“DOA FOR A DAY”

EPISODE #415

WRITTEN BY

JOHN DOVE
&
PETER M. LENKOV

DIR: Christine Moore
CAST LIST

MAC TAYLOR
STELLA BONASERA
DANNY MESSER
DR. SHELDON HAWKES
DET. DON FLACK
LINDSAY MONROE

DET. JESSICA ANGELL
ADAM ROSS
DR. SID HAMMERBACK
SUSPECT X

RUSS MCHENRY  (War hero and son of one of Suspect X’s previous vics, Judge McHenry)
JORDAN GATES  (the Mayor’s Criminal Justice Coordinator Mac’s helped before; Kelly’s boss)
BARTENDER  (At Club Random, the Cosplay club)
TAYLOR AVATAR  (Is killed by Suspect X’s Avatar at the club)
SUSPECT X AVATAR  (Let’s our team know she’s watching)

Featured Characters (non-speaking only)
Male (V.O. only) (NY Crime Catchers)
Unis
Kelly Mann (Vic made to look like Suspect X; Jordan Gates’ assistant)
ND Techs
M.E. Techs
Detectives
Mayor’s Protection Detail
Sound Techs
Club Random Patrons
Dr. Joseph Kirkbaum (made Kelly Mann look like Suspect X as payback to her but then became her vic as well)
ESU Officers Sergeants Williams and Clark (on teleconference)
FBI Special Agents Steve Beck and Kevin Halinan (on teleconference)
ND Woman (Disguised as Suspect X sent in by her to make sure it’s not a trap)
Uniformed Officer
ESU Officers
Pedestrians
“DOA for a Day”

Ep. #415

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SPECIAL SHOTS

CSI NY SHOTS –
Screws Being Driven into the Skull During Surgery
Tiny Particles of Blood Fly & Land on Coveralls

SERIES OF PHOTOS –
Of our Butcher Block Torture Vic
CSI: NEW YORK

"DOA for a Day"

TEASER

FADE IN:

1  EXT. NEW YORK SKYLINE - LATE NIGHT

The whole island. In the shadow of dark clouds. DRIFT OVER like some unseen biblical wraith searching for a sacrifice. Over this we HEAR the NY CRIME CATCHERS theme, a Dragnet-inspired riff, both earnest and urgent.

MALE (V.O.)
This is New York Crime Catchers...

PUSH IN ON the Jumbotron at ONE TIMES SQUARE: A GRAPHIC appears for this slick weekly PSA: "NY CRIME CATCHERS."

MALE (V.O.)
Tonight the New York City Police Department is asking for your help. At approximately 11:30pm on October 24th --

SEGUE INTO A SUPER STYLIZED SERIES OF SHOTS -- TV's around the city (in bars, laundromats, store windows, etc.) as the Crime Catchers Re-enactment (played by ND actors reprising various low budget key scenes from episode 405) unfolds --

VIDEO SHOOT: A VENUS/CHERYL LOOK-ALIKE walks down a dark alley. A TITLE flashes: RE-ENACTMENT.

MALE (V.O.)
-- Cheryl Miller was leaving a New York dance club and on her way home. It was at this time that she was approached by a female suspect, who forced her into a nearby warehouse.

VIDEO SHOOT: A SUSPECT X LOOK-ALIKE, armed with a handgun, gets the jump on Cheryl/Venus.

MALE (V.O.)
The attacker then pulled a gun and fired upon the victim, killing her instantly.

VIDEO SHOOT: Suspect X look-alike aims and FIRES!

MALE (V.O.)
The suspect is also believed to be responsible for the murders of Judge Daniel McHenry, a resident of New Jersey...

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

A PHOTO of McHenry appears followed by one of Devane.

MALE (V.O.)
... And New York representative, Congressman Philip Devane.

Next up: A composite sketch of Suspect X with data: KEY SUSPECT. WHITE FEMALE. 5'8" 110 lbs. Blonde hair.

MALE (V.O.)
The suspect is a white female. 5 foot 8. 110 ten pounds with medium length blonde hair. If you have any information about this case call the New York Crime Catchers tip line at 1-800-555-0199. Remember, every call is confidential.

EXT. NEW YORK SKYLINE - NIGHT/DAY

RESUME AERIAL as TIME CRUNCHES... NIGHT turns into DAY....then NIGHT again. We HEAR a phone RING, then:

MALE VOICE (V.O.)
Crime Catchers, how can I help you?

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE CALLER (V.O.)
... I saw her... the blonde woman the police are looking for... I know where she is...

EXT. NYC STREET - NIGHT [1]

TIGHT: A faded sign on an abandoned warehouse -- "VENETTI MEATS -- EST. 1947." PULL BACK TO REVEAL THE IMAGE IS PART OF A LIVE POLE CAMERA FEED being transmitted to a LAPTOP COMPUTER resting on the HOOD of a POLICE CRUISER.

WIDEN TO REVEAL MAC TAYLOR and STELLA BONASERA gearing up, slipping on TAC vests. They are being briefed by DETECTIVE DON FLACK flanked by an ESU ENTRY TEAM. Wallet-size composite sketches of Suspect X are circulated. The ESU Team fix them to their gloves for quick identification.

DET. FLACK
-- building's been vacant for over two years. New York Power Corp detected an abnormal usage spike from an adjacent building.

STELLA
Someone's piggybacking on the neighbor's electric service. Mac,
this tip looks like the real deal.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

Mac responds with a tight nod. Impatient. He is, as he is with all of his unsolved cases, a man possessed. Suspect X's escape has haunted him for weeks.

**DETECTIVE JESSICA ANGELL** arrives carrying a 12-gauge.

**DET. ANGELL**
Perimeter is locked down. We are good to go.

**DET. FLACK**
All right. Listen up...

He grabs the PDA sitting on a hood. **REVEALS A SCHEMATIC of the warehouse on screen.** Holds it for everyone to see.

**DET. FLACK**
We'll be entering the location through a side entrance... Here -- this will be our primary access and egress point. And I want radio silence. Suspect is technologically sophisticated.

**MAC**
Guys, make no mistake, this woman will be armed and very dangerous. She is a shooter. Killing is nothing more than an instinct. During our last pursuit, I saw her cut down an unarmed civilian without even blinking. So she will not think twice about putting a bullet in you... play it smart.

He snaps an RLS (Rapid Light System) onto the barrel of his service revolver, then checks the load.

**MAC**
Let's get her.

**INT. VENETTI MEATS - CORRIDOR - NIGHT**

Mac leads his stealth team... through the primary access point... into the quiet, dimly-lit corridor, rife with eerie shadows. Remnants of a meat packing plant remain. **WOOD SHAVINGS** litter the floor. Empty MEAT HOOKS caked in dried blood. Empty ICE BOXES. Rats scurry by.

They come to the end of the corridor. Using hand signals, Mac directs Stella and Det. Flack to sweep left with a contingent of three ESU Officers. As they move off --

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

-- Mac and Det. Angell enter into a larger room with two ESU Officers trailing.

INT. VENETTI MEATS - MAIN WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

They continue on -- finally arriving at a nest of Alienware Area-51 laptops. ON EACH SCREEN: STATIC/ELECTRIC SNOW. Mac looks from the monitors to the CURTAIN up ahead -- his RLS falls on the PLASTIC THERMAL STRIPS leading into a BUTCHERING ROOM. Mac catches Det. Angell's eyes and waves her on.

INT. VENETTI MEATS - BUTCHERING ROOM - NIGHT

Mac and Det. Angell push through the curtains -- RLS's sweeping over a large STEEL TABLE covered with an assortment of WIGS, COSTUMES, MAKEUP and COLOR CONTACT LENSES. The wall above the table is a crude PHOTO GALLERY. An array of trophy photos. All of them gunshot victims. Past kills.

Mac pushes on... and up ahead finds something that stops him dead in his tracks. REVEAL THE GRUESOME SIGHT -- A WOMAN in BLOOD STAINED CLOTHING, on her back, hands cuffed over her head and draped over a large BUTCHER BLOCK, head hanging off the edge. A PUDDLE OF BLOOD staining the floor beneath her.

Mac and Det. Angell clear the room. Behind them, Stella and Det. Flack enter --

STELLA
Perimeter's clear...

DET. FLACK
Man, that's brutal.

They approach the body. RLS's fall on the HANDLE of a KNIFE protruding from the top of the vic's skull.

