

Screenplay  
Reprise

by

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1 EXT STREET --DAY

Detective THORPE, 50, fit as a college half-back, runs down a street in Old Toronto. He is dressed in pants and sports jacket with tie fully snugged around his muscular neck. Although he is wearing hard leather soled shoes, he easily overtakes a fit young JOGGER in jogging gear. THORPE nods as he breezes by. The jogger's pride is stung and he picks up his stride and pulls alongside Thorpe but quickly falls back as Thorpe picks up more speed.

POV JOGGER:

THORPE disappearing up the street.

2 EXT BUS STOP --DAY

THORPE trots up to the the bus stop. He is breathing normally and has not even worked up a sweat. He stands at the bus stop with a MANICURED MAN with a brief case, TIRED WOMEN with SULLEN CHILDREN and a PROSPECT FOR JUVY HALL. Thorpe isn't happy to be riding Toronto Transit. To ease his discomfort he lights a smoke. Two drags later the bus arrives.

He steps on board taking one more drag.

BUS DRIVER SHINE

Hey Mack, no smoking. (points to the camera) I get a fine, too, if you get caught on tape.

THORPE

Yeah, sorry.

THORPE pinches the butt and sticks it in his pocket. Brooklyn?

BUS DRIVER SHINE

Yeah. But I'm all Taranah now.

BUS DRIVER SHINE points to his MAPLE LEAF pin on his lapel.

As the bus pulls away, the JOGGER jogs past the bus stop, puffing heavily.

THORPE finds a spot near the front of the bus. Toronto drifts by. Out of habit he reads the driver's Photo ID.

POV THORPE:

Robert Gordon Shine

Badge Number 091101

THORPE looks about the bus and reads a warning about H1N1 flu.

(CONTINUED)

POV THORPE:

Get your flu shots now!

THORPE keeps looking: faces, traffic, ads. He's bored and slightly irritated. Clearly no one on the bus is happy, except the smiling MR ROBERT SHINE.

POV Behind ROBERT SHINE but you can tell he's smiling.

He turns his head to check traffic. Yep, he's smiling.

THORPE checks his watch. He's going to be late.

Stop after stop passengers board and depart. MR ROBERT SHINE has a pleasant GOOD MORNING and GOOD DAY to everyone.

THORPE is grudgingly won over and starts to grin.

Stuck in the corner of the windshield is a PHOTO of ROBERT in a big green stetson is surrounded by kids in white stetsons under a Junior Rodeo banner. The other, a PHOTO of two pretty pre-teen girls and their mother who obviously supplies the good looks gene. All three of them have megawatt smiles. ROBERT is no Brad Pitt but he exudes the pure happiness of man who knows he is blessed.

THORPE

Nice looking family.

BUS DRIVER SHINE

Thanks. Those ladies are the reason I push this barge around five shifts a week.

THORPE pulls himself out of the seat.

THORPE

My stop. Thanks.

BUS DRIVER SHINE

Yeah, see ya again.

THORPE

Not likely. My car will be fixed by morning.

3 INT POLICE STATION --DAY

THORPE sorts through papers on his desk; a PAMPHLET about the flu comes to hand and he PITCHES IT into the trash. His cell phone RINGS.

THORPE

Hi, Sweetie.

(CONTINUED)

ELKA

Dad, my film is going to be shown on Cinescope next month.

THORPE

That's wonderful, Elka.

ELKA

I would love for you and Mom to come to the studio.

THORPE

We will be there. Just let her know the details. I'll clear the decks here.

ELKA

Love you, Dad.

THORPE

I love you, Elka.

There's a KNOCK on the door which opens. A large grey haired man, CAPTAIN VAN FLEET looks in. THORPE beckons him in with a wave.

I've got to go, Elka. Van Fleet has arrived. No, I won't give him a hug. Bye, Sweetie.

VAN FLEET

How are things with Elka, Chief?

THORPE

Her latest film will be aired on Cinescope soon, Admiral. She sends her love.

VAN FLEET savours the thought.

VAN FLEET

Mmmmm. Perhaps this is the beginning of her career, Chief.

THORPE

I'm praying it is. What's on your mind, Admiral? Not art films, surely.

VAN FLEET

Actually, yes. One of Cinescope's regulars just turned up in a dumpster in Little Jamaica. Alexy Vega.

THORPE

The Yank who films street crime?

(CONTINUED)

VAN FLEET

Yes, Chief. I'm surprised we didn't get this call a long time ago. He's been doing this for five or six years.

THORPE

I hope Elka's not filming crime.

VAN FLEET

No, she's working on a film with dogs in it.

THORPE

How do you know this?

VAN FLEET

Facebook. Madeline thought it would be a good way to kept track of people I care about.

4 EXT LITTLE JAMAICA --DAY

A row of dumpsters behind a tenement. A parking lot littered with junked cars, busted up furniture, and liquor. YOUNG MEN watch menacingly from doorways and windows. THORPE squats in a dumpster with ALEXY VEGA and cloud of flies. A patrolman, OFFICER PETE GREENWELL, standing on tip toes, peers over the edge.

OFFICER PETE GREENWELL

Alexy's been filming around here for six months.

THORPE

Any suspects come to mind.

GREENWELL looks over to the menacing MEN in the doors and windows.

OFFICER PETE GREENWELL

Just about anyone around here. I've been warning Alexy since he got here.

POV THORPE:

ECU ALEXY VEGA with a neat hole in his forehead.

OFFICER PETE GREENWELL

My Bag Lady found him, Detective.

BAG LADY hovers near the patrol car looking hopeful.

(CONTINUED)

THORPE  
I don't think I'll need anything  
from her, Pete.

OFFICER PETE GREENWELL  
She's expecting a reward,  
Detective.

THORPE  
She wasn't motivated by civic  
spirit, uh?

OFFICER PETE GREENWELL  
Look around, Detective. There's  
not much spirit, civic or  
otherwise, around here.

THORPE vaults out of the dumpster, impressing OFFICER PETE GREENWELL with his athleticism.

THORPE  
Mr Vega filmed his killer. Nice  
ECU shot, too.

OFFICER PETE GREENWELL  
E see you?

THORPE  
Extreme Close Up.

OFFICER PETE GREENWELL  
Oh, yeah nearly point blank.  
Nearly. There are no powder burns  
that I could see, Detective.

THORPE rolls the tape for OFFICER PETE GREENWELL.  
POV OFFICER PETE GREENWELL

A thug in a green, yellow and  
black woolen hat.

OFFICER PETE GREENWELL  
Alphonse McKinley. He's probably  
over there watching us.

THORPE looks over the the tenements. BAG LADY is no longer  
by the patrol car. She's shuffling away as quickly as she  
can.

THORPE  
Your tipster feels nervous.

OFFICER PETE GREENWELL  
She's not the only one.

THORPE

Yeah, I feel a little chilly myself.

OFFICER PETE GREENWELL

Want to find and arrest him now?

THORPE

No, Captain Van Fleet will send out the gang squad. I don't want any more violence around these women and kids.

OFFICER PETE GREENWELL

This will kill his mother. She's a good woman, Detective.

THORPE

So was Misses Custer.

5 EXT FOOTBALL FIELD --DAY

THORPE watches a Saturday morning pick up flag football game among COLLEGE CO-EDS. After few plays, one of the players, LIONEL THORPE, spots Thorpe.

LIONEL

Hey, Dad! Come and play a few downs.

THORPE trots onto the field. LIONEL tosses the ball to him. The TEAM gathers round.

THORPE

Who's quickest?

SEVERAL PLAYERS

Lionel!

THORPE

I'll drop one over your left shoulder in the end zone.

SCEPTICAL PLAYER

That's a 60 yard throw.

LIONEL

He can do it, Thomas.

A quick SNAP COUNT and general confusion but LIONEL rockets down the sideline, as THORPE scrambles before unleashing a perfect pass, just as predicted. The TEAM trots back to THORPE.

(CONTINUED)

SCEPTICAL PLAYER

You're one hell of a passer, Mr Thorpe.

THORPE

I've lost a bit of distance but can still manage the short stuff.

LIONEL and TEAM high five THORPE.

LIONEL

You should play a series for the other team just make it fair, Dad.

THORPE

I don't have much time, Lionel. Elka's film will air on Cinescope in a few weeks.

LIONEL

Yeah. I'll try to make Elka's premiere if possible.

THORPE

How are your studies going?

LIONEL

It's a grind. I'm glad to get out here a couple of times a week.

THORPE

Mom will call you with the details about the premiere.

LIONEL

Elka and I chat daily by computer.

THORPE

Mom likes to talk to you.

SCEPTICAL PLAYER

Come on, Lionel. We've got another study session in twenty minutes.

6 INT THORPE'S OFFICE --DAY

The camera THORPE retrieved is connected to a TV set. The film rolls:

A gang banger, snarling like a wildcat, rushes the camera. He thrusts a 9 mm pistol held sideways at camera. A SHOT. As the camera sinks it captures the image of the shooter.

VAN FLEET turns from the screen with great disgust.

(CONTINUED)

VAN FLEET

I got used to things after a year or two on the streets. Now things are going sideways again. What kind of slime does that?

THORPE

And leave the evidence.

VAN FLEET

People kill for fun. I don't know, Chief. Perhaps retirement is close at hand.

THORPE

Don't retire today. We should have this joker by the six o'clock news, Admiral.

VAN FLEET

Homicide and capture in a news cycle. It will look good at the next commissioner's meeting.

THORPE

You can do the TV conference. Gang squad is your baby, after all. I'm headed home. I only came in on the way to get my car.

VAN FLEET

Tires again, Chief?

THORPE puts on his jacket and VAN FLEET head out of the room and down the hall. A middle-aged woman, MADELINE JONES, signals for VAN FLEET to come into her office. She is nearly as tall as VAN FLEET and a bit stern. She looks over half-frame bifocals when she speaks.

MADELINE JONES

John, I have the staffing reports ready for your signature.

MADELINE JONES acknowledges THORPE with a quick smile.

VAN FLEET

Madeline, I didn't expect you to be here, today.

MADELINE JONES

You have a very busy week ahead full of department meetings, John.

VAN FLEET

(to Thorpe)

I'll have my boys pick up,

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

VAN FLEET (cont'd)  
Alphonse. Give my best to Reva  
and the kids, Chief.

THORPE  
Certainly. (to Madeline) Have a  
nice day, Madeline.

7 INT THORPE'S LIVING ROOM --DAY

The room is airy and feminine with bright colours and flowers. Only the leather recliner suggests a man lives there. THORPE enters, loosening his tie and hunting for the remote.

THORPE  
Reva! I'm back.

THORPE picks up the remote, sits in his recliner and scans for sports. Reva, his wife of 28 years, flits in. She's a pixie with short ginger hair and bright eyes and smile.

REVA  
Was there a problem with the car,  
Chief?

THORPE  
No. Why?

REVA  
You've been gone for four hours.

THORPE  
Oh, I stopped by the station and  
solved a homicide.

REVA  
That's good.

THORPE  
I saw Lionel, too.

REVA  
What a busy detective you've  
been. Would you like a beer?

THORPE  
Please. Elka called.

REVA goes to the fridge. THORPE sits in his recliner and appears to study the ceiling. Reva returns with a mug of beer.

REVA  
Elka dropped by. All excited  
about her film premiere. You will

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

REVA (cont'd)  
be able to get time off, Chief,  
right?

THORPE  
I'm not missing my daughter's  
public TV premiere.

THORPE talks a large quaff from the mug.

REVA  
Public access, Chief. It's a rung  
down from TVO, I'm afraid. Maybe  
even two rungs, but it's a start.

THORPE  
Elka had such a promising start  
in accounting.

REVA  
She's chasing a dream, dear. She  
can fall back on accounting but  
it would be like assuming another  
life for her, now, Chief.

THORPE  
It would be a better life.

REVA  
You know what they say about the  
other side of the fence.

THORPE  
I know what prisoners say about  
it.

REVA  
Did you really solve a murder,  
today?

THORPE  
Yes, I did.

REVA  
You are a brilliant detective,  
Chief.

