

A Bodyguard of lies

Written by

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FADE IN:

INT. SMALL SIDE ROOM - DAY

SUPER:

"SAN CARLOS DE BARILOCHE. CHRISTMAS 1965"

A small gathering of BUSINESSMEN.

In the audience EVA, 54, classy and graceful, stands next to an old man, THE UNCLE, 77.

The Uncle puts his head under Eva's skirt and gives an appreciative whistle.

Everybody ignores it.

ELIZIER GOLDSTEIN, 65, a chubby face. He tries to appear jovial by showing his teeth but can't manage a smile.

ELIZIER

We have set guidelines which must be followed precisely...

The assembly hangs on his every word.

ELIZIER (CONT'D)

... If we want the Organization being effective.

The Uncle emerges with a crooked grin.

THE UNCLE

That's better than the Ride of the Valkyries.

The Uncle peeks under Eva's skirt again.

ELIZIER

That's all. Now let's move to the ballroom and enjoy the party.

Everybody relaxes.

ELIZIER (CONT'D)

And nobody say a word to my daughter...

The Uncle re-engages.

THE UNCLE  
A word about what?

EVA  
Her present, funny boy.

THE UNCLE  
Can I have some Dulche de  
Leche now?

Eva takes a jar of Dulche de Leche from her purse and gives it to him.

The Uncle scoops it out greedily with his fingers.

INT. BALLROOM - CONTINUOUS

Hundreds of guests waltz to a band playing in the corner of a huge hall.

The businessmen enter. The Uncle staggers in, Eva follows him closely.

Most of the guests stop dancing and line up to greet The Uncle.

GERDA GOLDSTEIN, 27, a gorgeous Brigitte Bardot type, blonde with an allure of strong will.

She dances on, oblivious to everything but her hunky and brash fiancé, HANS VON FAULHABER, 26.

They dance cheek to cheek, deeply in love.

Hans whispers in Gerda's ear.

HANS  
Let's get out of here.

In front of a huge Christmas tree, Elizier, Eva, The Uncle and some of the businessmen pose for the ritual picture.

Elizier looks around. Someone's missing.

The PHOTOGRAPHER is ready to snap.

The Uncle leaves his place and peeks under the skirt of A YOUNG LADY.

Eva drags him back.

Elizier notices Gerda and Hans sneaking off.

ELIZIER  
 Hans, Gerda! Come here for  
 the picture.

Eventually everyone's in the picture.

PHOTOGRAPHER  
 Say cheese.

GROUP IN THE PORTRAIT  
 Cheese.

FLASH.

The picture is taken.

Elizier takes Gerda and Hans to the stage.

The band stops playing.

ELIZIER  
 Ladies and Gentlemen, if I could  
 have your attention for a moment.  
 I'm delighted to announce that on  
 the twenty-eight of June, Nineteen-  
 sixty-six, my only daughter, Gerda  
 is getting married. And I'm  
 expecting you all to be there!

People clap. The band plays the wedding march.

ELIZIER (CONT'D)  
 Merry Christmas!

EXT. TENNIS CLUB - DAY

SUPER:

"SAN CARLOS DE BARILOCHE. MAY 1966."

Gerda and Hans engage in a short rally until Gerda misses  
 the ball.

HANS  
 (loudly)  
 Watch the ball!

GERDA  
 That's enough for today.

She sits on a bench.

Hans practices his serve twice, then walks to Gerda.

They share a long kiss, then look at each other with sugary smiles.

A jet roars over their heads, leaving a trail.

Hans puts his hand gently over Gerda's mouth and nose, but she pushes it away.

GERDA (CONT'D)  
Another conspiracy theory?

HANS  
Chemical contrails are real  
and dangerous.

Gerda gives him a skeptical look.

HANS (CONT'D)  
It's not true that I believe in all  
sort of conspiracy theories.

GERDA  
So a flying saucer really crashed  
at Roswell in 1947?

HANS  
Of course!

GERDA  
And The Philadelphia Experiment?

HANS  
Scientifically proven. A battleship  
became invisible using Einstein's  
unified field theory.

GERDA  
And Shakespeare?

Hans smiles.

HANS  
We both know he was someone else.

GERDA  
You need to stop.

Hans scoffs.

GERDA (CONT'D)  
How can we build a life together if  
you don't trust anything or anyone?  
You're so suspicious!  
(MORE)

GERDA (CONT'D)  
One day you'll accuse me of being  
an alien trying to kill you!

Hans pouts.

HANS  
Is it your father who makes you  
think things like this?

GERDA  
Please if you love me, stop.

HANS  
I'll try. I will curb my gift.

GERDA  
Which one?

HANS  
My outstanding talent for analysis.

Gerda chuckles.

Hans collects the racquets and puts them in the bag.

HANS (CONT'D)  
Did you deliberately let me  
win today?

INT. PUB - NIGHT

Hans at the bar.

Next to him sits DAVID WASSERMANN, 26, athletic mustachioed  
guy, with eyes that always know where to look.

The BARTENDER approaches.

HANS  
Two Quilmes, please.

DAVID  
And a glass of tap water.  
(to Hans)  
I need an aspirin.

HANS  
Don't drink tap water

DAVID  
Why not?

The bartender serves the beers and the water.

HANS  
It contains high levels  
of fluoride.

David swallows the pill emptying the glass.

DAVID  
So?

HANS  
Excess fluoride makes you  
submissive. That's why the  
government allows it.

David mocks him.

DAVID  
Seriously?

HANS  
It's true, it's a proven...

He sips his beer.

HANS (CONT'D)  
Oh, here's another one...

DAVID  
What?

HANS  
Something else that I know better.

He sips his beer again.

HANS (CONT'D)  
Obviously Gerda would say that's  
only another stupid theory.

An attractive brunette, MILAGROS VANDERBILT, 26, enters the pub. Big curious eyes and an Audrey Hepburn hair style, she joins the two friends at the counter.

MILAGROS  
My two favorite men!

David hugs her.

Hans stares at her with a charming smile.

HANS  
You look familiar?

MILAGROS  
You never change, uh?

HANS  
It's a shame New York didn't  
change you.

The bartender chuckles.

David offers his beer to her.

She drinks.

MILAGROS  
(to Hans)  
I need to talk to you.

Hans smirks patronising.

HANS  
You never stopped thinking about  
me, uh? After all this time.

MILAGROS  
Sure, how can I have survived apart  
from all this awesomeness?

HANS  
Yeah, yeah, tell me about the  
wonders of the West Village. I love  
Bob Dylan too.

MILAGROS  
In private. It's important.

HANS  
Come by tomorrow afternoon. I  
suppose you remember where I live.

Milagros gulps the beer and leaves.

DAVID  
(to the bartender)  
One more.

Hans finishes his beer.

HANS  
(To the barman)  
Make that two.  
(To David)  
What's wrong with you?



DAVID

She said it was important. She only wants to talk.

HANS

About what? This was an ambush. Years are passed, I moved on, but she's still there.

DAVID

She insisted so much.

HANS

You're such a pushover. It's all that fluoride you drink.

Hans raises his glass for a toast.

HANS (CONT'D)

Cheers. To the past that doesn't want to pass.

EXT. GOLDSTEIN MANSION - DAY

A grand and imposing lakeside mansion.

Grassland and pines forests to the side, mountains behind.

INT. GOLDSTEIN MANSION - GERDA'S ROOM - DAY

Gerda in her bridal gown in front of a mirror.

Eva, behind her, pins and tucks the dress.

GERDA

It's so beautiful.

EVA

There's nothing better than a proper wedding ceremony. It's my one regret in life...

Gerda hugs Eva.

A knock at the door and a MAID in uniform enters.

MAID

Miss Gerda your father wants to see you in his study.

INT. GOLDSTEIN MANSION - STUDY - DAY

An old fashioned library. Shelves with antique books, a vintage globe with liquors, a mahogany desk and a pool table.

Elizier sits at his desk, gripping a small hand spring. Under duress.

Gerda sits in a leather chair.

HEINRICH, 66, one of the businessmen from the first scene, tall and fit like a former soldier, sits nearby.

Elizier tries to pump the hand spring. It resists.

ELIZIER

Gerda, the time has come to talk about your responsibilities.

HEINRICH

Responsibilities. That is the word.

Elizier's manages to pump the hand spring a little.

ELIZIER

(Breathless)

Soon you will take over. The Organization needs a figurehead and if anything were to happen to me...

Red faced, he squeezes the hand spring with all his strength. It barely moves.

Exasperated he throws it away.

ELIZIER (CONT'D)

(to Heinrich)

This thing you gave me, it's broken.

Heinrich picks it up and squeezes it easily.

ELIZIER (CONT'D)

(To Gerda)

We must be prepared.

Gerda smiles.

GERDA

Dad, you know that I have no interest in the Organization. Keep me out of it.

Gerda takes a lipstick and a mirror from her purse and refreshes her make up.

ELIZIER  
So what will you do? Be  
a housewife?

Elizier stands up and stretches against the wall.

GERDA  
There's nothing wrong with being  
a housewife.

ELIZIER  
Have you forgotten who you are?  
Have you forgotten where you  
come from?

Gerda stands up and walks to the door.

GERDA  
I don't want to talk about that  
again. Ever.

They stare at each other. Stalemate.

HEINRICH  
We don't know much about Hans von  
Faulhaber, do we?

Elizier sweats and pants.

ELIZIER  
We don't know anything about him.

HEINRICH  
Nada.

ELIZIER  
Not one iota.

Heinrich inspects his nails.

HEINRICH  
And what we know, is  
not comforting.

ELIZIER  
Nope.

Gerda puts her pocket mirror away.

GERDA  
I won't be bullied.

Elizier stops stretching, goes back to his desk and lights up a cigar.

ELIZIER

All I need to know is this...

Elizier takes a long drag from his cigar.

ELIZIER (CONT'D)

If something ever happens to me, you will replace me. Is that too much to ask?

GERDA

Why me? Why not Heinrich?

She looks at Heinrich: he rummages the cavity of his ear and then observes what he picks on his finger.

She looks at her father. He shrugs.

ELIZIER

You are my only child. Promise me?

She sighs and rolls her eyes.

GERDA

If it makes you happy.

INT. VON FAULHABER APARTMENT - KITCHEN - DAY

CHRISTIANE VON FAULHABER, 66, an elegant and aristocratic German lady. The strict glance of a mother who always understands, in a well groomed appearance.

She puts a beautiful majolica chicken hen teapot and two cups on a tray and moves to the

LIVING ROOM

A stylish lounge.

Milagros sits, taking in the impressive mountain view.

Christiane serves the tea.

MILAGROS

They are so imposing.

CHRISTIANE

Either a shield, or a barrier, depending on your point of view.

MILAGROS

Like the past.

Christiane smiles and sips her tea.

MILAGROS (CONT'D)

Nice teapot.

CHRISTIANE

It was a gift from the guys.

MILAGROS

You deserved it. No one did more than you.

CHRISTIANE

There's still more to do. I'm glad you're back.

Hans in a suit enters, home from work.

MILAGROS

You look sexy in a suit.

He notices Milagros.

HANS

Here you are.

CHRISTIANE

He's a commercial manager at Goldstein industries.

MILAGROS

Love and money from Goldstein.

HANS

Nothing fancy. I just sell stuff.

MILAGROS

Handsome and blonde. You're perfect for them.

He smiles contrived.

HANS

Can I have some tea? Is this a new teapot or just for special guests?

CHRISTIANE

Special guests and special occasions.

HANS

And what better occasion than the  
return of an old friend. We're  
still friends, right?

Milagros tries to drink, but the tea is too hot and she burns  
her tongue.

MILAGROS

Ouch!

HANS

Impatient as ever.

He sports an obstinate smile.

MILAGROS

Not true.

HANS

And always in denial.

MILAGROS

Let's talk about you, not me.

HANS

I think I already know what you're  
going to say and...

MILAGROS

Gerda's family and their entourage  
are Nazi war criminals.

His smile fades.

HANS

You should go now.

She takes something out of her pocket.

MILAGROS

I'm collecting documents, pictures,  
evidence.

Christiane leaves the room.

Milagros hold a pictures up to him.

He glances at it.

It's a picture of Gerda and her family under a big Christmas  
tree. Like the one they had last Christmas.

