

SCORPION

"Trigger Effect"

Written By

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Note: This episode takes place during Season 1,  
between the events of "Forget Me Nots" and "Love Boat"

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TEASER

My name is Walter O'Brien...

**INT. SCORPION GARAGE - DAY**

TOBY fiddles with an 1940's vintage desktop radio sitting on Happy's tool bench.

TOBY

What's the point of having this if  
it doesn't even work?

HAPPY glares over at him and holds up two vacuum tubes - a vintage one and one with a much sleeker design.

HAPPY

I'm working on reverse engineering  
the vacuum tubes, see if I can make  
it more practical.

TOBY

You know, they have these devices  
now, like a radio right on your phone.

HAPPY

Yeah, and when the EMP pulse hits,  
you're going to have a pretty little  
brick,

She takes the radio from him and pops the new tube in.

HAPPY (CONT'D)

While this baby will still get the  
Dodgers game.

Paige crosses through with a Kovel'ski's box that she sets on the desk.

PAIGE

Sounds like a good idea. One thing  
I've learned from you guys is you  
can never be too prepared.

TOBY

Look, it's not like, oh, I don't  
know, Hitler, is going to detonate a  
nuke here in LA.

WALTER pulls himself up out of the rocket engine, wiping his forehead on his sleeve.

WALTER

How come no one ever talks about all  
the, uh, good things Hitler did?

SYLVESTER  
 (from his desk)  
 What?

WALTER  
 (gesturing)  
 You know, he supported Von Braun's  
 rocket program... And he was  
 developing free energy sources.

TOBY  
 Dude, you cannot say things like  
 that.

WALTER  
 Why not?

HAPPY  
 'Cause it's Hitler!

WOMAN (O.S.)  
 Hello, Walter.

The group turns as one towards the door.

Standing there is IRYNA OLOSOKOVA, a statuesque Ukranian  
 woman with dark hair, maybe late 30's, maybe a little older.

WALTER  
 What's she doing here?

TOBY  
 Wowza! Walter, you know this woman?  
 Do I detect a hint of sexual tension?

CABE  
 (stepping into the  
 room)  
 She's with me.

TOBY  
 Ooh, the plot thickens.

CABE  
 Shut it. Team, this is Iryna  
 Olosokova.

WALTER  
 Iryna. That's a new one.

CABE  
 Ms. Olosokova has come to us with  
 some very interesting intel.

TOBY  
 Oh, I bet she has.

Happy reacts to Toby's openly displayed interest.

CABE

Cambodian radicals, apparently backed by the Chinese government, are planning an attempt to shut down the United States power grid.

PAIGE

Why would they do that?

WALTER

Loss of essential utility services, like electric and water quickly lead to destabilization of local governments.

TOBY

Anxiety, public outrage. One stray post on social media and everyone thinks we're looking at a problem of Biblical proportions. Dogs and cats, living together!

Paige smiles. That reference she knows.

SYLVESTER

Miami after Hurricane Andrew, New Orleans after Katrina.

HAPPY

Even with backup generators, there's always a limit to how long things can be sustained before things are restored, especially if the outages are across the country.

TOBY

Imagine the panic of millions of people with no cell phone reception and dying batteries.

CABE

Not to mention grounded flights, public transportation shutdowns.

SYLVESTER

Street lights and traffic signals out. People trapped in elevators. In 2003, there was a problem with the Niagara plant. Power was out in the New York area for just 7 hours and the governor declared a state of emergency. The estimated cost was between four and seven Billion dollars.

CABE

Hell, some idiot tripped the wrong circuit breakers in LA ten years ago and half the city lost power.

HAPPY

And it's not as if you can just go to some central location, flip a switch, and everything's restored.

WALTER

No, you're talking thousands of different locations, run by hundreds of individual companies--

CABE

With limited government oversight.

TOBY

Plus, what's happening while all of the police and firemen and military are all dealing with that problem?

PAIGE

All of that from a simple power outage?

WALTER

Not exactly. Most systems generate more power than they need, so they can be maintained during peak hours.

HAPPY

Hot summer days, for example. A lot of drain from people running their AC units.

WALTER

Right. And the system is designed so that, despite the variations in ownership, if one plant or substation goes down, the next closest uses some of their excess power to help the other one out.

TOBY

But... If multiple stations are going down simultaneously--

PAIGE

The other stations can't help--?

(Beat)

And if they do, they're trying to help too many and they run out!

Walter smiles, she's getting better.

WALTER

The technical term is cascading black outs. They've been working to improve the power grid, but because of the ownership issues, they're limited with what they can do.

CABE

Which brings us to today.

IRYNA

My sources say they've been doing test runs, but they're about to present unmistakable proof of their abilities in a large metropolitan area. New York or LA.

PAIGE

Your sources?

IRYNA

Highly placed officials within the Cambodian government.

TOBY

Your eyebrows just raised. She's- She's sleeping with him.

CABE

Ms. Olosokova's relationship with the Cambodian minister is... complicated.

HAPPY

Complicated?

WALTER

What Cabe's trying to say is, "Iryna" is a double agent. It's her job to infiltrate people's lives and gather intel by whatever means necessary.

This gets a strange look from Paige and an approving nod from Toby.

CABE

Regardless, the intel's good and the chatter Homeland has picked up is that Los Angeles is the most likely target.

PAIGE

So, that's why you're here.

CABE

Actually, there was another reason.

IRYNA  
I've seen the algorithm they're using  
and it felt... familiar.

The group exchanges looks, not sure what to think.

Iryna holds up a thumb drive.

IRYNA (CONT'D)  
May I?

WALTER  
Sylvester?

Sly takes the thumb drive and plugs it into a external box.

A brief moment, then-

SYLVESTER  
It's clean.

He hands it back to Iryna

She slides the thumb drive into the central computer, and

Lines of code start scrolling on the monitor.

SYLVESTER (CONT'D)  
That *does* look familiar.

Sylvester sits down and punches a few things into his  
keyboard.

On the screen, the first code shifts to the left, and  
duplicate code, with some minor changes, only obvious to the  
team, shows up on the right.

IRYNA  
I'm pretty sure it was written by  
Walter.

TOBY  
Isn't that the facial recognition  
software Walter was working on for  
the Department of Defense?

HAPPY  
So how did the Cambodians get it?

CABE  
We're pretty sure that's where China  
comes in.

PAIGE  
So, wait, Walter wrote this code  
why?

CABE

Despite all the advanced security measures we've put in place since 9-11, people are still the weakest link in the defense chain.