DET. ANGELL
Cause of death is no mystery.

Mac gloves up and gently lifts the victim's drooping head with one hand. Pushes the hair out of her face -- finally revealing who it is -- SUSPECT X. Her lifeless eyes and pained expression tell the tale of a painful death.

STELLA
Is that Suspect X?

DET. FLACK
Mac, you were the only one to come face to face with her.

POP FLASH TO:
INT. CORRIDOR - CONGRESSMAN PIED-A-TERRE - DAY

FOOTAGE LIFT FROM EPISODE 405: The Mexican standoff. Mac and Suspect X. She shoots her hostage -- PFFFT!

BACK TO SCENE

Mac looks up, catches eyes with his team.

MAC
Yeah. It's her.

SERIES OF PHOTOS: (DEVELOPED IN REAL TIME)

SNAP! FIRST PHOTO: Suspect X splayed on the butcher block. SECOND PHOTO: Knife handle protruding from her skull. THIRD PHOTO: A cluster of stab wounds through the clothing on the upper torso.

INT. VENETTI MEATS - NIGHT

Stella puts down her camera. Begins bagging the hands. M.E. TECHS wheel a gurney in --

STELLA
Boys, it's gonna be a few more minutes.

They stand back. As she examines the stab wounds, CAMERA PICKS UP Det. Angell examining a STAINLESS STEEL .45 caliber HANDGUN with a SILENCER she found on a nearby table. Picks it up from the edges. Det. Flack approaches --

DET. ANGELL
Forty five cal with a muzzle. Looks like we may have the weapon she used to silence her vics.

DET. FLACK
What about an ID? You find anything that'd give us her name?

DET. ANGELL
Nothing so far.

RACK FOCUS TO Mac as he approaches ADAM ROSS, using a TALON to data comb the laptops.

MAC
Any luck?

ADAM
Negative. Hard drives have been wiped clean.

(CONTINUED)
MAC
See if you can find any foreign
prints.

ADAM
You think our killer could have put
his paws on these?

MAC
Maybe whatever was on these laptops
was something to die for.

He returns to the body. Adam watches him go, notes Mac's
obsession. Stella clocks something else -- the concerned
look on his face.

STELLA
You okay?

MAC
This woman was a skilled and
trained assassin. Whoever did this
to her had to be better.

Stella looks to Mac, then back to the body.

STELLA
So who kills a professional killer?

Off this frightening thought, we --

FADE OUT.

END OF TEASER
FADE IN:

11 INT. M.E.'S OFFICE - WASH ROOM - DAY [NOW DAY 2]

MOS MONTAGE: SERIES OF SHOTS:
-- Suspect X on the slab. **DR. SID HAMMERBACK** shaves her scalp. The knife handle still protruding from her skull.

12 INT. M.E.'S OFFICE - AUTOPSY ROOM - DAY

-- Sid uses the CT DOME to project an X-Ray image of the skull with the blade penetrating the brain.

-- Two LAB TECHS hold Suspect X's head steady as Sid carefully and smoothly extracts the knife from the skull. He drops it into a plastic evidence bag --

MATCH CUT TO:

13 INT. M.E.'S OFFICE - AUTOPSY ROOM - DAY

-- And hands it to Mac who holds it up to eye level.

**SID**
Your murder weapon.

**MAC**
Six-and-a-half-inch, black powder coated blade. Saw tooth back. This is a Navy Seal Combat Knife.

**SID**
Now if only there was a game show that called for that kind of knowledge, you'd be able to retire early.

**MAC**
I'd miss your wit. And your keen skills of observation. Speaking of which --

Sid smiles as he moves to the body, points out the multiple stab wounds on the upper chest area of the collarbone.

**SID**
That knife you're holding was used to inflict these stab wounds. They're shallow, deliberate but non-lethal.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

MAC
She endured a tremendous amount of pain.

SID
She was also suffering from acute dehydration. Her muscles showed signs of atrophy. And take a look at these...

Sid turns the body. **PUSH ZOOM TO:** Blotches of redness on the surface of the back. **PUSH OUT TO:**

SID
On the surface, they appear to be minor abrasions. But in fact...

MAC
...They're bed sores.

SID
Exactly.

Mac's eyes go to the victim's wrist. He lifts her hand, reveals linear bruising.

MAC
Aged linear bruising. Looks like she was bound for an extended period of time.

SID
I was getting to that, Mac. You're stealing my thunder.

He moves to the feet. Lifts the sheet. **ANGLE ON** the same bruising on her ankles.

MAC
Her legs as well. And she struggled hard...

**WHITE FLASH TO:**

14 **INT. VENETTI MEATS - NIGHT (VERSION)**

*Vic's cuffed wrist & ankles as she struggles to escape.*

**WHITE FLASH TO:**

15 **BACK TO SCENE**

Sid lifts the opposite hand. **PUSH ZOOM TO:** A small bruise on the surface of the skin. **PUSH OUT TO:**

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

SID  
Looks to be an injection site. I'm waiting for tox to come back to determine if she was drugged. But I'm guessing she was held captive for a long time, tortured and possibly drugged. Any theories?

MAC  
This woman murdered people for a living. And she was highly skilled. Probably trained to endure torture. Whatever her killer was after, she didn't give it up easily.

SID  
Or give it up at all.

Mac takes a moment to process, then:

MAC  
Anything else?

SID  
Thought you'd never ask. This may be the most perplexing thing about this case.

He moves to the CT DOME on which an X-Ray of the victim's head is displayed. He gestures --

SID  
These metal screws were inserted during a cosmetic forehead lift.

CSI NY SHOT:

Screws being driven into the skull during surgery.

BACK TO SCENE

Sid points to the nose. SEE HEALED FRACTURE LINES.

SID  
And take a look at these healed fractures. Inflicted during a surgical procedure to alter the nose.

(MORE)
SID (CONT'D)

(then)
My autopsy also revealed remnants of scarring from an eye lift, genioplasty, and skin layer erosion therapy. And all of this work was performed within the last six weeks. Begs the question: What woman in her twenties gets a complete plastic surgery make-over?

MAC
Our vic was a master of disguise. Maybe cosmetic surgery was just another elaborate way to conceal her identity.

Mac moves to her head. Looks down at her face.

MAC
How are you at reverse engineering?

SID
I don't like the sound of this.

MAC
Sid, if you can rebuild her face to what it may have looked like before the surgery, it might help ID her. Knowing who this woman is will help us find her enemies and who might have wanted her dead.

CUT TO:

INT. NEW YORK CRIME LAB - TRACE LAB - DAY

OPEN ON a RING LIGHT MAGNIFIER POV: A MULTICOLORED, POCKED-MARKED SPHERE resembling a distant planet. WIDEN to Adam studying the object. Mac enters --

MAC
We get any prints off the laptops?

ADAM
Nothing usable.

MAC
Knife give us anything?

ADAM
I don't know how you do it, boss.

(CONTINUED)
MAC
What's that?

ADAM
Suspect X was a cold blooded killer
and you're pursuing this like she was
a real victim.

MAC
Murder is still murder, Adam. And
the only thing we celebrate in this
job is the people we put away. Now
what about that knife?

ADAM
Take a peek.

Mac leans in.

MAC
A ball bearing?

ADAM
With minute traces of dried blood
on the surface.

He picks up the NAVY SEAL COMBAT KNIFE which is resting on
the table. Unscrews the end of the handle revealing a
secret compartment. Hands it to Mac.

ADAM
Found it inside the knife handle.

Mac picks up the large bearing. Studies it.

MAC
Looks like shrapnel. From an
improvised explosive device.

ADAM
You mean like the ones used by
terrorists in the Middle East?

MAC
Yeah. Probably a souvenir.
Soldiers wounded in action will
sometimes keep the shrapnel pulled
from their bodies. A reminder of
how close they came to dying. We
get any prints?

ADAM
Wiped clean.

(MORE)
ADAM (CONT'D)
But I did find dried blood in the crevice between the hilt and the handle. Sent both samples to DNA.

MAC
If the owner of that knife was wounded in action, it's likely he or she was the recipient of a Purple Heart.

ADAM
Are you saying our killer could be a war hero?

INT. NEW YORK CRIME LAB - DNA - DAY
Danny hands LINDSAY MONROE CENTRIFUGE TUBES containing DNA samples. She holds them like a bouquet of flowers, sniffs them and delivers a mock smile.