HANS

Right. Only Nazis take pictures  
under the Christmas tree.

Milagros pulls out another picture, in black and white.

MILAGROS

Compare it with this one and  
you'll understand.

Hans refuses to look.

HANS

It's over between us Milagros. I  
love Gerda and if this is some kind  
of sick revenge...

MILAGROS

Please be careful, Hans.

Hans opens the main door.

HANS

I don't have time for your games.

Christiane is back with a tray.

CHRISTIANE

Here's some cookies!

Milagros moves to the door, in tears.

MILAGROS

You're making a huge mistake.

He literally pushes her out of the apartment.

Christiane puts down the tray.

CHRISTIANE

Is that any way to treat a lady?

HANS

She was out of line.

CHRISTIANE

You've been rude and unpleasant.

HANS

She's trying to sabotage my  
wedding, because she's jealous.

CHRISTIANE

What if she's right? Do you remember what happened to your father?

EXT. BARILOCHE'S HARBOR - DAY

David sits on the dock, fishing.

Hans arrives, flustered and knocks over the can of bait.

DAVID

You're scaring the fish.

HANS

I never realized Milagros was so mean and desperate and pathetic and bitchy! It's been four years since we finished.

DAVID

Life is a piñata full of spiders, my friend.

HANS

I think she tries to sabotage the wedding.

DAVID

Another conspiracy theory?

Gerda arrives at the dock.

GERDA

(loud)  
Here you are!

She kisses Hans, then David.

GERDA (CONT'D)

Your mum told me you were down here.

Hans shoots David a worried glance.

Gerda notices. There's an embarrassing silence.

GERDA (CONT'D)

What's going on with you two?

DAVID

We're planning the next Peronista revolution.



Gerda stares at Hans.

GERDA

Do you think I don't know? Your mum  
just told me.

HANS

She told you? I cannot believe she  
told you that...

DAVID

(overlapping)  
Damn Hans!

Gerda chuckles.

DAVID (CONT'D)

Don't you see she's playing you?  
Now you have to tell her. Forget  
it, I'll tell her. Milagros is back  
and Hans just met her.

Gerda darkens.

Hans glares at David, who shrugs.

GERDA

What does she want?

HANS

I don't know. Nothing.

GERDA

You think she'll try to ruin the  
wedding?

HANS

Maybe.

GERDA

Promise me you won't see her again.

DAVID

I've got a bite!

David holds the fishing pole as it jumps in his hands.

DAVID (CONT'D)

Help me Hans!

Hans doesn't move.

HANS

Sometimes it's better to let go of  
whatever's trying to drag you down.

INT. GOLDSTEIN MANSION - DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Dinner at Goldstein's. An elegant affair.

WAITERS serve fine food and pour expensive wine.

Hans sits next to Gerda.

The Uncle and Eva are opposite them.

Elizier sits at the head of the table.

Also at the table are Heinrich and his good wife URSULA, 60s.

Elizier stands up and raises his glass.

ELIZIER

A toast to the coming wedding of my  
beloved daughter.

Everybody raises a glass and toasts.

The Uncle takes a sip and picks the olive from his glass.

THE UNCLE

(to Hans)

Do you know what they say  
about Martinis?

Hans shakes his head, a little intimidated.

THE UNCLE (CONT'D)

A Martini is like a woman's breast,  
one ain't enough, and three is  
too many.

The Uncle bursts into laughter and squeezes Eva's boob.

THE UNCLE (CONT'D)

Honk, honk!

EVA

(whisper to The Uncle)

Stop it or you'll go back to  
your room.

The Uncle makes puppy dog eyes to Gerda.

THE UNCLE

Can I have some Dulche de Leche?

Hans looks around the table.

HANS (V.O.)

Are these people Nazis?

EXT. VILLA LA ANGOSTURA - ESTANCIA INALCO - DAY

A splendid estate, alpine cottage style, in front of the lake, surrounded by a pine forest.

INT. VILLA LA ANGOSTURA - ESTANCIA INALCO - DAY

Gerda and Hans admire the large banqueting hall.

GERDA

So perfect. Imagine the orchestra  
in the corner and round tables  
surrounding the dance floor.

Hans stares at the empty hall.

FLASH

What Hans sees is the hall filled with SS officers dancing a Wagner's aria.

BACK TO SCENE

GERDA (CONT'D)

Are you listening?

Gerda walks to the exit, Hans follows her.

EXT. VILLA LA ANGOSTURA - ESTANCIA INALCO - CONTINUOUS

They walk through a large garden.

GERDA

Can I trust you to arrange it?

HANS

Sure.

He tries to recollect what Gerda said to him.

GERDA  
How about gazebos here for  
cocktails and hors d'oeuvre?

HANS  
Excellent idea.

He really doesn't recall what he has to do.

GERDA  
Let's go. Or you'll be late for  
the photographer.

Hans has an epiphany.

HANS  
Ah, the photographer!

They walk towards a black limousine.

HANS (CONT'D)  
Just remind me what to ask him?

INT. HANS' CAR - DAY

Hans, alone, drives through Bariloche.

GERDA (O.S.)  
Do you need me to write it down?  
Pay attention! It's not rocket  
science. First you ask: What do you  
think distinguishes your work from  
other photographers?

Hans' car passes the cathedral and climbs the hill.

GERDA (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
Then, do you have a portfolio I  
can review? And finally, are all  
of the images yours, and is the  
work recent?

Hans parks the car in front of a photographer's shop.

INT. PHOTOGRAPHER'S SHOP - DAY

Hans looks around the empty shop.

HANS  
(loud)  
Hello! Anybody here?

A lot of pictures of children, newborn babies and first communions.

HANS (CONT'D)  
 (muttering to himself)  
 Are all of the images yours, and is  
 the work recent?

He looks at a selection of wedding pictures, some are enhanced, some retouched.

A sign on the wall reads:

"Enhance your pictures. Any alteration possible."

HANS (CONT'D)  
 (loudly)  
 Hello!

His eyes stop on a picture in a frame.

It's the same photo Milagros showed him: Gerda and her family under the big Christmas tree.

He runs out of the shop.

INT. GOLDSTEIN INDUSTRIES - DAY

MONTAGE - GERDA AND ELIZIER TOUR THE PREMISES

-- They move from office to office.

-- Elizier introduces Gerda to key people in the Corporation.

-- The accountant talks Gerda through the balance sheet. She looks bored.

INT. GOLDSTEIN INDUSTRIES - LARGE OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

A large mahogany desk and a leather couch face enormous windows overlooking the lake.

Gerda enters, yawning, but brightens immediately at the view.

GERDA  
 Wow! A very important person must  
 work here.

ELIZIER  
 It's your office.

Gerda turns and looks at her father.

GERDA

Mine?

ELIZIER

The vice president needs a nice office.

Gerda sighs.

GERDA

You can't buy me with an office, Dad.

ELIZIER

Gerdy...

GERDA

Don't Gerdy me. I told you I don't want to be involved in the business.

ELIZIER

Calm down. There's no pressure. Come and go as you please. Just try it.

Gerda looks resigned.

GERDA

You're unbelievable.

ELIZIER

And I'll be right next door.

He smiles and opens a door that leads to

ELIZIER'S OFFICE - CONTINUOUS

Elizier enters, Gerda follows.

Heinrich is inside, standing by a large object covered with a sheet.

HEINRICH

Surprise!

Heinrich removes the sheet to reveal an exercise bike.

HEINRICH (CONT'D)

What do you think?

Elizier's unimpressed.

ELIZIER  
It doesn't have wheels.

HEINRICH  
It's to use indoors.

ELIZIER  
Even indoors you need wheels to  
move, dummy!

Elizier opens the drawer of his desk and pulls out  
an envelope.

He hands it to Gerda.

ELIZIER (CONT'D)  
This is for you.

Gerda opens the envelope.

Heinrich climbs on the bike and pedals furiously.

Gerda's mouth drops open.

GERDA  
This is a fortune!

ELIZIER  
That's right. Every month. You're  
the Vice President of a  
multinational corporation.

Elizier watches Heinrich on the bike.

ELIZIER (CONT'D)  
Don't you see you're not moving?

HEINRICH  
I'm exercising.

Elizier looks interested.

Gerda heads for the door.

GERDA  
I'm going shopping. I need  
something gorgeous for  
my honeymoon.

Heinrich gets off the bike.

HEINRICH

The photographer said Hans didn't show up.

Gerda and Elizier turn their attention to Heinrich.

Elizier growls.

ELIZIER

That boy's got a nerve.

(to Heinrich)

Send someone to remind him. My daughter is nervous about this wedding and that loser deserves a lesson.

GERDA

No, Dad.

Silence.

GERDA (CONT'D)

I'll deal with him. You have enough on your plate. This is my business. I have teeth too and I know how to bite. I'm your daughter.

Both Elizier and Heinrich chuckle as she leaves.

Elizier climbs on the bike.

ELIZIER

Hans should be careful or I'll reduce him like this bike. No wheels to go anywhere.

Elizier can't reach the pedals.

EXT. MILAGROS' HOUSE - NIGHT

Hans on the patio. He knocks on the door and studies the garden.

Milagros opens the door.

MILAGROS

You?

HANS

There used to be roses and forget-me-nots here.



MILAGROS

I don't have time for  
gardening now.

HANS

Too much change.

MILAGROS

Do you want to talk about the  
flowers or come inside?

HANS

I'd rather stay outside, with  
all the things that aren't  
here anymore.

Milagros disappears inside.

Hans walks around the wooden deck, checking the pots full of  
dead plants.

He sits on an old unstable chair.

Milagros returns with two maté in the typical cups made  
from gourds.

MILAGROS

Most people fear change.

HANS

I changed, but you didn't like it.

Milagros forces a bitter smile.

MILAGROS

And now that's it?

HANS

You want me to change back?

MILAGROS

Why not?

HANS

That's not changing, that's jumping  
from one thing to the next.

MILAGROS

Right. You'd better put your head  
back in the sand. It's safer.

HANS

I want to see the other picture.

Milagros sips her maté and hides a smile.

Slowly, like she doesn't want to lose sight of him, she steps back inside the house.

Hans sips his maté.

Milagros returns with the pictures.

MILAGROS

Why didn't you come to New York  
with me?

HANS

Show me the pictures.

Milagros hands them to him.

The first one is the one he already saw. Elizier, Heinrich, Gerda, Eva and The Uncle, under the tree.

The second one looks similar, but it's black and white and 1938 is written in the corner.

Milagros sits very close to Hans and points to the people in the picture.

Hans inhales her perfume.

MILAGROS

This is Martin Bormann...

He's in the same position as Elizier.

MILAGROS (CONT'D)

This is Eva Braun...

She is in the same position of Eva.

MILAGROS (CONT'D)

This is Heinrich "SS" Mueller...

In the same seat as Heinrich.

MILAGROS (CONT'D)

This is Sarkozyeny...

They are so close their cheeks touch lightly.

MILAGROS (CONT'D)

This is Dr. Mengele...

So close they almost breathe the same breath.

MILAGROS (CONT'D)  
And this is...

HANS  
Why are you doing this?

She looks at him flirtatiously.

MILAGROS  
Because I care about you.

She caresses his face.

MILAGROS (CONT'D)  
I really do.

Hans thinks about it. Then shakes his head.

HANS  
I need evidence.

Milagros moves away from him. Her mood shifts.

MILAGROS  
I can help you to get it.

EXT. CATHEDRAL - DAY

A small crowd gathers on the lawn in front of the main door.

Milagros is next to Christiane.

People greet her and move away.

Christiane and Milagros mutter like plotters.

David arrives and moves toward them.

An ACQUAINTANCE stops him to say hello.

David overhears some words coming from the conversation of Milagros and Christiane: "the net", "Gerda", "pop up".

Eventually he reaches them.

CHRISTIANE  
(to Milagros)  
Just the license. The wedding  
license.

Christiane notices David.

CHRISTIANE (CONT'D)  
I didn't see you coming...

DAVID  
Where's Hans?

CHRISTIANE  
Not here yet.

DAVID  
The wedding license?

Christiane nods.

People slowly move inside the church.

INT. CATHEDRAL - DAY

Christiane, Milagros and David sit in the front row.

In front of the altar stands out a big picture of a man in his thirties. He's HUBER VON FAULHABER, Hans' father.

