

5.15 | "Contingency"

Written by Jack D. Malone

Based on the character of 'Chloe Sullivan,' created by Al Gough and Miles Millar

Based on characters from DC Comics

CREATED BY

Jack D. Malone

PRODUCED BY

The VPN (www.vpn-tv.proboards.com)

MAIN CAST

CHLOE SULLIVAN	Allison Mack
BRUCE WAYNE / BATMAN	Christian Bale
HELENA KANE / BATGIRL	Kayla Ewell
JAMES GORDON	
KATE KANE / BATWOMAN	
LUCIUS FOX / BATWING	Charles Michael Davis
RENEE MONTOYA	
ARCHER SULLIVAN-QUEEN	Jace Norman
OLIVER QUEEN / GREEN ARROW	Justin Hartley

SPECIAL GUEST CAST

DUSAN AL GHUL / HUSH / KYLE WILLIAMS	Bryan Greenberg
MIA DEARDEN	Elise Gatien
SELINA KYLE / CATWOMAN	Eliza Dushku
VICKI VALE	Yvonne Strahovski

GUEST CAST

ADRIEN RIVERS	Artemis Pebdani
ALFRED PENNYWORTH	Michael Caine
ARTHUR 'ART' FLOYD	Jon Michael Hill
BRODERICK WESTBERG	Henry Ian Cusick
CARRIE KELLEY / ROBIN	-
DUKE THOMAS	
ELIZABETH THORNE	
ERIC MORAN	3
EVAN GIBSON	
HARVEY DENT / TWO-FACE	
JACK WHEELER / WILD DOG	-
JOANNA PIERCE	
MAGGIE KYLE	
SAMUEL 'SLAM' BRADLEY	
SARAH ESSEN	
THOMAS BOLT	3
WESLEY OYER	-

TEASER

FADE IN:

EXT. CITY HALL - NIGHT

CAMERA LIGHTS FLASH against a defiant OLIVER.

OLIVER

I know you all have questions. I can get to them all if-

The crowd of reporters rush closer in.

A startled EVAN GIBSON, phone held out to record, is knocked around by the narrowing crowd.

PING. Evan studies his phone closer.

A hand grabs Oliver's side. He looks to find Assistant Commissioner BRODERICK WESTBERG (50s, hardened) and other officers scattering in to protect him.

A notification sounds on other phones from the reporters that now scale back to check.

Evan pushes to the front of the crowd and aims out his phone:

EVAN

If you're really the Green Arrow, then who's this?

Oliver shifts at the sight on the phone.

The SCREEN shows live-footage of the GREEN ARROW lining up a shot, pulling it back and releasing... TWHIP!

Oliver appears lost for words. Stammering.

The SCREEN offers SHAKY-CAM footage following a woman's HOWL OF AGONY (0.S) as the phone hits the ground then reveals a bloodied ADRIEN RIVERS with an arrow in her chest.

Oliver stumbles back off the podium in a state of shock. He is held up by Broderick who steers him away.

BRODERICK

Come on. We've got to go.

Oliver, a new shade of white, is whisked off stage...

EXT. GOTHAM CITY, OUTSKIRTS - NIGHT

A car pulls up on the dirt side-road overlooking the collapsed bridge and dark waters of the ocean.

The door clicks open. Boots clamp onto the ground.

CONTINUED:

A man with white hair and a long-flowing trench-coat slams the door shut behind him, and moves for the illuminating light of the moon. He waits. A hint of nerves.

Footsteps scrape into the dirt behind (0.S).

The man - now revealed to be GORDON - turns to find an approaching blonde woman. He clearly recognises her.

GORDON

I don't get how you can be wherever you want and yet I've always got to come find you.

The woman joins him in the moonlight. It's VICKI.

VICKI

This time is different.

Vicki holds out her hand. A puzzled Gordon studies it, then reaches out and TOUCHES HER HAND. A physical connection.

GORDON

(realising)

You're really here.

Gordon pulls Vicki in and the two hug. A warm embrace.

VICKI

I can't stay. Dusan will be here any second to take me back.

GORDON

We can fight him.

VICKI

He's too powerful and you know it. Besides, you have another war to fight first and I need you to make sure Bruce survives it.

Gordon shifts to a VIAL held out in Vicki's hands.

GORDON

What's that?

VICKI

Waters from the Lazarus pit. I need you to spike Bruce's drink with it. Keep him safe. Alive.

GORDON

What makes you so sure he needs it?

Vicki pulls Gordon's hand in to take it.

CONTINUED: (2)

VICKI

Because I heard them - Dusan and the others. They said they couldn't start some "ritual" until Bruce was no longer standing in their way. Until he was gone.

(long pause)

Tomorrow night is the night Bruce Wayne is destined to die.

The world seems to spiral around Gordon.

GORDON

I won't let that happen.

VICKI

You don't have to. You can use that to save him.

Gordon looks back at the vial in his hands. It now represents a sense of hope. He fills with newfound purpose.

A shift in the wind. Green bolts of energy SPARK-

VICKI (CONT'D)

Now go. Get out of here!

Gordon rushes back to his car. The lights ignite, and the vehicle speeds out of sight... into the black.

CRANE BACK to find an isolated Vicki-

Green energy rips apart beside her to form DUSAN AL GHUL. He appears weak, deteriorating in health...

DUSAN AL GHUL

You don't think he's beginning to catch on, do you?

VICKI

He's eating up every word this vessel has to say.

(off Dusan)

You were right to bring me back with this face, brother. It just might help us fulfill the prophecy.

DUSAN AL GHUL

It's about time.

OFF the two siblings, joined in their potential victory...

CUT TO BLACK.

END OF TEASER

ACT ONE

FADE IN:

INT. STAR CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT - DAY

Oliver sits at a cubicle, head down in grief and his hands cuffed to the desk. Broderick enters with another officer.

BRODERICK

Looks like you're free to go.

The other officer unlocks Oliver's cuffs. He's free.

OLIVER

Just like that?

BRODERICK

The footage was verified as authentic and in real-time. Until we can figure out who's in that green hood, we wouldn't even accept a signed confession from you.

OLIVER

The woman in that live-stream-

BRODERICK

Adrien Rivers.

OLIVER

She's my friend. Did she - I mean is she...

BRODERICK

I'm sorry.

The glimmer of hope visibly drains from Oliver's face.

BRODERICK (CONT'D)

With all due respect, Mr. Mayor, it's clear to me that you're being set up here and that you gave in to blackmail when you stood up on that podium last night and declared to the city that you were a vigilante.

A beat. Oliver's mind races to a moment of clarity:

OLIVER

You're right. But I'm not the only one being set up here. They got to my friend, Mia, too.

BRODERICK

Dearden? Unfortunately I can't help you there.

OLIVER

Why the hell not?

BRODERICK

Because she signed a plea agreement claiming she could name the man operating as the Green Arrow in exchange for immunity and immediate release, and then she <u>lied</u>. There won't be an easy way out of this for her now.

Oliver sinks with defeat. A crushing blow.

EXT. RESISTANCE BASE - DAY

A car pulls up at the base. Gordon exits the vehicle and pushes through the hordes of civilians gearing up for war.

Deeper in the base, a large truck is parked with a wide-open container on it's back where ERIC loads it up with large crates of inactive explosives.

ERIC

Surely this is the last one.

Eric turns to find JACK and CARRIE sliding another crate out.

CARRIE

Not exactly.

JACK

Sorry. Just a few more.

Arriving at the truck, LUCIUS finds a nervous WESLEY leaning against the vehicle in a state of clear hesitancy.

LUCIUS

Second thoughts?

WESLEY

I don't think I ever landed comfortably on the first 'thought.'

Lucius comfortingly taps Wesley on the shoulder.

LUCIUS

You can do this.

Gordon arrives near the truck. He's in clear distress.

GORDON

Bruce. I need to see him.

The team share a look of confusion, then Lucius simply points to the <u>armory</u>. Gordon scatters towards it...

INT. RESISTANCE BASE, ARMORY - DAY

Gordon erupts through the tent to find a still BRUCE, back-turned, standing in front of a bench in silence.

GORDON

Bruce?

The bench hosts a worn photograph of Selina beside a bottle of bourbon and a shot glass.

BRUCE

She's dead, Jim.

A beat. Bruce is taken out of his moment, and faces Gordon.

BRUCE (CONT'D)

We captured one of Dent's men last night and he confirmed it.

GORDON

This is Selina we're talking about here. She always finds a way back.

BRUCE

Not this time.

Bruce turns back to the photo in front of him. He grieves.

GORDON

I didn't realise the two of you were... together. Or was it-

BRUCE

It's not like that. We weren't together, we were... <u>surviving</u>.

(long pause)

She lost the man she thought she was going to spend the rest of her life with, and I lost-

GORDON

(realising)

Vicki.

A look of acknowledgement from Bruce.

BRUCE

After losing her, I kind of felt like Selina was the only person who understood me. We endured so much of the same pain. I think that's why we never strayed too far from each other over the last ten years.

Bruce finally approaches Gordon, his wounds reopening...

WATCHTOWER, 'Contingency'
CONTINUED:

BRUCE (CONT'D)

I was with her the night before I closed off the city. I was trying to convince her to leave so that she would survive. So she could be safe if the virus got out. But she told me her daughter had been taken and she had to find her.

(beat)

My gut was telling me to do whatever it took to get her out of the city anyway. But I knew she would hate me for it. Now, I'd kill for her to hate me... cause at least she'd still be alive.

GORDON

Don't do this to yourself. What happened to her isn't your fault.

