concerned, Colton quickly moves out onto the balcony and looks down... but Tanner and the Bouncers are gone.

Alert senses instantly triggered, Colton races back into the apartment and makes for the door as:

CRASH!

It flies open! Kicked through by RUSSIAN MEN who rush in, one raising a CLUB he swings at Colton's head!

SLOW-MOTION as it impacts with a CRACK!, Colton impacting the floor hard at which point we...

CUT TO BLACK:

Darkness.

Then hazy, oblique images begin to appear - flashes of light, of people - before finally a SPLASH OF WATER as we hard:

CUT TO:

INT. DARK ROOM

A startled groan from Colton as he awakens quickly, ice cold WATER impacting his face - dried blood from his nasty head wound having ran down it.

PULL BACK as we hear grumbling Russian voices all around, revealing Colton chained up to the ceiling of a dark room by his hands, dangling painfully with arms stretched. His bare chest holds several fresh BRUISES and CUTS.

Colton begins getting a sense of his surroundings, hearing the dull throb of pounding TECHNO music above - are they under a club?

COLTON

(weak)

Tanner?

Looking to his left, Colton sees Tanner in the same position - stripped to the waist, chained up, sporting wounds. He, however, is barely conscious.

The door up ahead opens, allowing extra light in - revealing four VORY GANGSTERS armed with HATCHETS as various nasty torture weapons line the room.

Through it walks a man unmistakably SERGEI NEMEROV - late thirties, well-dressed, smells of power, influence and danger.

NEMEROV

Gentlemen, so good to finally meet you. Sergei Nemerov.

(smiles)

I understand if it's difficult to shake hands.

No response from Colton, who just looks at Nemerov enjoying his own humour.

NEMEROV (CONT'D)

I was pleased you came to Bierko's when you did, it seems our appearance of disorganisation worked wonders.

(nods)

We of course knew all along where the PDA was, we just needed MI6 agents to unlock the files. Now we have them, and the dropsite location, we will find the mysterious Jane first.

A look of coldness from Colton - not liking they were played - as Nemerov closes in on him.

NEMEROV (CONT'D)

First, however, you are going to tell me precisely how much MI6 know about me, about Simeon... about what Bond knew.

(smiles)

Being a celebrated traitor, Mr. Colton, this shouldn't be too difficult for you.

COLTON

Piss off.

NEMEROV
(smile fades slightly)
How elegant.

Nemerov reaches over to one of the tables holding weaponry and grabs a HUNTING KNIFE.

He lifts it up for Colton to see - but he doesn't get a response of fear. Colton just looks back at him with cold, dead eyes...

...until Nemerov quickly reaches Tanner and CUTS DEEP into his stomach, blood pouring out as Tanner begins groaning in great pain!

COLTON
(angry)
Nemerov, stop!!

Nemerov just smiles, he's having too much fun - cuts further, allowing for another agonised groan from Tanner!

Colton sees an increasing amount of blood impacting the floor below. He knows they're going to kill him.

Several of the Vory Gangsters stand nearby, enjoying the torture with wide grins...

...that of one man cut off as with all his strength, Colton thrusts his legs up high and wraps them around the man's neck!

He chokes briefly as Colton SNAPS HIS NECK!

The man falls like a lead weight - the force yanking Colton's chains from the wall as he collapses with him with a CRY OF PAIN at what that did to his arms!

Seeing this, Nemerov stops cutting and angrily SLAMS the knife back on the table.

NEMEROV
(in Russian)
Finish them both! I'm going to the
dropsite.

On that, Nemerov heads out and SLAMS the door behind him!

The remaining three Vory Gangsters hold up their hatchets as they see Colton getting to his feet, hands still bound to the chains dragging from his arms.

A beat. Colton sees the Gangsters looking ready to chop him up.

And then they charge, swiping hatchets as Colton dodges around the lack of space in the room - pushing over the tables full of weaponry to block them!

One Gangster jumps over toward him and swipes the hatchet, Colton ducking before replying with a swift KICK to his crotch!

The man doubles over in pain and Colton WRAPS his dangling chains around the man's neck, lifting him up and CHOKING him hard with the metal!

The other two Gangsters try swiping at him but Colton uses the man he's choking as a shield blocking them, continuing to crush his windpipe!

Finally, the Gangster DIES from the chokehold - beginning to slump as Colton holds him...

...at which point Colton thrusts his limp body at the other two, it collapsing on one of the Gangsters as Colton whirls the chain around like a whip above him...

...and SMASHES the end hard into the face of the remaining Gangster standing, he collapsing to the floor with a YELP as his eye slams right through an upturned KNIFE, killing him instantly!

Colton KICKS the man over, yanks the bloody knife out of his eye and jumps over onto the third Gangster as he pushes the dead man off his body!

With a groan, Colton STABS the final Gangster in the neck with the knife - he dying after a GARGLE, blood flowing out freely.

Gasping from the exertion, covered in several men's blood, Colton checks the pockets of each of the Gangsters - in one finding a SET OF KEYS.

He scrambles with them in the lock of his chains, finally finding the right one that unlocks them - restraints clattering to the floor.

COLTON
(quickly)
Tanner!

Colton rushes over to Tanner, reaching up to his restraints and unlocking them - catching the man as he slumps, about to hit the pool of BLOOD on the floor under him.

COLTON (CONT'D)
I've got you!
(sees stomach wound)
We've got to get you to hospital.

Leaning him up against a wall, Colton reaches out to a CLOTH nearby and presses it up against Tanner's horrible wound. He seethes in pain.

TANNER
 (weak; beat)
 I'll be... fine... call MI6...

Colton NODS, getting up to move - but Tanner grabs his arm.

TANNER (CONT'D)
 And get to that... dropsite,
 Colton...
 (shakes his head)
 Or this is... all over...

Understanding the man's words, Colton keeps Tanner's hand on the wound and he races toward the door and we...

SMASH CUT TO:

EXT. STREET - DAY

A large black Mercedes pulls up on a side-street before a classic old Victorian building.

BLADES CLUB, Mayfair

Four VORY GANGSTERS emerge from the front and back, flanking Nemerov who himself steps out onto the pavement.

Looking up at the old building, Nemerov makes his way inside along with the Gangsters around him.

PULL BACK to an alley between buildings across the road where a familiar figure skulks, watching:

COLTON

Still bare-chested, bare-footed too, he sees the Russians enter without seeing him. That's his cue.

Brazen as you like, Colton walks out of the alley and proceeds to cross the road - getting startled looks from PEOPLE going about their business.

Not caring one whit, Colton moves up the stairs toward the club... only to veer off just before he would walk through the entrance.

He leaps up to a ledge near the door, one of several adjacent to and leading up to the roof of the building - which he starts scaling impressively.

CUT TO:

INT. FOYER - GENTLEMAN'S CLUB - CONTINUOUS

The classical entrance is full of ostentatious marble, wealthy DILETTANTES enjoying conversation - it speaks to the filthy rich.

Nemerov and his Gangsters - looking smart, not out of place - stand in the middle, several CORRIDORS leading off to various areas every which way.

NEMEROV

(to Gangsters; in Russian)
Cover all of the exits. Just in case.

The Gangsters NOD and begin moving off, doing as ordered.

As they do, Nemerov puts on his best fake smile as the MANAGER, an old man in a fine suit, approaches.

MANAGER

Mr. Nemerov, how delightful to see you sir.

NEMEROV

The pleasure is mine, Hutchinson.

The manager - HUTCHINSON - smiles flattered.

HUTCHINSON

Can I be of assistance to you and your guests at all?

NEMEROV

(smiles)
As a matter of fact... you can.

CUT TO:

INT. LOCKER ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

The door to the private locker area opens and Hutchinson makes his way through, trailed by Nemerov - on constant guard.

HUTCHINSON

Of course we don't normally open the locker area to non-members but with your pedigree...

Nemerov nods with a fake smile as they pass several ROWS of lockers stretching out - all of club members.

HUTCHINSON (CONT'D)

You said you were a close friend of Mr. Bierko?

NEMEROV

(nods)
Practically brothers.

At that moment, Hutchinson turns them off down one the rows, going through the lockers in his mind until:

HUTCHINSON

Ah! Here we are. Mr. Bierko is
2342, I believe.

(hands him the key)

Here is the key. Will you require
anything else, Mr. Nemerov?

NEMEROV

(nods)

Just one more thing...

(off Hutchinson's look)

I need you to die quietly.

Hutchinson looks confused at the words - a look that turns to
one of shock as Nemerov pulls a SILENCED GUN and:

PFFT!!

Fires a bullet right into Hutchinson's chest, the man
collapsing back against the lockers before slumping. Dead.

Pocketing the weapon, not blinking at committing murder,
Nemerov places the KEY to locker 2342 and opens it.

He reaches in and pulls out several FILE FOLDERS, scanning
quickly through the titles. He stops at one marked:

EMERGENCY CONTACT DETAILS

Flipping it open, Nemerov sees a page full of WRITING around
the picture of a beautiful WOMAN in her thirties with
reddish/blonde hair.

NEMEROV (CONT'D)

(grins; to himself)

Hello Jane.

SMASH!

Nemerov turns suddenly as the noise accompanies a ceiling
PANEL that crashes down toward him - he just avoiding it
landing on him by diving out of the way!

From the access point, Colton jumps down into the locker room
- frowning instantly at the sight of Hutchinson's body.

Angrily, Nemerov pulls out his GUN and goes to fire just as
Colton runs at him:

PFFFT! PFFFT!!

Bullets SLAM into lockers and Colton KICKS the gun away,
leaping onto Nemerov.

The two men briefly grapple before Colton PUNCHES him square
in the face, knocking Nemerov back as he breaks into a
forward roll while grabbing the 'Jane' folder.

He acrobatically gets to his feet and begins to run down the aisle as Nemerov, blood pooling from his nose, reaches out and grabs his GUN!

PFFFT! PFFFT! PFFFT!!

He fires more bullets at Colton but they fail to connect as Colton races toward the end of the aisle, leaping up toward a large WINDOW at the end...

...which he jumps right through with a SMASH of GLASS exploding outward!

CUT TO:

EXT. STREET - CONTINUOUS

PEOPLE on the pavement look shocked and CARS stop as they hear the SMASH, see the glass flying out... and see Colton leaping through the second story window!

He falls before landing hard on the roof of a parked CAR, denting the top and causing the ALARM to start blaring loudly!

Dazed a little from the impact, Colton gets his bearings before hearing the shouting of Russian coming from the entrance...

...where the four Vory Gangsters, bearing UZI'S, barge people out of the way as they race toward him!

PPPPPPPPPPPPFTTTTT!!!!

A burst of machine gun fire in Colton's direction causes huge destruction to the car he's on - as well as PEOPLE to start running in terror, screaming!

Colton is up, jumping off the car as the Gangsters run after him - FIRING as they go!

Spotting an entrance to the nearby TUBE STATION, Colton breaks his stride and runs into it - the Gangsters swiftly following.

CUT TO:

INT. TUBE STATION - CONTINUOUS

A long QUEUE to get through the electronic TICKET STALLS stretches back as Colton runs in - PEOPLE moaning angrily as he acrobatically leaps over the stalls!

PPPPPPPPPPPPFTTTTT!!!!

Another barrage of GUNFIRE leads the same people to SCREAM in horror, all ducking as the Gangsters do the same thing, leaping over the stalls!

Running through the station, Colton sees the busy ESCALATOR going both ways and makes an instant decision...

...leaping onto the metal in between both escalators and sliding his way down it, controlling his descent as best he can as PEOPLE look on shocked!

Finally, Colton reaches the bottom and slides off to a landing position.

He looks up to see the Gangsters barging their way down escalators going up and down - injuring people along the way!

Turning toward the station, Colton sees a TUBE TRAIN just coming in - a crowd of PEOPLE waiting to get on.

The doors open and Colton follows the throng getting on.

INT. TUBE TRAIN - CONTINUOUS

The doors close behind Colton as people fan out, taking seats - he turning to see the Gangsters running from the escalators finally, weapons raised!

They aim at the train as it begins departing but don't fire. Colton gives them a cheeky SALUTE as they disappear from sight.

He CHUCKLES a little to himself before looking around - to see practically everyone staring at him. He is after all half-naked, covered in cuts, bruises and blood.

Coughing a little as he realises this, Colton just calmly sits down next to a surprised OLD LADY - giving her a little smile as the train continues on.

CUT TO:

EXT. VAUXHALL CROSS - DAY

To establish - MI6 Headquarters.

COLTON (PRELAP)

You were right about the contact.
It is a woman.

CUT TO:

INT. M'S OFFICE - MI6 HEADQUARTERS

A very spacious, luxurious office at the top of the building - allowing a panoramic view of London through it's windows.

M is perched at his desk, Grey perched opposite. Both listen to the SPEAKERPHONE on it.

COLTON (V.O.)

According to the dropsite file for emergency contact, she's working for a private security firm in Vancouver. It doesn't say which.

A curious glance between M and Grey - does that sound familiar?

M

Does it give her name, Colton?

INTERCUT:

INT. PAYPHONE - STREET

Now having acquired a plain white T-shirt, Colton speaks in an average PAYPHONE on a busy street.

COLTON

Jane. Jane Money Penny.

Now that is a name M and Grey recognise - seems they had an inkling.

COLTON (CONT'D)

How's Tanner doing?

M

He's stable. Our medics have cleaned him up good and proper. Shouldn't be long before he's fit for duty.

(beat)

Until then, you're on your own.

COLTON

I need to go to Vancouver.

M

Press on with the mission. Become James Bond, get all the intel you can on Simeon and Nemerov's connection, and protect the contact at all costs.

Colton NODS - he understands what he has to do.

M (CONT'D)

Do this, Colton... and you get your life back.

COLTON

(nods; beat)

I'll be in touch.

DIAL-TONE.

M replaces the receiver, sits back in his chair and pours a WHISKEY from a bottle near the now empty glass he holds.

GREY

You do realise... Money Penny will know he's not James Bond.

Finishing pouring the whiskey, M raises the glass to his lips as he studies Grey.

M

(nods)

I know... that should make things easier.

M gulps the drink back as we...

CUT TO:

EXT. MOUNTAIN - DAY

A panoramic view of a stunning snow-capped MOUNTAIN overlooking the glistening vista of Vancouver below.

GROUSE Mountain



High-wire CABLE CARS travel from the city up the mountain, heading for a stunning RESORT based at the peak of the tourist attraction.

CUT TO:

INT. CABLE CAR

One of the cars passes another, TOURISTS in each waving toward one another excitedly.

Colton doesn't - rather sitting back, continuing to play the calm tourist he's dressed as.

He SNAPS random photos of the stunning vista with his DIGITAL CAMERA.

SPEAKER VOICE (V.O.)

(Canadian)

Ladies and Gentlemen, we will shortly be arriving at Grouse Ice Hotel where your vacation can truly begin.

The voice drones on but Colton filters it out as he looks ahead, the car crossing a snowy ridge...

...before taking in GROUSE ICE HOTEL, a vast and stunning resort stretching across the mountain - flanked by numerous SKI and SNOWBOARDING tracks.

CUT TO:

EXT. CABLE CAR STATION - MOMENTS LATER

The cable car proceeds to dock at the peak station, numerous TOURISTS stepping off with LUGGAGE - some more than others.

Colton lets everyone else disembark before he does, carrying only a small HOLD ALL bag.

He looks up at the hotel entrance just a few hundred yards away before moving toward it, passing a flood of STAFF and TOURISTS mingling around.

CUT TO:

INT. LOBBY - GROUSE ICE HOTEL

A cavernous entrance lobby replete with waiting area, stairs, lifts, restaurant/bar and reception area - which Colton now approaches as he enters.

He's greeted by a very pretty young Canadian RECEPTIONIST.