PRIEST  
Thirty years ago. Exactly thirty years ago. It was a sunny afternoon, like today. They came and arrested him.

There is an empty space next to Christiane.

PRIEST (CONT'D)  
His family never saw him again.

Christiane dabs her eyes with a tissue.

PRIEST (CONT'D)  
Huber Van Faulhaber was a good man. He was one of the thirty six righteous men, a Lamed Vovniks. Men of his generation who saved the world from destruction.

The priest motions to the audience.

PRIEST (CONT'D)  
Many of you wouldn't be here if not for him. He saved hundreds of Jewish families.

Milagros squeezes David's hand.

EXT. GOLDSTEIN INDUSTRIES - DAY

Gerda and Hans exit from the main entrance and walk to the car.

HANS  
We have to hurry, the ceremony's  
already started.

GERDA  
They do it every year...

HANS  
It's important, it's about  
my family.

GERDA  
It's all in the past. We should  
focus on the future. Our wedding's  
in less than a month.

They get inside the car.

INT. HANS' CAR - CONTINUOUS

Hans starts the engine.

HANS  
My mum will be disappointed.

GERDA  
I have an appointment with the  
floral designer.

Hans sulks.

GERDA (CONT'D)  
Go, if it's more important. I'll do  
the flowers by myself.

Hans smiles at her and speeds up.

GERDA (CONT'D)  
How did it go with  
the photographer?

HANS  
Fine.

He focuses on the road and avoids Gerda's look.

GERDA  
Good.

EXT. CATHEDRAL - DAY

Hans runs toward the entrance.

He tries to open the door.

It's locked.

Disheartened. He walks down the lawn.

A person on a bench.

Christiane, looking at him.

He sits next to her.

CHRISTIANE

I knew eventually you would come.

HANS

Mum, do you think we're defined by the past?

CHRISTIANE

We're prepared by the past.

Hans nods.

HANS

I don't want to let yesterday take up too much of today.

CHRISTIANE

Is that the reason why you didn't show up... today?

HANS

It wasn't my fault.

CHRISTIANE

I know.

Christiane takes her son's hand.

CHRISTIANE (CONT'D)

Before here all Germans were refugees. Now even our tormentors live amongst us.

HANS

What do you mean?

CHRISTIANE

Let's go home, son.

INT. PHOTOGRAPHER'S SHOP - DAY

On the wall behind the PHOTOGRAPHER, a sign reads:

"Enhance your pictures. Any alteration possible."

The photographer opens a photograph album.

PHOTOGRAPHER

This is our wedding package.

Gerda browses the album, checks the pictures.

GERDA

I like this effect.

PHOTOGRAPHER

We call it, gauzed. It's evocative.

GERDA

It makes it look dreamy.

PHOTOGRAPHER

We can use any filter you want. We can remove, insert or combine items, whatever you choose.

Gerda nods, satisfied.

PHOTOGRAPHER (CONT'D)

If a relative can't make it for the wedding, we will insert them later. You just fought with your mother-in-law? No biggie, we remove her...

He laughs at his own joke. Gerda's not amused.

GERDA

You're hired. But no more jokes.

The photographer takes out a notebook and a pen.

GERDA (CONT'D)

It's the twenty-eight. Of June.

PHOTOGRAPHER

Soon. And you are?

Gerda notices the picture with her family under the Christmas tree and doesn't answer.

The Photographer waits with the pen in the hand.

She looks at him, for an instant she seems lost.

PHOTOGRAPHER (CONT'D)  
Your name?

GERDA  
Goldstein.

PHOTOGRAPHER  
Ah, Goldstein. Mazel Tov!

Gerda looks puzzled.

PHOTOGRAPHER (CONT'D)  
I'm Jewish too.

Gerda smiles.

INT. GOLDSTEIN MANSION - GERDA'S ROOM - DAY

Gerda and Hans kiss with passion.

He lifts her skirt but she pushes him away.

GERDA  
We agreed to wait until  
the wedding.

HANS  
Not even a small advance?

GERDA  
No. We're almost there. Show  
some spine.

HANS  
I can show some bone.

Gerda's not amused.

GERDA  
By the way, you don't have to worry  
about the photographer. I sorted  
it out.

Hans looks relieved.

INT. TENNIS CLUB - LOCKER ROOM - DAY

David and Hans get changed after a tennis match.

DAVID  
I'm seriously reconsidering.



HANS  
Not the mafia, not even  
Fidel Castro?

DAVID  
None of them.

Hans looks intrigued.

HANS  
Who, then?

DAVID  
Lyndon B. Johnson.

HANS  
You're kidding me.

DAVID  
According to this book, he involved  
branches of the CIA, FBI and the  
Secret Service, because he feared  
that he would be dropped from the  
Democratic ticket.

HANS  
No shit!

Naked they go to the shower.

HANS (CONT'D)  
It makes absolutely sense.

DAVID  
Thinking out of the box  
is surprising.

They are under the water.

HANS  
Wait a... wait a second. I don't  
buy it.

DAVID  
Why not?

HANS  
I need to stop listening to  
conspiracy theories. It messes with  
my head.

He shampoos his head.

HANS (CONT'D)  
Like Milagros believing that  
Gerda's family are Nazis.

DAVID  
Reality isn't always what it seems.

HANS  
It's a plot to sabotage my wedding.  
She's still in love with me.

DAVID  
That's a conspiracy too.

HANS  
Wrong. I just detected something  
shady, you know, this is my skill.

DAVID  
Sure.

HANS  
I'm madly in love with Gerda and I  
know in my heart, she's no Nazi.

DAVID  
But what if?

They exchange glances. Hans isn't pleased.

DAVID (CONT'D)  
Forget about it. Scrub my back.

Hans looks suspiciously to his friend.

HANS (V.O.)  
Even you are in love with me?

David stands expectantly.

DAVID  
Just scrub.

EXT. STREETS OF BARILOCHE - NIGHT

Hans walks back home from the tennis club. It's dark.

He turns in an empty side street.

Two THUGS block his way.

He resists but they force him into a black limousine with  
tinted windows.

HANS  
Do you know who I am? I'm part of  
Goldstein family.

ELIZIER (O.S.)  
Not yet.

INT. LIMOUSINE - CONTINUOUS

Elizier and Heinrich glare menacingly at Hans.

ELIZIER  
You little scumbag, why you didn't  
go to the photographer?

HEINRICH  
Yeah. Why?

HANS  
I did.

Elizier air punches him.

ELIZIER  
Don't lie to me, you sleazeball.

Heinrich grab Hans' hand and twists one of his fingers.

HANS  
Ouch!

HEINRICH  
You told Gerda the picture guy was  
organized. It was not.

HANS  
I know that I said...

HEINRICH  
I crack mealy-mouthed like you.

Heinrich pinches Hans' nose and twists it between his thumb  
and index.

Elizier gestures to Heinrich to take it easy.

Heinrich releases his hold a little.

ELIZIER  
Lie to my daughter again and you  
can kiss goodbye to the wedding and  
this planet.

HEINRICH  
Crystal clear?

He pinches him harder.

Elizier sips from a glass of brandy. Calmer.

ELIZIER  
A husband and wife must always be  
honest with each other. It's the  
key to a healthy relationship.

Heinrich sighs.

HEINRICH  
Wise words, old pal.

ELIZIER  
Rule number one, never go behind my  
daughter's back.

Heinrich opens the door and pushes Hans out of the car.

He cleans his fingers on his pants.

HEINRICH  
The kid needs decongestant. He's  
full of snot.

INT. VON FAULHABER APARTMENT - NIGHT

Hans' suit is dirty and his face and suit are crumpled.

Gloomily he dunks a tea bag in a cup over and over again.

He stares into space and looks dazed.

CHRISTIANE  
It's not the best way to make tea.

Hans doesn't react.

CHRISTIANE (CONT'D)  
By the way, Milagros asked me to  
give you this.

She hands him an envelope, he opens it and reads.

His expression changes.

HANS  
Have you ever heard of  
Aktion Feurland?

Christiane nods.

INT. LIBRARY - DAY

A large hall with many tables but only a few people.

Hans walks through.

He wears a tracksuit, a curly chestnut brown wig and fake mustache.

He reaches the last table, at the end of the hall.

Milagros looks up from a book.

MILAGROS

Is this your new look?

Hans sits in front of her.

HANS

I don't want to be noticed.

MILAGROS

Sure the right way.

HANS

They're following me. Checking up on me. They know everything I do.

MILAGROS

Don't be paranoid.

HANS

Last night they kidnapped me... briefly... they knew that I didn't sort the photographer.

Milagros seems to think about it.

MILAGROS

They could be very dangerous.

HANS

I can't trust anyone. Sometimes I think even my own mother's watching me.

Milagros studies him.

MILAGROS

Maybe she should be.

Hans looks around, suspicious. Nobody pays attention to him.

HANS  
Can I join you?

Milagros nods.

Hans pulls a chair over, it screeches loudly across the floor. People glare at him.

He sits down.

HANS (CONT'D)  
So, Aktion Feurland?

MILAGROS  
It's an organization...

Two LIBRARY STAFF walk towards them.

Hans tries to conceal himself, as though they're spies.

MILAGROS (CONT'D)  
It's the organization that brought  
in Argentina Nazi criminals and the  
treasures and fortunes they  
pillaged during the war.

Hans leans toward Milagros.

HANS  
And?

Milagros pulls out a picture and pushes it to Hans.

MILAGROS  
And this man is the mastermind of  
the operation.

Elizier's sneering face stares up at Hans.

MILAGROS (CONT'D)  
Martin Bormann.

HANS  
That's him?

MILAGROS  
Him.

INT. VON FAULHABER APARTMENT - DAY

Hans enters, checks behind him and closes the door.

He dashes to a window and checks the street for spies.  
Nothing.

He collapses onto the sofa.

GERDA (O.S.)  
I was waiting for you!

Hans jumps up, startled.

Gerda appears from the kitchen and takes in his outfit.

GERDA (CONT'D)  
What the...

HANS  
What?

GERDA  
Is this for?

HANS  
Mardi Gras?

GERDA  
Past.

HANS  
Halloween?

GERDA  
Too early.

HANS  
Can't a guy dress up every now and  
then? It's fun...

Gerda thinks about it. Smiles.

GERDA  
Okay. Let's go to lunch at  
the club.

HANS  
The club?

GERDA  
In disguise.

Hans pulls a face.

HANS  
Like this? At the club?

GERDA

It's nothing formal. Just my father  
and a few friends. Come on, help me  
to find something.

She goose-steps toward the bed room.

GERDA (CONT'D)

It will be a blast!

EXT. TENNIS CLUB - RESTAURANT - DAY

Elizier, Heinrich, Eva and a COUPLE of friends sit at a large  
table, dressed for tennis.

The Uncle chases pigeons.

THE UNCLE

The Stukas are coming!

Hans appears in the same disguise as before.

Gerda follows him in loose black pants, tight jacket, bowler  
hat and walking cane with a toothbrush mustache painted under  
her nose, she looks like Charlie Chaplin.

The others stare at them, appalled.

Elizier stares at Hans, his eyes are cold and scary.

He turns to Gerda and bursts into laughter.

ELIZIER

The great dictator!

Everybody joins in with his laughter.

HANS (V.O.)

Is this Martin Bormann, the dark  
side of the Nazi regime?

EXT. VON FAULHABER APARTMENT - DAY

Hans comes out from the building, wearing a suit and carrying  
a briefcase.

He gets in his car.

INT. HANS' CAR

Hans drives through



EXT. STREETS OF BARILOCHE

The car passes the Goldstein Industries buildings without stopping.

EXT. COUNTRYSIDE - DAY

A HITCHHIKER on the side of the road.

Hans's car stops. The hitchhiker gets in.

INT. HANS' CAR

Milagros is the hiker. She removes her hat.

MILAGROS  
Nobody followed you?

Hans checks the mirror.

The road behind him is empty.

He shakes his head.

HANS  
Where are we going?

MILAGROS  
To Villa La Angostura. I'll drive from there. Does Gerda know you're doing this?

He stares at the road ahead.

HANS  
Everybody around here buy fridges from us.

MILAGROS  
Goldstein refrigerators?

HANS  
Gold Frost. They are part of Goldstein industries.

