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"HEAVY METAL"

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SLIDERS

"Heavy Metal"

TEASER

FADE IN:

1 EXT. OCEAN - DAY (STOCK) (D1) 1

Water. Lots of it. We're in the middle of the Pacific Ocean. A large merchant vessel steams into view.

2 EXT. SHIP - BRIDGE - DAY 2

A young SAILOR stares intently out to sea through a pair of binoculars. The ship's distinguished, middle-aged CAPTAIN steps up beside the sailor.

CAPTAIN

What do you have, son?

The sailor hands the binoculars to the captain, who looks through them.

SAILOR

Something in the water, sir. Ten degrees off the port bow.

The captain looks for a beat, then lowers the binoculars. He considers for a moment, then...

CAPTAIN

Bring us ten degrees to port. Reduce speed to half ahead.

SAILOR

Aye, sir.

The captain starts to walk away, then stops.

CAPTAIN

And man the deck guns. Just in case.

As the young sailor nods, we go to...

3 EXT. SHIP - DECK - DAY 3

Several sailors help the Sliders up a gangway onto the deck. They have blankets wrapped around them and their hair is damp.

CONTINUED

3 CONTINUED

3

DIANA

Thank you.

The Captain steps up.

CAPTAIN

Tickets please.

The Sliders stare at him in shock. Suddenly, the Captain bursts into hearty laughter.

CAPTAIN

Just kidding! Tickets please. I've been waiting years to say that. Welcome aboard the Pasadena. I'm Captain Thompson.

REMBRANDT

Thank you, Captain. We're very grateful.

CAPTAIN

Very lucky is more like it. How did you get out here?

There is a short beat as the Sliders exchange a subtle "What's-our-cover-story-here?" glance. Mallory pipes in first...

MALLORY

We were out fishing. Sprung a leak. A big one.

MAGGIE

Captain, where are we bound for?

CAPTAIN

Bound for trouble if we sit dead in these waters much longer.

The Sliders now notice two sailors manning a large deck gun. Lookouts warily scan the horizon with binoculars.

REMBRANDT

What's with the artillery?

CONTINUED

3 CONTINUED 2

3

CAPTAIN

Just a precaution.

(shouting off)

Mr. Jenkins, prepare to get under way.

(to Sliders)

If you have any needs please ask a member of my crew. If you'll excuse me.

He moves off chuckling to himself.

CAPTAIN

Tickets please.

Off the Sliders' reactions we cut to...

4 INT. SHIP - WARDROOM - DAY

4

The Sliders are dried off and sitting around a galley table. Empty plates sit before them and they sip coffee from mugs. Diana tinkers with the timer.

MALLORY

(looking at his fingers)

Man, am I pruny.

MAGGIE

What the hell happened? We've never slid into the middle of the ocean before. How long before we pop out of the wormhole underground? Or a thousand feet in the air?

MALLORY

Something like this really shakes my confidence in the whole process.

REMBRANDT

Q-Ball said there was some kind of "spatial displacement failsafe" that would only let us slide onto dry land.

DIANA

Something's wrong with the timer.

MAGGIE

Duh.

CONTINUED

4 CONTINUED

4

DIANA

It's having trouble locking onto a stable set of slide coordinates.

MALLORY

Getting it wet probably didn't help.

Diana continues to check the timer.

DIANA

It's pretty weatherproof. I don't think the seawater hurt it.

(then)

Have you ever changed the batteries in this?

REMBRANDT

No time for jokes, girl.

DIANA

No joke. A loss of power might explain why we weren't able to lock onto a solid landing site.

(then)

You didn't think it would just run forever, did you?

Maggie and Rembrandt exchange a slightly embarrassed look. Of course they did.

REMBRANDT

I don't suppose a trip to Radio Shack for batteries is going to do the trick?

DIANA

(shakes her head)

I can probably give it a jump start from my PDL, but that's just a temp fix. We could be in for some rough slides.

(then)

If we can slide at all.

Off their grim expressions, we...

FADE OUT:

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

5 EXT. SHIP - DECK - DAY

5

Rembrandt, Maggie and Diana walk along the deck. Sailors move past them.

DIANA

We've got three days until the next slide window. I can probably have the timer recharged enough by then to open the wormhole. After that I don't know.

They glance at two sailors manning one of the large deck guns.

REMBRANDT

I wonder what they're looking for?

DIANA

(lightly)
Maybe there be sea monsters.

Maggie and Rembrandt give her a stern look.

MAGGIE

Don't even joke about it.

Mallory steps up.

MALLORY

Ready for some good news?

REMBRANDT

Always.

MALLORY

We dock in Hawaii in two days. Aloha wahinis.

Remmy and Maggie exchange a look.

MAGGIE

Hawaii? We're not heading back to the mainland?

MALLORY

What's the big deal? I thought you guys'd be itching for a change of locale.

CONTINUED

5 CONTINUED

5

REMBRANDT

Haven't you wondered why we always
end up somewhere in California. Why
we don't slide into New York or Paris?

MAGGIE

It's our sliding radius.

MALLORY

Sliding radius?

Off his confused look...

6 EXT. SHIP - BRIDGE - DAY

6

We follow the Sliders as they climb a stairway up toward the
bridge. Their conversation continues...

REMBRANDT

We have a four hundred mile radius
from the point of our original slide.
We have to be inside that zone when
the timer reaches zero.

MALLORY

Or?

MAGGIE

We don't know. We've never been
caught outside the zone before.

MALLORY

Maybe nothing happens. Maybe you
just move your "sliding zone" and
start over.

MAGGIE

Yeah, maybe. But if the timer's on
the fritz I don't want to start
sliding from an island in the middle
of the Pacific. We could end up
right back in the drink.

DIANA

Or the vortex might not open at all.
Or we might slide in, but never slide
out. Or--

MALLORY

I get the picture.

CONTINUED

6 CONTINUED

6

REMBRANDT

We have to get back to the mainland.

7 INT. SHIP - BRIDGE - DAY

7

The Sliders are now crowded into the ship's bridge as Remmy talks to Captain Thompson.

CAPTAIN

You want us to turn around?

REMBRANDT

It's very important.

CAPTAIN

Sorry, folks, but I have cargo that needs to be in Honolulu day after tomorrow. You can hop the next ship back once we get there, should put you back in L.A. by the end of next week.

DIANA

That's too late.

CAPTAIN

Too late for what?

MAGGIE

It's a medical emergency.

CAPTAIN

What's the problem?

MAGGIE

Mallory here has, uh, kidney stones. He can't pass them. Very painful.

MALLORY

What?

Maggie jabs Mallory hard in the side. He nearly crumbles from the kidney punch and groans loudly in pain.

MAGGIE

See?