TOBY

The human eye can be easily tricked or attention distracted.

SYLVESTER

Like how no one in Guffawtown recognizes Super Fun Guy when he puts on his "Googly Eye Goggles."

Toby takes a moment.

TOBY

I would have gone with Clark Kent, but, sure.

HAPPY

Walt's algorithm operated within the security cameras, identifying the bone structure of the face, so it couldn't be fooled.

WALTER

Bone structure's like a fingerprint. Everyone's is unique.

PAIGE

Okay, but, uh, didn't they already have that technology?

CABE

Yeah. In the movies. Real life's more complicated.

SYLVESTER

Besides, Walter's solution was far more elegant.

WALTER

Except I never finished writing it; the funding was cut off.

CABE

Because another developer came in with better way.

WALTER

Better? A cheaper way - and far less efficient.

PAIGE

So if you never finished it, how did  
the Chinese--

HAPPY

(lightbulb!)  
There's a mole!

She jumps up off her table.

CABE

That's a concern for another time.

Toby circles Cabe, looking up at him.

TOBY

What aren't you telling us?

CABE

Look, Director Merrick wanted me to  
be clear, this is our top priority.

IRYNA

If I may... The Cambodians have  
already tested the algorithm in  
smaller cities, but this is going to  
be their ultimate proof of concept.

CABE

If it works, the balance of power is  
likely to shift and the U.S. will  
look vulnerable. Hell, we will be  
vulnerable. That's why we've got to  
stop this. Especially if it's  
Walter's--

WALTER

That's a pretty stiff accusation,  
especially given the circumstances.

CABE

Son, no one's accusing you. But if  
it is your code, than no one knows  
how to stop it better than the one  
who wrote it.

IRYNA

I have to state the obvious here,  
but we are on a time table. I need  
to get back to--

WALTER

Seducing unsuspecting men to trust  
you?

She reacts; that stung.

Cabe goes over to Walter, pulls him aside.

CABE

Look, son, we don't have a lot of time here. I know what she did and how that must have made you feel.

WALTER

Feel? You know emotions don't have any affect on me.

Cabe nods, not willing to argue.

CABE

Regardless, this is a national threat. This is what I brought this team in for.

Walter's unconvinced.

Cabe pauses, considering what he's about to reveal.

CABE (CONT'D)

Look, Director Merrick's pretty steamed right now. He's ready to shut this whole program down because he thinks you just betrayed the entire US government to a foreign power. We need to get ahead of this before it becomes a problem or all our heads are on the chopping block.

Walter thinks for a moment. He's not happy, but he can't go back to low-risk, small paying jobs. We don't know why yet, but he needs this.

WALTER

Fine.

CABE

Just take a look at it, show us how to stop it and she'll be back out of your life.

WALTER

I said fine.

They turn back to the team.

WALTER (CONT'D)

Okay, guys, this should be quick and easy. Sylvester--

SYLVESTER

It looks like they changed  
approximately 2.34% of your original  
code.

WALTER

Ok, uh, assuming they do hit LA...  
Toby, Happy, pull up a map of the  
local electrical substations, they  
have to inject the code in somewhere.

TOBY

Walter, there have to be hundreds of  
substations in the LA area alone.

Sylvester hits a few buttons, bringing a map up on the  
monitors.

Blue lights glow indicating power substations.

SYLVESTER

904, to be exact, 16 of them manned  
24-hours a day.

Happy, Toby and Walter crowd around the workstation while  
Cabe watches.

HAPPY

Well we can eliminate those.

TOBY

Right, they'll be looking for a  
vulnerable target.

A few of the lights wink off.

Meanwhile...

Iryna moves to sit down on the edge of the conference table.

She glances up and sees the rocket sitting there. Smiles.

PAIGE (O.S.)

So how do you know Walter?

Iryna turns to see Paige gauging her presence.

IRYNA

Don't worry, I'm not here to steal  
your boyfriend.

PAIGE

Oh, Walter's not my boyfriend.

Iryna looks over at the gang working on the problem--

Paige's gaze follows her.

--then back to Paige, considering.

PAIGE (CONT'D)

It's just that he's very vulnerable  
right now and I don't want--

IRYNA

Walter was... an assignment.

PAIGE

And he's not anymore?

Iryna pauses for a long moment.

IRYNA

Walter... is a very good man. You  
could do a lot worse.

PAIGE

I told you I'm not--

IRYNA

(softly sad)

And I'm not either. That's a pity.  
He deserves to have someone to help  
him. Someone besides his sister who  
can see him as he truly is.

Back to the workstation, where they've eliminated a few more  
possibilities...

WALTER

They would have to start with a  
station that already had syncrophasors  
installed. Otherwise it's pointless.

HAPPY

That wipes out another, uh, 200.

Those lights wink out.

CABE

After the Metcalf sniper attack in  
2013, they upped security at a lot  
of the unmanned stations.

HAPPY

So we're looking at, what, mostly  
rural and industrial areas?

They all scan the map.

Walter steps over to Sylvester's station.

WALTER

Sly, I need your help to analyze the changes they made to the code. If we can figure out their signature--

SYLVESTER

(sotto voce)

Cabe said that wasn't our priority.

He stands up and starts slipping on a light jacket.

WALTER

Well, Cabe doesn't make all the decisions. We have to look at the code anyway, and--

He looks up as Paige comes down the stairs, her keys in hand.

WALTER (CONT'D)

Are you going somewhere?

Paige glances at Sly, then gives Walter a look.

PAIGE

Walter, did you forget what today is?

Walter pauses, accessing his internal calendar. He didn't forget - he just lost track.

WALTER

Megan's experimental treatment is today.

SYLVESTER

You asked me to keep an eye on her.

He nervously pushes his glasses up the bridge of his nose.

SYLVESTER (CONT'D)

Paige is driving me. Unless--

WALTER

Right. Okay, yeah, go ahead and go there, but both of you stay on comms, just in case.

SYLVESTER

Sure, Walter.

WALTER

And take your tablet.

Sylvester holds up the ipad for Walter to see as he heads for the door.

Paige lingers a moment.

She glances over at Iryna, who's watching them closely.

PAIGE  
Are you going to be ok?

WALTER  
Hm? Yeah, ok.

PAIGE  
I mean it, Walter. I don't know  
what's going on with this Iryna woman,  
but--

WALTER  
Seriously, it's fine. The sooner we  
figure this out, the sooner she's  
out of here.

PAIGE  
Ok.  
(Beat)  
Good luck!

She pecks Walter on the cheek and heads after Sylvester.