MILAGROS  
So she knows.

Hans nods.

HANS

She thinks it's a business trip with my assistant. The perfect cover.

The car passes a sign written in Gothic font: The Center.

EXT. RESTAURANT VIEJOS TIEMPOS - DAY

Hans's car in the parking lot.

Restaurant Viejos Tiempos: a German style building in front of the lake.

INT. RESTAURANT VIEJOS TIEMPOS - DAY

A log cabin, chalet style restaurant with big windows facing the lake.

A few customers sit eating.

Everything is written in Gothic characters.

A WAITER takes the order from Hans and Milagros.

Hans is uneasy.

WAITER

(to himself)

Two sunny side, two scrambled, black coffee...

(to them)

Is that all?

MILAGROS

And bacon...

The waiter is suddenly alert.

WAITER

Bacon?

MILAGROS

(deliberately)

Canadian.

Milagros and the waiter exchanges glances.

WAITER

Canadian?

He smiles meaningful and disappears.

HANS  
Canadian? They make better bacon?

MILAGROS  
(whisper)  
It's the code!

HANS  
The code?

The waiter returns with coffees.

He comes very close to the table and whispers.

WAITER  
(to Milagros)  
You're the Owl...

Milagros nods.

Hans squirms, uncomfortable.

MILAGROS  
You know why I'm here.

The waiter nods and does a mouth zipping gesture.

WAITER  
This is the Heimat zone, there's  
only a few of us. It's too  
dangerous. You should go to Villa  
La Clara, in Vaterland zone. Ask  
for the gardener.

MILAGROS  
The gardener?

WAITER  
The Bug.

MILAGROS  
Uh, the Bug.

WAITER  
He has informations.

He looks around, seems worried.

WAITER (CONT'D)  
Don't come back here.

He scurries back to the kitchen.

Hans is pale.

HANS

That waiter looks dodgy.

From the kitchen comes a chilling scream.

Hans jumps up, panicked and ready to leave.

The waiter staggers out with plates. His hands wrapped in towels.

WAITER

I just burned myself. These plates are really hot.

EXT. RESTAURANT VIEJOS TIEMPOS - DAY

Hans and Milagros exit the restaurant and get in the car.

The car doesn't start.

INT. HANS' CAR

Hans tries repeatedly to start the engine.

The car splutters a little bit and then it's dead.

HANS

They tampered with the car!

MILAGROS

What?

HANS

This!

MILAGROS

Who?

HANS

They!

MILAGROS

Really?

HANS

They're always watching me!

EXT. RESTAURANT VIEJOS TIEMPOS

He gets out the car. Milagros follows him.

MILAGROS

But you're in an official business trip, why would they sabotage the car?

She examines the vehicle and notices that the lights are on.

She points it to him.

MILAGROS (CONT'D)

You sabotaged yourself!

INT. GOLDSTEIN MANSION - LIVING ROOM - DAY

On the coffee table lays a seating chart for the wedding party and guests names.

Gerda and Eva sip the tea and discuss seat assignments.

Gerda picks up a name.

GERDA

Who's Adalbert Kriegen Vasena?

EVA

He's an old friend. Big shot. Put him at the table with your father and Heinrich. General Ongania too.

Gerda allocates the names to a table on the plan.

GERDA

I don't even know most of my father's friends.

EVA

Men. They are like children. They don't allow outsiders to play with them.

Gerda drinks from her cup.

GERDA

They like to exaggerate.

Eva drinks.

EVA

They don't listen.

GERDA

And they lie.

EVA

We have to watch them constantly.

She looks out the window. The Uncle's in the garden. He picks a daisy.

Eva smiles.

The Uncle eats the daisy and picks another one.

Eva rushes out.

Elizier and Heinrich burst in. They look upset.

ELIZIER

Where's Hans?

Gerda hesitates.

HEINRICH

Where is he?

GERDA

What? I don't...

HEINRICH

We just heard he's in Villa La Angostura. Why?

ELIZIER

Did you know?

She hesitates.

Elizier and Heinrich stare at her, waiting for her answer.

Gerda loosens up and smiles.

GERDA

Hello? Anybody home?

Elizier tries to understand.

HEINRICH

We are right here.

GERDA

It's where we plan to have the wedding reception?

ELIZIER

Villa La Angostura...

Elizier clouts Heinrich.

ELIZIER (CONT'D)  
You and your dumb spies.

GERDA  
He had to go to sell some fridges  
and he took the opportunity to  
see a band of tangueros for the  
wedding reception.

HEINRICH  
With a girl?

GERDA  
She's the singer.

The men look genuinely relieved by the answer.

They exit and continue to squabble.

Eva passes them as she walks back inside.

EVA  
What's happened?

GERDA  
Nothing. What were we saying  
before, about men?

INT. GARAGE - DAY

The hood of the car is open, a MECHANIC looks into it.

MECHANIC  
You need a new battery, this one  
is gone. You're lucky it lasted  
this long.

The mechanic removes the old battery. He shows it to Hans.

MECHANIC (CONT'D)  
It's rusty and oxidized. You should  
check it regularly.

Hans smiles embarrassed.

HANS  
Do you have a new one? We really  
need to go.

MECHANIC  
Where are you headed?

MILAGROS

We're looking for Villa La Clara.  
What is the Vaterland zone?

The mechanic scoffs.

He fits a new battery under the hood.

MECHANIC

Welcome to The Fourth Reich in The  
South. It has three zones:  
Deutschland, Heimat and Vaterland.

He pops up from the hood.

MECHANIC (CONT'D)

(to Hans)  
Try the engine.

Hans gets in the car.

MECHANIC (CONT'D)

Downtown is Deutschland.

Hans turns the ignition switch, but nothing happens.

The mechanic disappears again.

MECHANIC (CONT'D)

If you go west, you go Heimat, if  
you go east you go Vaterland.  
That's easy.

He pops up again.

MECHANIC (CONT'D)

Try it again.

Nothing happens.

MECHANIC (CONT'D)

Sheisse!

The mechanic ducks under the hood again.

MECHANIC (CONT'D)

We're all Germans here and we're  
used to resist changes. So some  
brilliant mind tried to rebuild  
our homeland.

The mechanic tries to start the car himself.



MECHANIC (CONT'D)  
 But the appeal of working for a  
 defeated leader and a wrong  
 ideology is waning.

No signs of life from the car.

The mechanic scratches his head.

EXT. PHONE BOOTH - DAY

Hans is on the phone against the glorious backdrop of the  
 mountains at sunset.

HANS  
 He said it's the alternator. We  
 need a new one and it won't be here  
 until tomorrow.

GERDA (O.S.)  
 So you have to stay overnight?

HANS  
 Don't worry. I found a nice  
 little hotel.

GERDA (O.S.)  
 Did you sell any fridges?

HANS  
 I don't know. I tried.

GERDA (O.S.)  
 Did you meet the band?

HANS  
 What?

GERDA (O.S.)  
 The tangueros. For the  
 wedding reception?

Stunned silence.

HANS  
 I... I...

GERDA (O.S.)  
 Good night. Say hello to Milagros...

Hans drops the receiver.

HANS  
She knows.

GERDA (O.S.)  
(from the receiver below)  
Of course I know, dumbass!

INT. HOTEL'S ROOM - NIGHT

Hans lies on the bed, staring at the ceiling.

HANS' VISION

Gerda looks at him. She's sulky then smiling as she morphs into Milagros.

Milagros flirts and makes eyes at him.

BACK TO SCENE

Milagros enters the room. She lies down next to Hans.

HANS  
What are you doing?

MILAGROS  
I was thinking...

HANS  
What?

MILAGROS  
The best nights of my life were  
when you didn't let me sleep.

Hans smiles amused.

MILAGROS (CONT'D)  
It's a problem.

HANS  
I'm sorry for you.

MILAGROS  
Because I can't forget?

HANS  
Because I have to.

MILAGROS

Yeah, we were together a whole week before you started seeing Gerda.

HANS

We were friends...

MILAGROS

I was in love.

Hans stares at ceiling once more.

MILAGROS (CONT'D)

I still am.

She leans toward him and kisses him.

He kisses her back. It intensifies until he suddenly pushes her away.

HANS

I can't. In a few weeks I will marry the girl that I love.

Milagros turns her back on him.

HANS (CONT'D)

Honestly, I think your story about Gerda's family is a trick to sabotage my wedding.

Silent tears line her cheeks.

MILAGROS

You have an uncanny knack for sabotage yourself.

EXT. VILLA LA CLARA - DAY

A mansion, not too big, alpine style, surrounded by a lush park, with many hedges and flowerbeds.

The GARDENER trims a hedge.

Milagros and Hans approach him.

GARDENER

(pointing to Hans)  
Who's this guy?

MILAGROS

He's with me. Mother Hen has vouched for him.

GARDENER  
The Owl and Mother Hen, big shot.

MILAGROS  
He's an asset. Mother Hen said you  
have information?

Hans looks around, cagey.

GARDENER  
Okay. It's them and us. A battle,  
just like Eichmann, but this time  
is much more difficult.

An airplane passes and leaves a trail in the sky.

MILAGROS  
What does it mean?

All of the sudden, Hans covers his mouth and nose.

GARDENER  
What's he doing?

MILAGROS  
Nevermind, he's a nut.

GARDENER  
The thing is, in their circle there  
is an old man, about seventy-seven,  
with a younger and charming wife...  
Sometimes he acts a bit odd...

Hans still covering his nose and mouth, pays attention.

GARDENER (CONT'D)  
We've studied the case.

MILAGROS  
And?

GARDENER  
It's Him.

MILAGROS  
Him?

She's shocked.

GARDENER  
No doubt about it.

Hans releases his hand and pants for air.

HANS  
Who's him?

The gardener looks at Milagros, she nods in approval.

GARDENER  
Hitler. Adolf fucking Hitler and  
his wife Eva.

Shocked, Hans runs away.

Milagros runs after him.

Hans makes it to the gate, when Milagros reaches him.

MILAGROS  
Where are you going?

HANS  
You set me up. It's all bullshit!  
The waiter, the gardener, the owl,  
the bug, the hen and the rest of  
the zoo. You're crazy!

MILAGROS  
Open your eyes...

HANS  
I know the Uncle, he's a sweet,  
funny, frail old man.

He scoffs.

HANS (CONT'D)  
Hitler? You think I'm an idiot.

Hans opens the gate.

MILAGROS  
Wait!

He walks out.

EXT. COUNTRYSIDE ROAD - DAY

Annoyed, Hans jogs along a scenic empty road.

A black limousine appears around a bend.

It stops next to him.

Strong arms drags him inside the car.

INT. LIMOUSINE - DAY

Hans faces Elizier and Heinrich.

ELIZIER  
This is strike two. Strike  
three and...

He makes the gesture of cutting his throat.

ELIZIER (CONT'D)  
No more wedding.

HEINRICH  
Did you hear him, funny boy? No  
more wedding.

Heinrich makes the cutting throat gesture too.

Elizier gives a scolding look to Heinrich.

ELIZIER  
Don't repeat me! He understood the  
first time.  
(to Hans)  
Right?

Hans nods.

Heinrich pouts and looks away.

EXT. GOLDSTEIN MANSION - TERRACE - DAY

The view of the mountains is overwhelming.

It's cocktail time.

Everybody holds a Martini glass.

In a corner a COOK works on a barbecue.

The Uncle pets his German Shepherd.

Heinrich shows a trick to Gerda.

He piles some coins on the edge of his elbow and with a quick  
flick, he catches them in his hand.

Gerda laughs.

Hans leaning on the balustrade, discretely observes Elizier.

Elizier in a T-shirt, sleeves rolled up, shows his biceps to Eva. His muscles look flaccid, but Eva touches and appreciates them.

Eva smiles and rubs her hand over Elizier's chest.

Hans moves away, disturbed.

The dog approaches Hans and rubs its nose in his crotch. Hans pushes it away, but the dog persists.

The Uncle reaches the dog and moves its snout away from Hans.

THE UNCLE  
Do you like dogs?

HANS  
Think so.

But he doesn't sound sincere.

THE UNCLE  
He knows if someone doesn't  
like him.

Hans clearly is not at ease.

HANS  
I see.

THE UNCLE  
Like me. Before I was different.  
More sturm und drang, you know?