RECEPTIONIST

Welcome to the Grouse Ice Hotel,
sir. May I take the name of your
reservation, please?

A beat as Colton considers the name he knows he's meant to give, clearly finding it strange. The Receptionist looks up at him.

COLTON

(finally)
James Bond.

The Receptionist checks her system and soon NODS.

RECEPTIONIST

Ah yes, we have you. I see you
requested room 215.

COLTON

(nods)
I did. Good choice?

RECEPTIONIST

(smiles)
Very.

Colton leans forward on the reception desk, closing proximity to the already slightly blushing girl.

COLTON

Though if I'm entirely honest, I really wanted room 236. I'm told it has some of the finest views.

(sighs)

Who was the lucky person to check in there?

RECEPTIONIST

(checks)

A Miss... Penelope Smallbone.

(conspiratorial)

But I didn't tell you that.

COLTON

(gorgeous smile)

My lips are sealed.

The Receptionist pulls out a KEYCARD, handing it over to Colton. Their hands touch slightly in doing so.

RECEPTIONIST

Enjoy your stay, Mr. Bond. If you need any further assistance, just ask for Natalie.

COLTON

(nods)

Thank you, Natalie.

On that, leaving NATALIE swooning, Colton moves toward the LIFT and enters amidst other GUESTS - the doors closing behind them.

CUT TO:

INT. ROOM 215 - LATER

BEEP!

The door unlocks and Colton steps through, removing the electronic keycard from the lock, before sealing the door tight.

It's a very nice hotel suite - quite large, plush, nice furniture, mod-coms, and two views. One of the mountain, one of part of the hotel complex.

Colton looks around, taking in the surroundings.

COLTON

This'll do.

He tosses the KEYCARD onto the coffee table and opens his holdall, removing a black BRIEFCASE from it.

Colton places it on the table and flips it open - inside is a GUN with SILENCER, plus components for what is clearly a set of BINOCULARS.

In a swift set of JUMP CUTS, we see Colton assembling the BINOCULARS in quick time, finally complete and put together.

Colton moves toward the window with the binoculars and looks through, aiming them not at the mountain... but a room on the same floor of the complex.

Room 236.

BINOCULAR P.O.V

It's ultra clear, ultra sensitive and with an incredible range - allowing Colton to look right through the window into Room 236 almost as if he was there.

Right now, he sees nothing. No movement.

END BINOCULAR P.O.V

Resigned, Colton sits back on the couch and keeps his vision squared on the room. Waiting.

ANGLE ON THE WINDOW

As time rolls by, day turning to night as clouds disappear and the entire complex begins lighting up beautifully in the darkness.

ON COLTON - sitting in complete darkness in his room, looking like he's ready to lose the will to live... until he suddenly sits up.

COLTON (CONT'D)

At last.

BINOCULAR P.O.V

Revealing the door of Room 236 opening and a WOMAN entering, flicking on the lights to reveal her clearly as she we saw in the file folder:

JANE MONEYPENNY

Undeniably beautiful with long reddish/blonde hair and slim figure, she radiates intelligence though also clear pain - of what, it's unclear.

ON COLTON - momentarily lowering the binoculars, taken aback by how stunning this woman is.

BINOCULAR P.O.V

Moneypenny immediately goes to the room PHONE, dialling a number and waiting to connect.

As she does, Colton flicks a little switch on the binoculars which augments sound waves - giving him, amazingly, the ability to hear what's happening in the room.

The call finally connects but we can't hear who's on the other end.

MONEYPENNY

It's me. Jane.

(beat)

I know, I know I said I wouldn't but... I'm not sure how much longer I can do this...

(beat)

This! Living this way. Living here. Away from my friends, my family, being isolated like--

(listens; sighs; nods)

It's for my safety, I know but--

(long beat; smiles)

I suppose, yeah...

(chuckles)

You always say the right things, you know that?

(sighs)

Thank you, Milos.

ON COLTON - raising an eyebrow at the mention of that name. Who is Milos?

BINOCULAR P.O.V

Looking somewhat reassured after the conversation, Money Penny puts down the phone and gathers herself.

She takes off her SHOES - losing a few inches - perching on a seat and removing her TIGHTS, right in Colton's line of sight.

Money Penny stands, fiddling with the ZIP at the back of her skirt and eventually undoing it. The skirt falls away, revealing an enticing pair of BLACK LACE PANTIES covering her modesty.

Colton never looks away. Not once.

As Money Penny pulls off the SWEATER - revealing a hint of full breast (not wearing a bra) - she disappears into the adjoining BATHROOM.

ON COLTON - finally lowering the binoculars. Yes, that is disappointment on his face. Still, he smiles a touch. He enjoyed that.

CUT TO:

INT. SECOND FLOOR CORRIDOR - LATER

The door to Room 236 is sealed shut by Money Penny - now made up, dressed in a sexy black evening dress - as she exits, moving down the corridor.

She smiles at a DISTINGUISHED COUPLE who pass her, approaching the LIFT... oblivious to the fact Colton is watching her covertly from a concealed spot.

He sees her step into the lift, doors closing on her - then he steps out into the light.

Colton looks around to ensure no one is watching as he reaches 236 and pulls out a small piece of METAL - sliding it in the door to jam the lock.

A beat... and Colton forces a CLICK, getting past the electronics and unlocking the door. He slips inside, sealing it behind him.

INT. ROOM 236 - CONTINUOUS

It's dark until Colton flicks on a LAMP, revealing a suite practically identical to his own - only more lived in, given a woman's touch.

He approaches the PHONE and dials a number from memory. A beat. Then he connects.

FEMALE VOICE (V.O.)

Operations, Vauxhall Cross.

COLTON

This is Joe Colton and if you're looking for a clearance code, love, you're bang out of luck.

FEMALE VOICE (V.O.)

We know who you are, Mr. Colton.

COLTON

(nods)

Good, then I want you trace the last number received on the phone I'm talking to you on.

FEMALE VOICE (V.O.)

Just a moment.

Colton waits - glancing around the room. He sees nothing out of the ordinary.

FEMALE VOICE (V.O.) (CONT'D)

Mr. Colton?

COLTON

I'm here.

FEMALE VOICE (V.O.)

I'm afraid the number was scrambled with an encryption we can't break in less than a day, but we do have a general location the call was made from.

(small beat)

Dubai.

Colton's expression says it all - Dubai?

COLTON

Thank you.

Saying no more, Colton places the phone back on the hook and does one last look around, before heading for the door.

He flicks off the lamp and slips out as the suite is plunged into darkness, the door sealing behind him.

MOONLIGHT cuts through, however, as we PUSH IN on the table next to the lamp, on something Colton missed:

A framed photograph of Moneypenny in an embrace with a man we know, unmistakably, to be JAMES BOND.

CUT TO:

INT. GROUSE HOTEL BAR - LATER

A long, plush bar at the heart of the hotel, adjacent to a busy restaurant - glowing almost neon blue lighting illuminating a gorgeous view of the mountain range. It's sparsely populated right now.

Moneypenny is perched alone at the bar top, fiddling with the straw of an empty cocktail glass, looking maudlin. She's all dressed up, nowhere to go.

COLTON (O.C.)

Evening.

She turns her head a little as Colton, casually, reaches the bar a few yards up. He's dressed smart casual but carries the ensemble off perfectly.

Moneypenny looks at him for just a little too long before she returns to her empty drink, saying nothing - she clearly finds him attractive.

Glancing away from her, Colton sees the BARTENDER approach.

BARTENDER

Yes sir?

COLTON

Shot of Beam, no ice.

(glances)

(MORE)

COLTON (CONT'D)

And give the lady a refill while
you're there.

The Bartender NODS and moves off as Money Penny looks up.

MONEYPENNY

I'm fine. Thank you.

COLTON

A woman sitting at a bar alone
should not be without liquor.

(off her response)

I insist.

Not looking a gift horse in the mouth, Money Penny finally and
reluctantly nods a thank you - as the Bartender refills her
drink, popping a new straw in.

He provides Colton the short as he continues looking at
Money Penny, cradling his new beverage.

COLTON (CONT'D)

So why are you drinking alone, if I
may ask? Waiting for someone?

MONEYPENNY

I am waiting. But not for someone.

COLTON

Something, then. Can only be a
thing.

Despite herself, as Colton smiles, Money Penny chuckles a
little.

COLTON (CONT'D)

(smiling; beat)

Dine with me.

MONEYPENNY

(looks at him)

And why would I want to do that?

COLTON

Because whatever you're waiting for
won't be here in the time it takes
to eat a fine meal.

Money Penny clearly knows that's true.

MONEYPENNY

(laughs)

You don't even know my name!

COLTON

Maybe I don't need to.

She looks at him, seeing Colton is genuine and no threat... and she laughs - what the hell?

CUT TO:

INT. RESTAURANT - GROUSE ICE HOTEL - LATER

Light jazz music plays over the cultured scene, many GUESTS dining in the blue-glowing restaurant - open tier kitchen giving a view of the CHEF at work.

PUSH IN on a table at the centre - Colton and Money Penny across from each other, halfway through a sumptuous meal.

COLTON

I have to admit...
(takes a quick bite)
...it's been a while.

MONEY PENNY

(smiles)
Since you ate?

COLTON

(little sip of wine)
Since I enjoyed gracious living
such as this.

MONEY PENNY

You don't strike me as the type who
lives on the breadline.

COLTON

(smiles)
You'd be surprised.

Colton eats another chunk of the steak before him as Money Penny, a touch more cultured, watches a little amused.

MONEY PENNY

Then do it. Surprise me.

A beat - Colton takes another sip of wine, pondering the leading question.

COLTON

(finally)
What if I told you I used to be a
soldier? Special Air Service out of
Hereford.

MONEY PENNY

(tips her head)
Not a real shocker.

COLTON

(quickly)
But that I was cashiered.
(MORE)

COLTON (CONT'D)

Thrown in the glass house, as it were. Permanently.

(Money Penny quirks an eyebrow)

And ever since I've been drifting, waiting... just like you... looking for a purpose...

(shakes his head)

Maybe looking for myself.

MONEYPENNY

(nods)

Like you got lost on the way.

A little NOD from Colton - clearly uncomfortable at baring this much of his soul.

COLTON

I've done some pretty bad things.

MONEYPENNY

You've killed men.

(Colton nods)

For what it's worth, I understand how good men do bad. Sometimes... they have no choice.

COLTON

That's just it. I did have a choice.

(beat)

I still do.

Silence for a long moment, Money Penny just looking at the man before her - not pushing as Colton recovers.

COLTON (CONT'D)

What about you?

MONEYPENNY

(smiles)

Have I killed men?

COLTON

(smiles back)

What is it you do?

Money Penny considers her response for a moment, clearly wondering how much to reveal.

MONEYPENNY

(between wine sips)

I work for Amcorp. Heard of them?

COLTON

(shakes his head)

Can't say that I have.

MONEYPENNY

We're a private firm in Vancouver dealing in securing items and information. Both in safe deposit boxes and electronic storage.

(nods)

Over six million clients worldwide.

COLTON

(nods)

Impressive.

MONEYPENNY

I'm happier here than I was back home, that's for sure.

(off Colton's look)

I left my last job, a good career - a very good one - because I just couldn't work for the man I did any longer.

COLTON

(searching)

And...?

Money Penny looks at him - he can see there's another reason.

MONEYPENNY

(checks herself)

I can't believe I'm saying all this to a total stranger!

(laughs)

I don't even know your name!

COLTON

My name's James.

Hearing that name, Money Penny freezes slightly - as if instantly haunted.

MONEYPENNY

James what?

COLTON

(calmly)

Bond.

Colton is completely oblivious to the shocked reaction within Money Penny - she hides it well but we can see it in her eyes, plus she COUGHS.

COLTON (CONT'D)

(concerned)

Are you ok?

MONEYPENNY

(nods)

Yes, I'm... I'm fine...

Money Penny quickly grabs the wine, downing much more she had at any point before.

Replacing it, she smiles weakly at Colton and resumes her meal but he can tell something isn't right.

We hear a PING before we...

CUT TO:

INT. SECOND FLOOR CORRIDOR - LATER

The lift doors open onto the corridor, admitting Colton and indeed Money Penny - striding ahead of him slightly.

It's not clear if she's leading him or trying to get away but Colton follows as they approach Room 236.

MONEYPENNY

You really didn't have to walk me home.

COLTON

I'm on the same floor. It's no trouble.

Pulling out her keycard, Money Penny slots it into her door. BEEP. She opens it, turns to him.

A slightly awkward beat between them - where does this go now?

MONEYPENNY

Would you, uh... care for a night cap?

COLTON

(little smile)
I won't say no.

She pushes the door open, allowing Colton entry into the darkened suite.

Money Penny gives him a dark look from behind as she follows him in, sealing the door behind her.

CUT TO:

INT. ROOM 236 - MOMENTS LATER

And they're kissing - it's pretty heated, passionate, hungry!

Money Penny SLAMS against the back of a cabinet as Colton's lips meet hers, his hands moving to her thighs and snaking his way up.

She fakes growing ecstasy as Colton's hands clearly hit their mark, gasping as he head lolls back, he devouring her neck.

MONEYPENNY
 (between gasps)
 Oh... James...

PUSH IN on her right hand as, amidst the gasps, it feeling into one of the cabinet drawers discreetly, trying to get purchase on something.

ON COLTON - continuing to nuzzle Moneypenny before she quickly pushes him onto the bed before them!

He smiles, happy about what's coming next, no idea Moneypenny has grabbed the GUN... which she yanks out of the drawer and squares right at him!

COLTON
 (shocked)
 What the--

MONEYPENNY
 (angry)
 Shut up! I'll be asking the questions! Now who are you?!

Colton looks confused as he sees Moneypenny's anger - she shaking slightly as she aims the weapon.

COLTON
 I told you. My name is James--

MONEYPENNY
 You are not James Bond! I knew James Bond! I---
 (trails off)
 Don't lie to me!!!

COLTON
 (unnerved)
 I'm not lying, I'm--

MONEYPENNY
 (moves closer)
 I worked with him for a long time,
 I know he was killed! Murdered!
 Blown into a million pieces in his
 very own car!
 (thinks)
 Do you work for him?
 (off Colton's look)
 Simeon?! Do you work for him?!!!

COLTON
 (shocked)
 You worked for MI6?!!

CLICK! Moneypenny moves even closer, aiming the gun right into Colton's disturbed face.

MONEYPENNY

I told you... I'm asking the questions...

(firm)

Now tell me who you are!

Colton doesn't respond. He has no idea what to say.

MONEYPENNY (CONT'D)

(nods)

He sent you for the chip, didn't he?

(curses to herself)

They said I'd be safe here!

COLTON

(quickly)

The chip! Is that what you were going to give Bierko?

MONEYPENNY

(frowns)

Bierko?

(eyes wide)

He did send you!

And Money Penny quickly thrusts the gun in further, SQUEEZES THE TRIGGER to fire!

COLTON

(raises hands)

No, wait! WAIT! M sent me!

(off her look)

M sent me.

A frown from Money Penny, she trying to reconcile this in her mind, leading her to loosen her grip on the gun momentarily...

...allowing Colton, in a lightning fast move, to leap up and disarm her! He aims the gun right at her now, moving away from the bed.

Money Penny looks frightened and shocked... even more so when Colton swiftly lowers the weapon.

COLTON (CONT'D)

I want sent here to protect--

PPPPPPPPPPFTTTTTT!!!!!!

A shower of enormous BULLETS shatters the suite windows, glass EXPLODING in all over the shocked Colton and Money Penny - instinctively hitting the ground!

ANGLE ON THE WINDOWS

Revealing a HELIJET coming to hover at the side of the hotel, above the snowy mountain - a GATLING GUN inside showering the entire back of the hotel with fire!