Bruce deflates, then moves for the exit.

BRUCE

You're a good friend, Jim. But I don't need you to lie for me.

Gordon digs the GREEN VIAL out of his jacket pocket.

GORDON

Well, hey-

Gordon approaches the bench. He quickly pours a shot from the bottle of bourbon and empties the vial into it.

GORDON (CONT'D)

I know there's nothing to say that can make this better, but I do know a toast to the memory of those we've lost in this war always seems to give us what we need to make sure we can win it.

Bruce looks back, eyes fixed on the drink in Gordon's hand.

GORDON (CONT'D)

To Selina.

Bruce returns and takes the glass.

BRUCE

To Selina.

Bruce knocks back the shot while Gordons wigs the bottle, eyes glued on Bruce... making sure every drop is taken.

OFF an obvious sign that Bruce has swallowed...

INT. RESISTANCE BASE, MEDICAL BAY - DAY

KATE sits at the bedside of a comatose RENEE and combs her fingers through her hair. A knock signals at the door. She looks to find a concerned HELENA creeping into the room.

HELENA

How is she holding up?

KATE

She's stable. But last time they told me that we almost lost her. (off Helena)
It's time, isn't it?

Helena offers a simple nod.

KATE (CONT'D)

I just need a minute.

HELENA

Take all the time you need.

Helena exits the room.

Kate looks back to Renee at her side. She holds her hand.

KATE

I meant what I said earlier. Then again, you always did have a problem when it came to listening to me, huh? Maybe if I don't say it as me - as Kate - but tell you as a Sergeant. As your superior. (beat)

This city needs you, Renee. I need you. So keep fighting, damn it. And come back to us. Please.

Kate buries herself into Renee's lap, tears in her eyes...

INT. RESISTANCE BASE, SHELTER - DAY

A stoic CHLOE finds a reflection creep into the mirror in front of her - it's a nervous Helena.

CHLOE

I'm glad you're here. For the end.

HELENA

What makes you so sure it all ends after this?

CHLOE

Just a hunch.

Chloe turns to face an uncertain Helena.

HELENA

The last time you thought that, I didn't see you for twelve years.

CHLOE

I'm sorry. I made a mistake. It was reckless of me to leave when I did. I thought we had just fought the battle to end all battles and that this city wouldn't need me anymore. That all of you wouldn't need me anymore. And then, as time went on, it felt harder to revisit the past because... I left you all in it. Digging it up seemed harder than letting you all go.

HELENA

Well, for the record, we always needed you. Not because you were our eyes and ears in the sky, but because you were our friend.

CHLOE

That's why I want this to be different... for us.

Chloe latches onto Helena's arm. A longing to hold on.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

You know, when I met you all those years ago, you were the first recruit Oliver and I made on this 'mission.' But you were also the first friend I found in Gotham.

(beat)

I don't want to let that go this time. I want us to be in each other's lives. The way it was supposed to be before I messed it all up. I mean... if you'd like.

A smile stitches across Helena's hopeful face.

HELENA

I think maybe having you back in my life again is the only thing that could make being trapped here in this war worth it.

The two embrace for a hug. A friendship reignited.

BRUCE (O.S.)

You two are starting to scare me.

Chloe and Helena break their embrace and turn to find Bruce.

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BRUCE (CONT'D)

You're not worried about us not making it out of this one alive, are you?

HELENA

If I were, I'd probably say
something along the lines of (sincere)

'Thank you for saving my life the night I chose to end it. If you hadn't, I never would have gotten the chance to see what life had planned for me. And I never would have met the love of my life.'

Bruce is lost for words. Helena taps his arm gently.

CHLOE

Guess I have you to thank for that too, Mr. Wayne. I wouldn't even have a life waiting for me outside of this city if it weren't for you.

BRUCE

Okay, that's enough.

Bruce pulls the two women in, arm to arm, as they head out-

BRUCE (CONT'D)

I wouldn't want your last memory of me to be one where I'm crying.

EXT. RESISTANCE BASE - DAY

Eric tightens the bindings around the explosives in the large container, then steps out into the base.

ERIC

We're good to go.

A nervous Carrie and Jack look to each other in shared fear.

From behind, a determined Helena joins them.

HELENA

You guys having nothing to worry about. We are going to win this.

JACK

Famous last words?

Helena huddles everyone into the container.

In the distance - an emerging Kate surfaces and locks eyes lovingly with Helena. They share a nod, and the door SHUTS.

Gordon appears beside Kate.

KATE

This feels different, doesn't it?

GORDON

It does. And I don't like it.

CRANE BACK to the truck where Wesley climbs up into the driver's seat, while Lucius boards into the passenger side.

Chloe and Bruce watch as the doors to the truck close.

BRUCE

This plan better work.

CHLOE

It will.

BRUCE

What makes you so sure?

CHLOE

Because it has to.

The truck's engine ignites.

Behind Chloe and Bruce, an uncertain Kate and Gordon appear with similar looks of doubt in their eyes.

KATE

What do you need from us?

Chloe looks back, over her shoulder-

CHLOE

Prepare the others for war.

OFF the truck disappearing down the road and off base...

SELINA (PRELAP)

You're always at war.

INT. WAYNE MANSION, LIBRARY - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

Flames rage in the fireplace. A desperate SELINA stands opposite Bruce in the intimate library.

SELINA

Whatever you're dealing with in this city... it can wait. What I need from you cannot.

BRUCE

There are darker forces at play here that are more powerful and more threatening than Harvey Dent. Selina peels away from Bruce, their intimacy lost. He grabs for her arm, keeping her locked into every next word:

BRUCE (CONT'D)

I will do everything I can to help you find your daughter but <u>every</u> child in Gotham is in danger if I don't do something to stop the Court of Owls now.

Selina looks to Bruce's hold, then shares his pained look.

SELINA

I always thought it was your love for Vicki that kept us from being more than *this*, but I was wrong. It was this god damn city. And it always has been.

Selina rips herself free of Bruce.

BRUCE

Selina, please-

SELINA

I really hope you can pull it off, Bruce. Save Gotham. I'd hate to see you devote your entire life to something just to watch it perish.

A deep silence rests between them. A foresight that their paths here on out may never cross again...

SELINA (CONT'D)

Goodbye, Bruce.

Selina turns her back, wiping the single tear she let out from her face, and leaves to save her daughter.

A heartbroken Bruce watches his last chance at love leave...

EXT. GOTHAM CITY, STREETS - DAY

The truck slows to a halt in the middle of the street. An eerie silence accompanied by a long path forward and back.

INSERT CUT - LUCIUS and WESLEY in the truck:

LUCIUS

Why are we stopping?

Wesley looks over to Lucius with an all-knowing glare...

WESLEY

We're here.

GREEN LASERS flash over the vehicle - SCANNING. Hidden devices in the bushes FLASH. Authentication complete.

Suddenly, the entire ground opens up - a perfect RECTANGLE now carries the truck in it's descent. As the vehicle disappears, into the ground...

INT. TWO FACE GANG BASE (UNDERGROUND) - DAY

The large truck is lowered into the base. A shocked Lucius scans the location with bewilderment and growing fear.

Pushing through the hordes of people occupying the space, an unreadable HARVEY DENT surfaces. He passes the large tents with thin beds, crates of stockpiled weapons, tables and chairs, and beelines for the arrival of the truck.

Lucius audibly gulps upon sight of their enemy, and the truck rattles into place. They've arrived.

LUCIUS

Here we go.

OFF the widening smile of a satisfied Dent...

CUT TO BLACK.

END OF ACT ONE

ACT TWO

FADE IN:

INT. MORGUE - DAY

Oliver stands over a deceased Adrien, her ice-cold body covered with a sheet. He's paralysed with grief.

A MORTICIAN beside him notices the clear pain.

MORTICIAN

I'll give you a moment alone.

Oliver offers a nod of acknowledgement, and she leaves. He redirects his focus to his friend lying dead on the slab.

OLIVER

You were always trying to save me, even before it was your full-time job. I wish I could have done the same for you. I'm so sorry.

Oliver places his hand on Adrien's shoulder. Nothing.

OLIVER (CONT'D)

I promise I will make this right.

A phone RINGS.

Oliver pulls his phone out. 'Joanna calling.' He answers.

OLIVER (CONT'D)

Jo, I can't talk right-

BOLT (O.S.)

Hello, Oliver.

Oliver fills with rage.

OLIVER

I swear to god, you're going to pay for what you-

BOLT (O.S.)

I don't think you're in a position to threaten me, Mr. Mayor. Or do I have to remind you whose phone I'm calling you on?

A beat. Oliver checks the screen again - 'Joanna.'

OLIVER

Don't.

BOLT (O.S.)

It wasn't supposed to be like this, you know? This was all supposed to end with you outed as the Green Arrow, and finally being forced to pay for the sins of your past. But you ruined it. And now I'll have to settle for making you suffer the same way I suffered because of you.

OLIVER

You stay the hell away from her!

BOLT (O.S.)

Everyone you have ever loved is going to die tonight.

A PIERCING SCREAM echoes on the phone (O.S). The line cuts.

Oliver is crippled by the deafening silence now radiating through his entire body. He stumbles back with grief, eyes glued on the phone in his hands. A realisation hits him:

ON THE PHONE it scrolls to contacts. 'Arthur.' Calling...

OLIVER

Art, I need you at the house to watch Archie. He could be in danger. Please.

(beat)

And whatever you do, don't let anyone in the house. I mean anyone. Even the police.

Oliver disconnects the call and straightens with purpose...

