

REVISED SENATOR HARGROVE
2/1/13

32

ACT THREE

FADE IN:

INT. CAPITOL CONFERENCE ROOM - NEXT MORNING

A formal meeting room. Senator Hargrove sits at the head of a six-Senator Security Sub-Committee. She begins, in a rehearsed, authoritative tone.

HARGROVE

START →

You all know how much I value the right to free speech. But it's becoming clear that a number of citizens are beginning to exploit that right, in an effort to undermine our government. The laboratory break-in at Annapolis is evidence of an organization that is growing, moving past words into potentially violent action.

She opens a briefcase containing maps and files. (One of the maps illustrates how fences have separated urban sprawl, dividing cities from surrounding wilderness.)

HARGROVE (CONT'D)

I believe an emergency measure is warranted to rectify this problem before it gets out of hand. It involves a search and seizure program to identify members of this criminal movement and retrieve the stolen files. In the past we've discussed reinforcing the borders with electricity --

SENATOR WHITE

(interrupts)

And you've always disagreed. Elyse. What's gotten into you?

SENATOR REDD

It's a reversal. To say the least.

SENATOR WHITE

These ideas are ludicrous. Bordering on fascist.

HARGROVE

Not fascist, John. Just practical. As chair of this committee, security is my responsibility. I take it personally. This movement is a real problem.

SENATOR REDD

It is for the DFA.

(CONTINUED)

Delirium

Jones

11

CONTINUED:

SENATOR WHITE
You're ditching moral high ground to
placate Tom Fineman. Am I right?

Hargrove doesn't deny it. Instead, she poses a mild threat.

HARGROVE
Vote with me or against me. It's up to
you. But as the next President of the
Consortium, I suggest you decide wisely.

As the Senators exchange sideways looks --

TIME CUT TO:

INT. RUSSELL SENATE OFFICE BUILDING - HALLWAY - DAY

Hargrove walks back to her office with her Aide by her side.

HARGROVE (CONT'D)
What's next?

AIDE
I've been interviewing interns for your
advance team and I've found a few I'd
like you to meet

INT. SENATOR HARGROVE'S OFFICE - ANTEROOM - DAY

In the reception area, several possible Interns are waiting.

AIDE
Senator, this is Rebecca Linn.

REVEAL REN... she stands up, looking smart, professional.
Trustworthy. Hargrove likes her immediately.

REN
Pleasure to meet you, Senator.

HARGROVE
Rebecca, is it? Step into my office.

Ren walks into the Senator's inner sanctum, triumphant.

INT. FINEMAN HOUSE - HALLWAY - MORNING

Julian walks down the hall toward the dining room. He sees
his father's study door is open a crack. THE HOUSEKEEPER,
AUDREY, is vacuuming. Her back is to the door.

THROUGH THE CRACKED DOOR -- Julian watches her drag the
vacuum across the Persian rug. We get a glimpse of the room:
tall bookshelves, wide plasma TV. Julian keeps going.

INT. FINEMAN HOUSE - DINING ROOM - MORNING

(CONTINUED)

21-

CONTINUED: (2)

LENA (CONT'D)

My sister is a pain in my ass, but if I never saw her again, I would miss her.

ALEX

It's not about what you're leaving behind. It's what's out there, waiting for you.

LENA

Nothing is waiting for me.

Alex hesitates -- he knows he's already told her too much. But this is an argument he really wants to win.

ALEX

There's something else I haven't told you. Something that might change your mind.

LENA

I doubt it.

Off Alex, weighing his options.

INT. SENATOR HARGROVE'S HOUSE - LIVING ROOM - NEXT MORNING

Senator Hargrove's home in the District is urban-eclectic and stylish. The morning chaos within reveals another side of her character: harried working mom of three. She talks to her Aide on her cell while fighting a sticky zipper on her daughter's jacket -- one of her twins (LUCIA & NOELLE, 6).

HARGROVE

(into the phone)

I'm running a little late. I was working on my opening remarks.

(to her daughter)

Hold still.

FREDERICK

I got it, Mom.

Her son FREDERICK, 18, steps in to help with the zipper. He's good-looking, strong, responsible.

HARGROVE

Thanks.

(into the phone)

I'm not going to abandon my base. This is the way the tide is turning.

As Fred fixes the zipper, he notices a stack of MAIL fall through the front mail slot. He shoots a sidelong look at his mother; she didn't see.

(CONTINUED)

31

CONTINUED:

He walks over and digs through the pile. In it, he finds his EVALUATION RESULTS envelope. He stuffs it in a pocket.

HARGROVE (CONT'D)

(into the phone)

Okay. Meet you there. Bye.

(she hangs up)

Frederick, I saw that.

FREDERICK

What?

She puts her hand out and Fred obediently hands over the envelope. He holds his breath as the Senator rips it open. Her eyes scan the results. She frowns a bit.