LINDSAY
Danny, they're beautiful. Nothing says you're special like centrifuge tubes filled with DNA samples.

DANNY
I'm never gonna live this down, am I?

LINDSAY
Forgetting my birthday? Probably not.
(re: tubes)
Where'd you get these?

DANNY
Adam found more blood samples inside the knife. Some chunk of metal that was hidden in the handle. You run the blood he found on the hilt?

LINDSAY
Came back non-human. I sent it to serology for a protein analysis.

She plays this somewhat detached. Making him pay for his mistake. As he follows her across the room.

DANNY
Linds, I told you, guys aren't wired for remembering dates.
(MORE)
CONTINUED:

DANNY (CONT'D)

Sports stats, steak sides, that's our thing.

Lindsay rolls her eyes as she places the new tubes into the GENETIC ANALYZER. The genetic analyzer hums. They step over to a computer monitor and wait. Awkward silence as Lindsay plays it cool towards Danny. But she can't help herself and struggles to stifle a laugh.

LINDSAY

Steak sides. You are so busted.

Danny shrugs. That's when a DNA TECH hands Lindsay a file.

LINDSAY

Thanks.

(reads file)

Looks like the blood on the knife belonged to a white tailed deer...

Common to the forests of the northeast...

DANNY

Hey, wasn't one of Suspect X's victims on a hunting trip in New Jersey when he was killed?

LINDSAY

Yeah. Judge Daniel McHenry. And we found evidence of a white-tailed deer infected with Lyme disease at that crime scene.

She picks up a PHOTO of the knife.

LINDSAY

So if our new blood sample has Lyme disease, it's possible our murder weapon came from that same location.

DANNY

Boom. What about the blood on the shrapnel Adam found inside the knife? Deer or human?

Lindsay turns back to the Genetic Analyzer. Reads screen.

LINDSAY

Human. I'll put it through CODIS.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED: (2)

DANNY
While you do that, I'll run this blood sample from the knife to see if Bambi was infected with Lyme's disease.

INT. NEW YORK CRIME LAB - MAC'S OFFICE - DAY
Mac and Stella. As Mac holsters his pistol and slips on his coat --

MAC
-- An old friend of mine from the Marine Corps, General Finn, provided me with a list of Navy Seals who were recipients of the Purple Heart and who were wounded in combat by shrapnel from an IED or car bomb.

STELLA
Bet that's a pretty exclusive list.

MAC
Exclusive enough that we may have identified the owner of the knife that killed Suspect X.

Mac reveals a photo of RUSS McHENRY in dress uniform. Early twenties. Handsome. Looking every bit the formidable Navy Seal he was trained to be.

MAC
Russ McHenry.

STELLA
Judge McHenry's son?

MAC
The blood we found on the murder weapon was from a white tailed deer that tested positive for Lyme disease.

STELLA
So, we can place Russ McHenry's knife at the scene of his father's murder.

MAC
The same knife that killed Suspect X. Which answers the question: who might be capable of murdering a professional killer.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

Stella meets his stare, the pieces falling into place --

STELLA
A Navy Seal with a killer motive.

CUT TO:

INT. AUTO REPAIR SHOP - GARAGE - DAY

The grease smudged face of RUSS McHENRY peeking out from underneath a black customized BMW. Russ is laying on a mechanic's creeper with the remainder of his body hidden under the car.

WIDEN TO REVEAL Mac and Det. Flack, and the busy high end, upper east side garage. We come in mid-convo:

RUSS
-- Look, detectives, I'm real busy. I got a garage full of cars. Why don't you stop with the Interrogation 101 crap and get right to the point.

MAC
Do you still have the Navy Seal combat knife that was issued to you when you joined your unit?

Russ stops what he's doing under the car.

RUSS
I gave it to my father to gut his deer the day he was killed. That's the last time I saw it.

DET. FLACK
Well, it just turned up stuck through the back of a dead woman's skull.

MAC
We think she's the person responsible for your father's murder.

Russ takes a moment. Absorbs the gravity of the information.

RUSS
When you catch her killer, be sure and tell him "thank you" for me.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

Before he can finish -- Mac crouches, gets close to Russ' face.

MAC

Mr. McHenry, the person who killed her was highly skilled. This person was able to render a trained assassin helpless and then torture and murder her, presumably all by himself.

Russ' face tightens.

DET. FLACK

Person capable of that could have extensive military training. What do you think?

RUSS

What do I think?

Russ angrily slides out from under the car -- REVEALING he is a MULTIPLE AMPUTEE with prosthetic legs. He stands and goes face to face with our heroes.

RUSS

I'm not gonna let you stand there and accuse me of murder.

Mac doesn't blink.

MAC

We're not accusing you. We're trying to understand how your knife ended up at our crime scene.

RUSS

You're disappointed, detective. I can see it in your eyes. You were expecting a big strong Navy Seal killing machine. Instead you found half a soldier?

MAC

All we see is motive.

Russ rolls his eyes, scowls:

RUSS

What do you know?

MAC

More than you think.

(CONTINUED)
Russ' eyes fall on Mac and he reads between the lines. Gets a faint hint of kinship, understanding. It's broken when Russ catches Det. Flack staring.

RUSS
Don't you dare pity me detective.

DET. FLACK
It ain't pity, Russ. I'm just trying to decide if you could've done it.

Russ stands down. Holds up his prosthetic hand.

RUSS
What? Because of these?

Taps it against his prosthetic leg. CLANK! CLANK!

RUSS
Twenty different ways, detective. Trust me. But leaving my knife behind? C'mon, that's Sloppy. If you know anything about Navy Seals, we aren't sloppy. But I'll tell you this, if I had known who killed my father, yeah, I would have done it.

INT. M.E.'S OFFICE - AUTOPSY ROOM - DAY

MOS MONTAGE -- QUICK CUTS:

-- Sid stands over Suspect X. Using a SURGICAL PENCIL, he draws HORIZONTAL DASHED LINES across her FOREHEAD. Then, he does the same down the BRIDGE of her nose and then a line across each cheek bone.

-- He presses the scalpel into the forehead and cuts along the lines he made.

-- Peels back forehead skin, exposing surgical screws in the skull. Using an ELECTRIC SCREWDRIVER, he removes the screws.

-- Sid slices through the bridge of the nose. Peels the skin away exposing the cartilage of the nose. Examines the old fractures... removes prosthetics.

-- Sid closely examines a series of facial X-RAYS of SUSPECT X. They are clipped to a fluorescent wall lamp. He uses a ruler to measure certain points. He writes his findings on a document attached to a clipboard. INTERCUT WITH:
INT. NEW YORK CRIME LAB - A/V LAB - DAY

-- Danny pecks away at a COMPUTER KEYBOARD. Studying the information on Sid's clipboard as he goes. The face of Suspect X displayed on the MONITOR. Using FACIAL RECONSTRUCTION SOFTWARE, Danny begins to DIGITALLY remove the elements of plastic surgery. He drags the CURSOR over the nose. Enlarges the bridge. Spreads the nostrils.

-- Danny highlights the eyelids with the cursor. Refers to the clipboard. Taps keys. SEE the shape of the eyes transform from ALMOND shape to more ROUND.

-- He drags the cursor over the chin. Highlights a circular area at the base. Glances at the clipboard. Punches keys. The chin changes in length. A DIMPLE appears.

-- A DIGITAL IMAGE of Suspect X morphs into a digital composite of what she looked like before the surgery. Similar, but not identical.

INT. NEW YORK CRIME LAB - CORRIDOR - DAY

Mac and DR. SHELDON HAWKES. Walk and talk.

DR. HAWKES
Tox results came back on Suspect X.
(hands Mac a PDA)
We found traces of Morphine and Propofol in Suspect X's system.

MAC
Veterinarians use propofol to anesthetize animals.

DR. HAWKES
Lab also detected traces of ringer's solution in the blood, which makes sense because the vic was suffering from acute hypertonicity.

MAC
A complication associated with long term intravenous feeding. Explains the puncture mark Sid found on the back of Suspect X's hand --

DR. HAWKES
-- And her bed sores and muscle atrophy. She was on her back for some time.
CONTINUED:

MAC
But it still doesn't explain why our killer drugged Suspect X, fed her intravenously and held her hostage over a long period of time. It just doesn't make sense...