REVA kisses him lightly on the cheek and sits on his lap.

THORPE  
No, it was dead easy, Reva. The  
victim managed to film his own  
murderer.

REVA  
Oh! And you found the film?

THORPE

The murderer left the camera with the body!

REVA

He didn't even take the tape?

THORPE

Not the brightest goon, for sure. I think Elka may have known the victim.

REVA

What? It was a friend of hers? Oh, Chief.

THORPE

Not a friend. A fellow film nut.

REVA

Oh God. Is she in danger?

THORPE

No, Reva. This character, Alexy Vega, filmed criminals in Little Jamaica. I think he had a death wish.

REVA

Oh, poor Elka. She takes things so much to heart. You will let her know that the criminal was caught, won't you? So she doesn't worry.

THORPE

I'll do that, if you will stop fretting. Deal?

REVA

I'll stop.

THORPE

What's for lunch?

REVA

Beer and brats on the patio.

THORPE

What's the occasion?

REVA

Summer. It won't last much longer. We should live every moment of life, Chief. Just to be thankful for it.

8 INT THORPE'S BEDROOM --NIGHT

THORPE fusses with his tie. REVA is deciding what to wear.

THORPE

I don't suppose most of the audience will be wearing jackets much less ties. Probably some will be barefoot. I hope you spoke to Elka about her shirt and stuff.

REVA

What about her shirt?

THORPE

Something that isn't so transparent.

REVA

When did she wear a see-through blouse?

THORPE

Dinner last Tuesday. When she brought her friend, Gerhardt.

REVA

Dear, that blouse had embroidery in all the proper parts. You do worry yourself.

THORPE

No, other people worry me. Mostly my daughter and my son.

REVA

And me?

THORPE

Nope. You're completely competent to look after yourself.

REVA

(holding up dresses)  
How nice of you to say so, Chief. Do you think this dress or something more casual, like this?

THORPE

(stripping off the tie)  
Let's go casual, so we fit in.

INT TV STUDIO --NIGHT

The studio is packed and nearly everyone is formally dressed. THORPE and REVA enter.

THORPE  
We must be in the wrong studio.

REVA  
No, there's Elka.

THORPE  
Don't you normally co-ordinate  
your outfits with Elka?

REVA  
Momentary lapse, Chief. Hon, over  
here!

ELKA, 23, is a tall athletic woman with long brunette hair flowing over her bare shoulders. She wears a simple knee-length black shift and a pearl choker.

ELKA  
Mom, I thought you would wear  
your long black dress with the  
scoop neck. I borrowed your  
pearls.

REVA  
You look wonderful, Elka. We  
thought we'd come bohemian.

ELKA  
Well, at least you're here.

THORPE  
Where's Gerhardt?

ELKA  
Oh, he's with Ingrid his  
girlfriend.

THORPE  
That's good news. Glad he has  
someone special in his life. I'll  
get my department tie from the  
car.

ELKA  
No, Dad. This is a very  
broadminded crowd.

THORPE  
Yes, I know. You can bring home  
another woman's boyfriend for  
dinner and no one, hardly, minds.

(CONTINUED)

ELKA

Come, I have a spot for you up front.

THORPE

Is Lionel here yet?

ELKA

He called. He's on his way.

THORPE

Is he bringing somebody?

REVA

Hush.

THORPE

Must we sit so close to the cameras?

REVA

Sit and behave, Chief.

THORPE turns in his seat to watch the entrance. LIONEL enters with young woman in tow. Thorpe smiles and waves to catch Lionel's eye.

LIONEL

Mom, Dad, this is Arianna.

THORPE

My pleasure.

REVA

So nice to meet you, Arianna. That's a very pretty name.

THORPE

Elka will be pleased to see you. Lionel. Arianna are you in engineering?

ARIANNA

Oh no, Mr Thorpe. I work at the pizza joint that Lionel and his study buddies come to after studying.

THORPE

A man has to keep up his strength. Right Lionel?

LIONEL

Right.

(CONTINUED)

REVA

Are you a student, too, Arianna?

LIONEL

Arianna has a psych degree.

ARIANNA

I'm enrolled in a master's program for next spring.

THORPE brightens.

THORPE

That's very responsible. Which university?

ARIANNA

UCLA.

THORPE goes sour.

REVA

That's a fine university. You should be very proud, right Chief?

Before THORPE can answer, the MC comes on stage.

MC

Welcome to Cinescope, Channel 103's homage to film of all kinds.

THORPE

(whisper)

She's right about that.

REVA

Hush, or I'll call a cop.

MC

...several films tonight starting with "Dogs" by E K Thorpe.

THORPE

E K?

REVA

It sounds professional.

THORPE

You can't tell she's a she!

The film ROLLS.

10 INT TV STUDIO --NIGHT CONTINUOUS

A few minutes later. The lights are BROUGHT UP as the film fades from the screen.

THORPE

I'm not sure why the dog died in the end.

REVA

It's art, Chief. It's supposed to be ambiguous in spots.

THORPE

That's why the dog was a Dalmatian, I suppose.

REVA

Hush.

ARIANNA

I liked it. I see a touch of Skinnerian theory in it.

LIONEL

Did you hear that, Dad?

THORPE

Yes. Actually, I thought about skinning something while I watched.

LIONEL smirks.

MC

Now, we get to meet E K Thorpe, writer and director of "Dogs".

The APPLAUSE is more than polite. THORPE smiles proudly.

THORPE

I guess it's a commercial success judging by that reception.

MC

E K, what was the motivation for this film. Extraordinary use of the sepia by the way. Very much an Edwardian cachet.

ELKA

I wanted to express a holistic interpretation of love. The sepia gave the film a timelessness. And using the dogs as characters allowed a universality that human actors were incapable of.

(CONTINUED)

MC  
In what way?

ELKA  
Well, the dogs were without  
nationality, ethnicity, or gender  
even.

MC  
Oh! The subtlety of the artistic  
mind. What did our audience  
think?

Another burst of APPLAUSE.

ELKA  
Thank you, all. Thank you, Gigi.

MC  
Thank you, E K Thorpe, writer,  
director of "Dogs". Available in  
the lobby on DVD or download at  
Cinescope dot O R G.

ELKA leaves the stage as MELISSA VEGA, an elegant blonde  
with Modigliani eyes, enters.

REVA  
Oh, the poor woman. So soon after  
her husband's death.

THORPE  
The show must go on.

MC  
Next please welcome Melissa Vega  
the wife of our dear late friend  
Alexy Vega.

THORPE  
I suppose we can't walk out now.

REVA  
Sit.

MC  
Welcome, Melissa. All of us want  
you to know that Alexy was a  
dear, dear friend and a wonderful  
film maker.

The audience APPLAUDS in sincere agreement.

MELISSA  
Thank you, Gigi. Alexy's passing  
was and is still a terrible  
shock. I mean I look to find him  
in his studio but...

(CONTINUED)

MC

We all support your effort at closure, Melissa. I suppose that is why you have brought Alexy's very first film for us to see. From his days in New York City, in fact from that awful day eight years ago.

MELISSA

Alexy was drawn to the street that day and started filming an accident very near the towers... But Alexy can tell the story. Roll film!

The film rolls. Hand held camcorder in black and white. A car accident, a relatively minor one but it shuts down both lanes. Tempers flare. The camera is in everyone's face. The drivers push Alexy away. A cabby shouts obscenities out the window. A man with a wooden case with some lettering on it is pushing his way down the sidewalk and shoves the wrong person. An altercation breaks out. A man takes a punch to the nose. The screen is suddenly full of a bloody nose. Then it pulls back for a full head shot. In the background a plane heads for the Twin Towers. An explosion. Full telephoto takes us to the Tower and the camera starts moving down the street.

11 INT CAFE --NIGHT

ELKA and FRIENDS and REVA and THORPE sit around a large table. Everyone is sipping white wine.

REVA

I wish Lionel didn't have to go right after the movie.

THORPE

Arianna had to report for pizza duty.

REVA

Oh. She was a lovely person.

THORPE

I wish he would date girls who aren't moving three thousand miles away in a few months.

REVA

We can't have everything, Chief.

ELKA

What did you think of the movie, Dad?

(CONTINUED)

THORPE

Interesting. The sepia was a nice touch.

REVA

Why did the dog die?

ELKA

It was about love, Mom. It always ends tragically.

REVA

That hasn't been my experience, darling.

REVA pats THORPE'S arm.

ELKA

I guess I'm a pessimist.

THORPE

Alexy Vega was an optimist. Or crazy.

ELKA

His film was a metaphor for what happened that day. The disruption of life. The needless fight between the men.

THORPE

There was something strangely familiar about the film.

FRIEND

Yes, I don't know how Alexy achieved that. He was a pure genius. To Alexy.

They CLINK glasses, toast and refill. A WAITER serves the bruschetta.

12 EXT BURNING BUILDING --NIGHT

A burning store front. Flames threaten the nearby buildings. It's a beat up neighbourhood. The fire is going to increase property values. The street is littered with PATROL CARS and COPS and FIRE EQUIPMENT and FIRE FIGHTERS. A few STREET PEOPLE gawk.

13 EXT BURNING BUILDING --NIGHT

Yellow tape demarks the area. The flames have been beaten but smoke still emanates from the smashed windows and door. There are fewer cruises now and the gawkers are gone. FIRE FIGHTERS are rolling hoses. THORPE rolls up in an unmarked car, flashes his badge at a PATROLMAN who waves him through the tape.

14 INT BURNED OUT ROOM --DAY

A taped off crime scene, still smoldering. A FIRE INSPECTOR chats with a PATROLMAN. FIRE FIGHTERS collect their equipment. THORPE slips easily through the minefield of destruction to join them.

FIRE INSPECTOR  
Chief, we have a female body for you.

THORPE  
Homicide, Dan?

FIRE INSPECTOR  
It wasn't an accident. There's gasoline over everything, except her. Could be suicide.

THORPE  
What was she doing here?

FIRE INSPECTOR  
Lived here. There's a small apartment in back.

THORPE  
Any weapon?

FIRE INSPECTOR  
A bottle of Canadian Club.

THORPE  
Let's take a look at the victim.

FIRE INSPECTOR  
She passed out before the fire started, I'd say. No soot in her mouth. No hanky panky. Not many clues left.

The FIRE INSPECTOR draws the cloth from the victim's face, the twenty-sixer of Canadian Club against her cheek.

THORPE  
But lots of suspects, Dan.

(CONTINUED)

FIRE INSPECTOR

Well, she's all yours, Chief. My report is going to say arson.

15 INT THORPE'S OFFICE --DAY

THORPE is replaying Alexy Vega's film. He watches then rewatches. VAN FLEET walks in the open door.

VAN FLEET

Still watching that, Chief?

THORPE

There's something about this film which seems familiar, Admiral.

VAN FLEET

Public disturbance. They are all pretty much alike. The individuals change but events hold their character.

MADELINE JONES appears in the doorway.

MADELINE JONES

Oh, John, I picked up your suit for tonight's meeting with the commissioner. Your notes are in the pocket.

VAN FLEET

Thank you, Madeline.

MADELINE JONES

You need to leave by 5:30. I will call you at 5:15. Please excuse my interruption, Detective Thorpe.

THORPE

Any time, Madeline.

VAN FLEET

Thank you, Madeline.

MADELINE JONES leaves. VAN FLEET says nothing for several beats.

What else do you know, Chief?

THORPE

The only thing I know is that we have at least one more criminal involved.

(CONTINUED)

VAN FLEET

But the deaths are tied together somehow?

THORPE

Not sure. It wasn't a robbery. There were some very expensive cameras left behind. Most everything was destroyed. On purpose. Doused and lit. The fire was so hot it burned the top of the bus shelter outside.

VAN FLEET

And no physical clues left?

THORPE

Just an empty bottle of CC by the lovely head of Melissa Vega.

16 INT THORPE'S LIVING ROOM --DAY

ELKA and a young man, GUNNY, carry boxes into the living room. REVA directs them. THORPE enters with a puzzled look.

REVA

Elka's moving back, Chief.

ELKA

Just until I get distribution. Dad, this is Gunny. He's a best boy.