Walter sees Iryna staring and turns away, sliding into the  
desk chair.

Meanwhile...

Toby reaches up and taps a spot on the map.

TOBY  
Aha! Here, near Downey. It's  
isolated enough to be approached  
unseen, but still close enough to  
the interstate to beat a quick  
getaway.

CABE  
I don't know, that's a largely  
Hispanic area. Cambodians are gonna  
stand out.

TOBY  
Look, it's connected to several of  
the other trunk lines. I'm telling  
you, that's the most likely spot.  
I'd bet money on it.

HAPPY  
Of course you would, Doc.

He gives her a look.

CABE

I'll call local authorities, tell them to be on the lookout.

He pulls out his smart phone.

Walter comes over, carrying his laptop.

WALTER

Ok, guys, I've isolated the pieces of the code that they changed. It's actually pretty - well, not brilliant, but it's a lot more functional than I thought it would be.

CABE

Can it do what they think it can do, and, more importantly, can you stop it.

Walter folds the laptop closed and tucks it under his arm.

WALTER

It won't be as widespread as they're hoping - we can thank antiquated technology for that - but, yeah, in a large metro area like New York, DC or LA, it could--

There is a weird hum and suddenly the entire garage is plunged into darkness as the power cuts out.

TOBY

Well, I think it's safe to say our timetable just moved up.

**END OF TEASER**

ACT ONE**INT. SCORPION GARAGE - DAY - RESUME**

Still in black.

CABE

Okay, gang, this just turned from a theoretical exercise into real life problem.

WALTER

Happy?

HAPPY

(from a distance)  
Already on it!

There is a loud clanking noise.

HAPPY (CONT'D)

Damnit!

TOBY

You okay over there?

HAPPY

Not now, Doc!

There is a cranking and whirring sound that slowly gets louder.

The vapor lights above them start glowing.

Cabe's phone rings.

CABE

Agent Gallo, Homeland-- Yes sir...

As he walks away, we can hear a very angry Merrick screaming through the phone.

Happy walks back over, cleaning her hand on a rag.

HAPPY

That'll hold us for a little while.  
Just essentials - the overheads,  
computers, wireless-

She looks pointedly at Walter.

HAPPY (CONT'D)

-your cooler. But it won't last forever.

Cabe thumbs off his phone.

CABE

Walter, this is the third part of town to go out. We need to stop this thing in its tracks, ASAP.

WALTER

Then let's get started.

**INT. CEDARS-SINAI WAITING ROOM - AFTERNOON**

A typical waiting room area. A couple of couches, a coffee table littered with outdated magazines that Paige is riffling through.

A water dispenser sits in the corner.

Sylvester is on the opposite wall, examining the contents of a large glass case.

Lots of vintage medical and mechanical detritus from past generations.

A PLAQUE above the case proclaims: "CEDARS-SINAI - a History of Medical Advancement Since 1902"

The both look up as DOCTOR ATTEBERRY (late 40's), walks into the room.

DOCTOR

We've already begun the procedure. She'll be in the induced coma momentarily, then you can come back and watch the machine do its work.

He goes to leave, then turns back.

DOCTOR (CONT'D)

And thank Mr. O'Brien again for the upgrades to our system.

He leaves. Sylvester and Paige sit awkwardly on the couch.

SYLVESTER

Once Megan's under, the machine will make a series of injections at select points on her body - dumping stem cells directly into her failing immune system.

PAIGE

Sounds pretty dangerous.

SYLVESTER

Maybe if it was being handled by a human doctor.

(more)

SYLVESTER (Cont'd)

But the machine does all the work. It hits the precise locations, based on Megan's profile, and times it out perfectly. Then as she's brought out of the coma, her body's immune system reboots, kicking out the MS.

PAIGE

I can see why this procedure appeals to Walter.

SYLVESTER

Yes, it's very... Precise and efficient. Walter would do anything for Megan.

Paige gives Sylvester a look, considering.

PAIGE

Does Walter know how you feel about Megan?

Sylvester pushes his glasses up.

SYLVESTER

What-- What do you mean?

PAIGE

It's pretty obvious you have feelings for Megan.

SYLVESTER

Please don't tell Walter.

PAIGE

Sylvester, it's ok to have feelings for someone.

SYLVESTER

I know. I-- I'm just not sure how Walter will feel about me dating his sister.

PAIGE

I'm sure he'll be thrilled for you. And Megan.

SYLVESTER

Thrilled's not generally a word that comes up a lot around Walter. I just... I just don't want to disappoint him. Or Megan.

PAIGE  
 Sylvester, I'm sure you could never  
 disappoint either of them.

**INT. SCORPION GARAGE - LATER**

Toby walks over to talk to Walter, whose head is buried behind his computer screen.

TOBY  
 So what's the deal with tall, Russian  
 and sexy?

Walter's head jerks up, eyes blinking. Was he just...?

WALTER  
 Huh?

TOBY  
 I said what's the deal with tall,  
 Russian and sexy... Were you sleeping  
 just now?

WALTER  
 Ukranian.

TOBY  
 I'm sorry?

WALTER  
 She's Ukranian.

TOBY  
 My apologies. Tall, *Ukranian* and  
 sexy. Walter, I know you want to  
 win that Kármán Prize, but you've  
 got to rest sometime.

WALTER  
 I don't need that much sleep, as you  
 know. Besides, there are more  
 pressing matters at hand right now,  
 Toby.

TOBY  
 Oh, 'pressing,' interesting choice  
 of words. Could have said 'urgent,'  
 could have said 'imperative,' but  
 no, you chose 'pressing.' From the  
 Latin, *pressare*, to compel or squeeze.

Walter stops, takes a deep breath.

WALTER  
 No, thank you, I would not like to  
 discuss this right now.

TOBY  
What was that?

WALTER  
I'm working on my interpersonal skills. Paige gave me a book on anger management. I'm... testing the book's theories.

TOBY  
Testing the books theories... I see. So... You wouldn't mind if got to know Ms. Olosokova a little better.

WALTER  
I would say go for it, but she's clearly out of your league.

TOBY  
Out of my league? A high risk, an even higher chance of reward or catastrophic failure? 197, she's not out of my league, she *is* my league.

**INT. CEDARS-SINAI HALLWAY - AFTERNOON**

Paige and Sylvester are following the doctor through a surprisingly empty hallway for a hospital.

DOCTOR  
Because of the upgrades Mr. O'Brien did, we had to move Ms. O'Brien to our advanced health sciences wing for the operation.

He stops next to a large bay window with two COMFORTABLE CHAIRS positioned to look in.

