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The crack of dawn. And the family from the Calais service station park up. The parents get out and carry their small, sleeping daughters up to the front door.

The SMALLEST GIRL’S eyes open as her father waits for his wife to open the front door. She’s looking over his shoulder back at the car.

Small Girl’s POV: the car trunk pops open and Villanelle sits up.

Villanelle sees that the Small Girl has spotted her, she puts her fingers to lips: shhh.

The terrified Girl stays silent as her father carries her inside.

The father and his wife return to the street to collect the bags from their car. They open the trunk: there’s nothing in there.

FATHER
What...where’s our stuff? Did someone...pee in here?

They look around: the road is empty.

We find Villanelle, further away, walking down the street. A classic Iconic Action Walk Away.

Except her face is fucked up, and she’s grabbing her wound, wearing an insane ensemble of Gabriel’s pyjamas, crocs and carrying a briefcase.

TITLE: KILLING EVE
PART ONE

INT. EVE AND NIKO'S HOUSE- BEDROOM - DAWN 23

Eve wakes. Smiling, calm. Niko asleep next to her. She stretches and then like being hit by a train-

Remembers. For a split second there she’d forgotten.

She reaches quietly for her laptop. Glances at Niko. He’s still asleep.

In the glow of her screen, she opens a tab: “Paris news woman stabbed”. Then a beat. She adds: “murder.” She’s almost too terrified to look. She searches, scrolls through the headlines: nothing yet.

NIKO (O.S.)
What are you doing?

Eve quickly clicks to another tab- a shopping website. She fake scrutinizes the dresses. Niko looks at the screen, he’s still half asleep.

NIKO (CONT’D)
Are you shopping?

Niko buries his head into his pillow.

NIKO (CONT’D)
You really have changed.
(beat)
The blue one’s sexy.

And Niko is back to sleep. Eve closes her computer. Phew. Close call.

She thinks for a sec. Opens her laptop again. She clicks on the sexy blue dress: “add to cart”.

INT. 24 HOUR LAUNDRETTE - DAWN 23

Villanelle is asleep on the bench of a 24 hour laundrette. Still in her pyjamas. Very pale. The doctor’s briefcase slipped under the bench. The owner stands over her disapprovingly, nudging her awake.

LAUNDRETTE OWNER
Oi! Your laundry load is finished.
Villanelle sits up as the owner sarcastically hands her a single pair of neon Agent Provocateur knickers.

Her wound is agony. Cloudy head. Fuzzy teeth.

VILLANELLE
Do you have any gum?

LAUNDRETTE OWNER
This is not a homeless shelter.

The owner goes into the back room. Villanelle immediately limps over to a laundry basket. Rifles through it. It’s a depressing collection.

She grabs a few random items, opens her briefcase to shove them in and- It’s empty. The drugs are gone.

VILLANELLE
No, no, NO!

The LAUNDRETTE OWNER appears.

VILLANELLE (CONT’D)
My medicine has been stolen!

The OWNER points to a sign: “Thieves Operate In This Area.”

Villanelle, furious, stares at the Owner, and knocks over a box of laundry powder, spilling it all over the floor. She leaves.

INT. EVE AND NIKO’S HOUSE– BEDROOM – MORNING

Niko is getting dressed for work, Eve is still in bed. They were up late talking, and it’s cleared the air a little. They’re back to themselves, even if they are both trying a little too hard.

NIKO
Alister Peel. It’s crazy.

EVE
No matter how rich or famous you are, you always end up with your dick out on a slab.

NIKO
They should teach that at Harvard business school.

(beat)
What was it like, seeing the body?
EVE
I nearly threw up. They had to get me a burger.

Niko laughs. He’s relieved.

NIKO
So you’re not completely heartless.

EVE
Not yet.

NIKO
Do they think she did it? Is that why they want you in?

EVE
Maybe. Yeah. That’s why I have to go in. It’s just to brief the Peel operation on Villanelle. A couple of days. Max. I promise.

NIKO
Well, Year Nine have a maths mock exam today so I’ve got pretty intense stuff of my own going on.

She laughs.

EVE
Right.
(beat)
I had a dream about Bill last night.

NIKO
Oh, Eve.

EVE
His stupid little face. I picked up my phone the other day to text him...
(beat)
Sorry. Let’s not talk about this.
NIKO
No. It’s ok. This is how it works.
We have to talk.

EVE
Of course. We “talk” now. Gross.

NIKO
(taking the piss)
I want you to know that I hear you,
and that I respect you.

EVE
Ew.

Niko kisses her and begins to leave. She blurts-

EVE (CONT’D)
Be careful.

NIKO
What do you mean?

EVE
Just...if you see anything strange.
You know? Be careful.

Beat.

NIKO
What a touchingly reassuring
goodbye.

EVE
Sorry.

INT. SUPERMARKET - LATER - MORNING 23

A suburban supermarket, and Villanelle is pushing a trolley
around. She spots herself in the mirror of a make up section.
Wow. She looks bad. She hastily puts some blusher and
lipgloss on from the testers.

She cruises the aisles. Looking at customers, mostly
ordinary, middle-aged ones. She starts following a particular
guy. Nondescript, glasses. She keeps her distance. He looks
up, smiles at her. She smiles back. She’s on her way over to
him when his wife arrives, and puts something into the
trolley. Annoyed, Villanelle moves on.

A WOMAN, middle aged. She has a lasagna for one in her
trolley: perfect. Villanelle approaches her, puts on her most
vulnerable face.
In this episode, she speaks in an English accent—she instinctively knows her Russian accent will make people less likely to take pity on her.

VILLANELLE
Excuse me. I’m sorry to bother you—

The Woman looks at Villanelle with barely concealed disgust.

SUPERMARKET WOMAN
Ugh, no, sorry. I don’t have any change.

She barges past. Villanelle is shocked, angry—no one’s ever treated her like this. What’s happening?