THORPE

Is he? Nice to nice meet you, Gunny.

GUNNY

Same here, sir. I've heard a lot about you.

THORPE

Some of it complimentary, I hope.

GUNNY

Very much so.

REVA

Gunny, put that in the bedroom, please.

GUNNY

Nice meeting you, Mr Thorpe.

(CONTINUED)

THORPE

Thank you. Hope to meet you again. Sometime.

REVA

(whispering)

He's not staying.

THORPE

(calling out)

Nice to meet you, Gunny.

REVA

There's a cold beer in the fridge.

THORPE

Do you need a hand with this, my darling?

REVA

It's mostly done. You relax. we're going to Vitorio's for supper.

THORPE

Now I understand why you said "You relax".

REVA

It would be nice for you to invite Gunny now. So it doesn't seem forced, later.

THORPE

What's my motivation?

REVA

Happy females in the house.

Gunny heads back for the last box.

THORPE

Gunny, you will join us for supper? You can clean up here.

GUNNY

Yes. Thank you, Mr Thorpe.

Gunny leaves.

REVA

He's a very polite young man. Handsome, too.

(CONTINUED)

THORPE

The hungry ones are always polite.

REVA

He's very handsome, isn't he? They would be beautiful.

THORPE

Who?

REVA

Gunny and Elka's children.

THORPE

I only offered to satiate one of his hungers, Reva.

REVA

Oh, I was only thinking.

THORPE

What's Elka thinking?

REVA

Her and Gunny? Oh no, Chief. He's not her type.

THORPE

Handsome and beautiful are everyone's type. At first, at least.

REVA

You are so suspicious of all young men.

THORPE

Just the ones who hang around my daughter.

REVA

You'll give yourself a medical condition, Chief.

THORPE

I have some bad news for Elka. The wife of Alexy Vega died in an arson, last night.

REVA

Oh, my! Thank God, Elka has moved back home where we can keep an eye on her.

(CONTINUED)

THORPE

Yeah, there's that benefit.

REVA

What is happening out there,  
Chief?

THORPE

I don't know. I think I should  
tell her. It's going to be on the  
evening news.

17 INT ELKA'S BEDROOM --DAY CONTINUOUS

The room is girly-girl pink surfaces plastered with film posters. ELKA is arranging her closet. Clothes are heaped on the bed and the vanity table. Cardboard boxes are stacked in the corners.

THORPE

Sweetie, I have some bad news.

ELKA

No need to say it, Daddy. Gunny  
isn't moving in with me.

THORPE

Yeah, I know. He's not your type  
really, is he?

ELKA

Of course not. I'm surprised you  
knew that.

THORPE

Your daddy is a detective.

ELKA

What's the bad news?

THORPE guides her to sit on the bed.

THORPE

Melissa Vega died last night in  
an arson, last night. I didn't  
want to spoil supper but you  
would have heard it on the news.

ELKA starts to CRY. REVA enters to console her.

ELKA

Can we just stay home? I'm not  
hungry, now.

(CONTINUED)

REVA

Of course, Darling.

THORPE

I'm sorry. I didn't want to ruin things, Sweetie.

ELKA

No, thanks for telling me. It would have been worse in public, Daddy.

THORPE

I'll take Gunny and get some pizza.

ELKA

Get some wine, too, Daddy. Melissa would have wanted that, I think.

THORPE

Sure. Life goes on.

18 EXT PARKING LOT --DAY

THORPE inspects two slashed tires on his car. He snaps his cellphone open and speed dials.

THORPE

Mr Belinski? Jim Thorpe. It happened again.

BELINSKI

A flat tire? Again, Mr Thorpe?

THORPE

Two of them.

BELINSKI

I'll send the truck, but I'll have to order them. Tomorrow afternoon soon enough?

THORPE

I guess it will have to be, Mr Belinski.

THORPE checks a shot-out surveillance camera high on a light pole. Lying a few feet from the base is a BRASS CARTRIDGE CASE.

POV THORPE: The primer end of a 9mm casing

THORPE picks it up on his pen and flips open his cellphone.

(CONTINUED)

THORPE  
Admiral, have one of your monkeys  
wait for me.

VAN FLEET  
Evidence?

THORPE  
Yes.

VAN FLEET  
The murder?

THORPE  
Tire-slashing.

19 INT THORPE'S KITCHEN --DAY

THORPE looks as if he smells something bad.

REVA  
Hon, the department pays for the  
tires.

THORPE  
That's not the point, Reva. Now,  
I have to take the bus to work.

REVA  
Take a cab, then.

THORPE  
The department won't pay for  
that.

REVA  
Think of it as an adventure,  
Chief. Or a little vacation.  
Something a little different.  
That's the way to think about it.

THORPE  
Yeah.

REVA  
Artists try different things to  
free up their creative juices.  
You may think up a solution to  
something.

THORPE  
Like world peace?

REVA  
You never know, Chief. Trudeau  
used take off in an Air Force

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

REVA (cont'd)  
jet, flying all over the country,  
just to think.

THORPE  
Yeah, but he never took the bus,  
did he? Besides, what did he ever  
think up?

REVA  
Nothing that I know of. But, at  
least he tried.

20 EXT STREET --DAY

THORPE runs down the street meeting the same JOGGER who is again overtaken in a few strides. Again the college man picks up his pace and pulls back alongside Thorpe. They run side by side for half a block.

Up the street about 30 yards a car begins to back out and blocks the sidewalk. JOGGER pulls to a stop. THORPE hurdles the hood of the car and continues running without breaking stride.

POV JOGGER:  
THORPE disappearing down the  
street.

21 EXT BUS STOP --DAY

THORPE looks over the PEOPLE waiting for the bus. It's a different group than the one he waited with on Saturday. The bus approaches. Thorpe gets on last. He looks up into the camera above the DRIVER. It's a woman this time.

POV THORPE  
Latricia Tawny Brown  
Badge Number 021209

Toronto slides by under Thorpe's uninterested gaze. He checks out the driver's ID again.

THORPE  
Excuse me, Ms Brown.

LATRICIA BROWN  
We can only talk when the bus  
stopped, mister.

A bus stop comes into view in the windshield.

(CONTINUED)

LATRICIA

Okay, how can I help you?

THORPE

Do you know a driver on this route with a happy smile and a Brooklyn accent?

LATRICIA

Happy smile? That's Robby Shine!

THORPE

Yeah, Robert Shine, that's his name.

The bus pulls away and Latricia maintains silence until the next stop.

LATRICIA

Robby's always helping people.

THORPE

He helped me solve a problem.

LATRICIA

(handing over a business card)

That shows you how to leave an official compliment. Those look good on a driver's record.

THORPE

Thanks, Ms Brown. I'll mention you, too. Next stop is mine.

22 INT INTERROGATION ROOM --DAY

A Jamaican GANG BANGER, the star of Alexy Vega's last movie, is shackled to a chair in a nova of light. THORPE is standing in the shadows behind the light.

THORPE

You look good on screen, Alphonse.

GANG BANGER

Ma name's Trick D, mon.

THORPE

Not according to your mother. I think I understood her. She was crying, of course. But, yeah, she said "Alphonse".

(CONTINUED)

GANG BANGER

Ma ol lady don know nutin', mon.

THORPE

I'm not sure you meant to say that, Alphonse. Logically speaking. Why'd you shoot Alexy Vega? He was on your side.

GANG BANGER

He rat us out, mon.

THORPE

We never got any information from him. He always blurred faces of criminals before he showed his films.

GANG BANGER

Yeah, he be wack, mon. He be wack.

THORPE

The gun you used also was used to shoot out a streetlight a few blocks from here.

GANG BANGER

Ha ha ha, mon you be wack. A light?

THORPE

Yeah, then the shooter slashed my tires.

GANG BANGER

Mon, you be good. Wack buh good.

THORPE

Thanks. You guys don't make it too hard. But thanks, Alphonse.

23 EXT THORPE'S DRIVEWAY --DAY

THORPE pulls his sedan into the garage. He checks the two new tires before closing the garage door.

24 INT THORPE'S LIVING ROOM --DAY

THORPE heads for his recliner and remote and scans for sports, settling for football highlights. ELKA stalks in with her camera rolling. She circles THORPE as she films.

(CONTINUED)

THORPE

Sweetie, I have a job for you.

ELKA

Not the gutters again, Dad. Can't Lionel help with that? Don't look at the camera.

THORPE

It's not gutters. I need a film editor.

ELKA

That's me. Don't look at the camera.

ELKA positions herself between THORPE and the TV.

THORPE

I'm not sure how that's possible.

ELKA

I'm done now. What's this editing job you have?

THORPE

I need a close look at Alexy Vega's film. That 9/11 thing.

ELKA

I can't edit that, Dad.

THORPE

Can you blow up a few frames of it?

ELKA

Perhaps. I'm an artiste not a technician.

ELKA turns and heads down the hallway.  
Come on, Dad. I set up a studio in Lionel's old room.

THORPE

Old room?

ELKA

Well, he's not using it right now.

25 INT LIONEL'S ROOM CUM STUDIO --DAY

Moments later. By the door sits Lionel's hockey bag and a few hockey sticks. Several computer screens, cameras, and lights seem littered about the room. Lionel's photo in a hockey sweater is still attached to one wall.

ELKA

Will you take that bag of  
Lionel's stuff somewhere?

THORPE

Maybe I'll drop it off at the  
dorm.

THORPE inspects the studio while ELKA finds Alexy Vega's 9/11 movie DVD. Amateur film making seems to be an expensive past time.

ELKA

What do you want to look at?

THORPE

The bloody nose. Actually the ECU  
and drawback after that.

ELKA

You know a lot about film.

THORPE

I learnt from a professional film  
maker, Sweetie.

ELKA

Got it.

THORPE looks and nods.

THORPE

That man is Richard Gary Shine.  
He disappeared after 9/11.  
Everyone thinks he died in the  
North Tower where he worked.

ELKA

How do you know?

THORPE

One of the Admiral's monkeys  
tracked him down.

ELKA

I'm wondering about the ethics of  
filming on the street, Dad. I'm  
an extension of Big Brother.

(CONTINUED)

THORPE

You are Big Brother. Can you blow up that case he's carrying? I think that has the answer.

ELKA

It'll take a minute.

THORPE

I looked at it through a magnifying glass and it seemed to have the Twin Tower logo on it.

ELKA

Is this connected to Alexy's murder?

THORPE

No, we have that joker. This might be related to the murder of Mrs Vega. I ran the name Shine and found that he disappeared after the attack and was presumed killed.

ELKA

Presumed? So they never found his body?

THORPE

No, but many people were never accounted for, so that's not unusual.

ELKA

But everyone got buried. I saw that on the news.

THORPE

A lot of remains were distributed just to provide closure, I believe the term is.

POV ELKA: The computer screen  
TWIN TOWER LOGO

ELKA

That's what you were looking for?

THORPE

Yeah, it sure confirms what I thought I saw.

ELKA

You didn't really need me for this, Dad.

(CONTINUED)

THORPE

If I went to court saying I found this with a magnifying glass a lawyer would laugh me off the stand. Now, I have professional confirmation.

ELKA

Great! How does this fit with Melissa's murder?

THORPE

Not sure. I can't say until I speak with his wife, Mrs Robert Shine.

ELKA

You mean Mrs Richard Shine.

THORPE

No. Richard was a bachelor.

26 EXT HOUSE ON QUIET STREET --DAY

The house is modest but neat with fall flowers blooming in abundance. THORPE knocks on the door and OLIVIA SHINE answers. She's 35, with a pretty smile, attractively dressed and well turned out.

OLIVIA SHINE

Can I help you?

THORPE

I'm Detective Jim Thorpe. I would like to speak with Robert Shine.

OLIVIA SHINE

Oh, is he in trouble?

THORPE

It's about his brother, Richard.

OLIVIA SHINE

Richard was killed in the towers, Detective. On nine-eleven.

THORPE

Yes, I know. There's still a few questions about that.

OLIVIA SHINE

Oh, it upsets...

BUS DRIVER SHINE O/S

Who is it, Livvy?