DOCTOR (CONT'D)  
While you can't be in the room during the operation, I think you'll find the observation window is well-appointed.

SYLVESTER  
Thank you, Doctor.

They settle into the chairs.

Through the window we can see Megan's draped figure laying on a bed, machines monitoring her vitals.

At the foot of the bed is a robotic device that resembles something out of a 1960's sci-fi movie - A stout shaped CPU

with touchscreen, connected to three mechanical arms that are currently at rest.

Despite his earlier assurances, Sylvester now looks over at Paige with some concern.

She pats his hand and he grips it, taking comfort from the small gesture.

**INT. SCORPION GARAGE - AFTERNOON**

Cabe walks over to Walter at his desk.

Walter's rubbing sleep out of his eyes.

CABE

Merrick's fit to be tied. Where are we at with the replacement algorithm?

Walter looks down at the computer, makes a couple changes.

WALTER

Just about finished.

He rolls away from the desk and strides over to the monitors.

WALTER (CONT'D)

I've built a subroutine to insert into the code - it will alter the purpose of the original design, stopping it in it's, uh, tracks.

CABE

But the original code stays?

WALTER

It's the fastest - and by far the most efficient - way to fix the problem. Otherwise, I'd have to rewrite the entire code. And, as you said, we don't have a lot of time.

CABE

So what's our next step?

The following scenes will be Intercut between the Garage, Megan's operation and Sly & Paige watching.

WALTER

In 2010, the legislature approved a measure to start building a smarter power grid.

TOBY

Yeah, but the full implementation  
wasn't scheduled for 2020.

HAPPY

And with the battery question, even  
that looks optimistic.

WALTER

Yes. Exactly. A majority of Southern  
California is still on the old power  
system or a halfway upgraded one.

**INT. CEDARS-SINAI HALLWAY - AFTERNOON**

Sylvester and Paige sit forward in their chairs and watch  
through the window as we see:

Doctor Atteberry enters the room from the opposite side,  
gowned and arms lifted.

A NURSE follows him in and slides a pair of latex gloves  
over his hands.

She checks Megan's vitals, calling them out to the Doctor.

He nods to her as he switches on the, well, let's just call  
it a MEDICAL DROID, and inputs the data into the screen.

**INT. SCORPION GARAGE - AFTERNOON**

WALTER

...The algorithm interrupts one part  
of the circuit.

HAPPY

Sending a signal to the relays that  
the circuit is closed and the power  
is shut down.

TOBY

And because it's still a one way  
system, it's like an old set of  
Christmas lights - one bulb goes--

CABE

And the rest of the string doesn't  
work.

**INT. CEDARS-SINAI HIGH TECH OPERATING ROOM - AFTERNOON**

The Doctor guides the droid to the head of the bed.

Then, checking the readout on the screen, he guides the  
droid's leftmost arm to Megan's shoulder.

A TARGETING RETICLE lights up on her shoulder.

The bullseye traces from the top of her clavicle down to her elbow, scanning.

It then resets, shifts, and target locks just at the edge of her shoulder.

The Doctor checks the readout on the screen, then clicks the "READY" prompt.

**INT. SCORPION GARAGE - AFTERNOON**

IRYNA

So how do we 'keep the Christmas lights on'?

WALTER

Cabe, I need you to find out which stations went out, in the order they went out.

Cabe's already dialing his cell phone.

CABE

On it.

WALTER

Once we know the route the relays are sending the algorithm, we figure out what the next station is and hop over it to the next station in the sequence and shut down the relays so they don't keep sending the signal out.

He starts typing on the computer, checking the code with a compiler program.

**INT. CEDARS-SINAI HIGH TECH OPERATING ROOM - AFTERNOON**

A CASCADE of blue lights, reminiscent of the movie Tron, illuminates Megan's entire body, scanning in the same manner the first arm did.

**INT. CEDARS-SINAI HALLWAY - AFTERNOON**

Paige and Sylvester watch.

Sylvester pulls out a 28-sided polygon puzzle and starts mixing and solving it over and over without looking down.

SYLVESTER

It helps relax me.

**INT. SCORPION GARAGE - AFTERNOON**

Cabe tucks his phone into his jacket.

CABE

Walter! Sun Valley, Sylmar and  
Northridge. In that order.

Walter brings up the map from before, now showing the corrupted electrical substations in a greyed out background.

A blue line with an arrowhead traces from one station to the next.

**INT. CEDARS-SINAI HIGH TECH OPERATING ROOM - AFTERNOON**

On the monitor, a DIGITAL IMAGE of Megan's body is suspended in virtual 3D.

The Doctor makes a couple of notes, adds some data via the keyboard, then steps back.

INSERT: On the monitor, a series of red pinpoint are illuminated along the virtual Megan.

**INT. SCORPION GARAGE - AFTERNOON**

HAPPY

Looks like the next two stations are  
Canoga and Woodland Hills, but it  
branches, it could be either one.

WALTER

So we shut them both down. Hacking  
into the LADWP grid...

He cuts and pastes from one computer to the other.

WALTER (CONT'D)

Introducing subroutine... And we.  
Are. Good.

On the map the line from the three previous stations splits and goes to the next two stations.

And stops.

**INT. CEDARS-SINAI HIGH TECH OPERATING ROOM - AFTERNOON**

The Doctor presses down a button on a remote.

The other two arms WHIR TO LIFE, positioning themselves at Megan's hip and halfway down her side.

The nurse makes a note on the chart.

The Doctor presses a second button on the remote.

The arms shift forward each one inserting a syringe into the center of their respective bullseyes.

The arms retract.

The droid shifts position and new targets are acquired.

The arms inject those positions and moves again.

**INT. SCORPION GARAGE - AFTERNOON**

CABE  
Good job, Walter.

Walter grins at Cabe, receiving the well-deserved praise.

Toby turns to Iryna.

TOBY  
So, now that we've saved the world,  
how about you and me--

He trails off as he notices she's looking past him.

Then turns and sees what she's staring at.

TOBY (CONT'D)  
Hey, Walt...

IRYNA  
It appears to be moving faster.

TOBY  
It's not supposed to be doing that,  
is it?

Walter spins back towards the monitors.

On the map, both stations have gone dark.

And each of the ones after that.

And the ones after that.

HAPPY  
Walt, what did you do?

**INT. CEDARS-SINAI HALLWAY - AFTERNOON**

Suddenly, the entire area is plunged into darkness.

After a quick moment, emergency lights pop on.

Sylvester and Paige are both standing, looking into the operating room.