INT. BATCAVE - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

Selina stands in front of the large computer system that displays a map of the GOTHAM STATE PENITENTIARY.

ALFRED (O.S.)

You weren't the visitor I was expecting tonight.

Selina turns to find an intruding ALFRED catching her.

ALFRED (CONT'D)

Does Bruce know you're here?

SELINA

I didn't exactly come through the front door. What do you think?

Selina places her phone on the $\underline{\text{reader}}$ - the map SYNCS to her device with a loading bar filling quickly.

ALFRED

I think whatever is keeping the two of you at arm's length will only ease with time. And I want to make sure that no matter what happens, you are afforded that time.

The tone hits Selina. She looks to find a VIAL in his hand.

SELINA

What are you doing? What is that?

ALFRED

Insurance.

Selina pulls the vial into her hands.

ALFRED (CONT'D)

I'm sure you're familiar with the waters from the Lazarus Pit.

SELINA

Why? Why give it to me?

Alfred sinks onto a seat, too weak to stand so long.

ALFRED

I gave up hope years ago for Bruce to settle down and start a normal life with someone. But I never stopped believing that you were the one that brought an ease to his life, and him to yours. As a set of eyes on the outs looking in, it's clear to me that what you two share is special. You're equals. And I know in my heart of hearts that you will always find your way back to each other, no matter what.

Alfred digs into his pocket and retrieves a TRACKER.

ALFRED (CONT'D)

Which is why I want you to have this, too. It's linked to his suit. That way you'll have no trouble finding him when this city turns to shit all over again.

Selina chuckles at his language, then it dawns on her...

SELINA

I may not be the smartest person you've had the pleasure of being in a room with, but why is this feeling less like a helping hand and more like you saying goodbye?

WATCHTOWER, 'Contingency'
CONTINUED: (2)

ALFRED

Nobody lives forever, love. Not even a woman with nine lives.

A doorbell sounds.

The two look to the computer which BLINKS with security footage of the exterior of the house: a hesistant CHLOE stands on the front porch, waiting at the door ('Home').

ALFRED (CONT'D)

Now she is the visitor I was-

Alfred looks to see Selina is gone. A sinking feeling...

INT. RESISTANCE BASE, ARMORY - DAY

Bruce (geared up, mask off) and Chloe examine a series of screens that offer POV FOOTAGE inside the underground base:

JACK fixes an explosive to a wall- ERIC covers him- CARRIE bumps through people, searching- LUCIUS digs through a bag-WESLEY covers him- HELENA keeps to the shadows, lurking...

BRUCE

Perhaps it's time we deploy the troops. What do you reckon?

Chloe looks back through the doors... hundreds gathered.

BRUCE (CONT'D)

You've got doubts.

CHLOE

I just think there has to be a way to do this without putting all those people in harms way.

BRUCE

You've seen the footage. You've seen how many are part of Dent's army. We don't stand a chance without the whole city standing up and fighting back with us.

(off Chloe)

You were right to bring in a new generation of heroes, but you're wrong to think this is only our war to fight. It's theirs, too.

CHLOE

It's just - that's a lot lives on the line here. I think the weight of it all is catching up to me.

BRUCE

I know what you mean.

CHLOE

Do you?

(off Bruce)

I'm sorry, it's just - you told me that you brought me back to this city because I would do whatever it takes to make sure we survived all of this so I could get back to my family. My son. Did you ever think about the possibility that I might not make it out?

Bruce shakes his head, and moves to sit down.

BRUCE

That's not going to happen. I-

CHLOE

Bruce, your world was shattered when your parents were taken from you in that alley and you were forced to grow up without them. Do you not see how there's every chance in the world that you've forced my son to share the very same fate as you?

A pained Bruce looks up from his seat. Tormented.

BRUCE

I had a plan. A contingency. If anything happened to you, I could make sure it wasn't permanent.

CHLOE

That's impossible.

BRUCE

Not since Talia restored the Lazarus Pit. She gave me vials of it's waters and I had one left that I was saving for you, but-

QUICK CUT - ALFRED injects BRUCE with the Lazarus serum...

BRUCE (CONT'D)

Alfred used it on me back in the cave when Veronica shot me.

Chloe can see the guilt crippling Bruce.

BRUCE (CONT'D)

You have to know that I would never put you in danger if I didn't know that I could get you straight out of it. You're too important to me. CONTINUED: (2)

CHLOE

Well, if I haven't made it very clear lately... you're pretty important to me, too.

A lingering look of adoration. Bruce then notices something-

BRUCE

She found her.

Chloe follows his line of vision:

A POV BODY CAM on one of the monitors displays footage of a hesitant MAGGIE KYLE anxiously backing up...

INT. TWO FACE GANG BASE (UNDERGROUND), HEAD OFFICE - DAY

The same nervous Maggie stands in front of Helena in real-time, clinging to the shadows where she feels safer.

HELENA

You don't have to be scared of me.

MAGGIE

Then why are you following me?

Helena digs into her pocket. Maggie WHIPS out a loaded gun and fixes her aim onto Helena, whose hands raise in mercy.

HELENA

It's just a photo. See.

Helena holds a PHOTOGRAPH in her hands - it's a familiar image of Maggie (the same one given to her by Selina).

HELENA (CONT'D)

I'm a friend of your Mum's. She asked me to find you. To get you out of here. Bring you home.

Maggie takes the photograph, processes it, then softens. A tear runs down her face at the memory of her mother...

MAGGIE

I don't have a home anymore.

HELENA

Well, there's certainly not a home for you in here. We can figure everything out once we get you out of here, okay?

DENT (O.S.)

She's not going anywhere.

Helena SNAPS around-

Dent PISTOL WHIPS Helena across the jaw. She collapses to the ground hard, then looks up to find a GUN fixed on her.

DENT (CONT'D)

Of all the people we've roped down here, I think I'd remember digging my claws into the Huntress.

The name strikes a chord with Maggie. She lights up.

DENT (CONT'D)

I don't need to flip a coin to remember the fate I owe you.

MAGGIE

Let her go!

Maggie PULLS on the trigger- BANG! BANG!

Dent scatters back from the gunshots, shielding his face.

A panicked Helena rolls over, and darts up off the ground to sweep Maggie away. She ushers her out of the room.

Dent PULLS Helena back around to face him. He SLAMS her into the large beam, and a TRIGGER falls from her jacket and onto the ground. A shared double take of the TRIGGER.

HELENA

Wait-

Dent RIPS Helena's jacket open to see an EXPLOSIVE strapped to her side. A delicious smile finds his face.

HELENA (CONT'D)

(struggling)

No.

Dent THROWS Helena aside, then rushes for the trigger.

A panicked Helena tugs at the explosive in her jacket but its STUCK. Her eyes catch Dent, sweeping the trigger up...

HELENA (CONT'D)

You don't want to-

CLICK. Dent hits the detonator.

Helena unclasps the explosive in a gasp, and FLINGS IT AWAY-

The explosive ERUPTS mid-air. Flames push through a wall, strike up against the ceiling, then RICOCHET between a mortified Dent and Helena in a CONCUSSIVE BLOW.

INT. TWO FACE GANG BASE (UNDERGROUND) - DAY

A fleeing Maggie enters the base. An EXPLOSION erupts behind her and a wall crumbles in the BG. Dust swallows her.

In the masses, a startled Carrie stops in their tracks and looks back in realisation. They suddenly became aware of all the BEEPING that echoes throughout the room...

CARRIE

Holy sh-

BOOM. Debris consumes Carrie.

From around the room - each and every explosive device detonates. The entire room QUAKES.

OFF the resonating sound of one final BOOM...

INT. RESISTANCE BASE, ARMORY - DAY

A mortified Chloe and Bruce watch the monitors as several of the screens turn a harsh <u>black</u>. The signal cut off.

OFF the disbelief and horror worn on their faces...

CUT TO BLACK.

END OF ACT TWO

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

EXT. GOTHAM CITY, STREETS - NIGHT

A large truck arrives beside other parked vehicles and a large mass of men and women (the resistance). Exiting the vehicle, Kate, Gordon and SARAH arrive on scene.

CRANE to the front of the pack to find Chloe and THE BATMAN.

THE BATMAN

Do we have any updates inside?

CHLOE

Our eyes on the inside are officially offline. We're blind.

THE BATMAN

There has to be another way in.

Chloe opens up her tablet and shows Batman a MAP.

CHLOE

I pulled up schematics of this place and there looks to be a tunnel system leading in and out.

THE BATMAN

Then that's where I'll go.

Chloe grabs onto Batman. He stops.

CHLOE

I understand this is the exact opposite of what to tell a man dressed in a bat-suit, but don't be a hero. Get in and get out with as many as you can save as quick and as safely as you can, okay? This city needs you. I need you.

Batman offers an understanding nod. A quick smile from Chloe and she steps back, letting her hero go be a hero.

KATE (O.S.)

Wait.

Kate darts past Chloe en route to the Batman.

KATE (CONT'D)

You're not going alone.

THE BATMAN

No, Kate. I need you to stay here.

KATE

You and I made a deal that I wasn't going to be just some sidekick of yours. We're partners. Equals.

THE BATMAN

Which is why I need you to stay back. Because if I don't make it out, you're the only one who can keep our team together. And I need you to explain to them why I did what I did - why I sent them away.

(off Kate)

I'm all out of magic potions, rings and Lazarus serums. The only contingency I have left is you.

KATE

My wife is in there.

THE BATMAN

And you have my word that I will get her out.

A hesitant Kate steps back. She joins Chloe's side as they watch the Batman disappear into the night...