ROBERT SHINE comes to the door.

(CONTINUED)

OLIVIA SHINE

It's a detective, Robby. About Richard.

BUS DRIVER SHINE

My brother is dead, detective. Have we met?

THORPE

I'm Jim Thorpe. We met on your bus. I asked if you were from Brooklyn.

BUS DRIVER SHINE

And made a comment about my family?

THORPE

Yeah, nice family.

BUS DRIVER SHINE

Yeah, I remember you. Why are you involved in a death from New York City?

THORPE

Your brother was in a movie which was shown on a public access station.

BUS DRIVER SHINE

It's okay Livvy. (he kisses her) I'll be a few minutes.

OLIVIA SHINE dutifully leaves.

My brother? This was an old film I take it.

THORPE

The day of 9/11. Actually, the moment of.

BUS DRIVER SHINE

From a camera in the tower? They told me they never found anything about Richard.

THORPE

No, this was shot some distance from the towers just before the first plane hit. In fact, Richard is on screen as the jet hits.

ROBERT SHINE stumbles back into the foyer, tipping over a small table. OLIVIA SHINE quickly appears and embraces her husband.

(CONTINUED)

OLIVIA SHINE

Oh, Robby, Robby! (to Thorpe) No more, please!

THORPE

I barely got started, Mrs Shine.

OLIVIA SHINE

(caressing Robert's head)  
Please, detective, no more questions. It took so long for Robby to recover from Richard's death.

THORPE

Please forgive me, Mrs Shine.

THORPE scoops up ROBERT SHINE as if he were a toy and places him on the couch in the front room. Robert begins to regain consciousness.

OLIVIA SHINE

Robby. Robby, darling.

THORPE

I'm sorry. I could call an ambulance.

BUS DRIVER SHINE

No. (then much weaker) No. I'm just dizzy.

OLIVIA SHINE kisses her husband and then guides THORPE to the door.

OLIVIA SHINE

He took so long to recover.

THORPE

Yes, it's difficult losing a brother. Particularly a twin.

OLIVIA SHINE

Twin? No. Richard was about two years older than Robby.

THORPE checks his notebook.

THORPE

September the eighteenth 1972?

OLIVIA SHINE

That's Robby's birthday.

THORPE

And Richard's?

(CONTINUED)

OLIVIA SHINE

Sometime in April, I think. They spoke only on Christmas.

THORPE

My sincere apologies, Mrs Shine. They looked very much alike, don't you think?

OLIVIA SHINE

I never saw a photo of him.

THORPE

Never?

OLIVIA SHINE

Their home burned in 89 or 90. Everything was destroyed.

THORPE

The family split up then.

OLIVIA SHINE

Yes, Robby came here and Richard stayed with a neighbour or someone.

THORPE

Did they ever get together?

OLIVIA SHINE

No. Just after we got married, I suggested we all meet but Robby got very angry with me. We eloped since neither of us had any family in Canada.

THORPE

I have film of Richard. It was shown on Cinescope last Saturday. The public access station. Not many people watch it.

OLIVIA SHINE

Oh, Robby watches that show. It's one of the causes he supports.

BUS DRIVER SHINE

Livvy, Livvy!

OLIVIA SHINE

I must go. I don't want him to regress, Detective.

27 INT HALLWAY OF DORM --DAY

THORPE knocks on a door. A very beautiful girl, JESSICA, answers.

THORPE  
(slightly dazzled)  
I must have the wrong room. I'm  
looking for Lionel Thorpe.

JESSICA  
You have the right place.

JESSICA opens the door. LIONEL and FRIENDS are swatting for an mid-term.

LIONEL  
Dad? Come in. What's up?

THORPE  
I have your hockey bag. Thought  
you might need it.

LIONEL  
Uh, yeah. Hey let's take a short  
break. I want to show my dad  
around the place a bit.

THORPE and LIONEL walk down the hall. There's a lot of partying going on.

THORPE  
Pretty girl.

LIONEL  
That's Paul's friend, Jessica.

THORPE  
Oh. Anyway, I brought your hockey  
gear. Elka just remodelled your  
bedroom.

LIONEL  
Remodelled my bedroom?

THORPE  
Well, you chose to live here.  
She's back home. Your bedroom is  
E K Thorpe Pictures, Inc.

LIONEL  
She's following her dream.

THORPE  
A scout dropped by.

(CONTINUED)

LIONEL  
Dropped by, where?

THORPE  
Okay, it was a guy I knew.

LIONEL  
A guy who scouted you.

THORPE  
He's still a scout, Lionel.

LIONEL  
Dad, I'm going to be an  
metallurgist-engineer, not a  
hockey player.

THORPE  
But you could play five years and  
then do engineering.

LIONEL  
That's your dream, Dad. I'm a  
hack player. Third string. I'm  
not Jim Thorpe.

THORPE  
I don't want you to have regrets,  
that's all.

LIONEL  
Dad, metallurgists think that  
transparent metals are possible.  
Metal you can see through but 80%  
lighter than glass. And  
ferro-ceramics for engines that  
can take twice the heat. That  
means twice the power. This is  
the industry of the future.

THORPE  
That's good. Should I take the  
hockey gear back?

LIONEL  
No, I'll play pick-up hockey once  
a week. Come play with us some  
night.

THORPE  
It will be great to play with  
you, again.

LIONEL  
Jim Thorpe and Jim Thorpe junior  
on the same team? The guys won't  
let that happen.

THORPE

Well, they'd be stupid to let that happen. Give me a call then.

LIONEL

Yeah. I need to get back to study.

THORPE

That girl, Jessica? She's taken, is she?

LIONEL

Soon to be engaged, if that's what taken means.

THORPE

Don't leave that too long, either.

LIONEL

Dad, you worry too much.

THORPE

That's what dads do.

28 EXT LAKESIDE --DAY

A cold grey Lake Ontario stretches to the horizon. VAN FLEET sits on a bench by the shore. His mane of grey hair is buffeted by the ON-SHORE WIND. THORPE approaches with a bag of burgers and coffee.

THORPE

I knew I'd find you here, Admiral.

VAN FLEET

Criminals always return to the scene of the crime, Chief.

THORPE

You've got to stop saying that. Cheeseburger?

VAN FLEET

Thanks.

VAN FLEET scrunches up a post it note and puts it in his pocket.

THORPE

What was that?

(CONTINUED)

VAN FLEET

A reminder not to come here.

THORPE says nothing.

From Madeline.

THORPE

She's a good assistant, Admiral.  
Very efficient.

VAN FLEET stares out at the lake, not quite listening to THORPE.

VAN FLEET

I never remember to bring any lunch with me. I guess I never plan to stay long. But I always do.

THORPE

What are you looking for, Admiral?

VAN FLEET

The only answer I don't have.  
Why. Why. Why.

THORPE

My people don't ask that question. Not the cosmic one. Not the philosophical one. We ask things like, "Why do moose have big noses?"

VAN FLEET

And the answer?

THORPE

Because God gave the small noses to pretty women.

VAN FLEET

You must be part Irish.

VAN FLEET eats the burger in silence, still looking out at the lake. He takes the coffee and sips slowly.

Why does God take things away, Chief?

THORPE

Because He only lends His things to us. Life and health and wealth. We can't keep any of it.

VAN FLEET

Why did He take it back so soon?

(CONTINUED)

THORPE

No man knows that, Admiral.

VAN FLEET

The report said Melissa Varga blind drunk.

THORPE

Blind drunk? We're not using a scale of numbers anymore?

VAN FLEET

Madeline had the number. Point two or something. She might have died from alcohol poisoning.

THORPE

So it could be simple arson?

VAN FLEET is distracted. Several beats slip by.

VAN FLEET

Why are you here? Not in the cosmic sense.

THORPE

I visited Robert Shine. He had a very peculiar reaction to my questions about his brother.

VAN FLEET

How peculiar?

THORPE

He fainted. Staged a faint, I think.

VAN FLEET

Might have been real. Loss of a loved one, Chief, does strange things to a man.

THORPE

They weren't close. The missus didn't even know the brother was a twin.

VAN FLEET

Odd. I suppose I should get prepared for some heated up lawyer pounding my desk about police harassment.

THORPE

I have a feeling, Robert doesn't want this exposed any more than it has been already.

(CONTINUED)

VAN FLEET

Do we know he saw this movie?  
Even if he did, it was a two  
second shot. He could have missed  
it.

THORPE

His wife said he always watched  
the program. He's one of those  
supporters, apparently. I think  
he saw it.

VAN FLEET

Maybe he's just a private man.  
Not all of us are publicity hogs,  
Chief.

THORPE

Yeah. I think his wife wants to  
know more. I expect her to show  
up one day soon.

VAN FLEET

Did you tell her they looked like  
twins?

THORPE

Yes. Now I just wait.

VAN FLEET

More Cherokee lore?

THORPE

If you want a horse to come to  
you, let him see you lie down in  
the grass. In an hour,  
curiosity drives right over to  
you.

VAN FLEET

And that works with women, too?

THORPE

Your guess is as good as mine,  
Admiral.

29

EXT THORPE'S PATIO --DAY

THORPE is grilling steaks. REVA is cutting back dried up  
vines in her garden.

REVA

There, that looks better. Table's  
set. Did you remember to keep  
Elka's veggie burgers away from  
the steaks, Chief?

(CONTINUED)

THORPE

Yes, ma'm. Where is she?

REVA

She went to get Gunny.

THORPE

Why doesn't he drive?

REVA

Chief, he doesn't own a car.

THORPE

Neither does Elka. Can't you talk to her about getting back into a real job?

REVA

Like hockey?

THORPE

Lionel squealed, did he?

REVA

No, I figured you'd try to convince him, one last time.

JIM THORPE

Okay, it was one last time. I just don't want him to wake up in the wrong dream.

REVA

He's very nearly the best student in his class, Chief.

JIM THORPE

Yeah. Yeah, that's an exciting world he dreams about. Tell me why is this Gunny person coming here? I thought he was an acquired taste.

REVA

Just be nice, Chief.

Thorpe's sedan rolls up the drive.

JIM THORPE

Now I have no excuse for the burnt steak.

REVA

Oh, he's a vegetarian, Chief.

(CONTINUED)

THORPE

He ate meat on pizza night.

REVA

Elka can be very persuasive.

THORPE

I can burn veggie burgers, too,  
you know.

GUNNY and ELKA are holding hands as they come out of the house.

ELKA

Dad, you remember Gunny.

THORPE

Yes, even though he's not my  
type.

ELKA

Daddy!

THORPE

Come on, sit down. The steaks are  
done.

GUNNY

I don't eat meat anymore, Mr  
Thorpe.

THORPE

Oh, darn I have this extra one,  
Gunny. Are you sure? Perhaps I  
shouldn't tempt you.

GUNNY

Perhaps you shouldn't.

ELKA

Dad, meat just makes men  
aggressive.

THORPE

Veggie burgers it is, Gunny.

30

EXT PATIO --DAY

The meal has been eaten, except for the extra steak, which  
GUNNY eyes hungrily. Reva is clearing the table and ELKA  
is pouring coffee. THORPE is enjoying a cigarette.

ELKA

You should quit, Dad. I can't  
understand how an athlete would  
take up smoking.

(CONTINUED)

THORPE  
It's a cultural thing.

ELKA  
Gunny quit smoking. Didn't you,  
Gunny?

GUNNY smiles weakly.

THORPE  
Good. I intend to quit. Except  
for ceremonial times. Gunny, what  
are your plans?

GUNNY  
Plans?

THORPE  
Yeah, what do you intend to do  
with your life?

GUNNY  
Make films, I guess.

THORPE  
Is there money in films? In  
indies, I mean?

GUNNY  
It's really about art, Mr Thorpe.  
Not money, per se.

THORPE  
But so much of life is about  
money, per se. Like rent, car  
payments, steak and beer.

GUNNY  
I'm nearly a CPA, Mr Thorpe.

THORPE  
Really? Elka, did you know this?

ELKA has just returned with a fresh pot of coffee.

ELKA  
Know what, Daddy?

THORPE  
That Gunny is a CPA?