FREDERICK (CONT'D)

What?

HARGROVE

Two children. That's great. You're good with kids. And you'll still have plenty of time to practice law.

FREDERICK

What about my match? Who is it?

The Senator quickly folds up the paperwork and shoves it in her tote bag. Digs for her favorite Isotoners.

HARGROVE

No one we know. We can talk about it later.

(then)

I may need to pull a few strings.

Off Fred... knowing his mother, that doesn't sound good.

EXT./INT. FINEMAN HOUSE - MORNING

Fineman is doing a similar mad dash to get out of the house in the morning, fastening gold DFA cuff-links as he meets Lydia in their grand center hall. He kisses her cheek.

FINEMAN

You look pretty today.

LYDIA

Thank you. Where's Julian?

She calls up the staircase.

LYDIA (CONT'D)

Julian!

(CONTINUED)

61

Additional Scene ²⁵

CONTINUED: (2)

He returns her identification and shouts to the gate.

ARMED GUARD

Clear!

Off the Senator's car, gaining access to the Capitol.....

INT. RUSSELL SENATE OFFICE BUILDING - ANTEROOM - DAY

The U.S. Capitol Complex hasn't changed much since 1793. Thomas Fineman waits in the reception area outside Hargrove's office as Hargrove enters on heels as high as her aspirations. She has a MALE SENATE AIDE at her side.

HARGROVE

Mr. Fineman. Hope you haven't been waiting long.

FINEMAN

For you, Senator, I'll wait.

They shake hands with professional courtesy, but we sense a personal history here. The Aide opens the door to --

INT. HARGROVE'S OFFICE - DAY

The office reflects eleven successful years in the Senate, five as Chair of the Security Sub-Committee. Fineman takes a seat on the sofa, stretches back like he owns the place.

FINEMAN

I'm hearing good things, Elyse. You're an early favorite for the nomination.

HARGROVE

I have high hopes, but it's too early to tell. How's Julian? How old is he now?

FINEMAN

Just turned 19. His procedure is still on hold. Not an ideal situation.

HARGROVE

Must be getting hard to keep him in his plastic bubble.

FINEMAN

The key is to avoid "questionable material". Keeps the gas off his flame.

HARGROVE

I believe in the cure. But I also believe in an open exchange of ideas.

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

21

CONTINUED:

HARGROVE (CONT'D)

The rules have gone too far. People need room to breathe.

FINEMAN

I do keep my own library, suitable for adults, if you want to check it out. Want to stay ahead of the devil, you better get to know him.

A devilish grin. Hargrove leans in.

HARGROVE

I know the devil, Tom. The question is, why did he come to see me today?

FINEMAN

It's time to look forward, Senator. I've come to offer up my support. A DFA endorsement means a six-point margin.

HARGROVE

That's very kind of you.

FINEMAN

But. If you want me to play ball, you're going to have to stop going soft on this "Resistance Movement".

HARGROVE

It's harmless minority opinion, Tom.

FINEMAN

Not anymore. It's not some fringe group hanging out in the woods. They're all around us. You hear about Inmate 1373?

HARGROVE

Yes. I'm sure he won't get far.

FINEMAN

What about the lab in Annapolis?

HARGROVE

There was a protest of some sort?

FINEMAN

It wasn't a protest. It was goddamn Watergate. Confidential files were stolen. Information that can be used against us. These people are organized.

HARGROVE

I agree, they're a nuisance --

(CONTINUED)

CONTINUED: (2)

FINEMAN

They're more than a nuisance. They're terrorists. We've got a domestic insurgency on our hands!

Hargrove tries to stay patient through his hyperbole.

HARGROVE

What exactly are you asking me to do?

FINEMAN

Turn up the heat and shut them down. Root out them out one by one. Blanket search, house to house, screw the warrants. Seal up the borders --

HARGROVE

You're talking about an institutionalized infringement of civil liberties. We already have fences around every city.

FINEMAN

They climb right over them! We need the Great Wall. We need an army!

HARGROVE

That's ridiculous. It's too much to ask.

Fineman exhales. He takes a beat, as if he's giving up.

FINEMAN

I guess we agree to disagree. But those six points would have been a nice lead. Way out of the margin of error.

Off Hargrove... how bad does she want it?

~~EXT. HANA'S HOUSE - POOL - DAY~~

Hana's house is more than a house, it's an enviable stone mansion. Hana lounges in her bathing suit by the pool, listening to her iPod. Her eyes are closed, feet tapping to the music as she attempts to soak up those first spring rays.

SOMEONE IS WATCHING, through the privacy hedge, directly across from her lounge chair. A perfect POV. Reveal --

IT'S JULIAN. He watches from his own yard next door, nervous, surreptitious. He can't tear his eyes off her... until Hana opens hers. She spots him immediately. Julian turns to walk away. Hana jumps up.

HANA

Hey!

(CONTINUED)