EXT. GROUSE ICE HOTEL - CONTINUOUS

Bullets are churning into the entire second floor, glass and stone exploding inwards and outwards from the severe attack!

INT. ROOM 236 - CONTINUOUS

CRASH!!!

The TV explodes, furniture blown backwards, glass smashing everywhere as the bullets make short work of the suite - utterly destroying it in moments!

Colton keeps Money Penny covered on the ground, she terrified.

MONEYPENNY

(screams)

Who the--are these your people?!

COLTON

No!! We have to get out of here!!

He gets her to her feet, pushing her behind one of the walls providing cover from the bullets - for now, as the stone is being blasted away!

Terrified, Money Penny makes a break for it but Colton GRABS her by the arm hard!

MONEYPENNY

Let me go!!

COLTON

Listen to me! LISTEN!!!

(she looks)

If you want to live, right now I am your best chance!

MONEYPENNY

(unsure)

What do--what do they want?!

COLTON

They're here for you! For your chip!

(off her look)

Is it here?

Though distracted - bullets flying in all around her loudly - Money Penny shakes her head.

COLTON (CONT'D)
 Where is it?
 (she doesn't reply,
 distracted)
 JANE!!

At the mention of her name, Money Penny snaps her attention on him - seemingly about to answer when:

THUMP!

Numerous FIGURES rappel down into the destroyed suite as the gatling gun fire stops - all towering RUSSIAN VORY GANGSTERS bearing armour and Uzi's!

COLTON (CONT'D)
 (sees them)
 Russians. Damn it!

Colton sees the nearby door - almost blown off it's hinges by bulletfire - and grabs Money Penny's hand.

COLTON (CONT'D)
 Come on!!

They run from cover as the Vory Gangsters patrol - FIRING a barrage of Uzi bullets right at them as they make for the door!

Colton KICKS it off his hinges and they race out into:

INT. SECOND FLOOR CORRIDOR - CONTINUOUS

The corridor - blackened now with bullet marks and indeed bodies of those killed by the devastation!

Colton and Money Penny race out only to hear:

MALE VOICE (O.C.)
 STOP RIGHT THERE!!!

They freeze as three GROUSE SECURITY OFFICERS - all in uniform squaring guns - appear before them!

SECURITY OFFICER
 On your knees! Hands behind---

PPFFFFFFTTTT!!!

A hail of Uzi bullets SLAM into one of the Officers as the Vory Gangsters swarm out of Room 236!

Instinctively pinning against the wall, Colton and Money Penny see the two remaining Officers begin FIRING back, bullets just smacking into Russian armor!

Looking next to him, Colton sees a FIRE ALARM which he smashes with his elbow!

WHIRRRRRRRRRRRRR!!!!!!

The alarm BLARES out loudly as numerous SPRINKLERS on the ceiling churn out a cascade of WATER!

It's the distraction Colton needs to drag Money Penny across the corridor to a nearby stairwell!!

PPPPPPPTTTTTT!

The two Security Officers are gunned down in a hail of Russian FIRE - before they turn to our fleeing duo!

Bullets smash into the wall and around the door as a soaked Colton and Money Penny pulse into the stairwell!

CUT TO:

INT. LOBBY - MOMENTS LATER

A melee of GUESTS are now milling about in the lobby, some in evening wear, some dressed for bed - all looking terrified as GUNFIRE echoes around!

Colton and Money Penny race down out of the stairwell door and move into the throng - just as Natalie the receptionist steps into a chair.

NATALIE

(loudly; to all)

Ladies and gentlemen! We are having a minor security issue on the second floor but if I can ask you to stay calm, we'll...

Her voice drones on as Colton and Money Penny snake through the crowd toward the exit.

COLTON

They're targeting the back. We should be able to escape from the front.

(looks)

Please tell me you have a car.

MONEY PENNY

(nods)

It's parked out front. We can take the mountain road down to the city.

Clearing the throng, the sound of ROTOR BLADES halts them... both eyes wide as they see the HELIJET lowering practically to ground level.

It's gatling gun is now aimed directly at the lobby!

COLTON

MOVE!!!

Colton and Money Penny turn a corner from the hotel path and race toward the cars, skidding to a halt before them.

MONEYPENNY

(looks back)
They're coming!!

COLTON

Get inside!

Sliding open the second car door, Colton practically pushes Money Penny through - she watching as he runs over to a nearby control booth.

WHIRR!!!

The cable car lurches into action as Colton slams a LEVER in the booth, darting out as he sees it slowly moving away from the station.

PPFFFT!!!

More gunfire, bullets pinging off the booth as the Vory Gangsters race around the corner - firing at him!

Colton runs like the wind and LEAPS off the edge of the station platform toward the door of the cable car...

CUT TO:

INT. FIRST CABLE CAR (MOVING)

...and SLAMS hard on the side of it, legs dangling as his hands try getting purchase inside. He's slipping!

MONEYPENNY

Hold on!!!

Money Penny races over, grabbing Colton's hand and with her help, he launches himself up inside the moving car. He seals shut the door.

A beat - Colton looking back up the wire as the station begins to disappear amidst the darkness as the car moves off down the mountain.

He sees no sign of pursuing danger.

MONEYPENNY (CONT'D)

(afraid)
They still after us?

COLTON

(shakes his head)
Doesn't look like it. They couldn't gain on us anyway, these cars go the same speed.

Money Penny looks momentarily relieved as Colton moves off, beginning to check the car.

COLTON (CONT'D)

The line takes us right down to the connection station in Vancouver. Once there, we can contact Station--

He stops suddenly, turns to Money Penny as if sensing the look of fear on her face, soon seeing why:

THE SECOND CABLE CAR

Which is rapidly gaining on them from behind, whooshing through the air down the cable line!

MONEYPENNY

You were saying?!

COLTON

(sighs)

Those crazy Russian bastards must have cut the brake line. They're on free fall!

PPPPPPPPPTTT!!!

More Uzi bullets begin slamming into the side of their car, fired by the pursuers, Money Penny instinctively ducking!

Thinking fast, Colton jumps up into the centre of the car and grabs the handle to the emergency ROOF HATCH panel, yanking it open hard!

SMASH!

The second cable car CRASHES into the back of the first!

Money Penny goes flying, Colton bracing her fall as he just about keeps upright - both seeing three RUSSIANS inside the car behind, aiming weapons!

COLTON (CONT'D)

GET DOWN!!!

Instantly, Money Penny does as ordered as the Vory Gangsters FIRE - a hail of bullets shattering the car windows, glass splintering across the interior!

Colton ducks from it and pulls the GUN from his trousers, firing several shots back at the car behind! They don't connect and he's soon out of rounds.

MONEYPENNY

We're gaining speed! They're forcing us down the mountain quicker!

She remains grounded as more bullets fly in, pinging over her head - but Colton braves them, leaping up onto the hatch and climbing out onto:

EXT. ROOF - FIRST CABLE CAR - CONTINUOUS

Wind is picking up all around the two cars as their speed begins to rapidly increase - the rear car pushing the first one down the mountain!

Colton gets to his feet, balancing against the heavy METAL attached to the cable line as the car rocks!

He sees one Russian on the car behind do the same as him, climb onto the roof through the hatch... and Colton instantly runs toward him, leaping through the air just as the Russian climbs up...

EXT. ROOF - SECOND CABLE CAR - CONTINUOUS

...and as the Russian raises his Uzi, Colton unleashes a hard DROPKICK onto his chest - the enemy flying back off the car to a dark, screamy doom!

Colton lands hard on the floor of the second car, sliding instantly down into:

INT. SECOND CABLE CAR - CONTINUOUS

The interior, landing between both Vory Gangsters still FIRING on the first car - instantly turning their weapons inward as Colton lands!

Quick as a flash, Colton's hand jerks out and grabs the Uzi, using it to spin around the first Vory as he FIRES - bullets churning into his comrade, who flies back dead!

The first Vory ELBOWS Colton in the gut as the Uzi goes skittering to the floor but a second blow is deflected, Colton pushing him away!

A trade of close-quarter blows, Colton and the Russian blocking as much as they make contact - CUTS appearing on each of their bodies!

Ducking a hard punch, Colton hits him with a hard JAB in the ribs! The man doubles over and Colton instantly gets him in a headlock, squeezing...

...it only taking half a minute for the Vory to choke, Colton dropping his corpse to the floor.

He GRABS the discarded Uzi and jumps up to the hatch, climbs up:

EXT. ROOF - FIRST CABLE CAR - CONTINUOUS

Despite the heavy speed of both cable cars, shaking perilously as they thunder down the mountain on the wire, Colton retains his balance and leaps back onto the roof of his own car.

He sees Money Penny look up through the hatch from inside, holding on herself.

MONEYPENNY

(shouts)

Are they all dead?

Colton goes to respond before hearing the sound of ROTOR BLADES, looking up...

...as the HELIJET begins to appear in the distance, flying in on approach from the mountain above!

COLTON

(shakes his head)

Not all of them!

Colton looks back down the mountain - Vancouver is very close now, maybe a mile away at the most.

Loading the Uzi, one hand hanging onto the metal strut, Colton aims his weapon up at the cable wire above.

MONEYPENNY

What are you doing?!

COLTON

(looks at her)

Brace yourself for a hard landing!

PPFFTTTT!!!

Colton FIRES at the wire and tosses the Uzi aside, jumping into the car through the hatch - closing it with his free hand as he does!

The bullets contact, the cable wire is severed... and THE CABLE CAR DETACHES!

CUT TO:

EXT. GROUSE MOUNTAIN - CONTINUOUS

It plummets like a stone several hundred feet rapidly from the line above...

...before SLAMMING hard into the snow below, almost bouncing along as it begins to slide and flip it's way down the mountain from the impact!

It finally stops flipping, slides along toward a cluster of TREES... one of which it SLAMS into hard, coming to a swift stop!

Silence... then:

The smashed, bullet-ridden hatch - now on it's side - begins slowly opening as we PUSH IN to find Money Penny, cut, bruised and shaken, getting a purchase on it.

The hatch finally slides fully and Money Penny collapses a little, looking to her right... where Colton lies slumped, eyes closed, out of it.

She looks outside sharply as the ROTOR BLADES begin sounding - the Helijet is on approach again!

Growing panicked, Money Penny shuffles over to where Colton lies and begins tapping his face.

MONEYPENNY

Hey! Hey, wake up! Wake up!

Another beat of Money Penny's efforts... and then Colton finally stirs, jerking up a little as he comes back to it.

MONEYPENNY (CONT'D)

(quickly)

We have to go! They're coming!

Getting his bearings, Colton begins following Money Penny as she shuffles her way out of the hatch, landing on the snow.

PHUT!

Rotor blades grow louder as a bright white SEARCHLIGHT pulses on over the mountain from the Helijet, illuminating both Colton and Money Penny.

Instinctively, they get to their feet and with what little strength remains begin running as:

PPFFFFTTTTT!!!

The gatling gun begins churning out bullets in their direction - many smacking into the line of trees our duo race through, searchlight keeping on them!

The chase continues - bullets all around them - before Colton begins to see something up ahead through the treeline.

COLTON

THERE!!!

An old LOG CABIN lies a few hundred metres ahead - Colton and Money Penny darting straight for it!

CUT TO:

EXT. LOG CABIN - GROUSE MOUNTAIN - CONTINUOUS

The old, wooden cabin is small and deserted - the searchlight illuminating it brightly as Colton reaches it first, KICKING the door through!

COLTON

In here!

He grabs Moneypenny, launching her through as he goes to seal her in. She stops him.

MONEYPENNY

(puzzled)

What are you going to do?

COLTON

Finish this.

SLAM!

Colton shuts the cabin door, sealing her inside, before he begins to CLIMB up the side of the building.

CUT TO:

EXT. CABIN ROOF - CONTINUOUS

The moment Colton launches himself on the wooden roof, the Helijet - loud rotors echoing across the snowy landscape - hovers directly above him.

The light still pulses onto Colton's form as he stands staring up at it.

ANGLE ON HELIJET

As a FIGURE in black rappels down from within, covered by the brightness of the light, hitting the snow before running toward the cabin discreetly.

ON COLTON - who raises his hands on the roof, attracting attention.

COLTON

Do you hear me?! I have the chip!!

A long beat. The Helijet doesn't fire. Colton knows that means they heard him.

CUT TO:

INT. LOG CABIN - CONTINUOUS

The cabin is deserted and cold but Moneypenny barely notices, riveted as she watches the Helijet above through the solitary WINDOW.

She's oblivious to the black-clad Figure sneaking into the cabin from a door behind her...

CUT TO:

EXT. CABIN ROOF - CONTINUOUS

As before. Colton plays his bluff with the Helijet.

COLTON
(loudly)
If you don't believe me, I suggest
you cut me down right here, right
now!

Again, nothing from the Helijet. Colton is clearly now starting to wonder why.

CUT TO:

INT. LOG CABIN - CONTINUOUS

SHINK!

A serrated BLADE appears suddenly at Money Penny's throat, she SCREAMING in shock as the Figure suddenly wraps around her tight from behind...

...the light illuminating him: it's a snarling Nemerov!

NEMEROV
Ssssh. Nice and easy now... Jane.

WHIP PAN as we hear a SMASH! and the door to the cabin bursts open, Colton racing in!

COLTON
(urgent)
Jane?!

He sees no one inside, only a small BLOOD TRAIL leading from the inside to the back door - from which he hears another SCREAM!

COLTON (CONT'D)
JANE!

Quickly, Colton runs across the cabin and through the door out to:

EXT. LOG CABIN - CONTINUOUS

Running around the side of the cabin to where the searchlight continues illuminating, Colton hearing a struggle...

...as he sees Money Penny, knife still at her slightly bleeding throat, trying to avoid Nemerov's grasp as he pulls her toward the Helijet!

Colton runs in their direction as he sees the Helijet land, a Russian inside throwing the door open as Nemerov bundles Money Penny in!

COLTON

JANE!!!

ON NEMEROV - who reaches into the Helijet and pulls out a mini ROCKET LAUNCHER, aiming it right at Colton!

Colton stops - immediately diving to the snowy ground as Nemerov fires, a MISSILE snaking out and flying past him toward the log cabin and:

BOOOOOOM!!!!

The cabin EXPLODES in a massive blast, Colton pelted with debris as he keeps his head down!

Looking up, he sees the Helijet taking off as Nemerov, now inside, seals the door up tight.

The searchlight begins moving away as the Helijet disappears into the darkness of the mountain, before swerving off toward the city below.

As the cabin burns and smokes behind, a frustrated Colton SLAMS his fist into the snow as we...

CUT TO:

EXT. MI6 STATION - NIGHT

An old-fashioned building nestled in the business district of the Canadian city - a stream of TRAFFIC moving past.

VANCOUVER

○

CUT TO:

INT. DEBRIEF ROOM - MI6 STATION

A small, relatively pleasant debrief room within the building where Colton now sits - CUTS and BRUISES now bandaged after some TLC.

He's brooding, a dark expression on his thoughtful face.

MALE VOICE (PRELAP)

We cleaned up his wounds,
thankfully they were little more
than superficial.

CUT TO:

INT. CORRIDOR - OUTSIDE DEBRIEF ROOM

A busy corridor holds numerous debrief rooms, AGENTS snaking in and out hard at work - making way as M and Tanner - walking carefully but largely recovered, walk down.

They're led by an ageing SECTION CHIEF, who's voice we just heard.

TANNER

Has he been fully debriefed?

SECTION CHIEF

(nods)

First thing we did after his treatment. Or at least, attempted to do.

The Chief stops outside the room, visibly, holding Colton.

SECTION CHIEF (CONT'D)

(to M)

He refuses to speak to anyone but you, M.

M looks in at his unlikely agent, taking the information in.

M

(nods)

I understand.