Sylvester's puzzle lays forgotten on the floor.

**INT. SCORPION GARAGE - AFTERNOON**

Walter grabs the laptop, scrolling backward...

WALTER

This shouldn't be happening. It should be shutting everything down. Why isn't it--

TOBY

Oh, it's shutting everything down alright. Just not what we need it to shut down.

**INT. CEDARS-SINAI HIGH TECH OPERATING ROOM - AFTERNOON**

The droid has ceased moving.

The machines monitoring Megan's vitals light back up, under emergency power.

The Doctor and nurse double check her readings on the devices.

**INT. SCORPION GARAGE - AFTERNOON**

WALTER

The code had a triple redundancy. I programmed it to accommodate a double redundancy, but not--

HAPPY

Why would you not do that?

WALTER

They stole the code. I didn't think they were smart enough to--

TOBY

Not smart enough, or did you just doze off at the wrong moment?

Walter grabs the laptop and starts typing.

WALTER

Wait, I'm still in the system. I should just be able to access the subroutine and take control--

**INT. CEDARS-SINAI HIGH TECH OPERATING ROOM - AFTERNOON**

The Doctor mouths something to the nurse, then heads to the phone on the back wall.

She rushes over to CLOSE the curtains, blocking their view.

**INT. CEDARS-SINAI HALLWAY - AFTERNOON**

SYLVESTER

What's going on? Paige, what's happening?

**INT. SCORPION GARAGE - AFTERNOON**

Walter's pounding on the keyboard, repeating the same sequence over and over.

WALTER

Why is it not responding?

(Beat)

(shit)

I, uh, I planted something to, uh, lock out the, uh--

TOBY

Great, you built a virus within the virus?

WALTER

And now it's taken over the original code and made it... More efficient. And locked us out.

SYLVESTER (O.S.)

(faintly)

Guys? Guys!

HAPPY

Is that Sylvester?

Toby jumps up, snatches his comm off his desk, and twists it into his ear.

He speaks with forced cheerfulness.

TOBY

Sure is! Hey, Big guy! How's the surgery going?

By this time, Walter and Happy are comm-ed up as well.

SYLVESTER (O.S.)

Guys, we have a problem.

**END OF ACT ONE**

ACT TWO**INT. CEDARS-SINAI HALLWAY - AFTERNOON**

Sylvester is standing outside of Megan's operating room with Paige and the Doctor.

SYLVESTER

Guys, we have a problem. We lost power at the hospital and Megan's not even halfway done with the treatment. He says we have--

DOCTOR

Less than an hour to complete the procedure or it will not be effective.

TOBY (O.S.)

We're working on the problem here, Sly. I'm assuming there's a reason you can't just switch everything over to the emergency generators?

PAIGE

That was our first thought, but things are a little more complicated.

**INT. SCORPION GARAGE**

HAPPY

Complicated, how?

SYLVESTER (O.S.)

The upgrades Walter made to the machine doing the procedure require it to be hooked up to a DC current.

HAPPY

Let me guess, only the AC outlets are hooked up to the emergency power.

SYLVESTER (O.S.)

That would be correct.

**INT. CEDARS-SINAI HALLWAY - AFTERNOON**

PAIGE

The life support machines are all on the backup and they'll keep her alive.

She looks pointedly at the Doctor.

DOCTOR

Except being in a coma, even an induced one is dangerous.

(more)

DOCTOR (Cont'd)

I don't want to pull her out of it in the middle of the procedure - there's no telling what could go wrong - but at the same time, the longer she's under, the more we risk permanent brain damage.

SYLVESTER

Permanent brain damage, Walter.

**INT. SCORPION GARAGE - AFTERNOON**

Walter nods. He understands.

WALTER

Just-- Just keep an eye on her, Sylvester. We'll head right over and figure it out.

CABE

Walter. You can't go. You already have a problem that needs fixing. For a lot of people.

WALTER

I can do it on the way.

He goes to leave, but Cabe blocks him.

CABE

I need you to stay here. To focus on this problem.

WALTER

But it's Megan!

Cabe softens. He knows what he's asking.

CABE

I know how important she is to you, son. But this has to be your priority.

A tense moment. Save her now, or save her later?

Happy jumps in...

HAPPY

Sly. What you're going to need is a Rectifier. It can convert the power from alternating to direct current.

SYLVESTER (O.S.)  
 (frantic in spite of  
 himself)  
 Any suggestions on where I might  
 locate that? At a hospital. During  
 a power outage?

The team looks at each other.

HAPPY  
 I can build you one, but I don't  
 know--

CABE  
 Walter. We don't have time to waste.  
 The faster you fix this, the faster  
 the hospital gets their power back.  
 Until then, you need to trust your  
 team.

Another tense beat. Walter nods.

WALTER  
 Go, Happy. We'll figure out things  
 here.

**INT. CEDARS-SINAI WAITING ROOM - AFTERNOON**

HAPPY (O.S.)  
 I'll see you in 15. Cabe, I'm gonna  
 need a ride.

Sylvester looks back at the curtained off window as Paige  
 rubs his back.

**EXT. LOS ANGELES SKYLINE - AFTERNOON**

Tracking with the Homeland Security SUV as it races through  
 traffic.

**EXT. CEDARS-SINAI MAIN PARKING - MOMENTS LATER**

The SUV whips around and bounces off the curb right behind  
 the valet station.

The VALET GUYS spin around and we see that Happy is driving.

She reaches down and pops the hood release.

Happy and Cabe pour out of the vehicle.

They're approached by the head valet. He's not a big guy,  
 but he's clearly used to being in charge.

VALET #1  
 You can't park there.

Cabe's stare alone could stop him; the badge he holds up is just added weight.

CABE  
Homeland Security. We'll park where  
we damn well please.

He turns back, Happy's fiddling underneath the open hood.

CABE (CONT'D)  
What the hell...

HAPPY  
Here, take this!

She hands him the ALTERNATOR, then slams the hood shut.

CABE  
Is this my alternator?

HAPPY  
Don't ask.

They race around the corner into:

**INT. CEDARS-SINAI ADVANCED SCIENCES PAVILION LOBBY - CONTINUOUS**

Where Sylvester and Paige meet them.

Happy starts setting up shop on the coffee table.

HAPPY  
I need a several feet of copper wire--

CABE  
I'm sure the hospital can supply  
that.

He jogs towards the nurse's station.

HAPPY  
A couple of lamp cords--

PAIGE  
I can get those.

She heads to the waiting room.