CAPTAIN

I'll have the ship's doctor take a look at him, but that's the best I can do.

CONTINUED

7 CONTINUED

7

DIANA

What about a medivac?

CAPTAIN

A what?

REMBRANDT

A chopper. A helicopter to fly us
back to L.A.

The Captain just shakes his head.

CAPTAIN

I don't know what a "helicopter" is,
but you're not going to find an
aeroplane that could fly this far out
to sea, even if you could afford it.

Off the Sliders' reactions, we go to...

8 EXT. SHIP - DECK - DAY

8

Rembrandt, Maggie and Mallory walk along the deck.

MAGGIE

Now that you mention it, I haven't
seen a contrail in the sky since we
slid in here.

MALLORY

Why not? Look at this ship. They
must have the know-how to build
planes.

Diana catches the last of this as she joins them.

DIANA

It's not their "know-how." It's
their raw materials.

REMBRANDT

What have you got?

DIANA

I checked out the ship's library. To
see if this world has sufficient
technology to help us fix the timer.

MALLORY

Find that Popular Mechanics issue on
sliding?

CONTINUED

8 CONTINUED

8

DIANA

No, but I did stumble across a copy
of this world's Periodic Table of the
Elements.

MAGGIE

(impatient)

And?

DIANA

It goes straight from atomic number
twelve to fourteen.

They give her totally blank looks.

DIANA

Jumps from magnesium -- bam! -- right
to silicon.

Still nothing from the other guys.

DIANA

No aluminum.

REMBRANDT

How is that possible?

DIANA

Either the geology of this world just
doesn't contain the element, or these
people never mastered the
electrolytic process of separating
aluminum from bauxite.

MALLORY

So, this is really-heavy-stuff-world?

DIANA

They apparently have some aircraft
production, mostly 1930's vintage,
but nothing like a modern airline
industry.

REMBRANDT

This world's economy must run on the
maritime trade.

MAGGIE

So how do we get off this bucket and
back to our sliding radius?

CONTINUED

8 CONTINUED 2

8

MALLORY

(a grin)

I suppose we could mutiny.

Suddenly a burst of GUNFIRE rips through the air. A sailor manning one of the deck guns mounted above the Sliders is hit and falls to the deck nearby.

MALLORY

Joke! That was a joke!

MAGGIE

Hit the deck!

Our guys drop for cover.

REMBRANDT

That's the first time you've said that when there's actually been a deck to hit.

More GUNFIRE PINGS off the metal over their heads as sailors rush to battle stations. The Captain runs past shouting orders to his crew.

CAPTAIN

Clear those guns! Get these passengers below deck!

DIANA

Captain, what's happening?

CAPTAIN

We're being boarded!

MAGGIE

By who?

DIANA

Whom.

Maggie shoots her a look.

CAPTAIN

Scurvy bastards come in out of the sun. Can't see 'em til it's too late.

REMBRANDT

Who?

CAPTAIN

Pirates!

CONTINUED

8 CONTINUED 3

8

The Sliders exchange a surprised look, "Pirates?" As the Sliders watch...

9 A BOARDING PARTY

9

pours over the rails onto the deck. They don't exactly look like pirates. They wear a hodge-podge of colorful battledress and maritime uniforms. Some have long hair tied with bandanas and all are armed with small arms and knives (there are scars and tattoos, but no eyepatches or peglegs).

Some of the ship's crew resist the attack, but the boarders quickly overpower the sailors and begin rounding up the crew. We see Captain Thompson trying to fend off the marauders with a revolver, but a pirate leaps from the rigging above and tackles the captain, disarming him.

CAPTAIN

Do your worst, you scum.

The pirate pulls a knife and moves to cut the captain's throat.

10 THE SLIDERS

10

see that the captain is about to be killed.

REMBRANDT

Are we letting this happen?

Without answering, Maggie charges the pirate attacking the captain.

REMBRANDT

Dumb question.

Remmy leads the other Sliders after Maggie. Maggie reaches the pirate first and knocks away his knife with a sexy spinning kick. A few more martial arts blows and the pirate goes down.

PAXTON (O.S.)

That's enough.

Reveal the Sliders are surrounded by a group of pirates, all of whom have their weapons trained on our guys. The pirate known as PAXTON steps forward. He's a tall, striking rogue who clearly commands respect from the other raiders. As two other pirates restrain Maggie, Paxton leans in close.

CONTINUED

10 CONTINUED

10

PAXTON

You should know better than to fight back. You might get hurt.

(a charming smile)

And what kind of a party would this be if I let my guests get hurt?

The other pirates laugh.

MAGGIE

I must have lost my invitation to this little shindig.

The pirates "ooh" appreciatively; this one's got spunk. Paxton takes her chin gently in his hand.

PAXTON

I like surprise parties.

MAGGIE

Move that hand or you'll get a surprise. A big one.

More "oohs" from the pirates. Paxton grins. He likes this repartee. He turns to his men.

PAXTON

Brighton, Henshaw, check the hold. Hunter, I want the charts, logbook and cargo manifest.

He turns to a striking female pirate.

PAXTON

Mr. Brice, cash and jewelry from the crew.

BRICE

Aye sir.

Brice moves to Maggie and grabs a necklace from her neck.

PAXTON

Not her.

He takes the necklace and places it back around Maggie's neck, gently moving her hair aside to fix the clasp.

PAXTON

I haven't got my surprise yet.

CONTINUED

10 CONTINUED 2

10

He gives Maggie a charming smile and moves off. The other Sliders react as we time cut to...

11 EXT. SHIP - DECK - DAY (MOMENTS LATER)

11

The crew is lined up on the deck with their hands over their heads as the pirates efficiently move their looted cargo off the ship. Paxton and his second-in-command Brice survey the operation.

PAXTON

A good haul.

BRICE

Some weather coming up. We should head back to base.

PAXTON

You worry too much. We'll be back on the mainland by nightfall.

They move off to reveal...

12 THE SLIDERS

12

have been standing within earshot.

MALLORY

(low)
Did you hear that? They're heading back to the mainland.

DIANA

Doesn't do us any good.

MALLORY

Maybe it does.

REMBRANDT

How?

MALLORY

We switch sides. Throw in our lot with these guys. They'll take us right back into our sliding radius.

MAGGIE

Reality check. These guys are killers.

CONTINUED

12 CONTINUED

12

MALLORY

They're businessmen. Trust me, I know how gangs work. They constantly need new recruits.

REMBRANDT

(warning)
Mallory.

MAGGIE

(overlapping)
Don't you dare--

MALLORY

(calling to Paxton)
Yo, Bluebeard. Over here.

Paxton cocks a surprised eye at Mallory, but strolls over to see what he wants.

MALLORY

I've been watching your operation.

PAXTON

Oh?