Midway through his dialogue, Danny approaches at a clip, waits for Mac to finish --

DANNY
It does if the woman we found in the warehouse is not Suspect X.

INT. NEW YORK CRIME LAB - A/V LAB - DAY

Mac, Danny and Dr. Hawkes stand before the WALL REAR PROJECTOR -- ON SCREEN is the DE-CONSTRUCTED SUSPECT X COMPOSITE.

DANNY
-- Using the cosmetic surgery data Sid culled from his autopsy, I was able to de-construct our victim's face and develop that pre-surgery composite.

DR. HAWKES
But how do we know that's not what our hired killer looked like before the surgery?

DANNY
Because when I took the composite and went through our Missing Persons database, I got this --

He taps a key on the handheld keyboard. SCREEN SPLITS and a photo and profile of KELLY MANN appears. An almost identical match to the composite. Blows everyone away.

DANNY
Her name is Kelly Mann.

MAC
(reading data)
-- Disappeared six weeks ago under suspicious circumstances.

Mac takes a step toward the wall rear projection screen.

(CONTINUED)
MAC
Suspect X specifically targeted Kelly Mann because she closely resembled her. The surgery made them identical.

DR. HAWKES
So she kidnaps, tortures and kills an innocent girl in order to fake her own death.

DANNY
Which means our female assassin is still alive.

DR. HAWKES
But why go through all the trouble of making us believe she was dead?

DANNY
Every law enforcement agency in the country was looking for this woman. She dies, the homicide cases die with her. And then she's suddenly free.

MAC
Free to kill again.

He's already moving. Off this --

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT ONE
ACT TWO

FADE IN:

26 EXT. WEST SIDE PIER - STAGE AREA - DAY

OPEN ON NEW YORK POWER PLAYER JORDAN GATES (mid-thirties), nothing short of class, glam and smarts. She's wearing a D&G business suit with just enough slit up the thigh to make it sexy, but keep it professional. Jordan is all business, has the undivided attention of several DETECTIVES who make up the mayor's protection detail. These guys are meat eaters. Big, burly. Dark suits. Ear wigs. An empty dais and a podium with the CITY SEAL behind them. A BANNER across the back: "GREEN ISLAND."

JORDAN
-- The mayor will be led on and off the stage from that stairway.

She gestures left. REVEAL Mac and Det. Flack approaching. She pauses for a beat on Mac. Almost smiles. Then:

JORDAN
As for final numbers, it's still unknown, but you can be assured tomorrow's Green rally will be one of the largest outdoor events in New York history...

ON MAC AND DET. FLACK

As they pass TECHS setting up a massive sound system -- stadium speakers -- one after another.

DET. FLACK
(re: Jordan's look)
You two know each other?

MAC
We met last year. Charity event at Gracie Mansion.

DET. FLACK
Gracie Mansion, huh?
(them)
You think they have enough speakers?

MAC
Couple months after we met, her estranged husband began stalking her. She made a special request to the chief.

(CONTINUED)
 CONTINUED:

DET. FLACK
And you took care of it.

MAC
Yeah.

DET. FLACK
You know I've never even had an old lady ask me to help her cross the street.

RESUME JORDAN

JORDAN
-- Dignitary protection is your number one priority. Magnetometers will be set up at every entry. But that shouldn't make anybody in this detail feel like they can relax. You will need to be on your toes.

Mac and Det. Flack continue up the steps and onto the stage.

JORDAN
I want that site survey and threat assessment report on my desk before the puck drops. Once the Rangers hit the ice tonight, I am off the clock. That's it. You have a lot of work to do, gentlemen. Get to it.

They disperse. She turns her attention to our heroes as they approach --

MAC
Detective Don Flack. Jordan Gates the Mayor's Criminal Justice Coordinator.

She shakes hands with Det. Flack.

DET. FLACK
It's a pleasure.

JORDAN
Good to see you again, Detective Taylor. Crime Lab back in one piece?

MAC
I don't know what strings you pulled, but it seemed to happen overnight.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED: (2)

JORDAN
I figured I owed you one. Mayor on the other hand didn't feel the same way. He said next time you decide to blow up the Crime Lab, it's coming out of your paycheck.

(then)
So what can I do for you today, detectives?

Mac shifts uncomfortably.

DET. FLACK
Ms. Gates, you filed a missing persons report on your former assistant Kelly Mann.

JORDAN
Yes. About six weeks ago. Why?

MAC
I'm afraid we have some bad news.

Jordan's body language changes as she prepares for the blow.

DET. FLACK
Last night she was found murdered in an abandoned warehouse downtown.

The news hits her hard.

JORDAN
Ohmygod...

Mac brings a chair forward, allowing her to sit.

MAC
I'm sorry.

JORDAN
Kelly was like my sister. She had no family...

Mac and Det. Flack exchange a look.

MAC
Jordan, I know this is difficult. But we do need to ask you a few questions.

JORDAN
Of course.
CONTINUED: (3)

MAC
What can you tell us about the day
Kelly disappeared?

JORDAN
There was nothing out of the
ordinary. She came to work. Told
me she was going out that night.
To a club. Random. It's
downtown...

Mac and Det. Flack recognize the name.

MAC
It's a Cosplay club, right? People
dress up like avatars...

JORDAN
That's right. Kelly loved going
there. You know the place?

MAC
Kelly wasn't our killer's first
victim. A woman named Cheryl
Miller was murdered a couple months
ago following a night out at the
same club.

DET. FLACK
Miss Gates, was Kelly planning to
meet someone there? Boyfriend,
girlfriend?

JORDAN
Kelly always went alone. Next day
she didn't show up for work. I
figured she might have been out
late. When I didn't hear from her
the following day, I filed a
missing persons report.

CUT TO:

27 OMITTED
THRU
29

30 INT. CLUB RANDOM - NIGHT

Danny and Det. Flack enter Random, the Cosplay club. It's
wall-to-wall 20-SOMETHING'S dressed up like their online
avatars.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

Some interact with Humanoids flanked by small plasmas, a synchronized pairing of robot and avatar (ex: if clubgoer takes the robot's arm, the on screen avatar follows the robot motions). NOTE THE HUGE PLASMAS OVERHEAD:

ON WALL PLASMAS (MACHINIMA): SERIES OF SHOTS: The cosplay party continues in Second Life -- Avatars dance and mingle.

RESUME SCENE

As they push through the crowd, Det. Flack looks over to Danny.

DET. FLACK
What does this remind you of?

DANNY
No idea.

They reach the bar where the Cosplay crowd sip colorful cocktails. As they pass under a surveillance camera --

DET. FLACK
Star Wars cantina.

DANNY
The bar Luke went into on Mos Eisley. Absolutely...

INT. SUSPECT X'S LAIR - SAME TIME

If hell had an address, this would be it. We're with SUSPECT X at the controls of a VisionStation system. ON SCREEN we SEE Danny and Det. Flack move through the bar. Suspect X keys on them -- ZEROES IN -- filters out background noise and singles out their audio.

INTERCUT WITH:

INT. CLUB RANDOM - SAME TIME

A BARTENDER approaches Danny and Det. Flack.

BARTENDER
How can I help you, officers?

DET. FLACK
(re: his suit)
How do you know this isn't a costume?

BARTENDER
Gimme a break.

Danny shows the man two photos. Kelly and Suspect X.

(CONTINUED)
DANNY
You recognize either of these women?

BARTENDER
Yeah. They were both regulars. Haven't seen them in awhile. I think this one's name is Kelly.

DET. FLACK
What about the other one?

BARTENDER
No idea. Served her a couple of times. Really didn't say much...

Suddenly, the MUSIC STOPS, taking everyone by surprise.

ON WALL PLASMAS (MACHINIMA): The monitors BLINK and the Second Life club disappears -- replaced by the empty CORRIDOR OF KILLS (from episode 405).

RESUME SCENE. Danny turns to the bartender --

DANNY
Where's this coming from?

BARTENDER
No idea...
(checks bar laptop)
Someone's hacked into our system.

ON WALL PLASMAS (MACHINIMA): The TAYLOR AVATAR appears inside the CORRIDOR OF KILLS. Speaks with an ND MALE VOICE:

TAYLOR AVATAR
Ladies and gentlemen, my name is Detective Taylor, with the New York Crime Lab....