Suddenly she sees the guy she needs: tall, 30s, tall, a little round and kind looking. He’s at the freezer section looking at ready meals: this guy’s totally single. Lonely. He looks up and Villanelle smiles at him. He smiles and glances shyly away. This is JULIAN.

INT. EVE AND NIKO’S HOUSE—BEDROOM—MORNING 23

Eve is getting ready for her first day in her new role. Niko has left. She’s in her bra and tights. Pulling clothes on and off, discarded clothes all over the bed. Nothing works.

She’s not happy. Nervous about her first day. But more weirdly, caring about her clothes. Villanelle’s influence seeping in.

INT. SUPERMARKET—LATER—MORNING 23

Julian is stacking his ready meals onto the conveyor when Villanelle appears behind him, she’s shivering, in full damsel-in-distress mode. Posh accent. She touches his arm.

VILLANELLE
(whisper)
Excuse me.

Julian jumps.

JULIAN
Sorry. Do you need to get past?

He moves aside to let her pass. Not used to women talking to him.

VILLANELLE
No. I need your help.
JULIAN
Right. Sorry. I don’t think I can-

VILLANELLE
That man out there-

She points to a man outside the supermarket.

VILLANELLE (CONT’D)
He’s my stepfather. He did this to me-

She points at her bruised face.

JULIAN
Oh... dear me.

VILLANELLE
Please... I need someone to help me get out of here without him seeing. If I could, just walk behind you...

Julian is one of life’s Nervous Nellys. He’s panicking, but desperate to be a hero.

JULIAN
Oh gosh... I... don’t... I’m not really... it’s not my...
(finally)
Oh god. Alright. Stay behind me.

Julian leaves his shopping on the till, starts walking nervously towards the exit, Villanelle close behind. Holding on to him.

CASHIER
Just leave your stuff on the till mate! Don’t worry about it!

EXT. SUPERMARKET – MOMENTS LATER – MORNING 23

Julian walks nervously past Villanelle’s “father”, trying to hide her. The “father” is clearly an innocent man loading things into his car. Julian tries to look.

VILLANELLE
(whispered)
Don’t look at him! He’s completely lost his mind.

JULIAN
(terrified)
Oh my god. Oh my god.
INT. JULIAN’S CAR - MOMENTS LATER - MORNING 23

They get into his car. Julian looks like he might have a heart attack. Glances in his mirror.

    JULIAN
    I don’t think he saw us.

    VILLANELLE
    Thank you. I don’t know what I would have done.

She weeps, Julian passes her a tissue.

    VILLANELLE (CONT’D)
    A handkerchief! Wow. A gentleman.

Julian is becoming starstruck. She looks like a little doll in her supermarket blusher.

    JULIAN
    (bashful)
    I don’t know about that. Do you have someone you need to call? Is there anything I can do to help?

    VILLANELLE
    I’ve got nowhere to go.

    JULIAN
    No friends...?

    VILLANELLE
    I don’t really have any.

This strikes a chord with Julian.

    JULIAN
    There must be something I can do. I can’t just leave you here.

    VILLANELLE
    I’ll be alright.

She opens the car door. Julian takes the plunge.

    JULIAN
    Look. I have a spare room. If you need somewhere for a night or two...

    VILLANELLE
    No I couldn’t. Thank you. It wouldn’t be right.
JULIAN
(mortified)
If you’re worried about...I would never...what I mean is, you would be completely safe. Of course.

VILLANELLE
But... wouldn’t I be an inconvenience to you?

JULIAN
(kindly)
No. Not at all. “Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.”

VILLANELLE
But that would make me an angel.

JULIAN
Yes. I suppose it would.

Villanelle smiles shyly. But when he looks away: UGH.

EXT. MI6 OFFICES – DAY 23

Eve is walking into work. What the hell is she doing? She’s looking for a girl she might have murdered. She just needs to keep her cool. Act normal. Carolyn is waiting on the stairs for her.

Eve looks self-conscious. Guilty. A tiny glimmer of interest from Carolyn: why’s Eve so cagey?

CAROLYN (O.S.)
Alright?

EVE
Yeah.

(anxious compliment)

How do you always look so good? Do you even sleep?

Eve shudders.

CAROLYN
It’s my moisturizer. Made of pigs placenta. Costs a fortune and smells like arse but exceedingly effective.
Eve thinks about it.

EVE
I don’t mind smelling like ass.

CAROLYN
I’ll send you the link.

INT. MI6 OFFICE – MOMENTS LATER – DAY 23

Eve and Carolyn walk into an old, somewhat decrepit building. Eve looks around, catches a peeling sign.

EVE
Is that an asbestos warning?

CAROLYN
Health and Safety nonsense. It’s good for the immune system.

EVE
Asbestos?

Carolyn walks on towards the new office, Eve follows her. The dread creeping in. She just needs to go in, do her presentation, and leave.

CAROLYN
The other two have been working on the Alister Peel case for a while so they can catch you up.

EVE
A while? I thought you only just found out Peel was murdered.

CAROLYN
We did. But before he died Peel was planning to sell his business. We were keeping an eye on it. Operation Manderley.

EVE
Why?

CAROLYN
Because his company was sitting on an information goldmine. Data storage, communications patents, search engines, media companies. Pretty tempting to the rich and unscrupulous...
EVE
The Twelve?

CAROLYN

EVE
MI6?

Beat.

CAROLYN
Peel was going to sell to another tech company: boring. Boring is terrific. We assumed the board would do the same. But now we know Villanelle helped shuffle him off the coil, Manderley has been revived. As a matter of some urgency. Peel’s death wasn’t an accident. It was a coup.

They are near the Manderley office.

EVE
So you just want me to brief them on Villanelle? That’s it?

Beat.

CAROLYN
More or less.

EVE
What have you told these guys my role is exactly?

CAROLYN
“Outside Expert”.

EVE
Expert on what?

CAROLYN
Female assassins.