MALLORY

Yeah, and it stinks.

The other Sliders wince.

MALLORY

(continuing)
You're wasting time. You need better intel. Find out what your cargo is in advance and only go for what you need. In and out.

PAXTON

And you're just the man to shape up our operation?

MALLORY

My friends and I have a little experience in this area. We've just been looking for the right crew to throw in with.

PAXTON

What's your name?

CONTINUED

12 CONTINUED 2

12

MALLORY

Mallory. Quinn Mallory.

Paxton nods to Brice, who begins scanning a sheaf of papers in her hand. As she does, Paxton gives Mallory the once over.

PAXTON

And you want to join my crew, Mr. Mallory?

MALLORY

It's not a question of me wanting to join, it's a question of you needing me.

PAXTON

Quinn Mallory. That's a seafaring name. Irish?

MALLORY

Way back.

Paxton looks to Brice who shakes her head.

PAXTON

Can you explain to me, Mr. Mallory, why that fine Irish name of yours isn't on the passenger manifest?

MALLORY

Well, we're not exactly passengers.

PAXTON

Traveling undercover are you? Keeping a low profile?

MALLORY

No.

PAXTON

We don't take kindly to Coast Guard spies.

A hostile murmur runs through the pirate ranks. We hear the words "Coastie... damned coastie...", etc.

MALLORY

Spies?

PAXTON

We have a way of dealing with "coasties."

CONTINUED

12 CONTINUED 3

12

MALLORY

Wait a minute--

PAXTON

The plank.

BRICE

The plank!

An excited cheer goes up from the assembled pirates. Two men grab Mallory and jerk him out of line, quickly binding his hands behind his back.

REMBRANDT

Oh, man.

MAGGIE

(shaking her head)

He just couldn't keep his mouth shut.

A wooden plank is quickly run over the side of the ship. Mallory is prodded out onto plank at the end of a pirate's cutlass.

MALLORY

You're making a mistake.

PAXTON

We'll let the sharks decide, coastie.

The Sliders watch nervously as Mallory teeters on the end of the plank, and we...

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

13 EXT. SHIP - DECK - DAY 13

Mallory's toes dangle off the end of the plank and a pirate
saber prods him toward oblivion.

MALLORY

I'm not a coastie! Guys, tell them!

14 THE SLIDERS 14

MAGGIE

Great, now he's dragging us into it.

DIANA

We've got to do something.

REMBRANDT

Man, I do not want to go back in that
water.

DIANA

(exasperated)

Guys!

Maggie and Remmy exchange a look.

REMBRANDT

Aw, hell.

15 ON MALLORY 15

The pirate jabbing at him pulls back his sword for a final
poke to send Mallory into the sea.

MAGGIE

Wait!

16 PAXTON 16

holds up his hand, and the pirate manning the plank stops in
mid-poke. Mallory teeters on the edge. Maggie steps toward
Paxton.

CONTINUED

16 CONTINUED

16

MAGGIE

He's telling the truth. He's not a
"coastie."

PAXTON

Well, that's a relief. Thanks for
clearing that up.

He gestures to the pirate to shove Mallory overboard.

REMBRANDT

We're not on the passenger list
because this ship rescued us at sea.

DIANA

Ask the captain. Check his logbook.

The captain nods from where he's being held with his crew.

CAPTAIN

It's true. Pulled 'em out of the
drink like a bunch of drowned wharf
rats.

Paxton considers this for a beat. He nods to the pirate with
the sword, who pulls Mallory back off the plank. The
assembled pirates "boo" with disappointment.

MAGGIE

Thank you.

She turns to rejoin Remmy and the others, but Paxton holds her
by the arm.

PAXTON

Not so fast. Your friend put an
offer on the table. Do you want to
join my crew as well?

Maggie looks back and forth between Mallory and Rembrandt and
Diana. She gives Paxton the once over.

MAGGIE

That depends. What have you got to
offer me?

PAXTON

You'll get a standard share of the
take. Plus I can promise you an
impressive bonus package.

CONTINUED

16 CONTINUED 2

16

MAGGIE

Last time I heard that I wound up
with the short end of the stick.

PAXTON

I guarantee you'll be satisfied with
what I can put on the table.

17 ANGLE ON THE SLIDERS

17

watching this exchange. Mallory rolls his eyes.

MALLORY

Oh, please.

DIANA

What are they talking about?

18 RESUME SCENE

18

Paxton is savoring this interplay with Maggie.

MAGGIE

Tell you what, I'll give you a
tryout. If I like the way you handle
yourself, consider me onboard.

PAXTON

You drive a hard bargain.

MAGGIE

Competition is stiff out there.

Paxton grins. He turns to Brice.

PAXTON

What do you think, Mr. Brice?

BRICE

(shrugs)

We're short-handed since the Monterey
raid.

(a look at Mallory)

If it doesn't work out, he'll fetch
a fair price in Tijuana. Cut our
losses.

Mallory reacts.

CONTINUED

18 CONTINUED

18

PAXTON

(to Maggie)
Welcome aboard.

Maggie nods and moves to rejoin the other Sliders. Rembrandt raises his eyebrows at her.

MAGGIE

Not a word.

As Rembrandt grins and shakes his head, we go to...

19 EXT. COASTLINE - DAY (STOCK)

19

An aerial establishing shot of rugged California coastline. As the camera sweeps in toward the surf crashing on the shore, we go to...

20 EXT. WATERFRONT - DAY (CABOT COVE)

20

A small waterfront village. Pirate raiders and colorful locals unload plundered cargo from a couple of Zodiac boats tied up at the dock. The Sliders climb ashore. Paxton gallantly offers his hand to Maggie, but she ignores it.

DIANA

Where are we?

PAXTON

You won't find it on any map. That's just the way we like it.

MAGGIE

Don't you worry about somebody telling the Coast Guard where you are?

PAXTON

The locals have no love for the Coasties. The Marine Use Taxes are bleeding them dry.

The Sliders note some of Paxton's men distributing loot to the grateful local villagers.

PAXTON

We take care of them and they take care of us.

REMBRANDT

Sort of like Robin Hood.

CONTINUED

20 CONTINUED

20

PAXTON

Robin who?

MALLORY

You steal from the rich and give to
the poor.

PAXTON

(smiles)
You got that half right.

As they move off...

21 INT. PIRATE HIDEOUT - NIGHT (N1)

21

Look up "revelry" in the dictionary. This is a boisterous waterfront tavern (Chandler Hotel redress) where Paxton and his men cut loose. The waitresses keep the food and grog flowing as the pirates let off some steam.

CAMERA FINDS Diana working her way through the crowd with a couple of plates of food. Suddenly, she jumps -- she's obviously been pinched. Looking around nervously, she scoots off through the crowd followed by hoots of laughter. She finally reaches a table where...