The dog really going for Hans' crotch.

THE UNCLE (CONT'D)  
I made a lot of mistakes in  
my life.

HANS  
Who hasn't.

The Uncle smiles.

THE UNCLE  
I'm sure mine have been worse.

Hans gulps.

The Uncle walks away. He picks up the dog bowl and fills it with kibble. He crunches a few himself.

Hans watches, gobsmacked.

Behind him, Elizier and Heinrich whisper.

ELIZIER  
It's too dangerous.

Hans tries to listen in, unnoticed.

HEINRICH  
I'll double check.

ELIZIER  
Forget double checking, we're  
becoming exposed. Nobody can know.

HEINRICH  
Have we blown it?

ELIZIER  
Not yet, but we want it to be a  
surprise.

HEINRICH  
Like blitzkrieg.

Hans and the dog are practically wrestling.

Hans hits the dog's snout with his knee.

The dog whines loudly. People stare.

Hans moves closer to Elizier.

ELIZIER  
(to Heinrich)  
Sell. Lira's going down and we'll  
make a huge profit.

Heinrich sees Hans, puts a finger over his mouth and nudges Elizier.

Hans moves away.

Gerda approaches him.

GERDA  
Is your love affair with the  
dog over?

HANS  
You noticed?

Gerda smiles.



GERDA

You're always on my radar.

Hans unleashes a guilty smile.

GERDA (CONT'D)

We shouldn't have secrets.

HANS

It's not what you think.

GERDA

Sometimes, the ground feels solid,  
until the past blows in like a  
strong wind and muddles the water.  
Now you're confused.

HANS

I'm not confused. I decided a long  
time ago.

GERDA

(as sweet as possible)  
And still you went on a  
romantic gateway?

HANS

It wasn't... it was... oh forget it.

GERDA

Tell me the truth, Hans.

HANS

I feel stupid...

GERDA

It's the only way.

Hans looks around at the Uncle, the German Shepherd, Eva,  
Elizier and Heinrich plotting.

It looks like a scene from the Berghof, Hitler's alpine  
residence in the Forties.

HANS

I see Nazis. I can't get over the  
idea that your family are Nazis  
involved in a plan to establish the  
Fourth Reich.

Gerda stunned, stares at him.

HANS (CONT'D)

And that the Uncle is Adolf Hitler.

Gerda sniggers, laughs and becomes hysterical.

Hans looks hurt.

GERDA

This is so typical of you. Another ridiculous conspiracy theory.

Hans shrugs.

GERDA (CONT'D)

Do you remember I said, drop it or I can't marry you? I mean it.

Hans nods again, too guilty to speak.

GERDA (CONT'D)

I know who's behind this.

HANS

I told her! It's over.

GERDA

Look around. This is my family, goofy and clumsy and dysfunctional like all families. And it will be yours, soon, if you don't blow it.

Now Hans sees the Uncle, as a retired old man, his dog licking his nose.

He sees Elizier and Heinrich, making a toast and drinking a Martini in one sip, like two old friend.

He sees Eva, a lovely aunt, looking bored.

A normal family, not Nazi conspirators.

EXT. GOLDSTEIN MANSION - ESTATE - DAY

Gerda and Hans ride horses through the fields behind the mansion.

They gallop to the stables.

It's a race, Gerda wins.

They get off and walk the horses to their stables.

Hans is quiet and gloomy.

GERDA

Don't be a sore loser.

HANS  
I'm used to you beating me.

GERDA  
So what's the problem?

HANS  
Nothing.

She stops, Hans stops as well.

HANS (CONT'D)  
What?

GERDA  
You don't still think we are a  
bunch of Nazis planning a comeback?

HANS  
(unconvincing)  
Of course not!

GERDA  
Sure you do!

They hand the horses to a GROOM.

GERDA (CONT'D)  
Come with me.

INT. GOLDSTEIN MANSION - STUDIO - LATER

Gerda and Hans sit on the floor.

A cabinet full of decorative objects and memorabilia is open.

A box full of old pictures is in front of them.

Gerda produces an old portrait from the box.

It's the rotund face of a five-years-old boy.

GERDA  
This is my father, Elizier  
Goldstein, in Nineteen o five. Born  
to a poor Jewish family from  
Porozow, in Russia. He started work  
at the pier when he was eight.

A small picture, a group portrait.

GERDA (CONT'D)  
 This is the whole family. The  
 Goldsteins when they were living in  
 the slums of Hamburg.

A beautiful lady.

GERDA (CONT'D)  
 My father's mother.

Another one: Elizier is a young man, well dressed.

GERDA (CONT'D)  
 Dad, when he was twenty. The day he  
 started work as an accountant.

One more: a beautiful lady and a baby.

GERDA (CONT'D)  
 My mum and my sister. The day  
 before they left Germany to escape  
 the Nazis. They were planning to go  
 to Palestine.

HANS  
 What happened?

GERDA  
 They were in France, waiting for  
 safe passage to Israel, when the  
 Nazis invaded. They sheltered in  
 England, then fled to Argentina  
 where some relatives had already  
 established a business.

Hans observes the picture of Gerda's mum.

HANS  
 She looks like you.

Gerda smirks.

HANS (CONT'D)  
 You never talked about your sister.

GERDA  
 My sister died during the crossing.  
 She was five.

HANS  
 This is the only thing I know  
 about her.

GERDA

Me too.

HANS

And the only thing I know about  
your mother is that she died  
in childbirth and that she was  
beautiful and that you look  
like her.

Gerda removes the pictures and puts the box back into the cabinet.

GERDA

Do you still think we are  
Hitler's entourage?

Gerda grabs Hans and kisses him deeply.

A noise at the door. Elizier enters the studio.

Elizier catches them making out.

ELIZIER

Get off my daughter, you  
sleazy degenerate!

INT. PUB - NIGHT

Hans and David sip beer at the bar.

HANS

He caught me.

DAVID

And?

HANS

I said sorry.

David takes a drink.

HANS (CONT'D)

And he said stuff your sorry in a  
sack, in a few days she'll be your  
wife, and you'll be my son-in-law.  
Let's get a beer.

DAVID

You're finally get along! Sucking  
his daughter's face in front of him  
was the right move.

HANS  
Apparently.

Hans rises his pint.

HANS (CONT'D)  
Prosit!

DAVID  
Prosit!

They drink.

HANS  
I won over the old man. You have  
to admit: absolutely nobody can  
resist me...

DAVID  
The Steve McQueen of the South.

HANS  
I can't believe I was afraid  
of him. All that stuff Milagros  
made up.

DAVID  
I don't know...

HANS  
I nearly fell right into her trap.

DAVID  
What if she's right?

Hans frowns at his friend.

HANS  
Don't you start.

David places a hand on Hans' thigh.

DAVID  
I just want to help you.

Hans removes David's hand from his leg.

HANS  
I'm flattered but sorry, you're not  
my cup of tea.

Hans leaves.

David, takes a small notebook from his pocket and writes down something.

EXT. IMPERIAL HOTEL - DAY

One after another, big limousines stop in front of a bronze eagle at the entrance.

A uniformed DOORMAN keeps the door open.

Pompous fat cats, followed by assistants carrying briefcases, get out of cars and enter the hotel.

Far away someone with binoculars spies on them.

INT. IMPERIAL HOTEL - MEETING ROOM - DAY

Dark imperial decor, with marble and bronze eagles everywhere.

Twenty big shots, GENERALS, BANKERS and POLITICIANS, sit around a large table.

Elizier stands and addresses his audience.

ELIZIER

Sometimes he's barely recognizable.  
An old man lost to himself, not  
the charismatic leader who inspired  
the world.

A FOUR STAR GENERAL, martial attitude and stylish mustache, raises his hand. Elizier gives him the floor.

FOUR STAR GENERAL

Will he recover?

Elizier shakes his head.

ELIZIER

I'm afraid it will only get worse.  
He has moments of lucidity, but  
I don't know for how long. It's  
time for the Committee to make  
a decision.

An ELEGANT YOUNG MAN in a suit raises his hand.

YOUNG SUIT

What are our options?

ELIZIER

We can continue to follow the leadership of a man at the end of his rope, unfit to lead or...

Nobody breathes.

ELIZIER (CONT'D)

Or we can allow him to be a symbol, an honorary leader and I, for obvious reasons, will replace him.

Buzz and agitation ensue from the audience.

Elizier glances at Heinrich.

YOUNG SUIT

That's a coup!

THREE STARS GENERAL

Remember who you're talking to?

A BANKER, in tortoise-rimmed glasses and sadist aspect, stands up, outraged.

BESPECTACLED BANKER

I don't care who's the leader, I care about the project. It cannot be stopped now!

FOUR STAR GENERAL

I think it's a reasonable proposition, if the old man is unfit to lead, let his secretary take the reins.

HEINRICH

Agree.

YOUNG SUIT

I will not accept another leader!

FOUR STAR GENERAL

Yes you will. You took the oath of obedience.

YOUNG SUIT

What about the oath of loyalty?

FOUR STAR GENERAL

To an idea not to one man.

YOUNG SUIT

The man is the idea.



Elizier beats his fists on the table.

ELIZIER  
Gentlemen!

Heinrich stands up.

HEINRICH  
All those in favor of a change  
of leadership?

Ten people raise their hands.

HEINRICH (CONT'D)  
All those in favor of the  
same leadership.

Ten people raise their hands.

Heinrich looks at Elizier.

ELIZIER  
In that case we maintain the status  
quo. We'll adjourn the decision to  
our next meeting. Please take time  
to reflect. The stakes are high.

INT. IMPERIAL HOTEL - BUFFET ROOM - DAY

The atmosphere is more relaxed. The attendees mingle at  
the buffet.

WAITERS pass through with trays of canapés, appetizers  
and drinks.

David, wearing a waiter's uniform, moves around with a tray  
of Champagne glasses.

He wears a lapel badge with a German flag.

He's very close to the Four Star General.

The flag is a concealed microphone.

EXT. BUSHES - DAY

Milagros hides in the bushes around the hotel. A pair of  
binoculars around her neck. She listen to her ear-piece.

FOUR STAR GENERAL (O.S.)  
 (squelch noise)  
 I told him to leave Buenos Aires  
 and establish himself somewhere in  
 the interior.

ATTENDEE (O.S.)  
 (squelch noise)  
 He was always a magnet for  
 Jewish kidnapers seeking  
 symbolic retribution.

The ear-piece produces loud feedback. Milagros removes it  
 from her ear, decreases the volume and puts it back.

ATTENDEE (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
 (squelch noise)  
 A technocrat we created has  
 become a traitor to the party.  
 His memoirs have twisted history  
 beyond recognition.

Milagros checks the tape recorder. The red rec button  
 is down.

ELIZIER (O.S.)  
 (squelch noise)  
 June is the big event. Be ready.

INT. GOLDSTEIN MANSION - LIVING ROOM - DAY

Two sheets of paper full of names, lie on a table.

Gerda scrupulously checks the names.

Hans playfully covers the lists with his hand.

GERDA  
 Stop it!

HANS  
 Come on, I'm ready to go.

GERDA  
 Five more minutes, I'm  
 almost finished.

Hans snatches the list.

HANS  
 Dr. Fausto Rindón, Otto Steinbauer,  
 Gen. Juan Carlos Onganía, Adalberto  
 Kriegen Vesena...

Gerda snatches the list back.

GERDA  
Don't mix them up. They haven't  
confirmed yet.

HANS  
Fausto Rindón, Otto Steinbauer.  
They sound like aliases.

His playful mood turns suspicious.

Gerda traces the bottom of the list with her finger.

GERDA  
There. All done. We can go now.

HANS  
Do you actually know who they are?

Gerda eyeballs him.

GERDA  
You're still convinced we are  
Nazis! Check your guests, instead!

Hans smirks.

HANS  
I've given up on conspiracy  
theories. I told you.

As Gerda heads for the door, Hans grabs and pockets the list.

INT. JEWELRY STORE - LATER

The CLERK holds open the wedding band display case.

Gerda admires the shiny band on her finger.

GERDA  
I think this is the one.

She raises her head looking for Hans.

He's by the window, looking outside.

An old couple saunter past. A mum with a stroller passes by.

An orthodox Jew peeps at the window, their eyes meet.

Gerda approaches Hans and shows him her hand.