HAPPY  
And at least 2 high impedance  
transformers.

SYLVESTER  
They do karaoke in the chapel on  
Wednesdays. There's a good chance  
they've got a couple of microphones.

Happy looks at him strangely. She wants to ask, but there's not time.

HAPPY

That'll work.

She pulls a screwdriver and pliers out of her back pocket and starts pulling apart the alternator.

**INT. SCORPION GARAGE - AFTERNOON**

Walter's pacing back and forth in front of the monitors, doing calculations in his head.

Toby's staring, helpless, at the monitor where station after station is going dark.

TOBY

Walter, not to point out the obvious, but we need to come up with something quick.

WALTER

They started the power grid upgrades in 2010, right?

TOBY

Yes, the upgrades are part of the reason your algorithm is working so well. It's like a - a - digital electromagnetic pulse.

WALTER

Yes, but--

He shakes his head, chasing away his drowsiness.

WALTER (CONT'D)

The reason they approved it was because voltage instability in the transmission networks has directly led or contributed to wide-area blackouts around the globe.

TOBY

I can only imagine what that must have been like.

WALTER

When the economy tanked, a lot of the government funding dried up.

TOBY

Or was sent to bail out the banks, yes, Walter, I get it. How does this help us?

WALTER

They stopped doing the upgrades.

(Beat)

They stopped doing the upgrades!

**INT. CEDARS-SINAI ADVANCED SCIENCES PAVILION LOBBY - LATER**

Cabe wheels a gas GENERATOR in from the garage, a spool of copper wire under his arm.

Happy has the alternator open and is wrapping the leads from the two lamp cords Paige tore out of the wall around the center stocks of the microphones.

One cord still has the end attached, the other is bare wires.

HAPPY

The alternator will regulate the power coming out of the generator just like it does the battery on your car.

She takes the copper wiring from Cabe and wraps it in a figure eight style around the outside of the top half of the alternator.

HAPPY (CONT'D)

The copper wiring is to bleed off the excess.

She snips off two short pieces of copper wire and connects them from the brush box to the wrapped copper.

Then she carefully twists the lamp cord leads to the same two spots.

She pulls out a DC connector from her pocket and twists the wires from the stripped lamp cord to the back of it.

HAPPY (CONT'D)

And we should be ready to go. Kick her on, Cabe!

Cabe pulls the rip cord on the generator.

It sputters, but doesn't quite start.

He grimaces, pushes down on the fuel lead button, then yanks it again, harder this time.

It sputters and catches!

PAIGE

Yes!

Happy brings the lamp cord with the plug and plugs it into the generator and steps back.

There's a low hum, but the alternator seems to be working.

She attaches a tester to the DC power outlet, looks at the readout.

HAPPY

It appears to be working. Now lets--

The hum suddenly increases and electricity starts arcing across the wrapped copper.

HAPPY (CONT'D)

Shut it down, shut it down!

Cabe hits the emergency shut off for the generator and it cuts out.

The arcing continues across the copper, then settles down.

Cabe yanks the cord free from the generator - it's melted and black.

CABE

I think this is done for.

HAPPY

Not good!

Happy inspects the DC connector - it's got electrical scarring, but appears to have survived.

HAPPY (CONT'D)

This just isn't equipped to handle the voltage needed.

She looks up at Sylvester apologetically.

#### **INT. SCORPION GARAGE - RESUME**

TOBY

Ok, Walter, they didn't finish the upgrades to the power grid. Which is why some of our fair city still has power despite our very best efforts. Your point?

Walter pulls a chalkboard over and starts diagramming on the left hand side.

WALTER

This is what the old connections look like.

He looks over at Toby for approval.

Toby nods.

Behind them, a bored Iryna has wandered over to Happy's workstation and is fiddling with the dials on the old radio. She clicks it on.

WALTER (CONT'D)  
And this is what the upgraded circuits  
were supposed to look like.

On the far right, he draws the state of the art connections.

Faintly, the voice of Vin Scully floats out of the radio, apologizing for the game delay due to widespread power outages.

WALTER (CONT'D)  
But, because of the sudden shortfall,  
what they actually look like is this:

In the center, he draws an amalgam of the high-tech and the dated connections.

He circles a large section from the left side and its counterpart in the center drawing.

WALTER (CONT'D)  
*They never updated the radial  
circuits!*

A long pause.

Finally, Walter can't take the silence any more.

WALTER (CONT'D)  
When the radial circuits experience  
a fault caused outage, the entire  
circuit loses power until a manual  
switching process can be completed.

TOBY  
So, what, we need to go and manually  
switch it back on?

He looks over at the map.

TOBY (CONT'D)  
Walter, that's fast becoming an  
untenable solution.

**INT. CEDARS-SINAI WAITING ROOM - MOMENTS LATER**

Paige walks in to find Sylvester pacing back and forth. The stress of the situation has pushed his OCD into high gear.

PAIGE  
Sylvester, are you ok?

He continues his pacing, maybe even accelerating a bit as he talks.

SYLVESTER  
I've never had a girlfriend before.  
Not even a crush, really. Other  
than, you know, autonomic  
physiological responses.

Paige isn't quite sure what that means, but she nods.

SYLVESTER (CONT'D)  
And now, I've finally found a girl  
that I like, and she likes me and,  
and-- It's not fair. It's not fair.  
We're supposed to be making the world  
a better place and we can't even  
help...

PAIGE  
Sylvester--

SYLVESTER  
This is the only family I have. My  
parents never understood me, my--

PAIGE  
Sylvester!

She takes his hands in hers and forces him to look her in the eye.

SYLVESTER  
I don't want to be alone again.

PAIGE  
You won't be. Sylvester, this is  
still your family. All of us. Happy  
will figure this out. Or Walter  
will. We always do.

He takes a deep breath.

SYLVESTER  
Nobody's perfect. Not even Walter.  
One of these days we're going to run  
out of time.

**INT. SCORPION GARAGE - LATER**

Walter & Toby are still at the chalkboard.

In the background, Iryna moves the dial, long gaps between music, talk radio...

Walter's hitting his groove now, adrenaline replacing sleep.

He starts drawing arrows going left to right above the center drawing (the merged, half-upgraded grid connections).

WALTER

(talking faster)

The circuits were only designed to go one way - forward. But because of the changes in the power grid, a lot of the one-way circuits--

He then adds arrows going both ways above that.

WALTER (CONT'D)

Have been co-opted to run two ways. Signals and electricity run forwards and backwards.

It suddenly clicks for Toby.