GORDON (O.S.)

He's going to be fine.

Chloe and Kate look back to an overly confident Gordon.

GORDON (CONT'D)

If there's anything I'm certain of, it's that. Trust me.

OFF the ominous look between Chloe and Kate of the future...

INT. TWO FACE GANG BASE (UNDERGROUND) - NIGHT

Total panic. Men, women and children bump alongside each other in desperate search of an exit. Dust and smoke fog the room, clouding the sources of each scream for help.

Among the fleeing crowds, DUKE comes to a screeching halt at the familiar PIERCING SCREAM (0.S) echoing in his ears.

DUKE

Carrie?

Struggling under a beam, Carrie pushes against the weight crushing them against the ground.

CARRIE

Somebody please! Help me!

CONTINUED:

Gravity eases their head to the side where they see a BLOODIED CORPSE glaring at them. A gasp. Carrie looks away.

Hands LATCH onto the beam-

DUKE

I got you.

Carrie's expression fills with love and relief.

CARRIE

Duke? You're- you're alive!

DUKE

And I'd really like to keep you alive. Three, two-

Duke summons all his strength to LIFT THE BEAM UP.

INT. TWO FACE GANG BASE (UNDERGROUND), HEAD OFFICE - NIGHT

Rubble collapses from the ceiling. Dust sweeps across a breathless Helena, pushing herself up on all fours.

A hand latches onto her shoulder-

Dent pulls Helena onto her back. He straddles her, and forcibly grips her neck. Strangling.

DENT

I was told that my time had come, damn it. My moment of glory.

HELENA

Stop. Let... go.

DENT

Everything he said that would happen did. It was all going to plan. Cobblepot. The Court. And then this? It was working!

Helena swipes at Dent, but grows weaker and weaker...

DENT (CONT'D)

If I'm to burn down here, then I'm taking you all with me.

A QUAKE rocks the entire room.

Debris rains down. Rubble CRUSHES against Dent's back and he's knocked off of Helena. She shields her face as rubble piles on top of her, burying her underneath.

Dent eases off the ground. He looks over to see Helena, unconscious and buried under rubble.

CONTINUED:

Another quake hits the room.

Dent concedes, and rises to his feet. He rushes out of the room - his life over vengeance.

OFF Helena, left in a fiery room with thickening smoke...

INT. TWO FACE GANG BASE (UNDERGROUND) - NIGHT

Dent erupts into the main area. He dodges falling debris, and sudden fireballs, in pursuit of an exit.

FOLLOW him as he passes:

WESLEY peels LUCIUS up off the ground and dusts him off- ERIC holds an injured JACK up, hopping to safety- CARRIE and DUKE share a much needed hug amidst the chaos.

TWO PEOPLE claw against a metallic door in desperate search of opening it. Two GUNSHOTS ring out and they collapse.

Dent arrives at the door, lowering his smoking gun.

DENT

Afraid there's only room for one.

A gun CLICKS behind him. Dent turns to find Maggie, aiming a gun out with zero hesitation to use it.

MAGGIE

If anyone is getting out of here, it's going to be <u>us</u>, not you.

DENT

Kill me and we all die.

Maggie looks to her gun for a moment's pause-

Dent PRESSES the wall and unearths a hidden ACCESS-POINT that scans his hand. The door OPENS.

Maggie fixes her aim back on Dent, but he turns back FIRING-

BANG! BANG! BANG! BANG!

Maggie scatters away from the bullets, then turns back to see the DOOR SEALING IN FRONT OF DENT. He's gone.

OFF more rubble collapsing around the fiery room...

INT. TUNNELS (BRIDGE) - NIGHT

Dent backs away from the now-sealed-door. He smiles with relief. He turns to cross the bridge, but suddenly STOPS.

The smile fades. Fear replaces it. Then total confusion...

Stood opposite Dent on the bridge-

SELINA

Hello, Harvey.

The smile once on Dent's face is now worn by Selina...

EXT. ALLEY - NIGHT/DAY (FLASHBACK)

Night. A hand drags a pale and deceased Selina (bullet hole in her head) across the ground, splashing against puddles and scraping against the concrete.

It's THE BEAST. He releases his hold and she lays dead.

Night turns into day.

CRANE BACK to a still Selina as the bullet hole seals shut and the colour restores in her face. A GASP. She ignites with life, sits up, and is reborn in the BLINDING SUNLIGHT.

INT. TUNNELS (BRIDGE) - NIGHT

Dent and Selina face-off on the bridge.

SELINA

Surely you aren't too surprised to see this cat with nine lives claw her way back. We have unfinished business to address after all.

DENT

That's right. You want your daughter back, don't you? Well, if you can pry those doors open, she just might still be alive.

Selina looks over Dent's shoulder in total fear...

DENT (CONT'D)

That's if she hasn't choked to death from smoke inhalation or been burned alive. Although, is that something she could wake up from? Like mother like daughter, huh?

Selina charges for Dent. He struggles for his gun when she POUNCES. Her legs wrap around, throw him down, then pin him.

The gun SLIDES out and onto the edge of the bridge...

SELINA

Open these doors.

DENT

It seems I have a little trouble moving right now. Maybe later?

WATCHTOWER, 'Contingency'
CONTINUED:

Dent maneuvers a KICK that throws Selina off him. He rolls over, and twists a RING on his finger - a surge of electricity forms KNUCKLES over his fist, and he SWINGS.

CRACK! Selina takes a powerful blow across the jaw.

Dent grabs onto Selina, and drags her back and around into the railing. A struggle, and he PUSHES.

Selina slams over the railing, but grips it, then swings back in through the gap. She sweeps the gun up on the way back in, and turns her aim on Dent.

Dent SWINGS back, snatches the gun, and fixes aim on Selina who holds her hands up in mercy.

DENT (CONT'D)

How did you even find me here?

SELINA

I wasn't looking for you.

SCATTER BOMBS erupt around Dent-

The Batman swoops in and lands on the bridge. The air clears and he notices Selina. His heart fills.

THE BATMAN

Selina?

OFF the two reunited...

INT. STAR CITY GENERAL, JOANNA'S ROOM - NIGHT

The door rattles open to a panicked Oliver. He rushes in, but immediately halts at the sight in front of him:

A bruised and battered JOANNA sits up in bed, opposite him.

OLIVER

I'm going to kill him.

JOANNA

No. That's what he-

Oliver approaches Joanna's bedside.

OLIVER

He murdered Adrien. He tried to kill you. I have to stop him.

JOANNA

Then stop him. But you can't be so blind to see that this is exactly what he wants you to do.

(MORE)

JOANNA (CONT'D)

He wants the world to see you the way he sees you. And no matter what, you can't let him win.

A deep sadness hits Oliver, noticing the scars on Joanna...

OLIVER

Your neck...

Joanna pulls away from the touch, ashamed at her fragility.

JOANNA

I'm fine.

OLIVER

Nothing about this is fine.

JOANNA

I realise that the only reason I'm alive right now is because my uncle is the Vice President of the United States and that affords me enough security detail to protect me from threats like Bolt. But if things did go the other way - if tonight ended a different way for me - I wouldn't want you to use my death as an excuse to make the same mistake twice and you know it.

The truth pierces Oliver. His pained eyes lock on Joanna's.

JOANNA (CONT'D)

You've seen what happens when you get blood on your hands. You've seen the kind of impact - the kind of ripple effect - that it can create. Thomas Bolt is living proof of it. Don't do this.

OLIVER

(long pause)

I've paid to increase your security by tenfold. Try to get some rest.

Oliver moves the for the exit.

JOANNA

Oliver.

The door closes behind Oliver.

Joanna sinks in her bed. A moment of defeat as a crippling fear for her friend's future swells in her heart...

INT. QUEEN LOFT, DINING ROOM - NIGHT

A table separates ARTHUR and Archer, sat with a nice plate of meat and vegetables in front of them.

Archer twirls a pea around on his plate. He finally pierces it and brings it up to eat when he catches Arthur's glare that quickly scatters away.

ARCHER

So now your protection covers - making sure I eat my vegetables?

ARTHUR

I just want you to be okay.

ARCHER

Just missing the milk to grow up big and strong.

ARTHUR

Funny. Real funny.

Arthur focuses on his own meal.

A DOORBELL RINGS through the room (0.S) and a paralysed Arthur drops his cutlery to the table. It CLANGS.

ARTHUR (CONT'D)

Archie, go. Hide.

Arthur rises, straddling the gun to his belt-

INT. QUEEN LOFT, ENTRANCE - NIGHT

Arthur, gun in hand, reaches the security monitors at the door when the lights in the entire room BLINK OFF. Blackout.

ARTHUR

Damn it.

A KNOCK (O.S) pounds the door.

OLIVER (O.S.)

Art, it's me. It's Oliver.

Arthur eases, reaches for the doorknob -- then stops.

ARTHUR

Where's your key?

OLIVER (O.S.)

He tailed me on the way home from the hospital. Drove me off the road. I lost everything. Please, Art. He won't be too far behind. A hesitant beat. Arthur eventually caves.

ARTHUR

Lord, forgive me.

The doorknob TWISTS-

A CLICK. The door peels ever so slightly before it SLAMS forward and knocks Arthur down.

The gun SLIDES across the floor.

A maniacal Bolt enters with a VOICE MODULATOR aimed at his throat, and a cunning grin on his face, as he impersonates:

BOLT

(with Oliver's voice)
Thanks for the warm welcome.

Arthur looks back to see Bolt. A gasp. He swivels around and crawls for his gun, and reaches to secure it-

HANDS pull Arthur up and onto a KNIFE. It buries inside.