(to Tanner)

Bill, please fill the Chief in on any details of the assignment he may have missed.

TANNER

(nods)

Sir.

As the Chief and Tanner move away, M takes another look at Colton before stepping in.

CUT TO:

INT. DEBRIEF ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The door is sealed closed as M enters, walking to the table where Colton looks up - glaring at him silently.

M

(after a beat)

I hope I didn't get on a plane all the way to Canada just to receive the silent treatment too.

(beat)

They said you would talk.

COLTON
You lied to me.

M frowns a little, perching on the chair across from him.

COLTON (CONT'D)
(continues)
You knew who Money Penny was. You
knew she knew who James Bond was.

M
(nods)
Yes.

COLTON
(beat)
She was in love with him, wasn't
she?

M
Probably.

Colton frowns at M's lack of even trying to counter.

COLTON
(finally)
She told me she left the service
because of antipathy toward her
boss.
(nods)
She meant you.

M
Money Penny served my predecessor
faithfully for many years. When she
left, when I took the job, she
couldn't handle it.
(beat)
She left. Plied her trade with
Amcorp, little realising their
connection to industrial espionage.

COLTON
(firm)
What is the chip?

A beat of confusion from M - does he know what that means?

COLTON (CONT'D)
Nemerov was after her because of a
chip she was concealing, presumably
what Bierko was killed for too.
(nods)
And Bond, when he got too close.
(beat)
So?

M

(thinks)

We're not certain what the chip is... but if Nemerov, if Darius Simeon, wants it then that can't be good.

(beat)

Where is it? The chip?

COLTON

They took Money Penny before she could say.

M

(nods)

It stands to reason Simeon will want to get that information from her himself.

COLTON

Where is he?

M looks at Colton, sees the determination in his eyes.

M

Dubai.

(off Colton's surprise)

He's hosting a benefit to coincide with the horse-racing World Cup.

COLTON

Dubai?

(beat)

I overheard Money Penny make a call to someone I later traced back to Dubai, someone called Milos. They seemed pretty tight.

(thinks)

Maybe he has the chip. Maybe that's why Simeon's really there.

M

Then you need to be there too.

(off Colton's look)

Get into the benefit, find the chip. And if you can save Money Penny in the bargain, then so much the better. Though of course since they killed Bond, they won't be expecting him.

(nods)

You'll need a new cover.

No response from Colton as M stands, he brooding once more as he thinks.

M (CONT'D)

Problem?

COLTON
 (finally)
 Why did you want me to become Bond?

M looks at him, curious - clearly having not expected the question.

COLTON (CONT'D)
 I mean I understand you needing someone to finish the job but... you didn't need Bond.
 (shakes his head)
 So why try and make me into him?

A sharp frown forms on M's face as his hands lean on the table.

M
 I don't owe you any answers. You are not part of Six, Mr. Colton. You never will be. You are only part of this to save yourself, not Queen and country.
 (elucidates his point)
 Joe Colton only ever works for Joe Colton. Remember that.

On that rebuke, M strides swiftly out of the room leaving Colton angry... but focused.

CUT TO:

EXT. RACETRACK - DAY

Hot Sun beams down on a stunning racetrack, framed by greenery and indeed lush desert all around - a mass of SPECTATORS gathered within.

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates

TRACK ACROSS the stunning exterior of the track, packed now with a variety of the world's wealthy milling around in chatter, all dressed in finery.

FEMALE VOICE (O.C.)
 (American)
 We're here at the famous Nad el Sheba racecourse at the heart of Dubai for what stands to be the final World Cup hosted in these historic stands.

The voice originates from one of a line of REPORTERS, all talking to cameras in various languages from a media pen.

Behind them lies the TRACK and adjoining STABLES, around which JOCKEYS and TRAINERS are among those preparing the HORSES to trace.

AMERICAN REPORTER (O.C.)

The front runner to win this years cup is Easy Lady, the British thoroughbred who last year came second in the Grand National...

The voice trails off as we finish TRACKING ALONG, resting on a familiar face moving through the throng:

COLTON

Dressed well in a smart cream suit, open at the neck, dark sunglasses adorning his face, he snakes through the stadia and reaches the track side rail.

Perfectly casual, Colton turns and begins looking around at the other spectators, glancing up at the STADIUM behind the track.

On a balcony he locks onto his target: it's Darius Simeon.

Colton touches his sunglasses casually, in fact tightening the zoom on the binocular gadget built within them.

BINOCULAR P.O.V

Allowing a close up of the bald, aged Simeon as he stands watching the race preparation - flanked as before by beauties Mimi and Aurora.

ON COLTON - who presses the sunglasses again and **CLICK!** A photograph of the trio instantly records.

At which point, Simeon begins leading the women - arm in arm - out of the box and down a set of steps into a function area within the stadium.

Colton tracks through the spectators, keeping Simeon and party in his sights - seeing them disappear behind a CORRIDOR toward the function, two SECURITY MEN holding a guest list.

Which, of course, Colton isn't on. He needs a distraction.

He looks around, sight soon resting on the stables just to the right. Checking no one is watching, Colton heads that way.

CUT TO:

EXT. STABLES - RACETRACK

A young STABLE HAND is tending 'Easy Lady', the prized rider of the event, stroking and talking to the horse as it fixes his SADDLE.

The Hand pats the horse on the hide before heading off... just as Colton appears around a nearby wall, peering out.

He sees the Hand move out of sight before, retaining his wits, Colton crosses the stables and approaches Easy Lady in the corner.

Quickly, Colton begins untying the taut ROPE keeping the horse tethered to the stable area, which finally falls to the ground.

Still making sure no one is observing, Colton begins slapping Easy Lady's hide and audibly GEEING up the horse. It starts to get excited and NEIGH.

CUT TO:

EXT. RACETRACK - CONTINUOUS

The REPORTERS keep on reporting, spectators milling and the Security Men keep checking in GUESTS to the function...

...when by the sound of a large NEIGH, the sizeable form of Easy Lady comes barrelling out from the stables, numerous spectators diving to avoid the geed-up horse!

Numerous STAFF around the track begin racing over to control the horse, prancing around as if in a fervor, including the two Security Men...

...affording Colton the perfect chance, as he slides discreetly from the stables, to leap a little over a BARRIER and leave the carnage.

Straightening his jacket smartly, Colton saunters down the corridor toward the function.

CUT TO:

INT. FUNCTION AREA - RACETRACK

Light Arabic music drifts over the very glitzy function area, rich and indeed famous moving around sipping CHAMPAGNE carried on trays by WAITERS.

One is lifted off a tray by Colton, doing his best to look at home among the glamour in the room - actually pulling it off pretty damn well.

Colton SIPS the champagne as he moves through, soon spotting his quarry: Simeon, girls still off his arm, in discussion with a SHEIKH, flanked by entourage.

Moving within earshot, Colton tries not to look too obvious.

SIMEON
(mid-flow)

...

(MORE)

SIMEON (CONT'D)

it was at that point, of course, the Argentine President looked me right in the eye and responded, in the appropriate tone of voice: 'I believed that was my aperitif'.

The Sheikh laughs at the punchline, as do the entourage, but Colton only smiles thinly on the outside.

He makes brief eye contact with a curious-looking Aurora, observing him with interest.

COLTON

You're as much a raconteur as they say, Mr. Simeon.

Simeon glances at him for the first time, taking the remark with grace as the Sheikh NODS - moving off with his crowd.

SIMEON

I fear I'm not accustomed to compliments from those with whom I'm unacquainted, Mr...?

COLTON

Stock. James Stock. London Financial Times.

Colton doesn't extend his hand to shake. Simeon neither.

SIMEON

What brings you to our little soiree, Mr. Stock? A man of horses?

COLTON

More the economy of horses. The effect of global recession on the business of racing.

SIMEON

(nods)

A most interesting topic.

A gracious NOD from Colton, playing his part well, though distracted by Aurora's continued stare.

He refocuses on Simeon as expediently as possible.

SIMEON (CONT'D)

Perhaps you'd care to enlighten me further this evening? I'm always keen to court the worlds media. I'm hosting a benefit for this establishment at the Burj al-Arab.

(smiles)

I trust you know it?

COLTON

I'm fortunate enough to be staying there.

(Simeon's smile extends)
I'd be delighted to attend.

SIMEON

(nods)
Wonderful. Until then, Mr. Stock.

And on that, Simeon heads away with Mimi in one arm, Aurora in the other - she giving Colton a lingering look.

ON COLTON - watching the trio depart with interest as he gulps back the last of his bubbly.

CUT TO:

DARKNESS

The sound of breathing. Heavy. Fearful.

A light FLICKERS ON revealing:

INT. DARK ROOM - ???

Moneypenny, tied down by wire to a CHAIR at the centre of a dark room in places unknown. Captive.

She's cut, bruised. Her clothes are torn in places. She's perspiring heavily.

MALE VOICE (O.C.)

(German accent)

Jane, Jane... may I call you Jane?

Moneypenny doesn't respond as the voice crystallizes from the gloom into a figure: thin, wiry frame, 40's, thin blonde hair, charming yet sinister disposition.

Let's call him THE DOKTOR.

THE DOKTOR

While my reputation in places does precede me, you may not be aware I am a specialist in extracting information. It is what I was born to do.

A SHINK of metal as the Doktor picks up a SCALPEL, very much not typical to the surroundings.

THE DOKTOR (CONT'D)

Which means, Jane, that this merry dance between us shall continue until you tell us the location of the chip.

(MORE)

THE DOKTOR (CONT'D)

(smiles)

It's a very simple equation.

A DOOR opens behind the Doktor, casting a shade of LIGHT into the gloom as a MAN enters.

MONEYPENNY

I told you once, I told you more than once... I don't have the chip anymore!

(sighs)

You have to believe me!

Money Penny freezes, frightened, as the Man is revealed to be Nemerov - who the Doktor turns sees beckon him.

The Doktor joins Nemerov just out of their captive's earshot.

NEMEROV

She still refuses to compromise the chip?

THE DOKTOR

(nods)

We must consider the possibility it is no longer within her sight.

NEMEROV

(quickly)

No. We know Zographos is hiding it, we just don't know where.

(nods)

She does.

Nemerov looks straight at Money Penny, a piercing glare.

NEMEROV (CONT'D)

I want you to push as hard as you can to get me that location.

(beat)

Simeon is in the city and he is not a patient man.

On that, as the Doktor nods understanding, Nemerov strides off and SLAMS the door behind him.

Gloom pervades the room as the Doktor begins edging back towards Money Penny, raising the scalpel.

THE DOKTOR

Now... where were we?

CUT TO:

EXT. COASTLINE - NIGHT

The glorious beached coastline is framed by the towering sight of Dubai's main attraction.

BURJ AL-ARAB Hotel

It juts off the coastline, a small atoll lit up beautifully as the waves lap the shore calmly.

SIMEON (PRELAP)

Ladies and Gentlemen... honoured guests... it is my pleasure to welcome you to this wonderful monument to industry and commerce.

CUT TO:

INT. BENEFIT ROOM - BURJ AL ARAB

An enormous function area several floors up, large as a ballroom, filled with TABLES containing hundreds of wealthy GUESTS - a stunning view of the ocean visible through large windows all around.

Soft light bathes the area, all Guests eyes on Simeon - standing on a slightly raised stage, dressed impeccably, addressing the Western and Eastern glitterati.

SIMEON

The Burj al-Arab stands as a testament to the successful regeneration of the United Arab Emirates, a sign all of Arabia can begin to lead the way as a social and cultural pioneer to rival and even exceed the West.

TRACK ACROSS the listening Guests toward a BAR across the large area... at which Colton now stands.

He's in full dinner wear, carrying it off very well, as he sips a WHISKEY - leaning casually at the bar top, looking unimpressed by the words that echo around.

SIMEON (CONT'D)

Do not let fears of global recession concern you, my friends. The Simeon Group are here in Dubai, a place I consider a second home, to ensure the way of life here remains untarnished thanks to our dedication in ensuring industry, travel and commerce reigns unabated.

(smiles)

That is my gift to you this evening. A gift I hope you will all share with me.

Simeon raises a GLASS to the crowd, they all doing the same as they murmur approval.

SIMEON (CONT'D)

I invite you to enjoy the evening,
with my hospitality.

A huge ROUND OF APPLAUSE - some Guests standing as they clap - echoes out as Simeon sips his drink, nodding graciously with a smile as he steps down.

ON COLTON - watching, not clapping, as he sees Simeon move down to a group of Arab PRINCES and SHEIKS toward the front, all clapping very happily.

He sees Mimi join Simeon's side as he shakes their hands, indulging in approved chatter.

Looking right, he sees burly SECURITY holding back many of the media REPORTERS from the racetrack, desperately scrambling for words from the host.

Colton turns back to the bar as he GULPS back his drink, a fair few Guests now milling around next to him, chattering and trying to get a drink.

He waits for the Arab BARMAN's attention as he hears:

FEMALE VOICE

(French accent)

You are a man out of place.

Colton turns at the sound of the voice... seeing Aurora slink her way next to him at the bar, looking a million dollars in a silk dress.

COLTON

Excuse me?

AURORA

(extends her hand)

Aurora Latrelle.

Colton looks at her hand, tipped forward to kiss. He lightly does the honours.

COLTON

James Stock. London--

AURORA

(nods)

--Financial Times. Yes, I... recall you from the racetrack.

COLTON

I see I made an impression.

AURORA

On me. Not on Darius. Which, I sense, was your intention.

(MORE)

AURORA (CONT'D)

(curious)

You are interested in him.

COLTON

(casual)

I'm interested in a lot of things.

Moving close to him, close enough to whisper - bodies lightly touching - Aurora looks around.

AURORA

(quietly)

You should be careful, Mr. Stock.

(beat)

Things are not as they seem.

On that, as Colton wonders what she means, Aurora slinks off as quickly as she appeared - her fingers lightly brushing his arm as she does.

Colton watcher disappear into the throng before he turns back to the bar, stopping at what he sees:

A NAPKIN

One that wasn't there before she arrived. He picks it up, opens it and finds scrawled in black lipstick:

'MILOS. WAREHOUSE 8. PIER 12'

Looking across the room, Colton sees Aurora appear again as she rejoins Simeon - he giving her a light peck on the cheek.

As Simeon begins to introduce Aurora to his Arab VIP's, Colton once again glances at the napkin - before quickly making for the exit.

CUT TO:

EXT. INDUSTRIAL PIER - NIGHT

A group of ten WAREHOUSES are clustered alongside an industrial pier, SKYSCRAPERS framing them behind - the Burj al-Arab in the distance up the coastline.

Moonlight casts down onto one warehouse in particular - eight - now being guarded by a bevy of GREEK MEN in dark jumpsuits, all cradling rifles.

CUT TO:

EXT. WAREHOUSE 8 - CONTINUOUS

Colton, tuxedo loosened, appears covertly around the side of the warehouse in question - peering to see the patrolling Greeks, some talking in their native amongst themselves.

He looks back and finds a lack of patrol behind him. He moves back, checking the wall until he comes to a prize:

A VENT GRATING

Quickly, Colton pulls out a small SET OF KEYS on which is a small but capable SCREWDRIVER, which he folds out for use.

He begins swiftly unscrewing the bolts on the grating, one two three... and four. It comes loose, Colton pulling it out and resting it on the floor.

Colton sharply looks left - hears two Greeks about to turn the corner and see him!

He jumps into the VENT, grabs the grating and fits in back on, unscrewed... just as two Greek Men turn the corner and, mid-conversation, walk on by oblivious.

CUT TO:

INT. VENT SHAFT - WAREHOUSE 8

Crawling through the tight and dusty shaft, Colton scuffs his previously impeccable suit - getting purchase in the dark, trying not to make too much noise.

He stops upon hearing more Greek voices up ahead, moving into a left conduit of the shaft and down towards another GRATE in the floor.