Eve feels a little sick: she sure knows about female assassins.
Carolyn leads a nervous Eve into the ‘Operation Manderley’ office. A huge room with a few small desks in the middle: it looks like this “office” was set up ten minutes ago and could just as easily be cleared away. A huge router blinks in the corner. JESS and HUGO work on their computers.

Kenny appears, carrying a folder.
EVE
Kenny! I didn’t know you’d be here!

KENNY
Hi, Eve.

The most awkward of hugs. They’re both nervous.

CAROLYN
Now Villanelle is part of the Peel investigation I thought it would be useful to keep part of The Trafalgar team in tact.

EVE
So, will Elena-

CAROLYN
Elena felt that the job was no longer for her-

KENNY
She’s worried about getting murdered.

Carolyn is baffled by this idea.

EVE
(faint)
Ok.

Carolyn has gone to get the others.

KENNY
(whisper)
Are you alright?

EVE
(whisper)
No.

Before Kenny can follow up, Carolyn brings over a woman Eve’s age. This is Jess, awesome, clever, heavily pregnant. She has a firm handshake.

JESS
Hi. Jess. Welcome to “Operation Manderley”.
(beat)
This is Hugo. Dog’s body and token Cambridge posh boy. Apologies for him in advance.
Hugo, early-20s, shakes Eve’s hand. Naughty, boyish, he’s a charisma machine who will flirt with men, women and dogs to get what he wants.
HUGO
Oxford actually. Jess pretends not to remember to hurt my feelings, Eve. She’s very undermining.

Jess rolls her eyes, but she can’t help but smile.

HUGO (CONT’D)
Let me know if there’s anything you need.

There’s a glimmer of dirtiness in this. And it’s deliberate. Jess and Eve watch Hugo saunter off.

JESS
Welcome to MI6, an Old Etonian hiding under every desk waiting to steal your job.

Hugo grins at them from across the room.

INT. JULIAN'S HOUSE - HALLWAY - DAY

Julian shows Villanelle into his house. Or rather, his mother’s house. There’s a stairmaster in the hall. It is full to the brim with chintz, yellowing doilies, and, unnervingly, Victorian china dolls. He’s self-conscious.

VILLANELLE
Oh...Julian...wow.

JULIAN
My mother collected them. I should throw them away really.

VILLANELLE
No! They’re...lovely.

One has slightly slumped to one side. Julian sits her back up in a silly, schoolmaster-y way. Trying out a comedy bit.

JULIAN
Sit up straight, Annabelle! We have a guest!

VILLANELLE
(faint)
Ha. Could I possibly sit down?

JULIAN
Of course! You must be tired.
INT. JULIAN’S HOUSE – SITTING ROOM – DAY 23

Julian leads Villanelle in and sits her down gently on the sofa.

JULIAN (CONT’D)
Can I get you anything?

VILLANELLE
Do you have any cake?

JULIAN
Oh...no. But I could get you some!

VILLANELLE
Honestly, you’ve done enough...
(meek, tragic)
Lemon drizzle?

Villanelle looks up at him with grateful Bambi eyes.

JULIAN
I’ll be back in ten minutes.

She hears Julian locking the door behind him, and finally relaxes. She looks at her wound- the stitches are coming apart a little. It’s very sore. She needs to be careful. She lies her head back and closes her eyes.

Wait. Did the floorboards just creak upstairs? Her eyes open.

PART TWO

INT. MI6 - COFFEE ROOM - LATER - DAY 23

Eve is in a panic. Trying to keep it down. Kenny sneaks in. They’re whispering. Urgent. Not wanting to get caught. Kenny is genuinely worried.

KENNY
Eve, what happened? Mum said you went to Paris?

EVE
Oh my god, Kenny-

Hugo comes in to get some water. Eve and Kenny immediately fall silent. Hugo notices. Is about to leave when-

HUGO
Are you two having an affair?

Beat.
EVE

Yeah.

Kenny looks mortified. Hugo nods—fair enough. And leaves. Once he’s gone—

EVE (CONT’D)

I found her. I found Villanelle.

KENNY

What? Where is she?

EVE

Kenny—

(beat)

I stabbed her.

This is the first moment Eve has faced it. Kenny is genuinely shocked—this is serious, serious news.

KENNY

(SHOUTS)

What? WHAT?

EVE

Shhh.

KENNY

Oh my god, Eve. How? Where?

EVE

In the stomach.

Kenny looks like he might faint.

KENNY

Is she dead?

EVE

I don’t know. I don’t know. She disappeared.

They sit with this for a second.

KENNY

Ohhhh. This is really bad.

(with horror)

Does mum know? Is that why we’re here?

EVE

No. No, I told her that I just found Villanelle’s apartment. Do you think I should tell her?
KENNY
NO. No. No.  
(beat)  
No. You’re withholding information.  
On an investigation you’re working  
on.  

EVE  
Well, on the bright side, now you  
are too.  

This hadn’t even OCCURRED to Kenny. He looks like he might  
throw up.  

HUGO (O.S.)  
Oi. Lovebirds.  

He’s stuck his head round the door.  

HUGO (CONT’D)  
Jess wants to hear the assassin  
briefing.  

Eve and Kenny exchange a glance: this is going to be hell.
Eve is standing in front of the Manderley team. She’s trying to get to grips with the power point, but her guilty conscience is getting the better of her. She just needs to seem calm, not give anything away. Kenny can barely watch.

EVE
So, I am Eve Polastri. I’m just going to talk a little bit about...um...

She can’t work the remote.

EVE (CONT’D)
Sorry.

HUGO
Need a hand?

EVE
No, no I’m fine.

Hugo comes over and gently taking the clicker from her with a wry smile. He points to a couple of buttons.

HUGO
This one, then the blue one, and this one. And if you need to-

EVE
Thank you, Hugo. I can work a remote.

HUGO
(flirty)
Yes, miss.

He sits back down. Eve carries on, she’s not a natural presenter.

EVE
Yes. Um. So. Originally our team was set up to look into a string of international assassinations.

She clicks through the Series One victims’ photos.