22 MAGGIE AND REMBRANDT

22

sit. Diana sets the food down and joins them.

DIANA

Somebody just grabbed my... Well,
grabbed me.

Remmy and Maggie dig into the food.

REMBRANDT

That's just an old-fashioned pirate
"howdy."

DIANA

Whatever happened to buying a lady a
drink?

MAGGIE

You haven't spent much time in places
like this, have you?

CONTINUED

22 CONTINUED

22

DIANA

Hey, I used to stop by the student
union for a beer. Or two.

Rembrandt and Maggie just give her an amused look.

DIANA

(defensive)
Things could get pretty wild around
finals.

Suddenly, two rowdy patrons near Diana come to blows. Diana
shrinks away from them.

REMBRANDT

Any luck with the timer?

Diana is keeping a wary eye on the escalating fight.

DIANA

I haven't tried to recharge it yet.
That pirate named Brice hasn't let us
out of her sight.

She nods subtly toward...

23 BRICE

23

keeping a sharp eye on them from across the tavern.

24 RESUME SCENE

24

MAGGIE

I don't think these folks entirely
trust us.

As the fight continues in the B.G., Paxton steps up to the
table.

PAXTON

Good evening.
(directed at Maggie)
I hope everything meets with your
approval.

MAGGIE

Any complaints and you'll be the
first to know.

CONTINUED

24 CONTINUED

24

REMBRANDT
We appreciate the hospitality.

PAXTON
Of course. I take care of my crew.

The fight behind Paxton escalates and one of the combatants jostles Paxton.

PAXTON
(to the Sliders)
Excuse me.

He picks up a bottle off the table and smashes it over the head of the fighter who bumped into him. The man drops, effectively putting an end to the fight. Paxton turns back to the Sliders.

PAXTON
I'm sorry, where was I?

MAGGIE
(dryly)
Taking care of your crew.

PAXTON
Yes. I thought perhaps you'd like a tour of our operation. See what you're getting into.

He holds out his hand to Maggie. She hesitates, glancing to Rembrandt and Diana.

PAXTON
Your friends are welcome, too. If you'd feel more comfortable.

MAGGIE
(accepting the challenge)
I don't need a chaperone. Lead on.

Paxton smiles as she takes his hand and rises. As they leave, Rembrandt and Diana exchange a look.

25 WE FOLLOW MAGGIE AND PAXTON

25

through the crowded tavern. As they head for the door, the CAMERA SETTLES ON...

26 MALLORY

26

who has made himself at home much more easily than Diana. He is sitting with a group of pirates, who listen raptly as he spins a yarn.

MALLORY

These guys called themselves Smokers. Biker gang. They had this little contest where you'd take a long pole and run full bore at each other on motorcycles, try to knock the other guy on his rear. I can tell you I cracked a few ribs that day... not all of them mine.

The pirates all grunt approvingly and raise their mugs to Mallory. Enjoying the attention, Mallory reaches for a drumstick on a platter of food on the table. THUNK! A knife stabs into the drumstick, pinning it to the table. Mallory looks up to see Brice glowering down at him.

BRICE

Games. You think riding a bike and waving a stick around qualifies you to run with us? You slip up around here and you end up dead. Or worse, you end up making me dead.

MALLORY

I can handle myself.

BRICE

Prove it.

She steps back from the table and draws a second knife from her belt. She gestures at the knife stuck in the table.

BRICE

Take it.

Mallory hesitates.

27 ANGLE ON REMBRANDT AND DIANA

27

watching the tense exchange.

DIANA

Why is he always getting into fights with women?

REMBRANDT

The boy's got some issues.

28 RESUME SCENE

28

Mallory locks eyes with Brice.

MALLORY

Listen, I've got no problem with you.

BRICE

Well, I've got a problem with you.
I'm not going to end up hanging from
a Coastie yardarm because you don't
have the stomach for a real fight.

Mallory glances at the knife.

BRICE

Take it.

Mallory dives for the knife. An excited CHEER rises from the
pirates as we abruptly cut to...

29 EXT. WATERFRONT - NIGHT

29

Maggie and Paxton stroll along the waterfront. Moonlight
reflects off the cove and the muted HUBBUB from the tavern can
be heard in the distance.

PAXTON

We've been sailing out of this cove
for about three years. Hitting the
shipping lanes. Taking what we need
to live. Giving the rest to our
friends here.

MAGGIE

Guess I'm lucky to be your friend.
I've seen what you do to your enemies.

PAXTON

We do what we have to to protect our
way of life.

MAGGIE

That include a good keelhauling now
and then?

PAXTON

I didn't expect you to be so
squeamish. You asked to join us,
remember?

MAGGIE

I don't like killing.

CONTINUED

29 CONTINUED

29

PAXTON

Good. I won't have a man in my outfit who does. But I'll kill -- or die -- to protect my people.

Maggie looks across the water.

PAXTON

I have a feeling you'd do the same.

The moment is broken as a muted ROAR can be heard coming from the tavern.

MAGGIE

Sounds like your men are enjoying themselves.

30 INT. PIRATE HIDEOUT - NIGHT

30

The pirates have cleared a circle in the tavern as Mallory and Brice engage in a no-holds-barred knife fight. Rembrandt and Diana are held back by the mob of spectators as Mallory and Brice lunge and parry. Mallory is mainly just trying to keep his distance.

BRICE

Is this a fight or a dance?

MALLORY

I don't want to hurt you.

BRICE

I'm touched.

She lunges at Mallory, slashing his arm. Initially, Mallory is stunned by the wound on his arm. Then the blood seems to get his dander up. With a howl, Mallory charges Brice. They come together in a clinch, locking knife blades.

MALLORY

That hurt.

BRICE

It'll hurt more when I use this blade to tickle your spleen.

MALLORY

Tickle my spleen?

They break apart and continue to circle each other. Mallory makes a lunge, but Brice kicks the knife out of his hand.

31 THE KNIFE 31

flips through the air and sticks in the wall near a startled pirate's head.

32 RESUME SCENE 32

Brice grins as Mallory suddenly finds himself without a weapon.

MALLORY

Uh oh.

The pirates cheer.

33 ANGLE ON REMBRANDT AND DIANA 33

who wince as the tide seems to turn against Mallory. Diana jumps and looks behind her -- she's been pinched again.

34 EXT. WATERFRONT - NIGHT 34

Maggie and Paxton continue to stroll along the moonlit wharf.

PAXTON

You don't care for me, do you, Maggie?

MAGGIE

You're a good leader. You seem competent. Loyal. You take care of your people.

PAXTON

But it's not enough.

MAGGIE

What good's a fight without a cause? It's one thing to break the law for something you believe in. But if you're just doing this for the fun of it, you're nothing but a common thief.