Reaching it, Colton sees it provides direct access into the core of the warehouse - the source of the Greek voices.

Flattening on the vent, Colton positions himself to look through, getting a good vantage of the interior as he removes his powerful BINOCULARS, looking through.

BINOCULAR P.O.V

He sees numerous Greek SECURITY and indeed PROGRAMMERS working at a cluster of MAINFRAMES at the heart of which lies:

THE CHIP

A small metallic strip, the source of everyone's efforts, hooked up to the computer systems - it's telemetry being studied.

Data is flashing through all the mainframe TERMINAL SCREENS the Programmers are working at, which Colton clearly recognises.

COLTON

(quietly; to himself)
Global intelligence databases. CIA,
Mossad, FSB, DGSE... MI6.

The binoculars veer left to another series of screens being monitored, all of which hold the PROFILES of what look like intelligence agents.

One is French. One American. One Russian - Bierko! All are marked 'DECEASED'.

COLTON (CONT'D)
(shocked)
What the--

His shock arises for the last one on the line. It's clearly showing the image of JAMES BOND.

ON COLTON - moving the binoculars away for a second, unable to reconcile quite what this discovery means.

His pondering is interrupted as he hears a Greek CRY from below, looking through the binoculars quickly...

...to see one of the Security pointing up at the VENT, shouting! He raises his RIFLE!

PPPPPPFFFT!!!

Bullets fly into the vent as Colton is up and scrambling away, knowing he's been spotted!

The metal is pierced by the rounds, just missing Colton as he continues scrambling along! He SHOUTS in pain as a bullet GRAZES HIS LEG, taking off part of his trouser fabric!

Colton turns in the vent, hastily making back for the exit as he hears Greek voices shouting amidst churning bullets!

CUT TO:

EXT. WAREHOUSE 8 - MOMENTS LATER

SMASH!

The unscrewed vent grate is kicked through by Colton, jumping out onto the ground just as he hears a Greek SHOUT...

...and a patrolling GUARD next to him raises his weapon!

Colton quickly GRABS the Guard's arm, TWISTING it with a hard CRACK! The gun falls as Colton lets the arm go, swinging a forceful CHOP into the man's windpipe!

Gasping, he falls to his knees as Colton KNEES him hard in the face - knocking him out instantly!

More Greek SHOUTS from inside and out the warehouse alert Colton, who looks around for his options before resting on the dark WATER up ahead...

...which he runs for and DIVES INTO, splashing under the water as half dozen armed Greek GUARDS run around the side of the warehouse looking for him.

Off the sight of the disappearing RIPPLES in the water where he dived, we...

CUT TO:

EXT. BURJ AL-ARAB - NIGHT

To establish - the hotel lit up beautifully.

CUT TO:

INT. 15TH FLOOR CORRIDOR - NIGHT

PING!

The lift doors open, admitting the scuffed, dirtied and wet - though drying - Colton into the plush, high up corridor of the hotel.

His right leg is bleeding slightly from the flesh wound as Colton tries to walk properly, despite being in pain, as he approaches his room.

He reaches it - Room 1517 - removing his KEYCARD and slotting it in, opening the door just as a wealthy ARABIC COUPLE walk by, looking at him strangely.

CUT TO:

INT. ROOM 1517 - CONTINUOUS

Automatic LIGHTING fills the room dimly as Colton SLAMS his right leg onto a TABLE in the centre of the spacious, plush suite.

He RIPS open the bottom of his trouser leg, revealing the FLESH WOUND in all it's glory - skin bullet grazed, bleeding. It's nasty but will heal.

Colton SEETHES a little as he pours cold, bottled WATER over the wound - much of it cascading over the table. It cauterizes the bleeding.

Unrolling a strip of BANDAGE lying nearby, Colton RIPS some of it off and wraps it around the bottom of his leg - tying it firm around the wound.

Getting up, Colton gets his balance a little on both feet and pulls out a CELL PHONE, dialling a pre-set number.

A beat. He connects.

FEMALE VOICE (V.O.)
 (British)
 Operations.

COLTON
 Bill Tanner, please.

AURORA (O.C.)
 I wouldn't have that
 conversation...
 (Colton turns)
 ...if I were you...

Colton lowers the phone in surprise as he sees Aurora slink out of the adjoining bedroom suite... in nothing more than a silken black robe.

Instantly, he pulls his GUN and squares it right at her.

COLTON
 And why's that?

AURORA
 (calmly)
 They may be tapping the phone.

A beat. Colton hears through the phone:

TANNER (V.O.)
 This is Tanner... hello?... Hello?

DIAL TONE. Colton cuts the call, throws the phone to the sofa chairs. He keeps the weapon on Aurora.

COLTON
 How did you know where the chip
 was?

A suggestive little smile crosses Aurora's lips. She doesn't look remotely fazed by the gun.

COLTON (CONT'D)
 (thinks)
 Simeon's looking for it but you're
 playing for another side, aren't
 you?

AURORA
 It seems that way... but it's not.

COLTON
 (pushing it)
 You're DGSE. French secret service.

Aurora laughs at the suggestion, moving a little closer to Colton - and his gun.

AURORA

Me? I'm nothing more than eye
candy, a trophy.

(beat)

I was practically a peasant girl.
My family were simple villagers
from the Languedoc. I was 'rescued'
from that life for my beauty,
brought into all this glamour,
promised so much...

(shakes her head)

All I became was Milos' glorified
sex slave.

COLTON

(quickly)

Milos? I keep hearing that name.
Who is he?

From within her robe, Aurora moves to produce something -
Colton instantly tensing the gun he'd let limp a touch.

It turns out simple to be a MANILA FOLDER which Aurora opens
up, folding over to display the contents.

AURORA

Milos Zographos. Greek. Owner of
Amcorp and major player in
organised crime. Extortion,
smuggling, murder, all of it.

Colton steps forward, examining the picture of Zographos in
utter confusion...

...for it's identical to the man we've been calling Darius
Simeon from the beginning.

COLTON

(shakes his head)

What does this mean?

AURORA

(smiles)

I'll explain everything...

Aurora throws the file aside, slinking her way over to Colton
until she presses herself right up against him - and his
lowered gun.

AURORA (CONT'D)

...in the morning...

And with that, Aurora slides the tether of her ROBE aside and
lets it fall from her shoulders - shadows concealing the
curve of her perfect buttocks.

She brings Colton in for a KISS, light yet passionate.

He breaks off for a moment, stares at her with a frown and a million questions... but finally tosses the gun aside and GRABS her waist, passion exploding between them.

They kiss ravenously as they, in passionate embrace, fall onto the bed and we PAN AWAY before we...

DISSOLVE TO:

INT. ROOM 1517 - MORNING

Sunlight beams through the ocean-view window of the hotel room as we TRACK UP the king-size bed, moving past the discarded bits of dinner wear strewn on the floor...

...before we rest on the face of Colton, finally coming around from slumber after a night of passion.

He BLINKS as the hot light cascades on him, looking to his right where Aurora lies still - facing away, still clearly gripped by sleep.

COLTON

(whispers)

Aurora...

No response. Colton reaches over to rise her... but she doesn't stir.

Concern now etches his features as he pulls the COVERS off, only to be greeted by a horrific sight.

Aurora's head in facing one way but her body, covers still draped over her modesty, is facing him - her neck has been completely twisted!

Colton rolls her head over... to reveal Aurora's face, eyes BULGING in horror from her sudden and painful demise!

Disturbed, Colton BOLTS UP in bed but freezes as he hears the CLICK of a gun, staring out...

...to find three of the GREEK GUARDS from the warehouse training GUNS right on him from various points of the room, all flanking the man we now know to be:

MILOS ZOGRAPHOS

The bald, ageing figure standing at the end of the bed, looking down on the shocked Colton.

ZOGRAPHOS

(shakes his head; re:
Aurora)

A terrible shame. She really was
one of my favourites.

Zographos looks back at Colton, still trying to adjust to this turn of events.

ZOGRAPHOS (CONT'D)

You've become quite the pest, Mr. Colton. Or should that be 007.

A little CHUCKLE from the villain but Colton just stares at him with brooding anger.

ZOGRAPHOS (CONT'D)

Fortunately, I had the foresight to transport the chip to a more secure location before my former namesake Simeon was able to grab it.

(nods)

You led him there, Joseph. You or the lovely Miss Moneyppenny.

COLTON

You're saying that Simeon isn't just an alias.

ZOGRAPHOS

(nods)

Oh far from it. Darius is quite real. He's just not me.

COLTON

Then why is he killing agents? Why did he kill Bond?

ZOGRAPHOS

Because he got to him before me.

Colton frowns in confusion - still not understanding.

ZOGRAPHOS (CONT'D)

Some months ago, Bond and three others in an inter-agency operation murdered Nikos Zographos. My brother.

(off Colton's look)

An operation ordered by the man Simeon has spent years pretending to be.

(builds it up)

Your new boss.

COLTON

(mouth agape)

M?!!

A nod from Zographos. Colton's expression just sums everything up.

What. The. Hell?!

ZOGRAPHOS

I'm glad you realise just how duped
you've really been, Mr. Colton.

(nods)

You can die now.

Zographos TIPS HIS HEAD towards his three Greek Guards,
moving back as they step forward - fingers SQUEEZING their
triggers!

No time to even ponder what he's just learned, Colton moves
fast as:

BANG! BANG! BANG!

A shower of bullets impact the bed, many streaming into
Aurora's body - but Colton is already up, grabbing the bed
cover as he runs, jumps and:

SMASHES THROUGH THE WINDOW!

CUT TO:

EXT. BURJ AL-ARAB - CONTINUOUS

Glass flies outward, bullets pinging all around, as the bare-
chested Colton flies through the fifteenth floor window - a
deadly drop below!

He holds one end of the bed cover as he falls, the other end
TAUT on the edge of the window - preventing Colton from
falling further than one floor!

Colton SWINGS down, raises his feet, aims for the window of
the room a floor below and:

SMASH!

CUT TO:

INT. ROOM 1417 - CONTINUOUS

Glass explodes inward as Colton sails through, body cut by
the splintered window, CRASHING through a TABLE as he lands
hard!

A COUPLE awake in a nearby bed with a start, the Woman
huddling up to the Man as they both stare at Colton in shock
as he scrambles to his feet.

Colton stares at them briefly, sees their fear and confusion.

COLTON

(beat)

Sorry for waking you.

And quickly grabbing a black T-SHIRT lying discarded, Colton races for the door!

CUT TO:

EXT. ENTRANCE - BURJ AL ARAB

T-shirt now draped over his torso, Colton bursts through the hotel entrance door - STARTLING several DILETTANTES who move aside as he runs!

He makes for an odd figure still - bare foot, only SLACKS covering his bottom half. But he doesn't care.

Colton runs into the VALET PARKING area, looking around. He's approached by an ARABIC VALET.

VALET
(perfect English)
Your car, sir?

Greek SHOUTS behind him alert Colton, he seeing now six Greek MEN bursting from the entrance - in hot pursuit!

Colton looks around again, soon spotting a DIRT BIKE parked nearby - it's owner, a Western TOURIST, leaning against it in conversation with TWO GIRLS.

Running over, Colton PUSHES the Tourist hard to the floor as he JUMPS on the bike - both girls jumping back with a start!

The Tourist gets up, angry, as Colton turns the KEYS, revs up the engine.

TOURIST
(Dutch accent)
Hey! What the Hell are you--

VROOOOOM!!!!

The bike revs up and Colton is away, swerving around the valet-parked cars and off down the sub-road leading to the main Dubai city centre.

CUT TO:

EXT. FREEWAY - DAY

Several CARS honk their horns loudly as Colton swerves the bike in-between them - before he gets on the right lane of traffic!

Keeping on eye on the road, Colton sees a small BAG draped over the front handlebar of the bike - grabbing it with one hand.

He pulls out a CELL PHONE, throwing the rest of the bag aside. Perilously steering the bike around traffic as he guns it fast away from the hotel, Colton DIALS a number.

PARP!!!

The echo of a TRUCK's horn cascades out as Colton just swerves the bike out of it's path - one hand with phone clenched to his ear.

He finally connects.

FEMALE VOICE (V.O.)
Operations.

COLTON
(shouts)
This is Colton. I need Bill
Tanner's location, right now!

FEMALE VOICE (V.O.)
I'm sorry, sir, I'll need an
authorisation code before--

BEEP!! BEEEEEP!!

Another horn sounds from a CAR as Colton's bike swerves between it and another - almost causing them to collide!

COLTON
(angry)
Look damnit, just tell me where the
bloody Hell he is... NOW!!!

SMASH CUT TO:

EXT. AIRFIELD - DUBAI - DAY

Framed by the rolling dunes of the desert, a quiet airfield now sees a private JET disengaging it's engines after landing, coming to a stop.

Several ARABIC SECURITY for the airfield approach the jet as it's doors open, unfurling a series of STEPS leading to the arid ground.

From it steps the man we knew as M... who we shall now call DARIUS SIMEON - looking out at the desert as he descends the steps.

Tanner follows him out, hearing Simeon's CELL PHONE begin to ring - pulling it out of his pocket. He checks the ID as they both reach ground.

SIMEON
(to Tanner)
I need to take this, Bill.

TANNER

(nods)

I'll arrange transportation.

On that, Tanner heads away and Simeon watches him go for a moment, before turning and answering the BUZZING phone.

SIMEON

It's me.

NEMEROV (V.O.)

We still have nothing.

SIMEON

(sighs)

She won't talk?

INTERCUT:

INT. OUTSIDE DARK ROOM

Nemerov, phone clenched to his ear in a gloomy corridor outside the torture room.

NEMEROV

The Doktor is doing his best but...
she claims not to know the new
location of the chip.

(nods)

We stormed the warehouse but found
nothing.

The sound of Money Penny, growing increasingly desperate, is heard behind Nemerov - he briefly glancing back.

SIMEON

It doesn't matter now. Zographos is
exposed. We can track it.

NEMEROV

And the woman?

SIMEON

(thinks; beat)

Kill her.

DIAL TONE.

Nemerov nods understanding, looks back to the room as he pockets the phone.

CUT TO:

EXT. AIRFIELD - CONTINUOUS

Discarding the cold expression on his face, Simeon walks away from the plane and toward Tanner - pocketing the phone.

A black CAR pulls up in front of them, right on cue. Tanner opens the rear door for Simeon, who climbs in.

Tanner seals the door, jumps in the opposite side. The car drives off.

CUT TO:

INT. M'S CAR (MOVING) - CONTINUOUS

Simeon and Tanner recline on the soft black leather as the journey begins.

TANNER
 (looks at him)
 Everything alright, sir?
 (off Simeon's look)
 The call?

SIMEON
 (nods)
 Just Grey. Checking in.

A little NOD from Tanner, accepting the lie. Simeon glances at him briefly.

The car drives on, approaching the EXIT GATE of the airfield when:

BANG!

A bullet shatters the front WINDSCREEN of the car, glass blowing inward as the DRIVER screeches the vehicle to a stop!

Simeon and Tanner lurch forward in shock, the latter immediately going for his gun!

TANNER
 What was--

He stops as both men look ahead to see a dirt bike now rev up and block the path of the car...

...off which jumps Colton, aiming the weapon at the vehicle as Tanner jumps out! Simeon sits watching, cool as ice.

CUT TO:

EXT. EXIT GATE - AIRFIELD - CONTINUOUS

Approaching the car, pure fury on his face, Colton keeps the gun squared.

COLTON
 (shouts)
 Get out of the car! I know you're
 in there!

Tanner, frowning, aims his weapon at Colton as he jumps out - joined by several AIRFIELD SECURITY MEN, weapons trained!

Colton is undeterred, despite the tense standoff.

TANNER

Stand down, Colton! Drop the weapon!