RESUME SCENE

DANNY
What the --

DET. FLACK
She knows we're here.

Danny's eyes search the crowd. Faces blur.

DANNY
Anyone holding a mobile device could be her.

(CONTINUED)
He pushes his way through the club, searching, finally spotting the wall-mounted surveillance cams which tells him Suspect X isn't in the house. She's elsewhere. INTERCUT:

**ON WALL PLASMAS (MACHINIMA):** The TAYLOR AVATAR continues:

**TAYLOR AVATAR**

... The NYPD needs your help tonight to bring to justice a fugitive --

Before he can finish -- the TAYLOR AVATAR is shot from behind. A neat exit wound appears in the center of his forehead and leaks blood. The Taylor Avatar collapses, revealing SUSPECT X. She steps forward, over the body, stopping in a M-SHOT. Looks down -- right at Mac and Flack.

**SUSPECT X AVATAR**

Detectives, the hunt for me is futile. Tell your boss I will continue to evolve, while he and his cop friends chase their tails and mop up the blood.

As she says this, she changes her appearance, from blonde beauty to various avatars, male, female, furry (ALL NEW CHARACTERS), finally settling on a hideous demon.

**SUSPECT X/DEMON AVATAR**

We now return you to your regularly scheduled party.

Screen BLINKS and she's gone. The Second Life party resumes. Club music RETURNS.

RESUME SCENE. HOLD ON DANNY, flanked by Det. Flack, both rattled by what just happened.

**INT. NEW YORK CRIME LAB - CORRIDOR - NIGHT**

Stella and Dr. Hawkes. Walk and talk.

**DR. HAWKES**

-- The call Suspect X made to Crime Catchers originated from a throw away cell phone. No other calls were made and it's been turned off.

**STELLA**

What about pulling up some of the background noise on the 911 tape? Might help determine where she placed the call from.
CONTINUED:

DR. HAWKES
Done. No acoustic anomalies to work with.

Dead end. That's when Lindsay joins them from a cross-corridor --

LINDSAY
Anyone for good news?

STELLA
Please.

LINDSAY
-- The custom made bone screws Sid removed from the victim's skull were made by a company called Unlimited Titanium. They were special order. Coated with titanium. A Park Avenue plastic surgeon named Joseph Kirkbaum placed the order two years ago.

DR. HAWKES
Suspect X kidnapped Kelly Mann to alter her face. What would make a high end cutter like Kirkbaum complicit in something like that?

LINDSAY
His license was revoked a year ago for malpractice. Got into the undertaking business. And get this, a woman named Lori Hess, the person responsible for Kirkbaum having his license pulled by the state, was found shot to death in her Florida condo a few months back. One round to the back of the head.

STELLA
Kirkbaum had to have been a suspect.

LINDSAY
He had an air-tight alibi. He was in New York the day she was ventilated. But that doesn't mean he wasn't involved. The Hess murder had all the earmarks of a contract killing.

(MORE)
LINDSAY (CONT'D)
The slug the Miami Crime Lab recovered from the scene bore striation marks consistent with the use of a silencer.

STELLA
So, Kirkbaum hires Suspect X to pull the trigger and he repays the favor by performing plastic surgery on Kelly Mann...?

LINDSAY
Only one way to find out.

Off this --

EXT. KIRKBAUM MANOR - SIDE ENTRANCE - NIGHT

Det. Flack and Det. Angell stand by an open trunk, slipping on well-worn TAC vests. She catches him staring --

DET. ANGELL
What -- ?

DET. FLACK
You make that look good.


DANNY
What's it look like?

DET. FLACK
Kirkbaum's car is parked out front.

DET. ANGELL
Snooped around upstairs. Nobody home. But the basement door is unlocked.

DET. FLACK
You bring anything else?

Danny smiles as he holds up a copy of a search warrant.

DANNY
All access pass.

DET. ANGELL
Nice.

They unholster their duty weapons. Move through the door.
INT. KIRKBAUM MANOR - NIGHT

TRACK THEM covertly down the stairs. They reach a door at the bottom. It's ajar. Danny nods to Flack. He pushes it open. A cat scampers out and up the stairs.

DET. ANGELL
So much for sterile conditions.

DET. FLACK
Joseph Kirkbaum! NYPD!

No response. They enter into a large CONCRETE ROOM. It's dark and dank. Stained WASH HOSES hang from the ceiling. Danny's RLS follows BLOOD STAINS on the floor to a large drain in the middle of the room. There are several STEEL GURNEYS near the door. Two of them side by side, each containing a CADAVER covered by a SHEET.

Danny and Dr. Hawkes move to the right. Det. Flack and Det. Angell go left. Danny locates a door along the wall. Opens it. They enter. REVEAL an OPERATING TABLE with WRIST and ANKLE RERAINTS at both ends.

DANNY
This is where Kirkbaum held Kelly Mann.

INT. KIRKBAUM MANOR - BASEMENT - NIGHT (VERSION)

Kelly Mann shackled to the operating table. Drugged, motionless. A roller coaster of intravenous tubes coming from her body.

BACK TO SCENE

Their lights find a wall littered with photographs of Suspect X from every angle. Profiles, close ups, facial x-rays of skull and bone structure. Dr. Hawkes' light moves to a tray littered with surgical instruments. He picks up a TITANIUM SCREW identical to the screws found at autopsy.

DR. HAWKES
And where he surgically altered her appearance to make her look identical to Suspect X.

Danny sees something in the corner of the room. Raises his gun. Dr. Hawkes moves around the table. His RLS reveals DR. JOSEPH KIRKBAUM propped up in a chair, head resting against the wall. Eyes drooping but half open. One of them oddly damaged. Dr. Hawkes stops. Gun trained on Kirkbaum, checks his carotid artery for a pulse. There is none.

DR. HAWKES
He's dead. TOD can't be more than eight hours ago.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

DANNY
What's that in his eye?

He shines his light into Kirkbaum's right eye. Dr. Hawkes leans in to inspect. **PUSH ZOOM TO: A black circular object embedded in the cornea of Kirkbaum's right eye.**

REVERSE TO LIPSTICK CAMERA POV of Dr. Hawkes staring into the lens.

DR. HAWKES
It's some type of a camera.

Danny joins Dr. Hawkes. Gloves up. Reaches toward the lens. Right at the camera into a FISH EYE ANGLE.

RESUME DANNY as he carefully removes the iSight camera from the bloody eye socket. It's connected to a wire coming from inside the victim's head. Danny pulls the vic's head forward. **ANGLE ON: a wire coming from a through-and-through hole in the back of Kirkbaum's head. Dr. Hawkes follows the wire down to a laptop on the floor beneath the chair.**

DR. HAWKES
We're being watched.

INT. SUSPECT X'S LAIR - SAME TIME

Suspect X at the VisionStation. **ON SCREEN we see the live feed from the Kirkbaum crime scene.**

DANNY (V.O.)
Not anymore.

INT. KIRKBAUM MANOR - BASEMENT - NIGHT

On the cut, Danny RIPS the lens from the wire.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT TWO
ACT THREE

FADE IN:

38 INT. KIRKBAUM MANOR - BASEMENT - NIGHT

Dr. Hawkes uses a SAMPLER GUN to process the bed where Kelly Mann was held. He swabs and collects BLOOD SAMPLES. Across the room, Det. Angell confers with Danny, data combing the laptop connected to the LIPSTICK CAMERA.

DANNY
-- I got nothing. Hard drive's been wiped clean again.

DET. ANGELL
She's good at covering her tracks.

DANNY
But is Kirkbaum? Let's subpoena his e-mail accounts, phone records and get our hands on any computers he had access to over the last six months. If Kirkbaum hired Suspect X, there's a good chance he left behind an electronic footprint.

DET. ANGELL
I'm on it.

She heads off, past Dr. Hawkes who has just discovered a pair of BLOOD STAINED COVERALLS from beneath the bed.

DR. HAWKES
Danny...

Danny joins Dr. Hawkes as he lays the clothing on a small table. Waves an ALS. PUSH ZOOM TO: High velocity blood spatter. PUSH OUT TO: Dr. Hawkes snaps a photo.

DR. HAWKES
High velocity blood spatter.

DANNY
Kirkbaum had a close contact wound to the head. Suspect X must've been wearing these when she executed him.