EVE (CONT’D)
Cesare Greco, Carla de Mann, Zhang Wu, there didn’t seem to be a whole lot connecting them except for this female assassin.
A photo of Villanelle. Hugo is writing this all down.

EVE (CONT’D)  
Oksana Astankova. Or as she prefers to be called: Villanelle.

She looks at Villanelle’s photo. A moment. Kenny holds his breath. Hugo watches Eve intently.

EVE (CONT’D)  
Her handler was this man: Konstantin Vasiliev.  
(slide)  
An FSB agent, who moonlighted for the criminal organization that employed her.  
(beat)  
Moonlighted? That doesn’t sound right.

The others think. It doesn’t sound right.

HUGO  
Moon...lit?

EVE  
Moonlit. Maybe. Anyway she shot Konstantin in a tea room full of people.

JESS  
She’s sloppy?

EVE  
No. Not usually. She’s flamboyant, attention-seeking, spoiled, instinctive, easily-bored.

Eve pulls herself back. She’s gone in too deep. Hugo is noticing.

EVE (CONT’D)  
But no she’s not sloppy.  
(beat)  
This was her neighbor. Sebastian Belmonde. Poisoned and dumped in the river.

New slide. A photo of Frank, dead in Eve’s dress.
EVE (CONT’D)
Frank Haleton. He was in a
government safehouse when she broke
in and murdered him. Killed the
majority of his security team too.

New slide. A photo of Bill. She and Kenny exchange a look.

EVE (CONT’D)
Bill Pargrave. She stabbed him to
death on a nightclub dance floor.
(beat)
If anyone says “It’s Murder on the
Dancefloor” I’ll throw them out the
window.

Hugo and Jess both close their mouths.

Kenny smiles at Eve: good job. Through the first hurdle.

INT. JULIAN’S HOUSE - SITTING ROOM - DAY 23

Villanelle is absent-mindedly stroking her wound. Watching
the Jeremy Kyle show, where a woman is screaming at her
weeping sister. Villanelle laughs. She is a little delirious.
Julian comes in.

   JULIAN
   I hate this show. Horrid.
   (beat)
   How are you feeling?

He puts his hand on her forehead. It’s wet. Julian looks at
her, concerned.

   JULIAN (CONT’D)
   Perhaps you need a hot bath. Wash
   your hair.

He leaves. Villanelle continues to watch the show. Eyes
becoming a little glazed.

INT. JULIAN’S HOUSE - BATHROOM - LATER - EVENING 23

The bath is running. Villanelle is going through the bathroom
cabinets, she looks awful. She is looking at his mother’s old
pills- finds some that’ll do and necks them down. We see the
blood is starting to seep through her nightgown again.

There’s a knock on the door.
JULIAN (O.S.)
Elizabeth. Everything alright? Do you need anything?

Villanelle rolls her eyes.

VILLANELLE
(sweet voice)
No thank you, Julian.

She waits. He stays. Finally we hear his footsteps leave.

19  INT. JULIAN'S HOUSE - BATHROOM - LATER - EVENING 23  19  *

Villanelle is in the bath. Steam all around her. The water is pink with her blood. She touches her wound. Running her fingers lovingly over it.

20  INT. EVE AND NIKO'S HOUSE- STUDY - LATER - EVENING 23  20  *

Eve is in her study. She traces the streets of a Plan de Paris with her fingers: where is she?

Her phone beeps. She’s set up an alert. She looks:

“BOY MURDERED IN PARIS HOSPITAL.” She can barely breath. We scan through the story with her...“neck broken...young woman...stab wound...”

EVE
Oh my god.

Eve sits back, reeling. Feeling everything at once. We read it all on her face. The disgust, the fear, the relief, the excitement: Villanelle is alive.

Eve spots one last, chilling detail. “An apple with a single bite taken out of it lay beside the body.” Eve tentatively searches “Eve, apple” on her computer.

The images come up: “Eve Offering The Apple To Adam In the Garden of Eden” by Cranach. Eve stares at her namesake, holding the forbidden apple: Villanelle has left her a message. It’s back on. No way out now.

21  INT. JULIAN'S HOUSE - VILLANELLE’S BEDROOM - NIGHT 23  21  *

A classic old lady bedroom. Pink, frilly, plastic on the little pink couch. Twee oil paintings. Villanelle is wearing one of Julian’s mum’s frilly nighties. She’s pale.
VILLANELLE
(sweetly) *
I think I might need some *
antibiotics.

JULIAN
What you need is rest. You’ll be
right as rain tomorrow.

VILLANELLE
I get tonsillitis. It can get
infected...

JULIAN
Open your mouth.
Villanelle opens. Julian presses her tongue down with his
fingers. It looks like Villanelle is going to bite him.

JULIAN (CONT’D)
Say ‘ah’.

VILLANELLE
Aaaah.

He takes his fingers out. Wipes them on the blanket.

JULIAN
No white spots.

VILLANELLE
But-

JULIAN
You little worry wart. You’ll feel
better in the morning. I promise.
Now get some rest. Would you like a
hotty botty?

VILLANELLE
A what?

JULIAN
A hot water bottle.
She has no idea what this is.

VILLANELLE
I don’t think so.

Julian turns out the light and leaves. VILLANELLE looks over
at a huge doll. Staring back at her in the darkness. She
HATES it.
Niko grading papers. Eve is pretending to watch TV trying to cover everything that she’s feeling and keeping the lie up is a strain. Especially after the Gabriel news. She’s not sure she can sit on it.

EVE
Niko...

Niko is only half listening.

NIKO
Hmmm...

Eve tries to find the courage, when the news starts. The bong of Big Ben. Eve can’t do it. She’s furious with herself.

FEMALE NEWSCASTER (O.S.)
Good Evening, welcome to the Ten O’Clock news. The refugee crisis intensifies-

EVE
God, I hate this woman.

NIKO
What? The news lady? What’s wrong with her?

Eve is irrationally angry.