ELKA  
We met in an accounting class,  
Dad.

THORPE

Nice secure business. You'd make lots of money for your hobbies.

GUNNY

Yes. What are your hobbies, Mr Thorpe?

THORPE

Police work doesn't leave much time for hobbies. I play a few sports but it's work, work, work.

ELKA

Dad is working to find the murderer of Melissa Vega.

GUNNY

A very severe critic.

ELKA

Gunny!

GUNNY

I mean. Someone saw something he didn't like. He destroyed all of Alexy's work in that fire.

THORPE

What do you think of Alexy's 9/11 film, Gunny?

GUNNY

I think the beginning was tacked onto a very ordinary, in terms of technique, film. The subject was compelling but the technique was prosaic. And there's no editing. In my opinion. You should ask Elka, she's the expert.

THORPE

Elka loved the film.

ELKA

Hmmm.

THORPE

Gunny, do you think the beginning was real? Or was it staged?

GUNNY

Real. The accident was real. Two expensive cars were involved. No indie could afford that kind of damage. The dialogue went nowhere.

(CONTINUED)

THORPE

How about the man with the bloody nose?

GUNNY

You know, Mr Thorpe, I'm not sure. After the plane crashes into the tower, it seems he is buoyed up somehow.

ELKA

Buoyed up? What did he do? Is he even in the film after the ECU and pull back?

GUNNY

Yes, we see him in the corner of the frame just after the plane hits. Then again as the tower starts to collapse. He looks hopeful, somehow.

THORPE

Elka, run that film again, please.

ELKA

Now?

THORPE

Please, Sweetie. Gunny and I will be in when I finish this smoke.

31 INT LIONEL'S OLD ROOM NOW STUDIO --DAY

The movie is booted up. GUNNY and THORPE bookend ELKA in front of the screen.

THORPE

Okay, Gunny, show me what you are talking about.

GUNNY

Take it to the bloody nose and drawback.

ELKA skips to the ECU.

Look at his eyes. He is not even angry that he was punched, just sad and accepting.

ELKA

I think you are right, Gunny.

(CONTINUED)

GUNNY

Now, move ahead to the impact.

GUNNY watches closely then points to the back of a man's head.

That's Richard and watch his ears. They rise because he is smiling.

ELKA

God, what a monster.

THORPE

A defence lawyer would laugh that out of court. But it's a very interesting observation, Gunny. It might lead to some idea of why he disappeared that very day.

GUNNY

Go to the collapse. Richard has moved closer to the towers but still in front of the camera.

GUNNY points to a man a mile from the camera.

ELKA

How can you tell that's him?

GUNNY

He has the case. Now watch when he realizes he is too close and turns to run. Blow it up, Elka, please.

ELKA

God! He's smiling!

GUNNY

It's so far from a normal reaction that I'd say the man is an actor. But Alexy Vega never staged anything.

ELKA

What a delicious conundrum, Gunny!

THORPE

How did you see this, Gunny?

GUNNY

I watch every movie frame by frame.

(CONTINUED)

ELKA

Why?

GUNNY

To see the changes in composition. I guess I enjoy pictures more than movies.

ELKA

Hmmm.

THORPE

So a man disappears and he's hopeful. Of what?

GUNNY

A new life, Mr Thorpe. That gives a man hope.

32 INT THORPE'S BEDROOM --NIGHT

THORPE and REVA are in bed. Reva is reading some thick novel. Thorpe is staring at the ceiling.

THORPE

That Gunny is quite a bright young man, Reva.

REVA

Polite, too.

THORPE

And quite handsome, don't you think?

REVA

What's your angle?

THORPE

Nothing, but he's nearly a CPA. He met Elka in class last year. This film lark is just a hobby.

REVA

Elka said he helped solve your case, too.

THORPE

Solved no. But he is very observant. I wonder if he hunts?

REVA

Oh sweet fool. He's become a vegetarian. For Elka, at least.

33 INT THORPE'S OFFICE --DAY

THORPE is shuffling papers. VAN FLEET ushers in OLIVIA SHINE. Thorpe snaps to attention.

THORPE

Mrs Shine. Good of you to come.  
Did you find parking?

OLIVIA SHINE

Oh, I took the bus. We don't own  
a car.

THORPE

Oh. I guess living downtown is  
better without the hassle.

OLIVIA SHINE

I suppose. I'd like to see that  
film of Richard, Detective  
Thorpe, if I may.

THORPE

Yes, of course, Mrs Shine.

VAN FLEET

It's ready to roll, Chief.

OLIVIA SHINE

Oh, are you the chief?

THORPE

No, that's just my nickname, Mrs  
Shine. I call Captain Van Fleet,  
Admiral.

OLIVIA SHINE

Oh.

THORPE

Why do you want to see this film  
now?

OLIVIA SHINE

I was hoping to find why Robby  
was so upset by Richard's death.  
Really, they weren't close.

THORPE

Let's watch. Richard gets punched  
and has a bloody nose. It looks  
bad. But he seems to be fine.

OLIVIA SHINE watches the movie without a stir until the  
drawback. VAN FLEET freezes the frame on the close up of  
Richard.

(CONTINUED)

OLIVIA SHINE

My word! He looks like Robby! I mean...it is him.

THORPE

Do you think Richard is a twin to Robert?

OLIVIA SHINE

It looks like it.

THORPE

Does Robert know you came, Mrs Shine?

OLIVIA SHINE

No. He seemed to regress after your visit.

VAN FLEET

Regress?

OLIVIA SHINE

After his recovery, eight years ago, he was a very much nicer man. He had been...he had been an angry man. He hated driving the bus. He felt tied down by the girls.

VAN FLEET

When did he begin to have problems with his memory?

OLIVIA SHINE

About three weeks after 9/11 Robby disappeared. He didn't report to work. He had been drinking...

THORPE

Because of Richard's death?

OLIVIA SHINE

No. He used that as an excuse. But he had been drinking a lot for months before that. The police found him wandering along the Don River. He didn't remember anything or anyone.

THORPE

What was the problem?

OLIVIA SHINE

The doctors were baffled. He didn't have a mark on him, except

(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

OLIVIA SHINE (cont'd)  
a little scar on his nose. He was  
dirty and confused. He didn't  
know me or his best friend from  
work. Nothing. But he was nice,  
you know, happy. He couldn't stop  
smiling.

THORPE  
How long was he like this, Mrs  
Shine?

OLIVIA SHINE  
In a few days he started to  
remember me. I told him as much  
as I could about our life and  
about the girls. He made notes.

THORPE  
Notes?

VAN FLEET  
About what?

OLIVIA SHINE  
Everything. Me. Work. Friends.  
Where he went to school.  
Everything. What he liked to eat.

THORPE  
And after several months he  
returned to normal.

OLIVIA SHINE  
No. Even today, he can't remember  
things until I tell him. We went  
to Niagara Falls and he didn't  
remember being there on our  
honeymoon. But he had become so  
kind and didn't drink anymore or  
smoke. And he liked corned beef.

THORPE  
Corned beef?

OLIVIA SHINE  
He never liked it before.

VAN FLEET  
There's more to this film but  
it's just about the towers  
burning and collapsing. Do you  
wish to see it, Mrs Shine?

OLIVIA SHINE  
No. But I would like a print of  
that picture of Richard.

VAN FLEET

I'll go arrange that now. Nice to have met you, Mrs Shine.

OLIVIA SHINE

My pleasure, Captain.

THORPE

What do you think Robert will say if he knew you had come here?

OLIVIA SHINE

He will believe I came only to help him. I don't want him to go back to the man he was. Robby knows I love him and he loves me.

34 INT HOCKEY RINK NIGHT

Two pick-up teams are on the ice in a deserted rink. The clock reads 12:30 am. THORPE races down ice for a puck and then turns back and stick handles through the team of opponents until he has only LIONEL to beat. Thorpe feints left then attempts to push the puck between Lionel's skates but is stopped just as the BUZZER sounds.

VOICE ON SPEAKER

All right you rats, clear the ice. I want to go home!

THORPE meets LIONEL near the net.

THORPE

I must be getting old.

LIONEL

Hey, I've seen that move a hundred times.

35 INT THORPE'S LIVING ROOM --NIGHT

THORPE is watching a hockey game on TV but which no real interest. He spots REVA who is ironing a dress.

THORPE

Neighbourhood Watch meeting tonight?

REVA

No. It's for Elka. She's meeting Gunny. He has some news for her.

THORPE

Great.

(CONTINUED)

REVA

Now, Chief, Gunny is a fine young man.

THORPE

Handsome and polite.

REVA

Yes. (whispering) He just landed a job with Dunwoody.

THORPE

Wow.

REVA

Shush. He told me so I would insist that Elka meet him tonight. He wants to surprise her.

ELKA breezes in. She is not nearly ready to go anywhere special.

ELKA

Mom, I'm going in my work clothes.

THORPE

Work clothes?

ELKA

Daddy, I'm filming the streets. Jeans are practical.

THORPE

I work the streets, too. And I wear a suit and tie. Gunny has asked you to meet him and politeness demands some effort.

ELKA

Tribalism.

THORPE

What?

ELKA

You men. You have a drink together and rah rah rah instant bonding.

THORPE

It's just a mark of respect to dress up a bit.

REVA holds up the dress. It is slinky. That's more than a bit.

(CONTINUED)

ELKA

I'd forgotten how sexy that dress  
looks on me, Mom.

ELKA steps close so REVA can see how the dress looks.

REVA

Oh, that deep blue looks so  
beautiful on you, Elka.

THORPE

It may be too fancy for a simple  
weekday meeting. Reva, she has  
something more...

ELKA presses the dress to her body and spins.

ELKA

You mean less alluring, don't  
you, Daddy? It's this or jeans  
and Doc Martins.

THORPE crosses the room to ELKA and takes her lightly by  
the shoulders.

THORPE

Wear that. But you be sure to  
remind Gunny that I work for the  
police department.

ELKA

Daddy, I'm not a little girl  
anymore.

THORPE kisses her forehead.

THORPE

That's not as comforting as you  
might think, Elka. Will you need  
the car?

REVA

(quickly before Elka can  
answer)  
No, dear, Gunny is picking Elka  
up. Now go get ready. He'll be  
here for you in an hour.

ELKA may sense a conspiracy but she smiles and hustles to  
her room.

THORPE

Do you think our little girl is  
about to become engaged?

(CONTINUED)

REVA  
I don't know, Chief.

THORPE  
I thought women had this sixth sense about these things.

REVA  
She's turned down others.

THORPE  
She has? I never heard about any.

REVA  
It's a non-event, Chief.

THORPE  
Really? How many non-events?

REVA  
Oh, I should think a dozen. At least. Now do be nice when Gunny gets here.

THORPE  
A dozen? Did you turn down a dozen proposals?

REVA  
Not quite that many, Chief. Elka is much prettier than I ever was.

THORPE  
Waiting for the right man, were you?

REVA  
The most persistent one, in any case.

THORPE  
I know pretty and you were and are. How many proposals did you turn down?

REVA  
I turned down two.

THORPE  
Why?

REVA  
I was testing your ardour, Chief.

THORPE  
You mean Francis never proposed to you?

REVA

Francis? Oh, Frankie Barnes? No.  
I hardly knew him.

THORPE

I knew he was an idiot. I was  
ready to propose the moment I saw  
you.

REVA

You did.

REVA takes down the ironing board.

THORPE

Livvy came to the station to see  
the movie. She was shocked how  
alike Richard and Robert are,  
were, I guess.

REVA

In looks, dear. Even twins have  
personality differences.

THORPE

Robert's personality changed  
after Richard disappeared.

REVA

For the better?

THORPE

Apparently. She's very protective  
of her husband. She doesn't want  
him to regress, as she puts it.

REVA

Well, some good came out of the  
tragedy. It must have been a  
shock losing someone as close as  
a twin.

THORPE

They didn't grow up together and  
weren't close. But Robert had a  
huge reaction to Richard's death.

REVA

What kind of huge reaction?

THORPE

Total amnesia which even now is  
not completely cleared up. He  
needs to be prompted.