COLTON

I can't do that, Tanner!
(into the car)
I said get out of the car, Simeon!!

TANNER

(confused)
Simeon?
(shakes his head)
Colton, what the Hell are you--

COLTON

(into car)
I'll kill you right now, you bastard, now GET OUT!!

Colton is right at the bonnet now, aiming his weapon in - not caring about the guns trained on him!

Tanner is confused, clearly not quite sure what to do, looking between Colton and the car.

A long beat. Everyone waits. Hearts in their throats.

And then the rear door opens... Simeon calmly stepping from the car, raising his hands slowly as Colton approaches him... and SLAMS him against the car, gun to his neck!

COLTON (CONT'D)

(means it)
Tell me where Moneyppenny is. Or I take you down with me.

Tanner looks at his boss, confused, as Simeon glances at him briefly - he hasn't broken a sweat yet.

Colton glares at him, waiting. He pushes the gun in a little tighter.

SIMEON

(finally)
An old marble factory. Al Quoz industrial park. Unit two.

And Colton looks over at a stunned and disturbed Tanner, not knowing what to think.

Off Simeon's cool expression as Colton looks back at him murderously, we...

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. CORRIDOR - HOLDING AREA

SMASH!!!

The door at the end of the dark corridor is smashed apart as a UAE government SWAT TEAM, bearing powerful rifles, burst in barking in Arabic!

Russian GANGSTERS burst out of numerous rooms lining the corridor, bearing HATCHETS and indeed UZI's - barking in Russian as they move to kill!

Gunfire is exchanged across the corridor as the SWAT pulse in, killing any Russian who gets in their way!

Behind them streams Colton and Tanner, both bearing GUNS as they follow the SWAT unit - moving across the litter of Russian bodies.

COLTON

(shouts)

Jane?!

(nothing)

Jane, can you hear me?!!

CUT TO:

INT. DARK ROOM - CONTINUOUS

The call echoes through the wall, over the bullets, into the earshot of Money Penny - still tied to the chair, looking pretty much a wreck.

MONEYPENNY

(shouts)

Yes!! I'm here! In HERE!!!

SLAP!

From the gloom, the Doktor BACKHANDS Money Penny in the face, silencing her! He muffles her mouth with his gloved hand as she MURMURS loudly!

THE DOKTOR

(coolly)

I do not remember giving you permission to speak--

THUD!

The door behind them is kicked through and with his other hand, the Doktor pulls a GUN he aims as Colton enters, weapon raised!

BANG!

A bullet SMACKS into the Doktor's forehead - Colton too quick for him! An explosion of blood accompanies him slumping to the ground, hand falling from Money Penny's mouth.

She looks up, breathes relief, as Colton rushes over.

COLTON

(concerned)

You ok? What did he do to you?

MONEYPENNY

I'm f--I'm fine.

Colton begins untying her restraints as Money Penny's surprise overtakes her - especially as she sees Tanner at the door, weapon tensed.

MONEYPENNY (CONT'D)

Where--where am I? How did you find me?!

COLTON

You're in Dubai. We know everything.

MONEYPENNY

(shakes her head)

You don't know everything.

Finally untying her restraints, Colton glances at her curiously over that statement.

He looks back at Tanner, equally curious, off which we...

CUT TO:

EXT. VAUXHALL CROSS - MORNING

To establish - an overcast sky covers MI6 HEADQUARTERS in the heart of London.

CUT TO:

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM - MI6 HEADQUARTERS

Simeon, dead eyed, sitting in PRISON FATIGUES and HANDCUFFS at a table in a clear white interrogation room.

Across from him sits Tanner, making NOTES on a piece of paper - trying to hide his anger and betrayal - as he listens to Simeon talking.

SIMEON

Twenty years ago, as younger men, Milos Zographos and I went into business together.

(MORE)

SIMEON (CONT'D)

I an aspiring Branson, he a new generation of Greek Corleone. Our ambition was high but we knew we would need anonymity, security.

(beat)

So we made an arrangement. He assumed my identity, my physical assets, leaving me free to operate undercover within intelligence. I rose to the head of Six in order to routinely and covertly protect our property, as well as covertly siphon out money and information.

Tanner looks at him with undisguised hate as we...

INTERCUT:

INT. DEBRIEF ROOM - MI6 HEADQUARTERS

A much more relaxed ante-room to the Operations area, with a view overlooking the grey Thames.

Colton sits across from Moneypenny - both now cleaned up - he listening to her as Tanner is to their enemy.

MONEYPENNY

I was happy here for a long time, working for the previous M. She was like a mother.

(smiles)

When she retired, when he took over, it soon became untenable. I was suspicious of him from the word go. We clashed. I knew he wanted me out.

(nods)

So I left. Decided to apply my skills privately.

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM

As before. Tanner across from Simeon, note-taking.

SIMEON

Several months ago, Zographos' younger brother Nikos - who'd actually assumed his brother's identity and face of the family's criminal empire - went a stage further than his elder sibling ever had. The recession was even biting into his pockets.

(frowns)

(MORE)

SIMEON (CONT'D)

He thought he could extort me for much more government money than I was accustomed to supplying, lest he expose my true identity to MI6 and leave Milos to take over the entire enterprise.

A little smile from Simeon.

SIMEON (CONT'D)

Of course, I wasn't about to let that happen. So I assembled a multinational unit of trained killers from Six, from Langley, European agencies. The best in the business, led by 007. Their mission? Assassinate Nikos.

(nods)

An operation that was a complete success.

TANNER

One that Zographos didn't take kindly to.

SIMEON

Absolutely. So much so, he hired Bierko - the Russian agent on the assassination team - sparing his life if he stole a chip from the FSB, a chip Zographos could use to hack global intelligence databases and expose the rest of his brothers' killers.

(sits back)

He killed Bierko once he had it.

INT. DEBRIEF ROOM

As before. Colton across from Money Penny, completely focused on her words.

MONEYPENNY

It wasn't long after I quit Six that I was approached by Milos Zographos, or Darius Simeon as the world knew him. He confided his true identity to me, why I... I don't really know.

COLTON

(frowns)

Did you know about M?

MONEYPENNY

(quickly)

No! I thought Simeon was a cover name.

(MORE)

MONEYPENNY (CONT'D)

It didn't take me long to realise who Zographos actually was.

(beat)

Regardless, he offered me the chance to work for Amcorp, the company he owned in Vancouver, to decode the chip with my knowledge of intelligence security and firewalls.

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM

As before.

SIMEON

All my actions, everything I have done since Bierko was killed, have been about recovering that chip so no more good agents - men like Bond - would die.

TANNER

(spits)

Plus, of course, to save your own skin.

Simeon can't refute that but he doesn't smile. He just gives Tanner a look.

INT. DEBRIEF ROOM

As before.

MONEYPENNY

What Zographos didn't know was that infact I never left. Six.

(off Colton's look)

I was working for Sir Frederick Grey, secretly.

Colton can't help but looked shocked at this admission.

COLTON

You were undercover?

MONEYPENNY

(nods)

James, uh... Bond... had long suspected we had a spy in the ranks. He went to Grey some time ago because, like me, he didn't altogether trust M. He thought he might know the spy's identity.

(chuckles)

Not even Bond thought he was the spy. Perhaps until it was too late.

All this clearly surprises Colton, pretty riveted.

MONEYPENNY (CONT'D)

We - Bond and I - started running the investigation together, hoping to rat the spy out. I never...

(shakes her head)

If I'd have thought it would lead to his death, I never would have...

Colton looks sympathetic as she sees Money Penny holding back tears, clearly wracked with guilt.

MONEYPENNY (CONT'D)

It was just supposed to smoke out Zographos's man in MI6, not to expose Simeon as the man.

(sighs)

I'm as shocked about that as the rest of you.

A little NOD from Colton, understanding this, as Money Penny sees someone over his shoulder.

He turns to see Grey standing in the doorway, looking at them.

CUT TO:

INT. CORRIDOR - MI6 HEADQUARTERS

A stretch of the open-plan Operations corridor, many AGENTS moving around - but Colton stands across from Grey separate from them.

COLTON

(angry)

How could you have let things go this far?!

GREY

I beg your pardon?

COLTON

You got Bond killed! You dropped Money Penny right in the firing line, she could have died! She's bloody lucky she didn't!

GREY

(sharp)

But she didn't.

(Colton seethes)

And 007 died for his country. He knew the risks. The mission was a success, the mole was smoked out.

Grey goes to move off but Colton remains fuming at how unapologetic the man is.

COLTON

(turns)

This is not over. That chip is still out there.

GREY

Zographos will be dealt with in the fullness of time. It's not your concern, Mr. Colton.

(nods)

I'll honour the terms of M's bargain. Your record will be expunged. Now leave our business to us.

COLTON

(fuming)

If anyone else dies because of this, Grey, then it'll be on your head.

Leaving the minister with that, Colton stalks off down the corridor - Grey watching him go with a frown.

CUT TO:

INT. CORRIDOR - OUTSIDE INTERROGATION ROOM

A one-way MIRROR looks into the white room where Simeon remains seated, facing across now from Grey.

PAN AROUND to reveal Colton next to Tanner, standing watching and listening to their conversation.

A beat of silence.

TANNER

(finally; looks at him)

I'm sorry, Colton.

Colton glances at him, not sure what he means.

TANNER (CONT'D)

I'm sorry for not trusting you.

Tanner looks back at the window. Colton smiles a little.

COLTON

It's alright. I wouldn't trust me either.

A grin from Tanner as Colton joins him looking through the window.

CUT TO:

INT. INTERROGATION ROOM - CONTINUOUS

Grey sits, legs crossed and arms folded, looking at Simeon with a deep frown.

SIMEON

You probably think this is over.
You'd be wrong.

(nods)

Zographos isn't just interested in exposing his brothers' killers. They're all dead now. He knows full well that chip is worth billions on the black market. He could expose every single covert intelligence agent on the globe, leading to unprecedented terrorist activity the UN nor the Americans could ever hope to curtail.

(elucidates)

Millions will die if that chip is fully decoded and sold.

If that threat is supposed to get to Grey, it doesn't. He remains staunchly stone-faced.

SIMEON (CONT'D)

I know where Zographos will go to finish working on that chip. Give me immunity, the chance to lead a team there, you can save all those lives.

GREY

(raises eyebrows)

Oh really?

SIMEON

(nods)

If not, then Nemerov knows where I am. And if he doesn't receive word of my safety in one hour, he has orders to storm this building and take me by force.

(firm)

He'll do it. And you'll never see that chip again.

(sits back)

Your move, Sir Frederick.

A long beat as Grey studies Simeon's play, the man staring back at him.

GREY

(finally; calls)

Mr. Tanner?

The door opens and Tanner enters quickly.

GREY (CONT'D)

I want your former superior transferred immediately to our solitary confinement facility in Kent. On the double.

TANNER

(nods)

Sir.

He beckons through the door to two AGENTS who enter, lifting Simeon off his chair.

SIMEON

(to Grey)

That was the last mistake you'll ever make, old friend.

Grey doesn't flinch as Simeon is led to the door, passing Colton as he enters the room.

They exchange a dark look as Simeon is carted out, Tanner following as Colton looks at Grey wondering - is this the right call?

CUT TO:

INT. DEBRIEF ROOM - LATER

Perched over by the window looking out at the Thames, a deep in thought Money Penny cradles a COFFEE in hand.

She's disturbed from her reverie as Colton enters.

MONEYPENNY

What happened?

COLTON

Simeon tried to cut a deal. Grey didn't buy it. They're transferring him now.

(nods)

He'll spend the rest of his life in jail.

MONEYPENNY

(nods)

Then it's over.

Colton doesn't respond as he reaches her - knowing that's not true.

MONEYPENNY (CONT'D)

(sees his expression)

You don't agree.

COLTON

Nemerov, Zographos, the chip...
they're all still out there. MI6
still have work to do.

MONEYPENNY

Maybe. But I don't want any part of
it.

She turns back to the window, sipping her coffee, as Colton
sits next to - just underneath her.

A long beat. Colton looks at Moneypenny, drifting back into
thought.

COLTON

You loved him. Bond.

Moneypenny looks at him. She finally NODS, simply.

MONEYPENNY

(quietly)

He saved the world so many times
and... no one ever knew. Except me.

(smiles)

The world needs men like that.

Colton wonders on that point as she studies him.

MONEYPENNY (CONT'D)

You're a lot like him, you know?
(off Colton's surprised
look)

You have his darkness. And his
hope.

COLTON

(beat)

I also have his sparkling wit and
huge... ego.

(smiles)

So they tell me.

Moneypenny CHUCKLES at that, the mood broken as Colton smiles
at her - more warmth displayed to her than anyone he's been
with so far.

MONEYPENNY

(realises)

Through all of this... I still
don't even know your name.

COLTON

(quietly)

I don't think it matters anymore.

(beat)

But it's Joe.

MONEYPENNY

(smiles)

Joe.

She reaches over, strokes his cheek a little before KISSING him lightly on it.

MONEYPENNY (CONT'D)

(whispers)

Thank you for saving me, Joe.

Colton smiles at her, staring into her eyes as Money Penny looks at him with affection.

CUT TO:

INT. CORRIDOR - OPERATIONS

A number of AGENTS criss-cross the open-plan Operations area, one MAN moving down it.

PAN UP to reveal him carrying a BLACK BRIEFCASE, wearing a smart suit. His face is cold.

TANNER (PRELAP)

The transfer convoy just arrived.

CUT TO:

INT. M'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

The desk is now occupied by Grey, numerous files strewn about in front of him.

Tanner stands across from him, in mid-flow.

TANNER

They estimate a two hour travel time to the Kent facility. I've spoken to our man on the ground.

CUT TO:

EXT. CAR PARK - MI6 HEADQUARTERS

SLOW-MOTION as several GUARDS open the rear doors of a secure PRISON CONVOY VAN.

The shackled form of Simeon is led by armed Agents toward the back of the van, looking back as they bundle him in.

CUT TO:

INT. M'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

RESUME NORMAL SPEED as we're back with Grey and Tanner.

TANNER

We suspect Zographos' operation may well be somewhere in the UK but our analysts can't be a hundred percent certain.

GREY

They need to be, Tanner. Finding that chip is top priority.

(nods)

As is locating Sergei Nemerov before he can do any more--

KNOCK KNOCK!

The door resounds and the BRIEFCASE AGENT enters quickly.

TANNER

What is it, Pierson?

PIERSON

(re: briefcase)

This was delivered a few minutes ago, sir. For the Minister's attention. It's been cleared by security.

PIERSON hands the briefcase to Tanner, before stepping back - arms folded.

Tanner places the case on the desk before Grey, curious, who FLIPS the case open...

...to reveal it's empty bar a folded, unmarked NOTE. He picks it up, opens it and reads as we hear:

NEMEROV (V.O.)

You didn't think Simeon wouldn't have someone on the inside... did you?

Grey, disturbed, looks up at Tanner - curious as to the content.

TANNER

What does it--

BANG! BANG!

Two bullets suddenly fly into Grey's chest, blowing him back into M's chair - DEAD!

Tanner draws his GUN, turns to the source - Pierson! He goes to kill Tanner when:

BANG!

Tanner gets there first, shooting Pierson square in the head - he collapsing DEAD to the floor!

Approaching the body, a shocked Tanner hears a BEEPING coming from him... growing louder and faster...

Tanner RIPS the dead man's shirt open - only to reveal a set of C4 EXPLOSIVES strapped to his body, seconds from detonation!

The beeping reaches a fever pitch as Tanner runs for the exit and:

BOOOOOOOOOOMMMM!!!!

CUT TO:

EXT. VAUXHALL CROSS - CONTINUOUS

A huge EXPLOSION rips out on the building front like an open wound - people along the Thames looking in shock, CARS skidding to a halt on Vauxhall Bridge!