EVE
Everything. She just gets on my tits. She’s so smug. Those annoying statement necklaces. She looks like she banged a christmas tree.

FEMALE NEWSCASTER
-orphans from all over the world-

EVE
Like she cares about orphans!

NIKO
That’s not really her job... do you want me to turn this off?

He reaches for the remote. She stops him.

EVE
No! I wanna watch. Ugh.

Eve hate-watches. Niko not quite sure what’s going on.
Villanelle is sleeping when suddenly a muffled scuffling wakes her. She is bolt upright, out of bed in a flash. Her stab wound is sore, but she puts the pain to one side. She looks around, grabs a hideous decorative ornament for a weapon.

Villanelle walks down the dark, spooky hallway. The scuffling is coming from behind a closed door at the end. Julian’s bedroom door is open: he’s in there asleep. It’s not him making the noise.

Villanelle approaches the door, there’s a key in it: what the hell is locked in there? The scuffling stops. She turns the key, and hesitantly opens the door. Nothing. An empty, dark bedroom.

Villanelle steps inside the room, more dolls in the moonlight. She turn back and— There is a milky-eyed, old lady standing behind her, wearing a nightdress. She looks like a ghost. Villanelle is genuinely frightened. She screams and holds up the ornament about to whack the woman when—

JULIAN (O.S.)
Stop!

Julian grabs her arm.

JULIAN (CONT’D)
Stop! That’s my mother!

This takes a sec to sink in.

VILLANELLE
What? I thought...

Julian gently leads his Mother back to her bed.

JULIAN
Come on mummy, it’s alright. It’s alright.

VILLANELLE
What’s wrong with her?
JULIAN
Dementia.

VILLANELLE
Thank god! I thought she was a ghost. I hate ghosts.

JULIAN
I should have warned you. I’m sorry. She gets a bit restless at night.

INT. JULIAN’S HOUSE – HALLWAY – MOMENTS LATER – NIGHT 23
Julian closes his mother’s bedroom door and locks it.

VILLANELLE
Why do you lock her in?

JULIAN
She kept leaving the house in the middle of the night and getting lost. It’s safer for her this way.

INT. VILLANELLE’S BEDROOM – NIGHT 23
Villanelle closes her door. She goes to the window and pulls back the curtains: there are serious locks on every window.

PART THREE

INT. MI6 – MANDERLEY OFFICE – MORNING
It’s early, and Eve is alone in the office. She’s looking at the Gabriel news on the internet. Writing down notes. Looking at maps near the hospital.

JESS (O.S.)
What’s that?

Eve doesn’t have time to get rid of it. She tries to be casual.

EVE
Just the news.

Jess looks at it for a second.

JESS
“Child hospital murder grips France.” Bit early for infanticide.
She leaves. Phew. Eve needs to cover her guilt better.

Then something occurs to her. She looks back at the news story.

INT. JULIAN'S HOUSE - VILLANELLE'S BEDROOM - MORNING 24 29 *

The following morning. Villanelle wakes, she’s looking very sick. Julian is standing over her.

JULIAN
How are you feeling?

VILLANELLE
Julian, I need you to call the doctor. Tell him I need Tigecycline or Cefepime.

JULIAN
What are those?

VILLANELLE
And I need some things from the pharmacy. I wrote a list last night.

There’s a list on the table beside her, he picks it up.

JULIAN
Antiseptic, aspirin, ibuprofen...someone’s a hypochondriac!

Beat.

VILLANELLE
You know. I should leave. You’ve already been so kind.

She feebly pretends to get out of bed. Julian panics.

JULIAN
No! No. Please don’t. Of course I’ll go to the pharmacy. I need to pick up some things for mum anyway.

He reads through the list.

JULIAN (CONT’D)
Sanitary pads...oh. I...That’ll cause a bit of a stir in the pharmacy. I’ll have to tell them they’re for my girlfriend.
He’s getting off on this idea. But Villanelle is already fast asleep again. He looks down at her. Kisses her on the head.

30  INT. JULIAN’S HOUSE – BATHROOM – DAY 24

Villanelle is in the bathroom. TCP open. She takes a sanitary pad from the packet, and lifts up her top. Her wound is on the verge of septic.

Villanelle puts TCP all over the sanitary pad, puts a towel in her mouth, turns on the taps as loud as she can, and sticks the pad over her wound.

The pain is unbearable, she groans into the towel.

31  INT. MI6 – MANDERLEY OFFICE – DAY 24

Eve is studying pictures of Alister Peel’s body on the wall. Hugo appears behind her.

   HUGO
   Want to talk about it?

   EVE
   No.
   (beat)
   Maybe. What do you know about psychopaths?

   HUGO
   (shrugs)
   I went to boarding school.

   EVE
   So what does this look like to you then? This particular murder.

   EVE
   She points to the picture of Peel’s body. Hugo looks.

   HUGO
   It’s discreet.

   EVE

   HUGO
   Boring?

   EVE
   Relatively yes. Villanelle is an attention seeker. Most psychopaths are.

   (MORE)
She likes playing to the gallery. She wants it to be fun. She wants people to know when she’s killed someone. She wants me to know.

HUGO
You?

EVE
Whoever. People.

Hugo looks at the photo again. Eve’s right.

HUGO
It wasn’t her.

EVE
It wasn’t her.

Villanelle sits in front of Jeremy Kyle. She’s now feeling very weak, almost hallucinating. Julian’s Mother is sitting in the room with her, staring into space. Julian comes in cheerfully.

VILLANELLE
How are my two girls?

He sets down some tea in front of Villanelle. He notices what’s on the television, snaps.

JULIAN
What did I say about this program? I don’t like you watching it. It’s horrible.

He turns it off and snatches the remote from Villanelle. She’s too weak to stop him.

VILLANELLE
Julian. You need to call a doctor.

He ignores her.

VILLANELLE (CONT’D)
Could you maybe open a window? It’s so hot.
JULIAN
I don’t think that’s a good idea with your fever. Look, your hair’s got all messy, silly.