BOLT (CONT'D)

I don't know how you did it. How you stood by him through all of it.

Arthur flails, struggling to hit back. The knife TWISTS.

BOLT (CONT'D)

Part of me wondered if you did it all for the kid instead. At least that would make you noble.

ARTHUR

Stop.

BOLT

Surely you have to know that this wasn't worth your life. I mean, come on. Not when I'm about to kill the very thing you spent so much time trying to protect.

Bolt RIPS the blade out, then stands.

ARTHUR

Don't... touch him.

Bolt steps over Arthur and collects his gun. A weak Arthur can only watch as Bolt disappears into the loft...

INT. QUEEN LOFT, DINING ROOM - NIGHT

Bolt turns the corner, gun aimed out and ready.

The table is empty. No one is in sight.

Bolt lowers his gun in disappointment. He scans the remaining area, then enters the next room-

INT. QUEEN LOFT, WATCHTOWER - NIGHT

Archer stands in the *hidden room* that hosts a large computer system attached to THREE MONITORS (all displaying security footage of the house). He wears panic on his face.

BOLT (O.S.)
Oh, Archie. Come out, come out, wherever you are...

OFF the monitor showing Bolt, gun in hand, searching...

CUT TO BLACK.

END OF ACT THREE

ACT FOUR

FADE IN:

INT. QUEEN LOFT, ENTRANCE - NIGHT

A panicked Oliver erupts into the room. He freezes at the door in shock at the sight of a bloodied Arthur on the floor.

OLIVER

Art? No, no, no-

Oliver drops to his aid. He feels for a pulse, then sinks with relief - he's still breathing.

Desperate, Oliver pulls out his PHONE: 'Calling Archer.'

INT. QUEEN LOFT, OFFICE - NIGHT

Bolt, gun in hand, searches the office.

A faint RINGING echoes (0.S) through the wall that hosts a large bookshelf. Bolt turns to it.

ВОТ-Т

Found you.

Bolt moves for the shelf. He RIPS every book he can off the shelf until a STRONG RESISTANCE. A book GRIPS BACK. CLICKS.

BLUE LIGHTS scan down onto Bolt. He staggers back.

WATCHTOWER (O.S.)

Identity confirmed. Thomas Bolt of the SCPD. Welcome to Watchtower.

The door CRANES OPEN-

Archer CHARGES out of the room and latches onto Bolt. He tackles him into the desk. The two wrestle, until Bolt KICKS-

THUD. Archer hits the ground. He rolls over to see:

Bolt aims the gun down with intent to kill in his eyes.

BOLT

I truly am sorry that it has to be this way. You're as innocent as the man your father took from me. But that's why I have to do this.

OLIVER (O.S.)

Archie!

Oliver stumbles into the room. Eyes locked. He WHIPS his phone forward and it CLIPS the gun, redirecting fire- BANG!

INT. TUNNELS (BRIDGE) - NIGHT

Dent collapses to the ground. Unconscious.

CRANE UP to find The Batman attaching a device to the METAL DOOR that is sealed shut. He adjusts his comms-

THE BATMAN

I've planted the device.

INTERCUT BETWEEN: THE BATMAN and CHLOE over their earpieces:

CHLOE

Good. I'll have those doors open in no time.

Batman turns to face a miraculously alive Selina.

THE BATMAN

Don't worry. We'll get these doors open and bring your daughter home.

SELINA

We have no home here. Not anymore.

Batman reaches for Selina's hand. He HOLDS it. A longing...

THE BATMAN

We'll make one.

SELINA

Bruce-

THE BATMAN

I'm serious.

Batman caresses Selina's face. She becomes lost in him.

THE BATMAN (CONT'D)

This was it. The war to end all wars. We took down the Court of Owls and we stripped Cobblepot of his power. And now that Dent's hold on the city is about to end, we can finally rebuild the city and rebuild our lives - our lives, Selina. Together.

Selina slips out from his hold. Overwhelmed, and detached.

SELINA

You of all people know there is no such thing in Gotham as a war to end all wars.

Selina turns her back, eyes fixed on an unconscious Dent.

SELINA (CONT'D)

I never saw my ability to survive death as a second chance. But this time is different. This *is* a second chance. Just not for me.

(returns to Batman)
What Alfred gave me in that serum
was a chance to save my daughter
and make sure she has a better
future than me. Away from Gotham.

THE BATMAN

Then I'll come with you.

(off Selina)

I chose the city over you and your daughter before, but I won't ever do it again.

SELINA

No. Bruce, I-

THE BATMAN

Bruce Wayne died in fire, and so will The Batman tonight. Once we get everyone out, I'll go with you and Maggie and never look back.

The distance closes between Batman and Selina. He pulls her in and the two embrace in a PASSIONATE KISS.

SELINA

You have no idea how happy-

BANG! Selina slumps into Batman's hold.

A GLOVED HAND peels up from behind Selina's back - Batman seeing the blood drip from his hand...

SELINA (CONT'D)

Bruce?

Selina's legs give, and Batman eases her to the ground. He looks up to see Dent, smoking gun in hand...

DENT

Sorry, Bruce. But her fate was already sealed.

Dent shows the MARRED-SIDED COIN in his other hand.

DENT (CONT'D)

Now... for yours.

Dent FLIPS the coin.

Batman CHARGES at Dent, and as the two COLLIDE-

INT. QUEEN LOFT, LIVING ROOM - NIGHT

Bolt tackles Oliver into the living room.

Archer scatters in. He rushes for Bolt and latches onto him, but Bolt STRIKES him across the face, then KICKS him down.

Oliver rises and grabs Bolt. The two wrestle INTO THE WALL.

TWHACK! Oliver lands two BLINDING strikes-

Bolt blocks the next hit, and gains momentum. The two lock in an equally matched fight - strike after strike skillfully blocked by one another.

Oliver buckles to the side, and Bolt maneuvers him around then SLAMS HIM onto a coffee table. It SHATTERS.

Archer rushes back in and SPIN KICKS Bolt- legs wrap around his neck, and throw him to the ground. Bolt quickly crawls back up and around, only to be met with a JUMP KICK.

Bolt SMASHES against the wall in a heave.

Archer squirms on the floor, then flips back onto his feet in a fighting stance. His eyes find Bolt at the wall, studying a SMALL BLADE he pulls from his jacket. Panic hits.

Bolt rushes at Archer, and SWIPES the blade. A gash CUTS across Archer's cheek. Another SLASH-

Archer dodges each move, until he's KICKED TO THE FLOOR.

OLIVER

Get the hell away from my son!

Oliver charges Bolt and they tumble over the couch and onto the floor. The two rise - a confrontation brewing:

OLIVER (CONT'D)

You blame me for your husband's death, and that's warranted. I killed him. I didn't mean for it to happen but the fact remains that he's no longer here because of me. Don't take it out on my son, or my friends, or anyone else. Please.

BOLT

You don't get a choice - just like I didn't. That's not how it works.

OLIVER

What happened to your husband - it was an accident. What you did to Adrien... to Jo, and Art - that's all you. Your actions.

(MORE)

OLIVER (CONT'D)

It doesn't make you like me, it makes you a murderer. A criminal.

BOLT

That's exactly what you are!

Bolt charges into Oliver and angrily pins him against the couch. He strikes into him hard. Hit after hit.

BLOOD SPRAYS across the floor-

Oliver blocks the next punch, then feels a slight pinch in his side. He looks down to find a BLADE BURIED in him.

ARCHER (O.S.)

No!

Archer crash tackles Bolt away.

A weakened Oliver slides down the couch, clutching his stab wound. His eyes catch sight of a LOADED GUN nearby.

Bolt whips around, picks Archer up off the floor, then throws him through the glass balcony window. It SHATTERS.

INT. TWO FACE GANG BASE (UNDERGROUND) - NIGHT

An EXPLOSION roars.

A terrified Maggie stands by the SEALED METAL DOOR watching through the smoke and fire that rages.

The ceiling CAVES IN above her. A barricade, trapping her.

Maggie returns to the door - her only source of escape. She aimlessly BASHES ON IT.

INT. TUNNELS (BRIDGE) - NIGHT

The Batman slams Dent against the railing. His coin DROPS.

THE BATMAN

Your empire ends tonight.

DENT

It was never about building an empire. It was about you.

(beat)

It was Cobblepot that wanted to take over the city. I just wanted the reputation of being the one who finally took down the Bat.

Batman throws Dent to the ground. He faces the coin in front of him - it's MARRED SIDE up. A deep realisation.

WATCHTOWER, 'Contingency'
CONTINUED:

THE BATMAN

Then why all of this? Why rip people from their homes? Trap them here - to do your bidding.

DENT

I did what he told me to do.

Dent looks back at Batman with a widening smile.

DENT (CONT'D)

Dusan Al Ghul told me everything I needed to do to kill you.

THE BATMAN

(realising)

This was never supposed to be your army. It was his.

Suddenly, the sealed door begins to open. It slowly parts...

Selina leans up on her side to witness the doors parting, and hope reignites in her eyes. As the doors FULLY OPEN-

A wide-eyed Maggie stands in the doorway, watching on...

DENT

He also gave me what I needed.

CRANE DOWN to see Dent's finger held tight on a DETONATOR-

Dent launches up off the ground. Batman turns to Selina and scoops up her arm. He withdraws a GRAPPLING GUN. Dent pulls an ill-prepared Batman back, clinging to him.

The entire bridge CHARGES UP. A continuous, growing BEEP-

BANG! A GRAPPLING LINE shoots to the ceiling. It CONNECTS.