CUT TO:

INT. DEBRIEF ROOM - MI6 HEADQUARTERS

The explosion shakes the building, disturbing Colton and Money Penny as they remain together.

MONEYPENNY

What the bloody Hell was that?!

Quickly, Colton gets up and races for the door as Money Penny follows!

CUT TO:

INT. PRISON CONVOY VAN - CONTINUOUS

The echo of the blast is heard by the GUARDS in the front and back of the van - now holding Simeon.

GUARD #1

Was that a--

GUARD #2

Never mind. Just drive! We've got to get him out of here.

The first Guard guns the engine as Simeon, in the rear, just smiles knowingly.

CUT TO:

INT. OPERATIONS - CONTINUOUS

Running into the open-plan corridor, Colton and Money Penny are stopped by a disturbing sight.

The source of the blast - M's office - is completely gone, exposed to the outside - the interior ON FIRE, few survivors.

MONEY PENNY

Oh my God!

ON TANNER - cut, bruised but thankfully alive, directing survivors to safety away from the fire.

Around them, many Agents are DEAD. Some burned, some crushed. It's horrific.

MONEY PENNY (CONT'D)

Who could have done this?!

Colton looks out of the gaping wound in the building where the office was, to the CAR PARK...

...as he sees the PRISON CONVOY quickly heading out, moving onto the packed Vauxhall Bridge.

COLTON

(realises)

It was a distraction...

MONEY PENNY

What?!

COLTON

This was all to make sure MI6 turned the other way. They're gonna grab Simeon, take out that convoy!

Not wasting a second, Colton moves toward a nearby STAIRWELL but Money Penny GRABS HIS ARM!

MONEY PENNY

Joe, wait!!

COLTON

Stay here! Get to safety!

MONEY PENNY

(quickly)

I'm coming with you!

COLTON

No! It's too--

MONEY PENNY

I know where they'll take him!!

Colton isn't sure how but sees the determination on her face.

COLTON

Come on!

He grabs Money Penny's hand and they break for the stairs.

CUT TO:

EXT. VAUXHALL BRIDGE - DAY

Many of the CARS are moving along slowly, stopping to look at the huge pillar of smoke now erupting from the MI6 BUILDING.

Swerving around the traffic as best it can, moving to get away, the Convoy continues on.

WHIP PAN to reveal a CAR doing exactly the same thing, following. PUSH IN to reveal Colton and Money Penny inside, he driving!

CUT TO:

INT. PRISON CONVOY VAN - CONTINUOUS

The Guards all look nervous as the one drives fast, clearly afraid of what's coming.

Simeon sits calmly, despite being buffeted by the swerving.

SIMEON

(calm)

You're all going to die, you know?

One of the Guards looks at him with undisguised fear as Simeon smiles a little.

CUT TO:

EXT. VAUXHALL BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

PPFFFFSSSSSSSSSSSSST!!!!

A MISSILE suddenly snakes from the Thames right in the direction of the moving Convoy van...

...which it impacts in a BLAST that blows the van right off the bridge, in a 360 degree spin, landing hard in the water next to it!

The blast BLOWS UP several surrounding CARS in the detonation, causing all the others to brake hard - many skidding and crashing!

WHIP PAN to reveal the source of the missile... Nemerov.

He stands on a SPEEDBOAT in the Thames, dropping a rocket launcher as he barks in Russian to two other VORY GANGSTERS on the boat with him.

It guns rapidly under the bridge and toward the Convoy van, it's smoking form now sinking into the river.

CUT TO:

EXT. VAUXHALL BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

Skidding their car to a halt, Colton and Moneypenny both jump out - seeing a maze of TRAFFIC before them!

They begin running through it as they see the BOAT emerge on the other side of the bridge.

CUT TO:

EXT. UNDER THE THAMES RIVER - CONTINUOUS

The Convoy van is SINKING fast, the fire and smoke being put out by the water now flooding the interior.

CUT TO:

INT. PRISON CONVOY VAN - CONTINUOUS

Water is cascading into the back of the van, the one remaining Guard - two others killed in the explosion - desperately trying to KICK the rear door open!

Simeon stands at the back of the van, water about to drown him... but he's calm. He knows he's got a way out.

Finally... **SLAM!**

The door gives as the rear is totally flooded with water, the Guard pushing the door fully open just as:

PPFFFT!!

A HARPOON impacts him hard in the chest, the Guard sagging DEAD instantly!

Nemerov, swimming with a BREATHING APPARATUS in his mouth, holds a HARPOON GUN as he moves toward the back of the van.

He sees Simeon, still cuffed, grabbing and dragging him out of the van.

CUT TO:

EXT. VAUXHALL BRIDGE - CONTINUOUS

A mass of DRIVERS and PEDESTRIANS are now looking over the bridge - both at the sunken van and boat but also at the MI6 BUILDING.

Colton and Moneypenny finish snaking through the cars, reaching the blast zone - looking over the bridge...

...just in time to see Nemerov climb back onto the boat, he and the Gangsters hauling Simeon on too.

They watch, helpless, as Nemerov guns the boat off swiftly down the river!

MONEYPENNY

(worried)

He got away.

COLTON

(turns to her; quickly)

You said you knew where he was going.

(off her look)

Time to talk.

Off Moneypenny's expression, seeing Colton wants answers, we...

CUT TO:

EXT. CORNISH COASTLINE - DAY

A hazy afternoon rests over the Cornish coastline, the little village of Marazion framing an ATOLL containing a historic building.

St Michael's Mount, CORNWALL



A small island topped off with a glorious ancient CASTLE high up, surrounded by shrubbery - a testament to a forgotten time.

CUT TO:

EXT. DOCK - ST MICHAEL'S MOUNT - DAY

A small, old wooden dock on which now stands two armed GREEK MEN - all dressed in black - watching as a SPEEDBOAT begins heading for it.

The boat finally docks, depositing Simeon - now changed and free of his shackles - followed by Nemerov and two armed Russians.

GREEK MAN #1

(broken English)

Mr. Simeon. Mr. Zographos has been waiting for you.

(nods)

This way.

Simeon and Nemerov exchange a look as the Greek Men begin leading their entourage off the dock.

We PAN UP to reveal the CASTLE in the near distance - their destination.

CUT TO:

INT. PRIVATE LAB - ST MICHAEL'S CASTLE

A very advanced lab has been constructed within a converted old hall in the castle - a DOMED GLASS ROOF allowing natural light through.

Zographos stands at the heart of it, overseeing numerous PROGRAMMERS still working on the CHIP - once again ringed by mainframes.

He hears a side door open and turns as his Greek Men lead in Simeon, Nemerov and their Russian entourage.

The atmosphere is highly tense. Everyone has one finger on their triggers.

Nemerov stands back as Simeon moves to face Zographos.

SIMEON

Milos.

ZOGRAPHOS

Darius.

It looks like it's about to explode... and then Zographos begins to LAUGH. Simeon too.

The two men further approach each other, sharing a brief manly hug - these guys aren't enemies!

ZOGRAPHOS (CONT'D)

We did it, Darius. We left MI6 chasing after their own tails and now everything is on track.

SIMEON

Except of course my being compromised. We were meant to pin it all on Bond.

(tips his head)

Or should I say, Colton.

ZOGRAPHOS

You improvised well, my friend.

SIMEON

We must not be complacent. MI6 will regroup, they'll be coming.

(nods)

This has to all be done today.

ZOGRAPHOS

(nods)

It will be. The chip has been fully reprogrammed to expose every undercover agent on the planet.

(smiles)

And the bidders will be here in...

Almost theatrically, Zographos checks his watch.

ZOGRAPHOS (CONT'D)

...less than five minutes.

Simeon NODS, glancing at Nemerov behind, pleased.

CUT TO:

EXT. MARAZION COASTLINE - DAY

Another speedboat - off the coast of the picturesque village of Marazion - appears into view, holding two familiar figures:

COLTON AND MONEYPENNY

They see the Mount in the near distance just across the water.

MONEYPENNY

That's it. St. Michael's Mount.

COLTON

Zographos lives here?

MONEYPENNY

Only recently. He bought out Lord St Levan, who's family had been here eight hundred years, just a few months ago.

COLTON

I'm not even going to guess how much he paid.

Moneypenny NODS as both are distracted by the sound of ROTOR BLADES - looking up as three HELICOPTERS appear over Marazion, heading for the Mount.

COLTON (CONT'D)

Let me guess. The bidders?

MONEYPENNY

(nods)

Most likely. Zographos had been setting up a sale for a while, consulting with Chinese, Russian and Indian representatives.

(MORE)

MONEYPENNY (CONT'D)

(beat)

They've come a long way for this.

COLTON

Then we have to spoil their trip.

That chip has to be destroyed.

(thinks)

Can you use a gun?

Colton PROFFERS a GUN from his back pocket - offering it to Money Penny.

She takes it, COCKING the weapon with a skill and efficiency she didn't show back on Grouse Mountain.

COLTON (CONT'D)

(smiles)

Let's do this.

Colton guns the speedboat toward St. Michael's island.

CUT TO:

EXT. ROOF - ST MICHAEL'S CASTLE

The large tower roof of the castle is large enough to hold the three HELICOPTERS which fly in and begin landing.

Simeon, Zographos, Nemerov and a mixture of Russian and Greek GUARDS all stand watching the guests arrive.

NEMEROV

The Russian contingent holds my funds. I'm representing a consortium of oligarchies with a vested interest in global politick.

A NOD from Zographos, Simeon seemingly paying no mind, as the BUYERS begin stepping from the landed helicopters.

Simeon and Zographos move forward to greet them as Nemerov watches on, a gleam of something in his eye - what's he up to?

CUT TO:

EXT. DOCK - ST MICHAEL'S MOUNT

Quietly as possible, the speedboat crawls up to the wooden dockside - Colton parking it alongside the villain's one.

Weapon in hand, Colton skips off onto the jetty - giving Money Penny a hand as she jumps too, holding her weapon.

They creep up the dock, Colton stopping them as he sees something.

MONEYPENNY

(whispers)

What?

COLTON

Patrol.

(points)

There and there.

He motions to two Greek Guards - oblivious - patrolling different parts of the island shore.

Colton begins leading he and Money Penny, in full stealth, to a path leading up to the Castle - directly ahead of the dock.

COLTON (CONT'D)

(whispers)

If you come up against one of them,
you can't hesitate to fire. They'll
do you the same courtesy.

He looks back, sees the nervousness in Money Penny's face. He stops them.

COLTON (CONT'D)

You've never killed anyone, have
you?

Money Penny SHAKES HER HEAD and Colton smiles mournfully, clearly wishing the same.

COLTON (CONT'D)

Stay close to me.

Colton pulses up the path, Money Penny with him, the Guards never seeing them go.

CUT TO:

INT. PRIVATE LAB - ST MICHAEL'S CASTLE

The door slides open as Zographos is the first in, leading a smartly dressed CHINESE WOMAN, small INDIAN MAN and tall RUSSIAN MAN through into the lab.

All are carrying BRIEFCASES, slim-line and identical.

ZOGRAPHOS

Behold, what you have come so very
far to see...

(indicates mainframe)

The chip.

The buyers all observe the CHIP as Zographos stands nearby.

Behind them, Simeon enters followed by Nemerov, both watching the scene unfold.

ZOGRAPHOS (CONT'D)

With this technology, those you represent will dominate global politics unhindered. No intelligence agency will ever trouble you again.

(smiles)

Shall we get to business, ladies and gentlemen?

Zographos approaches a TABLE at the heart of the room, all three buyers placing their briefcases on it.

ZOGRAPHOS (CONT'D)

A wireless router has been set up to receive your individual bids. Whoever inputs the highest wins.

(nods)

If you'd like to open your briefcases, we can begin.

China goes first, revealing a slimline LAPTOP inside. It powers up, connects to the router.

Next India - much the same kind of LAPTOP within, it connecting quickly.

Simeon looks at Nemerov, who NODS at the Russian BUYER - flipping open the briefcase not to reveal a laptop...

...but a pair of TWIN UZI'S!

As Zographos sees what's inside, he looks up at the Russian:

ZOGRAPHOS (CONT'D)

What is the meaning of--

Nemerov quickly GRABS the guns from the case and:

PPFFFFFFTTT!!!

In a hail of bullets, he GUNS DOWN both the Chinese Woman and Indian Man - falling DEAD instantly!

He turns to Zographos, gunning his Greek Guards next to him down as those around draw GUNS - shot dead at close quarters by Nemerov's Vory Gangsters, as are the Programmers!

Silence pervades the room once all fall dead and Zographos stands shocked...

...as Simeon approaches Nemerov, taking one of the Uzi's from him.

SIMEON

I'm sorry, Milos... but there's been a change of plan.

Off Zographos' stunned expression as Nemerov trains his weapon on him, we...

CUT TO:

EXT. ST MICHAEL'S MOUNT - DAY

PPFFT! PFFT!!

A Greek Guard falls DEAD as two silenced bullets strike him in the chest - fired by Colton as he emerges from the shrubbery.

Up ahead, directly in front of them, lies ST MICHAEL'S CASTLE.

MONEYPENNY

According to the plans, Zographos built a lab inside the top floor structure.

COLTON

Access?

MONEYPENNY

A skylight. Might be the safest way in.

Colton NODS, looking up at the Castle - soon seeing a large amount of SCAFFOLDING on the outside leading up to the roof.

Perfect.

As Money penny looks around, keeping watch for guards, they approach the scaffolding and Colton SHAKES it a little - testing the strength.

COLTON

It's safe. Come on.

With that, Colton begins climbing up the side of the scaffold and, pocketing the gun, Money penny does the same.

PULL BACK to see them as small figures inching their way up the tall, ancient structure.

CUT TO:

EXT. ROOF - ST MICHAEL'S CASTLE

Clearing the scaffolding, Colton sees a patrolling GUARD up ahead - back turned to him, oblivious.

He paces over toward him and just as the Guard detects movement, Colton GRABS him from behind and twists his NECK silently with a CRACK!

Moving back to the scaffolding, Colton sees Money Penny scaling the top - lifting her up with a helping hand.

She sees the crumpled Guard, a little disturbed at the manner of his despatch.

COLTON
Skylight's nearby.

Colton moves off across the roof, Money Penny following - both seeing the three HELICOPTERS parked across the way.

Ahead of them - the SKYLIGHT leading into the lab.

Approaching carefully, Colton and Money Penny both CROUCH as they look down inside...

...sharing a surprised look to see the litter of death and Zographos being held at gunpoint.

CUT TO:

INT. PRIVATE LAB - CONTINUOUS

Holding the weapon free in his hand, Simeon paces over to the angry Zographos - hands not raised.

SIMEON
I never intended on letting you sell the chip. Your resources were a means to an end in getting it reprogrammed.

(cocks head)

Nemerov and I will be paid by our paymasters - the oligarchies of Russia who can use what's on that chip to ransom the West for anything they desire. They'll rule the world... and we'll help control it.

ZOGRAPHOS

(beat)

I may not have liked my brother... but I should have killed you for ordering his death.

SIMEON
You know something, Milos?
(nods)
You're absolutely right.

PPFFFT!!!

Simeon raises the Uzi and unleashes a shower of bullets into Zographos' frame - he sent flying back, slamming up the wall!

Eyes wide, blood cascading from his chest, Zographos slumps.
DEAD.

A beat as Simeon looks at the body. He shows no remorse.

SIMEON (CONT'D)
(still looking)
Nemerov. Pack up the chip,
carefully. And have your men ready
the lab.
(beat)
It's time we cleared up this mess.

Nemerov NODS and sees Simeon begin heading for the door.

SIMEON (CONT'D)
I'll be in the chopper.

As Simeon disappears out the door, Nemerov begins barking
orders at his Russian Vory.