He takes a hairbrush from the side of the sofa, and starts to brush her hair. If Villanelle wasn’t so sick she’d tear his face off.

JULIAN (CONT’D)
There. Nice and neat.

He leaves. Villanelle looks around, desperate for some escape.

Suddenly, Julian’s mother is lucid. She turns to Villanelle.

JULIAN’S MOTHER
Hello dear!

Villanelle jumps. Is she hallucinating?

VILLANELLE
(Russian accent)
Oh my GOD.
(impressed)
Are you faking it?

JULIAN’S MOTHER
It’s lovely to see you again. How is Deb?

Oh. She just talking nonsense.

VILLANELLE
Deb got fat.

JULIAN’S MOTHER
Oh dear. Oh what a shame.

Julian’s mother leans forward and takes Villanelle’s hand.

JULIAN’S MOTHER (CONT’D)
You will be careful of Julian, won’t you?

Beat.

EVE
What?

JULIAN’S MOTHER
He’s a good boy really.
VILLANELLE
What do you mean?

But Julian’s mother is catatonic again. Villanelle is * actually rattled. Has she misjudged this? *

VILLANELLE (CONT’D)
Hey! Come back! *

Nothing. She’s gone.

PART FOUR

33  EXT. ALISTER PEEL’S HOUSE - DAY 24  33 *

A grimy, dilapidated house. Eve and Carolyn get out of the * car.

EVE
You’re kidding.

CAROLYN
What do you mean?

EVE
You’re telling me one of the richest men in the world lives in this house? This house?

A man gets out of a parked car. This is NEIL, a policeman.

CAROLYN
Ah hello Neil. This is Eve. Neil’s with the Met. Are the whole family here?

NEIL
Yes.

CAROLYN
Would you like to give them the bad news, or shall I?

34  INT. ALISTER PEEL’S HOUSE - HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER  34 *
- DAY 24  *

They step through the open door. It’s a hoarder’s paradise, books and papers piled everywhere.

CAROLYN
Close your mouth, Eve.
EVE

It’s not exactly Versailles is it?
AARON
Not what you were expecting?

Aaron (35), Peel’s eldest son has appeared out of nowhere. He has a disquieting way of doing that. He’s terse and unsmiling.

EVE
I’m so sorry-

AARON
It’s alright. People are always surprised. He used to walk past this house on his way to school every morning. Said it was the nicest house he’d ever seen. So when he first started the company he bought it. And never left.

EVE
That’s awesome.

AARON
Awesome...passive aggressive. (beat)
Let’s get this over and done with shall we?

35
INT. ALISTER PEEL’S HOUSE - SITTING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER

Eve and Carolyn follow Aaron into a hideously decorated sitting room complete with garish wallpaper and hideous pub carpet. The family look completely normal. Not at all like billionaires.

In the room is his sister Amber (25), the family fuck-up who is never far from rehab, she’s recently been crying.

They are clearly cagey with visitors. A very private family. Aaron points to his sister.

AARON
Amber.

CAROLYN
Hello.

An awkward silence. No one attempts to make things comfortable. Amber lights a cigarette. Aaron opens a window in response.
AMBER  *  
You said there was something about dad?

CAROLYN  
Yes. We’ve come here with rather difficult news.

AARON  
What has he died again?
AMBER
Aaron.

CAROLYN
I’m afraid that your father was murdered.

There is a stunned silence.

AMBER
No. That’s not right.

AARON
He had a heart attack. We were all here.

AMBER
* I think someone’s got something mixed up.

CAROLYN
I’m afraid not.

None of them knows how to react.

EVE
The day your father died...a beautician was here.

AARON
That wasn’t unusual. She came every week. Usually during board meetings.

EVE
During?

AARON
Dad liked to make his disdain for the business side of things pretty clear.

Eve is suddenly alert.

EVE
So you saw her? Do either of you remember what she looked like?

None. Eve takes a photograph of Villanelle out.

EVE (CONT’D)
Do you recognize this woman?
EXT. ALISTER PEEL'S HOUSE - EVENING 24

Eve and Carolyn leave.

CAROLYN
Stop it, Eve. I can feel your excitement. I don’t want you to get all giddy and start singing along to the radio in my car.

EVE
I knew it. I knew it!

They walk towards the car. Eve taking in the momentousness of this.

EVE (CONT’D)
A new girl.

CAROLYN
Perhaps. Or maybe someone so good she’s been operating undetected for a while.

EVE
(a glint)
Ha. Villanelle will be furious.

They get into the car.

INT. JULIAN'S HOUSE - VARIOUS - LATER - EVENING 24

Julian leaves the house. Villanelle waits a second, then gets up.

MONTAGE: Villanelle tries every door and window in the house: locked, locked, locked. Plastic windows - impossible to break. All routes to escape are blocked. And she’s deteriorating fast. She’s sweating, leaving marks on the glass.

INT. MI6 - MANDERLEY OFFICE - EVENING 24

Eve and Jess are discussing the new assassin looking at the Operation Amethyst board.

JESS
They can’t remember a single thing about her.

EVE
Nothing.
JESS
That’s convenient.

EVE
I know. I know. But I do believe them.

JESS
Neither of them could even say what age she was? How tall? Hair colour? Weight. There must be something.

EVE
Nope.
(starting to realize)
But what kind of a woman does no one ever pay any attention to- especially people like the Peels?

Jess catches her drift.

EVE (CONT’D)
Someone who can be in a room without anyone even looking at them? It’s certainly not a girl like Villanelle. It’s the kind of woman who people look at every day and never see.

JESS
Shit.

PART FIVE

39
INT. CORPORATE BUILDING - MORNING 25

A large, empty, corporate office. Early in the morning. A woman in a cleaner’s uniform, 40s-50s, non-white, small, is emptying the bins. A woman who has migrated to the UK and is routinely ignored and dismissed as “help”.

Sitting at his desk is Businessman on his own, typing furiously at his computer, drinking his morning coffee.