(CONTINUED)

REVA

Like an actor, Chief.

36 INT POLICE CAR --DAY

THORPE is watching a football practise at the University of Toronto through the windshield. His cellphone RINGS.

VAN FLEET

Chief, Mrs Shine wants to meet with you.

THORPE

When?

VAN FLEET

Now. At the Tim's a block from her place. Can you make it?

THORPE

Depending on traffic.

VAN FLEET

She sounded... spooked. That's the only way I can put it.

37 INT POLICE CAR --DAY

POV THORPE: Pulling into Tim Horton's parking lot.

38 INT TIM HORTON'S --DAY CONTINUOUS

THORPE surveys the area but does not see Mrs Shine.

39 EXT TIM HORTON'S --DAY CONTINUOUS

THORPE spots Mrs Shine half way down the block heading back to her house. He goes to his cruiser and heads out after her.

40 INT POLICE CAR --DAY CONTINUOUS

POV THORPE through windshield closing on OLIVIA SHINE who is walking quickly. He lowers the window.

THORPE

Mrs Shine, Mrs Shine.

OLIVIA SHINE

Can you take me somewhere? Out of the neighbourhood?

(CONTINUED)

THORPE

Hop in.

OLIVIA SHINE ducks into the back seat of the cruiser and sprawls on the seat.

OLIVIA SHINE

Get out of here. But stay off the bus route, Detective Thorpe.

The cruiser leaves quickly and wanders the back streets until OLIVIA SHINE sits up. THORPE pulls the cruiser to the curb.

THORPE

Is this about your husband?

OLIVIA SHINE

I don't know.

OLIVIA SHINE hands a notebook page to THORPE.

POV THORPE:

The print out of the screen shot of Richard Shine.

THORPE

I don't understand the significance of this, Livvy.

OLIVIA SHINE takes a deep breath.

OLIVIA SHINE

Robby didn't have a scar on his nose until after the police found him near the river.

THORPE

And Richard has a scar in this picture a month before Robert went missing for a day.

OLIVIA SHINE

Yes. The same scar, Detective. The very same.

THORPE

Does Robert know you have this picture?

OLIVIA SHINE

Is it Robert? Is the man coming to my bed tonight, Robert?

THORPE

I don't know, Livvy. He doesn't know about this photo, right?

(CONTINUED)

OLIVIA SHINE

No. What do I do now? I don't feel safe anymore at home with... that man. And the children.

THORPE

Do you have a place to go? A relative?

OLIVIA SHINE

My family lives in Wales. My close friend lives a block away.

THORPE

Would you go to a shelter?

OLIVIA SHINE

No. I don't want to embarrass him. What if I'm wrong? He's been a good man, a good husband, a good father.

THORPE

But...

OLIVIA SHINE

I think the man I love... loved is the brother of the man I married.

THORPE

How would you like to have swine flu?

41 INT OLIVIA SHINE'S BEDROOM --DAY

A nurse, KARA DOOLEY, ties a hospital mask over a nervous OLIVIA SHINE'S mouth.

KARA

You must wear this whenever you leave this room. Even if no one is around.

OLIVIA SHINE

I can't leave my room?

KARA

That's why it's call quarantine, Livvy. You must appoint one person to bring your meals and leave them by the door. That person must wear a mask, too.

(CONTINUED)

OLIVIA SHINE

No contact? Not even with my daughters?

KARA

Jim explained the situation to me. This will protect you and not raise suspicions. Please, just wear the mask and stay in here, alone. No calls, except a 911 call. I will drop by every day to check on you.

OLIVIA SHINE

I don't think this is a good idea anymore.

KARA

It's this or sleep with the man who comes to your bed.

OLIVIA SHINE

That's not...

KARA

Livvy, that's exactly what you think. You must stick with the rules.

OLIVIA SHINE

I'll try.

KARA

You must. If what you think is true, then... You must keep this secret.

OLIVIA SHINE

I will. What is Detective Thorpe going to do?

KARA

He'll think of something.

42 INT THORPE'S KITCHEN --DAY

ELKA flits into the kitchen. She admires her ENGAGEMENT RING. THORPE is finishing breakfast.

ELKA

Isn't it beautiful, Daddy?

THORPE

For a beautiful woman, Sweetie.

(CONTINUED)

ELKA

I'm going to make a film of it.

THORPE

I can see the Cinescope movie poster now.

ELKA

It's not just about the ring. It's about all the emotion and symbolism of it.

A CAR pulls into the driveway. ELKA peeks out the window.

ELKA (cont'd)

It's the Admiral!

ELKA dances to the door to greet VAN FLEET. He envelopes her in a bear hug.

VAN FLEET

Congratulations, Elka. I brought you a little engagement present.

ELKA steps back and takes the bottle.

ELKA

Krystall!

THORPE

There goes the department's petty cash for a month.

REVA comes to see what the commotion is.

REVA

Admiral. What's the occasion?

VAN FLEET

My goddaughter's engagement, Reva!

REVA

It's so wonderful to see you again, Admiral.

VAN FLEET

I've been busy for... too long. Elka, I am so happy for you. I've thought of you as a daughter since... for a long time.

ELKA

You're a darling man, Admiral.

ELKA kisses his cheek. VAN FLEET is chuffed.

(CONTINUED)

VAN FLEET

I must be going. Do you want a lift, Chief?

THORPE

No, thanks, Admiral. I'm going green. I'm taking the bus.

REVA straightens THORPE'S tie.

REVA

Who are you? And where is my husband?

REVA kisses him hard on the lips.

Never mind, I'll keep you.

THORPE checks his watch.

THORPE

Got to rush. See you at the station, Admiral.

43 EXT BUS STOP --DAY

THORPE is all smiles this morning, bouncing on his toes in anticipation of the arrival of the bus. There is a FAMILIAR FACES at the bus stop. Thorpe nods an acknowledgement. The BUS pulls into view. Thorpe boards last.

THORPE

Good morning, Robert.

BUS DRIVER SHINE

Oh, yeah. Car trouble, Detective?

THORPE

Just doing my part for a nice clean city.

THORPE up front so he can speak with ROBERT. The bus pulls away.

BUS DRIVER SHINE

You could see that these abandoned wrecks get towed. They mess up a fine neighbourhood.

THORPE

Quite a problem is it? Oh, I'm sorry, we're not supposed to chat when the bus is in motion.

THORPE points to the camera and then makes a HUSH SIGN with his finger before his lips. When the bus stops ROBERT turns to Thorpe.

(CONTINUED)

BUS DRIVER SHINE  
Some wrecks stay there for weeks.

THORPE is distracted.

THORPE  
Oh... yeah. I'm sorry, I just noticed that flu poster. I didn't get a shot, did you?

The bus is moving again.

BUS DRIVER SHINE  
Naw, I...

THORPE  
Say no more. Big brother is watching.

THORPE seems to lose interest in chatting and gazes distractedly out the window. Toronto streets and traffic slip by the window.

BUS DRIVER SHINE  
Detective, this is your stop.

The bus pulls to the curb. THORPE disembarks.

THORPE  
Thanks, Robert. See you after my shift.

44 INT THORPE'S OFFICE --DAY

VAN FLEET is seated by the door smoking under a NO SMOKING ordinance sign. THORPE CLATTERS away on the computer.

VAN FLEET  
Going back eight years might not be possible, Chief, especially since you don't know when the car would have been picked up.

THORPE  
Would it be cross referenced somehow?

VAN FLEET  
We used to send plates back to the province or state. We'd do that once a year. Check for January 2002.

THORPE  
Three hundred non-Ontario plates returned. Twenty-three for New  
(MORE)

(CONTINUED)

THORPE (cont'd)

York State. But no names just numbers.

VAN FLEET

Their authorities hunt them down and charge them a fee. I'll put a research monkey on this. They thrive on this stuff. It drives me nuts.

THORPE

Me, too. Let's go for lunch.

VAN FLEET

I'll meet you at my car. I'll put my best gal on this.

45 EXT HOT DOG WAGON --DAY

VAN FLEET carries a cardboard tray of dogs and coffee. THORPE sits on a bench in a small park and checks his notebook.

THORPE

That was nice of you to that today, Admiral.

VAN FLEET

Elka's like a daughter. I think of her that way, in any case.

THORPE

A bottle of Krystall is a bit extravagant. But thanks, Admiral.

VAN FLEET

I have no one else to spend my money on, Chief.

VAN FLEET sits beside THORPE and divvies out the lunch. Run this whole thing by me again.

THORPE

Livvy thinks Richard has replaced Robby.

VAN FLEET

And she thinks this because of the scar?

THORPE

Yeah. Her husband didn't have a scar on 9/11 but Richard did. Three weeks later, hubby, whoever he is, has the same scar.

(CONTINUED)

VAN FLEET

But we never found Robert. His brother didn't say "Leave town so I can take your place." Robert was murdered. Had to be.

THORPE

Have your monkey do a John Doe search. I don't remember anyone from that time, though.

VAN FLEET

Me neither. Of course, I was pre-occupied at that time.

THORPE

Stay with me, Admiral. I need your help.

VAN FLEET

She said he changed personality. I say she's right. I say her husband is Richard.

THORPE

Yes, but how do we prove that?

VAN FLEET

We find Robert.

46 INT THORPE'S FRONT ROOM

THORPE is flopped in his recliner. REVA loosens his tie.

THORPE

It was awful, Reva. And Robert wasn't even driving the bus on my return trip.

REVA

I guess I have my husband back. The man this morning was much more romantic.

THORPE

I think the man living with Livvy is really Richard.

REVA

And the real Robert is dead?

THORPE

Yep. Dead eight years. Even if we found him now, it would be tough to make any real conclusions.

(CONTINUED)

REVA

So he killed Robert and Melissa?  
Perhaps there are clues?

THORPE

That place almost melted. It  
damaged the bus stop outside!

THORPE goes silent. REVA watches him.

REVA

What's wrong, Chief?

THORPE

Not sure. Something about bus  
stops and something Livvy said.  
I'm going to call Kara and ask  
her to check for me.

THORPE calls from his cellphone. It RINGS ONCE. KARA  
answers as REVA leaves the room.

KARA

Hello, Jim. I'm just heading out  
to see Livvy.

THORPE

Great. I caught you on time. Will  
you ask Livvy if they have a  
family car?

KARA

Sure.

THORPE

You're not going to ask why,  
Kara?

KARA

You've already told me the answer  
to the question, why, Jim. I'll  
text you an answer.

THORPE

Why not just call?

KARA

You will have a record of the  
answer if I text you. I suppose  
you'll need it for the trial.

THORPE

Good optimistic thinking, Kara.  
Livvy's kids will be safe, won't  
they?

(CONTINUED)

KARA

If Robert or whoever doesn't figure it out. I've got to go. I want to be there before he gets home.

THORPE sinks back into his recliner and nods off. REVA has returned with a mug of beer. She smiles and puts a light blanket over him.

47 INT THORPE'S FRONT ROOM --DAY

THORPE is still napping. His cellphone RINGS and he awakes. He flips the phone open and reads the text.

POV THORPE: THE CELL PHONE SCREEN  
No vehicle since 01

K. Dooley RN

48 EXT BUS STOP --DAY

The bus pulls to a stop and the doors snap open.

POV ROBERT SHINE:  
The face of THORPE smiling broadly.

THORPE  
Good morning, Mr Shine.

POV THORPE:  
The face of ROBERT SHINE slightly less happy than usual.

BUS DRIVER SHINE  
Still on this clean city kick, Jimbo?

THORPE  
Jimbo? My momma called me that.

The bus pulls away.

BUS DRIVER SHINE  
Why are you here, Detective?

THORPE places his finger before his lips. SHINE stops the bus.

Why are you harrasing me, Detective?

THORPE  
I'm just being eco-friendly.

(CONTINUED)

BUS DRIVER SHINE  
Eco-friendly?

THORPE  
Respect for the land.

BUS DRIVER SHINE  
Part of your heritage, Jimbo?

THORPE  
A man's heritage is important,  
isn't it, Mr Shine?