CUT TO:

EXT. ROOF - ST MICHAEL'S CASTLE - CONTINUOUS

Shocked by what they've just seen, Colton and Moneypenny both
continue watching.

COLTON
I've got to stop them before they
get away with that chip.

MONEYPENNY
Let me take care of the
helicopters. We cut off their
escape route, we can keep them
pinned down until the cavalry gets
here.

COLTON
(nods)
Good idea. I'm going down.

Grasping a WINDOW on the skylight, Colton manages to force it
open - lifting it up ready to climb.

As he moves in, Moneypenny touches his arm. He stops. She
leans in and KISSES him tenderly on the lips, lingering for a
few seconds.

MONEYPENNY
(finally)
Just in case.

Colton smiles a little before he NODS as Moneypenny takes off
in the direction of the helicopters.

Watching her go for a split second longer, Colton finally moves through the skylight window into:

INT. PRIVATE LAB - CONTINUOUS

The ceiling of the lab, domed glass roof above him. Colton perches on a ledge, looking down.

ANGLE ON LAB

Where one of the Vory places the CHIP carefully inside a metal box as Nemerov watches, seeing it sealed.

NEMEROV

(in Russian)

Deliver it to Simeon. Be careful.
It's worth more than your life.

The Russian goon NODS and swiftly heads off out the door.

ON COLTON - watching him go. He looks about and steadily begins inching his way down the wall, using the old LEDGES as purchase to descend.

ON NEMEROV - who approaches the central mainframe, pushing the body of a Greek Programmer aside.

He sees another of his men setting a powerful EXPLOSIVE ready on it.

NEMEROV (CONT'D)

Five minute countdown. That's all
we need.

The Russian NODS and sets the timer to 5:00... instantly ticking down.

Shouting to the other Vory milling around, Nemerov barks at them all to head out - the men moving to the door.

Nemerov looks at the explosive one last time, begins to make for the door...

...when suddenly, like an eagle picking off prey, Colton LEAPS from the wall a good twenty feet in the air and LANDS hard on Nemerov!

The villain SMASHES his head onto a CONSOLE, knocked out instantly! Colton comes into a FORWARD ROLL and gets to his feet...

...facing four armed Vory Gangsters who all raise their weapons to fire!

Colton wastes no time - he's on them with a flurry of close-quarter combat in seconds, PUNCHING one while DISABLING the other!

CUT TO:

EXT. ROOF - ST MICHAEL'S CASTLE

SLICE!

Money Penny CUTS into the fuel tank of the Indian helicopter, FUEL draining out instantly to the floor!

She looks to her right, seeing the Chinese chopper leaking too having cut that - the KNIFE in her hand doing the job.

Gun poised, Money Penny moves over to the Russian helicopter, is about to slice when: CLICK!

SIMEON (O.C.)

Drop it!

Money Penny looks up... feels the GUN placed at the back of her neck as we PULL BACK to see Simeon squaring it.

SIMEON (CONT'D)

Afraid I'm going to need that ride home, Jane.

Off a worried Money Penny as she DROPS the KNIFE and the GUN, we...

SMASH CUT TO:

INT. PRIVATE LAB - CONTINUOUS

As before. Colton right in a flurry of combat.

Two Vory are down and Colton DUCKS a hatchet swipe by a third, spinning around him and SMASHING his foot into the man's knee - CRACKING it!

He hits the deck as the final Vory GRABS Colton from behind, trying to choke him with his elbow!

ON COLTON - who looks at the explosive. It ticks over to **02:58... 57... 56...**

Running out of time, Colton FLIPS UP and as his foot KNOCKS OUT the floored Vory in front of him, he thunders his feet into the wall and pushes back!

The Vory choking him SLAMS into a console, loosening his grip - allowing Colton to REVERSE HEADBUTT him, before turning and SLAMMING his head into the console!

As he collapses unconscious, Colton steps back... before running to the explosive:

2:10...09...08...

Colton prepares to open the explosive up when suddenly a manic CRY accompanies a LENGTH OF ROPE wrapped around his neck from behind...

...pulled by Nemerov, head bleeding, a psychotic glint in his eye!

CUT TO:

EXT. ROOF - ST MICHAEL'S CASTLE

As before. Money Penny at Simeon's mercy, gun pressed into her neck. She stands.

SIMEON

You should never have gotten Bond involved in this whole thing, you know? Things may have turned out so much differently.

MONEYPENNY

Stop it!

Money Penny holds her nerve, despite his words cutting deep.

SIMEON

Who knows? When he retired, you may have been together. Had a family. Everything he never wanted.

(shakes his head)

Instead, you got him killed. Left for dead the one man who could have stopped me being richer than God.

MONEYPENNY

Colton will stop you.

Simeon just laughs loudly at this, disquieting Money Penny.

SIMEON

Colton? I put him here. He was my insurance, my scapegoat. I made him Bond to take the fall for everything I'd done. I created him!

(nods)

I can kill him just as easily.

A nearby DOOR then opens and through it emerges the Russian Vory holding the metal box.

Simeon turns and sees the delivery, sees the Russian place it inside the helicopter.

SIMEON (CONT'D)

Ah good. The postman has arrived.

(nods to Russian;

(MORE)

SIMEON (CONT'D)

re: Money Penny)

Clean up this mess, will you?

The Russian pulls out his GUN, aiming it at Money Penny as Simeon approaches the helicopter.

He SQUEEZES THE TRIGGER... but Money Penny hits the ground, grabbing her gun as she rolls onto her back, squares it at the Russian and:

BANG!

She blows a hole through the Russian's chest - the man slumping in surprise next to the chopper.

ON MONEY PENNY - horrified at having taken a man's life, shaking a little, before she remembers herself.

Turning, she aims the weapon right at Simeon - who's still got his squared at her!

MONEY PENNY

Get away from there, you son of a bitch!

SIMEON

(nods)

That's what Nemerov will be calling me once he realises I'm cutting him out.

(smiles)

If, of course, he survives.

On that, Simeon begins to enter the helicopter - gun always trained on Money Penny.

SIMEON (CONT'D)

(stops)

If Colton does too, tell him what I said.

Entering the helicopter, securing the chip box safely, Simeon begins activating the controls.

The ROTOR BLADES begin whirring, his escape in effect, Money Penny only able to look on - weapon aimed at the helicopter, not knowing what to do.

She looks back, freaked out, at the man she just killed.

CUT TO:

INT. PRIVATE LAB - CONTINUOUS

As before. Colton CHOKES as Nemerov tightens the rope around his neck, pulling with all his gusto!

The countdown stands at 01:11... 10...

NEMEROV

(snarls)

You never should have tried to be
Bond, Colton!

(growls)

He was the best. And we still
killed him!!

Nemerov tightens even further, mania behind the eyes, as Colton flails desperately.

With a final reserve of strength, face going blue, Colton reaches out and manages to GRAB one of the discarded GUNS from a downed Vory.

He aims it back and FIRES: **BANG!**

Nemerov screams as a bullet impacts him in the THIGH, he losing his purchase on the rope! Colton rips it off him as he COUGHS violently!

He sees the countdown: **00:40... 39...**

Seeing Nemerov clutching his aching thigh wound, Colton turns to kill him and FIRES... but the Uzi is empty!

Damn!

Tossing it aside, Colton makes for the skylight - racing to the wall, beginning to scale up the ledge as best he can!

He climbs when suddenly, with a primal shout, Nemerov GRABS the bottom of his feet - attempting to yank him down!

Colton falls a few ledges, just getting his footing...

...as he turns and KICKS Nemerov hard in the face, the wounded Russian collapsing back to the floor with a THUMP!

Quickly, Colton turns and begins scaling the ledges once more, reaching the skylight window.

ANGLE ON COUNTDOWN

00:05... 04... 03... 02... 01...

And Nemerov, floored in the middle of the lab, SCREAMS with insanity as:

CUT TO:

EXT. ROOF - ST MICHAEL'S CASTLE - CONTINUOUS

BOOOOOOOOOOMMMMMMM!!!

A massive EXPLOSION blasts through the skylight, shattering the entire glass, seconds after Colton climbs through - blown to the hard ground!

It reverberates, a chain reaction of explosions blowing through the entire Castle, shaking it's entire foundations - chunks EXPLODING everywhere!

ANGLE ON MONEYPENNY

As she's sent flying to the floor, gun lost over the side, rolling as EXPLOSIONS blast away up on the roof - like gusts of exploding magma!

COLTON (O.C.)

JANE!!

Moneypenny looks up as Colton, trying to avoid the blasts and keep his balance, approaches.

MONEYPENNY

JOE!!!

(he arrives)

Simeon! He got away!

She points up at the sky - where the Russian HELICOPTER sails off out to sea, fully escaped.

COLTON

We have to go!!

MONEYPENNY

But Simeon!--

COLTON

FORGET HIM!!!

Moneypenny sees he means it as Colton holds her face in his hands, before taking her hand in his.

BOOOOM!!! BOOOOM!!!

The entire Mount continues exploding around them as Colton and Moneypenny run to the edge of the roof...

...and LEAP OFF in SLOW-MOTION, falling rapidly toward the ocean hundreds of feet below as:

BOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOOMMMMM!!!!!!!!!!!!

The entire Castle EXPLODES in a titanic blast, chunks of rubble scattering everywhere - flying into the sea - as a huge plume of smoke impacts the air!

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. BEACH - MARAZION - LATER

The burning wreck of the Mount visible in the distance, FIRE CREWS and POLICE now flooding it, two figures emerge from the tide:

COLTON AND MONEYPENNY

Cut, bruised, exhausted - they collapse onto the remote cove of the beach and look back, seeing the destruction on the atoll nearby.

A long beat as they lie next to each other, recovering their breath.

MONEYPENNY
 (between breaths)
 We failed.
 (shakes her head)
 We failed.

And there's nothing they can say, Colton knowing the truth full well.

Off his defeated-looking face, we...

CUT TO:

EXT. RAILWAY LINE - DUSK

A rail line cutting through the gorgeous Cornish countryside as the Sun goes down - a small, old TRAIN moving along the track.

CUT TO:

INT. TRAIN

The interior is deserted, all except Colton and Moneyppenny - sitting across from each other in silence, letting themselves be jostled by the train movement.

A long beat - Colton looking out the window as Moneyppenny stares at him.

MONEYPENNY
 This is your chance, you know?
 (off his look)
 To run. Go back to the life you had before.

COLTON
 (beat)
 I had no life. It was an existence.
 A shell.
 (shakes his head)
 I can't go back to that now.

Moneyppenny realises a profound change has happened in him.

COLTON (CONT'D)
 In becoming someone else, becoming
 James Bond... I'm not the same man.
 (MORE)

COLTON (CONT'D)

(nods)

It's time I took another path.

MONEYPENNY

You could return to MI6. Help them truly finish this.

COLTON

(looks over)

With you?

MONEYPENNY

(little smile)

No...

Colton frowns a little as Moneypenney leans forward, considering her words.

MONEYPENNY (CONT'D)

I don't want to live in that world. Of fear. Of danger. Of... death.

(shakes her head)

I want a normal life.

As Colton realises she means it, the train begins slowing - pulling into a provincial VILLAGE STATION.

MONEYPENNY (CONT'D)

This is my stop.

COLTON

Since when?

MONEYPENNY

(smiles)

Since now.

Moneypenney gets up and Colton stands too, escorting her to the nearby door.

They face each other and Moneypenney takes his head in her hands and gives him a loving, goodbye KISS on the lips.

MONEYPENNY (CONT'D)

(whispers)

The world needs James Bond.

The train stops. The doors open.

And with one final smile, Moneypenney disembarks - the doors closing after her.

It starts up again - Colton watching as Moneypenney disappears from sight on the train platform, he going in another direction.

Off his expression, looking at her for the last time, we...

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. RED SQUARE - NIGHT

The historic square, covered in a thick layer of snow - numerous CARS and PEDESTRIANS moving around amidst the glorious buildings.

MOSCOW, Russia



A sleek black CAR pulls up, a CHAUFFEUR stepping out and opening the rear door. A pair of black brogues step out, crunching onto the icy snow.

PAN UP to reveal the figure to be Darius Simeon - in a smart suit with thick black overcoat, holding a slimline BRIEFCASE.

He looks down at it, smugness evident all over his face, before he begins walking toward the historic Kazan Cathedral just across the way.

CUT TO:

INT. KAZAN CATHEDRAL - CONTINUOUS

The towering, beautiful cathedral is open but now deserted as Simeon enters - walking up the aisle, his footsteps echoing on the stone.

He passes the rows of PEWS, the gloomy interior lit only by rows of CANDLES. It lends the place an evocative, if slightly eerie, air.

Simeon stops at the ALTAR at the end, looking up at the statue of the Lord on the Cross. Then:

FOOTSTEPS

He turns upon hearing someone having entered, following his movement up the aisle. They echo as his did.

Simeon CHECKS HIS WATCH as he steps down a little to meet the approaching, shadowed, visitor.

SIMEON

(smiles; in Russian)

You are early. One appreciates Russian punctuality.

No response. The footsteps begin to coalesce into a tall figure on approach.

SIMEON (CONT'D)

I suggest we get right down to business, comrade.

COLTON (O.C.)

I couldn't agree more.

The familiar voice, in full British drawl, instantly shocks Simeon just as:

BANG!

A gunshot echoes incredibly loudly through the Cathedral and Simeon SCREAMS loudly - dropping the briefcase as a bullet sails right through his hand!

He drops to his knees, groaning as he clutches the bleeding wound, looking up as Colton is finally revealed as he strides out of the gloom.

He wears a fine, pinstripe SUIT with similar overcoat - and squares a WALTHER PPK right at his enemy.

COLTON (CONT'D)

The oligarch you were expecting won't be able to make your little sale, comrade.

Simeon looks up at him with hate as Colton crouches nearby, flipping open the briefcase...

...to reveal the CHIP lying safely protected inside. Colton picks it up and looks at it carefully... before he loosens his grip on it...

SIMEON

NO!!!

And the chip falls, in SLOW-MOTION, finally SHATTERING on the hard stone of the Cathedral floor.

RESUME SPEED as Simeon looks at all of his work going up in smoke, looking back up at Colton angrily - seeing the man training the gun on him again.

COLTON

It's over, Simeon.

A beat... and then Simeon, perhaps a touch crazed, begins to LAUGH.

SIMEON

(between laughter)

So what now? Are you going to shoot me, Mr. Colton?

Colton just looks at him with cold, dead eyes - watching Simeon still laugh.

SIMEON (CONT'D)

(shakes his head)

You don't have a license to kill.
The only man who could have killed
me... was James Bond.

SIMEON'S P.O.V

Looking directly up at Colton... and it's his turn to smile.

COLTON

(calmly)

I am James Bond.

On that, the man we shall now know as JAMES BOND, raises his
GUN directly to our view, to Simeon, and:

BANG!

As the 'James Bond Theme' by Monty Norman kicks in, the
bullet flies right at us as we...

BLACK OUT:

THE EDGE OF LIFE
O
7

Cast

**HENRY CAVILL
F. MURRAY ABRAHAM
KELLY REILLY
BRIAN COX
KONSTANTIN KHABENSKY
NOEMIE LENOIR
IDRIS ELBA
IAN McDIARMID
MARK DACASCOS
CHRISTOPH WALTZ
KATIE CASSIDY
OLIVER FORD DAVIES**

**Joe Colton
Milos Zographos
Jane Money Penny
Darius Simeon/ 'M'
Sergei Nemerov
Aurora Latrelle
Bill Tanner
Sir Frederick Grey
Cheng Zha
The Doktor
Natalie
Hutchinson**

and

CLIVE OWEN

James Bond 007

JAMES BOND WILL RETURN

O

7

TO

MZP

IN

THE DEVIL IN THE DETAIL