Maggie staggers back off the bridge and into the doorway.

RED LIGHTS flash against the surface of the bridge and suddenly the entire structure GIVES OUT.

BOOM. BOOM. BOOM. BOOM. BOOM. BOOM. BOOM. BOOM.

Selina's hand SLIPS from Batman's arm to his hand, latching tight onto hers, while Dent slips down Batman's back.

A descending Dent HOWLS into the abyss. Gone.

Batman is tugged up, pulling Selina with him. She gasps with the sharp pain of her bullet wound.

OFF the two, dangling by a literal wire...

EXT. QUEEN LOFT, BALCONY - NIGHT

Bolt steps out onto the balcony where Archer lays in a pool of broken glass. He pulls Archer up, pulls a knife to his throat, then positions him out towards a traumatised Oliver.

BOLT

It's over, Oliver. It's time to accept the consequences of your actions. The moment where your son must pay the ultimate price for the sins of his father.

OLIVER

Don't do this, Thomas. Let him go.

ВОТ-Т

I had a future with my husband that felt so bright, so... everlasting. And you ripped it away from me.

The blade digs into Archer's neck slightly. He squirms.

BOLT (CONT'D)

I imagine you've conjured a future up for your son too. A life you've always pictured for him to lead.

OLIVER

I said let him go, damn it.

BOLT

I want to see your face when that future gets ripped from your mind.

Bolt TUGS on the blade- BANG!

Bolt is propelled back, through the glass railing which instantly SHATTERS. He DESCENDS O.S.

A freed Archer looks to find Oliver. He tosses the gun out of his hand, and rushes to Archer's side.

OLIVER

Archie? Archie, are you okay?

Archer looks back to his father. Safe.

ARCHER

I'm okay. I'm- you're hurt.

OLIVER

I'll be fine. As long as you're safe, I'll be okay.

The two share a warm embrace filled with love and relief.

INT. TUNNELS (BRIDGE) - NIGHT

Selina holds onto Batman, dangling from the grappling line above a steep drop into darkness.

THE BATMAN

I've got you.

Across from them by the door, a struggling Maggie tremors with the ground as it CRUMBLES beneath her. A fire rages behind her, and a great fall awaits in front of her.

SELINA

You need to save her. Please.

Batman looks between the two - a choice of Selina or Maggie.

THE BATMAN

I can save you both.

SELINA

No. You can't. But that's fine, it's okay. I'm ready now.

Maggie screams, kicking at the ground that SNAPS OFF-

SELINA (CONT'D)

(to Maggie)

Hold on, baby. He's coming!

THE BATMAN

(breaking)

I can't let you go.

Selina slips further. Batman grabs TIGHTER-

EXT. CEMETERY - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

Selina stands in front of a tombstone that reads, 'Samuel Bradley Jr, Beloved Father, Husband, and Son. A Hero of the GCPD. 1980 - 2019.' She caresses it.

SELINA

I promise I'm going to find her, Sammy. I'll bring our girl home.

SAM (O.S.)

I know you will.

A change in the air. A crisp fog parts over a shadowed figure that sets in to reveal SAM BRADLEY approaching.

Selina staggers back, hands out in defense.

SELINA

This isn't happening. You're not real. You can't be-

SAM

I'm real if you want me to be.

SELINA

No. Stop pretending.

SAM

I just thought it'd be easier for you to see me like this.

CRANE AROUND Sam's morphing body as Selina's face changes to one of pure fear. She tenses at the sight of KYLE WILLIAMS.

SELINA

Hush.

Selina whips around to run-

GREEN MIST erupts in front of her and Kyle resurfaces. He grabs onto her arms that swing violently at him.

KYLE

It's me, Selina. It's Kyle.

SELINA

Let go of me!

Selina rips her hands free. She straightens.

SELINA (CONT'D)

Why are you here? How are you-

KYLE

When I spliced myself throughout time, it afforded me the gift of knowing what becomes of those around me. History. And tonight is where things end for Selina Kyle. After everything my other half put you through, I thought you deserved better. I couldn't let you go without the same gift I've been given - without knowing what becomes of your daughter.

SELINA

Don't talk about my daughter.

Selina turns her back to leave.

KYLE

In about four seconds, your tracking device is going to light up with a location.

CONTINUED: (2)

Selina stops. She digs into her pocket and examines the tracker device in her hands:

It PINGS. 'Batman' found.

KYLE (CONT'D)

Go there, and you'll find her.

A wave of revelation washes over Selina. It dawns on her that this really is the end. She looks back to Kyle.

SELINA

Will she be happy? In the future, I mean. Will she be happy?

Kyle slowly approaches with a nod.

KYLE

Here. Let me show you.

Kyle places his hand on Selina's forehead, and her eyes ignite with white. A BLINDING LIGHT brings us to-

INT. TUNNELS (BRIDGE) - NIGHT

An all-knowing Selina looks across at her daughter with a warm smile, then back to Batman, dangling from his hand.

SELINA

Give her the life we always wanted for ourselves, would you? She deserves it.

THE BATMAN

You can give that to her yourself, just hold on.

SELINA

I've lived many lives, Bruce. None of them more important than the one I got to share with you and her.

THE BATMAN

Don't.

SELINA

Goodbye, Bruce.

Selina RIPS her hand free-

THE BATMAN

(erupting)

Selina!

Selina peacefully DESCENDS into the abyss of darkness...

A tremor rocks. Maggie slips further off the strip, and screams in shock. She tries to crawl back.

Batman SNAPS his line, then fires another-

A SWOOPING Batman clings onto Maggie, and the two propel through the OPEN DOORS, INTO FIRE-

INT. TWO FACE GANG BASE (UNDERGROUND) - NIGHT

Out of the flames, Batman surfaces. His cape opens up to reveal Maggie, unharmed and a little shaken.

Citizens gather with our heroes (Wesley, Jack, Carrie, Eric, and Duke) by the LARGE TRUCK near the exit strip. Beside them, Lucius spots Batman, and rushes over to him.

LUCIUS

We're ready to ascend but we can't find Helena anywhere.

MAGGIE

She was in there.

Maggie points to a room RIDDLED WITH FLAMES.

THE BATMAN

Go. Go with the others, and get to the surface. I'll find her. (to Lucius)

Get everyone out of here, okay?

A nod from Lucius, and he runs off with Maggie. They gather with the others on the strip...

Batman disappears through the FIERY WALL.

EXT. GOTHAM CITY, STREETS - NIGHT

Kate narrows in on Chloe, huddled over a tablet.

KATE

What is taking so long?

CHLOE

I got the door open, I'm just waiting for-

An incredible TREMOR hits. Everyone shakes with it.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

That.

A deep fear washes over the resistance.

The ground COLLAPSES in, switching out for another level that brings to surface an ARMY OF PEOPLE (with the TRUCK).

INT. TWO FACE GANG BASE (UNDERGROUND), HEAD OFFICE - NIGHT

A large beam lifts up, then drops to the side to REVEAL an ash-covered Helena. Batman pulls her up onto himself.

THE BATMAN

Helena? Come on, wake up.

Helena erupts in a violent cough. She's alive.

Batman's head collapses against Helena's in relief. He holds her tight. Helena simply hugs him back.

HELENA

Really think I'd let *Dent* be the one to take me out? Bane, maybe, but not *that* asshole.

THE BATMAN

Come on. Let's get out of here.

Batman pulls Helena up off the ground. The two RUN.

EXT. GOTHAM CITY, STREETS - NIGHT

A brawl on the streets between the resistance and the gang.

Among the Gang: Eric punches through while Jack moves behind him with a gun, Carrie hits back with powerful kicks, and Duke skillfully knocks people down with incredible FORCE.

PEEL BACK to find Chloe, noticing their teamwork...

KATE (O.S.)

Chloe, heads up!

Chloe turns to catch a POLICE TONFA then turns to meet a charging thug. She STRIKES him down- THWACK! THWACK!

A relieved Kate reaches Chloe's side.

CHLOE

Thanks.

KATE

Any time.

SWISH PAN to a panicked Sarah, pushing through the crowd.

SARAH

Jim? Jim, where are-

GUNFIRE rings out.

A man is knocked back into Sarah and the two collapse onto the ground. She looks at the blood now SPRAYED ON HER.

TRACK through the intense battle:

Wesley pulls a knife out of his side, then turns to see a shocked Lucius. He falls into his arms.

Carrie is clobbered to the ground. Duke runs to their aid.

A bullet ricochets off Eric and swipes Jack. Eric RIPS around to see his friend slump to the ground in pain.

Resistance fights are GUNNED DOWN. A bloodbath.

CRANE BACK to Chloe... she's seeing all of it. A deep fear fills her, and she looks to the others behind her:

Kate, now huddled over Sarah, wears the same fear.

Suddenly, the sky is hit with a BEAMING IMAGE: the BAT-SYMBOL shimmering against the dark skies...

QUICK CUT - GORDON stands on the rooftop by the FLOODLIGHT, having ignited the BAT-SYMBOL. He stands with hope.

Chloe fills with conviction. She rushes for the large truck, climbs onto it, and stands atop it to overlook the war on the streets. The symbol burns bright behind her.

CHLOE

Enough!

The battle halts. Both sides look to a towering Chloe...

CHLOE (CONT'D)

I know you're all scared, and I know none of you want to be eaten up with the rest of this city in these dark days. But clinging to whoever seems the most powerful at the time - no matter how evil or twisted they are - just because you want to survive... it's not right.