GERDA (CONT'D)  
Do you like it?

HANS  
What?

She points the wedding band.

Hans nods.

CLERK  
Do you want to engrave it?

GERDA  
Hans und Gerda. June twenty-eight,  
Nineteen sixty six.

CLERK  
Congratulations.

Gerda hugs Hans.

GERDA  
Can you believe it's only ten  
days away?

EXT. PARK - DAY

Milagros, hidden by a large hat, sits on a bench.

She reads a note.

INSERT - THE NOTE, which reads:

"Hurry up. We're losing him."

BACK TO SCENE

Nobody is in the park. Milagros puts the note away and starts to knit.

Hans jogs.

He runs the same loop three times.

He stops running and stretches next to the bench.

Milagros keeps knitting.

HANS  
So?

MILAGROS  
I thought you should listen  
to this.

The tape recorder is hidden between the balls of wool.

She presses play.

ELIZIER (O.S.)  
(squelch noise)  
June is the big event. Be ready.

MILAGROS  
Do you recognize it?

HANS  
Where is this from?

MILAGROS  
Their monthly meeting. They're  
planning something huge. We  
think it could be a coup, or the  
Fourth Reich.

HANS  
Who's we?

MILAGROS  
We can stop them. You can  
stop them!

Hans sits on the bench, thinking.

HANS  
The big event is the wedding.

MILAGROS  
Why would he tell them?

HANS  
They're guests.

MILAGROS  
Don't you see?

HANS  
What I see is that you're recording  
my father-in-law's meeting to  
sabotage my wedding.

MILAGROS  
Trust me.

HANS  
My future is at stake.

MILAGROS  
The future of everybody is  
at stake.

HANS  
I won't risk my marriage to  
the girl I love just because of  
some rumors.

MILAGROS  
Why did you call me, then?

Hans doesn't answer.

He hits his head.

HANS  
Shit! They are still inside  
my head!

Hans pulls out the guests list from a pocket.

HANS (CONT'D)  
My doubts.

He gives the list to Milagros.

HANS (CONT'D)  
This is the guest list from Gerda's  
side. Prove that some of them  
are Nazi criminals and maybe  
I'll listen.

He runs off.

Someone with binoculars observes them.

EXT. STREETS OF BARILOCHE - CONTINUOUS

Milagros leaves the park and reaches her car.

She drives away.

Another car follows her.

EXT. GOLDSTEIN MANSION - PARK - DAY

Elizier ambles with two guests, the four star General and the  
bespectacled banker.

They approach the main entrance of the mansion.

Gerda walks out of the house.

ELIZIER  
(to his guests)  
My lovely daughter.

The men gallantly kiss Gerda's hand.

FOUR STAR GENERAL  
General Ongania, enchantè.

BESPECTACLED BANKER  
Adalbert Kriegen Vasena, at  
your service.

GERDA  
Nice to meet you both.

She turns her back to them and heads to the rear of  
the mansion.

FOUR STAR GENERAL  
(to Elizier)  
So is everything ready for June?

Gerda turns around.

GERDA  
Almost ready and I'm so frantic!

Both the guests stare at her in surprise.

She dashes away.

INT. TOWN HALL - DAY

Hans and Gerda at the counter opposite the PUBLIC OFFICIAL, a  
bored fat lady with hair like Evita Perón.

GERDA  
We need to collect our  
wedding license.

PUBLIC OFFICIAL  
Name?

GERDA  
Gerda Goldstein and Hans  
Von Faulhaber.

The official drags her feet to the file cabinet and searches through.

Once.

Twice.

She drags her feet back to the counter.

PUBLIC OFFICIAL

It's not here.

GERDA

I submitted the application more than a month ago. It should only take two weeks!

PUBLIC OFFICIAL

Nothing yet. Next!

GERDA

No next. We're getting married in nine days. It should be here. Search the archives. Do something!

PUBLIC OFFICIAL

There's nothing I can do. Next!

GERDA

Listen Fatty. You'd better find that piece of paper or you're in a big trouble. Do you know who my father is?

Hans quivers.

PUBLIC OFFICIAL

I don't know and I don't care. Next!

INT. GOLDSTEIN MANSION - KITCHEN - DAY

Elizier enters, Heinrich follows him.

HEINRICH

It's becoming a serious problem.

ELIZIER

I'm hungry.

He takes a loaf of bread from a cupboard, a knife from a drawer and slices the bread.



HEINRICH  
Do one for me too.

ELIZIER  
Peanut butter and jam?

HEINRICH  
Butter and sugar.

Elizier frowns at him.

ELIZIER  
It's not healthy!

Heinrich points to his trim physique.

Elizier nods and sucks in his belly.

ELIZIER (CONT'D)  
Looks like I'm really getting in  
shape nowadays, uh?

HEINRICH  
Round isn't really the shape you  
should have in mind.

Elizier grinds his teeth and spreads peanut butter on a  
bread loaf.

HEINRICH (CONT'D)  
He's plotting. He has his own  
agenda. We need to act, quickly.

Elizier spreads jam and licks his finger.

ELIZIER  
Who? Who are you talking about?

HEINRICH  
For God's sake. Please use a  
different knife for the butter.

ELIZIER  
As you command, princess.

Elizier takes another knife from the drawer and spreads  
the butter.

HEINRICH  
I'm watching him. Last night he met  
the journalist. What's that?

ELIZIER  
Sugar.

HEINRICH  
Are you sure it isn't salt?

Elizier sighs and rolls his eyes.

ELIZIER  
Which journalist? Milagros?

Heinrich nods.

HEINRICH  
He gave her a list of names.

Elizier fumes and grumbles and bites the sandwich with rage.

ELIZIER  
(with mouth full)  
This is the third strike! It calls  
for something drastic.

He slams the door, leaving the kitchen.

Heinrich tastes his slice of bread.

HEINRICH  
Salt!

INT. GOLDSTEIN MANSION - GERDA'S ROOM - DAY

The wedding gown lies on the bed.

Gerda sits next to it.

Eva enters, she holds a gorgeous pair of high heels.

EVA  
These are perfect.

Gerda doesn't look up.

GERDA  
What's the point?

EVA  
Do you want to get married  
barefoot?

GERDA  
I can be married without shoes, but  
not without a license.

EVA

Don't worry about it. This is typical. It's the big setback.

GERDA

What?

EVA

The thing you want so badly seems lost forever. Like before my wedding... but that's another story...

Gerda smiles, but doesn't buy it.

EVA (CONT'D)

It's like discovering your passport expired a few days before a trip. You'll find a way to fix it and one day you'll laugh about all the panic.

Gerda smiles and hugs Eva.

GERDA

You're right. I have to stop whining.

EVA

That's the spirit. You should never lose faith, there's always a way.

GERDA

Coming from you...

EXT. GOLDSTEIN MANSION - PARK - DAY

Mountains in front of them and hands behind their backs, Elizier and The Uncle amble along.

ELIZIER

The Committee gathered together a few days ago.

THE UNCLE

Oh boy, I'm so hungry.

ELIZIER

They agree with you. The time is now.

THE UNCLE

I could eat a whole jar of Dulche de Leche.

Hans comes out of the house and stops when he sees Elizier and The Uncle.

HANS' VISION

Hitler and Bormann at the Berghof.

Seen from the back they walk facing the mountains.

BACK TO SCENE

Hans darts behind some shrubs and small bushes.

He's close enough to hear them talking.

THE UNCLE (CONT'D)

I don't want to retire yet! What do you expect me to do? Walk the dog and eat Dulche de Leche all day?

ELIZIER

Nobody wants you to retire.

THE UNCLE

Do you remember who I am?

Hans, crouched down behind a bush, shivers.

Elizier gestures to shush.

THE UNCLE (CONT'D)

(whisper)

Do you remember? Because sometimes... I don't.

Elizier looks alarmed at him.

THE UNCLE (CONT'D)

I remember now. I've been the most...

ELIZIER

Stop! Even bushes have ears here.

The Uncle looks to the bush where Hans is hiding and sees his ear.

THE UNCLE

You're right! This bush has ears!

Hans crouches further down.

Elizier looks at the bush and sees nothing. The usual lunacy of the old man.

THE UNCLE (CONT'D)

A wise man once said, strength lies not in defense but in attack. Beckenbauer... I think.

ELIZIER

Beckenbauer, right.

THE UNCLE

What we need is a free market, meritocracy, a fair judiciary system and free elections.

Hans smiles, relieved.

ELIZIER

Yeah, yeah.

THE UNCLE

And you know what else? A big statue, shaped like a giant Dulche de Leche vase in plaza de Mayo.

ELIZIER

Whatever you want.

GERDA (O.S.)

(loudly)

Dad! Dad!

Elizier turns around.

Gerda runs to him. She looks mad.

Gerda notices Hans crouching down.

GERDA (CONT'D)

(to Hans)

What the hell are you doing there? Stand up!

Hans stands up.

He holds a coin in his hand.

HANS

Look what I found!

Elizier grinds his teeth at Hans.

THE UNCLE

Lucky you!

Gerda defies his father.

GERDA

You and me. We need to talk.

EXT. BARILOCHE'S HARBOR - DAY

Elizier and Heinrich walk along the wooden pier.

Elizier carries the rods and Heinrich some other gears.

HEINRICH

The General is aware that the funds  
are ready at Banco Central.

ELIZIER

Excellent.

They get into a boat.

INT. BOAT CABIN - CONTINUOUS

ELIZIER

I have decided, from now on,  
to include Gerda in our  
morning briefings.

Heinrich freezes on spot.

HEINRICH

If she's involved we can't act  
freely... you know...

ELIZIER

Let's talk about it later.

HEINRICH

If she's around we can't...

ELIZIER

I said later. This is our  
personal business.

HEINRICH

Right.

But he doesn't move.

Elizier waves him to go.

HEINRICH (CONT'D)  
But if she's with us, how can we...

ELIZIER  
Later, kohlkopf!

Heinrich pouts but he moves.

And they reach the

EXT. STERN

Gerda watches the horizon.

Elizier and Heinrich join her with all the fishing gear.

ELIZIER  
Welcome aboard, sweetheart.

GERDA  
I've always loved this boat.

ELIZIER  
You're a member of the  
Committee now.

GERDA  
Whatever that means.

ELIZIER  
It means a lot. Remember who we  
are, where we come from.

Gerda nods.

GERDA  
Things I know very well.

ELIZIER  
So, you know that if there is a  
hitch, the best thing to do is to  
remove it, right?

Gerda nods again.

ELIZIER (CONT'D)  
There's a hitch.

Elizier waves Heinrich to continue.

Heinrich clears his throat.

HEINRICH  
The best thing to do...

GERDA  
No!

Heinrich leaps up.

HEINRICH  
Can I continue?

GERDA  
No. I want to speak.

Elizier sits down and passes the rods to Heinrich, who tangles it up with reels, baits and lines.

GERDA (CONT'D)  
Your only daughter's wedding is in four days. The most important day of her life!

Elizier nods.

GERDA (CONT'D)  
And I don't have the damn license! Move all your pawns and get it, for Christ sake!

Elizier gestures to Heinrich.

ELIZIER  
Did you hear that?

Heinrich, tangled, is struggling with the fishing equipment.

HEINRICH  
What?

GERDA  
You say, we have a problem. I know you mean Hans.

Both Elizier and Heinrich nod assertive.

GERDA (CONT'D)  
For all the fathers of the world, the man who's marrying his own daughter, is a problem. But if he is a problem, I'm a problem too. You cannot remove Hans without removing Gerda.



Finally untangled, Heinrich puts the rods in their place, ready to be used.

GERDA (CONT'D)  
Trust me. I will handle Hans, but we must deal with the real problem of the Organization.

Heinrich and Elizier look at each other puzzled.

GERDA (CONT'D)  
(a tad too loud)  
The Uncle!

They nod subdued.

GERDA (CONT'D)  
He's not the same. He's a relic of the past! If we want to achieve our goals, we have to kiss him goodbye.

Elizier and Heinrich are speechless.

GERDA (CONT'D)  
Goodbye.

She leaves.

The two old men leave their seats, throw the bait and look at the lake in front of them.

ELIZIER  
Nice day for fishing, uh?

HEINRICH  
Oh, beautiful.

Elizier spools the spinning reel.