Some PASSENGERS begin to GRUMBLE. The bus ACCELERATES down the street. For the rest of the trip neither man speaks. THORPE gets off at his stop.

POV ROBERT SHINE:  
The back of THORPE stepping of  
the bus.

Once on the sidewalk, THORPE lingers to watch the bus pull away. It enters traffic carelessly and cuts off a car. BRAKES SQUEAL and the HORN BLASTS.

49 EXT FOOTBALL FIELD --DAY

VAN FLEET and THORPE smoke and eat lunch in the bleachers of an empty stadium.

VAN FLEET  
I enjoyed my time down there,  
Chief.

THORPE  
I would have enjoyed running  
behind an old war horse like you.

VAN FLEET  
I loved it. The smell of turf and  
sweat and a little blood.

THORPE  
And a little fear.

VAN FLEET  
It was wonderful. Nothing  
glorious like your career, Chief,  
but I lived for Saturday  
afternoon. Do you ever wish for  
those days?

THORPE  
For the glorious days, not for  
the losses. You know, I played my  
last game half a lifetime ago,  
Admiral. I was 25.

(CONTINUED)

VAN FLEET

Why are we here?

THORPE

Because I can't smoke and eat anywhere else. And I was hoping to catch a practise. You were headed to the lake.

VAN FLEET

How did you know that?

THORPE

You had that look, the look you have when you are not reliving your varsity football days.

VAN FLEET

I've become such a simple man, have I?

THORPE

A self-imposed restriction, I think, Admiral.

VAN FLEET takes a deep breath.

VAN FLEET

My monkey couldn't find the name Shine among the New York plates. He may have taken the plates off.

THORPE

It was a low percentage play. Can we get a squint at video from bus cameras?

VAN FLEET

A fishing expedition?

THORPE

Very much so.

VAN FLEET

Can you narrow it down?

THORPE

The night of Melissa Vega's murder. Video from the bus route which runs by the building from the early morning.

VAN FLEET makes a call. THORPE wanders out onto the field.

50 INT THORPE'S OFFICE --DAY

THORPE massages his brow. The video is mostly empty. Empty buses, empty stops, empty streets. A few thugs wait at a stop but the driver passes them. They chase the bus SCREAMING. A side window is SMASHED. The driver LAUGHS and CURSES them and reports the incident on the bus radio.

THORPE opens the window and lights a cigarette. He watches the screen half-heartedly. By the second drag, something catches his eye. He rushes the screen and rewinds the tape. A man gets on the bus a block from Alexy Vega's studio. He avoids the camera and doesn't acknowledge the driver's greeting. He settles in a seat near the middle of the bus. He keeps his hat, a large green stetson over his eyes.

The man gets off a few stops from Shine's house.

THORPE butts the cigarette in disgust.

51 INT THORPE'S LIVING ROOM --DAY

THORPE is back in his recliner. REVA, in the background, sets the dining table. ELKA follows Reva and adjusts each table setting.

ELKA  
Daddy, please get ready.

THORPE  
I am ready. I'm hungry.

ELKA  
Put on a clean shirt, please?

THORPE drags himself from his recliner.

THORPE  
Why are we acting like Gunny is a guest? He's family now.

ELKA  
Dad.

THORPE leaves. The DOOR BELL RINGS. ELKA rushes to her bedroom.

REVA  
Come in, Gunny!

The door opens and Gunny appears with bottles of wine in each hand, which he gives to REVA.

(CONTINUED)

THORPE

Dinner smells wonderful, Mrs Thorpe.

REVA

Thank you, Gunny. Elka will be ready in a few minutes. Dinner in ten minutes.

THORPE reappears in a clean shirt.

THORPE

Gunny, nice of you to come, on such short notice. I have a little video segment I'd like your opinion on.

GUNNY

Another art film?

THORPE

A surveillance film of Melissa Vega's murderer, I think. I want a frame by frame inspection.

GUNNY

Sure. Am I looking for something specific?

THORPE

A clue to who the man is. No, evidence that it is who I think it is.

THORPE hands GUNNY a laptop. They watch the video at normal speed. Gunny shakes his head.

GUNNY

I didn't see anything.

THORPE

It was worth a try.

GUNNY

I need my own computer, Mr Thorpe. I have a special program. I will email the file to myself and look at it tomorrow. Okay?

THORPE

Okay, thanks, Gunny.

ELKA slips up to GUNNY and kisses him very passionately.

REVA

Dinner is nearly ready.

(CONTINUED)

THORPE

Don't spoil your appetite with  
dessert kids.

52 INT POLICE CAR --DAY

THORPE drives past Robert Shine's house. Kara's car is parked in the driveway. He dials a number on his phone and texts a message.

POV THORPE: Meet Tims 10 min

53 INT TIM HORTON'S --DAY

THORPE places a tray with two coffees and donuts in front of KARA.

KARA

(eyeing the donuts)  
Aren't you afraid of becoming a  
stereotype, Jim?

THORPE

I'm too old to worry, Kara. Tell  
me about Mr Shine. Any  
frustration developing?

KARA

Actually, he's been more  
understanding than most men are,  
Jim. He's a saint. Are you sure  
you are right about this man?

THORPE

I'm sure. But proving that is  
tough. How is Livvy holding up?

KARA

She is going to need help no  
matter which way this goes.

THORPE'S cellphone RINGS.

THORPE

Thorpe.

GUNNY O/S

Mr Thorpe, I found something. A  
belt buckle.

THORPE

Can I come over now to see it?

(CONTINUED)

GUNNY O/S

No need I'll email you an enhanced photo. You can check it out in a few minutes.

THORPE

Thanks, Gunny. Are you sure you wouldn't like to try police work?

GUNNY O/S

Doesn't pay enough. Elka wants a nice house and to be able to make films!

THORPE

Let's meet for a steak sometime.

GUNNY O/S

Yeah. I'm going to tell Elka that I can't live without meat. Got to run. I have an audit to finish.

THORPE

My future son-in-law has found a piece of evidence. I need you to see it.

KARA

Why?

THORPE

You need to know what you will be searching for, Kara.

THORPE polishes off the donut, takes his coffee, and leads KARA to the car.

KARA

I'm going to be ransacking Livvy's place?

THORPE

Not ransacking. I think Mr Shine will have everything neat and orderly and in its place.

THORPE logs into his email and opens the document.

POV KARA: A screen sized picture of a belt buckle with an inscription, partially obscured. Part of large silver oval: ODEO 2001 SU

KARA

A cowboy belt buckle?

(CONTINUED)

THORPE  
That's your objective, Kara.

KARA  
I can't go back until tomorrow.

THORPE  
Tomorrow is soon enough. Just a  
cellphone picture. Don't touch  
it.

54 EXT HOCKEY RINK --NIGHT

THORPE and LIONEL stash their hockey bags and sticks in  
the trunk of Thorpe's car.

LIONEL  
How's Gunny fitting in, Dad?

THORPE  
Very nicely. He's got a good  
level head. And Elka adores him.

LIONEL  
Adores him? Mom told you to say  
that, right?

55 INT THORPE'S CAR --NIGHT CONTINUOUS

THORPE  
I am a trained observer, Lionel.

LIONEL  
Even trained observers can see  
what they want to see.

THORPE  
Yeah. Any adoring girls on your  
horizon?

LIONEL  
Jessica split with Paul.

THORPE  
Did that brighten your day?

LIONEL  
A little.

56 INT THORPE'S BEDROOM --DAY

THORPE is fixing his tie before Reva's vanity table. His cellphone RINGS.

THORPE

Thorpe.

POV THORPE: Cellphone screen text message  
R wearing belt gtg

REVA enters. THORPE is smiling.

REVA

Who was that?

THORPE

Text from Kara.

REVA

I must keep an eye on her,  
judging from your smile, Chief.

THORPE kisses REVA.

THORPE

I think I just solved the Michell  
Vega murder. Now I must run for  
the bus, Reva.

57 INT BUS --DAY

THORPE sits in his now regular spot. ROBERT SHINE wheels the bus. He says nothing for several stops then he turns to Thorpe.

BUS DRIVER SHINE

What are you looking for,  
Detective?

THORPE

Who not what.

BUS DRIVER SHINE

Who then?

THORPE

Two people. The murderer of  
Michelle Vega.

The bus pulls away from the stop.

BUS DRIVER SHINE

That's one person who is...

(CONTINUED)

THORPE

...shush!

ROBERT SHINE is visibly angry and frustrated. He stops the bus HARD. Passengers are jostled and CRY out in pain and surprise and anger. He stands up. His belt buckle is plain to see.

POV THORPE: The belt buckle  
JUNIOR RODEO 2001 SUPPORTER

BUS DRIVER SHINE

Get off my bus.

THORPE

I'm still four blocks from my  
stop, Mr Shine.

BUS DRIVER SHINE

I'll call the cops.

THORPE

I am a cop, Mr Shine.

SEVERAL RIDERS

Come on.

Get this crate moving.

I'm dialing 911.

BUS DRIVER SHINE

Call the cops. Please.

A BURLY MAN comes forward.

BURLY MAN

Want me to throw him off, Robby?

THORPE

(showing his badge)  
Please sit down, sir.

BURLY MAN

You're a detective, are you,  
Geronimo?

The BURLY MAN grabs THORPE by the lapels. Thorpe grabs the Burly Man's wrists and pulls free and twists Burly Man's arm behind his back.

THORPE

If you go back to your seat, I'll  
forget the assaulting a police  
officer charge. And the name's  
not Geronimo. It's Jim Thorpe.

(CONTINUED)

BURLY MAN  
(in pain and embarrassment)  
Yes, Mr Thorpe.

A squad car SKIDS to a stop in front of the bus. A COP gets out and boards the bus.

THORPE  
(flashing his badge)  
I need a ride for the driver and me back to the station, Officer.

BUS DRIVER SHINE  
For what reason?

THORPE  
For the murder of Melissa Vega, Richard. You better radio for another bus driver. We've inconvenienced these people long enough.

58 INT INTERROGATION ROOM --DAY

MR SHINE is shackled to a chair under an intense light in the middle of a dreary room. A large TV on a AV cart stands in the corner. VAN FLEET and THORPE walk about the room into the shadows and suddenly back into the light.

VAN FLEET  
Where is your brother?

BUS DRIVER SHINE  
He died on 9/11.

VAN FLEET  
Now, now, Mr Shine, we have a video of your brother on 9/11 and it's clear he did not die that day.

BUS DRIVER SHINE  
Well, that's what I was told. I want to see Livvy.

THORPE  
She has swine flu, Mr Shine.

BUS DRIVER SHINE  
How do you know that?

THORPE  
We work closely with the Health Office. I want you to watch the video we have. I know you've seen it but we have a sharper version.

(CONTINUED)

VAN FLEET

Roll it.

The video rolls on the large screen TV. VAN FLEET stops the video at the ECU of Richard.

BUS DRIVER SHINE

So?

THORPE

He's alive. As the plane hits and later we see him as the towers collapse.

BUS DRIVER SHINE

I was lied to. Is that a crime?

VAN FLEET

Blow up the scar. See the scar, Mr Shine?

BUS DRIVER SHINE

So?

THORPE

You have the same mark.

BUS DRIVER SHINE

We're twins.

THORPE hands ROBERT SHINE a PHOTO.

POV ROBERT SHINE: Photo of Robert Shine  
JUNIOR RODEO 2001

THORPE

That rodeo took place on Labour Day 2001.

BUS DRIVER SHINE

Again, so?

THORPE

No scar on Robert. A scar on Richard on 9/11.

VAN FLEET places another PHOTO before MR SHINE.

POV ROBERT SHINE: MUG SHOT  
The scar is clear and matches RICHARD'S SCAR in the video.

BUS DRIVER SHINE

Robert didn't want Livvy or Marsha and Annabelle. He hated everything about his life.

(CONTINUED)

THORPE

So you killed him and took on his identity.

BUS DRIVER SHINE

I didn't kill Robert. He left for Vancouver. He's still there, I think. I gave him my car and my life savings.

VAN FLEET

That explains a lot of things. So you faked amnesia and gradually learnt your brother's life.

BUS DRIVER SHINE

Yep.