Paxton hesitates, as if he wants to tell her something. But then...

PAXTON

What's your cause?

MAGGIE

It's more like a quest.

CONTINUED

34 CONTINUED

34

PAXTON

Tell me.

But Maggie isn't ready to spill her secrets either.

MAGGIE

Maybe another time. It's getting
chilly out here. Thanks for the tour.

Hold on Paxton as he watches her go, a faint smile on his lips
and maybe something more in his eyes.

35 INT. PIRATE HIDEOUT - NIGHT

35

Now that he's lost his weapon, Mallory is just trying to stay
out of reach of Brice's knife. As Mallory circles away from
her, he passes where Rembrandt and Diana are watching.

DIANA

Mallory!

She tosses him her jacket. As Brice lunges at Mallory, he
slings Diana's jacket around Brice's arm, tying up the knife.
He jerks Brice toward him and twists the knife away. She
struggles in his arms, but Mallory wrestles her to the floor.
He ends up on top of her, pinning her to the floor. Their
faces are inches apart.

MALLORY

Still want to tickle my spleen?

BRICE

(breathless)

Feels like maybe you want to tickle
mine.

Mallory stands up and offers Brice his hand. She takes it and
he pulls her to her feet.

36 ANGLE ON REMBRANDT AND DIANA

36

Maggie moves appears from the crowd and steps up behind Diana
and Rembrandt.

MAGGIE

I miss anything?

Rembrandt just shrugs.

37 INT. SLIDERS' QUARTERS - NIGHT

37

A room above the pirate tavern (a redress of our standard Sliders hotel suite). Diana is working on her PDL while Rembrandt dresses the wound on Mallory's arm. Maggie stares out the window.

REMBRANDT

(to Maggie)

You should have seen Mallory here.
A regular Captain Blood.

MALLORY

Next time I decide to buckle some
swash feel free to talk me out of it.

Remmy tightens the bandage and Mallory winces.

REMBRANDT

Did you find out anything from Paxton?

Maggie doesn't answer.

REMBRANDT

Maggie?

She turns from the window.

MAGGIE

I'm sorry.

MALLORY

Thinking about your pirate captain?

MAGGIE

Thinking about sliding out of here.

Diana looks up from the PDL.

DIANA

Don't get your hopes up.

REMBRANDT

I thought you said you could recharge
the timer?

DIANA

I can. The problem is we're not back
in our sliding radius.

MAGGIE

Where are we?

CONTINUED

37 CONTINUED

37

DIANA

My best guess is somewhere down the
Baja peninsula. It's hard to tell
precisely, but I'd say we're still at
least a hundred miles too far south.

The Sliders absorb this information.

DIANA

Unless we can get out of here and
back into the sliding zone we don't
dare open the wormhole.

MALLORY

(dry)
It's the pirate's life for me.

Off the Sliders' reactions, we...

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

38 INT. SLIDERS' QUARTERS - NIGHT

38

We're back in the hotel room with the Sliders.

MALLORY

I say we jump ship. Head north.
We've still got two days to get back
to the sliding radius.

DIANA

How? The only way in or out of this
village is by sea.

MALLORY

We steal a boat.

MAGGIE

And how long before Paxton's men
catch us? They're already suspicious
of us. We sneak out of here, they'll
figure we're Coast Guard spies for
sure.

MALLORY

I'm not ready to get fitted for a
pegleg and an eyepatch. I say we
risk it.

REMBRANDT

And I'm not ready to be drawn and
quartered -- whatever the hell that
is. I say we don't.

Before the argument can escalate the door to the room bangs
open and Brice sticks her head in. Diana hurriedly hides the
PDL and timer.

BRICE

Time to earn your keep. Be down at
the docks in five minutes.

MALLORY

What's going on?

BRICE

A shipment we've been waiting for
came into San Diego today. We hit
the cargo terminal in two hours.

CONTINUED

38 CONTINUED

38

DIANA

But it's the middle of the night.

Brice stares at her like she's an idiot.

BRICE

(duh)

We find the cover of darkness helps
facilitate our illegal activities.
Five minutes.

She exits.

39 EXT. WATERFRONT WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

39

An industrial strip of warehouses along the waterfront. The scene is quiet for a beat, then Paxton, Brice and their crew of raiders move from the waterfront toward a chainlink fence surrounding the nearest warehouse. Paxton gestures silently to one of the pirates, who cuts the lock on the fence gate with a pair of bolt cutters. As the pirates hurry through the gate, we isolate...

40 THE SLIDERS

40

DIANA

(sotto)

We're close to our sliding radius.

MALLORY

I say we slip away, boost a vehicle
and we're out of here.

MAGGIE

Too risky.

MALLORY

What is with you? Do you want to
stay here?

REMBRANDT

Be cool. We see our chance we take
it. Just be careful.

Brice is bringing up the rear and she gestures for the Sliders to move along.

BRICE

You waiting for an invitation?

CONTINUED

40 CONTINUED

40

The Sliders move through the gate after Paxton and his men.

41 INT. WAREHOUSE - NIGHT

41

A large warehouse piled high with cargo. Paxton gestures for his crew to fan out.

PAXTON

Mr. Brice, take the new men and head that way. You know what we're looking for.

(to Maggie)

You're with me.

Rembrandt cocks an eyebrow at Maggie. She shrugs, what can she do? She heads off with Paxton as Brice leads the other Sliders the opposite way.

42 WITH PAXTON AND MAGGIE

42

as they stealth through the dimly lit warehouse.

MAGGIE

(low)

What are we looking for?

Paxton doesn't answer. Instead he freezes and holds up his hand for Maggie to be quiet. Suddenly, he grabs her and pulls her out of sight behind a stanchion. They are pressed close together, their faces only a few inches apart.

MAGGIE

(very softly)

What are you doing?

Paxton gently presses his finger to her lips to "shush" her. They hold the pose as a uniformed security guard passes by. As the guard's footsteps FADE AWAY Paxton doesn't move. He and Maggie are still pressed close together in the shadows.

MAGGIE

He's gone.

Paxton looks into her eyes for a beat, then steps back.

PAXTON

Can't be too careful.

They move off...

43 ANOTHER PART OF THE WAREHOUSE

43

Maggie stands watch as Paxton checks a lot number stencilled onto a crate. He pulls out a walkie-talkie.

PAXTON
(into walkie-talkie)
Mr. Brice, southwest corner. Bay
thirty-two. I've found it.

MAGGIE
Found what?

PAXTON
(a grin)
Essential pirate supplies.

CUT TO:

44 A WOODEN CRATE

44

being pried open. It's filled with liquor bottles. Reveal...

45 PAXTON, BRICE AND THE PIRATES

45

gathered around the crates. The pirates are toting cases of booze as fast as they can.