WHITE FLASH TO:

39 INT. KIRKBAUM MANOR - BASEMENT - NIGHT (VERSION)

Suspect X shoots Kirkbaum in the head. PFFT!
CSI NY SHOT:

Tiny particles of blood fly through the air and land on the front of the coveralls. As Suspect X lowers the gun, smoke curling out from the silencer.

WHITE FLASH TO:

BACK TO SCENE

Danny notices a bulge in one of the pockets. He reaches in with his gloved hand. Finds an ALLEN WRENCH and a small BOTTLE of UNKNOWN LIQUID. He shakes the bottle. Holds it up to eye level, trying to determine what it is.

DR. HAWKES
Strange consistency.

DANNY
Whatever it is, it might just help us find out where Suspect X was coming from.

As Danny says this, he hands the bottle to Dr. Hawkes --

MATCH CUT TO:

INT. NEW YORK CRIME LAB - TRACE LAB - NIGHT

-- Who extracts a sample, places it in a petri dish and slides it under the stereo microscope with a live feed to a nearby PLASMA MONITOR. SEE METALLIC PARTICLES. Dr. Hawkes then grabs a HAND HELD XRF and analyzes the sample. The display reads: Fe (IRON).

Beat. Dr. Hawkes cell phone RINGS. He's just about to turn it off, when he makes a surprising discovery -- The liquid on the slide dances to the music of the ring tone, rising and falling like peaks on a graph. Off this --

INT. NEW YORK CRIME LAB - CORRIDOR - NIGHT

Mac and Lindsay. Walk and talk. She holds a PC Tablet.

LINDSAY
... the bullet recovered from Kirkbaum's skull was a match to the .45 Suspect X left at the warehouse.

MAC
Once she knew we were onto her, she killed Kirkbaum to tie up any loose ends.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

LINDSAY
But why leave a camera in his eye?

MAC
It's her way of looking over her shoulder. To see how far behind we are.

That's when Adam rushes up --

ADAM
Mac...

MAC
Don't tell me, Adam... You broke the case.

ADAM
All I can say is remember today when I put in for a raise.

INT. NEW YORK CRIME LAB - A/V LAB - NIGHT

Mac and Adam stand in front of the wall rear projection screen. Adam taps away at the portable keyboard. Data scrolls, pages of E-MAIL COMMUNICATIONS, IM LOGS and ELECTRONICALLY TRANSMITTED DOCUMENTS to and from Kirkbaum roll across the screen.

ADAM
-- Det. Angell came through with those subpoenas and I've been going through Kirkbaum's electronic communications. I've been focusing on everything to and from the good doctor leading up to and after the Lori Hess murder.

MAC
And?

ADAM
What you're about to see is a series of e-mails between Kirkbaum and his attorney. Seems Kirkbaum was angry about Hess refusing to settle out of court or drop the complaint she made against him to the State Medical Board.

(as e-mails appear)
Really threatening stuff.

(MORE)
ADAM (CONT'D)
A few minutes after that exchange, Kirkbaum received an instant message from someone using a newly created untraceable e-mail account that emanated from inside an internet cafe in Soho.

WHITE FLASH TO:

INT. ND OFFICE - DAY (VERSION)

TIGHT ON DR. KIRKBAUM -- OVER HIS SHOULDER on his COMPUTER SCREEN. A NEW IM ALERT flashes. He clicks on it.

ADAM (V.O.)
The message simply said, "I can take care of your problem."

SEE THOSE WORDS appear on his laptop. Kirkbaum CLICKS on the REPLY tab. Types: "HOW? WHO ARE YOU?" Kirkbaum then hits SEND. Waits. A NEW MESSAGE appears. "IT DOESN'T MATTER WHO I AM. $50,000 MAKES YOUR PROBLEM GO AWAY... FOREVER."

WHITE FLASH TO:

BACK TO SCENE

Mac stares up at the monitor, realizing --

MAC
Kirkbaum didn't hire Suspect X... she found him. And offered her services for a price.

ADAM
And she found him using a Recursive Spyder, an internet mining program, to scan e-mail and instant messages for key words and phrases.

Mac steps up to the PLASMA SCREEN... and using his fingers, he highlights different words and phrases within the E-MAILS and IM's. Phrases float off of the screen: "LAWSUIT"... "DESTROY HER"... "RUINING MY LIFE"... "KILL"... "SMASH HER HEAD IN"... "END OF MY ROPE"... "HELPLESS."

MAC
That's how she identifies potential clients.

(_CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

ADAM
And once she finds her mark, she plants a worm to compromise their computer and monitor all communications going in and out.

MAC
That way gains more intimate knowledge of the situation and times her approach based on what she's reading.

ADAM
It's brilliant.
(off Mac's look)
I mean it's evil... But it's...
nevermind...

He looks over at Mac, staring at the screen. A plan forming.

ADAM
What are you thinking about?

MAC
Fishing.
(off Adam, unsure)
Suspect X is still out there.
Looking for business...

ADAM
You want to set a trap?

MAC
Adam, set up a half dozen untraceable e-mail accounts. Develop some believable conflict scenarios between people, then start sending threatening, inflammatory messages back and forth. If she takes the bait, we may just catch ourselves a killer.

INT. NEW YORK CRIME LAB - CORRIDOR - NIGHT

FOLLOW MAC out of A/V and toward his office. On the way, he hears music emanating from --

INT. NEW YORK CRIME LAB - TRACE LAB - NIGHT

-- Where Mac finds Dr. Hawkes playing music over his iPhone. The STEREO MICROSCOPE projecting the image of the STRANGE LIQUID onto the SCREEN. SEVERAL TECHS are gathered around watching the liquid dance. Yes. It's that cool.

(CONTINUED)
After a beat, everyone realizes Mac Taylor is in the house. Dr. Hawkes immediately pauses the song.

DR. HAWKES
Processed that metal based mystery liquid we found at the Kirkbaum crime scene. XRF identified it as Ferro liquid.

MAC
Ferro liquid contains magnetic particles that react to sound.

Dr. Hawkes taps his iPhone. Music RESUMES. Liquid dances.
Dr. Hawkes lowers the volume over --

MAC
What's a liquid used to treat iron deficiencies in humans doing in Suspect X's pocket?

DR. HAWKES
Maybe she was using it in the IV mixture she was feeding Kelly Mann.

MAC
Impossible. Sid did a blood work up. Kelly was suffering from a severe iron deficiency when she died. Has to be another reason we found this on Suspect X...

(then)
Speakers.

DR. HAWKES
Speakers?

MAC
Ferro liquid is also used to cool the voice coils in large commercial speakers without disrupting the magnetic field. Technicians carry vials of it in their tool belt.

DR. HAWKES
But what's her connection to commercial speakers?

MAC
Kelly Mann. The woman Suspect X made to look like her.

POP FLASH TO:
EXT. WEST SIDE PIER - STAGE AREA - DAY

AS SHOT. Mac and Det. Flack approach Jordan Gates, they pass the Techs assembling speakers.

POP FLASH TO:

BACK TO SCENE

MAC
Kelly was an assistant to Jordan Gates, the Mayor's Criminal Justice Coordinator.

DR. HAWKES
I'm still not seeing the connection.

MAC
Jordan Gates was at the West Side Pier when we talked to her. She was prepping for a Green Rally tonight. There were setting up a large speaker system when we arrived. Sheldon, this event has been on the books for months. Before Kelly was killed, Suspect X could have gotten information that would have helped her access the grounds.

He looks to the blood-stained coveralls on the table.

MAC
And then wearing these coveralls, she could have posed as a part of the sound crew in order to stake out the perimeter.

WHITE FLASH TO:

EXT. WEST SIDE PIER - STAGE AREA - DAY (VERSION)

Suspect X, posing as a member of the sound crew (hair up and under a hat), uses her allen wrench and ferro liquid to repair the voice coil inside one of the speakers.

WHITE FLASH TO:

BACK TO SCENE

DR. HAWKES
You think she's planning to kill someone tonight?

(CONTINUED)
MAC
The mayor is supposed to speak there along with a lot of other politicians and dignitaries. Any one on that stage could be a target.

DR. HAWKES
That place will be locked down with security. She'd be crazy to try and walk in there with a gun.

MAC
What if she didn't bring it in? What if it were already there?