TOBY

So if we can figure out a way to reverse the flow of the energy from relay to relay, the algorithm would work in reverse, turning everything back on.

WALTER

Exactly.

From the radio, the old emergency broadcast tone sounds.

Iryna switches it off, but not before...

Toby's head snaps over to the radio. He knows that sound. And there's something else...

TOBY

Wait...

He runs over and picks it up, turning the dial.

He stops as the dial clicks onto a white triangle squeezed between the numbers.

He holds the radio aloft.

TOBY (CONT'D)

Hey, Walter, how about a good old fashioned analog solution to our digital problem?

It takes a long second for the synapses to fire - he must be tired - and then suddenly Walter's eyes light up.

WALTER  
That's genius, Toby.

TOBY  
See, I told you you hired me for a reason.

**INT. CEDARS-SINAI ADVANCED SCIENCES PAVILION LOBBY**

HAPPY  
I'm sorry, Sly. I'm at a loss.

PAIGE  
There's nothing else you can do?

HAPPY  
The only other option I can think of would be a rotary convertor, but I don't even know where we would find one of those. We just have to hope Walter gets everything turned back on in time.

Sylvester smiles in spite of the situation.

SYLVESTER  
Maybe not!

Happy, Paige and Cabe exchange looks as Sylvester runs out of the room.

**END OF ACT TWO**

ACT THREE**INT. CEDARS-SINAI ADVANCED SCIENCES PAVILION LOBBY - RESUME**

SYLVESTER (O.S.)  
Happy! Come here!

She looks at Paige and Cabe and shrugs.

All three jog down the hall where Sylvester disappeared.

SYLVESTER (O.S.) (CONT'D)  
In here!

They go through the doorway into:

**INT. CEDARS-SINAI WAITING ROOM - CONTINUOUS**

Sly's standing by the glass case from earlier, smiling and pointing at something on the lower shelf.

Happy steps up next to him and looks in.

Insert: an old metallic gray turbine-looking device

On the shelf next to it stands a small sign that reads:  
"Rotary Convertor, 1910," with smaller text below it.

Happy grins up at him.

HAPPY  
This place has a gym, right?

**INT. CEDARS-SINAI HALLWAY - LATER**

CABE  
We about set here? You need to put  
my car back together so we can go  
pick up Walter.

Happy's kneeling on the floor, hooking up the rotary convertor to a treadmill they've dragged in from the gym down the hall.

HAPPY  
Just a second.

She waves Sylvester over.

HAPPY (CONT'D)  
Give it a try.

He steps up onto the treadmill, turns it on and starts walking. On the floor ahead of him, the rotary converter starts spinning slowly.

He walks faster and it spins accordingly. The diodes hooked up to the rotator start to light up.

SYLVESTER

It's working; it's working!

HAPPY

Now, unfortunately, you're going to have to keep up a decent pace so the power flow doesn't slow down too much.

He nods.

Happy grabs the alternator and starts putting it back together as she heads towards the SUV.

Cabe lingers for a moment.

CABE

Son, I can stick around and help you with this.

SYLVESTER

No, no. For Megan, I can do this. Go get the lights turned back on.

Cabe nods, admiringly, slaps Sylvester on the back and then darts out as Sylvester starts walking again, then jogging.

The rotary converter spins, faster, faster, the diodes burn brightly.

He looks over to Paige, who's looking in through the operating window at:

**INT. CEDARS-SINAI HIGH TECH OPERATING ROOM - CONTINUOUS**

Doctor Atteberry hits a switch on the droid.

After a long moment, it whirs to life again.

**INT. CEDARS-SINAI HALLWAY - AFTERNOON - RESUME**

Paige gives Sylvester a thumbs up!

**EXT/INT. AGENT GALLO'S SUV - LATER**

Zippping through the LA streets

CABE

So how exactly does this work?

TOBY (O.S.)

During the Cold War, the government was constantly worried that the Soviets would use public radio transmissions for missile targeting. So they created a system where they could send a single transmission and all the other radio frequencies would stop transmitting.

CABE

Right, CONELRAD. The precursor to the Emergency Broadcast System.

TOBY (O.S.)

Ding, ding, ding! Tell the man what he's won, Alex!

WALTER

Toby.

TOBY (O.S.)

Fine! But I just want to point out, for the record, that it was my idea.

WALTER

When CONELRAD was activated, it would cycle between active stations broadcasting at either 640 and 1240 kilohertz.

He pats the machine in the seat beside him.

WALTER (CONT'D)

We're going to use this signal generator to do something similar.

CABE

Well, let's hope this works better than your last plan. Director Merrick called on our way back from the hospital. One more slip up and you won't just be out of a job, you'll be in the state penitentiary.

Off this...

HAPPY

Why are we slowing down?

She lowers the window and pulls her body up,

**EXT. AGENT GALLO'S SUV - CONTINUOUS**

Lines of cars, backed up, as far as she can see.

She ducks back down inside the truck.

HAPPY

By the time we get through this, the whole grid will be down. Hey, Doc?

TOBY (O.S.)

Yeah, Hap?

HAPPY

We need an alternate route.

**INT. SCORPION GARAGE**

Toby brings up a mapping program on the monitors.

TOBY

Yeah, looks like a lot of the traffic lights are out. Cabe, can you make a left at the next intersection?

CABE (O.S.)

I can make a way.

The whoop, whoop of the siren sounds through comms.

**EXT. AGENT GALLO'S SUV**

The red & blues are flashing.

Cars are canted, leaving a narrow path for the SUV to push through to the left turn lane.

Cabe waves to the officers trying to direct traffic under the light as the SUV starts picking up the pace again.

**INT. SCORPION GARAGE**

TOBY

In about a mile, you'll see an alleyway behind the 99-cents store. Take that and it'll dump you out right by the substation.

Toby leans back in his chair, arms behind his head.

He looks over at Iryna texting on her phone.

TOBY (CONT'D)

So... About that date--

Iryna doesn't even look up.

IRYNA

Not a chance in hell.

**EXT. AGENT GALLO'S SUV - LATER**

The SUV pulls up to the station and everyone piles out.  
 Walter lugs the signal generator, while  
 Happy grabs bolt cutters out of the back.  
 She runs over and cuts a large padlock off the front door.  
 Cabe holds the door open as they head in.

**INT. RESEDA POWER STATION 62 - CONTINUOUS**

Walter sets the signal generator on the side of an elaborate  
 electronic switching board.  
 He runs a power cord down under the desk and plugs it in.  
 Happy heads deeper into the facility.

HAPPY (O.S.)  
 Found the manual reset. Ready when  
 you are.