MALLORY
We're risking our lives for booze?

Paxton pulls one bottle out of a passing case and shows it to the Sliders.

PAXTON
Coast Guard tax stamp. We'll sell
these across the border, it'll
finance our operations for six months.

Brice nudges Mallory.

BRICE
Less talkin' more totin.'

As the Sliders pitch in, Paxton gestures for Brice to join him apart from the others. Paxton nods toward a separate area of the warehouse...

46 A SECURE STORAGE AREA 46

inside a locked cage. Several crates are piled inside with "Property of the U.S. Government" stencilled on them.

47 RESUME SCENE 47

As Paxton and Brice eye the government cargo.

PAXTON

That's it.

Brice nods. She and the pirate with the bolt cutters head for the cage. While Paxton and Brice are focused on the mysterious crates...

48 THE SLIDERS 48

are moving liquor. As they walk past a large pile of crates, Mallory steps out of line and ducks out of sight. The other Sliders follow.

MALLORY

This is our chance.

He points to...

49 AN OPEN WINDOW 49

at the far end of warehouse.

50 RESUME SCENE 50

MALLORY

I saw some trucks parked outside. We hotwire one and we're back in the sliding zone by morning.

REMBRANDT

I like this plan.

MAGGIE

They'll notice we're missing.

MALLORY

So?

Realizing they're right, Maggie nods and heads for the window. The other Sliders follow.

51 PAXTON, BRICE AND THE PIRATES

51

have cleared out most of the crates. As they move out of the warehouse, they are startled by a BOOMING VOICE...

DUVALL (O.S.)

Yo. Ho. Ho.

The pirates don't have time to bring their weapons to bear before they are surrounded by a squad of armed COAST GUARDSMEN. A man in the uniform of a Coast Guard officer steps out from the shadows to confront the pirates. A long scar is carved down his cruel face. His name is...

PAXTON

Duvall.

52 THE SLIDERS

52

have reached the open window. Mallory is boosting Diana up onto some crates to reach the window. Maggie turns back at the sound of Duvall's voice.

MAGGIE

What's that?

MALLORY

A diversion. Count your blessings.

We go back to...

53 PAXTON AND DUVALL

53

facing each other.

DUVALL

It's been a while, captain.

PAXTON

You've looked better.

(indicating the scar)

The kids must love you on Halloween.

DUVALL

You try stitching yourself up with fishing line and a sharpened chicken bone.

(he steps closer)

But it reminds me that I still owe you a little something in return.

CONTINUED

53 CONTINUED

53

PAXTON

I don't suppose that would be a fair
trial by a jury of my peers?

Duvall smiles evilly. The armed Guardsmen cock their weapons
with an ominous CLICK-CLACK.

54 ANGLE ON THE SLIDERS

54

Mallory and Diana crouch by the open window. Rembrandt has
climbed up onto a crate and is reaching down for Maggie's hand.

DIANA

(urgent)
Maggie, come on.

Maggie is torn.

REMBRANDT

Maggie.

She looks up to Remmy and the other Sliders and back across
the warehouse toward Paxton and his men...

55 BACK WITH THE PIRATES

55

The Coast Guardsmen level their weapons at the pirates.

PAXTON

You won't end this by putting a
bullet in me.

DUVALL

How about a couple dozen bullets?

Suddenly, a wall of crates and barrels piled nearby splinters
apart as a forklift comes crashing through. Paxton looks at
the forklift and he catches Maggie's eye as she works the
controls. Tumbling barrels send Duvall and his men sprawling,
giving Paxton's pirates a chance to draw their weapons.

BULLETS FLY as the pirates regroup and withdraw. Maggie leaps
from the forklift and Paxton takes her by the arm. As
Duvall's men are forced to retreat, we see the other Sliders
have rejoined the pirates. As the pirates withdraw, Mallory
casts a dark gaze at Maggie.

56 INT. SLIDERS' QUARTERS - EARLY MORNING (D2)

56

Since they're all back in their room, the Sliders obviously haven't gotten away.

MALLORY

(deep sarcasm)

Gee, look where we are... again.

MAGGIE

I wasn't going to run while those men were being executed.

DIANA

Those men are the bad guys.

MAGGIE

Are they? Ask the people in this village.

MALLORY

They made me walk the plank!

MAGGIE

And that's a bad thing?

MALLORY

I don't care if there's something going on between you and Paxton--

MAGGIE

(cutting in)

What?

MALLORY

-- but you may have cost us our only shot at getting out of here.

REMBRANDT

Hey! Just cool down. Maggie made a judgement call. We live with it and we move on.

MAGGIE

What are you saying, Remmy? You think I blew the call, too?

REMBRANDT

I doesn't matter. We'll just find another way out of here.

Maggie's anger abruptly turns inward... Did she endanger the rest of the team? She turns and heads out the door.

57 EXT. WATERFRONT - MORNING

57

Maggie walks along the waterfront wrestling with her feelings. She finds a quiet spot and sits down, gazing out at the water.

PAXTON (O.S.)

I wanted to thank you.

Maggie looks up to see Paxton standing behind her.

PAXTON

Can't act too grateful in front of the men, though... makes me look wimpy.

MAGGIE

Can't have that.

He sits beside her.

PAXTON

You saved my life.

MAGGIE

You're welcome.

(a beat)

What if I needed to leave here?

PAXTON

(surprised)

I wouldn't be happy about that.

(then)

Still pursuing your quest?

MAGGIE

I'm not so sure what it is anymore. What about you?

PAXTON

What about me?

MAGGIE

You risked your life -- and mine -- for a few cases of whiskey? If that's all you have going on here, why I should be a part of it?

Paxton thinks about this for a beat.

PAXTON

I used to be a captain in the Merchant Marine. Played by the rules, made a pretty good living running freight up and down the coast.

CONTINUED

57 CONTINUED

57

MAGGIE

Steering clear of your kind.

PAXTON

It wasn't the pirates you had to worry about. The Coast Guard wants you to believe they're protecting the sea lanes. But men like Duvall are blackhearted. It isn't enough that the Coasties bleed us dry with the Marine Taxes, then you've got to line the pockets of Duvall and his kind just to stay in business.

He abruptly stands up and turns away. Maggie watches him carefully.

PAXTON

I got sick of it. I refused to pay Duvall his kickback. So, he and his thugs bombed my ship. Sunk it in Santa Barbara harbor. My wife and son were aboard. You think we're just a bunch of thieves. Every man on this crew has lost someone to the Coasties. That's our cause.

Maggie moves closer to him.

MAGGIE

I'm sorry. I know what it's like. To lose someone.

PAXTON

Do you?

MAGGIE

Yes.

