

JUSTINE. I, uh, haven't been sleeping.

KAREEM. Me neither. Because of you. You're ruining my life!

JUSTINE. That's not fair.

KAREEM. Looking over my shoulder all the time, it's doing my head in. Please, leave me alone?

JUSTINE. You're scared.

KAREEM. I'm. Busy.

JUSTINE. What have you found out? Tell me. I can help.

*Pause.*

KAREEM. Not here.

JUSTINE. Let's go outside.

*They leave the McDonald's and go outside.*

What is it?

KAREEM. I made a few enquiries about that dude.

JUSTINE. And?

KAREEM. I found out enough to know that you don't want to get known as the guy who's asking around about that dude, yeah?

JUSTINE. What d'you -

KAREEM. So that's it. I'm out.

JUSTINE. What are people saying about him?

KAREEM. Listen, my mum, I'm all she's got. If something happens to me...

JUSTINE. Nothing's going to happen to you. We can protect you, and your mum. I promise.

*KAREEM looks around nervously.*

KAREEM. People say he's planning something.

JUSTINE. What?

KAREEM. I don't know and I don't want to know!

JUSTINE. Okay, okay. We need to find him. Quickly.

KAREEM. That's your problem.

JUSTINE. Kareem.

KAREEM. They won't tell me, will they? Only his close mates know that.

JUSTINE. Then you have to become one of his close mates.

KAREEM. You're mental! I'm not a... cop, I can't do that!

JUSTINE. You can get them to trust you. Say the right things. Find out where he is, that's all, we'll do the rest.

KAREEM. I can't. No.

JUSTINE. Okay, so you walk away. You could have helped, but you don't. And something happens. People die. Children. How would you feel then? Could you live with that?

*Pause.*

KAREEM. I hate you.

15.

*A hotel room.*

*KOPLOV is sitting waiting, with champagne and glasses. After a moment, JUSTINE enters. She's nervous and not sure what's going on. KOPLOV and JUSTINE speak Russian throughout this scene.*

KOPLOV. Julya! Good evening. Have some champagne!

JUSTINE. Uh, thank you.

*He gives her champagne.*

KOPLOV. This is a celebration. Sit down. No, no, sit here next to me!

*They sit on the bed.*

JUSTINE. What are we celebrating?

KOPLOV. You have been working for me for four weeks!

JUSTINE. Ah!

KOPLOV. Congratulations.

*He offers her his glass to clink and she does so. They drink.*

You have been doing a very satisfactory job.

JUSTINE. Thank you.

KOPLOV. You are organised, diligent and everybody likes you very much.

JUSTINE. I'm glad. You know that I'm very happy working for you.

KOPLOV. Wonderful!

JUSTINE. So, that's why you asked me to meet you here tonight? Because you want to celebrate?

KOPLOV. And I want to get to know you a little better.

JUSTINE. I'd love to talk, over a drink but I'm also really hungry.

KOPLOV. Hungry?

JUSTINE. I haven't had dinner. Why don't we go to the bar downstairs? We can get some food and talk.

KOPLOV. But we can talk much more freely here. My God, you look so worried! Haven't you ever been alone in a hotel room with a man before? I'm not going to eat you.

JUSTINE. I'm not worried. You know that I look to you as to a father.

KOPLOV. Here, have some more champagne.

*He tops up her drink.*

Julya, you are not the prettiest of girls. In fact there is nothing very distinctive about you at all. When I tried to think about what you looked like it was hard to say. But if you look closely there is something about you. Something very unusual.

JUSTINE. Uh. Thank you.

KOPLOV. I have become close to several of my assistants. I had a very close relationship with Luiba, who you replaced. Very close.

*Pause. JUSTINE thinking.*

JUSTINE. I could not... become close to someone unless... I need trust, and honesty.

KOPLOV. I think I have just been very honest.

JUSTINE. You're a very powerful man, Anton. I've always found powerful men attractive.

KOPLOV. You don't... see me as a father?

*She kisses him.*

JUSTINE. Does that answer your question?

16.

*A hotel room.*

JUSTINE is waiting. KAI knocks on the door. She opens the door and lets him in quickly. He's agitated and excited.

KAI. Very cloak and dagger, this. Did you give a false name? Mr and Mrs Smith.

JUSTINE. It's safer. No chance of being seen together.

KAI. I told her. I couldn't hold it in any more.

JUSTINE. What?

KAI. I feel like a total shitbag and I feel happy at the same time. It was horrible. Fuck, I can't believe it! I did it! I'm...

*He notices her reaction.*

What is it?

JUSTINE. You told her about me?

KAI. I told her I'd fallen in love with someone else.

JUSTINE. Yes, but who did you tell her who?

KAI. No. What's wrong?

JUSTINE. Kai. I. I can't see you any more.

*Pause.*