Off Mac heading for the door at a clip --

CUT TO:

51  EXT. WEST SIDE PIER - NIGHT

Security. Tight. Uniforms. Everywhere. Throngs of people wading toward the rally (POSSIBLE STOCK). MORE QUICK POPS:

-- Detectives in suits, wearing earwigs. Moving around talking to their wrists. Scanning. Watching.

-- Attendees moving through magnetometers. Uniforms wand people as they come through.

-- Security with binoculars on rooftops.

FIND Mac backstage with Jordan Gates. Detectives from the Mayor's protection detail stand guard outside a tent. Mac and Jordan are on the move and in mid convo --

JORDAN
What do you mean he can't go on?

MAC
It's worse than that. We need to postpone the event all together. The mayor and everyone at this event is at great risk if we allow this rally to go on.

JORDAN
How credible is the threat?

MAC
Very. We have evidence that we believe links our suspect to this location. Our intel indicates she's targeted this event for an assassination attempt.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

JORDAN
But you haven't found anything yet?

MAC
My men are searching the perimeter now.

Hold their look. Then:

JORDAN
Okay. I'm going to back you on this, Mac, but the Mayor's not going to take the news well.

INTERCUT WITH:

EXT. WEST SIDE PIER - STAGE AREA - NIGHT

Danny and Det. Flack accompany a K-9 handler up onto the stage that is now fully decorated with HUGE POTTED PLANTS and PLYWOOD BACKDROPS that celebrate ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS. They head toward one of the speakers.

-- Mac is now flanked by Jordan Gates. He's briefing the MAYOR'S STAFF and the EVENT ORGANIZING COMMITTEE.

MAC
...She is a trained assassin with at least two high profile kills under her belt. Those targets include a congressman and a criminal court judge.

-- The K-9 handler moves from completing the search of one speaker. Negative results. He heads for the other speaker. Danny and Det. Flack follow.

-- Mac and Jordan, shoulder to shoulder:

JORDAN
Detective Taylor believes the killer may have infiltrated the support staff tasked with setting up for the event. Perhaps posing as a member of the sound crew. We are looking into this matter as we speak.

-- The K-9 frantically sniffs the speaker. Begins barking. Scratches at the back of the speaker.

-- Mac continues briefing the group.
MAC
We are concerned that the killer may have smuggled a weapon onto the grounds of the event and secreted it in advance of the rally to avoid detection upon entering the venue.

-- The K-9 Handler pulls the dog back. Praises him. Danny moves in with Flack.

-- Danny is handed a power drill. Unscrews the back of the speaker. He and Det. Flack remove the backing. Danny reaches in with a gloved hand and comes out with an AUTOMATIC HANDGUN equipped with a SILENCER.

   DANNY
   (into radio)
   We found it.

-- Jordan hears this over Mac's radio.

   MAC
   (into radio)
   Good work. Make sure the perimeter is locked down. If she's here, we can't let her get away.

He lowers his radio.... about to move --

   JORDAN
   Mac...

He turns to her. Hold the look between them.

   JORDAN
   Thanks.
   (then)
   Again.

Mac nods, then heads off.

CUT TO:

INT. NEW YORK CRIME LAB - CORRIDOR - NIGHT

Mac powers down the corridor with Danny.

   DANNY
   I don't know how we missed her. We had every exit sealed off.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

MAC
She left long before we shut the event down. She's way too careful not to have been watching us. Tell Flack I want shadow details on the mayor and everyone else on that guest list. As long as Suspect X is still out there, there's a chance she'll finish the job or go on to the next target.

DANNY
Mac, if she was watching our every move, then she knows how close we got. There's too much heat on her. You think she'd lay low for awhile.

MAC
This woman is not capable of slowing down. Killing is the only thing she knows how to do. And her inability to stop is how we're going to catch her.

They share a look, then peel off. Mac heads for his office as Adam approaches --

MAC
Tell me it worked.

ADAM
Big time.

INT. NEW YORK CRIME LAB - A/V LAB - NIGHT

Mac stands before the wall rear projection screen. Adam has the floor.

ADAM
I did what you asked. Opened a bunch of untraceable e-mail accounts. Various profiles. One of them I'm this really hot twenty-two year old chick having a fling with this middle-aged married guy. I want his wife out...

MAC
Adam --
ADAM
Right, well, I planted some key words and phrases that a Recursive Spyder would lock on... and about a half hour ago, I got this message:

He taps a key on the handheld keyboard. Opens a SAVED INCOMING MESSAGE. "I CAN TAKE CARE OF YOUR PROBLEM."

MAC
Suspect X took the bait.

FADE OUT.

END OF ACT THREE
FADE IN:

INT. NEW YORK CRIME LAB - WAR ROOM - EARLY MORNING [NOW DAY 3]

MAC and STELLA enter at a clip. Mac utilizes the CISCO TELEPRESENCE 7970 IP PHONE (COMPANY LOGO VISIBLE), taps a TOUCH SCREEN icon that reads: 27 PCT EDT SQUAD. The phone CHIRPS once. ESU SERGEANT WILLIAMS and another ESU OFFICER appear on the right monitor calling in from their ESU OFFICE.

STELLA
Sergeant Williams. Sergeant Clark.

At the same time, Mac taps another two icons. Left screen BLINKS: FBI SPECIAL AGENTS STEVE BECK and KEVIN HALINAN appear, calling in from the FBI's NEW YORK FIELD OFFICE.

STELLA
Special Agents Beck and Halinan.

Finally, the center frame BLINKS and fills with Detectives Flack and Angell calling in from their precinct squad.

STELLA
Detectives Flack and Angell.

SCREENS BLINK: CISCO NETWORK IS SECURE.

STELLA
Network is secure.

MAC
Gentlemen, thank you for joining us. Each one of you has been briefed on our proposed tactical, so I'll jump right in -- Agent Beck, your FBI surveillance team will have eyes on the outer perimeter. Let's hope one of your people spots Suspect X and we can take her on her way in. That would save us an awful lot of trouble.

Beck nods in agreement. Mac turns to Sergeant Williams.

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED:

MAC
Sergeant Williams, your tactical
response team will standby at 39th
Street between Broadway and 7th
waiting for my word to move in.

He nods in agreement. Mac turns to Agent Beck.

MAC
Agent Beck, your FBI surveillance
team will have eyes on the outer
perimeter. Let's hope one of your
people spots her and we can take
her on her way in. That would save
us an awful lot of trouble.

Mac nods to Stella.

STELLA
A meeting has been arranged between
Suspect X and our undercover,
Detective Angell...

INTERCUT WITH:

EXT. BRYANT PARK - EARLY MORNING

STELLA (V.O.)
...The meet location is a bench on
the north side of the park looking
back toward the library.

Det. Angell (DISGUISED -- wig, sunglasses) sits on a bench,
facing the library, in the middle of an open area, drinking
coffee and awaiting her scheduled meeting with Suspect X.

STELLA (V.O.)
Detective Flack will be the ghost.
He will be on the set dressed as an
employee from the Department of
Parks.

SEE Det. Flack, dressed as a Department of Parks worker (with
hat), sweeping up trash around the park. Det. Flack steals
looks over to Det. Angell, clearly concerned for her safety.

OMITTED

EXT. BRYANT PARK - DAY


(CONTINUED)
MAC (V.O.)
I will be situated in the rear of the library. Across the park. Every member of the team will have audio capability but all communication will come through me. No one moves without my order.

WIDEN to REVEAL Mac with binoculars, standing secreted near the back of the library, looking out over the park.

INTERCUT THE FOLLOWING:

-- Det. Angell HEARS the clack of shoes on a stone walkway behind her. She turns to see a woman moving toward her, wearing sunglasses a long overcoat with a scarf on her head. Det. Flack carefully clocks her approach from a distance. *

DET. FLACK
We got movement. Coming in southeast.

-- MAC'S POV THROUGH THE BINOCULARS: He follows Suspect X. HEAR Det. Flack over the radio, anxious to move. *

DET. FLACK
Just say the word.

MAC
Nobody moves.

Mac watches intently. Something's not right.

MAC
(under his breath)
It's too easy.

RESUME SUSPECT X

She approaches. Det. Angell stands up.

SUSPECT X
Sit down.

Det. Angell complies. Suspect X slides onto the bench next to Det. Angell. But it isn't Suspect X... just some YOUNG ND WOMAN under the scarf. She hands Det. Angell a slip of paper. ND Woman then rises and walks away.

DET. ANGELL
(into hidden mic)
It's not her.