The Cleaner moves towards him, emptying bins as she goes. He doesn’t even notice her. She waits until he goes over to the printer, and swiftly, quietly swaps his coffee cup for another.

She is emptying his bin when he comes back. He takes a sip of his coffee. Ignoring her. Even when she clears a few things from his desk in front of him: he doesn’t even look at her face.
She walks towards us, leaving him behind, emptying the bins. In the background we see him stand up, walk towards the printer, grab his heart, and collapse.

The Ghost continues to clean, there is no reaction from her. She doesn’t even turn to look.
INT. JULIAN'S HOUSE - KITCHEN - MORNING

Villanelle is in the kitchen, rifling through the drawers. Her fever is bordering on madness. Julian enters.

    JULIAN
    What are you looking for?

    VILLANELLE
    Kitchen knife.

    JULIAN
    What for?

    VILLANELLE
    To stab you with.

    JULIAN
    Ha ha. Nothing sharp in the house, I’m afraid. Mum could cut herself.

Another blow for Villanelle. She clocks his car keys.

    VILLANELLE
    Are you going to the doctor?

Julian snaps.

    JULIAN
    Will you just stop badgering me for five minutes?

Beat. He calms himself.

    JULIAN (CONT’D)
    I’ll bring you back some flu tablets.

He leaves. Locks the front door. Villanelle catches herself in a mirror: she’ll die if she doesn’t act.

She makes a decision: picks up the phone. Dials.

    RECEPTIONIST (O.S.)
    Hello! Dozen Incorporated!

    VILLANELLE
    It’s Cher Horowitz. I’ve failed my driving test.

Beat.
RECEPTIONIST (O.S.)
I’m sorry, Ms. Horowitz. We don’t have anyone who can help you. Thank you for your call!

Villanelle hangs up, banging down the receiver. Furious.

This has never happened before. Have The Twelve ditched her? * If they have she is in really big trouble. Only one thing for it: *
She dials 100. * 

OPERATOR
Operator!

VILLANELLE
Connect me to MI6 please.

OPERATOR
Is this a prank call?

VILLANELLE
No. I need to speak with MI6.

OPERATOR
I’m sorry we can’t disclose that number.

VILLANELLE
OK. Well then tell them I’m going to blow up the Houses of Parliament.

Beat.

OPERATOR
You know, I get calls like this every day. It’s very distressing.

Click. She’s been put through.

VILLANELLE
Hello?

VOICE (V.O.)
Hello. Please clearly state the name of the person you wish to be connected to after the tone.

Damn. It’s an automated answering system.

VILLANELLE
Eve Polastri.

VOICEMAIL
I’m sorry. I didn’t catch that. Please state the name of the person-

VILLANELLE
Eve. Polastri.

VOICEMAIL
I’m sorry. I didn’t catch that. Please-
But suddenly she hears the car in the drive. She hangs up.

Villanelle has managed to get under the blanket just as Julian appears.

JULIAN
I forgot my...

Julian stops. He hears the off-the-hook phone tone. Uh oh. He turns, and sees the receiver dangling. A moment. Villanelle waits. Then- He walks over and silently takes the phone off the wall.

Eve is standing at the board, briefing the team on the new assassin.

KENNY
The Ghost?

EVE
She’s the opposite of Villanelle. She’s careful. Anonymous. Meticulous. Discreet. Right now we have no idea how long she has been operating, or who she’s working for. We’re working on the assumption that this is a woman in late-middle age, looks like an immigrant worker, she’s not-white-

HUGO
What makes you think that?

EVE
The fact that you just interrupted me mid-sentence makes me think that.

JESS
(Beat.)
So, this is our new lead. We’ll be focusing on The Ghost from now on. We can rule out Villanelle from this investigation.
EVE
Not completely?

JESS
Why not? We don’t need her anymore.

This makes Eve panic. She tries to keep casual.

EVE
But surely she’s still worth investigating?

KENNY
(trying to help)
She might know something about The Ghost?

Eve glances at Kenny gratefully. Hugo clocks it. But before Jess can answer—

CAROLYN
Eve, can you come with me please?
Quickly.

Her tone is not messing around. Is Eve in trouble?

43
INT. CAROLYN’S CAR – LATER – DAY 25
Carolyn drives. Fast.

EVE
Are you sure it was her?

Carolyn plays a voicemail.

VILLANELLE (O.S.)
EVE POLASTRI YOU PIECE OF SHIT!!!

Eve doesn’t know how to react. She’s terrified, but...

44
INT. JULIAN’S HOUSE – SITTING ROOM – LATER – DAY 25
Villanelle is on the sofa, she looks grey. Julian’s Mother sitting passively in her chair. Julian is angry. Pacing.

JULIAN
Who were you calling?

VILLANELLE
No one.
JULIAN
Don’t lie to me.

Villanelle is silent. Julian is starting to get angry. It mounts and mounts.

JULIAN (CONT’D)
You ungrateful...do you think anyone else would pick up a girl like you and give her a roof over her head? You thought I’d be an easy target, didn’t you? Thought you’d take advantage of The Good Samaritan. I see what you’re doing, don’t think I haven’t noticed. Playing the innocent. Batting your eyelashes. Getting me to wait on you hand and foot. Feed you. Look after you. Give you everything you want. And what do I get?

He slams his hand against the wall.

JULIAN (CONT’D)
WHAT DO I GET? Nothing!

He’s close to tears. A sulking child.

JULIAN (CONT’D)
Nothing! Why don’t I get anything?

Villanelle needs to calm him down.

VILLANELLE
It was a surprise. I didn’t want to tell you.

JULIAN
What are you talking about?

VILLANELLE
I was on the phone to a bakery. I was ordering you a cake.

Julian sniffles. It’s working.

JULIAN
What cake?

VILLANELLE
To say thank you. For being my knight in shining armour.

Beat.
JULIAN

Oh.