Citizens look around to one another - no longer "Resistance" or the "Two-Face Gang" but as residents of the city...

CHLOE (CONT'D)

Harvey Dent has lost. Whatever you were fighting for - it's over. You don't have to go down with it.

Among the <u>Ganq</u>: several of them drop their guns, and move towards the resistance. They rejoin the citizens as <u>one</u>.

Others left behind look to each other. Hesitant. It's clear that they were criminals before No-Man's-Land and fear what the future holds for them now. Scared and surrounded.

CONTINUED: (2)

A GANG MEMBER (40s, worn, weary) looks back at what's left:

GANG MEMBER

They're just going to lock us up, whether it's now or later.

(off scared faces)
I don't know about you but there's no chance in hell I'm letting anyone lock me in a cage again.

An uproar of support. Cheers of agreement.

GANG MEMBER (CONT'D) Let's kill these sons of bitches.

Gang Member turns with his gun, now fixed on Chloe-

GANG MEMBER (CONT'D) Starting with $\underline{\text{her}}$.

BANG! SCATTER BOMBS ignite around the remaining members, and clouds the Gang Member in FIREWORKS AND SMOKE.

When the smoke clears, the Batman stands tall in front of the remaining gang. A looming, fearful presence that replaces their fear of the future with a fear of The Batman.

THE BATMAN

I would think twice about what you're going to do next.

The Gang Member struggles for a beat, then drops his gun.

Behind them, we see our united citizens and our familiar heroes gathered. The war in Gotham, now over.

OFF Chloe, watching from above with relief...

CUT TO BLACK.

END OF ACT FOUR

ACT FIVE

FADE IN:

INT. RESISTANCE BASE - DAY

The base is full of civilians celebrating. Alive and well.

PANNING through the crowds- FIND a happy Carrie and Duke, joining a circle with Eric and Jack. Chloe joins them.

CHLOE

You guys were amazing out there, truly. I think if the Old Guards of Gotham go into retirement, the city is in good hands with the four of you. You should be proud.

CARRIE

Thank you.

CONTINUE through the masses to find Lucius and Wesley:

LUCIUS

Had me worried there.

WESLEY

Nothing a few stitches can't fix.

LUCIUS

I'm glad you got out from under Dent... before it was too late.

WESLEY

Thanks. I know that's not something you probably never thought you'd say to me.

CONTINUE through to find Sarah and Batman:

SARAH

Jim called me. He lit the signal in the sky. Thought it would give us the hope we needed to win.

THE BATMAN

Smart man. Where is he now?

SARAH

Home.

CONTINUE through to find Helena introducing Maggie to Kate:

KATE

Helena told me what happened. I'm so sorry for your loss.
(beat)

(MORE)

WATCHTOWER, 'Contingency'
CONTINUED:

KATE (CONT'D)

I lost my Mum when I was younger and my Dad would always tell me that even though she's gone, I'll always have the memory of her to keep her around for as long as I'm here. And with a mother as strong as yours, I doubt you'll have to worry about her presence fading.

A comforted smile stitches across Maggie's face.

MAGGIE

Thank you.

A DOCTOR cuts in. Helena tugs at Kate to see:

DOCTOR

Kate. It's Renee.

OFF the smile fading on Kate's face...

INT. RESISTANCE BASE, MEDICAL BAY - DAY

A sheet is peeled back to reveal a deceased RENEE...

The DOCTOR turns to face a struggling Kate, hit with an immovable wave of grief. She can't seem to look away.

KATE

When... when did she-

DOCTOR

She seized over night. We did our best with what we had to bring her vitals back up but... I'm sorry.

Helena reaches for wife, but Kate pulls away. Shaken.

Beside them, an empathetic Maggie registers the pain and slips through the gaps to reach Renee. She holds her hand out over her - a GREEN GLOW emits and bathes over Renee.

Kate looks up from her hands to see the GLOWING LIGHT-

KATE

Maggie? What are you-

MAGGIE

My Mum told me that Kyle women die during birth, but that some 'magic water' brought her back once and had changed her DNA. When I was born, her nine lives didn't transfer to me like my Grandma's did for her. Instead of healing myself nine times over, I was born to heal others.

The light seeps deep into Renee, then disappears. She ignites with new life, and GASPS. Alive.

RENEE

Kate? What is- where-

Kate drops to Renee's side.

KATE

It's okay. You're okay now. You're here. You're really...

Kate looks back to Maggie in bewilderment and gratitude.

KATE (CONT'D)

Thank you. Thank you!

Kate wraps her arms around Maggie, who smiles wide in the embrace. A warm moment. Then Kate notices Helena sneaking out of the room... something isn't right.

INT. RESISTANCE BASE - NIGHT

Kate emerges out of the bay and onto the base. She looks around, then spots a distant Helena, heading out on her own.

KATE

Hey. Where are you running off to so quick?

Helena stops in her tracks. Her eyes are raw with tears.

HELENA

I just... need a minute.

Kate reaches Helena, and pulls her around to face her.

KATE

Hey, what's wrong? What-

HELENA

She's just a kid. She's just a kid in a messed up city that's taken everything from her. Her whole family - gone. And she's still so kind. Selfless.

(breaking)

This city is going to tear that away from her, bit by bit, until she wakes up one day and she's(hesitant)

Me.

KATE

No, Helena. That's not-

HELENA

I was even younger when my family were <u>slaughtered</u>. Like her, I watched the last bit of family I had left be killed right in front of my eyes. I held him in my arms when he-

The memory is too painful. Helena reconfigures-

HELENA (CONT'D)

The kid deserves a normal life, and a better future.

KATE

There's no such thing in Gotham.

HELENA

Maybe we can give her one.

A beat. Kate reads between the lines...

KATE

If I could fly away and get out of this city to spend an eternity with you and start a family, I would in a heartbeat. You know that.

CHLOE (O.S.)

Then let's make it happen.

Kate and Helena look over their shoulders to find Chloe standing in front of them with an all-knowing smile.

HELENA (PRELAP)

You found a chopper?

INT. RESISTANCE BASE, ARMORY - DAY (LATER)

Chloe operates a computer while Helena and Kate stand close behind her, watching over shoulder.

CHLOE

Our signal throughout the city has finally been restored, and my access to everything in Gotham is back online. That's when I saw it.

SECURITY FOOTAGE on the monitor displays a grounded CHOPPER.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

An ARGUS chopper, undamaged and ready to take flight.

HELENA

You found a way out.

CHLOE

I have. For three.

Chloe rises to face Kate and Helena.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

I think it should be the two of you and Maggie. I know she's not the only child trapped in Gotham, but I overheard you talking, and I can't think of anyone more deserving of a chance at happily ever after.

KATE

No. You have a family back in Star City. Oliver and Archer. You-

CHLOE

You can tell them everything that's happened here - that I'm okay, and we're alive, and that we all need help getting out of here.

HELENA

Are you sure?

A deep breath as Chloe makes up her mind.

CHLOE

Oliver will understand.

OFF Chloe, stood in her convictions...

EXT. CITY HALL - DAY

Oliver stands on the steps of City Hall and faces a crowd of reporters who aim microphones out at him.

OLIVER

An investigation, headed by the SCPD's Assistant Commissioner Broderick Westberg, will bring to light the reason why I stood before you last night and falsely claimed to be the vigilante known as Green Arrow. It's not something I'm proud of, but it is something I feared - had I not done - would bring harm to myself, to my friends and to my family.

A beat. Oliver appears to swallow his words. Struggling.

OLIVER (CONT'D)

But this city deserves leadership that doesn't give in to the demands of bad people doing bad things. Among the reporters, Evan SNAPS a photograph of Oliver, then lowers his camera with revelation: this is the end.

OLIVER (CONT'D)

It is for that reason, I have decided to resign from the office of Mayor effective immediately.

Shocked gasps scatter from the crowds.

OLIVER (CONT'D)

I apologise to my supporters - to those who believed in me and had my back from the very beginning. I thought I was at a place in my life where I could put this city that I love before anything else, but I've realised nothing means more to me right now than that of my family.

(long pause)

Thank you.

Oliver steps down, and the crowds swarm him - questions LOUDLY MUFFLING at him like bullets shot. Oliver pushes through, onto the street, in pursuit of a PARKED LIMO.

Evan manages to break to the front of the pack:

EVAN

If you're not the Green Arrow, then who is and how is anyone going to stop him from killing more people?

Oliver stops at the limo, and faces Evan.

OLIVER

That's something the Assistant Commissioner is going to find out, believe-you-me. Thank you.

Oliver exits into the vehicle.

INT. LIMO - DAY

Oliver closes the door of the limo, then looks to his left where a determined Archer sits. The two united.

OLIVER

Like the speech?

In front of Archer is a SCREEN on the back of the seat. It plays a MUTED clip of Oliver's speech.

ARCHER

Definitely one of your finer moments. I'm proud of you, Dad.

WATCHTOWER, 'Contingency' CONTINUED:

The two lock eyes. A beautiful moment of peace.

OLIVER

Thanks.

(beat)

Now let's get our girl home.

INT. STAR CITY PRISON - DAY

A woman in an orange jumpsuit is guided by GUARDS towards a She is pushed in, and the door SEALS in front of her.

Turning to face the door, a defeated MIA is revealed...

EXT. GOTHAM CITY, OUTSKIRTS - DAY

Helena stands in the breeze, watching as Kate and Maggie board the ARGUS CHOPPER in the distance.

CHLOE (O.S.)

I hope you're not having second thoughts.

Helena turns to face Chloe.

HELENA

We started this mission to save Gotham together. Feels like I'm leaving you to do that on your own.