ELIZIER  
Get the goddamn wedding license!

HEINRICH  
Not easy. There are some people, you know.

ELIZIER  
I don't know.

HEINRICH  
They are putting a spoke in the wheel.

ELIZIER

So get a fake one, but just get it.  
I can't stand to see her like this.

EXT. RUGBY CLUB BARILOCHE - DAY

Hans at the side of the field, watches PLAYERS at the end of their training session.

David breaks from the group and walks toward Hans.

DAVID

Hey, man, do you want to be back on the team? We miss our number eight.

HANS

I wasn't so good.

DAVID

You were good enough.

HANS

I promised Gerda I'd quit.

DAVID

I know, but things change.

HANS

(alarmed)

What's that supposed to mean?

They walk out of the club.

EXT. STREETS OF BARILOCHE - CONTINUOUS

They stroll along an empty street.

DAVID

What's up? You look edgy.

HANS

Milagros. Seems to have disappeared.

David looks alarmed.

HANS (CONT'D)

A few days ago I gave her the guest list to check out but I haven't heard from her since then.

David slightly increases the speed.

HANS (CONT'D)  
And she's not at home.

David increases the pace again.

DAVID  
Don't turn around. Someone's  
following us.

Hans glances back at the two THUGS stalking them.

David smacks him on the head.

HANS  
Hey!

DAVID  
I said, don't turn around!

They reach a busy part of the city.

They run, but the thugs run too.

David leads Hans inside a Fishing Shop.

INT. FISHING SHOP - CONTINUOUS

The shop is small and narrow. A couple of CUSTOMERS and a CLERK behind the counter.

David and Hans speed through the shop.

DAVID  
Hi Aaron.

AARON  
Hi David.

They reach the rear of the shop, David opens the door and the two are out.

EXT. STREETS OF BARILOCHE - CONTINUOUS

A street with a few people.

They sprint and change direction a couple of times.

David looks back.

And they slow down.

HANS  
Have we lost them?

DAVID  
Something big is gonna happen. I  
think you're in danger.

David turns around.

DAVID (CONT'D)  
Let's split up.

He runs away.

HANS  
(loud)  
What do you know about Milagros?

David doesn't stop.

Hans starts to go after him, but changes his mind right away.

HANS (CONT'D)  
(loud)  
Who the hell are you?

INT. GOLDSTEIN INDUSTRIES - GERDA'S OFFICE - DAY

Gerda sits at her desk, clicking a pen, over and over again.

Suddenly she stands up, approaches the plant and tears off  
some leaves.

She throws the leaves into the bin and lays down on the sofa.

Restless, she gets up and watches the lake from the  
big window.

The telephone rings.

INT. GOLDSTEIN INDUSTRIES - HANS' OFFICE - DAY

A much smaller office.

A huge pile of papers on the desk.

Hans picks a paper from the pile, examines it, writes  
something and puts it away in a folder.

Gerda bursts in the office.

GERDA  
Come with me. Hurry!

EXT. MOUNTAIN ROAD - LATER

A black limousine climbs a narrow mountain road.

INT. LIMOUSINE - CONTINUOUS

A colossal THUG drives.

GERDA  
You know how much I value honesty.

Hans looks outside the tinted window.

A dark and desolate landscape. A cow skull on the ground.

GERDA (CONT'D)  
Lately I feel you've let me down  
and I started asking myself: who's  
this guy? Is he really someone who  
deserves my trust?

The car slows down in the middle of nowhere.

GERDA (CONT'D)  
I'm feeling betrayed.

Dust clouds roll over.

GERDA (CONT'D)  
(coldly)  
You've been part of my family. Part  
of our secrets.

She shakes her head.

Hans feels very uncomfortable. He shivers.

GERDA (CONT'D)  
Are you cold?

Big drops of sweat descend from his forehead.

GERDA (CONT'D)  
I'm tempted to take back those  
secrets. I feel like I'm at a  
crossroads and I have to decide  
which direction.

The car stops in a large, forgotten junkyard.

GERDA (CONT'D)  
I have to go on alone. You're not coming with me.

EXT. DESERT JUNKYARD - CONTINUOUS

The thug and Gerda get out of the limousine.  
Another car pulls alongside.  
Two other savage THUGS come out.

INT. LIMOUSINE

Hans notices the Magnum forty-fives on the back of the thugs.  
He looks around. Seriously worried.

EXT. DESERT JUNKYARD

The thugs look inside the limousine.

GERDA  
Here we are.

Suddenly Hans bolts out of the car, running breathlessly.  
Everybody watches him baffled.

THUG  
This wedding really terrifies him.

A thug hands some paper to Gerda.

THUG (CONT'D)  
Here's your license. It's just like the real one.

INT. DAVID'S APARTMENT - NIGHT

A small and simple bachelor pad.  
David in a bathrobe.  
Hans fidgets, messed up and out of control.

HANS  
I need to go into hiding. They want me dead.  
(MORE)

HANS (CONT'D)  
 Criminals with big guns, they were  
 coming for me, I barely escaped...

He can't hold back, he starts to sob.

HANS (CONT'D)  
 Gerda... the love of my life, she  
 wants me dead...

He sobs unrestrained.

David hugs him.

DAVID  
 Everything will be fine.

EXT. CABIN IN THE MOUNTAIN - NIGHT

A small car arrives and parks in front of the cabin.

INT. CABIN IN THE MOUNTAIN - NIGHT

Hans and David inside a wooden, classic cabin, with fireplace  
 and moose head mounts on the wall.

DAVID  
 This is a safe house...

MILAGROS (O.S.)  
 You'll be fine here.

Milagros in a nightgown walks into the living room.

Hans sinks into a leather couch.

HANS  
 Thank God, you're alive.

INT. GOLDSTEIN MANSION - GERDA'S ROOM - NIGHT

Gerda howls in her bed. Head between pillows.

She's heartbroken, Eva tries to comfort her.

Gerda sits up and gazes into space, the blubbering stops.

GERDA  
 Find me that coward. I want him  
 dead, I want to strangle him with  
 my bare hands.

INT. CABIN IN THE MOUNTAIN - NIGHT

David, Milagros and Hans sit at the table with cups of tea.

Milagros shows the list to Hans. She points at the names.

MILAGROS

Fausto Rindón, here, is  
Dr. Mengele. And look... Otto  
Steinbauer, is really Otto  
Skorzeny, the SS who freed  
Mussolini...

HANS

All the guests are criminals Nazis?

MILAGROS

Or Nazi supporters, like Gen.  
Ongania and Dr. Vasena.

Hans sips from his cup, overwhelmed.

MILAGROS (CONT'D)

We should leave...

DAVID

Tonight. Our network in Chile is  
already alerted. Your lives here  
are hanging by a thread.

MILAGROS

We have to cross over the mountain  
and then we're safe and sound.

Hans stands up and moves through the living room.

He stops in front of the moose head, looks in the eyes and  
pats the snout.

HANS

I'm like you, my friend. Just  
a mounted head. But I don't know on  
which wall I will be hanged.

David and Milagros look at each other.

HANS (CONT'D)

You too once rode free and chose  
whatever seemed best for you,  
right? Now look where you are.

DAVID

You're wasting time.



HANS

I'm in the middle of a conspiracy even I would never have believed possible. My fiancée wants to kill me and I don't know who my friends are.

David corny, smiles to him.

DAVID

We are your friends.

HANS

(whisper to himself)  
Where is my courage to change?

Milagros gets close to Hans and pats him in the same way he was patting the moose.

MILAGROS

Let's go?

HANS

I need to say goodbye to my mom.

Milagros looks at David.

David nods.

DAVID

Okay, I have to go to get our guide for the passage. I can also go to get Mother Hen and bring her here.

David leaves.

Hans exhausted, in shreds, plumps down on the couch.

Milagros puts some wood in the fireplace.

HANS

I lost the love of my life thanks to you.

Milagros sits next to him, she takes his hand. He's passive and doesn't react.

MILAGROS

We can start a new life in Chile.

Milagros caresses his face, massages his neck. Her approach is getting more explicit.

Hans stiffens.

HANS

That's what you wanted all along.

He smirks.

HANS (CONT'D)

You fooled me. Oh Jeez, I'm so gullible, Gerda was right. This has been your plan since the beginning..

MILAGROS

You're such a schmuck.

HANS

You wanted me back and your only option was to fabricate this lousy plot. You're evil.

MILAGROS

I saved you, you ingrate! You were on the brink of being part of a family of assassins. The same people who killed your father and millions of others.

Hans rubs his eyes. He so confused.

MILAGROS (CONT'D)

Do you want to go back? I won't stop you. We'll soon see if you're right, or if your body turns up in a dump.

Hans stands to leave.

Shakes his head: no it's not possible.

He runs outside.

EXT. CABIN IN THE MOUNTAIN - CONTINUOUS

Hans runs from the house.

Then stops and looks up.

The moon is so bright that chemtrails are visible in the sky.

He ignores them.

He stares at the massive moonlit mountains in front of him.

Solid, sturdy and firm.

He returns to his steps and sits down in the patio.

EXT. CABIN IN THE MOUNTAIN - PATIO - LATER

Hans leans on the balustrade of the deck.

David's car slows down and stop.

David and Christiane get out from the car.

THE GUIDE, 35, small beard, outdoorsy and confident, follows them. He's the spitting image of the gardener of Villa La Clara.

He hands a large black bag to David.

THE GUIDE

The last backpack is in the car.

He returns to the car. David enters the cabin.

Hans runs to hug his mother.

HANS

What should I do, mum? Who do  
I believe?

Christiane draws away from Hans' hug.

The Guide appears.

Hans watches him, curiously.

CHRISTIANE

Even though he's been gone thirty  
years, I still feel your father  
next to me. I know you don't  
remember him. We met in Frankfurt  
at the Caritas office.

The Guide walks past Hans and enters the cabin.

Hans frowns, clearly distracted by him: where the hell I saw  
this guy?

CHRISTIANE (CONT'D)

He was gentle and shy, but his  
faith was firm and he was strong.  
An old fashioned Catholic.

She gently touches his face.

CHRISTIANE (CONT'D)

You look a lot like him. Without his confidence. We tried to save as many people as possible. Not enough to save him.

HANS

My father was a hero.

CHRISTIANE

You could be, too.

He shakes his head.

CHRISTIANE (CONT'D)

I'm serious. Thanks to your work, we're about to complete our biggest mission since Operation Finale. It's bigger than the capture of Adolf Eichmann.

Hans' face clouds over.

HANS

My work?

Christiane simpers.

CHRISTIANE

You really don't know? I should have imagined. You're so wide-eyed.

Hans looks at her with eyes wide open.

CHRISTIANE (CONT'D)

I didn't stop fighting Nazis when I left Germany.

The cold night wind blows. Hans hunches up for warmth.

CHRISTIANE (CONT'D)

I've teamed up with Mossad, with David... to hunt Nazis.

HANS

David? Mossad? And Milagros?

Christiane smiles.

CHRISTIANE

It's a big operation. We named it Sons and Daughters, you see? In honor of you.

HANS

You were using me all along?

CHRISTIANE

I had no choice. I wanted to tell you, but you're too honest for your own good. I was worried you'd blow it.

HANS

Too honest?

CHRISTIANE

Too trusting?

Hans sinks into a chair.

CHRISTIANE (CONT'D)

You'd better go inside and get ready.

Hans doesn't move and doesn't answer.

Christiane gives him a pitying look and goes inside.

Hans watches the mountain, looking for an answer.

Milagros comes out from the cabin.

MILAGROS

Did you know that Popeye actually loved curvy women?

No reaction from Hans.

MILAGROS (CONT'D)

Lame, I know... just trying to cheer you up...

She's behind him, massaging his shoulders.

MILAGROS (CONT'D)

I never stopped loving you. The way you are. You may be green, but you're gracious.

She lights up a cigarette.

MILAGROS (CONT'D)

When we cross the border, we'll put all this behind us and start a new life. It's what your mother wants.

Still no reaction from Hans.

Hans' eyes are wide open and staring.

MONTAGE - FLASHBACKS

- Christiane introduces a young Hans to a young Gerda at a tea party with.
- Awkward moments of Hans and Gerda alone, becoming friends.
- In college, David pushing Hans to Gerda together.
- A tender first kiss between Hans and Gerda.
- The Uncle and Elizier, walking and talking in the garden, like Hitler and Bormann.
- The Uncle petting the German Shepherd, like Hitler at the Berghof.