She takes his hand. He looks into her eyes. Suddenly, something just pops and these two are all over each other. As it starts to get pretty steamy, we...

DISSOLVE TO:

58 INT. PAXTON'S QUARTERS - DAY

58

A room similar to the Slider's quarters, but more elaborately decorated. It's filled with nautical souvenirs and treasures

CONTINUED

58 CONTINUED

58

the pirates have plundered. Blue light reflecting from a secret O.S. grotto flickers across a large bed where we find Paxton and Maggie tangled in the sheets.

MAGGIE

Wow. It's been a while.

PAXTON

You could have fooled me.

She laughs, a little embarrassed.

MAGGIE

My life doesn't leave me much room for romance.

PAXTON

Tell me.

MAGGIE

You never know how long you'll be in one place. What time you do have you spend hustling a job or scrounging a meal. Or staying a step ahead of the local authorities.

Paxton laughs.

MAGGIE

You meet some good people sometimes. People you might like to know better. But then it's time to go again.

PAXTON

Sounds lonely.

They lay there quietly for a moment.

MAGGIE

But, you know, it's not a bad life either. Exciting. And you always have your friends.

PAXTON

I know.

Maggie looks at him with a small realization.

MAGGIE

I guess you do.

CONTINUED

58 CONTINUED 2

58

PAXTON

Thanks for not running out on me the other night.

MAGGIE

You knew about that?

He nods.

PAXTON

I know you have something else you need to do, but if it can wait. I, uh...

She turns to him expectantly. And suddenly an EXPLOSION rocks the room.

MAGGIE

What's that?

Paxton rolls out of bed, grabbing his clothes and his weapon.

PAXTON

Stay here.

He heads for the door.

MAGGIE

Like hell.

59 EXT. WATERFRONT - DAY

59

A Coast Guard raid is underway. Duvall and his men have come ashore in force and are firing at the pirates, who scatter to take up defensive positions. Paxton rushes from the tavern and quickly moves to rally his men.

PAXTON

Let's go! Mr. Brice! Defensive positions!

Maggie follows Paxton from the tavern and immediately takes cover as GUNFIRE ricochets around her. Rembrandt, Diana and Mallory appear and scurry to Maggie's position.

MAGGIE

You guys okay?

REMBRANDT

Yeah. For the moment.

CONTINUED

59 CONTINUED

59

MALLORY

(to Maggie)
Where have you been?

MAGGIE

Oh, around.

DIANA

What do we do?

60 SLIDERS' POV

60

They see Duvall exhorting his troops forward.

DUVALL

No prisoners!

61 RESUME SCENE

61

MAGGIE

Don't get caught.

As GUNFIRE EXPLODES around the Sliders, we...

FADE OUT:

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

62 EXT. WATERFRONT - DAY

62

The Sliders take cover as the Coasties press their attack.
Paxton and Brice are leading the defense.

MAGGIE

We're sitting ducks out here.

MALLORY

I wish your pirate buddy trusted us
with some guns.

As the GUNFIRE flies around them, Mallory sees...

63 A PIRATE DEFENDER

63

take a hit and go down, losing his weapon.

64 RESUME SCENE

64

MALLORY

I'm going for that gun.

DIANA

Mallory!

But he's already gone. The Sliders watch anxiously as...

65 MALLORY

65

dodges BULLET HITS as he charges for the gun. He dives and
comes up with the rifle. He FIRES as he tries to work his way
back to the Sliders. But he doesn't see a COAST GUARDSMAN
coming up behind him. Just as the Coastie FIRES, Brice dives
on top of Mallory and they roll out of the line of fire.

MALLORY

We meet again.

As they separate, Mallory and Brice look down and see a red
stain on the front of Brice's tunic.

BRICE

Aw, hell's bells.

CONTINUED

65 CONTINUED

65

MALLORY

I'll get help.

BRICE

(fading)

I knew we should have sold you when
we had the chance.

Mallory starts to rise, but he finds himself staring down the
barrel of Duvall's gun. Duvall stands over them with two
Coasties.

DUVALL

Ahoy there.

He nods to the Coasties, who roughly grab Mallory and haul him
off.

66 PAXTON

66

rallies his pirates, who have gained the upper hand in the
battle.

PAXTON

They're on the run, lads!

67 BACK WITH THE SLIDERS

67

who see Duvall and the Coasties hauling away Mallory.

DIANA

Mallory!

But they can do nothing but watch helplessly as Duvall's men
retreat with Mallory.

CUT TO:

68 BRICE

68

laying on the wharf where she fell. Paxton is kneeling beside
her. Maggie, Rembrandt and Diana watch the scene respectfully
as other pirates tend to the wounded in the B.G.

BRICE

How's it look?

PAXTON

Bad.

CONTINUED

68 CONTINUED

68

BRICE
You couldn't lie to me?

PAXTON
Why start now?

Brice nods.

BRICE
Don't...

Paxton leans close.

BRICE
Don't...

But that's all there is. She's gone. Paxton hangs his head reverently for a moment, then abruptly stands up and moves off. Maggie follows.

69 WE FOLLOW MAGGIE AND PAXTON

69

MAGGIE
I'm sorry.

PAXTON
It happens.

MAGGIE
What do we do now?

PAXTON
We leave. Fast. Duvall must have tracked us after the last raid. He'll be back with more men.

MAGGIE
What about Mallory?

PAXTON
What about him?

Maggie grabs Paxton and spins him around.

MAGGIE
He's a member of your crew. I thought that meant something to you.

CONTINUED

69 CONTINUED

69

PAXTON

It does. Right now I'm thinking about the ones that are still breathing. We have to go or we'll all end up like Mallory... or Brice.

MAGGIE

What if it were me they'd captured?

PAXTON

You tell me.

He gestures around at the pirates on the waterfront, loading boats and tending to wounded.

PAXTON

Would you want me risk all of their lives to come after you?

MAGGIE

Give us some weapons and we'll go ourselves.

PAXTON

Forget it.

MAGGIE

Why?

PAXTON

Because I don't want to risk losing you, too. I... I'll need a new first mate.

Maggie is taken aback by this. He's asking her to stay with him.

MAGGIE

I'll think about it. But only if you help us rescue Mallory.

Maggie holds his gaze. The moment is broken when Rembrandt steps up.

REMBRANDT

There's something you need to hear.

70 INT. PIRATE HIDEOUT - DAY

70

The Sliders and Paxton are gathered around a radio on the bar. The camera roves over their faces as they listen intently to

CONTINUED

70 CONTINUED

70

Duvall's VOICE on the radio...

DUVALL (V.O.)

...these repeated attacks on life and property must stop. As an example to those who flout our maritime laws, the prisoners taken in this morning's raid will be publicly executed at noon tomorrow.