CHLOE

No, we are doing it together. You, me, Bruce. Bruce took down Dent. I gave one hell of a speech. (off Helena's laugh) And you. You're going to get us the help we need to save everyone

stranded here. And then we're done. City saved. The end.

Tears well in Helena's eyes, the weight of this moment...

HELENA

Promise me I won't have to wait another twelve years to see my best friend again.

A beat. Chloe smiles through her own tears.

CHLOE

I promise.

The two embrace - reunited at the very end.

CHLOE (CONT'D)

Goodbye, Helena.

Helena offers a small wave, then turns her back - moving from the past to her <u>future</u>:

Kate and Maggie, in the chopper. Helena boards inside.

Chloe watches as the chopper's engine starts. A gale wind hits, but she remains, watching on...

OFF the chopper LIFTING-

SELINA (PRELAP)

Will she be happy?

EXT. CEMETERY - NIGHT (FLASHBACK)

Kyle slowly approaches Selina with a nod.

KYLE

Here. Let me show you.

Kyle places his hand on Selina's forehead, and her eyes ignite with white. A BLINDING LIGHT brings us to-

A SERIES OF FLASHES:

- Typical suburban house. MAGGIE enters a vibrant, colourful bedroom made just for her;
- MAGGIE is playfully chased around the room by her parents, redhead and brunette women;
- MAGGIE lies asleep in her MOTHER's lap;
- MAGGIE, 18, graduates high-school, on stage and finding her parents in the crowd applauding;
- MAGGIE enters a college dorm;
- MAGGIE, 30s, enters her DOCTOR'S OFFICE, fully licensed;
- MAGGIE, now 40, gathers for a family photo, shuffling in her SON, DAUGHTER, and HUSBAND. A much older HELENA and KATE huddle in behind them and the CAMERA FLASHES;
- MAGGIE, 90s, on her deathbed, holding a photo the same photo in her hands as she eases into an eternal rest...

BACK TO Selina, a single tear falling from her eye.

SELINA

Thank you.

A simple nod from Kyle, and he SCATTERS INTO GREEN MIST.

Stood alone in the cemetery, Selina wipes her tears, then looks down at the device in her hands - the TRACER for Bruce.

INT. GORDON RESIDENCE, LIVING ROOM - DAY

Two glasses of whiskey are poured. Hands scoop them up-

GORDON (O.S.)

I shouldn't have doubted you.

Gordon turns with the drinks in hand to find Bruce.

BRUCE

When did you doubt me?

Gordon offers Bruce his drink, and he takes it.

GORDON

The same person who told me that Dusan Al Ghul was back - they told me that tonight was destined to be your last... that you were going to-

BRUCE

Die.

GORDON

Yeah. They wanted to save you as much as I did, so they gave me this-

Gordon takes out an EMPTY VIAL from his pocket. Bruce studies it for a second- realising...

GORDON (CONT'D)

I put it in your drink back at the base, but doesn't look like you-

Bruce stumbles to the wall. His drink falls from his hand, and glass SHATTERS ACROSS THE FLOOR.

GORDON (CONT'D)

Bruce?!

BRUCE

Jim, I-

A beat. Bruce slides down the wall, then slumps to the ground in a heave. Gurgling.

GORDON

(exploding)

Bruce!

Gordon drops to Bruce's aid, but can only watch as Bruce chokes on his own muffled words. His eyes roll to the back of his head, and the life drains from his body.

GORDON (CONT'D)

No, no, no. Bruce!

Gordon cradles a lifeless Bruce in his arms...

VICKI (O.S.)

They must have gotten to him.

Gordon SNAPS around to see a shocked VICKI in the room.

GORDON

I don't understand how this can happen. He took the serum.

VICKI

I don't know but there might still be a way to save him.

A rattled Gordon watches as Vicki crouches by Bruce's side and feels his pulse. He's <u>dead</u>.

VICKI (CONT'D)

I can take it from here.

Vicki SMASHES a vial against the ground- SMOKE ERUPTS around the two, then fades to show they're both gone.

Gordon stands in the room alone, shaking and trembling.

A ROUND OF APPLAUSE (O.S) echoes behind him.

Gordon SNAPS around to find DUSAN finishing his applause, then he approaches with a widening smile.

DUSAN AL GHUL

Well done. Couldn't have done it without you, my friend.

GORDON

The hell are you talking about?

DUSAN AL GHUL

Killing Batman. So many have tried but you... who would have thought his most trusted ally would be the one to finally take him down?

GORDON

I- I didn't... I mean- this wasn't
me. I didn't do this.

DUSAN AL GHUL

That vial wasn't water from the Lazarus Pit.

Gordon looks at the EMPTY VIAL in his hands.

DUSAN AL GHUL (CONT'D)

It was long-acting poison.

GORDON

No.

DUSAN AL GHUL

Why do you think I wasn't able to kill you all those years ago?

CONTINUED: (3)

QUICK CUT - HUSH confronts GORDON in the GCPD ('Broken').

HUSH

I've seen the future, Gordon. I've done all that I can to weasel my way into the grand scheme of things in an attempt to ensure my survival, but there are some moments in time that cannot be changed. Unfortunately, it makes killing you impossible.

BACK TO - Dusan closes in on a petrified Gordon.

DUSAN AL GHUL

If all else failed - which, sadly it looks like it did - I had <u>you</u>, here, in this very moment, taking down my biggest threat. And I truly have to thank you for that.

GORDON

You sick son of a bitch.

Gordon pulls a gun from his jacket, and EMPTIES A CLIP-

Bullets simply fall off Dusan's chest and hit the ground, now crushed and misshapen.

DUSAN AL GHUL

The anticipation I've had to stand across from you and know that I can finally kill you-

A gasp. Gordon looks down to see a blade in his abdomen...

DUSAN AL GHUL (CONT'D)

Well, let's just say that it was killing me... just as much as this is going to kill you.

Dusan RIPS the blade out. Gordon stumbles back.

GORDON

(faint)

Get... away.

Dusan offers a chilling laugh, then pulls Gordon in for a second STAB- the blade jabs the same spot.

Gordon gasps, then pushes himself back, to the floor.

DUSAN AL GHUL

Sorry, I seemed to have gotten a little ahead of myself.

WATCHTOWER, 'Contingency'
CONTINUED: (4)

Gordon clutches his wound as blood pours from him. He weakly slides back, trying to create distance...

DUSAN AL GHUL (CONT'D)

There's no reason we can't draw this thing-

CRASH! A METAL DEVICE cuts through the ceiling-

Dusan looks to his side to see a MISSILE stuck to the floor beside him. It immediately ERUPTS- BOOM!

INT. RESISTANCE BASE - DAY

A tremor rocks the base. Sarah rips open, out of the shelter, and looks up to the skies:

Missiles appear throughout the sky, dropping everywhere.

SWISH PAN to the medical bay entrance where Renee stumbles out, eyes up at the sky to see the chaos.

RENEE

What the hell is happening?

SARAH

I don't know, but-

An EXPLOSION echoes. Then another. Closer, and closer...

SARAH (CONT'D)

Run. We have to run!

Sarah latches onto Renee, and pulls her around to run away from the incoming missile strike.

An EXPLOSION erupts and DEBRIS BURIES THEM-

EXT. GOTHAM CITY, OUTSKIRTS - DAY

A fulfilled Chloe looks out at the sky with hope.

Suddenly, a tremor hits. Then another. She slowly looks back in fear and catches a glimpse of the city: rising smoke, clouds of explosions throughout. An apocalyptic sight.

Chloe backs up, watching the explosions grow closer. She turns to run, but is stopped by an IMMEDIATE THUD.

PAN DOWN to find a missile... 'Property of ARGUS.'

OFF Chloe, eyes locked onto a missile that marks her end...

CUT TO BLACK.

END OF ACT FIVE

EPILOGUE

FADE IN:

INT. SECRET BASE - DAY

Sliding doors open. Heels clap against the ground.

Sat behind a series of monitors and operating the impressive computer system, NICK pivots around in his chair then rises to greet a determined ELIZABETH THORNE.

NICK

It's done.

THORNE

That's good to hear.

(off Nick)

Why do I get the feeling you disagree? Hmm, Nicholas?

NICK

I just think it will be harder to explain than everything else we've done here. I mean-

Thorne turns away, rolling her eyes at him.

NICK (CONT'D)

Missiles falling out of the sky that only the government has access to - that's kind of a dead give-away, don't you think?

THORNE

You think too much, Nicholas.

NICK

I'm just worried for us.

(beat)

It's only a matter of time before they find out what we did.

THORNE

We? Oh, I didn't do a thing.

Thorne turns, gun suddenly in hand, and fires- BANG!

A bullet rips through Nick. He clutches his heart - a poetic place for this betrayal to land - and he looks on with hurt.

NICK

Lizzie?

Nick's legs give out, and he slumps to the floor. Dead.

Thorne buries the gun back into her coat, then steps over her dead accomplice. She moves for the computer.

Fingers type with precision on the keyboard...

The monitor shows a photograph of Nick (labelled 'Nicholas Gage') and a unique ID attached to a bar of text reading, 'missile strike authorised by.'

Thorne straightens with a smile, then withdraws her phone:

SCROLL to find 'POTUS' on the phone display. Call.

Thorne, summoning the skill to now cry on demand, shifts into a distressed voice:

THORNE

Pete? Pete, it's me. I need to talk- I- I need your help.

OFF the cunning smile that stitches across Thorne's face...

CUT TO BLACK.

END OF EPISODE