MAC
What does the note say?
CONTINUED: (2)

Det. Angell makes sure the ND Woman is out of earshot, opens the note, reads it:

DET. ANGELL
Don't move.

MAC
She sent someone in first. To make sure is wasn't a trap.

He keeps his eyes trained on the ND Woman who was just with Det. Angell... SEES her PASS ANOTHER WOMAN and nod. This NEW WOMAN is none other than Suspect X! Game on. As Suspect X heads for Det. Angell... A UNIFORMED OFFICER crosses into the park, totally unexpected.

-- Mac and his team react:

MAC
Who is that? Where did he come from?

DET. FLACK
He's not one of ours, Mac.

MAC
He's going to spook her...

AND HE DOES -- Suspect X stops in her tracks. Turns back toward the street.

-- Mac gives the order:

MAC
Move!

In a SERIES OF QUICK CUTS: Everyone explodes into motion toward Suspect X. She's off and running -- through the park. She sees Det. Flack sprinting toward her. She reverses her field.

-- ESU OFFICERS close from the other side. Suspect X sprints through an opening into the sidewalk.

-- Suspect X calmly blends into the moving sea of humanity. She ditches her jacket... then tears off her scarf and her hat. Drops them to the sidewalk. Pulls the hair band releasing her ponytail. She continues forward through the crowd as if her escape route was planned ahead of time --

-- FIND Mac. Moving like a freight train. He scoops up the scarf, peers over heads as he pushes his way through the crowded street. Talking into the microphone on his wrist:

(CONTINUED)
CONTINUED: (3)

MAC
She's changed her clothing. Lost the hat the scarf. The previous description of the suspect is no good.

He cranes his neck -- SEES Suspect X -- cutting across the street. He follows. She senses him. Turns suddenly, makes eye contact, then sprints into a building that is under construction. Mac looks up at the building -- exposed beams -- scaffolding --

MAC
(into wrist radio)
Got her. Corner of 46th and 7th. New construction. I'm going in.

INT. BUILDING UNDER CONSTRUCTION - DAY

Mac enters on the cut -- follows Suspect X up the stairs -- and out onto the girders -- the two of them engage in a dangerous game of cat and mouse -- HIGH ABOVE CITY. They exchange gunfire -- moving -- dodging -- Mac nearly slips -- shit -- lashes out -- snags a beam -- hangs there for a white-knuckle moment -- then regains his footing -- continues the pursuit -- thirty mile an hour winds whipping past. More gunfire -- Mac empties his clip -- ducks behind a girder. Reloads. Looks ahead -- sees a trail of blood. 40 feet away, on another girder, Suspect X freshens her pistol. And we see for the first time that she's leaking. She's been shot, but still manages to keep her shit together.

MAC
Who are you?

PUSH IN ON SUSPECT X. She wheezes, wipes the sweat from her eyes. A wounded animal.

SUSPECT X
Anyone you want me to be, detective. Lover, friend, fantasy... nightmare. Take your pick...

MAC
I'll go with dead.

SUSPECT X
That wasn't on the list.

MAC
I'm basing it on the amount of blood leaving your body from that hole I put in your chest.

(CONTINUED)
Suspect X grimaces. Looks up from her wound. HER POV: the broken dirty window. Above a crack. Mac's stoic reflection.

SUSPECT X
So serious.
(them)
Someone needs to relax.

MAC
This is all just a game, isn't it?

SUSPECT X
One I'm paid quite well to win.

MAC
You don't care about money. That's not why we're here.

SUSPECT X
Then tell me, why am I here?

MAC
You can't stop yourself.

Beat. Suspect X takes that in. Intrigued. Mac knows her.

MAC
How does it make you feel? Killing someone.

SUSPECT X
You tell me?

Mac inches along the girder. Sides up to the next post. Almost has a beat Suspect X.

MAC
-- When it happens, it's too fast. A waking nightmare.

SUSPECT X
Power?

MAC
Senseless. And unlike you, I never get to choose my victims in advance.

SUSPECT X
Don't tease me, Detective.

MAC
I'm not. I want to know what goes through your mind when you end a life?

SUSPECT X
Besides playing God?

(CONTINUED)
(losing patience)
You have about four minutes of consciousness left. Why not let them mean something.

SUSPECT X
A confession?

MAC
They say it's good for the soul.

SUSPECT X
It only works if you have one.

She's waning. Soaked in blood. Swallows hard. Mac inches closer...

SUSPECT X
Pulling the trigger is like taking a deep breathe of fresh air. It's pure. It re-energizes. Heals. Seeing that last little spec of life in their eyes.
(almost sad)
When it fades -- I don't know... I believe they are going to a better place...

Her words trail off. Mac finally works his way over to her, ready for anything. Except it's over. Suspect X is dead. *

Det. Flack and Det. Angell arrive upon this discovery. HOLD ON SUSPECT X as we --

OMITTED

THRU

INT. NEW YORK CRIME LAB - MAC'S OFFICE - DAY

Mac sits across from Jordan Gates.

JORDAN
-- I don't understand... what does this have to do with me?

MAC
Immediately following the pursuit, we were able to retrieve the suspect's client list from a PDA she had on her.
CONTINUED:

Mac slides a folder across his desk. Jordan picks it up.*

**MAC**
Her last target wasn't the Mayor or any of the other dignitaries at the event. It was you.

Jordan reacts. Thrown.*

**JORDAN**
Who hired her?

**MAC**
Your ex-husband.

Jordan slowly opens the file. **CAMERA PULLS BACK AS SHE reads the contents, looking dumbfounded and crushed. Mac comes around the table, offers compassion. She embraces him, thankful. CONTINUE TO PULL BACK --**

---

INT. NEW YORK CRIME LAB - CORRIDOR - DAY

Stella heads for Mac's office. Stops short upon seeing Mac escorting Jordan to the door --

**ON MAC AND JORDAN**

**JORDAN**
Thank you. I know... I'm starting to sound like a broken record.

**MAC**
No thanks necessary.

She holds his look. Then:

**JORDAN**
Stay in touch.

And she heads for the elevator. Mac watches her go. Stella finally approaches --

**STELLA**
How did Jordan take it?

**MAC**
Like anyone that was betrayed by someone they once loved. Confused, but most of all -- angry.

He leads Stella back into his office --
INT. NEW YORK CRIME LAB - MAC'S OFFICE - DAY

MAC
How did it go with her ex-husband?

STELLA
He's in custody. Didn't go quietly.

Mac's computer CHIRPS. He looks to the screen -- an e-mail icon BLINKS addressed to him. Mac returns to his desk, taps a key and opens it.

ON COMPUTER MONITOR (MACHINIMA): WIDE ANGLE - A BEACH on some remote island. Palm trees frame a stretch of white sand and crystal clear waters. The sky is bright and expansive with the bright sun on the horizon. A STEEL DRUM plays. (NOTE: E-MAIL DATA remains in the corner of the screen -- DATE and SENDER: UNKNOWN).

RESUME MAC. Seeing Machinima sends a chill up his spine. Stella reads the look on his face, joins Mac at the laptop --

STELLA
What is it?

Before Mac has a chance to respond --

ON COMPUTER MONITOR (MACHINIMA): Movement in the distance -- an Avatar approaches. Blonde hair. Perfect body. No less than SUSPECT X. She's wearing a white sundress and shades. She stops center frame in a MEDIUM SHOT. Removes her sunglasses.

SUSPECT X AVATAR
Hello, Detective Taylor. It appears as if I've left you and your team of CSI's with a great deal of work to do. While I enjoyed our interaction immensely, I'm sad to say my work in New York is done. And although you failed to stop me, you can take comfort in the fact that many have come before you and failed.

(smiles; replaces sunglasses)
Aloha.

-- heads off down the beach.

RESUME SCENE

STELLA
How is this possible --

(MORE)
64B CONTINUED:

STELLA (CONT'D)
(then the unthinkable)
Mac, did we make a mistake?

MAC
No. Suspect X is dead. Take a look --
He gestures to the data in the corner of the screen.

MAC
This e-mail was sent on a delay...
yesterday morning. Trust me, this is the last we've seen of her.

With that, he stabs a key.

ON COMPUTER MONITOR (MACHINIMA): Suspect X is halfway up the beach when the screen abruptly goes BLACK.

FADE OUT.

END OF SHOW