THORPE

How did you know you wanted his life?

BUS DRIVER SHINE

I didn't. But it was a chance. Livvy was so loving and...

ROBERT SHINE falls silent and begins to cry.

VAN FLEET

But you killed Melissa Vega.

ROBERT SHINE shrugs hopelessly.

BUS DRIVER SHINE

I didn't know she was there.

59 INT THORPE'S FRONT ROOM --DAY

REVA consoles ELKA who is lying on the couch, weeping. THORPE stand awkwardly behind the couch.

ELKA

Where's Gunny? I called him twenty minutes ago. It's such a lovely tragedy.

THORPE

Perhaps, there's a film in it?

ELKA sits up.

It is full of human interest. What do you think, Mom?

THORPE (cont'd)

Just use people this time.

A car rolls up the driveway.

(CONTINUED)

Gunny is here. Better get cleaned up. Don't want to scare him off.

ELKA  
I look that bad?

REVA  
A little touch up wouldn't hurt.

The DOOR BELL RINGS and ELKA heads for her bedroom.

THORPE  
Come in, Gunny.

GUNNY looks worried as he enters.

GUNNY  
Is Elka okay? She sounded very weepy on the phone.

REVA  
A few tears. Of relief, mostly, Gunny. Elka has an artistic temperament.

GUNNY  
(lovestruck and goofy)  
Yeah!

THORPE  
Your work solved the case, Gunny. I owe you a couple of steak dinners.

ELKA, freshened up, appears and GUNNY rushes to her. They embrace and kiss.

REVA  
They make a nice couple, don't they?

THORPE  
Handsome and beautiful always does.

60 INT THORPE'S BEDROOM --NIGHT

REVA reads her thick novel. THORPE reads the Hockey News.

REVA  
How is Livvy taking this, Chief?

THORPE  
Kara had to sedate her. I'm going to see her at the hospital, tomorrow.

(CONTINUED)

REVA

What a shock it must be for poor Livvy. Any chance you can find Robert?

THORPE

I suppose. But who would want him back?

REVA

I would.

THORPE

Why?

REVA

So I could kick him. Hard. What about Marsha and Annabelle?

THORPE

They're staying with a neighbour or friend nearby. Kara arranged it.

REVA

They must be so confused, Chief.

THORPE

Yeah. Did Lionel say anything about a girl named Jessica?

REVA

Is this the girl who impressed you last time you were at the dorm?

THORPE

I just said she was pretty.

REVA

Yes, that's what you said. About six times.

THORPE

Did Lionel say anything about her?

REVA

They were going to the island for a bike ride this weekend.

THORPE

Good. I hope it won't interfere with his studies, too much.

(CONTINUED)

REVA

I thought you wanted him to ditch his studies and play for the Leafs?

THORPE

Lionel doesn't want it. I don't know why he doesn't. But...

REVA

But, he loves engineering.

THORPE

Metallurgical engineering. I looked up what people are doing with metals. You know they have metal roofing which converts sunlight to electricity.

REVA

Well, I hope he doesn't get distracted by this Jessica creature.

THORPE

What are Elka and Gunny up to this weekend?

REVA

I'm not her social events secretary, Chief.

THORPE

I just thought you might know. What should I say to Livvy?

REVA

I wouldn't think anyone could say much. Losing two husbands would be too much for many women to overcome. Just hold her hand and let her talk or not.

THORPE

I was hoping for a large dose of feminine intuition. I'm just a hack detective.

REVA

Tell her that her girls are being looked after. Tell her that Rob... Richard loved her. Why not ask Kara to do this? Or at least, to take the lead. Livvy has developed a trust in Kara.

(CONTINUED)

THORPE

I knew you had a dose of feminine intuition.

REVA

That's an unfortunate phrase, Chief. But thanks for the compliment, dear. You and Kara should go together, just reassure Livvy that God is in His heaven.

THORPE

I told the Admiral that. I don't think it helped.

REVA

It was nice to see him again. He dotes on Elka. We should invite him to dinner.

THORPE

I invite him twice a week, Reva. But he always finds some way to turn me down.

REVA

It doesn't help him to stay in homicide. Have you suggested he do something else?

THORPE

Suggesting people choose another line of work isn't my talent, dear.

REVA

I'll invite him for Thanksgiving. I'll tell him Elka will be here.

THORPE

Entice him to come for a feast, using our daughter as bait.

REVA

That's not it and you know it, Chief.

THORPE

Will Elka be here?

REVA

Well, she does live here.

THORPE

She might have plans, already. What about Lionel and...

(CONTINUED)

REVA  
...what's her name?

THORPE  
Jessica, I think.

REVA  
You aren't sure of her name?  
You're not a talented liar, dear.

THORPE  
I'll work on it.

REVA  
Don't you dare.

61 INT HOSPITAL HALL --DAY

THORPE finds Livvy's room and knocks softly on the door.

OLIVIA SHINE  
Come in.

THORPE peeks in, uncertain if he has the right room. He sees an empty and already made up bed. The door is pulled open.

POV THORPE: The smiling face of OLIVIA SHINE.

THORPE  
Mrs Shine?

OLIVIA SHINE  
Yes, detective. Why have you come?

THORPE  
To see how you were coping.

OLIVIA SHINE  
I'm doing very well, Detective Thorpe.

THORPE  
Did Kara come to see you?

OLIVIA SHINE  
Oh yes. Not today, of course. She called, she had a real emergency. Kara has been a great comfort, Detective.

THORPE  
Good. I was expecting...

(CONTINUED)

OLIVIA SHINE

...a hysterical woman. I half expected that myself but...

THORPE

...but?

OLIVIA SHINE

But, I have a man who loved me so much to take me, sight unseen. (off his look) Oh, I know the future is not bright but it wasn't eight years or more ago.

THORPE

I don't want you to get your hopes up, Livvy. He's facing manslaughter and arson charges.

OLIVIA SHINE

Detective Thorpe, he told me he loved me every day when he left for work. And when he came home each night. He brought me flowers every Friday. He helped the girls every night with their homework. He did a lot of good, Detective.

THORPE

And some wrong.

OLIVIA SHINE

But he did wrong because he did not want to lose me and he won't lose me.

The door opens and a NURSE looks in.

NURSE

Livvy, you can't leave.

OLIVIA SHINE

My husband needs me and I'm going to be with him.

THORPE

She means it, ma'm. I'll give you a lift, if you'd like.

OLIVIA SHINE

I've already called for a cab, thanks, Detective. Really, I can do this. I want to do this.

62 INT THORPE'S LIVING ROOM --DAY

The house is decorated for Thanksgiving. ELKA, GUNNY, LIONEL and JESSICA are gathered around the table. THORPE enters to much APPLAUSE carrying the turkey. REVA follows with a camera. She leans into the picture frame and snaps a photo. FLASH.

POV REVA: THE DIGITAL PICTURE.  
Six smiling faces.

There's an extra place setting.

63 EXT ROAD THORP'S HOUSE --DAY CONTINUOUS

VAN FLEET drives his car to the curb and sits a minute. Muffled APPLAUSE can be heard. Van Fleet starts to drive off, then reverses into the driveway.

64 INT THORPE'S LIVING ROOM --DAY CONTINUOUS

The door bell RINGS. ELKA has seen VAN FLEET through the window and dances excitedly to the door. She introduces him to GUNNY and JESSICA. He kisses REVA before taking his seat.

65 INT THORPE'S FRONT ROOM --DAY

In the background are the remnants of the feast. The MEN are gathered round the TV watching the football game. The WOMEN drift to and from the kitchen, wine glass in one hand and dirty dishes in the other.

66 EXT PATIO --NIGHT

VAN FLEET and THORPE sit and smoke and drink coffee. The night sky is bright. It's chilly but neither is wearing a coat.

THORPE  
I'm glad you finally showed up,  
Admiral.

VAN FLEET  
Me, too. Nice to be with a  
family, again.

They take a few drags silently.

THORPE  
Feels like winter already.

(CONTINUED)

VAN FLEET

There's a few warm days left,  
Chief. Don't rush me through  
another year.

THORPE

Why did you turn up this year?

VAN FLEET

Besides the promise of eating a  
heavenly meal in the company of  
three lovely women?

THORPE

I guess that's reason enough.

VAN FLEET

I was headed to the lake and as I  
was passing I realized I hadn't  
packed a lunch.

VAN FLEET studies the sky.  
Elka and Lionel seem to have  
chosen well. That Gunny is a  
sharp young man. And Lionel's  
Jessica is not hard to look at,  
is she, Chief?

THORPE

She's new. I hope she sticks  
around. She's got a master's  
degree already and graduates in a  
few months as an engineer. And  
not hard on the eyes. Gunny's a  
CPA. Solid, just what Elka needs.

VAN FLEET

He's crazy about her, too.

THORPE

Yep. Hope it's permanent. She  
needs that. Mr Shine's lawyer is  
filing a ton of paper. Seems  
Livvy is going to fight to bring  
him home.

VAN FLEET

Livvy has been a model of  
loyalty, Chief. According to my  
monkeys, she comes everyday to  
visit Robert... Richard... I  
wonder what she calls him?

THORPE

This is the easy stretch. He's  
going to do real time. She's got  
a bleak future.

(CONTINUED)

VAN FLEET

I don't think she sees that, Chief. She sees a chance to repay a man for eight years of unconditional love. I think she's the reason I'm here.

THORPE

Are we talking philosophy?

VAN FLEET

I've learnt not to talk philosophy with you, Chief.

THORPE

A man's got to stay grounded, Admiral. Did I ever tell you why moose have big noses?

VAN FLEET smiles broadly.

VAN FLEET

Are you sure you're not Irish?

THORPE

How is Livvy responsible for you coming to dinner, Admiral?

VAN FLEET

We both got hit a big blow. But she got up, Chief. I didn't. I was headed out to that bench on the lake to wallow and I thought about Livvy and...

THORPE

... you beat the ten count, Admiral.

VAN FLEET

Yeah. I did, didn't I?

67 INT THORPE'S BEDROOM --DAY

REVA is adjusting THORPE'S tie. He checks his watch and kisses her.

THORPE

Got to run, dear wife.

THORPE runs out almost colliding with ELKA. He kisses her, too and disappears out the door. Immediately the door closes it re-opens and THORPE retraces his route, again nearly bowling ELKA over. He takes REVA by the shoulders.

(CONTINUED)

REVA  
What's going on, Chief?

THORPE kisses her.

THORPE  
I love you, Reva.

REVA doesn't answer. She smiles as THORPE disappears once more from the bedroom.

THORPE O/S  
I love you, too, Elka.

ELKA O/S  
Me too, Daddy.

68 EXT STREET --DAY

The JOGGER is waiting for THORPE to run past. The JOGGER is rested and dressed in light competition running gear. They run side by side for a half-block.

JOGGER  
I've told my coach about you,  
mister.

THORPE  
That an old guy out runs you?

JOGGER  
Yep.

THORPE  
What did he say?

JOGGER  
He said you must be Jim Thorpe.

THORPE  
I am.

POV JOGGER:  
THORPE disappearing down the  
street.

69 EXT BUS STOP --DAY

THORPE smiles at the REGULARS at the bus stop. The bus pulls up. THORPE is the last to board.

BUS DRIVER  
Good morning, sir.

(CONTINUED)

THORPE

Yes, it is. You know, since I  
been riding the bus, I haven't  
had my tires slashed.

BUS DRIVER

Never heard that reason before.  
But, hey, it's a reason.

THORPE

Yeah, I've been riding...

BUS DRIVER points to the NO TALKING WHILE BUS IS MOVING  
sign.

BUS DRIVER

If they check the tape, I'll get  
fined.

THORPE nods and settles into his seat. JOGGER jogs by and  
waves. Toronto slips by the windows. Thorpe pulls his  
wallet out and fondles a copy of the Thanksgiving picture.  
Thorpe sits quietly smiling for the rest of the trip. He  
jumps up for his stop. As he gets off the bus, VAN FLEET  
and MADELINE JONES drive into the police parking lot. Van  
Fleet flips Thorpe a quick salute.