END MONTAGE

Tears slip down Hans' cheeks.

Milagros takes some photos from her pocket and hands them to him.

A close up of Martin Bormann in uniform and one of Elizier Goldstein now.

A picture of Hitler and one of The Uncle.

A portrait of Eva now and one of Eva Braun.

A snapshot of Mueller in SS uniform and one of Heinrich.

Hans studies them closely.

HANS

They don't look the same.

MILAGROS

Time has passed, but they are the same people.

HANS

I don't see it.

Milagros smiles, patronizing.

MILAGROS

You don't want to see the truth.

HANS

The truth is, I don't believe you anymore. See? I'm changing again.

She approaches the door and motions to follow her.

MILAGROS

I'm so sorry you had to go through this.

She stops and waits for Hans.

MILAGROS (CONT'D)

We really must go.

Hans stands up.

HANS

Do you really love me?

MILAGROS

Always. You've no idea what it was like, watching you with Gerda.

She disappears inside.

Hans follows her.

INT. CABIN IN THE MOUNTAIN - NIGHT

A backpack is open on the table. David helps the Guide.

THE GUIDE

The map, the compass and a first-aid kit.

David hands him the map, the compass and the first-aid kit.

THE GUIDE (CONT'D)

Waterproof matches, a whistle, and a flashlight... with spare batteries.

David hands them to him.

Hans approaches him and watches the packing process.

DAVID

Don't worry, this man knows every beaten track to Chile.

Hans studies the guide.

HANS  
I'm not worried.

Finally he recognizes him.

He's the gardener, the guy they meet in Villa La Clara.

Hans moves away, a new light sparkles in his eyes.

The Guide zips the backpack. Everything is done, they are ready to go.

THE GUIDE  
We need to leave before sunrise.  
They'll find this place  
soon enough.

Christiane hugs and kisses Hans goodbye.

David hugs Hans and Milagros.

THE GUIDE (CONT'D)  
Ready?

The Guide opens the door.

HANS  
One last toilet stop.

MILAGROS  
Now?

He disappears from the living room.

A NOISE outside. The Guide peers out the open door.

THE GUIDE  
Uh oh...

EXT. CABIN IN THE MOUNTAIN - NIGHT

Car headlights climb the track to the cabin.

INT. CABIN IN THE MOUNTAIN - NIGHT

Hans returns to the living room, surprisingly calm given the panic of everyone else.

THE GUIDE  
Hurry! If we reach the path we can  
lose them in the mountains.



He darts out the door. Milagros follows. Hans doesn't move.

HANS

No.

Everybody turns back to him. The Guide grabs his arm.

THE GUIDE

Come on!

CHRISTIANE

Go, Hans!

Hans shakes his head.

HANS

And let them think I chose Milagros over Gerda?

MILAGROS

What?

HANS

I want to do it my way. I will marry Gerda and during the ceremony, you will arrest them all.

Everyone's eyes are on him.

DAVID

The authorities are on their side. We can't arrest them.

CHRISTIANE

You've been candid, again.

HANS

The current government is anti-Nazis. We can kidnap them, and bring them to Israel. Like Eichmann. Or we can just denounce them to the media.

MILAGROS

You're clueless! Irresponsible, ridiculous! You're ditching me all over again. I'm out of here.

She moves to the door and grabs the Guide. They leave.

Christiane gives Hans a sad look.

CHRISTIANE

Hans, this is very disappointing.

EXT. CABIN IN THE MOUNTAIN

Milagros and the Guide are caught in the headlights as the limousines pull up.

They dart back inside the cabin.

The thugs get out first, bearing weapons.

Elizier and Heinrich appear.

Finally Gerda gets out. Her face hard and unforgiving.

INT. CABIN IN THE MOUNTAIN

The Guide barricades the door with furniture, then pulls machine guns from the black bag and hands them out.

David takes his and braces himself against a window.

DAVID  
Everybody stay low.

Hans looks from the gun in his hand to the headlights outside.

EXT. CABIN IN THE MOUNTAIN

The thugs aim their weapons at the cabin.

Gerda steps forward.

GERDA  
Leave this to me.

INT. CABIN IN THE MOUNTAIN

GERDA (O.S.)  
(loud)  
Hans! Come outside.

Hans drops his gun.

MILAGROS  
Hans, no!

GERDA (O.S.)  
Let's talk! You and me.

Hans moves slowly towards the door.

EXT. CABIN IN THE MOUNTAIN

Hans peers out of the door, nervous, shielding his eyes against the headlights, bracing himself for bullets.

He holds his hands up and takes a step towards Gerda.

Gerda steps towards him.

INT. CABIN IN THE MOUNTAIN

From a window, Milagros observes Hans and Gerda as they meet.

EXT. CABIN IN THE MOUNTAIN - NIGHT

Hans and Gerda stand opposite each other, pained expressions on their faces.

Gerda looks around.

GERDA

If this is a break up, it's crowded.

HANS

You love to do things in style.

GERDA

Is that a compliment?

HANS

I don't really know you.

GERDA

You're just afraid of commitment.

HANS

I'm afraid of what I'm committing to.

GERDA

What do you mean?

HANS

I know who your father and The Uncle really are.

GERDA

Really?

HANS

Really. I've seen pictures that  
prove it.

Gerda takes a photo from her pocket.

GERDA

Like this one?

It's the same picture of Hans' father that was displayed  
in the Cathedral. This time Huber Von Faulhaber wears an  
SS uniform.

GERDA (CONT'D)

Or maybe this one?

She hands him another: Hans' father, side by side with  
Himmler and Heyndrich inspecting Auschwitz.

GERDA (CONT'D)

Do you know who your father was?

Hans is speechless.

GERDA (CONT'D)

They sure make you believe to their  
intrigues. Do you know what a great  
man once said?

He shakes his head.

GERDA (CONT'D)

Make the lie big, make it simple,  
keep saying it, and eventually they  
will believe it.

HANS

Churchill?

GERDA

No. Goebbels.

INT. GOLDSTEIN MANSION - STUDIO - DAY

Elizier, in an elegant morning suit, steps forward into a  
lunge and lower his knee to the floor, then sweeps his arm  
overhead, stretching as far as he can.

Heinrich, also in a morning suit, observes him.

HEINRICH

Don't bend your knee.

The telephone rings.

Elizier jumps up and grabs the phone.

He listens and nods.

Hangs up and smiles.

ELIZIER

In wartime, truth is so precious  
that she should always be attended  
by a bodyguard of lies.

HEINRICH

Goebbels?

ELIZIER

Churchill.

Heinrich beams.

HEINRICH

We did a good job.

Elizier taps his friend on the back as they exit.

EXT. GOLDSTEIN MANSION - CONTINUOUS

Elizier and Heinrich get into a black limousine.

EXT. CATHEDRAL - MOMENTS LATER

The crowd parts to let a black limousine through.

It stops in front of the Cathedral.

Elizier and Heinrich get out of the car and enter  
the Cathedral.

EXT. SIDE ROAD - DAY

A car is parked in an empty road at the side of  
the Cathedral.

INT. DAVID'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

David, Milagros and Christiane watch the scene outside  
the Cathedral.

Light jazz plays from the car radio.

As Elizier and Heinrich step into the church:

RADIO PRESENTER (O.S.)  
General Juan Carlos Ongania has  
announced that the military has  
taken control of the government...

They look at each other. Resigned.

RADIO PRESENTER (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
Political gatherings of more than  
five people are now illegal.

Milagros puts a cigarette in her mouth.

David lights it.

RADIO PRESENTER (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
A military spokesperson said  
the dramatic developments of  
the last few days left the military  
no choice but to seize power,  
to restore order and enforce  
political reform.

INT. CATHEDRAL - DAY

Elizier walks down the aisle, arm in arm with Gerda.

Hans is waiting at the altar.

INT. DAVID'S CAR - DAY

David looks at his watch.

He starts the engine.

Christiane motions to wait.

David stops the engine.

Light jazz on the radio.

INT. CATHEDRAL - DAY

Gerda looks Hans in the eyes.

GERDA  
I do.

PRIEST

And do you Hans, take Gerda to be your wife? Do you promise to be faithful to her in good times and in bad, in sickness and in health, to love her and honor her for the rest of your life?

Hans hesitates.

He glances around, as if looking for someone in the crowd.

He smiles, relieved.

HANS

I do.

EXT. CATHEDRAL - DAY

Hans and Gerda exit the church.

People clap and throw rice over them.

INT. DAVID'S CAR - CONTINUOUS

They witness the exit of the newlyweds.

CHRISTIANE

We can go now.

INT. SMALL SIDE ROOM - DAY

SUPER:

"SAN CARLOS DE BARILOCHE. CHRISTMAS 1966"

The same BUSINESSMEN as in the first scene. And Gerda.

The Uncle sits quietly next to Eva and eats Dulche de Leche from a jar.

ELIZIER

It has been a very good year. We supported the General and now he's supporting us. Like the Phoenix we have risen from the ashes. The Fourth Reich is near.

He receives a standing ovation.

ELIZIER (CONT'D)

It's time to listen to our  
inspiration, our leader, our  
dear Fuehrer!

Everybody does a Nazi salute.

The Uncle approaches the podium.

He licks Dulce de Leche from his fingers and gives a  
beautiful, sincere smile.

THE UNCLE

Friends. Thanks you for coming. I  
forget why I'm here, but I'm happy.  
I like being in charge. I want to  
make a difference. Can someone tell  
me what the Fourth Reich is?

The audience give a disappointed sigh.

THE UNCLE (CONT'D)

This is a nice group. Sweet and  
tasty like Dulche de Leche, that's  
why I want everybody to wear brown,  
like Dulche de Leche.

Grumbles from the audience.

THE UNCLE (CONT'D)

And when we raise our arm to  
salute, can we add a wave?

Horrified stares.

THE UNCLE (CONT'D)

It's time to introduce a set of  
ideals in which freedom includes  
the opportunity for prosperity and  
success, achieved through hard work  
in a society with few barriers. A  
peaceful and beautiful future that  
can last thousand years.

A BUSINESSMAN stands up and salutes.

BUSINESSMAN

Heil Hitler!

THE UNCLE

Hi.

The Uncle raises his arm and waves.



The businessman waves back, confused.

THE UNCLE (CONT'D)  
 Imagine a free market economy.  
 Low taxes and exemplary human  
 rights. We can could become the  
 UN Headquarters.

He raises a Dulche de Leche jar.

THE UNCLE (CONT'D)  
 And free Dulche de Leche  
 for everyone!

He scoops a large dollop of Dulche de Leche from the jar with his fingers and shoves it into his mouth.

Gleefully, he ducks under Eva's skirt.

An embarrassed silence follows.

Gerda reaches the podium. She taps the microphone twice.

GERDA  
 I have a different vision.

She points at TWO PEOPLE in the audience.

GERDA (CONT'D)  
 Dr. Lehmann and Colonel Bethe.  
 From now on you're in charge of  
 taking care of our beloved Führer.  
 You will move him to La Clara,  
 where a specially equipped house  
 awaits him.

Dr. Lehmann and col. Bethe approach The Uncle.

Eva strokes his head and whispers softly into his ear.

They lead The Uncle away.

GERDA (CONT'D)  
 After much consultations with  
 members and donors, we have decided  
 a new order is necessary. We will  
 vote for a new Committee. We need  
 new blood, new energy and a new  
 vision for the challenges that  
 face us.

Everybody listens carefully. A new leader is born.

A feeble but persistent KNOCKING.

Heinrich opens the door.

Hans peeks inside.

GERDA (CONT'D)

First, we need to sign a binding  
agreement demonstrating our trust  
in the organization and each other.

Hans clears his throat to get her attention.

Gerda stares at him. Annoyed.

HANS

Sorry, but the photographer  
is here.

GERDA

We'll come after the meeting. Leave  
us. Now.

Hans exits.

Heinrich closes the door.

INT. BALLROOM - LATER

In front of a huge Christmas tree, Elizier, Eva, Heinrich,  
Gerda, Hans and some businessmen pose for the ritual picture.

FADE TO BLACK.

THE END