WALTER  
 Alright, setting to the proper  
 frequency.

He looks up at Cabe.

WALTER (CONT'D)  
 As soon as it shuts down, Happy will  
 do the manual restart, we'll switch  
 to the secondary frequency and we'll  
 be back in business.

CABE  
 Don't take this the wrong way, but  
 I'm gonna cross my fingers for all  
 our sakes.

WALTER  
 Okay, here goes nothing.

He flips the toggle on the signal generator to ON.

A high-pitched staticy noise similar to feedback from an  
 electric guitar sounds.

Above it, you can hear a clunk as the power shuts off.

Walter snaps it back off, resetting the frequency dial.

WALTER (CONT'D)  
 Ok, Happy, three, two, now!

The clunk of the manual reset coincides with Walter snapping the power back on to the signal generator.

This time, there's a lower-pitched, almost a hum emanating from the device.

WALTER (CONT'D)  
That should do the trick.

Happy comes back as he switches it off.

WALTER (CONT'D)  
Toby? Can you see, is the algorithm  
traveling back up the chain?  
(Beat)  
Toby?

CABE  
Did we just lose comms?

OFFICER YATES  
Hands up! Turn around slowly.

They do - to face three officers, guns drawn, as we

SMASH TO BLACK

**END OF ACT THREE**

ACT FOUR**INT. RESEDA POWER STATION 62 - RESUME**

Happy, Cabe & Walter stand, hands raised, facing three police officers with drawn guns.

HAPPY

The frequency override must still be embedded in some radios.

OFFICER YATES

Quiet!

He sounds a little more hayseed than you'd expect from an LA cop. But this is Reseda.

OFFICER YATES (CONT'D)

You don't really look like terrorists. But these days, you can't be too sure.

CABE

Officer, I'm Agent Cabe Gallo with Homeland, badge number 2835. I'm just gonna reach into my jacket and pull out my identification.

He does just that, then flips his the thin wallet open to show his badge and ID.

The officer holsters his gun.

OFFICER YATES

Toss it here so I can see it.

Cabe does so. The officer inspects it thoroughly.

OFFICER YATES (CONT'D)

Can't be too careful. Power starts going out all over the city, we get a BOLO for terrorists targeting the power substations, and then right as our radios go out, we find you in here, doing god knows what.

Walter can't help himself.

WALTER

Fixing. The problem. We're fixing the problem.

There's a familiar hum and the cops are slowly backlit as the street lights come on.

OFFICER YATES

Alrighty then. This all looks in order. I oughta take you in for trespassing, but I guess I can let you go with a warning, you being government officials and all that.

**INT. SCORPION GARAGE - NIGHT**

Toby is sitting at his desk, perusing an online poker site.

Cabe strides in, ending a phone call.

CABE

Good news. It looks like our BOLO announcement nabbed more than just us. CHP stopped a suspicious car on the 105. Near Downey. So that's kudos to you, Doc.

TOBY

See, what did I tell you? For those of you playing our lovely home game, I am the only one who did not screw up today.

Happy comes over, with a small plastic case.

HAPPY

Finally got the comm system reset.

Toby looks up at her.

TOBY

Okay, so we're even again.

(Beat)

But I was still right!

Paige and Sylvester come through the door.

Toby jumps up to greet them.

TOBY (CONT'D)

Hey there! All hail the conquering hero!

Sly blushes a bit.

Everyone crowds around.

WALTER

How's Megan doing?

SYLVESTER

She woke up in good spirits. The doctor tried to give her a sedative, but she said she'd slept enough already today.

PAIGE

We found a book for her to read.

SYLVESTER

We will find out in about 72 hours if the procedure was a success, but the doctor seemed very positive. And he confirmed that she doesn't seem to have suffered any permanent damage.

TOBY

That's excellent news, Sly!

WALTER

Yes, very, uh, good.

Paige nudges Sylvester a little.

PAIGE

Don't you have something to say?

Walter thinks she's talking to him.

WALTER

Oh, yes. Uh, thank you, Sylvester. Good work today.

SYLVESTER

You're welcome, Walter.

Paige gives Sylvester a look.

He just shrugs, what am I supposed to do?

CABE

Now that that's all squared away, I'll see to getting our guest a ride back to the embassy.

WALTER

I'll let her know.

He heads up the stairs.

**INT. SCORPION GARAGE - ROOFTOP - MOMENTS LATER**

Iryna's standing at the edge, admiring the fully lit Los Angeles city skyline.

Walter approaches her.

IRYNA

We don't get a view like this back home.

WALTER

They have tall buildings in Kiev.

IRYNA

Not like this. This building in Kiev would be home to hundreds of families. Not just yours.

A beat.

WALTER

You're, uh, good to go. Cabe's arranging your transportation.

(Beat)

I just have one question.

She turns and looks him in the eye.

IRYNA

Yes, Walter?

WALTER

You have no technical training, no background in math or even science. How did you know the code was mine?

IRYNA

You are right, I am not technical, but I am highly intuitive.

WALTER

Yes, I've been told that's why you're so good at your job.

IRYNA

I looked at the code, the design of it? And it - felt - like it was yours.

WALTER

That doesn't make sense. Technology don't have a, a 'feel.'

IRYNA

Doesn't it?

(Beat)

Your friend Paige, she is a part of the team, yes? Why is that?

WALTER

She... She helps us translate the outside world. And vice-versa. Having her around makes the team more efficient.

She looks at him, pity tinged with sadness.

IRYNA

Walter, I think I know you better than--

WALTER

Than what, Iryna? I have no EQ, no intuition. I make decisions based on facts, not inconsistent emotional--

IRYNA

You once told me you were incapable of lying. But when you repeat that diagnosis over and over like a mantra... You're lying to yourself everyday.

WALTER

I--

She gently touches his cheek.

IRYNA

You are not the man I once knew, Walter O'Brien. You're better.

She gives him a quick kiss, then heads down the stairs, passing Paige on her way up.

Paige looks back at her.

PAIGE

What was that all about?

He shakes his head, breaking the spell.

WALTER

Uh, yeah, nothing. How's Ralph?

PAIGE

He's enjoying being with his- Drew. Or at least that's what he wants me to think.

WALTER

Well, don't be too hard on him. He's doing his best.

A long pause.

WALTER (CONT'D)

Well, I should probably stop by the hospital and check up on Megan. Thanks for... All your help today.

PAIGE

No problem, Walter.

WALTER

Uh, ok, then.

He heads back down the stairs as we:

FADE TO BLACK.