(starting to grovel)

Oh. Elizabeth. I’m sorry. I’m so sorry. What an idiot I am. What must you think of me?
She smiles at him. In her Russian accent:

**VILLANELLE**
I think...you’re going to bleed to death.

**JULIAN**
What?

She kicks him in the chest and makes her escape but he catches her by the legs and takes her down. A brutal fight ensues, Villanelle has the experience, but Julian has the strength.

Julian’s mother watches the fight impassively, watching as they struggle on the floor in front of her.

Finally, Villanelle grabs a decorative object and smashes it over Julian’s head. She grabs his keys, and starts to run to the hall-

**INT. JULIAN’S HOUSE - HALLWAY - MOMENTS LATER - DAY 25**

- But is quick behind her. In a flash. Villanelle has grabs some knitting needles from a nearby knitting basket and drives them deep into his jugular.

She pulls the needles out. Julian staggers back, in shock.

She gets the keys in the door and tries to get out, but Julian is still trying to stop her, bleeding, weakening by the second.

With her last ounce of energy, Villanelle shoves Julian onto the Stairmaster. He stares up at her, he looks hurt. She looks down at him.

**VILLANELLE**
This is what you get, Julian.

And she can’t resist: she watches as he bleeds out. Watching the light go out from his eyes.

**INT. CAROLYN’S CAR - MOMENTS LATER - DAY 25**

Carolyn is driving fast through suburbia.

**EVE**
Where is she?
CAROLYN
She called through the operator. We only have the area code. But the police are on their way. She won’t * get far.
Villanelle staggers out of Julian’s house. She’s barefoot in a nightie covered in blood on a suburban street.

Julian’s mother wanders out after her, and ambles down the street.

Villanelle notices a car across the road. It flashes its lights. What?

Raymond is in his car. A frighteningly normal man in a normal car with a normal suit on. He could be the manager of a local bank. Grey. Ordinary. Bloodless.

Raymond in unnervingly emotionless. Everything he says sounds boring, quiet and moderate, even if it’s a death threat.

Villanelle gets into the car.

RAYMOND
Hello Villanelle.

VILLANELLE
Who are you?

RAYMOND
I’m Raymond. Your new handler.

VILLANELLE
I thought I’d been fired.

RAYMOND
Circumstances have changed.

Beat.

VILLANELLE
No thanks.

RAYMOND
(faint smile)
You called us from an unprotected line. That wasn’t very clever was it?

VILLANELLE
You know what. I’ve had a really shitty couple of days. And I really, REALLY need to go to a doctor.

(MORE)
VILLANELLE (CONT’D)
What I DON’T need is a boring
stranger in a SKODA giving me a
lesson on how use a PHONE!

She’s really delirious now. Furious. Sweating. Frustrated.

RAYMOND
Alright. Off you go then.

VILLANELLE
What?

RAYMOND
(smile)
If you don’t want to work with me.
Off you go.

Beat.

VILLANELLE
Fine. Whatever.

She goes to open the door handle. Raymond locks it.

RAYMOND
Only joking.

He unlocks it for her. She tries again, but at the last
second he locks it. This happens a few times, a horrible
game, until Villanelle loses it and flies at him-

But she’s not strong enough, in a moment Raymond has her in
a chokehold, her face against the window. He’s whispering in
her ear. Measured and calm.

RAYMOND (CONT’D)
Who do you think you work for,
Oksana? Do you think you can just
do whatever you want? You are on a
very tight leash from now on.
Alright? A choke lead.

Villanelle is almost unconscious. He looks at her face as she
struggles for air, he’s enjoying it. Borderline aroused.

Finally he lets her go and she sputters to get breath.

RAYMOND (CONT’D)
Antibiotics are in the glove
compartment. There’s some water in
there so you can swallow them down.

He starts the car. Villanelle is too shocked to protest.
They start to drive down the street. Villanelle trying to catch her breath. When sirens begin to wail in the distance, Raymond calmly turns a corner when Villanelle sees her: Eve. Is this a hallucination?

Eve's just got out of a car with Carolyn. All along the street police are knocking on doors. Blue lights flashing.

Villanelle, not knowing if it’s real or not, touches the window longingly. But Eve doesn’t see her.

EXT. SUBURBAN STREET - MOMENTS LATER - DAY 25

A car drives past Eve and Carolyn. Suddenly there is a commotion coming from down the street. Shouting.

POLICEMAN (O.S.)
NUMBER 49!

Carolyn and Eve run towards it until-

EXT. JULIAN'S HOUSE - MOMENTS LATER - DAY 25

They arrive at the doorstep of Julian’s house. The door is open.

INT. JULIAN'S HOUSE - CONTINUOUS - DAY 25


POLICEMAN
The house is clear!

A PARAMEDIC is checking Julian’s pulse. Nothing.

PARAMEDIC
He’s still warm.

EVE
Oh god.

EXT. SUBURBAN STREET - MOMENTS LATER - DAY 25

Eve runs out into the middle of the road. Looking desperately in all directions. She’s missed Villanelle by a second.

EVE
SHIT!
The frustration is unbearable. Carolyn appears next to her.

EVE (CONT’D)
She’s gone. Dammit. We were so close! She was right here!
CAROLYN
I think we’re going to have to up your protection.

EVE
Ya think?

CAROLYN
There’s someone we need to speak to.

INT. CAROLYN’S HOUSE - HALL - LATER - DAY 25

Eve and Carolyn enter her house. A furious Kenny appears from the kitchen.

EVE
Hey. Everything ok?

Kenny says nothing, just throws his mother an angry glance and disappears up the stairs.

EVE (CONT’D)
What’s up with him?

CAROLYN
Promise you won’t be cross?

INT. CAROLYN’S HOUSE - SITTING ROOM- MOMENTS LATER - DAY 25

Eve walks into the sitting room. In a chair reading a book, is Konstantin. He looks up.

KONOSTANTIN
(cheerful)
Hello, Eve.


CLOSING CREDITS. END OF EPISODE.

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