The Sliders react to this.

DUVALL

However, leniency may be shown if the property stolen from the government docks in San Diego is returned intact.

Paxton snaps off the radio.

DIANA

That's it. We just return the cargo you stole in exchange for Mallory.

Paxton turns to the other pirates gathered around the room.

PAXTON

Keep loading the boats. I want to be out of here in one hour.

As the pirate's disperse...

PAXTON

(to the Sliders)
It's not that easy.

REMBRANDT

No, it's just that easy. You load those crates on a boat and we'll make the swap.

Paxton turns to walk away, but Rembrandt grabs him by the arm.

REMBRANDT

What the hell is wrong with you?
You're going to let a man hang for a few cases of tax-exempt whiskey?

Paxton stares hard at the Sliders, weighing a decision.

71 INT. STOREROOM - DAY

71

The crates stolen in the raid are piled up in the room. We see the crates from the secured area of the warehouse with the U.S. Government stencils on them.

PAXTON

This isn't about whiskey.

He pries open one of the cases and we see it's full of bolts of heavy black cloth.

REMBRANDT

It's about cloth?

PAXTON

It's more than just cloth.

Diana handles the fabric.

DIANA

This is carbon fiber.

REMBRANDT

What kind of fiber?

DIANA

You coat it with a special resin and you can form it into any shape. When it hardens it's stronger than steel but very lightweight.

MAGGIE

You make airplanes out of it.

REMBRANDT

That's what this is about. Whoever has this stuff can start a whole aircraft industry.

DIANA

You could reshape the entire economy of this world.

PAXTON

That's why I'm going to dump it in the ocean.

DIANA

What? Why?

CONTINUED

71 CONTINUED

71

MAGGIE

I know why. Once they can build planes big enough to move a lot of cargo the merchant ships become obsolete.

(to Paxton)

You become obsolete.

PAXTON

I'm not ready to give up our way of life. Not quite yet.

MAGGIE

And you think destroying one shipment of this stuff is going to save it?

PAXTON

It's a start.

MAGGIE

You destroy this and they'll just make more. You think if Edison hadn't invented the lightbulb someone else wouldn't have figured it out?

PAXTON

I'm not ready to surrender who we are. Not without a fight.

(then)

Who's Edison?

MAGGIE

You're going to have to fight this fight alone. I'm not going to stand around and watch you beat your head against the future.

She looks at Paxton with a sad realization that it isn't going to work for them.

MAGGIE

You gotta know when it's time to move on.

Maggie and Paxton lock eyes for a long beat as he considers what she's said.

72 EXT. WAREHOUSE - DAY

72

Outside the warehouse where Paxton's men made their raid the night before. Duvall stands alone. He checks his watch.

CONTINUED

72 CONTINUED

72

MAGGIE (O.S.)

Duvall?

Duvall turns to see Maggie stepping out from behind a shipping container.

DUVALL

Where's Paxton?

MAGGIE

Couldn't make it. I've been authorized to negotiate in his place.

DUVALL

There's nothing to negotiate. Where are the goods?

MAGGIE

Where's our man?

Duvall nods to someone off camera. Two armed Coast Guardsmen step into view from the warehouse. They hold Mallory between them. He's looked better.

MAGGIE

You okay?

MALLORY

Oh, yeah. These guys have been the perfect hosts.

DUVALL

Now where is it?

Maggie nods for them to follow her.

73 EXT. DOCK - DAY

73

Duvall follows Maggie down the dock. The Guardsmen drag Mallory behind. They reach a boat tied up at the dock. Rembrandt and Diana stand on deck where the stolen crates are loaded.

MAGGIE

There you go.

DUVALL

Thank you.

Suddenly, a half dozen more armed Coast Guardsmen emerge from hiding and train their weapons on the Sliders. Rembrandt and

CONTINUED

73 CONTINUED

73

Diana raise their hands.

DUVALL

I'll see you all hang on the six
o'clock news.

Duvall steps down onto the boat.

DUVALL

I just regret that my old friend
Paxton won't be with you.

He goes to the nearest crate and pulls up the lid. Suddenly,
a gun barrel rises out of the crate.

PAXTON

I hate to disappoint an old friend.

Paxton slowly rises out of the crate, a smile on his face and
the gun trained on Duvall.

MAGGIE

Surprise.

PAXTON

Tell your men to drop their guns.

DUVALL

Your days are numbered, Paxton.

PAXTON

Maybe. Maybe they are. But yours
are over unless they drop those guns.

DUVALL

Lower your weapons.

The Coast Guardsmen drop their guns. Maggie grabs Mallory and
they jump onto the boat. Remmy fires up the engine as Diana
tosses off the lines. Paxton raises his weapon and levels it
right at Duvall.

PAXTON

I've been waiting to do this for a
long time.

His finger tightens on the trigger. Duvall flinches.

MAGGIE

Paxton.

Paxton glances at Maggie, then back at Duvall.

CONTINUED

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PAXTON

Maybe next time.

He steps to the wheel and shoves the throttle forward. The boat leaps away from the dock and Duvall is thrown over the transom into the water. As the boat pulls away, he bobs to the surface shouting to his men.

DUVALL

Shoot!

The Coast Guardsmen grab their weapons and get off a FEW SHOTS, but the boat is long gone.

74 EXT. PRIVATE DOCK - DAY

74

The boat is tied up at the dock and Paxton and the Sliders stand nearby.

MALLORY

Thanks for the rescue.

PAXTON

I told you. I take care of my crew.

Rembrandt turns to Diana. She checks her PDL.

REMBRANDT

How we doing?

DIANA

Charged up and in the zone. We'll make this slide at least.

Remmy nods and turns to Paxton.

REMBRANDT

Thanks for the ride.

PAXTON

You sure I can't convince you to stay?

(to Maggie)

I still need that mate.

Mallory clears his throat. The other Sliders discreetly give Maggie and Paxton a moment alone.

MAGGIE

It's tempting. But...

CONTINUED

74 CONTINUED

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PAXTON

Your quest?

MAGGIE

Yeah. I kind of forget what we were after for a while. But you helped get me back on track.

PAXTON

Glad to be of service.

MAGGIE

What will you do next?

PAXTON

Oh, there are always opportunities for a man like me. Maybe I'll learn to fly.

MAGGIE

Take care of yourself.

And he lays a hell of a kiss on her. It goes on for a beat when Remmy gently interrupts...

REMBRANDT

It's time.

Maggie steps back from Paxton. After a last lingering look she turns and joins the Sliders. Paxton watches them go as they head around the corner of a nearby building. There is a FLASH OF WIND AND VORTEX LIGHT from behind the building.

Paxton raises a curious eyebrow, then simply shakes his head and turns away, as we...

FADE OUT:

END OF SHOW